



Meath County Council Annual Report 2017

#MakeItMeath

MEATH:
EUROPE'S **BUSINESS**
READY REGION



comhairle chontae na mí
meath county council

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Foreword



Cllr. Gerry O' Connor
Cathaoirleach



Jackie Maguire
Chief Executive

We are pleased to present this Annual Report, which gives us an opportunity to reflect on the activities and achievements of Meath County Council during 2017.

In adopting the budget for 2017, which was in excess of €104m., the main objective was to maintain existing levels of service and make increased provisions in a number of areas such as Homeless Services and the maintenance and improvement of our Housing Units. The good news for the business community was that, for an eighth consecutive year, commercial rates in the county remained unchanged and provision was made to continue the Small Business Support Scheme. This positive budget enabled the maintenance of current levels of service, while providing additional resources in critical and emerging areas.

While 2017 brought many challenges, it was a very good year with our pro-active, pro business and pro-customer approach achieving positive results. The focus on driving the economic development of the county continued with the implementation of our Economic Development Strategy 2014-2022, now in its third year. The number of world class companies choosing to locate in Meath is growing steadily, and we hope to have many more exciting company announcements in 2018. We are Europe's most business-friendly region and we want to capitalise on that in the next couple of years. Getting more jobs into the county is a priority, and our Economic Development Unit is ready and willing to support anyone, and any sized company, interested in setting up a business in Meath.

The highlight of the year was the relocation to our new civic headquarters in Buvinda House, after over 100 years in our original offices. We would like to pay a special tribute to all Council staff for their commitment and enthusiasm in executing the move, while continuing the delivery of services to the people of Meath. We are now very privileged to have a structured workplace that we can be proud of, and that will serve both the staff and the people of County Meath for future generations. As an organisation, we are well positioned to deliver a more efficient service to the public, to community groups and to businesses in the county.

The annual Pride of Place initiatives supported all the community groups who give of their time to make the towns, villages and schools attractive places for the people of Meath. We thank the many voluntary and community organisations who get involved to make Meath a better place. We thank our Councillors, Chairpersons and Members of the Strategic Policy Committees, Management Team and Staff, for their cooperation, as all the achievements outlined in this Annual Report could not have been accomplished without their support and commitment.

Local Democracy

Ashbourne Municipal District Councillors

	Bonner	Joe	Non-Party	Milltown Road, Donaghmore, Ashbourne, Co. Meath Email: joe.bonner@members.meathcoco.ie	087- 9749563
	Jamal	Suzanne	Fine Gael	"Rahmait", Flemington, Balrath, Co. Meath Email: suzanne.jamal@members.meathcoco.ie	087- 7971297
	O'Driscoll	Claire Dr.	Fianna Fáil	Kentstown, Navan, Co. Meath Email: claire.odriscoll@members.meathcoco.ie	086- 1545389
	O'Rourke	Darren	Sinn Féin	Brookhaven, The Riggins, Dunshaughlin, Co. Meath Email: darren.orourke@members.meathcoco.ie	087- 4119654
	Smith	Seán	Fianna Fáil	Baltrasna, Ashbourne, Co. Meath Email: sean.smith@members.meathcoco.ie	085- 8203065
	Tobin	Alan	Fine Gael	9 Westview, Ashbourne, Co. Meath Email: alan.tobin@members.meathcoco.ie	087- 6117669

Kells Municipal District Councillors

	Cassidy	Eugene	Fine Gael	Possextown, Nobber, Co. Meath Email: eugene.cassidy@members.meathcoco.ie	086-3717686
	Drew	Sean	Fianna Fáil	8 Kenlis Crescent, Kells, Co. Meath Email: sean.drew@members.meathcoco.ie	087-4121803
	Gallagher	Michael	Sinn Féin	Drumconrath, Navan, Co. Meath Email: michael.gallagher@members.meathcoco.ie	087-9478222
	Gilroy	David	Non-Party	Main Street, Athboy, Co. Meath Email: david.gilroy@members.meathcoco.ie	087-4172136
	Guirke	Johnny	Sinn Féin	Loughbawn, Dromone, Oldcastle, Co. Meath Email: johnny.guirke@members.meathcoco.ie	087-1239670
	Reilly	Bryan	Fianna Fáil	Rockfield Road, Kells, Co. Meath Email: bryan.reilly@members.meathcoco.ie	086-2599184 046-9240122
	Reilly	Sarah	Fine Gael	36 Bective Place, Kells, Co. Meath Email: sarah.reilly@members.meathcoco.ie	086-4085679

Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District Councillors

	Ferguson	Eimear	Sinn Féin	Beabeg, Julianstown, Co. Meath Email: eimear.ferguson@members.meathcoco.ie	089-4511757
	Harding	Wayne	Fianna Fáil	Rathmaiden, Slane, Co. Meath Email: wayne.harding@members.meathcoco.ie	087-7446730
	Kelly	Tom	Non-Party	Uimaine, Strand Road, Laytown, Co. Meath Email: tom.kelly@members.meathcoco.ie	086-3817700
	Keogan	Sharon	Non-Party	Main Street, Duleek, Co. Meath Email: sharon.Keogan@members.meathcoco.ie	087-6773800
	McKee	Stephen	Fianna Fáil	Deenes, Duleek, Co. Meath Email: stephen.mckee@members.meathcoco.ie	086-0432760
	Meade	Paddy	Fine Gael	Rathbran Church, Lobinstown, Navan, Co. Meath Email: paddy.meade@members.meathcoco.ie	087-6495907
	Tolan	Sharon	Fine Gael	132 Betaghstown Wood, Bettystown, Co. Meath Email: sharon.tolan@members.meathcoco.ie	086-3669852

Navan Municipal District Councillors

	Burke	Sinead	Sinn Féin	Graigs Lane, Dunmoe, Navan, Co. Meath Email: sinead.burke@members.meathcoco.ie	087-3124200
	Fitzsimons	Padraig	Fianna Fáil	Knowth House, Ratholdren, Navan, Co. Meath Email: padraig.fitzsimons@members.meathcoco.ie	086-8238636
	Deane	Francis	Non-Party	5 Blackwater Drive, Navan, Co. Meath Email: francis.deane@members.meathcoco.ie	086-1234856 046-9023696
	Forde	Wayne	Non-Party	Top Floor Flat, 1 Academy Street, Navan, Co. Meath Email: wayne.forde@members.meathcoco.ie	086-3845807
	Holloway	Jim	Fine Gael	Boyne Road, Farganstown, Navan, Co. Meath Email: jim.holloway@members.meathcoco.ie	086-2355236
	Reilly	Joe	Sinn Féin	Faughan Hill, Bohermeen, Navan, Co. Meath Email: joe.reilly@members.meathcoco.ie	087-2478508
	Reilly	Tommy	Fianna Fáil	Ardsallagh, Navan, Co. Meath Email: tommy.reilly@members.meathcoco.ie	087-7450149

Ratoath Municipal District Councillors

	Fitzgerald	Brian	Non-Party	Warrenstown, Kilcock, Co. Meath Email: brian.fitzgerald@members.meathcoco.ie	01-8251847 087-2508247
	Killian	Nick	Non-Party	Ratoath, Co. Meath Email: nick.killian@members.meathcoco.ie	087-2596753 01-8355435
	Murphy	Maria	Fine Gael	3 The Close, Lutterell Hall, Dunboyne, Co. Meath Email: maria.murphy@members.meathcoco.ie	087-6579895
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	O'Kane	Maria	Sinn Féin	Skryne Road, Scalestown, Dunshaughlin, Co. Meath Email: maria.okane@members.meathcoco.ie	086-3306311
	O'Reilly	Damien	Fianna Fáil	2 Oakridge Crescent, Dunboyne, Co. Meath Email: damien.oreilly@members.meathcoco.ie	086-8722645
	Toole	Gillian	Fine Gael	Curkeen, Ratoath, Co. Meath Email: gillian.toole@members.meathcoco.ie	086-0891221

Trim Municipal District Councillors

	Flynn	Enda	Fine Gael	43 New Inn, Enfield, Co. Meath Email: enda.flynn@members.meathcoco.ie	086-8153595
	Fox	Joe	Fine Gael	Clondoogan, Summerhill, Co. Meath Email: joe.fox@members.meathcoco.ie	087-2631318
	French	Noel	Fine Gael	10 Kells Road, Trim, Co. Meath Email: noel.french@members.meathcoco.ie	086-8053293
	Golden	Trevor	Non-Party	Church Lane, Trim, Co. Meath Email: trevor.golden@members.meathcoco.ie	086-4008007
	Lynch	Caroline	Sinn Féin	Rathcairn, Athboy, Co. Meath Email: caroline.lynch@members.meathcoco.ie	086-8541199
	McKenna	Ronan	Fianna Fáil	6 Lackanash, Trim, Co. Meath Email: ronan.mckenna@members.meathcoco.ie	087-2901450

Corporate Services

The strategic objective of the Corporate Services Department is to work within a framework of democratic principles, which facilitates the delivery of quality services for the benefit of our community.

- Facilitated Councillors in relation to their democratic role at full Council and through the Municipal District structure.
- Undertook a review of the Corporate Plan 2015-2019.
- Developed and published the Annual Service Delivery Plan.
- Captured information and managed the quality control, publication and distribution of the Register of Electors.
- Interacted with the national, local and social media to provide information and promote the work of the Council and its contribution to the life of the county.
- Administered the legislative provisions of the F.O.I., Data Protection, Ombudsman and Official Languages Acts as they apply to the local authority.
- Implemented the provisions of the Ethical Framework for the Local Government Service as it applies to Councillors and staff.
- Promoted a culture of workplace safety, health, welfare, education and training through a proactive health and safety programme designed to meet the specific needs of staff.

2017 - Highlight Events in Meath

New Civic Offices

Meath County Council's new headquarters, Buvinda House, was officially opened on the 19th December by the Cathaoirleach of the Council, Councillor Gerry O' Connor. Those in attendance also included Meath Oireachtas Members, the Mayor of Navan and the elected Councillors.



Official Opening of Buvinda House, December 2017

Following an ecumenical blessing, invited guests and staff were welcomed by Jackie Maguire, Chief Executive, to participate in a coffee morning to raise funds for the local annual SVP Christmas appeal.

The official opening marked the relocation of the Council after over 100 years in its original offices at Railway Street, Navan.

The relocation of 420 staff to Buvinda House took place on a phased basis during 2017. The design of the building provides an improved customer experience through the large public foyer with all of Meath County Council's public counters accessible in one location, together with state of the art meeting rooms. In addition to this, the single location for most of the functional roles of Meath County Council has improved efficiencies in service provision, due to the accessibility of the various departments to each other.



Chief Executive Jackie Maguire and Cathaoirleach Cllr Gerry O'Connor



R. John Clarke, V.R. Declan Hurley & Rev. Michael Cahill



Chief Executive Jackie Maguire, Mayor of Navan Cllr. Tommy Reilly & Cathaoirleach Cllr. G. O'Connor cutting the ribbon.

Ledwidge Centenary Celebrations

The centenary of the death of the Meath poet Francis Ledwidge was commemorated during 2017 with a programme of events organised by Meath County Council Cultural Services and by the Ledwidge Museum Committee. The programme was launched in the Solstice Arts Centre, Navan, Co. Meath, on 23 March. The programme of events included:

- Meath County Council Library Service organised a commemorative grant scheme to mark the centenary and supported the re-issue of *Selected Poems by Francis Ledwidge*, edited by Dermot Bolger, with an introductory essay on the poet by Seamus Heaney. This was launched in the Solstice Arts Centre on 23 March as part of the announcement of the Centenary Programme. The library service also worked with Poetry Ireland in commissioning a new volume dedicated to Francis Ledwidge, which was published to mark the anniversary of Ledwidge's death at Ypres on 31 July 1917.
- A Francis Ledwidge Bursary Award for Emerging Writers was also announced by Meath County Council Arts Office, which will be open to emerging writers from all over the country.
- The life and poetry of the Slane poet was explored at a seminar in Slane Castle 14th October – titled *Francis Ledwidge: Poetry and the First World War 1917-2017* The book *A Bittern Cry*, a testament to Francis Ledwidge the man and poet, edited by Tom French, and with an introduction by Professor Gerald Dawe will be launched.
- The Solstice Arts Centre organised a series of events to mark the centenary and included exhibitions, drama, and a series of workshops for children.

On Saturday 24 May 2017 an official state ceremony took place at the Francis Ledwidge Museum, in Slane. The event was attended by members of the Ledwidge family and consisted of readings of Ledwidge's letters and poems, musical performances, and a wreath-laying ceremony. Wreaths were laid by Helen McEntee TD, Minister of State for European Affairs, Gerry O'Connor, Cathaoirleach of Meath County Council, Phillipe Roland, the Belgian Ambassador, and Colonel Max Walker, representing the British ambassador, Robin

Barnett. The focal point of the ceremony was the unveiling of a memorial to Ledwidge made of leper stone which is the exact replica of the one that stands on the spot in Belgium where he died.



Macra na Feirme Young Farmers Conference (The Rally)

Meath Macra na Feirme and Meath County Council came together to host the annual Macra na Feirme Young Farmers Conference (The Rally) in County Meath for the first time in history. More than 3,000 young farmers visited Meath to experience the Boyne Valley has to offer throughout over the October Bank Holiday weekend.



As the event's main sponsor, Meath County Council was proud to partner with Meath Macra for what is the biggest event of the Macra calendar year. Through the Council's 'Make it Meath' campaign, the county used the event to showcase all that is on offer across the agricultural sector and encourage agri-focused enterprises to make Meath their location of choice.

Civic Honours

In 2017, civic receptions were organised to recognise the significant achievements of people in County Meath as follows:

Navan

The Proclamation Memorial of Christopher Brady – Civic Reception (photo below)



Navan MD Sports Awards Reception (photo below)



Ezio Lupo Bursary/Twinning Reception (photo below)



Official Christmas Launch (photo below)



Ashbourne

Thomas Ashe Civic Reception (photo below)



Corcubion Friendship/Twinning Civic Reception (photo below)



Missionary Society of St. Columban Civic Reception
Preston School Reception

Kells

Tommy Grimes Memorial Bench – Civic Reception (photo below)



O'Higgins Bridge naming & Civic Reception

Ratoath

Appreciation Awards Night – Civic Reception (photo below)



Trim

Appreciation Awards Night – Civic Reception
Kilbride NS Civic Reception
Trim Celtic Civic Reception

Laytown / Bettystown

St. Colmcille's success Awards Night – Civic Reception (photo below)



Communications and Media

The Corporate Services Department plays a key role in ensuring accurate, timely and relevant information is made available to the public, elected members and council staff. A range of communication channels are used to ensure information is accessible and widely available.

Social media provides the Council with opportunities to communicate information in a less traditional format. In 2017, the Council continued the development of its social media communications to allow information,

Council alerts, press releases, upcoming events or public announcements to be communicated to the widest possible audience. At the end of 2017, Meath County Council had the following numbers in relation to social media followers: Facebook: 6,133; LinkedIn: 1,663 Twitter: 6,861. This represents an increase of 4,049 social media followers from 2016.

Twitter - #OurCouncilDay was held on the 10th April 2017: The aim was to increase engagement with the public, raise awareness of the services we provide, and showed the human side of those services in a light and informative tone. It was a huge success – our tweets received 25,200 impressions on the day. (impressions are the number of times users saw the tweets on Twitter).

Customer Service

Through its Customer Service Plan, Meath County Council is committed to delivering the best possible care to our customers. Above all else, people expect and deserve courtesy, sensitivity, a unique response to their needs and the minimum delay when contacting their County Council. We believe that choice is an essential dimension of quality customer service. In this context, Meath County Council will facilitate, in as far as is possible, the preferred ways people wish to avail of services. We may not be able to satisfy everyone but we will treat people respectfully and professionally, happy in the knowledge that we did our best.

The Customer Service Team provides assistance and information on queries at the first point of customer contact, with more detailed matters being dealt with by service departments. The model is based on good communications, good customer service procedures and a new customer service IT system.

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) Act 2014.

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 Freedom of Information Act 2014 requires Freedom of Information (FOI) bodies such as Meath County Council to publish a disclosure log, which contains details of the types of requests received under FOI and the decisions made by the body in response to those requests. Disclosures are listed on the Council's website www.meath.ie

The following are the 2017 statistics relating to Freedom of Information requests:

Applications Received	176
Carried forward from 2016	16
Total	192
No. of requests Granted	90
No. of requests Part Granted	38
No. of requests Refused	46
Requests Transferred	00
Requests Withdrawn	08
Requests dealt with outside FOI	05
Live Cases at end of 2017	05
No. of Internal Reviews	05
No. of Appeals to Information Commissioner	01

Register of Electors

Register of Electors 2017/2018

The Register of Electors was published in February 2017 and showed a voting population as follows:

The following gives a breakdown of Local Electors by Local Electoral Area :

Dáil Electors	136,091
Presidential Electors	134,683
European Electors	137,821
Local Electors	139,885
Postal Voters	726

The following gives a breakdown of Local Electors by Local Electoral Area:

Ashbourne:	20,069
Kells:	25,384
LaytownBettystown:	23,301
Navan:	21,929
Ratoath:	24,627
Trim:	24,575

Safety, Health and Risk Management

In 2017, the Safety Management System (SMS) continued to be implemented, reviewed and amended, as necessary. The entire Corporate SMS has been rolled out to all employees and its implementation is progressing across each of the Departments.

Assistance was provided, on an ongoing basis, to Departments on the revising and in some instances the development of risk assessments.

The Safety Section initiated the implementation of the Action Management Register (Sugar CRM) across the Organisation.

Safety inspections were undertaken throughout 2017 and all Departments are engaging in the programme.

Workplace Partnership

Workplace Partnership continued to be a vehicle for Management and Unions to work together with regard to organisational issues and change management. In 2017, the Handling Significant Change Group met once and the local Workplace Partnership Committee met five times. The overall aim is to create positive outcomes for all those involved: management, unions, employees and the public.

Information Systems

During 2017, the Information Systems department continued to deliver business improvement projects across the entire organisation while maintaining its focus on operational stability and information security.

- **IT Operations** – Successful migration of staff and services to the new Headquarters has been a focus for the year. Careful planning and testing of network links, WiFi, Audio-Visual facilities for meeting rooms, etc. ensured a seamless move to an environment that encourages teamwork and innovation. Other key initiatives included the replacement of our entire server and storage environment, including backups and disaster recovery. Various security initiatives included awareness training for all staff
- **Business Solutions** – The complete redesign of the www.meath.ie website is nearing completion. This will include many new facilities as well as an enhanced user interface, and will form the basis for ongoing new developments as we focus on providing a digital channel for customers. A major upgrade of the SugarCRM system has been developed and training is currently underway. This will include a mobile app to allow for speedy resolution of calls on-site. A new facility for online consultation has been implemented, in readiness for use in the next stage of the County Development Plan.
- **Information Management** – Pilot projects were undertaken to build our capability in the area of analytics, to support timely decision making across the council. Work has commenced in preparing the IT environment for the implications of the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). Also, a new mapping solution has been implemented to support the new www.meath.ie website.

Human Resources

In 2017, as part of ongoing workforce planning, the HR Department continuously reviewed staffing levels and requirements. Following a number of years of change throughout the local government sector the HR Department has worked with senior management and the various service areas of the organisation in order to identify current and emerging requirements so to be in a position to plan and respond to same in terms of staffing.

The implementation of the ongoing workforce planning process throughout 2017 gave consideration to the following:

- Continued increase in activity both locally and throughout the local government sector in terms of recruitment and selection
- Continued increase in opportunities throughout the public sector in general and consequent employment and skills mobility
- Planning for the filling of vacancies and a renewed focus on attracting and recruiting people with the appropriate knowledge and skills
- Continued work towards being an employer of choice which would assist with the retention of staff
- Renewed focus on learning and development opportunities for staff with a particular focus on structured induction for new staff as well as fostering a fair and healthy working environment
- Continued change management processes including the move of staff to new civic offices
- Working with line managers and supervisors in terms of managing effectively.

In 2017, the Recruitment & Selection Unit facilitated 40 recruitment competitions, an increase, once again, on previous years.

The new version of the Core (Version 19) was successfully implemented.

The Training Unit continued to review learning and development requirements throughout the organisation, which includes mandatory training as well as new initiatives in terms of the staff welfare and health.

The Superannuation Unit completed work on the transition of the Superannuation function to MyPay.

The HR Department worked very closely with staff and unions particularly in terms of the move to new civic offices in order to assist with either group or individual concerns.



Finance

During 2017, the Finance Department focused its efforts on effective expenditure controls and enhanced debt collection measures, with the overall objective of ensuring that the Council operates within its allocated Budget.

Obtaining value for money, efficient delivery of services and optimising revenue streams continue to be the main focus of the Finance Department.

Procurement

The Procurement section continues to support all sections by continuous review and reporting on matters related to policy and procedures, approval limits, implementation of national frameworks, administration of low value purchase cards and tendering initiatives.

Since the implementation of the new MS4 Financial system, procurement has become an integral part of the purchase to pay cycle which has enabled Management to focus on developing improvements to the tendering and procurement process throughout the organisation.

Commercial Rates

The Council continues to work closely with ratepayers to facilitate payments and maximise collection rates. The Business Support Scheme will assist approximately 2,100 businesses. Collection levels for 2017 are on course to slightly exceed 2016 levels.

Rents

Quarterly statements are issued to all tenants. This enables tenants to monitor and confirm their payments. Escalation protocols have also been strengthened to facilitate early intervention in cases of difficulty. House calls in certain circumstances are undertaken. Collection levels may increase on 2016 levels. Rents are now assessed through iHouse (Housing System), which will enable more effective assessments and an improved reporting facility.

Loans

The Mortgage Arrears Resolution Process (MARP) has been implemented and progress is being made on viable agreements. It should be noted that MARP is a time consuming process. Loan approvals are in line with 2016 levels. These are first evaluated by the Housing Agency (HA) before a final decision is made by the Credit Committee.

NPPR

The service of providing NPPR compliance and exemption certificates is a sizeable task as these are being sought for all residential property sales, regardless of whether the property was liable or not. Agreements and payment plans are continually being put in place and monitored. It should be noted that the amount of liable properties is diminishing and the income from the NPPR will decrease in time.

Planning and Development Management

Forward Planning

Variation 1 of the Kells Development Plan and Variation 2 of the Navan Development Plan were adopted by the full Council at a Special Meeting in July, 2017. Both Variations align the Development Plans with the key tenets of the Economic Development Strategy for County Meath, 2014-2022.

Variation 4 of the Meath County Development Plan 2013-2019 was placed on public display in October, 2017 for a period of four weeks. This Variation provides for the inclusion of objectives for the regeneration and renewal of land, and the active land management of vacant sites within the Settlement/Core Strategy of the County Development Plan.

The review of the Meath County Development Plan 2019-2025 continued in 2017 with the Councillors giving direction on the preparation of the Draft Plan, following receipt of the Chief Executive's Report on the submissions made on the Strategic Issues Paper. The Draft Plan will be placed on public display in Q1 2018.

Development Contributions

Receipts from development contributions continue to rise, with a projected outturn in the region of €6.5m. for 2017. The increase in receipts can be attributed to both the increase in development activity and the active engagement between debtors and the Financial Compliance Team.

Compliance Activities

Complaints regarding planning compliance have risen, with 233 warning letters issued together with 150 enforcement notices and 16 cases referred for legal action on a range of non-compliance and unauthorised development issues. These figures include action taken for non-compliance with the financial provisions of extant planning permissions. The Council continues to carry out its function in regard to the taking-in-charge of estates. The Planning Department is currently liaising with the Council's Water Services Department and Irish Water in relation to progressing the taking-in-charge of 79 residential developments.

Development Management

The number of applications received to date remains steady showing a definite increase on previous years. Pre-planning clinics are now fully subscribed and the Planning Department continues to note an improvement in the scope and complexity of development proposals being considered.

Meath County Council prepared a report under the Strategic Infrastructure Act for An Bord Pleanála in relation to an application from Irish Cement.

The Planning Department attended the Oral Hearing held with respect to an application by Tara Mines.

The Planning Department also assisted in its first Section 247 (pre-planning) meeting relating to a Strategic Housing Development, which was introduced in July 2017 under the Planning and Development (Housing) and Residential Tenancies Act 2016.

Building Control

The Council's Building Control function is performed by the Building Control Officer who also leads the Planning Enforcement Team. The Building Control function plays a critical role in informing the Council's Financial Compliance Team.

Economic Development and Enterprise

The implementation of our Economic Development Strategy 2014-2022 is now in its third year and already there are very positive results and success stories across the county. Meath is now undoubtedly perceived both on the national and international stage as a prime business location.

Jobs

Jobs and investment announcements during the year included:

- Facebook confirmed that they will immediately commence the 2nd phase of their data centre project at Clonee and will construct an additional 28,000 square meters bringing the total development to 86,000 square meters. The 1st phase of this development supported over 1,500 construction jobs
- Shire Pharmaceuticals has obtained planning permission for a redesign of their building and construction started on this project. It is estimated that 400 jobs will be supported during the construction phase
- MTM Engineering, based at Grangegeeth, has added in excess of 100 jobs during 2017
- eComm Merchant Solutions and Pre-paid Financial Services added over 60 new positions at their Navan office during this year
- Gyproc (North Meath – near Kingscourt) recently announced a move to a 4 shift system and will add 14 jobs bringing their workforce to over 150
- Slane Distillery has now opened and 25 full time jobs have been created.

These welcome announcements have been complemented by job increases in smaller companies. For example, Gripfix (Dunshaughlin) added 8 new employees this year while animal health company Fenu Health (Summerhill) now employ 8 staff and are exporting to 12 countries.

Business Supports

- Meath Enterprise Week leads the way locally and nationally with a range of initiatives to encourage, train, mentor and support new and existing businesses in Meath
- Commissioned and developed a comprehensive Boyne Valley Food Strategy in conjunction with Louth County Council
- Dedicated Food Development Officer recruited to drive the implementation of the strategy
- Meath LEO is the 'first-stop-shop' for all Government supports for those in Meath who want to start or expand their business and create jobs in the county and provided funding of c. €500,000 to support businesses in 2017

- LEO Meath presented awards to Ireland’s Best Young Entrepreneurs and Student Enterprises and a range of training programmes, mentoring and business information seminars for SMEs was provided during 2017
- The LEO has agreed formal co-operation agreements with LEADER, Solas, Udaras na Gaeltachta, INTREO and SkillNets.

Marketing

- The ‘Make IT Meath’ campaign has begun with a new website (www.makeitmeath.ie). The website is designed to attract Irish and International companies to locate in Meath. Make it Meath social media accounts are active and engaging local, national and international audiences.

Tourism

- Implementation of the Boyne Valley Tourism Strategy 2016-2020 is well underway. The strategy called for incorporation of Ireland’s Ancient East branding into Boyne Valley digital and print materials, which was implemented during 2017 as well as promoting the Boyne Valley as the birthplace of Ireland’s Ancient East.
- A digital marketing campaign was carried out by Boyne Valley Tourism during 2017 targeting key markets UK, US, France and Germany to attract international visitors using google advertising. New sections were created on discoverboynevalley.ie including a new blog and new Ireland’s Ancient East stories section; additionally, ezines were sent to potential visitors throughout the year.



- A highlight of 2017 was the press visit organised by Boyne Valley Tourism whereby the Rough Guide, Lonely Planet, The Guardian, Scotsman and Scotland on Sunday in addition to Cara Magazine were invited

to visit the Boyne Valley over three days. They published articles and videos about the Boyne Valley which included live periscope from Lonely Planet and articles written in Cara Magazine, the Rough Guide and Scotland on Sunday.

- Networking opportunities were created for the tourism trade with two familiarisation trips organised to visit attractions across the Boyne Valley.
- Training on experience development was delivered to the tourism trade in the Boyne Valley, which produced a number of new tourism packages and experiences incorporating food and activities.
- 16 promotional shows were attended by Boyne Valley Tourism, supported by the tourism trade during 2017.
- The ninth Spirits of Meath Halloween Festival featured on national radio, TV and newspapers.
- Boyne Valley Tourism worked with the Boyne Valley Food Series to support its development.
- Funding was secured from Fáilte Ireland for a new permanent exhibition at the Kells Heritage Centre to create an orientation point for visitors to the area which will see the Kells Courthouse re-open in 2018.

Heritage

County Meath Heritage Plan 2015-2020

Projects 2017

The following projects were completed in 2017 as part of the County Heritage Plan supported by the Heritage Council.

The second year work programme of the County Meath Heritage Plan 2015-2020 and County Meath Biodiversity Action Plan 2015-2020 was delivered in 2017, key projects and initiatives included:

Irish Walled Town Network - Secured and delivered national pilot project for Kells - Kick Start Initiative - Including streetscape conservation works for 25 buildings within the historic core, training for owners of historic buildings, retailer training, weekend workshop on solving our own problems and on-going support and mentoring from project officer Irish Walled Town Network

Community Biodiversity Action Plans - Ecological advice to support implementation of seven Community Biodiversity Action Plans - Kells, Longwood, Ratoath, Stamullen, Julianstown, Rathcairn and Slane and progressed the establishment of local implementation groups.



Boyne Valley Natural History Field Club - four events were held in 2017, exploring bird life of the Boyne Estuary, nature activity day for children on the Hill of Tara, ecology of Mullaghmeen Forest and exploring the ecology of Boyne canal towpath.

Black Friary Community Heritage and Archaeology Project - worked in partnership to deliver annual work programme. Highlights included 30 community events, extensive post ex, conservation of stained glass finds complete by Cardiff University (c. 2,500 pieces), project took part in All Ireland Pride of Place Competition, Community Dig held on site in August, GIY group developed garden and marketing to second and third level institutes

- Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2017 - Meath County Council supported over 30 community heritage projects.
- Heritage Week 2017 - county brochure designed and 5,000 distributed. Over 80 events organised throughout the county (August 2017).
- Commissioned and completed text for primary school publication - Wild Teaching (Paul O'Donnell)
- Kells Printworks projects - Phase I
- Ledwidge Centenary Programme - supported its delivered including major seminar in Slane Castle.
- Culture Team - As a member of Culture Team contributed to Meath Culture and Creativity Plan 2017
- Steering Group for Hill of Tara Conservation Plan - Contributed to the preparation of Conservation plan for State-owned lands at the Hill of Tara
- Girley Bog Meitheal - supporting the conservation and management of Girley Bog
- Turas Columbanus - Planning and supporting the development of Turas Columbanus through the Friends of Columbanus (Republic of Ireland)

- Ongoing heritage advice on planning referrals, to the public and community groups including a number of Part VIII's and SID applications.

Housing

Housing Capital

- Funding was secured under the Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund (LIHAF) for sites in Navan (Farganstown) and Ratoath, to a combined value of €8.18m. Development agreements were finalised between Meath County Council and the developers concerned regarding the LIHAF sites, and grant agreements are now in place between Meath County Council and the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government.
- The Energy Efficiency Programme (Phase 1) continued to be implemented during 2017, with works completed on 185 housing units. Works have centred on wall and attic insulation. Phase 1 works are due to be completed on all Meath County Council stock in 2018. In addition to the above programme, external insulation and retro-fit works were completed under the Better Energies Scheme (SEAI) on 13 units in Navan.
- Pre let repairs were carried out on 116 casual vacancies in 2017.
- Works on 40 units under the Local Authority Adaptation Works Scheme were completed.
- Bettystown direct construction project was completed during 2017, with 16 units tenanted in July. The construction of 32 units in Athboy and 19 Units in Summerhill commenced in 2017, and a contractor was appointed in relation to the Ratoath site (17 units).
- In addition to the existing approved projects, a further 7 direct construction projects received Stage 1 Approval from the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government during 2017, equating to 103 units, of which three sites were selected for rapid build delivery.
- Under the 2017 Acquisition Programme, 54 units are at sale agreed/closed stage to date, located throughout the County, with a further 17 units acquired by the Housing Agency.
- Twenty three units were delivered in 2017 through Part V.
- Budget approval was received in the sum of €3,458,329 in relation to the submission regarding the refurbishment of Alverno Court. Discussions are ongoing with Department officials regarding the shortfall between funding sought and that approved.

Housing Allocations

- 1,180 households will have their accommodation needs met by Meath County Council in 2017, through various housing supports, including Housing Assistance Payment, the Rental Accommodation Scheme, Approved Housing Bodies, as well as through casual vacancies.
- Collaborative work with Approved Housing Bodies has yielded approval for 100 units under the Social Housing Current Expenditure Programme in 2017, with a further 66 units becoming operational in 2017 by the voluntary housing sector.

- The 2017 Summary of Social Housing Assessment recorded a net housing need of 2,467 as at 28th June 2017 for Co. Meath (Gross housing need inclusive of HAP recipients – 3,447).

Housing Grants

Approval was granted to 283 housing grant applications under the following schemes: Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability and Housing Aid for Older People and Mobility Aid Grants. The value of Grants approved in 2017 was €1,938,611.

Homeless Service

Two hundred and seventeen households required an emergency accommodation placement, in 2017. 147 households exiting emergency accommodation during the course of 2017. A number of Service Level Agreements were entered into between Meath County Council and Approved Housing Bodies in respect to the establishment of supported emergency accommodation models in the County.

Traveller Accommodation

- The accommodation targets for 2017 under the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014 - 2018 have been achieved.
- Work continues to bring forward the proposed refurbishment of St Francis' Park halting site, which has Departmental approval in the sum of €2,856,336.

Tenant Liaison

174 tenants completed pre tenancy training during 2017, obtaining a variety of information concerning their tenancy with Meath County Council.

Community Department

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

The function of the LCDC is to implement the 2016-2021 Local Economic Community Plan, to co-ordinate, manage and oversee the implementation of local and community programmes on behalf of the government departments e.g. SICAP and LEADER programmes.

Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP) 2016-2021

The LECP for Meath was launched in January 2017. The LCDC prepared the 6 year Statutory Local Economic Community Plan in conjunction with the Council. This Plan serves as the primary strategy guiding development in Meath and the targeting of resources under the direct management of the LCDC. Any funding applications for proposed projects must also be consistent with the objectives of the plan. A review of the plan will take place in 2018.

Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2015-2017

This is the 3rd year of this 3 year programme which is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development. SICAP's aim is to reduce poverty, promote social inclusion and equality through local engagement and collaboration. The tender to deliver the 3-year programme was awarded to Meath Partnership with a budget of €371,072 allocated for 2017. A new 5-year programme will commence in January 2018 with a budget of €393,336 and the contract for delivery of the next SICAP programme has been awarded to Meath Partnership.

Leader Programme 2014-2020

The LCDC (LAG) and Local Authority is responsible for monitoring/overseeing the delivery of the LEADER programme 2014-2020. Meath's allocation under the programme is €6,903,123.57. The LCDC agreed to a joint approach to LEADER with the LCDC as the LAG and Meath Partnership as the implementing partner (IP). During 2017, the LAG approved funding towards 5 festival events namely, Guth Gafa film festival, Hinterland festival, Royal Meath Show, Francis Ledwidge 2017 Centenary festival, Sandyachting European championships 2017. Funding has also been approved for 2 community facility developments in Duleek and Donore.

Public Participation Network (PPN)

The PPN has a current membership of 515 groups. A county plenary meeting took place in May and November 2017 and was very well attended by all groups.



The PPN website, www.meathppn.ie and Facebook page is being updated regularly with a dedicated PPN support worker working with the secretariat of the PPN to progress their plans.

Meath Age Friendly Initiative



The 2nd Age Friendly strategy 2017-2020 was launched in 2017. This strategy gives solution focussed commitments to improving key areas of infrastructure, transportation, services and information across the county. Trim Age Friendly sub-committee held an information event in Trim in December 2017 and was attended by over 120 older persons. There were a number of information stands and guest speakers on the day. Meath County Council is currently hosting the National Age Friendly Ireland programme on an interim basis until such a time that a national shared service is established.

Comhairle na nÓg

Meath Comhairle na nÓg, the Youth Council for County Meath, held their AGM in October with over 110 young people in attendance. Their topic for 2017/2018 is Health and Fitness with 5 workshops incorporating this topic held at the AGM. The group undertook other initiatives throughout the year under this topic.

Joint Policing Committee (JPC)

The committee met quarterly and also held their public meeting in Trim Castle Hotel in October 2017 with good attendance on the night.

The 3 sub- groups - Community Safety and Crime Prevention, Public Order and Anti-social Behaviour, Road Safety and Improved Driver Behaviour also meet on a regular basis.

Community Facilities

- A Part 8 for the Ashbourne linear park was agreed by the Ashbourne Municipal District Councillors at their March meeting. Work is continuing on the detailed design and the procurement process for the project will commence on completion of this stage.
- Funding of €15k was allocated by the Department of Children & Youth Affairs (DCYA) towards the development of a playground in Lobinstown. A contractor has been appointed and work commenced on the project. Under the Town & Village renewal scheme €32,000 has been approved towards works in association with the playground.

Community Initiatives - Pride of Place

Pride of Place continued with competitions at Municipal District level and category winners from each MD going forward to compete at county level. Two new categories – Best New Group and Volunteer of the Year were introduced this year. A total of 203 groups and businesses participated with 70 schools taking part. Four groups were entered in the National awards held on December 2nd – Slane Tidy Towns came first in their category and Trim Tidy Towns came second in their category. Kells Local Heroes and the Blackfriary Community Heritage and Archaeology group were also nominated.

Grant Schemes 2017

The following grant schemes were processed in 2017

- Community Grant Scheme 2017 - A total of 375 applications approved under the various categories
- Carranstown Grant Scheme - 28 applications were approved
- Knockharley Grant Scheme - 11 applications were approved

Community Facilities Scheme

The scheme was being administered by the LCDC under the remit of the Local Authorities with an allocation of €64,500 available to Meath. 63 groups were approved for the scheme with works completed by year end.

Unity Centre, Windtown, Navan



The Unity Centre provides a space for community activities as well as training and leisure activities. A weekly Parent and Toddler Group and Youth Club are run by members of the Windtown community, and the building is regularly used by LMETB, HSE, Rehab care, Prosper Meath, Navan Schools Completion Service, Springboard Family Support and Orchard Children's Services.

Healthy Ireland Fund

This fund is being administered by the LCDC under the remit of the Local Authorities. An allocation of €100,000 is available to the LCDC to support the implementation of Healthy Ireland projects and programmes. 3 proposals were approved – Ashbourne Sli na Slainte, Lobinstown Playground and Kells Harvest Walk.

Town & Village Renewal Scheme

This scheme supports the revitalisation of towns and villages. 15 projects were submitted and approved by the department to the amount of €905,000. Work is progressing on the projects.

Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme

11 applications were submitted by the Council. The Department has approved funding for six projects submitted under Measure 1; Balrath Wood, Kentstown; Clarins Bridge, Kells; Ramparts, Navan; Girley Bog Loop Walk; Harvest Walk, Kells and River Walk Ratoath. These works were completed by year end.

Clár Initiative

This is a targeted investment programme for an identified Clár area. Grants totalling €104k were received from the Department for 4 projects namely footpath construction in Kilskyre, upgrading of footpath in Killallen and installation of warning speed signage at Ballinlough and Ughtyneill schools which were completed by the end of 2017.

Rapid – (Revitalising Areas by Planning, Investment and Development)

The programme proposed to fund projects that address disadvantage and seeks to enhance communities in urban areas. The fund is administered by the LCDC under the remit of the Local Authority. 3 applications were received and the LCDC approved an allocation of €64,500 to the Laytown Village Enhancement Committee.

The project outlined works to further enhance the former Library site in Laytown which is located at the entrance to a number of local authority housing estates including Marian Villas & Alverno Court in Laytown and to also develop the site as a community garden. These works were completed by the end of 2017.

Eirgrid Community Fund

This was a once off funding of €30k for the south west corner of Trim MD under the Eirgrid project. Community projects were identified in the area and were awarded funding towards their projects. These included Castlejordan Community Playschool, St Ciaran's National School, Ballinabrackey GAA underage and Jordan Junior Youth Club.

Broadband

A full time Broadband Officer was appointed in June 2017 with the objective of facilitating the implementation of the National Broadband Plan and related initiatives in County Meath. This will include the development of a digital strategy for Co. Meath and work is ongoing in this regard.

Library Services

- Delivered the Francis Ledwidge Centenary programme in partnership with national, local and community stakeholders
- Delivered the 2017 activation plan for the 2016 legacy initiative *Creative Ireland*
- Completed the migration of acquisition services to the new national library procurement system
- Reconfigured work practices to adapt to the new national library distribution service *Newsread*. The national launch took place in Navan in May

- Introduced RFID self-service at Trim branch as part of the preparation for the *My Open Library* initiative and secured funding of c.€200,000 for the extension and further implementation of RFID across the branch network
- Reconfigured service at Trim and completed the move to new staff accommodation
- Extended the new national Business Information service *Work Matters* to Kells library
- Secured funding of €8,100 for the implementation of the Healthy Ireland library initiative



- Branch upgrades at Dunshaughlin and Oldcastle as part of the countywide Energy works
- Broadband upgrades at Duleek, Nobber, Oldcastle and Slane
- Developed a junior library at Mosney accommodation centre
- Paul Gamble headlined the annual Children's Book Festival in October. In excess of one hundred events were organised with almost 6,000 children from over fifty different schools attending events making this Meath's leading cultural event for children
- Over 4,000 children attended the Summer Programme of events organised by the library service during July and August
- 2,000 children participated in the annual Summer Reading Challenge.

Arts Office

FÉACH

Implementation of the FÉACH professional artist mentoring and training programme in partnership with our national partners including Visual Artists Ireland, Kids Classics and the Arts Council. Programmes included.

'Let Our Voices Be Heard' Documentary Film Training at Creative Spark, Dundalk, an initiative of the Northeast Filmmakers Network and Little Road Productions.

Music in a Healthcare setting training programme for musicians wishing to develop skills and work in this area. Delivered by Musique el Sante trained facilitators Grainne Hope and Liam Merriman of Kids Classics. Healthcare Partners include Navan Hospital, Beaufort Nursing Home Navan and St. Joseph's Nursing Home Trim.

Bealtaine Festival 2017

Musical Memories performances at nursing homes and care centres throughout the county.

Meet the Composer by Kids Classics an interactive performance at six locations across the county.

All Together Now! Collectivism, Civic Engagement and Protest!! A twelve week visual arts workshop programme taking place at three locations across the county – Kells, Navan and Ashbourne exploring the theme of activism and protest in Art. Facilitated by artist Jillian Gott and culminating in an exhibition of work at the Toradh gallery as part of the Bealtine programme.

Toradh Gallery

Six visual arts exhibitions held at Toradh Gallery, Ashbourne Cultural Centre with accompanying artist's talks, workshops and schools events held.



Toradh on Tour – at Hinterland Festival Kells **Ireland in Contemporary Art 1916 – 2016**, curated by Larry Lambe featuring the works of Robert Ballagh, Sean Hillen, Alice Maher, David Linburn, Dermot Bolger, Rita Duffy & Padric Lynch; a partnership exhibition with Crawford Art Gallery Cork and Galway City Museum.

Commissions

'From the Legion of the Lost Ones' & 'Ettie' – a theatre and music residency and commission with award winning playwright Deirdre Kinahan and award winning NY based musician Michael Brunnock. Supported by the Irish Arts Centre NY and the Arts Council, this is an evolving collaboration of two celebrated Meath artists

in the creation of new works. A first view performance of the work for Meath audiences featured musicians Mick McAuley, Rob Graham & Saramai Leech with narration by Padraic McIntyre.

Illuminate Herstory

Projection of images of three Meath women who played significant role in the Easter Rising on the walls of the Kells Courthouse Building, January 2017 as part of the National Herstory Programme.



Illuminate Herstory is a new annual global light festival celebrating women and equality, with castles, museums, theatres, libraries, offices and homes illuminating in celebration of women and girls.

Alice Stopford Green (1847 –1929)
Kells, Co. Meath
Irish Historian and Nationalist

Find out more at www.herstory.ie

Children & Young People

SongSchool: Five day song writing workshop presented by SongSchool/CreateSchool at Kells Court House building February mid-term 2017. Twenty young people explored the art of song writing, composition, accompaniment performance and recording culminating in a performance on last evening for parents/guardians and invited friends.

Julianstown Youth Orchestra – Gesamtkunstwerk: support of the Julianstown Youth Orchestra senior sections creation of a new work that engages young people in a unique type of staged performance with orchestral musicians at the centre of the creative and performing process, challenging them to perform in new ways. Working with conductor Fergus Sheil, John McIlduff (director) Sarah Jane Shiels (designer), Clodagh Deegan (costume designer) and Jessica Kennedy (choreographer) the musicians compose the music and expand their creative experience by encouraging them to adopt new performance elements such as singing, dancing, acting, movement etc.

Songs of Our Children: Children’s traditional song writing project led by folklorist Michael Fortune at three schools in Meath in collaboration with local songwriters and musicians

Print Workshop: National Print Museum Letterpress Workshop for young people presented as part of Kells TypeTrail Festival.

Pucás & Potions children’s Halloween Festival:

Series of lantern making workshops devised and delivered at O’Growney NS Athboy.

Púcas & Potions open children & young person's workshops devised and delivered at Halloween HQ Festival Athboy, October 31st.

Festivals

Kells TypeTrail Festival – exploring Type as an art form: Supporting the work of the Kells Sawmills Artist Collective in the development and delivery of the annual TypeTrail Festival featuring over 32 typography installations at various locations in Kells. Through a dedicated workshop programme the installations are devised and created by local schools, community groups, individual artists and third level students from Dundalk Institute of Technology and Athlone I.T.



Hinterland Festival: Support of rebranding and programme development of 2017 festival. Programming of Lit Crawl events – a partnership programme with Litquake Literary Festival San Francisco as part of the Hinterland Festival. Events included a reading from *Ettie* by Deirdre Kinahan and *From the Legions of the Lost Ones* by Padraic McIntyre.

Francis Ledwidge Centenary Commemorations Programme

Worked with MCC Cultural Services in leading the national celebrations of the Francis Ledwidge Centenary in partnership with the Francis Ledwidge Museum Committee and the Decade of Centenaries Unit at the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs. Programme included publications, seminars, music and theatre as well as an extensive community participation programme with eighteen community and voluntary groups celebrating Ledwidge in their own unique way.



Francis Ledwidge Creative Writing Award - Devised, implemented and managed the inaugural award.

Home - Commissioned and managed commemorative Ledwidge sculpture, by artist Liam O Broin. Commissioned a series of bronze plaques containing lines from Ledwidge poetry to form a 'trail' around the village of Slane – artist Liam O'Broin

'Where Angels Listen' - Commissioned and managed a creative and affectionate response by some of Ireland's most celebrated contemporary artists to the life and works of Slane poet Francis Ledwidge. Curated by playwright Deirdre Kinahan who invited Steve Wickham (Waterboys), Sinead Gleeson (RTE, The Book Show), SaraMai & Oisin Leech amongst others to perform new works inspired by Ledwidge's poems.

Arts Grants Awards & Bursaries Schemes

Administered, assessed and processed 94 applications under six Arts Grants, Awards & Bursaries Schemes.

Creative Ireland

Worked in collaboration with Cultural Services Team to develop and implement Creative Ireland Activation Plan for 2017: facilitation of public consultation meeting, Solstice April 2017; allocation of funding, liaising with successful projects; input to Meath Culture and Creativity Plan.

Road Transportation and Safety

Meath County Council manages and maintains over 3,500 km. of road network. This is achieved with the co-operation and assistance of the NTA, TII, and DTTAS through 4 main elements, namely:

- Road upkeep, including routine and 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

In 2017, Road Improvement achievements included the delivery of the circa €26m road works programme and the completion of 16 Community Involvement Schemes. The scheme showcases how partnership between the Council and communities can deliver meaningful improvements on roads, which otherwise would not receive maintenance/improvement funding. Applications were also processed for participation in the CIS Scheme for 2018 and 2019 and the various successful communities were contacted.

The following National Primary and Secondary Road Schemes were advanced in 2017:

- N2 Slane Bypass – Constraints and Route Selection Studies are ongoing
- N51 Dunmoe Phase 2 – Part 8 Process complete, CPO prepared
- N52 Grange to Clontail Road scheme - consultants appointed
- N2 Balrath to Cushinstown, N2 Coolaliss and Clontail Pavement schemes
- N51 Pavement overlay scheme complete (NIIR - Round O to Abbey Rd).

Additional Non-National Schemes which were progressed in 2017:

- R150 Laytown to Bettystown Spine Road – Consultants appointed to prepare a CPO
- LDR4 Abbeyland Navan - Consultants appointed to prepare application for statutory approval
- LDR6 Navan R153 to Ferganstown & Ballymacon - LIHAF Agreement with developer signed Consulting Engineers appointed
- Ratoath Outer Relief Road - LIHAF Agreement with developer signed. Tender negotiation underway with consultant.

Road Restoration

- Regional Roads - 11.3 kms. and Local Roads – 64.5 kms. (incl 8.0 kms for CIS).
- LIS – 9kms

Surface Dressing

- Regional – 22.6 kms. (including road restoration lengths)
- Local – 74.4 kms. (including road restoration lengths) (incl 7.7 kms for CIS).

Bridge Remedial Works

Remedial Works were carried out on the following bridges: Beggstown Bridge, Beggstown; Headfort Bridge, Kells, Causetown Bridge, Stackallen; Bellinter Bridge, Navan; Doghtog Bridge, Doghtog; Johnstown Bridge, Rathcore; Clondoogan Bridge, Summerhill.

Low Cost Safety Improvement Schemes

Low Cost Safety Improvement Schemes have been carried out at the R108 Clinstown Cross, Fennor Cross R195/L6814-16 Junction Oldcastle, L5619 Legganhall Cross, R161 Connells Cross, Robinstown and the R147/R149 Junction, Clonee.

Sustainable Transport Schemes

Work on the following schemes progressed in 2017:

- Commenced process to prepare a Part 8 for the Boyneside Trail
- Continuation with the design of The Boyne Greenway – Phase 2 (ongoing)
- Part 8 completed for Navan 2030 to improve public transport infrastructure and associated traffic management for the town centre in Navan
- Continuation of a Cycle Network Design for Navan and progressed design of Ashbourne Cycle Network
- Continuation of a Cycle Network Design for Ratoath including construction of cycling and pedestrian facilities on the Meadowbankhill Road
- Part 8 completed for the Cantilever Bridge on the Kentstown Road
- Completion of Pedestrian Toucan Crossing in Dunboyne
- Completion of M3 Transportation Study at Dunboyne and Environs
- Laytown Park & Ride.



Other schemes designed/constructed by the Sustainable Transport Unit for Transportation/ MDs:

- Road Safety Study on the R157 Dunboyne – Maynooth Road
- Circular Road Roundabout Improvement Works
- Construction of 19kms of the Dublin – Galway Greenway along the Royal Canal
- Gormanstown – Stamullen Footpath Link constructed.

Speed Limit Review

The review of speed limits within the county is substantially complete. The bye-law for housing estates was adopted and will come into effect in November 2017. Draft County Special Speed Limit Bye-Law for countywide speed limits was on public display up until 30th August. This reflected the review of the countywide speed limits that had been undertaken on the road network in 2016/2017. The bye-law is ready to adopt pending final confirmation of proposals for the National Roads from TII.

Other Services

- Ordinary Maintenance, Winter Maintenance Service and Maintenance of Plant & Machinery
- Public Lighting Services and Energy Efficiency Schemes
- Development Control / Transport Planning Advice
- Road Safety Improvement Schemes, Promotion and Education
- Road Opening Licences, Abnormal Load Applications, Roads and Services in Charge queries.

Environment, Fire & Emergency Services

The protection of the environment and the enhancement of the county's natural and built environment are 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 a sustainable and high quality environment and improving the quality of life of our citizens.

Environmental Enforcement Priorities

The Council continued to actively enforce the provisions of all environmental legislation as required by statute. Compliance includes inspections and/or audits to determine compliance with all environmental legislation which includes air, noise, nitrates, water and waste legislation. The main priorities for 2017 were:

- Illegal dumping including construction and demolition waste
- Household waste management compliance including Brown Bin
- End of life vehicles including abandoned cars
- Tyres
- Farm inspections and cross reporting to DAFM
- Domestic waste water inspections in accordance with the National Inspection Plan
- Licensing of Section 4 Discharges
- Solid Fuel Regulations –smokey coal enforcement.

Environmental Education & Awareness Activities

In 2017, the Council engaged in a wide range of environmental education and awareness activities and supports including:

- Green Schools Initiatives including workshops on litter and waste, energy, water, biodiversity, global citizenship
- Secondary Schools – The Really Rubbish Film Company, ECO UNESCO Young Environmentalist, Clean-Up Navan Campaign
- Community Groups – Anti Litter League, Clean-Up Navan, Climate Change Community Action event, 2 Minute Beach Clean Up, Up-cycle Furniture Workshops for Reuse Month
- 'Stop Food Waste Campaign' including cinema, outdoor advertising on buses and at shopping centres, demonstrations, promotional materials, website
- Anti Dumping Initiative Projects at Bridge of Boyne - Navan, Broadmeadow River – Ashbourne, Girley Bog – Kells and Bohermeen Bog
- Dog fouling awareness campaign - Radio campaign in conjunction with Louth County Council
- Household hazardous waste collection and collection day for old toys.



Abandoned Car Policy

An abandoned vehicles policy was introduced in 2017 following a rapid increase in the number of vehicles being reported as abandoned.

The new policy is proving quite successful in having vehicles removed. However, failure by the registered owner to respond to a number of notifications has resulted in some vehicles being removed, destroyed and certificates of destruction submitted. The Council seeks to recoup any costs arising from the last registered owner.

Climate Change

Consultants were engaged to prepare a Climate Action Strategy and to ensure this subject matter is strongly integrated into the review process of the Meath County Development Plan 2019-2025. Information gathered on baseline emissions inventories and climate risk & vulnerability assessments will feed into a 'Sustainable

Energies and Climate Action Plan’, which is a requirement for signatories ‘to the Covenant of Mayors the European movement whereby local and regional authorities voluntarily commit to contribute to reaching EU targets for reducing greenhouse gases and resilience to the impacts of climate change’.

River Basin Management Planning

The Water Framework Directive provides the legal framework to protect and restore clean water and to ensure its long term sustainable use and this is achieved through the River Basin Management Plans. A draft river basin management plan covering the period 2018-2021 was published in March 2017 and subject to public consultation until the end of August 2017.

The draft plan provides an assessment of the pressures on the water environment in Ireland, and the proposed programme of measures to be implemented in the period to 2021. As part of extensive consultations in respect of the draft plan, a series of 6 public meetings were held in Kells, Navan, Trim, Dunshaughlin, Ashbourne and Bettystown when community groups and other interested parties were afforded the opportunity to outline any particular concerns they had in respect of local water bodies. Following a series of Catchment Assessment workshops, eight water bodies in County Meath were identified for priority action during the lifetime of the plan to be adapted early in 2018.

Provision of Slipways – River Boyne and Blackwater

The Council, in association with other statutory agencies with responsibilities for the River Boyne and Blackwater, appointed specialist environmental consultants to carry out an appraisal of the locations of the temporary boat slipways currently in place along the River Boyne and to propose the most appropriate locations for additional boat slipways on the Boyne and the Blackwater, both of which are designated Special Areas of Conservation (SAC).

In light of such designations a screening for appropriate assessment was carried out and arising from which a full Natura Impact Statement (NIS) was prepared and submitted to An Bord Pleanála for approval.

Beach Management Plan

A draft Beach Management Plan for a section of the coast of Co. Meath from mouth of the River Nanny to the sea wall at Mornington was placed on public display until July 2017 and elicited a significant number of submissions and covering a wide and varied number of issues.

The coastline, being home to a variety of natural habitats, is subject to SAC, NHA, and SPA designations and, in accordance with the EU Habitats Directive, a screening for appropriate assessment was carried out and arising from which a Natura Impact Statement is currently being prepared and will be subject to further public consultation.

A Beach Management Committee comprising representatives from various community and voluntary groups as well as elected Councillors from Laytown/ Bettystown Municipal District was set up in March 2017. The committee will provide a forum for communication and discussion in respect of enhancements relating to the beach.



Tyres - Waste Management (Tyres and Waste Tyres) Regulations 2017

In September 2017, new Regulations were signed into law and providing for all tyre producer and retailers being members of REPAK an approved body for Tyres and for all producers to register with Producer Register Limited (PRL) an approved Registration body.

Changes to Household Waste Collection Charging Arrangement

In June 2017, The Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment, confirmed that a more flexible framework for waste collection charges had been approved by Government, including a provision whereby 'all-in flat rate' charging for household waste will be phased out as customers renew or enter new service contracts, and replaced with an incentivised pricing structure for household waste collection.

The new provisions will allow for a range of charging options, which most consumers are already familiar with, and which will encourage householders to reduce and separate their waste while choosing the service-price offering that best suits their circumstances and allows them manage their costs.

Under the new arrangement, waste collectors will be given the flexibility to continue to offer, or to introduce, a range of incentivised pricing options to their customers. These options include elements or combinations of standing charges, and per-lift, per-kilogramme, weight-bands, and weight allowance charges.

All waste collectors were required to start rolling-out food/organic “brown” bins to all localities nationwide with a population greater than 500 people.

Fire Service

Meath Fire & Rescue Service covers a broad range of functions ranging from operational response to fire prevention, including:

- Fire fighting and rescue services
- Community fire safety
- Technical fire prevention
- Major emergency planning and pre incident planning

Meath Fire & Rescue Service is ready to respond to a range of incidents and emergencies as requested by the Eastern Regional Control Centre through the 999/112 system. To ensure a continued efficient and effective response, staff are continuously trained and supported to maintain competency in the wide range of skills required. Specialised equipment and fleet are essential to service provision and ongoing procurement and maintenance form an important element of the annual budget provision.





Health and Safety

Meath Fire and Rescue Service has worked to provide and maintain an effective Health and Safety Management System and currently holds OHSAS 18001 accreditation, an international standard which provides a framework to identify, control and decrease the risks associated with health and safety within the workplace. The fire service will continue to monitor and implement improvements to meet statutory health and safety obligations and staff training will continue in accordance with the agreed Training Plan to ensure high standards of service delivery.

Equipment

Meath Fire & Rescue service utilises a broad range of specialist equipment in the delivery of its operational rescue service and there was significant investment during 2017 in equipment including cutting and extrication gear for use at road based incidents.

Fire Prevention and Community Fire Safety

Fire Prevention Officers deal with a wide range of Fire Safety Certificate applications for new and existing developments and carry out a range of inspections to deal with the fire safety of the existing building stock and proposed developments, through strong links to the Planning and Building Control Section. Educating the community in fire safety is a key role for the fire service and targeted campaigns were initiated during 2017 at various times throughout the year, especially during National Fire Safety Week and Halloween. Meath Fire and Rescue Service will endeavour to increase the level of activity in the area of community fire safety paying particular attention to fire safety in the home.

Civil Defence

There are currently two hundred active **volunteer members** in **Civil Defence** throughout the county. In addition to regular training activities in the nine training centres, 2017 was a busy year, with over one hundred and eighty duty days at events throughout the county, providing assistance to the emergency services and local communities.

Part 8 planning has been secured for the proposed new training and operational facility for the organisation on the Mullaghboy Industrial Estate. A detailed building design is in progress and site work has commenced to make the site ready for when a building contractor is appointed which is expected to go to tender early in the new year.

Water Services

In 2017, Meath County Council completed the 4th year of the Service Level Agreement with Irish Water, which ensures the continued provision of day to day water and wastewater operation and maintenance and capital delivery services.

Under this Service Level Agreement, Meath County Council continues to operate and maintain all water services facilities and networks within County Meath and to project manage capital programmes on behalf of Irish Water. In this capacity, the Council continues to play a key role in the provision of Water and Wastewater services. The Council's 2017 Budget made provision for Water Services staff payroll, directly incurred costs and a representative proportion of the Central Management Charge, which were recouped on a monthly basis from Irish Water during the year. Irish Water has budgeted directly for the provision of the goods and services associated with the provision of Water Services.

Irish Water does not have responsibility for storm water, storm flooding, group schemes, well grants or lead piping replacement grants and, hence, the Council will continue to have direct responsibility for these matters.

During 2017, a number of Water Services capital projects were significantly advanced and this, coupled with the Council's ongoing commitment to water conservation and continued close engagement with Irish Water to secure further capital investment in critical Water Services infrastructure, will serve to facilitate the planned development and growth of Meath going forward.

Corporate Plan 2015-2019 – Strategic Objectives & Supporting Strategies:

Strategic Objective	Deliver Excellent Services
Supporting Strategies	Meath County Council will focus on promoting and sustaining the social and environmental well-being of the people of Meath.

	Increase the level of satisfaction expressed by citizens with our services
Strategic Objective	Lead Economic Development
Supporting Strategies	Meath County Council will be the lead agency in developing the economy of the county and the adjoining region.
	Focus on the creation and retention of jobs for the people of Meath and will work with a view to increasing the prosperity of the region
Strategic Objective	Build Strong, Influential Partnerships
Supporting Strategies	All levels of leadership across Meath County Council will build strong influential partnerships with their key stakeholders.
	Fundamentally enhance the reputation of the Council in each core area of work.
Strategic Objective	Engage the Larger Community
Supporting Strategies	Communities, individuals and Council staff will engage as a team in promoting initiatives which will deliver what is important to our citizens.
	Staff will be available to listen and communicate with the citizens of Meath formally and informally on an ongoing basis.
Strategic Objective	Nurture a Staff Excellence Culture
Supporting Strategies	Meath County Council will be seen as an employer of choice in the region, where staff are proud to work in its progressive environment.
	Both customers and colleagues will experience professional and respectful interactions in a cohesive organizational structure that encourages fairness.
Strategic Objective	Develop System and Process Capability
Supporting Strategy	The internal business process and ICT systems of Meath County Council will allow quick and easy access to information, in order to support staff and external stakeholders to make informed decisions.

Corporate Plan Progress Report 2017

Service Area – Economic Development and Enterprise

Key Achievements – 2017

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
Lead Economic Development	Meath County Council will be the lead agency in developing the economy of the county & the adjoining region.	Operate as the lead agency for the economic development & be recognized as the first point of contact for economic development in Meath.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosted three Retail Excellence Ireland events and coordinated Meath retailers to take part in the REI Friendly Place awards and the Top 100 door competition. • Exhibited at the REI annual conference. • Exhibited at the CABRE data centre conference, along with providing a speaker for the event. • Four significant FDI companies were hosted by MCC during the year the Regional Manager of IDA Ireland addressed the Economic SPC. • The head of the EU Commission representation in Ireland addressed the Economic SPC. • Marketing plan complete. Multi-year roll-out underway.
		Be seen as positive, professional & helpful by the business community, using resources to attract, retain & support business.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing promotion & marketing of Meath as a location for economic development through facilitation, participation & attendance at a variety of events & initiatives in addition to hosting national & international delegations. • Provided funding of c €500,000 to support businesses. • Presented awards to Ireland’s Best Young Entrepreneurs & Student Enterprises. • Provided mentoring & a range of training programmes & business information seminars for SMEs. • Navan retained its Purple Flag status. • Navan was the inaugural winner of Ireland’s Friendliest Place Award 2017.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
Lead Economic Development	Meath County Council will be the lead agency in developing the economy of the county & the adjoining region.	Develop Meath & the Boyne Valley as ‘must go to’ destination in national & international tourism.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boyne Valley Food Strategy launched. • Food Development Officer appointed in conjunction with Louth County Council. • Collaborated with local entrepreneurs to roll out school prize programme. • Implementation of the Boyne Valley Tourism Strategy 2016-2020 is underway • The Boyne Valley was represented at 16 promotional shows during 2017. • Funding was secured from Failte Ireland with considerable support from Meath County Council to reopen the Kells Courthouse as a tourist office and exhibition space and in future as a Tourism, Arts and Cultural Hub. The project was implemented in the second half of 2017. • Digital marketing was undertaken to key markets of UK, US, Germany and France and along with regular consumer ezines, this promoted the Boyne Valley as a key tourist destination. (Website users increased by 50%) • Increase of 15% in social media followers. • Numerous events were held including networking events, experience development workshops to develop new tourism product and familiarisation trips for the tourism trade to learn about local product. • A media press visit was undertaken and attracted Lonely Planet, Rough Guides, The Guardian, Scotsman and Cara Magazine to visit the Boyne Valley and produce press articles.
	Focus on the creation & retention of jobs for the people of Meath & will work with a view to increasing the prosperity of the region.	Build strong influential partnerships with other agencies nationally & locally in order to promote Meath as the investment location of choice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meath Economic Team actively involved in regional and national initiatives – specifically the Regional Action Plan for Jobs and the Regional Skills Forum. • LEO Meath supported companies increased significantly their employment numbers during 2017 – among the top five best performing counties in the country.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
Lead Economic Development	Focus on the creation & retention of jobs for the people of Meath & will work with a view to increasing the prosperity of the region.	Build strong influential partnerships with other agencies nationally & locally in order to promote Meath as the investment location of choice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13 EU Funding Project Applications were reviewed, considered or submitted to the European Commission in 2017 through various programmes including Erasmus+, URBACT III, InterReg North-West Europe, Ireland Wales, Life, Atlantic Area, European Public Sector Awards, WiFi4EU scheme, EU-China Light Bridge project and nationally through the European Innovation Partnerships Initiative through the Department for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Regional Enterprise Development Fund (REDF) 2017-2020 and the Enterprise Ireland SBIR (Small Business Innovation Research Ireland Call). • Various collaborative working arrangements established and developed through the development of various EU project partnerships, strategic development with the Irish Regions Office, Brussels, Regional Assemblies and various National Contact points. • Regional EEN event hosted, EEN company profiles reviewed, EoI reviewed. • 15 European events were hosted, attended or associated with including 52nd European Sandyacht Championships 2017, an Italian Food Delegation, Enterprise Europe Network (EEN) Regional event, European Commission Representation in Ireland presented to ED SPC, EBR Board Meeting, The Horizons no Boundaries Conference held in Italy, Kilmessan Christmas Eve mass broadcast across Europe (particularly French, Swiss, Germans and Dutch broadcasters). • Various EU Funding workshops and launches attended including URBACT III, Ireland Wales, ESPON Ireland AND DCU BREXIT Institute. • LEAN Network launched with LEO Meath, Louth, Cavan and Monaghan. Regional Enterprise Fund feasibility study underway with LEO Meath, Louth, Cavan and Monaghan.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
<p>Deliver Excellent Services</p>	<p>Meath County Council will focus on promoting & sustaining the social & environmental well-being of the people of Meath.</p>	<p>Provide an excellent planning service.</p>	<p>Forward Planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Variations carried out to Navan and Kells plans. • Phase 1 of the County Development Plan completed – Strategic Issues Paper (SIP) and public consultation. • Evening meetings held in relation to SIP; Public engagement through attendance at PPN and notifications on website. • Variation No. 4 adopted by MCC. • Public Realm Plans placed on public display. • Advice given to the Department of Education & Skills regarding the identification of suitable sites. • Detailed submission made on the National Planning Framework & participation in national and regional initiatives. <p>Development Management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal and informal pre-planning meetings held with developers to ensure the best possible application is made for the delivery of housing. <p>Strategic Projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended two Oral Hearings in relation to applications from Boliden and Platin. • Standard Operating Procedure developed to ensure compliance with Part 8 requirements. <p>Development Contributions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statement of accounts issued bi-annually and continued engagement with customers. • Collection figures 87% in excess of target; <p>Enterprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research for the database to measure and analyse economic planning metrics undertaken. • Economic development applications fast tracked.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
Deliver Excellent Services	Meath County Council will focus on promoting & sustaining the social & environmental well-being of the people of Meath.	Manage & protect our heritage & promote the understanding & enjoyment of same.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Heritage Site (WHS) at Brú na Bóinne Management Plan complete & to be reviewed as part of the CDP 2019-2025. • Secured and delivered national pilot for Kells - <i>Kick Start Initiative</i> as part of Irish Walled Town Network • Heritage week 2017 – county brochure produced and 5000 distributed to promote over 80 events held in Meath • Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2017- Over 30 community heritage projects supported. • Commissioned and completed text for primary school publication - <i>Wild Teaching</i> • Kells Printworks projects – Phase I • Ledwidge Centenary Programme delivered including major seminar in Slane Castle. • Contributed to Meath Culture and Creativity Plan 2017 • Contributed to the Conservation plan for State-owned lands at the Hill of Tara • Supported the Girley Bog Meitheal – conservation and management of Girley Bog • Supported the implementation of Community Biodiversity Plans • Planning and supporting the development of Turas Columbanus through the Friends of Columbanus (Republic of Ireland) • Black Friary Community Heritage and Archaeology Project – 30 community events delivered, post-ex conservation of stained glass finds, community dig and participated in All Ireland Pride of Place Competition
Deliver Excellent Services	Increase the level of satisfaction expressed by citizens with our services.	Deal with all planning applications & building control consent applications from our customers in a professional, consistent, fair & transparent way.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taking in Charge: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resources used appropriately to maximise taking-in-charge work.
		Deal promptly, consistently & fairly with all planning enforcement issues & complaints.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enforcement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Continued progress made on enforcement inspections and post planning compliance.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
Engage the Larger Community	Communities, individuals & Council staff will engage as a team in promoting initiatives which will deliver what is important to our citizens.	<p>Be recognized as the prime agency for Community Development in Meath.</p> <p>Promote well-being for present & future generations.</p> <p>Staff will be available to listen & communicate with the citizens of Meath formally & informally on an ongoing basis.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LCDC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Monthly meetings held with required quorum in attendance at each meeting. ○ 2017 action plan adopted by the LCDC and 2017 actions delivered. ○ 2017 SICAP targets successfully achieved. ○ 3 IEC meetings took place with 7 projects approved for funding by the LAG (LEADER). • PPN: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2 plenaries took place in May and November. ○ Secretariat meetings took place every two months. ○ Work plan achieved. ○ PPN website utilised for publication of all local authority consultations. ○ Weekly newsletter circulated to all PPN groups. • Age Friendly: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Quarterly meetings took place. ○ Slane identified as Age Friendly Town. ○ Trim hosted a Communication Network Event in November 2017. • Comhairle na nÓg: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regular meetings held. ○ AGM held in October and new members elected. ○ New projects identified and being progressed.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017																																	
Engage the Larger Community	Communities, individuals & Council staff will engage as a team in promoting initiatives which will deliver what is important to our citizens.	<p>Be recognized as the prime agency for Community Development in Meath.</p> <p>Promote well-being for present & future generations.</p> <p>Staff will be available to listen & communicate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Grants: <table border="1" data-bbox="972 357 1767 1390"> <thead> <tr> <th>Category</th> <th>Application Approved</th> <th>Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Active Elderly</td> <td>12</td> <td>€ 6,400.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Burial Ground Grant</td> <td>35</td> <td>€ 24,650.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Children & Youth</td> <td>21</td> <td>€ 8,400.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Community Invo lvement</td> <td>35</td> <td>€ 11,638.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Equality & Social Inclusion</td> <td>19</td> <td>€ 8,650.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Festivals & Events</td> <td>50</td> <td>€ 28,839.17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Residents Assoc.</td> <td>153</td> <td>€ 30,200.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Recreation & Sport</td> <td>17</td> <td>€ 9,800.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Streetscape</td> <td>6</td> <td>€ 3,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tidy Towns</td> <td>25</td> <td>€ 10,036.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> 	Category	Application Approved	Value	Active Elderly	12	€ 6,400.00	Burial Ground Grant	35	€ 24,650.00	Children & Youth	21	€ 8,400.00	Community Invo lvement	35	€ 11,638.00	Equality & Social Inclusion	19	€ 8,650.00	Festivals & Events	50	€ 28,839.17	Residents Assoc.	153	€ 30,200.00	Recreation & Sport	17	€ 9,800.00	Streetscape	6	€ 3,000.00	Tidy Towns	25	€ 10,036.00
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Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
		with the citizens of Meath formally & informally on an ongoing basis.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Carronstown Grant Scheme – Funding of €550,000 committed to 28 Community Projects under the Carronstown Grant Scheme in 2017; ○ Knockharley Grant Scheme – Funding of €136,000 committed to 11 Community Projects under the 2017 Scheme. Two Applications were approved under the Knockharley Small Grants Scheme and allocated €4,000.00 between them. An amount of €981,045 was allocated for the works involved in development of the 10 acre park, playing pitches, car parking and associated services in Kentstown Village which commenced on site in November 2017. ● Environmental Initiatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pride of Place’s 15th year in existence and 3rd year of new format with awards at MD and County level. ○ 7 awards nights took place between Thursday 28th September and Thursday 9th November, with approximately 900 attendees. 85 groups won at least one prize. ○ 70 schools participated in the Schools Pride of Place Gardening Scheme in 2017.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
Engage the Larger Community	Communities, individuals & Council staff will engage as a team in promoting initiatives which will deliver what is important to our citizens.	<p>Be recognized as the prime agency for Community Development in Meath.</p> <p>Promote well-being for present & future generations.</p> <p>Staff will be available to listen & communicate with the citizens of Meath formally & informally on an ongoing basis.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 4 groups were selected to represent Meath at the Co-Operation Ireland Pride of Place competition in 2017. Slane Tidy Towns were the winners of the main competition Population 1000 - 2000 category and Trim Tidy Towns were named runner up in the main competition Population over 5000 category. The other two groups representing Meath were Black Friary SMART Project, Trim in the Community based Youth Initiative category and Kells Type Trail / Kells Local Heroes in the Creative Place Initiative category. ● Joint Policing Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Quarterly meetings held. ○ Public meeting held in October. ○ 3 new sub committees set up with quarterly meetings held. ● Community Facilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Unity Centre, Windtown, Navan – Increase in bookings and income. ○ Consultation for Play Policy Review carried out. ○ Review and draft of new leases/licences completed for 2017. ○ Procurement for Lobinstown playground completed. ○ Consultation for Johnstown Community Facility completed. ○ Part VIII process for Ashbourne Linear Park completed and detailed design progressed. ● Town & Village Renew Scheme: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 39 applications received. 15 were approved for funding to the amount of €905,546.00. ● Clár Initiative: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ €104,000.00 funding received for projects. ● Communities Facilities Grants Scheme: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 71 applications received. 71 eligible applications shared a fund of €64.5K

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
Engage the Larger Community	Communities, individuals & Council staff will engage as a team in promoting initiatives which will deliver what is important to our citizens.	Promote well-being for present & future generations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RAPID Programme: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3 applications received. One application approved an allocation of a fund of €64.5K • Outdoor Recreation Grants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 11 applications received. 6 Projects funded under measure 1 in the amount of €52K and 1 project funded under Measure 2 in the amount of €35,520.00 ○ Sports Capital Programme: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Allocated €6k for sports equipment for Blackwater Park ○ Dept of Children and Youth Affairs Capital Grant Funding Scheme for Play & Recreation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Allocation of €20K for Lobinstown Playground ○ Healthy Ireland: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ €100K for 3 projects, Lobinstown Playground, Kells Harvest Walk and Ashbourne Slí na Sláinte
Deliver Excellent Services	<p>Meath County Council will focus on promoting the social & environmental well-being of the people of Meath.</p> <p>Increase the level of satisfaction expressed by citizens with our services.</p>	Be the key provider of lifelong learning facilities delivering literary, social & cultural services for the community by way of the Library Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 Year Development Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Deferred to coincide with national plan, which remains unpublished. • Capital Projects – New Buildings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bettystown – developer led project – no planning application submitted. • Upgrades: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dunshaughlin and Oldcastle – energy upgrades. ○ Nobber – lighting and heating upgrade. • Branch Libraries: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Open Library service stalled at national level. ○ Works completed at Trim. ○ RFID tagging commenced across the county. ○ 5 branches upgraded to eFibre.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
Deliver Excellent Services	<p>Meath County Council will focus on promoting the social & environmental well-being of the people of Meath.</p> <p>Increase the level of satisfaction expressed by citizens with our services.</p>	<p>Be the key provider of lifelong learning facilities delivering literary, social & cultural services for the community by way of the Library Service</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Studies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ledwidge publications produced. ○ Decade of Centenaries events programmed. • Primary Schools Service: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Service reviewed. ○ Publications produced. ○ Outreach programme extended. • Programmes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ C. 5,000 issues from specialist collections; ○ Over 100 events held, with almost 6,000 children from over 50 schools attending, during the Children’s Book Festival in October; ○ 5,709 children attended the 308 Summer programme of events during July & August; ○ 1,200 children participated in the annual Summer Reading Challenge; • Cultural Projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ledwidge Centenary Programme delivered. ○ Creative Ireland 2017 plan delivered. • Summer Programme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 308 events organized, 5,709 children attended .Children’s Book Festival; Over 5,000 children attended events; 20 authors visited the county; & 50 schools participated.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
Deliver Excellent Services	<p>Meath County Council will focus on promoting the social & environmental well-being of the people of Meath.</p> <p>Increase the level of satisfaction expressed by citizens with our services.</p>	<p>Provide an excellent Arts Service & promote & develop increased access to, awareness of & participation in the Arts across all sectors of the community.</p>	<p><u>FÉACH</u></p> <p>Implementation of the FÉACH professional artist mentoring and training programme in partnership with our national partners including Visual Artists Ireland, Kids Classics and the Arts Council. Programmes included:</p> <p><i>‘Let Our Voices Be Heard’</i> Documentary Film Training at Creative Spark, Dundalk, an initiative of the Northeast Filmmakers Network and Little Road Productions.</p> <p><i>Music in a Healthcare setting</i> training programme for musicians wishing to develop skills and work in this area. Delivered by Musique el Sante trained facilitators Grainne Hope and Liam Merriman of Kids Classics. Healthcare Partners include Navan Hospital, Beaufort Nursing Home Navan and St Josephs Nursing Home Trim.</p> <p><u>Toradh Gallery</u></p> <p>Six visual arts exhibitions held at Toradh Gallery, Ashbourne Cultural Centre with accompanying artist’s talks, workshops and schools events held.</p> <p><i>Toradh on Tour</i> – at Hinterland Festival Kells Ireland in Contemporary Art 1916 – 2016, curated by Larry Lambe featuring the works of Robert Ballagh, Sean Hillen, Alice Maher, David Linburn, Dermot Bolger, Rita Duffy & Padric Lynch; a partnership exhibition with Crawford Art Gallery Cork and Galway City Museum.</p> <p><u>Commissions:</u></p> <p><i>‘From the Legion of the Lost Ones’ & ‘Ettie’</i> – a theatre and music residency and commission with award winning playwright Deirdre Kinahan and award winning NY based musician Michael Brunnock.</p>

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
			<p>Supported by the Irish Arts Centre NY and the Arts Council. A first view performance of the work for Meath audiences featured musicians Mick McAuley, Rob Graham & Saramai Leech with narration by Padraic McIntyre.</p> <p><u>Illuminate Herstory</u></p> <p>Projection of images of three Meath women who played significant role in the Easter Rising on the walls of the Kells Courthouse Building, January 2017 as part of the National Herstory Programme.</p>

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
Deliver Excellent Services	<p>Meath County Council will focus on promoting the social & environmental well-being of the people of Meath.</p> <p>Increase the level of satisfaction expressed by citizens with our services.</p>	Provide an excellent Arts Service & promote & develop increased access to, awareness of & participation in the Arts across all sectors of the community.	<p><u>Children & Young People:</u></p> <p><i>SongSchool:</i> Five day song writing workshop presented by SongSchool/CreateSchool at Kells Court House building February mid-term 2017. Twenty young people explored the art of song writing, composition, accompaniment performance and recording culminating in a performance on last evening for parents/guardians and invited friends.</p> <p><i>Julianstown Youth Orchestra – Gesamtkunstwerk:</i> support of the Julianstown Youth Orchestra senior sections creation of a new work that engages young people in a unique type of staged performance with orchestral musicians at the centre of the creative and performing process, challenging them to perform in new ways. Working with conductor Fergus Sheil, John McIlduff (director) Sarah Jane Shiels (designer), Clodagh Deegan (costume designer) and Jessica Kennedy (choreographer) the musicians compose the music and expand their creative experience by encouraging them to adopt new performance elements such as singing, dancing, acting, movement etc.</p> <p><i>Songs of Our Children:</i> Children’s traditional song writing project in partnership with three local authorities, National Library of Ireland and led by folklorist Michael Fortune – implemented through schools in Meath with local songwriters and musicians.</p> <p><i>Print Workshop:</i> National Print Museum Letterpress Workshop for young people presented as part of Kells TypeTrail Festival.</p> <p><u>Festivals</u></p> <p><u>Bealtaine Festival 2017</u></p> <p><i>Musical Memories</i> performances at nursing homes and care centres throughout the county.</p>

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
			<p>Meet the Composer by Kids Classics an interactive performance at six locations across the county.</p> <p>All Together Now! Collectivism, Civic Engagement and Protest!! A twelve week visual arts workshop programme taking place at three locations across the county – Kells, Navan and Ashbourne exploring the theme of activism and protest in Art. Facilitated by artist Jillian Gott and culminating in an exhibition of work at the Toradh gallery as part of the Bealtine programme.</p> <p>Púcas & Potions children’s Halloween Festival: Series of lantern making workshops devised and delivered at O’Growney NS Athboy.</p>
Deliver Excellent Services	<p>Meath County Council will focus on promoting the social & environmental well-being of the people of Meath.</p> <p>Increase the level of satisfaction expressed by citizens with our services.</p>	Provide an excellent Arts Service & promote & develop increased access to, awareness of & participation in the Arts across all sectors of the community.	<p>Púcas & Potions open children & young person’s workshops devised and delivered at Halloween HQ Festival Athboy, October 31st.</p> <p>Kells TypeTrail Festival – exploring Type as an art form: Supporting the work of the Kells Sawmills Artist Collective in the development and delivery of the annual TypeTrail Festival featuring over 32 typography installations at various locations in Kells. Through a dedicated workshop programme the installations are devised and created by local schools, community groups, individual artists and third level students from Dundalk Institute of Technology and Athlone I.T.</p> <p>Guth Gafa International Documentary Film Festival: On-going advisory and financial support to festival and festival development.</p> <p>Hinterland Festival: Support of rebranding and programme development of 2017 festival .Programming of Lit Crawl events – a partnership programme with Litquake Literary Festival San Francisco as part of the Hinterland Festival. Events included a reading from <i>Ettie</i> by Deirdre Kinahan and <i>From the Legions of</i></p>

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
			<p><i>the Lost Ones</i> by Padraic McIntyre</p> <p><u>Francis Ledwidge Centenary Commemorations Programme</u></p> <p>Worked with MCC Cultural Services in leading the national celebrations of the Francis Ledwidge Centenary in partnership with the Francis Ledwidge Museum Committee and the Decade of Centenaries Unit at the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs .Programme included publications, seminars, music and theatre as well as an extensive community participation programme with eighteen community and voluntary groups celebrating Ledwidge in their own unique way.</p> <p><i>Francis Ledwidge Creative Writing Award</i> - Devised, implemented and managed the inaugural award.</p> <p><i>Home</i> - Commissioned and managed commemorative Ledwidge sculpture, by artist Liam O Broin.</p> <p>Ledwidge Poetry Trail – stage one of series of bronze plaques commissioned and installed in Slane. Artist Liam O’Broin.</p>
Deliver Excellent Services	<p>Meath County Council will focus on promoting the social & environmental well-being of the people of Meath.</p> <p>Increase the level of satisfaction expressed by citizens with our services.</p>	<p>Provide an excellent Arts Service & promote & develop increased access to, awareness of & participation in the Arts across all sectors of the community.</p>	<p><i>'Where Angels Listen'</i> - Commissioned and managed a creative response by some of Ireland's most celebrated contemporary artists to the life and works of Slane poet Francis Ledwidge. Curated by playwright Deirdre Kinahan & included artists Steve Wickham (Waterboys), Sinead Gleeson (RTE, The Book Show), SaraMai & Oisin Leech performing new works inspired by Ledwidge's poems.</p> <p><u>Arts Grants Awards & Bursaries Schemes:</u></p> <p>Administered, assessed and processed 94 applications under six Arts Grants, Awards & Bursaries Schemes: Annual Arts Grant Scheme, Community Arts Scheme, Professional Arts Development Scheme, Festival Grants Scheme, Schools Musical Instrument Purchase Scheme, Tyrone Guthrie Regional Bursary</p>

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
			<p data-bbox="882 296 1552 325">Award. Facilitated Tony Finnegan Memorial Harp Award</p> <p data-bbox="882 432 1061 461"><u>Infrastructure:</u></p> <p data-bbox="882 501 2179 571">Plans developed & funding sought & secured for Kells Printworks at the Sawmills, Kells in partnership with MCC Community & Heritage Departments & Sawmills Studios Kells.</p> <p data-bbox="882 611 2130 639">Plans developed and potential funding partners identified for Creative Hub proposal at Courthouse Kells.</p> <p data-bbox="931 746 1133 775"><u>Creative Ireland:</u></p> <p data-bbox="931 815 2179 930">Worked in collaboration with Cultural Services Team to develop and implement Creative Ireland Activation Plan for 2017: facilitation of public consultation meeting, Solstice April 2017; allocation of funding, liaising with successful projects; input to Meath Culture and Creativity Plan.</p>

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
<p>Deliver Excellent Services</p>	<p>Meath County Council will focus on promoting the social & environmental well-being of the people of Meath.</p>	<p>Maximise all available opportunities to provide accommodation & housing support to those most in need.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Housing Investment Programme: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 54 properties at sale closed/agreed under the 2017 Acquisition Programme; 28 of these units were long term vacant units & are being funded through the Buy to Repair Scheme. ○ Bettystown Phase I completed (16 units) & tenanted July 2017. ○ Construction on site commenced on the Athboy (32 units) & Summerhill (19 units) projects during 2017, with Part 8 progressed for Ratoath (17 units), Proudstown (4 units) & Kells (40 units) direct construction projects. ○ Funding secured for a further 7 projects, totalling 103 units, including 3 rapid build delivery projects. ○ Phase I energy upgrade works completed on 185 units during 2017, with a further 118 units issued to contractors for completion. ○ Approx. 120 units remain in stock that require Phase I energy upgrade works. ○ 13 units in Clusker Park, Navan were subject to external insulation & retro-fit works under funding secured through SEAI’s Better Energy Homes Scheme. ○ Local Authority Adaptation Works Scheme – 40 projects completed to the value of €468,879. ○ Major refurbishment schemes, including Alverno Court & St. Francis Park - Updated designed stage cost plan & drawings submitted to the Department (€5,502,809 requesting approval to go to tender). Budget approval received of €3,458,329. Analysis being conducted to determine the scope of works that can be completed within the approved budget. Consultations with residents of St Francis Park have been forwarded to the Design Team, and proposed design currently being prepared based on the outcome of these consultations. ○ 116 vacant units were brought back into productive use in 2017. • Land Bank: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Comprehensive review completed and Strategic Development & Management Plan for Meath County Council Lands compiled, indicating a further four sites within Meath County Council's ownership that will be subject to a direct construction proposal in the short term. • Adaptation Grants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A total of 283 grants were approved in 2017, equating to €1,938,611.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
Deliver Excellent Services	Meath County Council will focus on promoting the social & environmental well-being of the people of Meath.	Actively promote a balanced housing policy with social inclusion a key component of this strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part V: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discussions have been ongoing throughout 2017 with developers in respect to their Part V obligations. 23 units were delivered in 2017 through Part V. Based on granted planning permissions since September 2015 (commencement of the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015), the corresponding Part V obligation in total as at the end of 2017 was approximately 297 units. • Traveller Accommodation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Targets contained within the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014-2018 achieved to date. ○ Consultations with residents of St Francis Park have been forwarded to the Design Team, and proposed design currently being prepared based on the outcome of these consultations. ○ Fire Safety remains a set Agenda item for the Local Travellers Accommodation Consultative Committee. • Homeless Settlement Services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Preventative work of Homeless Service ongoing throughout 2017. 217 households required an emergency accommodation placement during the year. 147 households exited emergency accommodation during the same period. ○ Interagency work ongoing in responding to the needs of homeless clients. Mid East Regional Homeless Action Plan 2018-2020 completed and adopted December 2017. ○ Supported shared house emergency accommodation unit became operational in 2017, in conjunction with Simon Community.
Deliver Excellent Services	Increase the level of satisfaction expressed by citizens with our services.	Respond to maintenance of our housing stock by meeting the defined time targets outlined in our Service Level Agreement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance of Housing Stock: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tendering process completed and contractors appointed. Response maintenance programme ongoing throughout 2017. There were 4,667 repair requests received during the year, equating to 1,966 properties. ○ Programme of preventative maintenance completed. ○ 116 vacant units brought back into productive use. ○ Service Level Agreement regarding maintenance of social houses operationalised. There were 4,667 repair requests received during the year, equating to 1,966 properties. ○ Certain data uploaded (e.g. BERs). Area requires further development in 2018.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
Deliver Excellent Services	Increase the level of satisfaction expressed by citizens with our services.	Operate a highly efficient, transparent & fair process for the allocation of housing & housing supports.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Housing Support Provision: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 174 casual vacancies allocated during 2017. ○ 18 new RAS tenancies created. ○ 909 HAP tenancies created during 2017. Phased programme of rent supplement recipients to HAP ongoing. ○ Ongoing liaison with Approved Housing Bodies, with 79 new units operationalised by AHBs in 2017, with a further 184 units at approved stage. ○ 6 Mortgage to Rent approved applications, with a further 11 applications approved. ○ Meetings of Steering Group held. Detailed analysis of Social Housing Waiting List completed in respect to those applicants with a disability, with a further analysis those applicants who fall within the 12 month 'offer zone' in order to inform forward planning in respect to their accommodation needs. • Estate Management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 253 ASB complaints received, equating to 119 cases that required investigation, of which 94 cases were closed in 2017. ○ PreTenancy training completed with all new tenancies. • Private Rented Standard Compliance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 301 private rented dwellings were inspected during 2017.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
<p>Deliver Excellent Services</p>	<p>Meath County Council will focus on promoting the social & environmental well-being of the people of Meath.</p> <p>Increase the level of satisfaction expressed by citizens with our services.</p>	<p>Deliver a works programme for regional & local roads which is cost effective & results in an improved road network.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roads Maintenance & Improvement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The 2017 Roadworks Programme was developed following discussions with the Elected Representatives and adopted at the MD meetings, following which it was completed in an efficient and professional manner, providing good value for money. ○ Following receipt of 53 applications for a CIS, works were completed on 15 roads in the county. ○ A database was developed to provide information on the management of maintenance of the road network. ○ The Transportation Department completed a number of Major, Minor, Pavement and Safety Schemes on the National Road network as per the agreed Transportation Infrastructure Ireland programme. ○ The Transportation Department completed a number of Traffic Management Studies in 2017. ○ The Transportation department have monthly meetings with the National Agencies to discuss potential improvements in Co. Meath's infrastructure. In addition to this, there are a number of links being developed with internal departments. ○ The Transportation Department implement National Strategies relating to Urban Infrastructure throughout the design process as well as the planning development process. • Programme Delivery: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Delivered the Winter Maintenance Programme, Reactive & Emergency Response and Public Lighting Services as required in 2017.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
Deliver Excellent Services	<p>Meath County Council will focus on promoting the social & environmental well-being of the people of Meath.</p> <p>Increase the level of satisfaction expressed by citizens with our services.</p>	Lead all aspects of transport policy, particularly in relation to sustainable transport.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Transport: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Delivered a number of sustainable transport schemes with a total value of €1.946m. • Energy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Continuous engagement with SEAI; ○ Continued to promote Smarter Travel initiatives; ○ Launched initiatives across the organisation on Energy & Environmental Awareness. • Fleet Management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Updated the fleet in 2017 with a large portion of the pickups being modernised. • Parking: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Trialled smart meters in the 3 towns. ○ Introduced a new appeals policy. • Legacy Issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Progressed negotiations with landowners regarding purchases/accommodation works.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
<p>Build Strong, Influential Partnerships</p>	<p>All levels of leadership across Meath County Council will build strong influential partnerships with key stakeholders.</p>	<p>Influence policies & work within the reconfigured regions with respect to the delivery of Waste & Water Framework Directives.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Illegal & Historic Landfills: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Limited Funding from DCCA sources for Historic Landfills - none of the Meath sites advanced as not regarded as priority. ○ Substantial progress on remediation of Timoole Site. • Waste Enforcement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Waste management inspections and enforcement carried out on an ongoing basis and legal proceedings initiated in a number of cases. • Eastern/Midlands Waste Management Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Council fully engaged with all actions and initiatives organised by the Regional Waste Management Plan Office and the Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authority (WERLA). • Litter/Dumping Campaigns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Actions arising from the Litter Management Plan 2015-2017 initiated & resulting in reductions in the extent of litter visible. • Dog Control Awareness Campaigns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Media and other campaigns initiated to promote responsible dog ownership and combined with enforcement activities. • Water Quality – River Basin Management Planning & surveys of Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Engaged with other agencies in identify priority water bodies that will require action and to be listed in the draft River Basin Management Plan. ○ Worked with Community Water Officer from LAWCO in Community engagement for the DRBMP. ○ Monitoring and surveying undertaken on an ongoing basis.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
Build Strong, Influential Partnerships	All levels of leadership across Meath County Council will build strong influential partnerships with key stakeholders.	Influence policies & work within the reconfigured regions with respect to the delivery of Waste & Water Framework Directives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flooding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Flood relief schemes advanced in Bettystown & Ashbourne and other sites the subject of discussion with the OPW. • Basketstown Landfill: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Continual monitoring of the Reed Bed trial System.
Engage the Larger Community	Communities, individuals & Council staff will engage as a team in promoting initiatives which will deliver what is important to our citizens.	Actively involve communities & citizens in promoting & maintaining a green & sustainable environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burial Ground Policy Document Bye-Laws: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Possible replacement burial grounds site identified in the Dunboyne Area and subject to suitable tests. ○ A number of sites in greater Stamullen area examined but none deemed suitable – further sites being assessed. • Beach Management Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Draft Beach Management Plan placed on public display and submissions thereto considered. A beach management committee was established. • Derelict Sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Continuous communications with property owners with a view to having properties made non-derelict. • RMCEI – Air Pollution, Solvents, Vehicle Refinishers, Smokey Coal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Inspection schedules & enforcement activities carried out in accordance with the RMCEI reports submitted to the EPA & performance assessment as ‘Above Target’. • Slipways on River Boyne & Blackwater: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A Natura Impact Statement was prepared for submission to An Bord Pleanala as works are on designated Natura sites (SAC & SPA) . • Climate Action Strategy – work advanced on the preparation of a strategy the main purpose of which is to outline practical actions that will help County Meath adapt to and mitigate against climate change and specifically across the key sectors over which Meath County Council exercise at least some level of operational control or influence.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
Engage the Larger Community	Communities, individuals & Council staff will engage as a team in promoting initiatives which will deliver what is important to our citizens.	Actively involve communities & citizens in promoting & maintaining a green & sustainable environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Education & Awareness Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Grant Schemes administered by both Community & Environment extensively promoted through advertisements in local newspapers, social media etc . Criteria relevant to each scheme applied and funding allocated. ○ Green business promoted and local initiatives held to demonstrate benefits accruing from the re-use and recycling of furniture and other materials. ○ Participation in Clean Up campaigns in Navan and Ashbourne expanded. Navan nominated for Chambers Ireland Award. • Initiatives held with various stakeholders including Schools, Local Businesses, Community Groups etc. such as Anti Litter League, Spring Clean, Tidy Towns / Pride of Place, Dog Days, 2 minuebeachclean. • Increased participation by Meath Schools in Green Flags campaign. • Keep Cups Campaign successfully launched and ongoing. • Food Waste – Catherine Fulvio Events/Xmas.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
Deliver Excellent Services	Meath County Council will focus on promoting the social & environmental well-being of the people of Meath.	Provide an excellent & efficient Fire Operations & Prevention Service.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended 1301 incidents in 2017 including fires, road traffic collisions, flooding, rescues and other incidents (including during Storm Ophelia in October) • National Directorate for Fire & Emergency Management – ‘Keeping Communities Safe – A Framework for Fire Safety in Ireland’ – ongoing implementation in line with national progress; • Community Fire Safety: ongoing delivery of the the national Primary Schools Programme to all primary schools & the Home Fire Safety Check Programme to targeted dwellings; • Pre-Incident Planning programme on-going with development of new Risk Cards for premises throughout County; • Fire Prevention: Inspection & follow up actions for licensed premises/places of public assembly, assessment and recommendations on fire safety certificate applications, follow up on all complaints received in relation to building stock/fire safety management at premises • Health & Safety: OHSAS 18001 Accreditation achieved and maintained including internal audit of the MCFRS fleet maintenance and management system, progressing corrective actions and full delivery of 2017 Training Plan; • Framework for the provision of Architectural /Consultant Engineering Led Multi-disciplinary Design Team Services set up to assist in delivery of approved capital funded works to fire stations. • Major Emergency Management & Severe Weather: cooperation and assistance at Regional MEM exercises and utilised MEM framework in dealing with severe weather incidents.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civil Defence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Civil defence strength maintained at 200 active volunteers; ○ Multi-discipline training & qualification programme provided for volunteers in 8 training centres; ○ Health & Safety standards implemented; ○ Child Protection Policy implemented; ○ All training units monitored & maintained, both training units in Navan amalgamated; ○ Responded to all calls for assistance from the Principal Emergency Services & community support provided at events – 182 event days; ○ Funding secured for the provision of a training & storage premises – building at design stage;

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
Deliver Excellent Services	Meath County Council will focus on promoting the social & environmental well-being of the people of Meath.	Provide an efficient & effective Civil Defence & Emergency Planning Service.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Transport fleet evaluated & 3 vehicles upgraded.
Deliver Excellent Services	Meath County Council will focus on promoting the social & environmental well-being of the people of Meath.	Provide an efficient & effective Civil Defence & Emergency Planning Service.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Planning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Major Emergency Plan updated; ○ Involvement in regional training exercises; ○ Off-site plan for Tara Mines tailing facility completed; ○ Training provided for staff in Information Management Officer & On-site Coordination roles; ○ Oil Pollution Plan updated.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
Build Strong, Influential Partnerships	Fundamentally enhance the reputation of the Council	Be the most competent & efficient authority in the Irish Water regional structure in terms of delivery identified in multi-annual & annual service plans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service Delivery to Irish Water: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MCC effectively and efficiently delivered Water Services, below budget, in line with IW Annual Service Plan (ASP) 2017. ○ MCC were successful in persuading IW to select Meath as the location for a Regional Capital Office. Planning for establishment commenced. • MCC/IW Service Level Agreement (SLA): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Achieved average Quarterly Performance Score in excess of 90% for 2017 in ASP Reporting Tool. • MCC/IW Annual Service Plan (ASP) 2017 – Customer Service: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MCC consistently responsive to incidents / queries / complaints. ○ IW Maximo being fully utilised. ○ Achieved average Quarterly Performance Score in excess of 98% for 2017 in ASP Reporting Tool. • MCC/IW Annual Service Plan (ASP) 2017 – Drinking Water Supply & Quality Monitoring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Drinking Water Quality Compliance for 2017 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microbiological 100% compliance achieved • Chemical 98.53% compliance achieved • Indicator 99.14% compliance achieved • MCC/IW Annual Service Plan (ASP) 2017 – Water Conservation & Management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Average Quarterly UFW Score of 15,593m3/day achieved for 2017, which exceeded the Target of 15,852m3/day. • MCC/IW Annual Service Plan (ASP) 2017 – Wastewater service provision & quality monitoring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Average monthly score of 94.73% achieved for 2017. • MCC/IW Annual Service Plan (ASP) 2017 – Capital Investment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 100% score achieved for 2017. • MCC/IW Annual Service Plan (ASP) 2017 – Operational Compliance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 100% score achieved for 2017. • MCC/IW Annual Service Plan (ASP) 2017 – DBO Management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 100% score achieved for 2017. • MCC/IW Annual Service Plan (ASP) 2017 –Financial: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Average quarterly score of 72% achieved for 2017. • MCC/IW Annual Service Plan (ASP) 2017 – Health & Safety: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Average quarterly score of 99% achieved for 2017.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MCC/IW Annual Service Plan (ASP) 2017 –Transformation Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 100% score achieved for 2017. • MCC/IW Annual Service Plan (ASP) 2017 –Databook Completion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Average quarterly score of 86.7% achieved for 2017. • MCC/IW Annual Service Plan (ASP) 2017 –Reporting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 100% score achieved for 2017. <p>MCC/IW Annual Service Plan (ASP) 2017 – Non-Domestic Metering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All non – domestic meters read twice and data submitted to IW via temetra. ○ Dealt with all follow up requests including reconnection requests.
Build Strong, Influential Partnerships	Fundamentally enhance the reputation of the Council	Be the most competent & efficient authority in the Irish Water regional structure in terms of delivery identified in multi-annual & annual service plans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning & New Connections: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 207 Planning Obs Reports compiled for IW and 181 Planning application SW reports produced for MCC Planning Dept . ○ 64 PCEs processed and 308 new Connection applications were processed. • Rural Water Programme: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The full Dept allocation was utilised and drawn down with significant upgrade works at Meath Hill and Kiltale GWSs. ○ Processed a number of new GWS/GSS enquiries. • Well Grants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 131 Well Grant applications received. All inspected and processed. • Taking in Charge: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 40 TIC applications processed. • Private Regulated Water Supplies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 96% Drinking Water quality compliance achieved for 2017.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
Deliver Excellent Services	Increase the level of satisfaction expressed by citizens with our services.	Work in ways that realize better & more efficient services for customers, staff & stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenue Collection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sustained/increase in collection levels. ○ Effective arrears management undertaken. • Housing Loans: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All approvals have funding available. ○ Credit Committee decisions made within 1 week of AHP recommendation received. ○ Collection rates increased by 1% on 2015 levels. • Billing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All bills issued on time. ○ Increase in customers in some areas. • Loans Payable Management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All loans paid on time & application/drawdown procedures followed. • Purchase to Pay/Invoice Processing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All MCC supplier invoices matched & processed in an efficient, timely & compliant manner; ○ Prompt payment quarterly returns. • Accounts Payable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Administration of & reporting on supplier account payments, Relevant Contract online system, Low Value Purchase Cards, Fuel Cards & travel system. ○ Developed a reporting matrix in MS4. • Treasury/Banking: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All bank account transactions receipted & matched & monthly bank reconciliations undertaken. ○ Minimal periodic unmatched transactions. • Tax Compliance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Online returns & compliance achieved. ○ Nil balances on account.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
Deliver Excellent Services	Increase the level of satisfaction expressed by citizens with our services.	Work in ways that realize better & more efficient services for customers, staff & stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budgeting & Reporting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Detailed budget reports by job & account element, including comparatives with outturns & prior year budgets. ○ Reports by service v budget, AFS schedules, balance sheet lead schedules. ○ Positive audit reports. ○ Reports, including GGB statistics, are monitored by EU/IMF and DoHPLG. ○ Annual Statutory Budgets prepared. ○ Annual Financial Statements prepared. ○ Quarterly statutory financial returns made by the deadline. • Administration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Continual review of new circulars & regulations. ○ Liaison with LG Auditor regarding requests/recommendations. ○ Administration of insurance policy & claims – significant improvements with the time to investigate, settle & close claim files reduced by 50%. ○ Administration of agreement with Irish Water. • Fixed Asset Management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ongoing preparation of the Fixed Assets Register with GIS reference. • Motor Tax: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Staff training delivered & performance targets achieved.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
Deliver Excellent Services	Increase the level of satisfaction expressed by citizens with our services.	Develop future financial plans & budgets on a transparent funding scheme with predetermined criteria including exploring new funding streams, maximizing income & achieving value for money. Work towards significantly reducing financial exposure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal Audit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Annual Audit Plan prepared, reviewed & approved by Management and the Audit Committee. ○ Number of control and compliance audits completed during the year. ○ Number of PSC audits carried out during the year. ○ PSC report returned to NOAC by deadline. ○ 4 Audit Committee meetings held. ○ Assistance & information provided to the Audit Committee & Local Government Auditor.
Deliver Excellent Services	Increase the level of satisfaction expressed by citizens with our services.	Ensure that procurement is embedded within the culture of the organization & provides a predictable procurement process that is operated professionally, which mitigates against risk, ensures compliance & delivers value for money.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of Procurement 'Culture': <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Section plans delivered & section reviews carried out. ○ A baseline established for each department for compliance monitoring. • Corporate Procurement Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Compliance with the implementation plan – all metrics and standards achieved. • VFM/Efficiencies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Savings & efficiencies achieved. ○ Information portal developed for Intranet. ○ Monthly procurement reporting to Management and Section Heads.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
		<p>Embed information as a core asset of the organization which is valued & maintained accordingly, & is easily accessible to support decision making at all levels.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operation Management – Operating Environment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Security processes & environment - Awareness training for all staff completed, risk analysis complete and programme of work defined. ○ Prototype developed for attendance management. • Operational Management – Corporate HQ: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Successful migration to Buvinda House achieved. • Operational Management – Mobile working opportunities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Migration to new carrier delays caused some knock-on effects; ○ New MDM platform part of migration; ○ Platforms chosen for field worker solutions.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
Develop System & Process Capability	The internal business process & ICT systems of Meath County Council will allow quick & easy access to information, in order to support staff & external stakeholders to make informed decisions.	Support core business processes with integrated software systems that are prioritized on the basis of delivering our strategic objectives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Solutions – Customer Service: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Customer Contact Centre system to manage telephone services implemented. ○ SugarCRM Upgrade completed. ○ Sugar Re-training Programme completed. • Business Solutions – Online Services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ New Drupal platform configured and designed. ○ Content review and site customisation progressed throughout year for new site; ○ New Online Public Consultation Platform (https://consult.meath.ie/) implemented. Platform used for 3 public consultations. ○ National Planning Application database (PETal) implemented for Meath County Council. Planning Application map data available on Department of Planning, Housing and Local Government myplan.ie platform. ○ Planning Microfiche Scanning, project completed.
Develop System & Process Capability	The internal business process & ICT systems of Meath County Council will allow quick & easy access to information, in order to support staff & external	Support core business processes with integrated software systems that are prioritized on the basis of delivering our strategic objectives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Solutions – Business Software: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Resource Central, Meeting Room Booking System, implemented. ○ AutoCAD licensing and standardised. ○ Agresso MS4 complete; ○ Library Management System complete; ○ Tableau Analytics Prototype developed for Core HR data.
	external	Ensure information & services are readily	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electronic document management & associated new ways of working: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ On hold pending GDPR review.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
	stakeholders to make informed decisions.	accessible to customers via the most appropriate channels.	

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
Nurture a Staff Excellence Culture	Meath County Council will be seen as the employer of choice in the region, where staff are proud to work in its progressive environment.	Work towards being an employer of choice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment, etc.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Continued recruitment in line with workforce planning process throughout 2017 in order to fill arising and vacancies resulting from new additional posts throughout the organisation. ○ Recruitment processes continue to be reviewed in the context of the new national environment. ○ New procedures in place for recruitment, training and staff induction. • Leadership & Teamwork: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Staff Support Schemes – Employee Support Service & Staff Welfare Service – continue to be provided to all staff. Enhanced focus on Staff Welfare initiatives throughout 2017. • MyPay: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Shared Services payroll function fully embedded with attention given to further efficiencies in processes and procedures. • HR Processes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Full reorganisation of physical HR files completed. ○ All details recorded on Core facilitating automated benefit statements. ○ Work ongoing in order to populate Core Training module – further work required to ensure that training records are fully up to date and accurate. ○ Sick leave absences recorded on Core. ○ Continued work to ensure compliance with Attendance Management Policy/Procedure. ○ All aspects of Core Version 19 fully implemented. HR Officer facilitated a LGMA group which reviewed metrics for the measurement of absenteeism. Specific metrics have been agreed which are to be rolled out to the sector once the appropriate methodology for the capturing same is confirmed. • Superannuation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Superannuation Data Readiness project complete and MyPay now carries out the superannuation function for Meath County Council. ○ All service histories and records for all former Town Council employees loaded onto Core & agreed with the relevant staff members. ○ All records updated, changes applied, benefit statements calculated and entitlements processed in line with existing and new circulars.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
Nurture a Staff Excellence Culture	Meath County Council will be seen as the employer of choice in the region, where staff are proud to work in its progressive environment.	Continue to develop human resource requirements based on a comprehensive Workforce Planning model.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workforce Planning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Continued mobility of staff where possible and feasible. ○ Prioritisation for staff who have applied for a transfer and for staff who have been assigned to a particular role/function for an extended period of time. ○ Workforce Plan – ongoing liaison with the Chief Executive & Management Team as well as Heads of Section in relation to staff resource requirements. ○ Proactive work in relation to filling vacancies where possible. • Change Management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Transition to Buvinda House – move successfully completed. ○ Continued work with the Water Services Department on HR issues as they arise including the related issue of staff mobility and the future of the department. ○ Liaised with the Chief Executive, Management Team and Heads of Sections in relation to forthcoming departmental issues, organisational change issues in order to proactively plan for same. • HR Policy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Measures in relation to national agreements implemented. ○ Initial review of policies and procedures with identification of policies for early review – Partnership Committee and Senior Management engaged.
Nurture a Staff Excellence Culture	Both customers & colleagues will experience professional & respectful interactions in a cohesive organizational structure that encourages fairness.	All staff understand how their individual roles contribute to improving the quality of life for current & future stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PMDS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A further year of PMDS rolled out across the organisation with PDPs, interim reviews and end of year evaluations successfully carried out via line manager/staff member meetings and interactions as laid out by the process. • Customer Service: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Continued implementation of Customer Service model which included further roll-out of Sugar CRM and training on same as well as increasing the number of service areas covered by the Customer Service function.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
Nurture a Staff Excellence Culture	Meath County Council will be seen as the employer of choice in the region, where staff are proud to work in its progressive environment.	Support staff with the information, training & technology needed to perform their roles.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training & Professional Development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ H&S training implemented in conjunction with H&S section and line managers. ○ Further roll-out of CPD related activities including lunch & learn sessions, coaching and information sessions along with initial preparation of for re-accreditation process. ○ Liaison with Transportation Department in relation to implementation of skills audit – further work required in 2018. ○ Initial review of staff induction process with updates included. ○ Individual courses supported where and when feasible to do so in line with service area requirements and available budget. ○ Review of ESS with recommendation submitted on future operation of same to be implemented in 2018. ○ Teamwork sessions rolled out in a number of service areas. • Communications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Work ongoing on the communication of HR policies & procedures to all staff; ○ Induction training.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
<p>Deliver Excellent Services</p>	<p>Increase the level of satisfaction expressed by citizens with our services.</p>	<p>Continue to be a transparent & reputable organization, operating to the highest standards particularly in the areas of professionalism, conduct, behavior & fairness.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organisational Change: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Successful organisational move to Buvinda House. • Local Democracy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 18 full Council & 85 Municipal District (MD) meetings held with all documentation issued within the statutory timeframe & all actions arising followed up; ○ 11 CPG, 11 Protocol, 19 SPC & 4 JPC meetings held; ○ Annual Declaration of Interests returned; ○ Administered the legislative provisions of the F.O.I., Data Protection, Ombudsman & Official Languages Act at they apply to the Local Authority; ○ Live Electoral Register for 2016/2017 published in February. • Corporate Events & Civic Functions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hosted a number of visiting parties; ○ Organised a number of Civic Receptions • Corporate Planning & Performance Measurement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2017 Service Delivery Plan adopted at March Council meeting; ○ 2016 Progress Report on the Service Delivery Plan & Corporate Plan presented at July Council meeting; ○ 2016 Annual Report prepared & published; ○ Chief Executive’s monthly report presented to the full Council. ○ 2016 national performance indicators returned by deadline. • Risk Management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Review of legal risk management ongoing by the Major Litigation Cases Review Team. ○ Risk identification included in annual service delivery plan. ○ Plans developed to review Risk Management Policy and processes.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
Deliver Excellent Services	Increase the level of satisfaction expressed by citizens with our services.	Continue to be a transparent & reputable organization, operating to the highest standards particularly in the areas of professionalism, conduct, behavior & fairness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audit Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Quarterly meetings of the Audit Committee took place & associated reports brought to the full Council. • Municipal District Allocation Scheme: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 645 applications received, with 584 valid for processing ○ Reports provided to the Audit Committee & full Council including the 2016 Report.
		Strive to understand & deliver on the expectations of our customers, partners & suppliers. Ensure that citizens & customers have a high degree of awareness of our services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Positive feedback from the public, Councillors and internal stakeholders. ○ Contacts updated as required and ongoing communication of information. ○ Continued use of all communication channels with a particular focus on real time information transfer through social media and SMS – 6,133 Facebook followers and 6,861 Twitter followers. ○ Website review ongoing – use of plain English and images to enhance communications. ○ In excess of 100 collaborations and consultations took place through meetings, advertisements, surveys, direct communication, social media, training, submissions, attendance at community events and the circulation of promotional material. ○ Staff Volunteer Protocol prepared to encourage staff to become organisational ambassadors. • Customer Service: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sugar - Total no. of calls: 22,386; Resolved: 21,677; Closed with commitment: 404; In progress: 305. ○ Regular in-house briefings to Customer Service staff. ○ Refresher training provided on Sugar system and on communicating with the customer. ○ No. of formal complaints: 11.

Strategic Objective	Supporting Strategy	Strategic Action	Key Achievements 2017
Deliver Excellent Services	Increase the level of satisfaction expressed by citizens with our services.	Optimise the use of our assets for the benefit of the organization & the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asset Management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 7 assets identified and disposed of for Economic and Community Development. ○ Over 20 consultations took place in relation to land queries. ○ Collaboration with the Housing, Community and Transportation sections. ○ Electronic filing system developed for all the Asset Sections land files. • Corporate Buildings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Survey of corporate buildings undertaken to include security, fire detection, prevention & maintenance systems; ○ Building inspections carried out throughout the year; ○ Identified a number of construction projects relating to corporate buildings; ○ Kells Heritage Centre available as an exhibition space.
		Consolidate a safety & health culture as a core value of the organization through the implementation of our Safety Management System.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following on from the achievement of OHSAS 18001 Certification in Transportation, the Fire Service attained certification in 2017. • The Organisation's safety culture is continuing to develop and is supported by ongoing occupational safety and health inspections carried out across all functions and levels of the Organisation. • Contractor assessments continue to be completed where works are undertaken on behalf of the Council in accordance with the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations, 2013. • An annual occupational safety and health programme of works was in place for 2017. The 2017 annual programme of works takes account of the annual report, accidents and incidents, HSA inspections, outcomes from safety inspections and audits, safety meetings, legal requirements and any documents issued nationally for implementation, this was successfully completed. • Ongoing coordination of the Corporate Safety Management System: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Quarterly reporting completed and presented to the Senior Management Committee; ○ Auditing schedules completed and auditing commenced; ○ Quarterly meetings of the SMC organised and half yearly meetings of the SMG's organised and updated with performance information.

Metrics:

No.	Department	Economic Development and Enterprise				
	Metric	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1	Number of clients met in the Council's Local Enterprise Office	372	444	489		
2	Number of training courses	24	38	16		
3	Number of participants on courses	460	427	144		
4	Number of Mentoring Assignments	28	77	160		
5	Number of Mentoring Clinics	12	152	12		
6	Total Value of Enterprise Grants approved	€285,322	€293,998	€438,299		
7	Total Value of Grants paid	€166,085	€177,278	€294,849		
8	Total number of Jobs Associated with Funding	64.5	81.5	56.5		

No.	Department	Planning & Heritage				
	Metric	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1	Delivering decisions in the statutory timeframe	100%	100%	100%		
2	Number of Development Plans & Local Area Plans in place & reviewed in a timely manner	0	0	1		
3	Number and % of decisions upheld by An Bord Pleanála	30 / 73%	39 / 76%	43/84%		
4	Number of submissions to Development Plans	0	0	9		
5	Number of enforcement complaints initiated	310	427	394		
6	Number of prosecutions initiated	17	13	20		
7	Number of actions from both the Heritage Plan and Biodiversity Plan implemented by Meath Heritage Forum in partnership with Meath County Council	15	18	20		
8	Achievement of heritage objectives in the Meath County Development Plan	25	27	27		

COMMENT:

The County Meath Heritage Forum represents a partnership between representatives from local government, government departments and state agencies, local heritage and community groups, NGOs, local business, local development, the farming sector, educational institutions and heritage professions. The second year of the *County Meath Heritage Plan 2015-2020* and *County Meath Biodiversity Action Plan 2015-2020* were implemented.

No.	Department	Community, Arts & Library Service				
	Metric	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1	Number of community groups registered & participating in the Public Participation Network	371	441	530		
2	Annual level of community funding in Meath	€207,050	192,815	€190,860		
3	Number of communities engaging in Council assisted initiatives	642	682	721		
4	Devise and complete online County Arts Development Plan Survey	Complete				
5	Preparation of Library Development Plan Actions	1	1	1		
6	Total number of Library visits	793,582	782,306	633,250		
7	Total number of items issued	556,439	526,218	384,002		
COMMENTS: No 6 – Programming major events in third party venues. No. 7 – National policy to cease counting renewals as issues.						

No.	Department	Housing				
	Metric	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1	Total number of tenants accommodated (casual vacancies /RAS/HAP/AHBs)	181	786	1191		
2	Number of vacant houses returned to stock	118	97	109		
3	Turnaround time to availability (average pre let re-letting time)	16 weeks	20.9 wks	24.5 wks		
4	Promotion of social inclusion within overall Housing policy/strategy	√	√	√		
5	Maintenance response times	√	√	√		
6	Number of applicant complaints received & upheld	0	0	0		

COMMENT:

Point No. 1

- Casual Vacancies – 174, RAS – 18, HAP – 909 AHBs – 90

Point No. 2

- % of total number of units vacant within housing stock at year end – 1.79%

Point No. 4

- Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014-2018 – Targets achieved. Funding for St Francis Park Halting Site refurbishment scheme approved
- Housing Strategy for People with a Disability – finalised by Disability Housing Steering Group in 2016. Housing needs of people with a disability have been factored into the design considerations of approved direct construction project, acquisition programme and Part V discussions with developers and Approved Housing Bodies delivery of units.
- Housing adaptations required for particular target groups (older persons/people with a disability) facilitated through the suite of Adaptation Grants

Point No. 5

- Housing Maintenance policy (inclusive of response times) in place.

No.	Department	Transportation				
	Metric	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1	% of Regional-Roads in Road Pavement Condition Survey Category 1-4	1%	1%	2%		
2	% of Local Roads in Road Pavement Condition Survey Category 1-4	13%	10%	11%		
3	Kms of Regional Road strengthened during year using RI grants	18.53km	8.42km	11.3km		
4	Kms of Regional Road resealed during year using RM grants.	13.68km	17.7km	19.6km		
5	Lengths of cycle tracks provided	1300m	0	19 km*		

No.	Department	Transportation				
	Metric	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
6	Number of Projects in Planning/Construction:					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National – Major 	3	2	2**		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National – Pavement and Minor Works 	3	3	10***		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional and Local – Bridge Rehabilitation 	11	8	7		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional and Local – Low Cost Safety Improvement 	6	7	7		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional and Local – Community Involvement Schemes 	16	11	17		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional and Local – New Schemes 	2	1	5		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable Transport NTA funded schemes 	14	17	15		

No.	Department	Transportation				
	Metric	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meath County Council Own Funded Schemes 	9	9	23		

COMMENT: * - 19km provided as part of the Royal Canal cycleway

** In addition to the 2 schemes mentioned above under National – Major, there are 2 schemes with legacy issues that are still on going

*** In addition to the 10 schemes mentioned above under National – Pavement and Minor Works, there are 4 with legacy issues that are still ongoing

No.	Department	Environment, Water & Emergency Services				
	Metric	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1	Irish Water balanced scorecard	92%	90%	92%		
2	Increased business potential based on performance	N/A	N/A	N/A		
3	Numbers of community groups involved in Anti-Litter Initiatives & Clean Up Activities *	598	258	558		

No.	Department	Environment, Water & Emergency Services				
	Metric	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
4	Number of visits to Meath recycling centres	14,047	17,246	45,733		
5	Number of sections for roads sponsored by community or business **	29	35	30		
6	Number of incidents of illegal waste/water pollution	1,252	2,254	2,975		
7	Compliance with targets for the county with respect to East & Midland Region Waste Management Plan & River Basin Management Plan	Yes	Yes	Yes		
8	Number of inspections versus no. of incidents	1,218	1,856	2,542		
9	Benchmark against other authorities	N/A	N/A	N/A		
10	Achieving objectives of Keeping Communities Safe document	Achieved	Achieved – ongoing process	Achieved – ongoing process		

COMMENT: * Metric changed from 'Numbers of community groups involved in Tidy Towns & Pride of Place competitions', the figure for which is included under Community Metric No. 3.

** Metric No. 5 - Number of sections for roads sponsored by community or business – to be removed as Approach Roads Initiative no longer in place.

No.	Department	Finance				
	Metric	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1	Rates Collection %	85%	89%	92%		
2	Rents & Annuities Collection %	86%	87%	89%		
3	Housing Loans Collection %	66%	67%	67%		
4	Revenue Expenditure € million	96.5	101.9	104.2		
5	Revenue Expenditure per capita € (population in Meath)	€524	522	534		
6	Current Ratio (Current Assets : Current Liabilities)	2.31	2.78	2.80		
7	Revenue Account Balance € million (+Surplus / -Deficit)	-2.89	-2.49	-1.29		

No.	Department	Information Technology				
	Metric	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1	Printing costs – monochrome v colour (Percentage)	38%	40%	44%		
2	Percentage of incidents resolved within agreed SLA	82%	73%	72%		
3	Availability uptime of ICT service to users	99.99%	99.98%	99.85%		
4	Senior Management Satisfaction index	N/A	N/A	N/A		
5	End User satisfaction index	N/A	N/A	N/A		

No.	Department	Human Resources				
	Metric	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1	Annual review of the Workforce Plan	Completed and subject to ongoing review	Completed and subject to ongoing review	Subject to ongoing review considering evolving working environment.		
2	Number of PDPs prepared & subject to mid-year review & end-of-year evaluation	79% Mid-year Review and 90% End of Year Evaluations	67% Mid – Year Review and 68% End of Year Evaluations	Currently under review.		
3	Assessment of average PDP ratings in terms of staff competency	Assessment of ratings completed	68%	Currently under review.		
4	Age profile of staff completed & continually updated	Age profile of overall staff cohort across the organization is completed. Age profile in relation to specific functions/positions etc to be reviewed	Age profile of overall staff cohort across the organization is completed.	Age profile of overall staff cohort across the organisation is completed.		

No.	Department	Human Resources				
	Metric	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
5	Analysis & assessment of skills audit	In progress	Delivery of training gaps in progress.	Delivery of training gaps in progress.		
6	Review of training needs analysis & measurement of staff competency levels	Review of training needs analysis is complete and subject to ongoing review.	Review of training needs analysis is complete and subject to ongoing review.	Review of training needs analysis is complete and subject to ongoing review.		
7	Number of applications for all vacancies in all posts/grades	2,125 applications for all posts/grades advertised in 2015	2,486 (1,460 regional CO Comp)	1,200 applications for all posts/grades advertised in 2017.		
8	Number of staff accessing promotional opportunities both within the Council & the wider public service	Mechanism to compile this information is under review	Information under review	Mechanism to compile this information is under review.		

No.	Department	Corporate Services				
	Metric	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1	Number of customer surveys carried out including analysis of the results	1 Drogheda Boundary Review	0	0		
2	Number of formal complaints received and responses issued.	4	24	13		
3	Number of applications & payment facilities available electronically	1	16	17		
4	Number of active networks at defined levels of the organization, e.g. management team, senior management group & middle management	4 (Management team, Senior Management Group, CPD, Partnership)	4	4		
5	Number of complaints received, statutory investigations initiated & formal returns made	9	10	7		
6	Media coverage press releases	21	23	20		
7	Social Media followers	7,391	10,608	14,657		

No.	Department	Corporate Services				
	Metric	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
8a	Health & Safety - Number of accidents	20	7	5		
8b	Health & Safety - Number of incidents	14	72	76		
8c	Health & Safety - Number of near misses	28	26	20		

Appendix 1 - Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) Members

Environmental Services SPC

Cllr. Tommy Reilly Chair	Ardsallagh, Navan, Co. Meath	Cllr. Navan MD
Cllr. Joe Bonner	Milltown Road, Donaghmore, Ashbourne, Co. Meath	Cllr. Ashbourne MD
Cllr. Francis Deane	5 Blackwater Drive, Navan, Co. Meath	Cllr. Navan MD
Cllr. Eimear Ferguson	Beabeg, Julianstown, Co. Meath	Cllr. Laytown/Bettystown MD
Cllr. Wayne Forde	Top Floor Flat, 1 Academy Street, Navan, Co. Meath	Cllr. Navan MD
Cllr. Michael Gallagher	Drumconrath, Navan, Co. Meath	Cllr. Kells MD
Cllr. Wayne Harding	Rathmaiden, Slane, Co. Meath	Cllr. Laytown/Bettystown MD
Cllr. Suzanne Jamal	“Rahmait”, Flemington, Balrath, Co. Meath	Cllr. Ashbourne MD
Cllr. Claire O’Driscoll	Kentstown, Navan, Co. Meath	Cllr. Ashbourne MD
Cllr. Sharon Tolan	132 Betaghstown Wood, Bettystown, Co. Meath	Cllr. Laytown/Bettystown MD
Karen Mahon		Environmental – Pillar
Suzanne Brady/Thomas Rogers		Community/Voluntary – Pillar
Peter Farrelly/Seamus McGee		Agriculture/Farming – Pillar
Bill Sweeney		Business/Commercial – Pillar
Val Reilly		Trade Union - Pillar

Transportation SPC

Cllr. Eugene Cassidy, Chair (January – October)	Possextown, Nobber, Co. Meath.	Cllr. Kells MD
Cllr. Paddy Meade Chair (October – December)	Rathbran Church, Lobinstown, Navan, Co. Meath	Cllr. Laytown/Bettystown MD
Cllr. Sean Drew	8 Kenlis Crescent, Kells, Co. Meath	Cllr. Kells MD
Cllr. Enda Flynn	43 New Inn, Enfield, Co. Meath	Cllr. Trim MD
Cllr. David Gilroy	Main Street, Athboy, Co. Meath	Cllr. Kells MD
Cllr. Johnny Guirke	Loughbawn, Dromone, Oldcastle, Co. Meath	Cllr. Kells MD
Cllr. Jim Holloway	Boyne Road, Farganstown, Navan, Co. Meath	Cllr. Navan MD
Cllr. Gerry O'Connor	23 The Downs, Dunshaughlin, Co. Meath	Cllr. Ratoath MD
Cllr. Bryan Reilly	Rockfield Road, Kells, Co. Meath	Cllr. Kells MD
Cllr. Seán Smith	Baltrasna, Ashbourne, Co. Meath	Cllr. Ashbourne MD
Ben Bailey		Community/Voluntary - Pillar
Suzanne Brady (January – July)		Environmental/Conservation – Pillar
Geoffrey Clarke (July - December)		Environmental/Conservation – Pillar
Peter Farrelly		Agriculture/Farming – Pillar
Sean Boyle		Business/Commercial – Pillar
John Fitzgerald		Development/Construction - Pillar

Planning Economic Development and Enterprise SPC

Cllr. Joe Fox, Chair (January – October)	Clondoogan, Summerhill, Co. Meath	Cllr. Trim MD
Cllr. Alan Tobin, Chair (October – December)	9 Westview, Ashbourne, Co. Meath	Cllr. Ashbourne MD
Cllr. Brian Fitzgerald	Warrenstown, Kilcock, Co. Meath	Cllr. Ratoath MD
Cllr. Noel French	10 Kells Road, Trim, Co. Meath	Cllr. Trim MD
Cllr. Trevor Golden	Church Lane, Trim, Co. Meath	Cllr. Trim MD
Cllr. Tom Kelly	“Uimaine”, Strand Road, Laytown, Co. Meath	Cllr. Laytown/Bettystown MD
Cllr. Ronan McKenna	6 Lackanash, Trim, Co. Meath	Cllr. Trim MD
Cllr. Darren O’Rourke	88 Cluain Rí, Ashbourne, Co. Meath	Cllr. Ashbourne MD
Cllr. Damien O’Reilly	2 Oakridge Crescent, Dunboyne, Co. Meath	Cllr. Ratoath MD
Cllr. Joe Reilly	Faughan Hill, Bohermeen, Navan, Co. Meath	Cllr. Navan MD
Kieran Cummins		Community/Voluntary - Pillar
Alan Watson		Agriculture/Farming – Pillar
Seamus Miggin		Agriculture/Farming – Pillar
John V. Farrelly		Business/Commercial - Pillar
Frank Harrington		Business/Commercial - Pillar
Alan Byrne		Development/Construction - Pillar

Housing, Community & Cultural Development SPC

Cllr. Sarah Reilly, Chair	36 Bective Place, Kells, Co. Meath	Cllr. Kells MD
Cllr. Sinéad Burke	Graigs Lane, Dunmoe, Navan, Co. Meath	Cllr. Navan MD
Cllr. Sharon Keogan	Main Street, Duleek, Co. Meath	Cllr. Laytown/Bettystown MD
Cllr. Caroline Lynch	Rathcairn, Athboy, Co. Meath	Cllr. Trim MD
Cllr. Stephen McKee	8 The Hawthorns, Downstown Manor, Duleek, Co. Meath	Cllr. Laytown/Bettystown MD
Cllr. Maria Murphy	3 The Close, Lutterell Hall, Dunboyne, Co. Meath	Cllr. Ratoath MD
Cllr. Maria O’Kane	Skryne Road, Scalestown, Dunshaughlin, Co. Meath	Cllr. Ratoath MD
Cllr. Nick Killian	3 Beechgrove, Clonalvy, Co. Meath	Cllr. Ratoath MD
Cllr. Gillian Toole	Curkeen, Ratoath, Co. Meath	Cllr. Ratoath MD
Cllr. Pdraig Fitzsimons	Knowth House, Ratholdren, Navan, Co. Meath	Cllr. Navan MD
Niamh Bn Ui Loinsigh		Community/Voluntary – Pillar
Liam Carey		Community/Voluntary - Pillar
Robert Bradley		Trade Union - Pillar
Cathy Whelan		Social Inclusion - Pillar
Vicky Harris		Social Inclusion – Pillar

Appendix 2 – SPC Activities

Activities of the Strategic Policy Committees 2017

Strategic Policy Committee	Number of Meetings
Planning, Economic Development and Enterprise Support	6
Environmental	4
Transportation	4
Housing, Community and Cultural Development	5

Appendix 3 – Committees of the Council

Committee	Name	Party
Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee	Cllr Darren O'Rourke	Sinn Féin
	Cllr Maria Murphy	Fine Gael
	Cllr Sharon Keogan	Non-Party
	Cllr Joe Reilly	Sinn Féin
	Cllr Caroline Lynch	Sinn Féin
	Cllr. David Gilroy	Non-Party
Meath Comhairle na nÓg Steering Committee	Cllr Maria Murphy	Fine Gael
	Cllr Enda Flynn	Fine Gael
Regional Advisory Council Teagasc	Cllr Paddy Meade	Fine Gael
Regional Health Forum	Cllr Darren O'Rourke	Sinn Féin
	Cllr Wayne Forde	Non-Party
	Cllr Gillian Toole	Fine Gael
	Cllr Paddy Meade	Fine Gael
	Cllr Claire O'Driscoll	Fianna Fáil
(LCDC) Local Community Development Committee	Cllr Sinéad Burke	Sinn Féin
	Cllr Sharon Keogan	Non-Party
	Cllr Sharon Tolan	Fine Gael
Audit Committee	Cllr Sean Drew	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr. Gerry O'Connor	Fine Gael
(LMETB) Louth Meath Education Training Board	Cllr Caroline Lynch (January – August)	Sinn Féin
	Cllr Eimear Ferguson (October – December)	
	Cllr Sarah Reilly	Fine Gael
	Cllr Sharon Tolan	Fine Gael

Committee	Name	Party
	Cllr Nick Killian	Non-Party
	Cllr Trevor Golden	Non-Party
	Cllr Damien O'Reilly	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr Wayne Harding	Fianna Fáil
Association of Irish Local Government	Cllr Alan Tobin	Fine Gael
	Cllr Nick Killian	Non-Party
	Cllr Sharon Tolan	Fine Gael
	Cllr Joe Reilly	Sinn Féin
	Cllr Eugene Cassidy	Fine Gael
	Cllr Noel French	Fine Gael
LAMA	Clls Suzanne Jamal	Fine Gael
Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd	Cllr Gerry O'Connor	Fine Gael
Meath Enterprise Centre Company Ltd	Cllr Francis Deane	Non-Party
	Cllr Joe Reilly	Sinn Féin
	Cllr Tommy Reilly	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr Sinead Burke	Sinn Féin
	Cllr Pdraig Fitzsimons	Fianna Fáil
East Border Region (Directors)	Cllr Eugene Cassidy	Fine Gael
	Cllr Damien O'Reilly	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr Sharon Keogan	Non-Party
Forum of East Border Region	Cllr Gillian Toole	Fine Gael
	Cllr Trevor Golden	Non-Party
	Cllr Eimear Ferguson	Sinn Féin
Meath Local Sports Partnership Ltd	Cllr Enda Flynn	Fine Gael
Disability Advisory Committee	Cllr Maria Murphy	Fine Gael
	Cllr Michael Gallagher	Sinn Féin
	Cllr Alan Tobin	Fine Gael
	Cllr Stephen McKee	Fianna Fáil

Committee	Name	Party
Southern & Eastern Regional Assembly	Cllr Maria Murphy	Fine Gael
	Cllr Brian Fitzgerald	Non-Party
	Cllr Tommy Reilly	Fianna Fáil
Board of Meath Arts Centre Ltd	Cllr Suzanne Jamal	Fine Gael
	Cllr Joe Reilly	Sinn Féin
	Cllr Wayne Forde	Non-Party
Meath Tourism Ltd	Cllr Ronan McKenna	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr Johnny Guirke	Sinn Féin
	Cllr Noel French	Fine Gael
	Cllr Sharon Tolan (January – February)	Fine Gael
	Cllr David Gilroy	Non-Party
	Cllr. Alan Tobin (February – December)	Fine Gael
Athboy Social Needs & Recreational Company Ltd	Cllr David Gilroy	Non-Party
	Cllr Johnny Guirke	Sinn Féin
Kells Community Enterprise Company Ltd	Cllr Bryan Reilly	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr Sean Drew	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr Sarah Reilly	Fine Gael
	Cllr Michael Gallagher	Sinn Féin
Meath Heritage Forum	Cllr Seán Smith	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr Gillian Toole	Fine Gael
	Cllr Paddy Meade	Fine Gael
	Cllr Wayne Forde	Non-Party
	Cllr David Gilroy	Non-Party
	Cllr Trevor Golden	Non-Party
Trim Sports & Leisure Centre Company Ltd (Directors)	Cllr Ronan McKenna	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr Caroline Lynch	Sinn Féin
Navan Sports & Leisure Company	Cllr Wayne Forde	Non-Party

Committee	Name	Party
	Cllr Francis Deane	Non-Party
	Cllr Joe Reilly	Sinn Féin
Indaver Community Liaison Committee	Cllr Sharon Tolan	Fine Gael
	Cllr Stephen McKee	Fianna Fáil
North East Regional Drugs Task	Cllr Gillian Toole	Fine Gael
	Cllr Maria O’Kane	Sinn Féin
Brú na Bóinne Consultative Committee	Cllr Wayne Harding	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr Paddy Meade	Fine Gael
Meath Age Friendly Alliance	Cllr Sarah Reilly	Fine Gael
Trim Visitors’ Centre	Cllr Trevor Golden	Non-Party
	Cllr Caroline Lynch	Sinn Féin
Knockharley Community Liaison Committee	Cllr Suzanne Jamal	Fine Gael
	Cllr Claire O’Driscoll	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr Darren O’Rourke	Sinn Féin
Joint Policing Committee	Cllr. Gillian Toole	Fine Gael
	Cllr. Maria Murphy	Fine Gael
	Cllr. Sharon Tolan	Fine Gael
	Cllr. Claire O’Driscoll	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr. Wayne Harding	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr. Eimear Fergsuon	Sinn Féin
	Cllr. Caroline Lynch (January-August)	Sinn Féin
	Cllr. Sinéad Burke (October-December)	Sinn Féin
	Cllr. Alan Tobin	Fine Gael
	Cllr. Pdraig Fitzsimons	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr. David Gilroy	Non-Party
	Cllr. Francis Deane	Non-Party
	Cllr. Trevor Golden	Non-Party
	Cllr. Joe Reilly	Sinn Féin

Committee	Name	Party
	Cllr. Joe Fox (January-September)	Fine Gael
	Cllr. Enda Flynn (October-December)	Fine Gael
Community Reps	Jim Matthews	
	Carol O'Flaherty	
	Bernard Kenny	
	Conor O'Leary	
	Angela Murphy	
	Jessica Bennett/Eboni Burke (shared) (January-May) Ruth Caffrey/Sophie Skattergood (May-December)	
	Tom Fitzpatrick	
	Tracy McElhinney	
	Ronnie Owens	
MCC Staff	Jackie Maguire	
	Barry Lynch	
	Fiona Fallon	
Gardai	Chief Superintendent Fergus Healy	
	Superintendent Michael Devine	
Oireachtas Members	Peadar Tóibín	
	Damien English	
	Regina Doherty	
	Thomas Byrne	
	Helen McEntee	
	Shane Cassells	
	Ray Butler	
Protocol Committee	Cllr Francis Deane	Non-Party
	Cllr Brian Fitzgerald	Non-Party

Committee	Name	Party
	Cllr Joe Fox	Fine Gael
	Cllr Ronan McKenna (January-June)	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr Pádraig Fitzsimons (July-December)	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr Gerry O'Connor	Fine Gael
	Cllr Maria O'Kane	Sinn Féin
	Cllr Sarah Reilly	Fine Gael
	Cllr Maria Murphy (January-June)	Fine Gael
	Cllr Eugene Cassidy (January-June)	Fine Gael
CPG	Cllr Maria Murphy (January-June)	Fine Gael
	Cllr Gerry O'Connor (June-December)	Fine Gael
	Cllr Eugene Cassidy (January-October)	Fine Gael
	Cllr Joe Fox	Fine Gael
	Cllr Paddy Meade (October-December)	Fine Gael
	Cllr Alan Tobin (October-December)	Fine Gael
	Cllr Tommy Reilly	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr Sarah Reilly	Fine Gael
	Cllr Eimear Ferguson (January-October)	Sinn Féin
	Cllr Darren O'Rourke (January-October)	Sinn Féin
Municipal District Chairs (change yearly)	Cllr Seán Smith	Ashbourne
	Cllr David Gilroy	Kells
	Cllr Paddy Meade	Laytown/ Bettystown
	Cllr Tommy Reilly	Navan

Committee	Name	Party
	Cllr Damien O'Reilly	Ratoath
	Cllr Noel French	Trim

Appendix 4 – Payments to Members of Meath County Council

Annual Councillors Expenses (Travel & Subsistence)	€ 227,806.94
Cathaoirleach and Leas Cathaoirleach Allowances	€78,000.00
Allowances paid to Chairpersons of Strategic Policy Committees	€24,000.00
Members Representational Payments (subject to taxation)	€665,010.80
Miscellaneous Expenses	€10,544.23

Appendix 5 – Conferences Abroad

List OF Approved Abroad Conferences and members who attended in 2017

Title	Dates	Members Attended
St Patrick's Day – New York	March 2017	Cllr. David Gilroy Cllr. Maria Murphy Cllr. Claire O'Driscoll Cllr. Sharon Tolan
St Patrick's Day – London	March 2017	Cllr. Francis Deane Cllr. Pádraig Fitzsimons Cllr. Suzanne Jamal
Twinning Ashbourne and Corcubion, Spain	July 2017	Cllr. Suzanne Jamal Cllr. Seán Smith Cllr. Alan Tobin
Ypres, Belgium – Francis Ledwidge Centenary	July/August 2017	Cllr. Gerry O'Connor Cllr. Wayne Harding Cllr. Tom Kelly
East Border Region - Brussels, Belgium	October 2017	Cllr. Sharon Keogan
Mérida, Spain – Association of European Border Regions	October 2017	Cllr. Damien O'Reilly
Purple Flag Award for Navan Town – Norwich, England	November 2017	Cllr. Jim Holloway
Meath Association Annual Dinner Dance – London	November 2017	Cllr. Joe Fox Cllr. David Gilroy

Appendix 6 – Conferences at Home

Title	Dates	Members Attended	Travel & Subs Cost	Conference Cost	Total Cost
Local Authorities and Waste Management	13/01/2017– 14/01/2017	Cllr. Eimear Ferguson	€375.03	€100.00	€475.03
		Cllr. Joe Fox	€320.10	€100.00	€420.10
Supporting Safer Communities	20/01/2017 – 21/01/2017	Cllr. Caroline Lynch	€318.92	€100.00	€418.92
		Cllr. Stephen McKee	€261.20	€100.00	€361.20
		Cllr. Sharon Tolan	€402.80	€100.00	€502.80
The Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)	27/01/2017 – 29/01/2017	Cllr. Wayne Harding	€448.64	€145.00	€593.64
		Cllr. Damien O'Reilly	€441.34	€145.00	€586.34
28th Colmcille Winter School	24/02/2017 – 25/02/2017	Cllr. Jim Holloway	€328.53	€150.00	€478.53
Towards a National Planning Framework Planning for Ireland in 2040	09/03/2017	Cllr. Tom Kelly	€70.40	€295.00	€365.40
Tourism Seminar	29/03/2017	Cllr. Maria Murphy	€125.86	€130.00	€255.86
The Wheel's Annual Conference 2017	28/06/2017	Cllr. Nick Killian	€52.74	€150.00	€202.74
Corporate Governance and the Councillor	30/06/2017 – 02/07/2017	Cllr. Sharon Keogan	€417.92	€145.00	€562.92
		Cllr. Stephen McKee	€182.64	€145.00	€327.64
Parnell Summer School 2017	14/08/2017 – 17/08/2017	Cllr. Tommy Reilly	€542.09	€210.00	€752.09
National Tourism Conference	06/09/2017	Cllr. David Gilroy	€240.07	€90.00	€330.07
Housing Conference 2017	22/11/2017	Cllr. Nick Killian	€54.54	€258.30	€312.84
Insolvency Services in Ireland	08/12/2017 – 10/12/2017	Cllr. Trevor Golden	€447.84	€145.00	€592.84
Local Authorities and Regional Assemblies Managing Executive	15/12/2017 – 16/12/2017	Cllr. Tom Kelly	€534.60	€100.00	€634.60

Title	Dates	Members Attended	Travel & Subs Cost	Conference Cost	Total Cost
Local Authorities and Waste Management	13/01/2017– 14/01/2017	Cllr. Eimear Ferguson	€375.03	€100.00	€475.03
		Cllr. Joe Fox	€320.10	€100.00	€420.10
Governance					

Training

Title	Dates	Members Attended	Travel & Subs Cost	Training Cost	Total Cost
AILG "In Service" Training – Module 1 2017 – National Planning Framework Ireland 2040	07/02/2017	Cllr. Nick Killian	€125.34	€50.00	€175.34
	11/02/2017	Cllr. Wayne Harding	€356.72	€50.00	€406.72
		Cllr. Sharon Keogan	€361.28	€50.00	€411.28
		Cllr. Stephen McKee	€265.01	€50.00	€315.01
		Cllr. Damien O'Reilly	€271.02	€50.00	€321.02
		Cllr. Tommy Reilly	€361.28	€50.00	€411.28
		Cllr. Alan Tobin	€326.00	€50.00	€376.00
	16/02/2017	Cllr. Jim Holloway	€139.51	€50.00	€189.51
		Cllr. Maria Murphy	€125.98	€50.00	€175.98
AILG Annual Training Conference 2017	06/04/2017 – 07/04/2017	Cllr. Eimear Ferguson	€350.05	€125.00	€475.05
		Cllr. Joe Fox	€423.76	€125.00	€548.76
		Cllr. Wayne Harding	€462.17	€125.00	€587.17
		Cllr. Jim Holloway	€423.19	€125.00	€548.19
		Cllr. Suzanne Jamal	€352.63	€125.00	€477.63
		Cllr. Sharon Keogan	€461.71	€125.00	€586.71
		Cllr. Nick Killian	€434.83	€125.00	€559.83
		Cllr. Caroline Lynch	€309.18	€125.00	€434.18
		Cllr. Gerry O'Connor	€425.87	€125.00	€550.87
		Cllr. Damien O'Reilly	€418.09	€125.00	€543.09
		Cllr. Joe Reilly	€286.77	€125.00	€411.77
		Cllr. Tommy Reilly	€416.92	€125.00	€541.92

Title	Dates	Members Attended	Travel & Subs Cost	Training Cost	Total Cost
		Cllr. Alan Tobin	€211.73	€125.00	€336.73
		Cllr. Sharon Tolan	€351.39	€125.00	€476.39
Irish Planning Institute – Annual Planning Conference 2017 – Reimagining the Planning System: Make It Work	06/04/2017 – 07/04/2017	Cllr. Tom Kelly	€583.34	€299.00	€882.34
LAMA Spring Training Seminar 2017	28/04/2017 – 29/04/2017	Cllr. Joe Fox	€29.88	€160.00	€189.88
		Cllr. Michael Gallagher	€31.35	€160.00	€191.35
		Cllr. Wayne Harding	€8.39	€160.00	€168.39
		Cllr. Nick Killian	€14.33	€160.00	€174.33
		Cllr. Caroline Lynch	€40.76	€160.00	€200.76
		Cllr. Damien O'Reilly	€120.69	€160.00	€280.69
		Cllr. Sarah Reilly	€3.58	€160.00	€163.58
East Border Region – Brexit and the Ireland/N Ireland Border Corridor	04/05/2017	Cllr. Sharon Keogan	€245.58	€0.00	€245.58
		Cllr. Damien O'Reilly	€348.14	€0.00	€348.14
		Cllr. Tommy Reilly	€229.46	€0.00	€229.46
AILG "In Service" Training - Module 2 2017 - From Plans to Action - A Briefing for Elected Members on Community Development Initiatives - Urban and Rural	09/05/2017 13/05/2017	Cllr. Sharon Keogan	€197.13	€50.00	€247.13
		Cllr. Tommy Reilly	€224.98	€50.00	€274.98
		Cllr. Joe Bonner	€349.04	€50.00	€399.04
		Cllr. Joe Fox	€316.80	€50.00	€366.80
		Cllr. Trevor Golden	€450.53	€50.00	€500.53
		Cllr. Jim Holloway	€319.04	€50.00	€369.04
		Cllr. Suzanne Jamal	€345.14	€50.00	€395.14
		Cllr. Sharon Tolan	€366.65	€50.00	€416.65
Association of Irish Regions: Training Event: Brexit, Regional Planning and EU Affairs	26/05/2017	Cllr. Sharon Keogan	€137.82	€100.00	€237.82

Title	Dates	Members Attended	Travel & Subs Cost	Training Cost	Total Cost
AILG "In Service" Training - Module 3 2017 – Rating Law Reforms, Valuations and Revaluations	08/06/2017	Cllr. Nick Killian	€46.13	€50.00	€96.13
	10/06/2017	Cllr. Pdraig Fitzsimons	€41.45	€50.00	€91.45
		Cllr. Michael Gallagher	€26.87	€50.00	€76.87
	23/06/2017	Cllr. Damien O'Reilly	€133.24	€50.00	€183.24
		Cllr. Sarah Reilly	€37.95	€50.00	€87.95
		Cllr. Tommy Reilly	€77.16	€50.00	€127.16
		Cllr. Alan Tobin	€53.50	€50.00	€103.30
AILG "in Service" Training - Module 4 2016- Wellbeing for Councillors	14/09/2017	Cllr. Maria Murphy	€35.67	€50.00	€85.67
	23/09/2017	Cllr. Joe Fox	€471.10	€50.00	€521.10
		Cllr. Wayne Harding	€549.26	€50.00	€599.26
		Cllr. Jim Holloway	€97.46	€50.00	€147.46
		Cllr. Tom Kelly	€423.82	€50.00	€474.60
		Cllr. Sharon Keogan	€598.35	€50.00	€648.35
		Cllr. Damien O'Reilly	€498.95	€50.00	€548.95
		Cllr. Tommy Reilly	€611.52	€50.00	€661.52
LAMA Autumn Training Seminar – Water Management – Better Energy	29/09/2017 – 30/09/2017	Cllr. Eimear Ferguson	€412.44	€160.00	€572.44
		Cllr. Joe Fox	€412.08	€160.00	€572.08
		Cllr. Wayne Harding	€593.03	€160.00	€753.03
		Cllr. Suzanne Jamal	€393.78	€160.00	€553.78
		Cllr. Tom Kelly	€581.52	€160.00	€741.52
		Cllr. Sharon Keogan	€434.43	€160.00	€594.43
		Cllr. Damien O'Reilly	€363.68	€160.00	€523.68
		Cllr. Tommy Reilly	€568.16	€160.00	€728.16
AILG Autumn Training Seminar 2017	12/10/2017 – 13/10/2017	Cllr. Joe Fox	€412.08	€125.00	€537.08
		Cllr. Wayne Harding	€400.83	€125.00	€525.83

Title	Dates	Members Attended	Travel & Subs Cost	Training Cost	Total Cost
		Cllr. Jim Holloway	€515.54	€125.00	€640.54
		Cllr. Suzanne Jamal	€271.22	€125.00	€396.22
		Cllr. Sharon Keogan	€415.22	€125.00	€540.22
		Cllr. Nick Killian	€402.58	€125.00	€527.58
		Cllr. Maria Murphy	€248.12	€125.00	€492.78
		Cllr. Joe Reilly	€240.19	€125.00	€365.19
		Cllr. Sharon Tolan	€457.63	€125.00	€582.63
AILG "In Service" Training - Module 5 2017 – National Public Library Strategy 2018-2022	19/10/2017	Cllr. Wayne Harding	€168.73	€50.00	€218.73
		Cllr. Sharon Keogan	€168.73	€50.00	€218.73
		Cllr. Damien O'Reilly	€134.71	€50.00	€184.71
		Cllr. Tommy Reilly	€156.59	€50.00	€206.59
	21/10/2017	Cllr. Enda Flynn	€220.05	€50.00	€270.05
	26/10/2017	Cllr. Tom Kelly	€233.88	€50.00	€283.88
AILG "In Service" Training - Module 6 2017 – Recent Experience of Local Authorities in Severe Weather	18/11/2017	Cllr. Nick Killian	€25.98	€50.00	€75.98
		Cllr. Tommy Reilly	€72.22	€50.00	€122.22
		Cllr. Sharon Tolan	€96.45	€50.00	€146.45

Appendix 7 – Meetings of the Council – 2017

Monthly Meetings	11
Special Meetings	4
Annual	1
Pre Budget and Budget	2
Protocol	11
CPG	11
SPC – Environmental	4
SPC - Transportation	4
SPC – Housing, Community & Cultural Development	5
SPC – Planning, Economic Development & Enterprise	6
Municipal District –	
Ashbourne	13
Kells	13
Laytown/Bettystown	13
Navan	18
Ratoath	14
Trim	13

Appendix 8 – Annual Financial Statement

Meath County Council Annual Financial Report 2017

Expenditure	Revenue (€m)	Capital (€m)
Housing & Building	19.239	23.220
Roads Transportation & Safety	30.047	5.293
Water & Sewerage	6.897	1.073
Development Incentives & Controls	9.105	(0.976)
Environment Protection	17.954	0.675
Recreation & Amenity	6.975	0.420
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	1.039	0.040
Miscellaneous	10.610	8.391
Total	101.866	38.136
Income (see funding sources below)	64.401	34.042
Net Transfers		7.205
Net Revenue Cost to be funded from County	(37.465)	
Rates	33.271	
Local Property Tax	12.391	
Transfer from Reserves	(9.626)	
Surplus/(Deficit) for year	0.397	3.111
Opening Balance (01/01/16)	(2.892)	44.435
Closing Balance	(2.495)	47.546

Appendix 9 - Municipal District Members Discretionary Fund 2017

This section of the report provides an overview of expenditure for the overall Municipal District Allocation for 2017.

(a)	Total no. of applications received	645
(b)	No. of applications withdrawn	15
(c)	No. of deferral forms submitted	50
(d)	No. of valid applications for processing received (a – (b & c))	580
(e)	Total annual fund	€480,000.00
(f)	Total amount deferred from 2016	€144,888.05
(g)	Total fund available in 2017	€624,888.05
(h)	Total amount deferred to 2018	€67,135.73 (includes €3,650 that reverted to the MD at year end)
(i)	Total amount spent - 2017	€557,752.32

Internal Allocations¹

Total number of internal applications complete	71
Total internal spend	€122,681.62

Transportation - CIS	27	20,469.00	3.5%
% of Total Spend			22%

¹ Internal allocations are allocations made to a Council department for agreed works to be carried out by that department; External allocations are allocations made to an external group, e.g. a community group.

Municipal District Allocation 2017

Housing – Homeless Services	2	16,750.00	3%
Transportation – Footpath Restoration/Repairs	2	16,500.00	3%
Transportation - LIS	21	14,160.00	2.5%
Community – Playground	1	12,000.00	2%
Transportation – Pedestrian Crossing	1	10,082.00	2%
Transportation – Enhancement Projects	1	6,930.00	1%
Transportation – Speed Signs	1	6,000.00	1%
Transportation – Road Safety	1	5,000.00	1%
Corporate Services – Christmas Market	4	4,700.00	1%
Community – Exercise Equipment	1	4,346.92	1%
Transportation – Landscaping	1	1,393.70	0.2%
Transportation – Memorial Bench	2	1,000.00	0.2%
Library Service – Literacy Programme	1	1,000.00	0.2%
Transportation – Signage	2	850.00	0.2%
Transportation – Hedge Cutting	1	500.00	0.03%
Transportation – Signage	1	500.00	0.03%
Transportation – Tree Maintenance	1	500.00	0.03%

External Allocations

Total number of external applications complete	509
Total external spend	€435,070.70

% of Total Spend	78%
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Sports organisations/facilities	129	113,081.40	20%
Community development/organisations	74	72,547.00	13%
Support services	67	55,675.00	10%

Residents Associations	76	46,508.00	8%
Youth organisations/facilities	29	31,675.00	5.5%
Tidy Towns/Pride of Place	32	30,814.60	5.5%

Schools	25	24,775.00	4.5%
Heritage/Tourism/Environment	32	21,700.00	4%
Drama/Culture/Arts	24	20,093.70	3.5%
Festivals/Events	20	17,200.00	3%
Business Association	1	1,000.00	1%

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