



# Meath County Council Annual Report 2018

#MakeItMeath

MEATH:  
EUROPE'S BUSINESS  
READY REGION



comhairle chontae na mí  
meath county council



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# Foreword



Cllr. Tom Kelly  
Cathaoirleach



Jackie Maguire  
Chief Executive

*We are pleased to present Meath County Council's Annual Report, and to have an opportunity to reflect on the achievements and activities of the Council during 2018.*

*Overall, it was a successful year with our pro-active, pro-business and pro-customer approach yielding positive results across all service delivery areas. In adopting a budget in excess of €110 million, the main objective was to maintain existing levels of service, while providing additional resources in critical and emerging areas.*

The most important challenge of 2018 was responding to the national housing situation locally, by helping families and individuals to meet their housing needs. The Council was set a target of delivering 1,251 additional social housing units between 2017 and 2021 and is working towards this through a combination of construction, acquisition, leasing, and through partnerships with Approved Housing Bodies.

The focus on driving the economic development of the county through the implementation of the Council's Economic Development Strategy 2014-2022 continued to generate positive results. Undoubtedly, Meath is Europe's most business-friendly region and, despite the on-going uncertainties of Brexit, we want to capitalise on that in the coming years.

The good news for the business community was that, for a ninth consecutive year, commercial rates in the county remained unchanged. In fact, over the last five years there has been an increase in income from commercial rates, largely due to business investment in the county and improvements in our rates collection process. We know that new businesses are the lifeblood of the county, in that they create new jobs and help to build the local economy. In 2018, we continued the support for small businesses through the very successful Small Business Support Scheme first introduced in 2015.

There is no doubt that climate change is the single biggest challenge facing the country, and Meath County Council is committed to playing a lead role in the protection of the environment and the enhancement of Meath's natural and built environment. A draft Climate Action Strategy was prepared in 2018, with a vision to make Meath a climate ready region that supports jobs, growth and healthy lifestyles. A key part of this plan was the engagement with stakeholders, in terms of making a sustainable difference. In line with that, the Council continued to focus on improving the local environment, particularly through our environmental education and awareness activities and our anti-dumping campaigns.







We thank the many voluntary and community organisations who get involved in making Meath a better place. Our annual Pride of Place initiatives continue to support these groups who give of their time to make our towns, villages and schools attractive places for the people of Meath.

While we faced many challenges in 2018, it was the number of extreme weather events that caused problems in our communities across the county. We want to acknowledge and thank the fire service, civil defence volunteers and our outdoor staff for their dedication and bravery, and for working tirelessly in such difficult conditions.

Finally, we thank the Councillors, Chairpersons and members of the Strategic Policy Committees, Management Team and Staff, for their co-operation during the year. All the achievements outlined in this Annual Report would not have been possible without their support and commitment to the delivery of services to the people of County Meath.

# Local Democracy

## Ashbourne Municipal District Councillors

	Bonner	Joe	Non-Party
	Jamal	Suzanne	Fine Gael
	O'Driscoll	Claire Dr.	Fianna Fáil
	O'Rourke	Darren	Sinn Féin
	Smith	Seán	Fianna Fáil
	Tobin	Alan	Fine Gael



# Kells Municipal District Councillors

	Cassidy	Eugene	Fine Gael
	Drew	Sean	Fianna Fáil
	Gallagher	Michael	Sinn Féin
	Gilroy	David	Non-Party
	Guirke	Johnny	Sinn Féin
	Reilly	Bryan	Fianna Fáil
	Reilly	Sarah	Fine Gael

# Laytown-Bettystown Municipal District Councillors

	Ferguson	Eimear	Sinn Féin
	Harding	Wayne	Fianna Fáil
	Kelly	Tom	Non-Party
	Keogan	Sharon	Non-Party
	McKee	Stephen	Fianna Fáil
	Meade	Paddy	Fine Gael
	Tolan	Sharon	Fine Gael





# Navan Municipal District Councillors

	Burke	Sinead	Sinn Féin
	Fitzsimons	Padraig	Fianna Fáil
	Deane	Francis	Non-Party
	Forde	Wayne	Non-Party
	Holloway	Jim	Fine Gael
	Reilly (RIP)	Joe	Sinn Féin
	Reilly	Tommy	Fianna Fáil

# Ratoath Municipal District Councillors

	Fitzgerald	Brian	Non-Party
	Killian	Nick	Non-Party
	Murphy	Maria	Fine Gael
	O'Connor	Gerry	Fine Gael
	O'Kane	Maria	Sinn Féin
	O'Reilly	Damien	Fianna Fáil
	Toole	Gillian	Fine Gael

## Trim Municipal District Councillors

	Flynn	Enda	Fine Gael
	Fox	Joe	Fine Gael
	French	Noel	Fine Gael
	Golden	Trevor	Non-Party
	Lynch	Caroline	Sinn Féin
	McKenna	Ronan	Fianna Fáil

During 2018 there were two coptions as follows:

- Councillor Edward Fennessy, Sinn Féin, following the passing of Councillor Joe Reilly
- Councillor Conor Tormey, Fianna Fáil, following the resignation of Councillor Sean Smith

## 2018 - Highlights

### “Illuminating Meath” EU-China event

In March, 2018, His Excellency, Dr. Yue Xiaoyong, Chinese Ambassador to Ireland, was the guest of honour at an “*Illuminating Meath*” EU-China event, hosted by Meath County Council as part of the 2018 EU-China Tourism Year.

The lighting ceremony, held in Buvinda House, was organised to coincide with the celebration of the Lantern Festival in China and was attended by local representatives and tourism providers. The Ambassador was accompanied by Chinese Embassy representative Mme Yang Hua, Counsellor and Deputy Head of Mission of the Chinese Embassy.

Buvinda House was illuminated in red for the special occasion. Meath’s Lung Ying Academy performed a traditional lion dance to open the event, and locally produced Boyne Valley food was sampled, along with traditional Chinese cuisine.



The Make It Meath promotional video and marketing brochure, translated into Mandarin for the Chinese market, was presented to Ambassador Yue.

Meath County Council also hosted a number of visits by Ambassadors to Ireland in 2018. His Excellency Mr. Istvan S. Palffy, Hungarian Ambassador to Ireland visited County Meath, in June, and was welcomed by the Cathaoirleach Councillor Tom Kelly. In Buvinda House, the Ambassador received a presentation on historical and cultural sites in Co. Meath. He and his wife then travelled to Trim where Councillor Noel French treated them to a walking tour of the heritage town.

In November, the Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Tom Kelly hosted visits by His Excellency Mr. Lahcen Mahraoui, the Moroccan Ambassador to Ireland and the South Korean Ambassador His Excellency Mr. Woon-Ki Lyeo

Both Ambassadors visited the historic sites of Brú na Bóinne, Dowth Hall and Slane Castle.



**H.E. Mr. Woon-Ki Lyeo with Kevin Stewart, Director of Services**

**Presentation to H.E. Mr. Istvan Palfy**

**H.E. Mr. Lahcen Mahraoui with Cathaoirleach Cllr. Tom Kelly**

# Excellence in Local Government Awards

In November 2018, Meath County Council was the overall winner in the Commemorations and Centenaries category of the 2018 Excellence in Local Government Awards. The winning award was for the celebrations of the life of Francis Ledwidge, the remarkably gifted poet, activist and soldier from the village of Slane. Meath County Council devised and delivered a year long programme of inclusive events and activities to celebrate and commemorate this most complex figure in Irish literary history. The events were coordinated and managed by Meath County Council in collaboration with local, national and international organizations.



**Ian Talbot, Chief Executive of Chambers Ireland with John Paul Phelan TD, Minister of State for Local Government and Electoral Reform and Meath County Council Representatives, presenting the award to the Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Tom Kelly.**



## Slane Ireland's Friendliest Town

Slane, in the heart of the Boyne Valley, one of the most historic and picturesque regions in Ireland, was nominated by Meath County Council and chosen as Ireland's Friendliest Place for 2019 at the National Retail Excellence Awards on 10th November 2018.

The Awards, which are backed by AIB Merchant Services, were presented by TV personality Hector Ó hEochagáin and attended by more than 500 Irish retail industry executives.

Established by Retail Excellence in 1997, The Awards is the biggest event in the Irish retail industry calendar and aims to promote best practice and encourage high standards in the Irish retail industry.



The victorious Slane and Meath County Council delegation who picked up the prestigious title of Ireland's Friendliest Place 2019 at the 21st Retail Excellence Awards held in Killarney.

## Civic Honours

In 2018, civic receptions were organised to recognise the significant achievements of people in County Meath as follows:

### The Missionary Society of St. Columban

A civic reception to commemorate the centenary of the founding of the Missionary Society of St Columban was held in October.

In front of a gathering of nearly 100 people, the Mayor of Navan, Cllr. Jim Holloway, paid a personal tribute to the members of the Columbans for their work and significant contribution across the globe, often in areas suffering the ravages of war, poverty and starvation.

The Mayor was joined at the civic reception by the Cathaoirleach of Meath County Council, Cllr. Tom Kelly, who officially welcomed the members of the Columban Society to the Council building and also the members of the local congregation and friends of the Columbans.

The Chief Executive of Meath County Council was also present to thank the Columbans for their work, not just on foreign soil, but more particularly for their long-established presence at Dalgan Park in Navan and the contribution they have made to the local community.



**Fr. Pat Raleigh receiving a presentation alongside the Cathaoirleach Cllr. Tom Kelly, Chief Executive, Jackie Maguire and Mayor of Navan, Cllr. Jim Holloway.**

## Corporate Services

The Corporate Services Department works within a framework of democratic principles, providing services to the elected Council, the management of Council meetings and the preparation of the Register of Electors. It also facilitates the delivery of services to the public, through our customer services team, the management of corporate facilities, safety and health procedures and supports effective corporate governance practices.

# Communications and Media

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

A review and update of the Council's Communication Strategy was undertaken in 2108 to reflect the changing communication environment and to tailor the Council's communications goals and objectives to complement the achievement of the Council's own objectives, as set out in the Corporate Plan.

Social media provides the Council with opportunities to communicate information in a less traditional format. In 2018, 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 2018, Meath County Council recorded the following numbers in relation to social media followers: Facebook: 10,789; LinkedIn: 1,975 Twitter: 8,004.

Twitter - #OurCouncilDay was held on the 10th April 2018: The aim was to increase engagement with the public, raise awareness of services, and show the human side of those services in a light and informative tone. Our tweets received over 67,000 impressions on the day.

## 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 facilitates, in as far as is possible, the preferred ways people wish to avail of services.

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 CRM 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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](http://www.meath.ie)

The following are the 2018 statistics relating to Freedom of Information requests:

<b>Applications Received</b>	<b>183</b>
Carried forward from 2016	05
<b>Total</b>	<b>188</b>
No. of requests Granted	77
No. of requests Part Granted	45
No. of requests Refused	38
Requests Transferred	00
Requests Withdrawn	06
Requests dealt with outside FOI	05
Live Cases at end of 2018	17
No. of Internal Reviews	07
No. of Appeals to Information Commissioner	01

- Data protection awareness training was provided to staff together with training on assessing and documenting processes in compliance with Data Protection legislation.
- New data protection policies were implemented and Data Subject Access requests were administered in accordance with the data protection legislation. The Council also responded to the national audit of CCTV by the Data Protection Commission.

## Register of Electors

### Register of Electors 2018/2019

The Register of Electors was published in February 2018.

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

<b>Dáil Electors</b>	<b>137,376</b>
<b>Presidential Electors</b>	<b>135,957</b>
<b>European Electors</b>	<b>139,397</b>
<b>Local Electors</b>	<b>141,301</b>
<b>Postal Voters</b>	<b>706</b>

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

<b>Ashbourne:</b>	<b>20,284</b>
<b>Kells:</b>	<b>25,479</b>
<b>LaytownBettystown:</b>	<b>23,670</b>
<b>Navan:</b>	<b>22,084</b>
<b>Ratoath:</b>	<b>24,859</b>
<b>Trim:</b>	<b>24,925</b>

## Occupational Safety and Health

It is policy to comply with our statutory obligations (Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act, 2005 and all other applicable legislation) and to continually improve performance of occupational safety and health management.

The main achievements in 2018 were:

- Meath County Council's Fire Service has progressed from OHSAS 18001 to achieving certification to ISO 45001, the first Fire Service in Ireland to achieve this standard.
- The Transportation Section has maintained OHSAS 18001 and external OSH surveillance audits have been undertaken.

## Information Systems

During 2018, 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** – Security has been a significant area of work for this year, with a tender to replace crucial security hardware and implement new security response systems awarded, along with maintaining a programme of continued vigilance. Proactive replacement of key system hardware for network and phone systems was also completed. Planning for our exit from the LGMA National Forest and the complete upgrade of our Microsoft environment continued, and we entered the Microsoft Enterprise Agreement through the LGMA.
- **Business Solutions** – The complete redesign of the [www.meath.ie](http://www.meath.ie) website is now substantially complete. 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 digital online service channels for customers. Key initiatives were undertaken to implement appropriate mobile platforms to allow mobile inspections by Housing and Environment. Our online consultation portal was used to accept submissions on numerous public consultations during 2018.

# Human Resources

In 2018, as part of ongoing workforce planning, the HR Department continuously reviewed staffing levels and requirements.

The implementation of the ongoing workforce planning process throughout 2018 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
- Working with line managers and supervisors in terms of managing effectively.

In 2018, the Recruitment & Selection Unit facilitated 22 recruitment competitions. There were 926 applications processed and 353 candidates interviewed. A further 1,467 expressions of interest were received for the entry grade competition of Clerical Officer.

The HR Department undertook a review of marketing job vacancies which included more targeted social media advertising, rebranded adverts, new markets and linking with third level colleges. This was with a view to communicating Meath County Council as an employer of choice to persons either currently in the workforce or actively seeking employment.



**Dundalk Institute of Technology lecture to CPD staff on the topic ‘The Planning System and the Local Authority Engineer’**

The HR Department has continued to work very closely with staff and unions on a range of areas and continue to participate and work with the Workplace Partnership Committee.

Meath County Council obtained a further three year reaccreditation from Engineers Ireland as a 'CPD Accredited Employer' as a result of the CPD Committee's hard work and dedication to the CPD process within the workplace. The award further strengthens Meath County Council as an employer of choice and supports the organisation to compete with other employers in the current labour market.



**Presentation of 'CPD Accredited Employer Award' to Meath County Council from Engineers Ireland**

# Finance

During 2018, 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.

In 2018, the Procurement section continued 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.

Business process improvements have resulted in more efficient and timely processing of payments with 99% of invoices being processed and paid within 15 days.

The Council continued to work closely with ratepayers to facilitate payments and maximise collection rates.

# Planning and Development Management

## Forward Planning

Following direction from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, the review of the Meath County Development Plan 2019-2025 was paused pending the publication of the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES). Meath County Council attended and contributed to a number of working groups in relation to the compilation of the RSES and the Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan (MASP).

Variation 5 of the Meath County Development Plan 2013-2019 was placed on public display in November, 2018. This variation removed the phasing objective from residential lands in Donore to facilitate the supply of social and affordable housing in the area.

The Planning Department implemented Variation 4 of the Meath County Development Plan 2013-2019 which saw a number of sites being placed on the Vacant Sites Register in accordance with the legislation.

## Development Contributions

The Meath County Development Contribution Scheme 2016-2021 had a mid-term review in 2018 and 6 amendments to the Scheme were adopted by the full Council in October. Receipts from development contributions continued to rise, with a projected outturn in the region of €13 million (inclusive of Irish Water receipts) for 2018. The Financials Compliance Team continues to actively engage with debtors.

## Compliance Activities

Complaints regarding planning compliance continue to rise with 365 new cases referred to or initiated by the Planning Department in 2018. 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. In 2018 a total of 16 estates were taken in charge and exploratory studies were carried out on a number of other estates.

## Development Management

The number of applications received continues to increase on previous years, with a total of 1594 applications received in 2018. 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.

The Planning Department also assisted in a number of tri-partite meetings under Section 247 of the Planning and Development Acts, relating to Strategic Housing Development.

## Economic Development and Enterprise

The implementation of our Economic Development Strategy 2014-2022 is now in its fourth 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.

A mid-term review of the strategy was undertaken to measure progress against the goals set out in the strategy. The overall picture is very positive; the county continues to perform strongly in areas such as new indigenous investments and food production, as evidenced by data from Enterprise Ireland and being regular Foodie destination finalists. Local Authority initiatives such as the Kells Tech Hub are recognised for their excellence by Chambers Ireland, and the county's retailers have been recognised nationally by Retail Excellence Ireland.

Employment rates in the county continue to grow, with the 2016 census data showing the third highest employment participation rate in the county. These employment figures will no doubt be further improved when the positive effects of the recent major foreign direct investments by Facebook, Shire and Emeri Nutrition come on stream. These projects show that strong progress is being made towards our goal of a 15% increase in new FDI investments and the creation of 7,500 new jobs by 2022.

## 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
- Boyne Valley Food Strategy in conjunction with Louth County Council has been successfully launched and the dedicated Food Development Officer continues to drive the implementation of the strategy, working with a voluntary steering committee of local artisan food producers.
- Meath LEO provided funding of over €500,000 to support businesses in 2018 and continued the successful rollout of training programmes, mentoring and business information seminars for SMEs during the year.

# Tourism

## Boyne Valley Tourism Strategy 2016-2020

There are 3 years completed on the 5 year Boyne Valley Tourism Strategy and already there are many successes achieved.

### Opening of Kells Courthouse

The Kells Courthouse project was completed through funding from Fáilte Ireland and Meath County Council and the new tourist office and state of the art exhibition opened its doors in May 2018. This is a great opportunity to highlight Kells and North Meath and promote greater dwell time in the area.

### Marketing and Promotion

Boyne Valley Tourism has implemented a strategic **digital plan** to target overseas and domestic markets for bednights to the Boyne Valley. The Discover Boyne Valley website has become a 'go to' resource for visitors to the area. During 2018, the new blog was updated with hundreds of articles written by independent writers. Webpages were translated into languages for key tourism markets, google display advertising targeted key tourism markets and 5 consumer ezines were circulated, while the free to download Discover Boyne Valley App was updated with all tourism businesses in the area.

A Boyne Valley stand was taken at **15 promotional shows** at home and abroad targeting in excess of 1mn potential consumers while international tour operators and tourism agencies were brought on a 2 day familiarisation trip to the Boyne Valley in November.

An information and networking event was held in advance of **Spirits of Meath Halloween Festival** to encourage more events for the festival which reached 40 events this year. A greater emphasis on the story of the origins of Samhain at the Hill of Ward attracted international attention.

### Trade Networking Opportunities

Tourism businesses were provided with many networking opportunities. Two educational trips were held for the tourism trade to the coast and to Trim. Five training sessions were undertaken for tourism businesses on customer care in advance of the Fleadh. Boyne Valley Hotels were regrouped to discuss promotional activities and the Director General of Comhaltas spoke at the Boyne Valley Tourism AGM.

### Fleadh Cheoil

Fleadh Cheoil in Drogheda was an unprecedented success and much activity revolved around promoting Fleadh and the Boyne Valley destination together. One of the highlights of the summer was the Boyne Valley tourism 3 day press visit by journalists and bloggers from the UK and The Netherlands. They each wrote features in the Scottish Sun, Radio Times UK, The Dutch Metro and in blogs: LoveExploring (UK) and Your Irish Adventure.

# Visitor Experience Development Plan

Meath County Council is working with Fáilte Ireland in the development of the Visitor Experience Development Plan (VEDP) for the Ancient Theme in the Boyne Valley. The 5 year VEDP is a collaborative commercial plan developed and implemented by key stakeholders and industry in the Boyne Valley. It will create a shared vision for the Boyne Valley within Ireland's Ancient East to enhance the overall tourist experience, and ultimately lead to continued growth in visitor numbers, dwell time and spend by offering compelling and motivating experiences to international tourists across all parts of the Boyne Valley.

## Heritage

### Projects 2018

The following projects were completed in 2018 as part of the County Heritage Plan Programme supported by the Heritage Council:

- **Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2018** -This grant scheme supports community groups and organisations to undertake projects to gather information, help to appropriately manage and promote an awareness and appreciation of our heritage assets.
- **Heritage Week 2018** - Community seminar held and county brochure designed, and published detailing over 80 events held in the county.
- **Boyne Valley Natural History Field Club** - Five events were held in 2018 in partnership with National Biodiversity Data Centre, Office of Public Works, and Irish Peatland Conservation Council.
- **Geology Exhibition** Phase I complete by consultant geologist on the scoping of sites, geological features to highlight, text and appropriate imagery to inform an exhibition on the geology of County Meath.
- **Megalithic Art** -Working in partnership with a number of researchers, we supported the completion of work on the seventh and final volume of reports arising from Professor George Eogan's excavations at Knowth, Co Meath which were begun in 1962, to be published by the Royal Irish Academy. This included the collection of digital file, review of catalogue text, illustrations and photography.
- **European Year of Cultural Heritage –(i) Peatlands Crossing Borderlines** - collaborated with the Irish Peatland Conservation Council (IPCC) by organizing an event Peat Crossing Borderlines with 70 visitors attending over the two days from the Netherlands, Northern Ireland, England, Russia and Poland and visiting Girley Bog. **(ii) Passage tombs and their cultural landscapes of Atlantic Europe – making connections** – this project established contacts between communities of interest at passage tombs sites across Europe – Brú na Bóinne and Loughcrew (Meath, ROI), Carrowkeel and Carrowmore (Sligo , ROI), Sieve Gullion and Knockmany (NI), Heart of Neolithic Orkney World Heritage Site (Scotland), Bry Celili Ddu UNESCO World Heritage Site (Wales), Barnenez, Carnac and Morbihan (France), Guernsey, Galicia (Spain) and Portugal. Dedicated Face book page and discussion group – *Love Passage Tombs*.
- **Kells Printworks** – worked with Kells TypeTrail and Sawmills Studio to conserve and restore Victorian printing presses, secured the associated archive, and establish a new cultural facility *Kells Printworks*.

- ***In-house training seminar*** – on *All Ireland Pollinator Plan 2015-2020* was held in collaboration with National Biodiversity Data Centre (NBDC).



***Dr Tomás Murray, (NBDC) – Meath County Council Pollinator Workshop***

- ***Black Friary Community Heritage and Archaeology Project*** - 64 participants took part in a community archaeology dig to help delineate the monastic gardens; a programme of 35 community awareness and education events were delivered; *Medieval Family Open Day* held as part of Heritage Week; an *Interpretation and Access (Audience) Plan* prepared for the site; Town and Village Renewal funding secured to enhance the site; on-going post-ex programme delivered.



- **National Biodiversity Action Plan Funding** - Pollinator and Citizen Science Workshop –and Birdwatch Ireland talks and schools visits
- **Culture and Creativity Strategy 2018-2022 published** – input as part of Meath County Council’s Culture Team.
- **Wild Teaching Cross Curricular Lesson for Agoraphobic Teachers**– Published by Meath County Council. An event held for primary schools teachers to highlight the book written by Paul O’Donnell (Principal, Slane National School) and to distribute a copy to every class teacher.

## Wild Teaching

Cross-curricular Lessons Outdoors  
for Agoraphobic Teachers

Paul O’Donnell



# Housing

## Housing Delivery

- A total of 413 units were delivered by various mechanisms (including direct construction, acquisitions and Approved Housing Body delivery) during 2018 representing a capital investment in Co. Meath of more than €91 million. This was significantly in excess of the Council's Rebuilding Ireland target of 326 units.
- For the period 2017-2021, the Council's own Housing Capital Programme in respect to new social housing delivery currently stands at €87 million (389 units). 52 units were delivered in Bettystown, Athboy and Navan by the end of 2018 with the remainder scheduled to be delivered between 2019 and 2021
- The Energy Efficiency Programme (Phase 1) continued to be implemented during 2018, with works completed on over 150 housing units. Works have centred on wall and attic insulation.
- Prelet repairs were carried out on 75 units during 2018.
- Works on 52 units under the Local Authority Adaptation Works Scheme were carried out by the year end.
- Work continued on the progression of the Alverno Court Refurbishment Scheme. The project scope was revised, with an estimated total cost of €4,807,972. Budget approval from the Department has been increased from €3,458,329 to €4,150,329, with self funding also to be provided in order to advance the scheme to the next stage. Individual surveys on the units concerned have now been conducted by the architectural team for tender preparation.

## Housing Allocations

- 1168 households had their accommodation needs met by Meath County Council in 2018, through various housing supports, including Housing Assistance Payment, the Rental Accommodation Scheme, Approved Housing Bodies, as well as through casual vacancies.
- The 2018 Summary of Social Housing Assessment recorded a net housing need of 1,966 as of June 11, 2018 for the county (gross housing need inclusive of HAP recipients was 3,422). Since 2016, annual Housing Needs Assessments have been conducted, with the recorded figures outlined below:

	2016	2017	2018
<b>Gross Housing Need</b>	3,898	3,447	3,422
<b>Net Housing Need</b>	3,328	2,467	1,966

- Collaborative work with Approved Housing Bodies has yielded the delivery of 263 units under the Social Housing Current Expenditure Code by the end of 2018, with a further 185 units granted approval, with expected delivery in 2019.

## Housing Grants

- A total of 300 grants were awarded during 2018 under the Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability, Housing Aid for Older People and the Mobility Aid Grants with a value in excess of €2.2 million.

## Homeless Service

- Some 183 households required an emergency accommodation placement in 2018. 172 Households exited during the year.
- Progress was made during 2018 in advancing a number of strategic priorities for Meath County Council's Homeless Service, including the commencement of a Tenancy Sustainment Service and the establishment of further supported emergency accommodation units in the county, in conjunction with the Approved Housing Body sector.
- Meath County Council has availed of the Homeless HAP Place Finder service, which became operational in the county at the start of May 2018. By the end of 2018 a total of 78 tenancies had been dealt with through this service.

## Traveller Accommodation

- The accommodation targets for 2018 under the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014 - 2018 have been achieved.
- Work continued to bring forward the proposed refurbishment of St Francis' Park halting site, which has Departmental approval for a €2,856,336 grant. Agreement was reached with residents on a proposed design during 2018, which will progress to Part VIII once Dept. approval has been received.

## Tenant Liaison

- In excess of 150 tenants completed pre-tenancy training during 2018, obtaining a variety of information concerning their tenancy with Meath County Council.



**Connaught Grove, Athboy**

# Community

## 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 department's such as SICAP, LEADER, Healthy Ireland scheme and the Community Enhancement Programmes.

### Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP) 2016-2021

The LCDC prepared this 6 year Statutory Local Economic Community Plan in conjunction with the Council. The 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. Quarterly updates were sought during the year from the agencies and presented to the LCDC.

### Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2015-2017

The SICAP Programme which is funded by the Department of Rural & Community Development aims to reduce poverty, promote social inclusion and equality through local engagement and collaboration. A new 5-year programme commenced in January 2018 with an annual budget €393,336.00. Meath Partnership was awarded the contract to deliver the programme with the Local Community Development Committee overseeing the implementation.

### Leader Programme 2014-2020

The LCDC is the Local Action Group (LAG) and Local Authority as Financial Partner is responsible for monitoring and 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 2018, the LAG approved funding of €743,374 towards projects for basic services for hard to reach communities such as the Community Rooms in Drumconrath, the fit out of Slane Men's Shed and Slane GFC walking track, Donore Community centre. Arkle National Hunt Museum, Gizagig Ltd, Informed Decisions, Mobile Sheep Dipper, Epicom Foods, and the Farmer's daughter were approved for funding under the Enterprise Development Sub theme. Taste of Boyne Valley Bites and Trim Comhaltas (50 Bliana) were approved for funding under rural towns and Meath River rescue were supported under the Water Resources sub theme.

## Public Participation Network (PPN)

Membership of the PPN in Meath has grown to over 650 groups contributing to increased involvement in the consultation processes across Meath. Training and events were organised throughout the year for the membership with a concentration on areas such as General Data Protection Regulation, Governance,



intercultural activities, youth and networking. Members received regular updates on funding, consultations and events through e-bulletins, face-book and the website.



The PPN website, [www.meathppn.ie](http://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



Under the current Age Friendly strategy 2017-2020 Meath County Council has been carrying out accessibility audits in Slane, Trim and Kells in partnership with Prosper Meath with a view to expanding the programme. Members of the Trim Age Friendly subgroup are working on a number of actions including making Trim an Age Friendly Business Town. An Age Friendly champion has been appointed for the Libraries and work is progressing on refurbishing the library in Kells to make it an Age Friendly building.

## Age Friendly Ireland

Ireland is a member of the WHO Global Age Friendly Network via its leading internationally recognised Age Friendly Ireland programme. Over the last ten years significant progress has been made across Ireland in adopting the global World Health Organisations Age Friendly Framework.

The National Age Friendly Ireland Programme is now a shared service function of local government sector and provides a national centralised service to support the ongoing development, implementation and sustaining of the programmes national strategy. Following a competitive process the national Age Friendly Ireland shared service was awarded to Meath County Council and the centralised support service is hosted by Meath County Council on behalf of the local government sector.

## Comhairle na nÓg

The co-ordinator role for Meath Comhairle na nÓg, the Youth Council for County Meath was tendered out in early 2018. Youth Work Ireland Meath won the tender and have entered in to a service level agreement from June 2018 to co-ordinate the programme for the next 2 ½ years. The Comhairle na nÓg AGM was held in October 2018 in Trim GAA with over 100 young people in attendance. Their new topic for 2018/2019 is sexual health, body image and identity with workshops incorporating this topic held at the AGM. A very successful colour run was held in May 2018 under the 2017/2018 topic of Health and fitness with the proceeds donated to Jigsaw Meath. The group attended the national showcase in Croke Park in November 2018.

## Joint Policing Committee (JPC)

The committee met quarterly in 2018 and also held their public meeting in the Ardboyne Hotel on the 17<sup>th</sup> of October 2018 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 met on a regular basis throughout the year.

The JPC Chair and Deputy Chief Executive also participated with other JPCs in a Policing Authority Consultation in July 2018.

## Community Facilities

### Ashbourne Linear Park

There are a number of zones for development along the area for the linear park. Zone 4 development was tendered and advertised on E-tenders. This included a playground, amphitheatre, bridge across the river and public lighting and landscaping. McAvoy Contracts Ltd. were awarded the contract and works will commence early 2019.

### Playgrounds

A number of playgrounds were funded and developed in 2018. They included Lobinstown playground which was opened in September 2018, followed by Ballivor in November. Funding for Lobinstown was received under the Town & Village Scheme 2017 and Department of Children & Youth Affairs with Ballivor receiving funding under the Town & Village 2017 programme.

## 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. A total of 251 groups and businesses participated with 60 schools also taking part in the initiative. Three groups were entered into the National Co-operation Ireland awards in November in City Hall, Cork, namely, Garden City & Crestwood Residents' Association, Moynalty Steam Threshing, Julianstown and District Community Association. Garden City & Crestwood Residents' Association won the overall prize in their category, whilst Meath County Council won the Council of the Year prestigious award.

## Grant Schemes 2017

The following grant schemes were processed in 2018

- Community Grant Scheme - A total of 382 applications approved under the various categories - Total fund of €128,332 paid out.
- Carranstown Grant Scheme 2018 - 29 applications were approved – Total fund of €100,000 allocated
- Knockharley Grant Scheme 2018 - 11 applications were approved – Total fund of €136,000
- Regional Festivals and Participative Events, Small Grants Scheme 2018 - A fund of €11,000 allocated to 6 projects.

## Healthy Ireland Fund

This fund is administered by the LCDC under the remit of the Local Authority. Five projects were approved to the amount of €75k namely-Carlanstown Agility Equipment, Age-well project, Healthy Meath Strategy, Early Intervention programme and Sensory Wall.

## Town & Village Renewal Scheme

This scheme supports the revitalisation of towns and villages Eight projects were approved by the Department to the amount of €670,834 with works progressing.

## Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme

4 projects were approved to a value of €under Measure 2 of the scheme- Longwood Ribbontail walk to Royal Canal Greenway, Trim Porchfields walking trail, Castletown new trail developments and Nobber greenway development. 1 application was submitted under Measure 3 and €500k approved for a walking route along the ring road in Kells.

## Clár Initiative

This is a targeted investment programme for identified Clár areas. Grants totalling €226,440 were approved for the 10 applications submitted. Works completed by year end.

## Broadband

Work continued on the implementation of the National Broadband Plan and related initiatives in County Meath. This includes the development of a digital strategy for County Meath.

## Access Officer

An access officer was appointed mid -year to liaise and work with County Council departments and agencies to address any accessibility issues and promote awareness and importance of accessibility. Events held during the year included “Back in 5” to highlight awareness of parking in disabled bays “ Make Way Day” with volunteers identifying obstacles blocking their accessibility along footpaths.

# Library Services

- Delivered the roll-out of RFID and self-service technology right across the branch network.
- Managed the introduction of the My Open Library initiative at Trim library
- Managed the development and delivery of a five year Culture and Creativity strategy for the county in partnership with national, local and community stakeholders.
- Delivered the 2018 annual plan for Creative Ireland in partnership with national, local and community stakeholders.
- Devised and delivered Cruinniú na nÓg at Kells in partnership with national, local and community stakeholders.
- Devised and managed a programme of activities for Bliain na Gaeilge including the introduction of a new annual Meath County Council Gaeltacht Scholarship scheme
- Published three titles of national and local interest Oldcastle Camp 1914 -1918, A Walk along the Boyne and re-issued the Mary Lavin collection The Becker Wives.

- Organised two major public events to commemorate the Decade of Centenaries
- Oldcastle Camp – Gathering of German relatives to commemorate the centenary of the closure of the civilian internment camp in July 1918
- Mná na hEireann – Seminar to commemorate the centenary of female suffrage
- Secured funding of c.€300,000 for the extension and further roll-out of digital services across the branch network.
- Reconfigured service at Athboy library following a major upgrade of the branch by Facilities Management
- Major upgrade to Ashbourne library by Facilities Management following closure in Spring 2018.
- Extended access to community meeting rooms at Ashbourne library to include three extra late night openings.
- Kells library reconfigured and extended by Facilities Management allowing access to new meeting rooms and welfare facilities.
- Extended the new national Business Information service Work Matters to Dunboyne and Trim.
- Secured funding for the roll-out of the second phase of the Healthy Ireland @your library initiative.



- Included Mosney accommodation centre in our annual programming of children’s events.
- Cathy Cassidy 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 4,603 children attended the hundreds of Summer Programme of events organised by the library service during July and August and 1,577 children participated in the annual Summer Reading Challenge.

- Right to Read Action Plan introduced which included Family Reading Initiatives and Spring into Story time.



## Arts Office

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

- Implementation of the FÉACH professional artist mentoring and training programme in partnership with Visual Artists Ireland, the Irish Writers’ Centre and the Arts Council.
- Refurbishment and re launch of the Toradh Gallery, Ashbourne Library & Cultural Centre. Exhibition programme developed with accompanying schools education programme, public talks and workshop programme.
- Arts Grants, Awards and Bursaries Schemes - Administered, assessed and processed 80 applications under six Arts grant schemes
- Hosted major artists residency programme in Meath with artists from New York, Belfast, Dublin, Meath and UK taking part. Supported by the Arts Council, Culture Ireland, Bellinter House Hotel, Pentabus Theatre Company UK and Irish Arts Centre New York.
- Introduced new Meath County Council /Centre Cultural Irlandais Paris Bursary Award.
- Pucas and Potions Children’s Halloween Arts Festival delivered at various locations across the county, with over 700 primary school children taking part in events.
- Me & Molly & Moo new children’s theatre and music commission produced with the support of Creative Ireland and the Arts Council. Work premiered to sell out audience at Hinterland Festival Kells and toured to various locations October/November 2018.

- Worked in collaboration with Cultural Services Team in devising and launch of new Francis Ledwidge Award, as a legacy project to the Francis Ledwidge Centenary Commemoration Programme 2017.
- Worked with library services in devising and implementing Cruinniú na nÓg National Children's Festival, Meath.
- Worked in collaboration with Cultural Services Team to develop and implement Creative Ireland Meath Five Year Strategy.

## 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 2018, Road Improvement achievements included the delivery of the circa €32m. road works programme and the completion of 14 Community Involvement Schemes and 7 Local Improvement Schemes. These schemes showcase 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 2019 based on the advance notification of funding from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport.

### **The following National Primary and Secondary Road Schemes were advanced in 2018:**

- N2 Slane Bypass – Constraints and Option Selection Studies ongoing
- N51 Dunmoe Phase 2 – CPO confirmed by An Bord Pleanála, proceeding to detailed design in 2019 and ongoing liaison with landowners
- N51/R147 Junction Navan – Redesign of junction completed and contractor appointed – works commenced
- N51 Tullaghanstown Cross Pavement Strengthening – Design stage being progressed, preparing to go to tender, emergency works carried out
- N52 Grange to Clontail Road scheme - Route selection finalised Ground Investigation and Topographical surveys underway
- N2 Rath Roundabout to Kilmoon – Preliminary Capital Appraisal undertaken and approved by DTT&S. Consultants to be appointed for phases 1 – 4, subject to TII approval
- National Road Pavement Schemes – 8 resurfacing and 16 retexturing locations constructed. A further 3km of resurfacing (costing €1m) on national roads completed by end 2018.

The following lengths of the non-national road network were maintained in 2018:

## Road Restoration

- Regional Roads - 19.4kms and Local Roads - 66.7kms (including 9.3kms for CIS).
- 4.5kms of roads were completed under the Local Improvement Scheme.

## Surface Dressing

- Regional – 34.4kms (including road restoration lengths)
- Local – 157.2kms (including road restoration lengths) (including 9.3kms for CIS)
- 8.9kms of roads were completed under the 2017 Local Improvement Scheme.

### **Additional Non-National Schemes which were progressed in 2018:**

- R150 Laytown to Bettystown Spine Road – CPO lodged with An Bord Pleanála, Oral Hearing held in December 2018
- LDR4 Abbeyland Navan - Emerging preferred route identified. Ecological surveys ongoing
- LIHAF - LDR6 Navan R153 to Ferganstown & Ballymacon – Detailed design being finalised and tender documents being prepared
- LIHAF - Ratoath Outer Relief Road Phase 1- Contractor to be appointed in Quarter 1 2019
- LDR1b – Preparation of preliminary design and Part 8 documentation at an advanced stage
- Consultants appointed to design junction upgrades on the R147 between Black Bull Roundabout and the Pace Interchange
- Preliminary design of traffic calming measures in Julianstown underway.

## Bridge Remedial Works

Remedial Works were carried out on the following bridges: Cusackstown Bridge, Fieldstown Bridge, Mary Magdelene Bridge, Snipes Bridge, Verdons Bridge, Bective Bridge, Derrinydaly Bridge and Moygaddy Bridge

## Safety Improvement Works

Safety Improvement Works have been carried out at McEntaggart's Cross junction of L1604 with L4603, Cusackstown Cross junction of L5053 with L1001, Cormeen junction of L2803 with R191, Clondoogan junction of L6210 with R156, Glascarn junction of L5020 with R155, R148 Enfield, Balreask Cross junction of L8010 with R161 and Batterjohn Big junction of L2207 with R154

Preliminary Designs of Traffic Calming Schemes on R162 in Kilberry, Wilkinstown and Lisnagrew are being advanced. Similarly a preliminary is being carried out design of traffic calming measures in Currageha, Batterstown and R154 Kiltale.



# Sustainable Transport Schemes

Work on the following schemes progressed in 2018:

- Boyneside Trail – Extensive environmental studies carried out and findings are being incorporated in the design
- Navan 2030 – Detailed design at an advanced stage. Pre-construction business stakeholder engagement has commenced tender process for Phase 1 commencing Qtr 1 2019
- Navan GDA Cycle Network – Part 8 process for Athlumney Road to Trim Road Cycle Scheme underway
- Ashbourne Cycle Network – Part 8 submissions for Milltown Rd completed and detailed design underway. Construction works for traffic calming scheme in Brindley Park/St. Johnswood Court underway
- Traffic calming measures constructed on R154 Dublin Road and Loman’s Street in Trim

- Works on the Cantilever Bridge on the Kentstown Road complete and the bridge was officially opened in November 2018



Opening of Cantilever Bridge, Navan, by the Mayor Cllr. Jim Holloway with Chief Executive Jackie Maguire.

## Coastal Protection Scheme for Laytown Beach

The Coastal Protection Scheme for Laytown Beach opened in December 2018.

The area was enhanced by removing existing grass verge and replacing with a bitumen footpath/street furniture thus allowing safe access for the pedestrians to have a panoramic view of the beach and sea behind the maritime railings.



Official opening of the coastal protection works for Laytown Beach by Minister of State, Kevin Moran T.D.

# 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. This is to be achieved through effective education, awareness, monitoring and enforcement of national and local legislation and policy.

## Environmental Education and Awareness Activities

In 2018, the Council engaged in a wide range of environmental education and awareness activities and supports including:

- Green Schools Initiatives including Green Schools Seminar on Litter and Waste, Water, Energy, Biodiversity, Global Citizenship. Workshops are provided to schools on a wide range of topics throughout the year. 36 Meath Schools were awarded Green Flags in 2018
- Grant for School Gardens through Local Agenda 21 Funding, on average 10 school gardens annually
- Tree Project for Schools – 65 Schools took part in 2018, learning how to plant and maintain trees, woodland planting at each school is planned for winter 2018/spring 2019
- Secondary Schools – The Really Rubbish Film Company, ECO UNESCO Young Environmentalists.
- Local Authority Prevention Network (LAPN) Funding acquired and project commenced with Ashbourne Community School focusing on sustainability – ‘What can you change’.
- Community Groups - Anti Litter League, Pride of Place, Tidy Towns, Dog Awareness and Behaviour Events.
- Litter Management Support from Meath County Council to Community and other groups in terms of equipment, collection of material.
- Comprehensive Anti Litter and Anti Dumping Campaign – Cinema, Radio, Billboards, Social Media - The Council spent €1.598m on litter control and prevention in 2018
- Anti-Dumping Initiatives – 5 Projects completed in 2018.
- Provision of signage across county – Litter, dumping, car litter, dog fouling
- Dedicated collection days for Old Toys, Mattresses, Household Hazardous Waste and Furniture Upcycling Workshops
- Stop Food Waste Events with Catherine Fulvio (March and November) and Food Waste Digester Project at Navan Recycling Centre
- Other Initiatives included: Dog Fouling Campaigns and use of Stencils, Signage, Gum Litter Task Force, 2 Minute Beach Clean Up, Keep Cups – Coffee Shops, Book Swaps etc.
- The adoption of revised Waste Presentation Bye-Laws giving additional powers to Local Authorities to target persistent offenders who do not have appropriate arrangements in place for waste disposal

# Waste and Litter Enforcement

The Council continues to investigate all illegal waste activities and instigate legal proceedings as appropriate with a significant number of successful prosecutions. The Council inspected and audited the operations of Waste Collector Permit holders and Waste Facility Permit Holders in the functional area including vehicles and premises.

In 2018 the environment Department dealt with in excess of 1400 litter and illegal dumping cases the majority of which were dealt with under the Litter Management legislation with the balance dealt with under the Waste Management Acts due to the nature and volumes of materials discovered on investigation .

## Anti Dumping Campaign

In 2018 in response to significant increases in the extent of illegal dumping and littering in high amenity areas across the County and including in Forests, Bogs , Dunes and lake the Council initiated a major campaign to discourage members of the public from giving their household waste to such operators (commonly known as Man with a Van) and to encourage members of the public to report and give evidence in respect of such practices.

The campaign which is ongoing, uses in particular social media platforms including Twitter, and Facebook, for it is mainly through such means that these unauthorised collectors advertise waste collection services at knockdown prices and with the materials collected (much of which is recyclable) being dumped under the cover of darkness. The summer of 2018 revealed the full extent of such illegal dumping in some of our high amenity areas such as bogs, forests and dunes where fires occurred due to the unusually high temperatures.

## Timoole Landfill Remediation

A contract for the remediation of the Timoole Landfill near Rathfeigh was signed in late 2017 and involved the removal of some 70,000 of illegally dumped waste in order to prevent environmental pollution brought about by gas, leachate, odours etc typically present in this type of landfill site. The waste was removed to the local Knockharley landfill. The project which was funded by the Department of Communication, Climate Action and Environment was completed ahead of schedule in April 2018, involved very significant levels of communications with local residents and other stakeholders.

## National Waste Enforcement Priorities for 2018

In accordance with national waste enforcement priorities identified by a National Waste Enforcement Steering Group, the following were the enforcement priorities for the Regional Lead Authorities and the constituent Local Authorities for 2018.

- Illegal Dumping including Construction and Demolition Waste
- Household and Commercial Waste Management Compliance
- Waste Tyres
- Unauthorised Sites of Concern which require a Multi Agency Response.

Coordination of works by the local authorities in respect of these priorities were undertaken by the Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authorities (WERLAs)

## Flooding

Following a period of public consultation in 2016 approval for the FRAMs was granted by the Government in April 2018 and including a proposal for a new scheme for Mornington to augment existing works and subject to project level assessment and planning may include physical works such as a series of hard defences (flood embankments and walls) at an estimated cost of €0.53m. The FRAMs provide for a new scheme in Drogheda but predominantly in Co Louth who will be taking the lead in this €16.83 project – some proposed hard defences are indicated for the Marsh Road part located in Co Meath.

In 2018 a flood relief schemes in the Northlands Estate in Bettystown was substantially complete at a cost of €2.5 million and work is ongoing on the Ashbourne Flood Alleviation Scheme.

## River Basin Management Plan 2018 -2021

The River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 was launched on the 17th April 2018 and outlines the measures the State and other sectors will take to improve water quality in Ireland's groundwater, rivers, lakes, estuarine and coastal waters over the next four years. The Plan in fulfilment of requirements under the Water Framework Directive (WFD) is to result in the protection and improvement of water quality in approximately 726 of Ireland's 4,829 water bodies over the next four years. The 726 water bodies including 9 in County Meath form part of a total of 190 Areas for Action, which have been prioritised nationally for particular attention during this cycle (2018–2021), and where a multidisciplinary and cross-agency approaches will be involved.

## 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 slipway on both the Boyne and the Blackwater, both of which are designated Special Areas of Conservation (SAC).

An Bord Pleanála in November 2018 approved the planning application and the Natura Impact Statement (NIS) for the provision of the slipways and construction of the access points The Consultants thereafter commenced the detailed design and procurement of Contractors for construction stage and with works scheduled to commence in summer 2019.

## Climate Change

In 2018 the Council prepared a draft Climate Action Strategy incorporating both mitigation and adaptation measures and fulfilling statutory obligations provided for in the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015. The vision of the plan is to make County Meath a climate ready region that supports jobs, growth and healthy lifestyles'. The draft plan when placed on public display elicited a significant number of submissions and a major focus is placed on facilitating as much engagement as possible with citizen stakeholders in implementing the measures contained therein.

The plan when adapted will facilitate the preparation of a Sustainable Energies and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) which will form part of the application for Membership of the EU Covenant of Mayors Scheme.

# Draft Beach Management Plan

A draft beach management plan was prepared in 2017 however in light of Conservation Objectives for the Nanny & Boyne Estuary SPA and the Boyne Coast & Estuary SAC and concerns that the original draft may pose a risk to the integrity of such sites a draft Natura Impact Statement (NIS) was prepared.

This is a statement prepared following Appropriate Assessment of Natura 2000 sites as required under the Habitats Directive and this together with the draft plan were placed on public display in late 2018.

Submissions and observations received during the display period to be considered by the Laytown Bettystown Municipal District members and any resulting changes to the Foreshore Bye Laws to go through the statutory process in 2019.



## Fire Service

Meath Fire and 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 and 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. The Training Plan delivered in 2018 included Swiftwater Rescue Technician/SRT training for water rescue and chainsaw operators training.

Specialised equipment and fleet are essential to service provision and ongoing procurement and maintenance form an important element of the annual budget provision. There was significant investment during 2018 in equipment, including crash rescue lifting bags for use at road based incidents. Call volumes increased during 2018, mainly due to the severe weather events, and the costs associated with responding to calls have increased.



## Health and Safety

Meath Fire and Rescue Service continues to work hard to provide and maintain an effective Health and Safety Management System and made the transition from OSHAS 18001 to ISO 45001 after a successful audit in August 2018. Meath Fire and Rescue Service is the first in the country to achieve the 45001 accreditation, an International Standard that specifies requirements for an occupational health and safety (OH&S) management system, with guidance for its use, to enable the fire service to proactively improve its OH&S performance in preventing injury and ill-health.

## Civil Defence

There are currently one hundred and eighty one active volunteer members in Civil Defence throughout the county. In addition to regular training activities in the eight training centres, 2018 was the busiest year to date with 206 duty event days covered throughout the county, providing assistance to the emergency services and local communities.

The Civil Defence Branch issued the organisation with new underwater sonar equipment to assist in water search operations and Drone technology for aerial assistance on land and water searches. A number of volunteers have been trained in the operation of this vital equipment.

Work commenced on the clearing and preparation of the site for the proposed new training and operational facility for the organisation on the Mullaghboy Industrial Estate. Architects were appointed and building design and layout was prepared and agreed in preparation for the building tendering process.

# Water Services

In 2018, Meath County Council completed the 5<sup>th</sup> 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 2018 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 2018, 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

<b>Strategic Objective</b>	Deliver Excellent Services
<b>Supporting Strategies</b>	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
<b>Strategic Objective</b>	Lead Economic Development
<b>Supporting Strategies</b>	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
<b>Strategic Objective</b>	Build Strong, Influential Partnerships
<b>Supporting Strategies</b>	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.
<b>Strategic Objective</b>	Engage the Larger Community
<b>Supporting Strategies</b>	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.

<b>Strategic Objective</b>	Nurture a Staff Excellence Culture
<b>Supporting Strategies</b>	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.
<b>Strategic Objective</b>	Develop System and Process Capability
<b>Supporting Strategy</b>	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 2018

Service Area	Economic Development
<b>Strategic Actions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operate as the lead agency for economic development and be recognised as the first point of contact for economic development in Meath.</li> <li>• Be seen as positive, professional and helpful by the business community, using resources to attract, retain and support business.</li> <li>• Build strong influential partnerships with other agencies nationally and locally in order to promote Meath as the investment location of choice.</li> <li>• Develop Meath and the Boyne Valley as 'must go to' destinations in national and international tourism.</li> <li>• Support the retail sector in key locations so it may be in a position to fulfil its true potential and reduce retail leakage from the county.</li> <li>• Work towards a thriving and sustainable rural economy.</li> </ul>
<b>Key Achievements 2018</b>	
<p><u>Economic Development:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New branded materials used at all promotional events, including trade shows and internal promotions.</li> <li>• Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn used extensively to promote both the Local Enterprise Office and the Make It Meath website. Considerable traction visible across all platforms, e.g. in excess of 30,000 visitors in one week.</li> <li>• Monthly events with Meath Chamber took place with formal arrangements, including joint branding, in place regarding Women in Business and Brexit events.</li> <li>• Annual business awards held in November in conjunction with local media outlets.</li> <li>• Training for retailers completed in conjunction with REI and Louth LEO.</li> <li>• Eight SYOB courses held in 2018, with large rural promotion.</li> <li>• Approximately 30% of start-up grants went to rural based companies.</li> <li>• New Food Development Officer appointed.</li> <li>• 51 events organised during the 2018 Boyne Valley Food Series, with 56 small food producers members of the Discover Boyne Valley producers.</li> <li>• One “Harvest 2020” event held in conjunction with IFA and Forbairt.</li> </ul> <p><u>Tourism:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoted the Boyne Valley at 15 promotional shows throughout the year, targeting 1 million consumers;</li> <li>• Raised the profile of the Boyne Valley internationally at the world’s largest tourism show in Germany in addition to digital marketing, targeting France, Germany, UK and US;</li> <li>• Implemented 6 customer care training days in advance of the Fleadh;</li> <li>• 11 networking events held during the year for the tourism trade while 4 trade ezines to share information and learnings;</li> <li>• Carried out a press visit of international journalists with the result that 6 features were written in international newspapers and blogs.</li> <li>• Developed new packages with the trade which were pitched to tour operators.</li> <li>• Completed the Kells Courthouse Exhibition and opened the new tourist office in 2018.</li> <li>• Organised the Spirits of Meath Festival, now in its tenth year, and are working with Fáilte Ireland to develop the festival under the Ireland's Ancient East Brand Proposition.</li> <li>• Held a 2 day familiarisation trip of the Boyne Valley whereby the Fáilte Ireland publicity team attended.</li> </ul> <p>Attended the Ireland's Ancient East section of the international tour operator workshops Meitheal organised by Fáilte Ireland and pitched Boyne Valley packages to tour operators.</p>	

Service Area	Planning and Heritage
<b>Strategic Actions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide an excellent planning service.</li> <li>• Deal with all planning applications and building control consent applications from our customers in a professional, consistent, fair and transparent way.</li> <li>• Provide an excellent planning service to our key stakeholders including DoECLG, Regional Authority, Transport Infrastructure Ireland, National Transport Authority, Irish Water.</li> <li>• Deal promptly, consistently and fairly with all planning enforcement issues and complaints.</li> <li>• Manage and protect our heritage and promote the understanding and enjoyment of it.</li> </ul>
<b>Key Achievements 2018</b>	
<p><u>Planning:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meath County Development Plan 2013-2019 varied. (Variation 4)</li> <li>• Online facilities used for public consultation.</li> <li>• Progress made in identifying appropriate lands in key areas as per the legislation relating to Vacant Sites.</li> <li>• Public Realm Plan prepared.</li> <li>• Submissions made for various regional strategies.</li> <li>• Development Contribution Scheme reviewed, amended and adopted.</li> <li>• Pre-planning clinics streamlined and prioritised by offering over the phone/email advice.</li> </ul> <p><u>Heritage:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 4 work programme of the County Meath Heritage Plan 2015-2020 and County Meath Biodiversity Action Plan 2015-2020 delivered including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Meath Heritage Awareness Programme 2018;</li> <li>○ Heritage Week 2018 – seminar and over 80 events held;</li> <li>○ Boyne Valley Natural History Field Club – 5 events;</li> <li>○ Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2018 – 27 projects supported;</li> <li>○ Supported implementation of 7 Community Biodiversity Plans.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Programme of 35 community events delivered through Black Friary Community Heritage Project.</li> <li>• Medieval Family Open Day .</li> <li>• Community Dig completed on Monastic Garden with 64 participants.</li> <li>• Interpretation and Access (Audience) Plan prepared for Black Friary.</li> <li>• Ongoing post-ex programme delivered.</li> <li>• Two international collaboration developed - Italy and US.</li> <li>• Culture and Creativity Strategy 2018 – 2022 published.</li> <li>• All Ireland Pollinator Workshop for Local Authority Community Biodiversity Workshop - Pollinator and Citizen Science</li> <li>• 8 school and community workshops held on Biodiversity – Rathcairn (x3), Julianstown, Slane, Stamullen, Ratoath and Longwood</li> <li>• European Year of Cultural Heritage – 2 projects completed: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Passage tombs and their cultural landscapes of Atlantic Europe – making connections – digital project complete;</li> <li>2. Peat crossing borderlines project. Peat crossing borderlines project.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	

Service Area	Community
<b>Strategic Actions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be recognised as the prime agency for Community Development in Meath. Promote well-being for present and future generations.</li> <li>• Provide an excellent Arts Service and promote and develop increased access to, awareness of, and participation in the Arts across all sectors of the community.</li> <li>• Be the key provider of life-long learning facilities delivering literary, social and cultural services for the community by way of the Library Service.</li> </ul>
<b>Key Achievements 2018</b>	
<p><u>Community:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continued to support and facilitate the LCDC, with monthly meetings held.</li> <li>• All 2018 actions from the Local Economic &amp; Community Plan delivered by each of the partner agencies.</li> <li>• 2018 SICAP targets successfully delivered.</li> <li>• Consultants appointed to prepare joint migrant integration strategy with Louth County Council.</li> <li>• Access Officer appointed to work on disability issues and committees.</li> <li>• 24 Leader projects approved by the LAG with 6 project claims paid out.</li> <li>• PPN plenaries held in May and December, with 10 Secretariat meetings held and work plan achieved.</li> <li>• All local authority consultations published on PPN website and a weekly newsletter circulated to all PPN groups.</li> <li>• Walkability audits undertaken in Trim, Kells and Slane under the Meath Age Friendly Alliance.</li> <li>• Contractor appointed to oversee a programme of initiatives for young people.</li> <li>• Comhairle na nÓg AGM held in October, with an ongoing programme of projects being advanced.</li> <li>• Increased use of the Unity Centre achieved.</li> <li>• Consultant appointed to prepare a Healthy Meath Strategy, to include play.</li> <li>• Lobinstown and Ballivor playgrounds completed with site for Johnstown identified.</li> <li>• Completed preparation of Part 8 for changing facilities in Blackwater Park.</li> <li>• Consultants appointed for Zone 4 of Ashbourne Linear Park.</li> <li>• Soccer facilities at Athboy Cowplot handed over to Athboy Celtic.</li> <li>• Community Grants Scheme reviewed, amended and implemented.</li> <li>• Pride of Place scheme reviewed and implemented.</li> <li>• Quarterly meetings of the JPC with a public meeting held in October.</li> </ul> <p><u>Arts:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth, Schools, Community and Toradh Gallery programmes successfully implemented.</li> <li>• Act Out Youth Theatre programme facilitated.</li> <li>• Festival programme devised and implemented, with festival partner working strategies strengthened.</li> <li>• Arts Grants and awards schemes successfully implemented – 54 awards made across 9 schemes. Two new awards introduced including International Residency Award in partnership with Centre Cultural Irlandais, Paris.</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> stage Training Notes Music in an Healthcare setting Training successfully delivered.</li> <li>• FEACH CPD programmes successfully implemented.</li> <li>• Creative Ireland 5 Year Culture Strategy completed.</li> <li>• Pucas and Potions Children’s Halloween Arts Festival programmed, managed and delivered at various locations across the county. Over 700 primary school children took part in these events.</li> </ul>	

- 2018 international commission, exchange, performance and residency programme successfully implemented. Ettie residency devised and implemented culminating in performance at Smock Alley in January, Me & Molly & Moo new children theatre and music commission completed and produced with the support of Creative Ireland and the Arts Council.
- Provision of workspace for artists and increased cultural infrastructure identified, planned for and funding applications to support the development of same made.

**Library:**

- My Open Library brought to commissioning stage and due to open in 2019.
- RFID rolled out in line with building works schedule.
- Healthy Ireland at your Library rolled out.
- Secured ICT funding to develop libraries as digital learning centres.
- 4 major publications produced.
- Decade of centenaries support through research and events.
- Linked with Right to Read and Education Centre programmes – Right to Read accreditation received from the department for programme of activities.
- Library programmes developed in line with national plan, issued in 2018.
- Ashbourne and Athboy libraries upgraded, with works in Kells commenced.
- 5 year cultural strategy produced.
- 2018 Creative Ireland Meath programme devised and administered.
- Dunboyne, Trim and Duleek libraries added to the Work Matters pilot.

Service Area	Housing
<b>Strategic Actions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximise all available opportunities to provide accommodation and housing support to those most in need.</li> <li>• Actively promote a balanced housing policy with social inclusion a key component of this strategy.</li> <li>• Respond to maintenance of our housing stock by meeting the defined time targets outlined in our Service Level Agreement.</li> <li>• Operate a highly efficient, transparent and fair process for the allocation of housing and housing supports.</li> </ul>
<b>Key Achievements 2018</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meath’s Rebuilding Ireland 2018 Capital Delivery Target (326 units) was exceeded, with the delivery of 413 units, equating to a monetary value of €91,240,243.</li> <li>• 102 units were acquired on the open market at a total cost of €22,771, 525.</li> <li>• The Athboy (32 units) and Proudstown Road, Navan (4 units) direct construction projects were completed.</li> <li>• Kells (40 units) and Bettystown Phase 2 (15 units) progressed to construction stage, with a further 16 projects at various stages (342 units).</li> <li>• 105 units were subject to Phase 1 Energy Upgrade works, with Phase 1 works completed on 1,861 units under this energy efficiency programme to date (€3,172,365).</li> <li>• 52 projects were completed under the Local Authority Adaptation Works Scheme with a total expenditure of €454,083.</li> <li>• The budget approval from the Department for Alverno Court was increased from €3,458,329 to €4,150,329, with self funding to be provided and individual surveys on units completed by Design Team in preparation of tender documents.</li> </ul>	

- Works were completed on 75 pre-let properties.
- All suitable sites within landbank are now subject to a direct construction project.
- Acquisition process regarding the Department of Education site in Ashbourne was progressed.
- Open call for proposals regarding the supply of development sites or completed housing schemes for social housing is in place.
- Meath Vacant Homes Action Plan developed, with a survey of vacant units commenced.
- 19 units purchased under the Buy & Renew Scheme.
- A total of 301 grant applications for the Mobility Aid Grants, Housing Aid for Older People and People with a Disability approved, at a value of €2,307,794.
- 95 Part V units delivered.
- 5,365 repair requests received during the year, with the response maintenance and preventative maintenance programmes ongoing.
- 179 casual vacancies allocated.
- 12 new RAS tenancies and 755 HAP tenancies created.
- Ongoing liaison with Approved Housing Bodies, with 222 new units operationalised during the year, with a further 181 units at approved stage.
- 13 Mortgage to Rent approved applications were operationalised.
- Detailed analysis of Social Housing Waiting List undertaken to determine need and inform future planning.
- 45 applicants with a disability were allocated a social house, representing 11% of all allocations for the period.
- 183 households required an emergency accommodation placement during the year, with 130 households exiting emergency accommodation during same period.
- Homeless HAP supported 78 households in preventing homelessness.
- A second support shared house emergency accommodation unit for individuals (4) became operational in 2018, in conjunction with the Simon Community. A supported shared house emergency accommodation unit for families (3) also became operational through the Peter McVerry Trust.
- Targets contained within the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014-2018 have been achieved to date.
- Part 8 documents advanced based on consultations with residents of St. Francis Park.
- 340 ASB complaints received, equating to 198 cases that required investigation, of which 148 cases were closed in 2018.
- Pre-tenancy training completed with all new tenancies.
- 21 families were resettled in Meath during 2018 (72 persons) under the Resettlement Programme.
- 414 private rented dwellings were inspected during the year.

Service Area	Transportation
<b>Strategic Actions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver a works programme for regional &amp; local roads which is cost effective and results in an improved road network.</li> <li>• Deliver the objectives of the Economic Development Strategy in relation to a first rate multi-modal transport infrastructure.</li> <li>• Lead all aspects of transport policy particularly in relation to sustainable transport.</li> </ul>
<b>Key Achievements 2018</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full road condition survey completed.</li> <li>• New 3 year programme adopted and submitted to department for 2019 – 2021.</li> </ul>	

- SMDW adopted for each municipal district with weekly updates provided.
- Ongoing public engagement on website and social media regarding large scale works.
- Capital programme applications made under URDF, RRDF and Greenway Strategy.
- Capital appraisal submitted for N2 Rath to Kilmoon – commitment received from TII for funding to progress to design stage.
- Draft capital appraisals submitted for Julianstown, R162 Kilberry and R155 Curragha.
- CPO confirmed for N51 Dunmoe and design and works continuing on N52.
- Development of cycleways progressed in Ratoath, Ashbourne, Navan and other urban areas.
- New contract in place for the enforcement of paid parking, resulting in increased compliance.
- Winter maintenance programme reviewed and updated.
- Public lighting outage process streamlined with programme of capital works agreed and progressed.
- Programme of Risk Mitigation works across the Municipal Districts commenced in the form of Footpath Improvements.
- Roundabout Sponsorship Scheme commenced
- Slane Bypass Route Selection progressed
- R150 Laytown – Bettystown Spine Road CPO progressed and Oral Hearing held
- Local Distributor Roads/LIHAF schemes in Navan and Ratoath progressing

Service Area	Environment, Water Services, Fire and Emergency Services
<b>Strategic Actions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be the most competent and efficient authority in the Irish Water regional structure in terms of delivery of objectives identified in multi-annual &amp; annual service plans.</li> <li>• Actively involve communities &amp; citizens in promoting and maintaining a green and sustainable environment.</li> <li>• Influence policies and work within the reconfigured regions with respect to the delivery of Waste and Water Framework Directives.</li> <li>• Provide an excellent and efficient Fire Operations &amp; Prevention Service.</li> </ul>
<b>Key Achievements 2018</b>	
<p><u>Environment:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Five number locations where regular dumping occurred cleaned up in association with local Community Groups and measures put in place to prevent re-occurrences under the department funded Anti Dumping Initiative.</li> <li>• Various supports given to Tidy Towns and other groups involved in environmental activity.</li> <li>• Various waste prevention initiatives held involving local businesses including furniture upcycling workshops, dedicated collection days for old toys, mattresses, etc., ‘Green’ and sustainable businesses promoted and ‘green’ procurement prioritised.</li> <li>• Community clean ups in various locations resulting in significant amounts of litter being removed from public areas.</li> <li>• Numbers participating in the Really Rubbish Film Festival continues to grow.</li> <li>• Ongoing education and awareness campaigns discourage food waste – Stop Food Waste events with Catherine Fulvio held in March and November.</li> <li>• A major campaign initiated which seeks to discourage households from giving their waste to Man in the Van type individuals who are operating without the necessary waste collection permits and who regularly dump the waste in scenic locations around the County.</li> </ul>	



- Education and awareness promotion on social media encouraging the non-purchase and non-use of single use items with in-house initiatives undertaken.
- Participated in a number of dog control awareness days, with social media promotion of responsible dog ownership and the dangers of dog fouling.
- Planning approval granted by An Bord Pleanála for the provision of slipways on the Rivers Boyne and Blackwater, with consultants appointed to prepare the detailed design and construction tender documentation.
- Draft Beach Management Plan and Natura Impact Statement for the designated coastal area placed on public display and submissions considered.
- Works on flood alleviation works at Northlands, Bettystown substantially completed, with agreements reached with all affected property owners in Ashbourne.
- Flood Risk Management Plan announced in April 2018, including schemes in Mornington and Drogheda (mostly Louth).
- Enforcement action initiated in a number of cases against retailers involved in the sale of smokey coal.
- Details of illegal landfill sites submitted to the Regional Waste Management Plan Office.
- Inspections carried out based on targets set out in the RMCEI report sent to the EPA.
- The River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 was launched in April, with inspections of farms and industrial outlets carried out to identify pollution sources.
- A draft Climate Action Strategy was published, with a number of in-house climate change initiatives undertaken and promotion across social media.

#### Water Services:

- Water Services programme effectively and efficiently delivered below budget and in line with IW Annual Service Plan (ASP), with Quarterly Performance Score of more than 90% throughout 2018.
- Substantial further capital investment secured facilitating the continued development and growth of Meath, with over 75 capital projects totalling over €200m being progressed at year end.
- Achieved in excess of 85% Quarterly Performance Score relating to Customer Service.
- High levels of Drinking Water Quality Compliance achieved, including Private Drinking Water Supplies.
- Consistently high levels of Wastewater Treatment compliance.
- Exceeded target with over 1.2Ml/day recorded reduction in Unaccounted For Water.
- 304 Planning referrals assessed and reported upon and 329 separate storm water reports produced for Planning Department; 86 Pre-Connections Enquiries assessed and reported on and 377 new connection applications processed.
- 45 Taking In Charge applications processed.
- 277 Well grant applications received and processed.
- Substantial upgrade works undertaken at Meath Hill and Kiltale Group Water Schemes.

#### Fire Services:

- Full operational response maintained including all severe weather events to meet statutory functions
- Investment in fleet and equipment continued with significant station maintenance improvements and health and safety issues addressed at station level
- New Class B standard firefighting appliance ordered and funding secured for two new 4 x 4 crew-cab pickup trucks
- Commencement of capital works project to upgrade Dunshaughlin Fire Station
- Community fire safety initiatives completed, including schools programme and social media campaigns for Fire Safety Week
- Continued participation in traveller programme working group with Home Fire Safety Checks in Local Traveller Accommodation Schemes completed and halting sites reviewed
- Inspection programme carried out for annual licensing courts and notices served under the Fire Services Act on potentially dangerous buildings
- To aid fire prevention all complaints received investigated and inspections undertaken as required
- Fire Safety Certificate applications and planning referrals processed and advice provided as required on meeting fire safety requirements of Building Regulations

- All preparatory work for transition to Tetra based communications completed
- Further Pre Incident Planning completed at critical sites, including Tara Mines
- Participated in all regional major emergency planning and preparedness
- Training plan for year completed with some enhancements to ensure appropriate competency for all fire service staff.
- Successful migration and certification to ISO 45001:2018 for Meath Fire Service ensuring an excellent Occupational Health and Safety Management System is in place.

Civil Defence & Emergency Services:

- Civil Defence strength maintained at 200 active volunteers.
- Multi-discipline training and qualification programme provided for volunteers.
- Implemented full Health & safety standards and Child Protection Policy.
- Targeted under strength training units with recruitment undertaken.
- Responded to calls from the Principal Emergency Services, including storm response.
- Provided community support at 206 event days.
- Commenced tendering process for new training and storage premises.
- Fleet expanded, including vehicles and drones.
- Interagency training held as part of the major emergency planning response.
- Oil Pollution Officer leading the regional approach.

Service Area	Finance
<b>Strategic Actions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop future financial plans and budgets based on a transparent funding scheme with predetermined criteria including exploring new funding streams, maximising income and achieving value for money. Work towards significantly reducing financial exposure.</li> <li>• Work in ways that realise better and more efficient services for customers, staff and stakeholders.</li> <li>• Ensure that procurement is embedded within the culture of the organisation and provides a predictable procurement process that is operated professionally, which mitigates against risk, ensures compliance and delivers value for money.</li> </ul>
<b>Key Achievements 2018</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revenue collection rates – targets achieved and continuously reviewed.</li> <li>• Balanced budget achieved and 2019 budget approved.</li> <li>• Increased levels of online motor tax transactions.</li> <li>• Internal Audit Work Programme delivered.</li> <li>• Ongoing review of procurement compliance.</li> </ul>	

Service Area	Information Technology
<b>Strategic Actions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Embed information as a core asset of the organisation which is valued and maintained accordingly, and is easily accessible to support decision making at all levels.</li> <li>• Support core business processes with integrated software systems that are prioritised on the basis of delivering our strategic objectives.</li> <li>• Ensure information and services are readily accessible to customers via the most appropriate channels.</li> </ul>
<b>Key Achievements 2018</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Buvinda House – all remaining snags and configurations completed.</li> <li>• Web conference facilities installed in Ashbourne Civic Offices.</li> <li>• Proactive replacement of key system hardware for network and phone systems completed.</li> <li>• Planning for our exit from the LGMA National Forest and the complete upgrade of our Microsoft environment continued, and we entered the Microsoft Enterprise Agreement through the LGMA.</li> <li>• Information Security Committee established.</li> <li>• Ongoing security awareness campaigns and review of security policies.</li> <li>• Tender to replace crucial security hardware and implement new security response systems awarded.</li> <li>• SugarCRM v1.5 upgrade completed.</li> <li>• The complete redesign of the <a href="http://www.meath.ie">www.meath.ie</a> website was substantially completed. 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 digital online service channels for customers.</li> <li>• Key initiatives were undertaken to implement appropriate mobile platforms to allow mobile inspections by Housing and Environment.</li> <li>• Our online consultation portal was been used to accept submissions on numerous public consultations during 2018.</li> <li>• Key initiatives were undertaken to implement appropriate data analytics platforms with a number of projects initiated to support timely decision making across the Council.</li> <li>• We also participated in collaboration with Cavan, Leitrim, Longford, Louth and Monaghan County Councils in the preparation of the requirements and specifications for the provision and installation of a new Geographical Information Systems Platform.</li> </ul>	

Service Area	Human Resources
<b>Strategic Actions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to develop human resource requirements based on a comprehensive Workforce Planning model.</li> <li>• Ensure that all staff fully understand how their individual roles contribute to improving the quality of life for current and future stakeholders.</li> <li>• Support staff with the information, training and technology needed to perform their roles.</li> <li>• Work towards being an employer of choice.</li> </ul>

## Key Achievements 2018

- Staff recruitment, retention and mobility ongoing in order to meet business area requirements.
- Continued workforce planning in terms of planned and foreseeable requirements.
- Continued work with national local authority HR initiatives so as to ensure Councils are effectively promoted as an employer of choice.
- Training & development in line with PMDS requirements, health & safety, specific subject matter areas, and CPD process.
- Successful CPD reaccreditation process resulting in continued linkage with Engineers Ireland.
- Initial scoping into mentoring/coaching programme for new staff.
- Continued employee engagement and management of industrial relations.
- Series of staff wellbeing initiatives rolled out.
- New employee support service introduced.
- Policies & procedures updated in line with legal requirements.
- Customer Service and Operations model fully implemented with ongoing periodic review and development.

Service Area	Corporate Services
<b>Strategic Actions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strive to understand and deliver on the expectations of our customers, partners and suppliers. Ensure that citizens and customers have a high degree of awareness of our services.</li> <li>• Further develop our relationships with key stakeholders, including Government Departments, in order that we may influence future strategies.</li> <li>• Continue to be a transparent and reputable organisation, operating to the highest standards particularly in the areas of professionalism, conduct, behaviour and fairness.</li> <li>• Optimise the use of our assets for the benefit of the organisation and the community.</li> <li>• Consolidate a safety &amp; health culture as a core value of the organisation through the implementation of our Safety Management System.</li> </ul>
<b>Key Achievements 2018</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All statutory and special meetings held, including 78 municipal district meetings.</li> <li>• Implemented the requirements of GDPR, including the provision of training.</li> <li>• New communications strategy agreed</li> <li>• Total number of pageviews for meath.ie was 1,475,347.</li> <li>• 8,004 Twitter followers and 11,789 Facebook followers.</li> <li>• Risk Management Policy reviewed, with management and staff training provided.</li> <li>• 2017 Annual Report published and 2018 Service Delivery Plan adopted.</li> <li>• Municipal District Allocation Scheme – 2017 Annual Report prepared and 2018 Protocol adopted; 580 allocations processed, totalling €492,404.25 allocated throughout the county.</li> <li>• Sugar CRM expanded for use as asset register, with over 200 files recorded.</li> <li>• A full and comprehensive list of plant and equipment requiring statutory inspections completed.</li> <li>• New countywide contracts implemented for pest control, lift maintenance, fire equipment, alarm and CCTV monitoring and repair.</li> <li>• Health &amp; Safety risk assessments completed and updated, as required.</li> <li>• OSH Inspections and Audits undertaken.</li> </ul>	

**Metrics:**

No.	Department	Economic Development and Enterprise				
	Metric	2015	2016	2017	2018	
1	Number of clients met in the Council's Local Enterprise Office	372	444	489	306	
2	Number of training courses	24	38	16	46	
3	Number of participants on courses	460	427	144	894	
4	Number of Mentoring Assignments	28	77	160	120	
5	Number of Mentoring Clinics	12	152	12	186	
6	Total Value of Enterprise Grants approved	€285,322	€293,998	€438,299	€541,611	
7	Total Value of Grants paid	€166,085	€177,278	€294,849	€279,469	
8	Total number of Jobs Associated with Funding	64.5	81.5	56.5	95	

No.	Department	Planning & Heritage				
	Metric	2015	2016	2017	2018	
1	Delivering decisions in the statutory timeframe	100%	100%	100%	100%	
2	Number of Development Plans & Local Area Plans in place & reviewed in a timely manner	0	0	1	1	
3	Number and % of decisions upheld by An Bord Pleanála	30 / 73%	39 / 76%	43/84%	25/54%	
4	Number of submissions to Development Plans	0	0	9	9	
5	Number of enforcement complaints initiated	310	427	394	365	
6	Number of prosecutions initiated	17	13	20	9	
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	32	
8	Achievement of heritage objectives in the Meath County Development Plan	25	27	27	27	

No.	Department	Community, Arts & Library Service			
	Metric	2015	2016	2017	2018
1	Number of community groups registered & participating in the Public Participation Network	371	441	530	610
2	Annual level of community funding in Meath	€207,050	192,815	€190,860	€191,685
3	Number of communities engaging in Council assisted initiatives	642	682	721	685
4	Devise and complete online County Arts Development Plan Survey	Complete	N/A	N/A	N/A
5	Preparation of Library Development Plan Actions	1	1	1	1
6	Total number of Library visits	793,582	782,306	633,250	615,826
7	Total number of items issued	556,439	526,218	384,002	414,428

**COMMENTS:** No 6 – Programming major events in third party venues.

No.	Department	Housing			
	Metric	2015	2016	2017	2018
1	Total number of tenants accommodated (casual vacancies /RAS/HAP/AHBs)	181	786	1191	1168
2	Number of vacant houses returned to stock	118	97	109	75
3	Turnaround time to availability (average pre let re-letting time)	16 weeks	20.9 wks	24.5 wks	25.6 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	0

**COMMENT:**

Point No. 1

- Casual Vacancies – 179, RAS – 12, HAP – 755 AHBs – 222

Point No. 2

- % of total number of units vacant within housing stock at year end – 2.3%



**Point No. 4**

- Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014-2018 – Targets achieved. Design for St Francis Park Halting Site refurbishment scheme agreed with residents
- 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. Offer zone analysis completed for those applicants with a household member with a disability in order to allow for forward planning
- 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	
1	% of Regional-Roads in Road Pavement Condition Survey Category 1-6	18.8%	16%	16%	15.3%	
2	% of Local Roads in Road Pavement Condition Survey Category 1-6	43.9%	41%	37.11%	36%	
3	Kms of Regional Road strengthened during year using RI grants	18.53km	8.42km	11.3km	19.8km	
4	Kms of Regional Road resealed during year using RM grants.	13.68km	17.7km	19.6km	15.8km	
5	Lengths of cycle tracks provided	1300m	0	19 km	2.7km	
6	Number of Projects in Planning/Construction:					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National – Major</li> </ul>	3	2	2	2	

	• National – Pavement and Minor Works	3	3	10	11	
	• Regional and Local – Bridge Rehabilitation	11	8	7	7	
	• Regional and Local – Low Cost Safety Improvement	6	7	7	6	
	• Regional and Local – Community Involvement Schemes	16	11	17	14	
	• Regional and Local – New Schemes	2	1	5	5	
	• Sustainable Transport NTA funded schemes	14	17	15	11	
	• Meath County Council Own Funded Schemes	9	9	23	22	

No.	Department	Environment, Water & Emergency Services					
	Metric	2015	2016	2017	2018		
1	Irish Water balanced scorecard	92%	90%	92%	91%		
2	Increased business potential based on performance	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
3	Numbers of community groups involved in Anti-Litter Initiatives & Clean Up Activities *	598	258	558	294 (excludes Pride of Place figures)		
4	Number of visits to Meath recycling centres	14,047	17,246	45,733	52,610		
5	Number of sections for roads sponsored by community or business **	29	35	30	N/A		
6	Number of incidents of illegal waste/water pollution	1,252	2,254	2,975	2,096		
7	Compliance with targets for the county with respect to East & Midland Region Waste Management Plan & River Basin Management Plan	Yes	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	N/A	
10	Achieving objectives of Keeping Communities Safe document	Achieved	Achieved – ongoing process	Achieved – ongoing process	See below ***	

**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.

\*\*\* Metric No. 10 - Progress on Keeping Communities Safe has stalled at national level and progress at local level is dependent on Industrial Relations issues being resolved as is the case with all fire authorities.

No.	Department	Finance			
	Metric	2015	2016	2017	2018
1	Rates Collection %	85%	89%	92%	93%
2	Rents & Annuities Collection %	86%	87%	89%	89%
3	Housing Loans Collection %	66%	67%	67%	73%

4	Revenue Expenditure € million	96.5	101.9	104.2	116.9
5	Revenue Expenditure per capita € (population in Meath)	€524	522	534	599
6	Current Ratio (Current Assets : Current Liabilities)	2.31	2.78	2.80	3.33
7	Revenue Account Balance € million (+Surplus / -Deficit)	-2.89	-2.49	-1.29	-0.95

No.	Department	Information Technology			
	Metric	2015	2016	2017	2018
1	Printing costs – monochrome v colour (Percentage)	38%	40%	44%	49%
2	Percentage of incidents resolved within agreed SLA	82%	73%	72%	76%
3	Availability uptime of ICT service to users	99.99%	99.98%	99.85%	99.98%
4	Senior Management Satisfaction index	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
5	End User satisfaction index	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

No.	Department	Human Resources				
	Metric	2015	2016	2017	2018	
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.	As per 2017 – 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.	75% of PDPs completed with 60% of Mid – Year Reviews and 62 of% End of Year Evaluations	
3	Assessment of average PDP ratings in terms of staff competency	Assessment of ratings completed	68%	Currently under review.	Review of ratings completed	

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.	Age profile of overall staff cohort reviewed on periodic basis.	
5	Analysis & assessment of skills audit	In progress	Delivery of training gaps in progress.	Delivery of training gaps in progress.	Continued delivery of training as required.	
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.	Training requirements across all business areas under periodic 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.	1,921 applications for all posts/grades advertised in 2018 (incl. <u>processed</u> 755 Clerical Officer applications out of an initial 1,491)
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.	Staff exit survey process in place in order to ascertain this information.

No.	Department	Corporate Services				
	Metric	2015	2016	2017	2018	
1	Number of customer surveys carried out including analysis of the results	1 Drogheda Boundary Review	0	0	0	



2	Number of formal complaints received and responses issued.	4	24	13	25
3	Number of applications & payment facilities available electronically	1	16	16	16
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	4
5	Number of complaints received, statutory investigations initiated & formal returns made	9	10	7	19
6	Media coverage press releases	21	23	20	18
7	Social Media followers	7,391	10,608	14,657	19,034
8a	Health & Safety - Number of accidents	20	7	5	26
8b	Health & Safety - Number of incidents	14	72	76	29
8c	Health & Safety - Number of near misses	28	26	20	21

# Appendix 1 - Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) Members

## Environmental Services SPC

<b>Cllr. Tommy Reilly Chair</b>	<b>Cllr. Navan MD</b>
<b>Cllr. Joe Bonner</b>	<b>Cllr. Ashbourne MD</b>
<b>Cllr. Francis Deane</b>	<b>Cllr. Navan MD</b>
<b>Cllr. Eimear Ferguson</b>	<b>Cllr. Laytown/Bettystown MD</b>
<b>Cllr. Wayne Forde</b>	<b>Cllr. Navan MD</b>
<b>Cllr. Michael Gallagher</b>	<b>Cllr. Kells MD</b>
<b>Cllr. Wayne Harding</b>	<b>Cllr. Laytown/Bettystown MD</b>
<b>Cllr. Suzanne Jamal</b>	<b>Cllr. Ashbourne MD</b>
<b>Cllr. Claire O'Driscoll</b>	<b>Cllr. Ashbourne MD</b>
<b>Cllr. Sharon Tolan</b>	<b>Cllr. Laytown/Bettystown MD</b>
<b>Karen Mahon</b>	<b>Environmental – Pillar</b>
<b>Thomas Rogers</b>	<b>Community/Voluntary – Pillar</b>
<b>Peter Farrelly</b>	<b>Agriculture/Farming – Pillar</b>
<b>Bill Sweeney</b>	<b>Business/Commercial – Pillar</b>
<b>Val Reilly</b>	<b>Trade Union - Pillar</b>

# Transportation SPC

<b>Clr. Paddy Meade Chair</b>	<b>Clr. Laytown/Bettystown MD</b>
<b>Clr. Eugene Cassidy</b>	<b>Clr. Kells MD</b>
<b>Clr. Sean Drew</b>	<b>Clr. Kells MD</b>
<b>Clr. Enda Flynn</b>	<b>Clr. Trim MD</b>
<b>Clr. David Gilroy</b>	<b>Clr. Kells MD</b>
<b>Clr. Johnny Guirke</b>	<b>Clr. Kells MD</b>
<b>Clr. Jim Holloway</b>	<b>Clr. Navan MD</b>
<b>Clr. Gerry O'Connor</b>	<b>Clr. Ratoath MD</b>
<b>Clr. Bryan Reilly</b>	<b>Clr. Kells MD</b>
<b>Clr. Seán Smith (Jan-Sept)</b>	<b>Clr. Ashboune MD</b>
<b>Ben Bailey</b>	<b>Community/Voluntary - Pillar</b>
<b>Geoffrey Clarke (July - December)</b>	<b>Environmental/Conservation – Pillar</b>
<b>Peter Farrelly</b>	<b>Agriculture/Farming – Pillar</b>
<b>Sean Boyle</b>	<b>Business/Commercial – Pillar</b>
<b>John Fitzgerald</b>	<b>Development/Construction - Pillar</b>

# Planning Economic Development and Enterprise SPC

<b>Cllr. Alan Tobin, Chair</b>	<b>Cllr. Ashbourne MD</b>
<b>Cllr. Joe Fox, Chair</b>	<b>Cllr. Trim MD</b>
<b>Cllr. Brian Fitzgerald</b>	<b>Cllr. Ratoath MD</b>
<b>Cllr. Noel French</b>	<b>Cllr. Trim MD</b>
<b>Cllr. Trevor Golden</b>	<b>Cllr. Trim MD</b>
<b>Cllr. Tom Kelly</b>	<b>Cllr. Laytown/Bettystown MD</b>
<b>Cllr. Ronan McKenna</b>	<b>Cllr. Trim MD</b>
<b>Cllr. Darren O'Rourke</b>	<b>Cllr. Ashbourne MD</b>
<b>Cllr. Damien O'Reilly</b>	<b>Cllr. Ratoath MD</b>
<b>Cllr. Joe Reilly RIP (Jan-Jun)</b>	<b>Cllr. Navan MD</b>
<b>Kieran Cummins</b>	<b>Community/Voluntary - Pillar</b>
<b>Alan Watson</b>	<b>Agriculture/Farming – Pillar</b>
<b>Seamus Miggin</b>	<b>Agriculture/Farming – Pillar</b>
<b>John V. Farrelly</b>	<b>Business/Commercial - Pillar</b>
<b>Frank Harrington</b>	<b>Business/Commercial - Pillar</b>
<b>Alan Byrne</b>	<b>Development/Construction - Pillar</b>

# Housing, Community & Cultural Development SPC

<b>Cllr. Sarah Reilly, Chair</b>	<b>Cllr. Kells MD</b>
<b>Cllr. Sinéad Burke</b>	<b>Cllr. Navan MD</b>
<b>Cllr. Sharon Keogan</b>	<b>Cllr. Laytown/Bettystown MD</b>
<b>Cllr. Caroline Lynch</b>	<b>Cllr. Trim MD</b>
<b>Cllr. Stephen McKee</b>	<b>Cllr. Laytown/Bettystown MD</b>
<b>Cllr. Maria Murphy</b>	<b>Cllr. Ratoath MD</b>
<b>Cllr. Maria Uí Ruairc</b>	<b>Cllr. Ratoath MD</b>
<b>Cllr. Nick Killian</b>	<b>Cllr. Ratoath MD</b>
<b>Cllr. Gillian Toole</b>	<b>Cllr. Ratoath MD</b>
<b>Cllr. Padraig Fitzsimons</b>	<b>Cllr. Navan MD</b>
<b>Niamh Bn Ui Loinsigh</b>	<b>Community/Voluntary – Pillar</b>
<b>Liam Carey</b>	<b>Community/Voluntary - Pillar</b>
<b>Robert Bradley</b>	<b>Trade Union - Pillar</b>
<b>Cathy Whelan</b>	<b>Social Inclusion - Pillar</b>
<b>Vicky Harris</b>	<b>Social Inclusion – Pillar</b>

## Appendix 2 – SPC Activities

### Activities of the Strategic Policy Committees 2018

Strategic Policy Committee	Number of Meetings
Planning, Economic Development and Enterprise Support	5
Environmental	3
Transportation	4
Housing, Community and Cultural Development	6

## 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 RIP (Jan-Jun)	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 Eimear Ferguson	Sinn Féin
	Cllr. Maria Murphy	Fine Gael
	Cllr Sharon Tolan	Fine Gael
	Cllr Nick Killian	Non-Party
	Cllr Trevor Golden	Non-Party
	Cllr Damien O'Reilly	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr Wayne Harding	Fianna Fáil

Committee	Name	Party
Association of Irish Local Government	Cllr Joe Fox	Fine Gael
	Cllr Nick Killian	Non-Party
	Cllr Sharon Tolan	Fine Gael
	Cllr Joe Reilly RIP (Jan-Jun)	Sinn Féin
	Cllr Eugene Cassidy	Fine Gael
	Cllr Noel French	Fine Gael
LAMA	CLIs 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 RIP (Jan-Jun)	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
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



Committee	Name	Party
	Cllr Joe Reilly RIP (Jan-Jun)	Sinn Féin
	Cllr Wayne Forde	Non-Party
<b>Meath Tourism Ltd</b>	Cllr Ronan McKenna	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr Eimear Ferguson	Sinn Féin
	Cllr David Gilroy	Non-Party
	Cllr Sharon Tolan	Fine Gael
	Cllr Alan Tobin	Fine Gael
<b>Athboy Social Needs &amp; Recreational Company Ltd</b>	Cllr David Gilroy	Non-Party
	Cllr Johnny Guirke	Sinn Féin
<b>Kells Community Enterprise Company Ltd</b>	Cllr Bryan Reilly	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr Sean Drew	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr Sarah Reilly	Fine Gael
	Cllr Michael Gallagher	Sinn Féin
<b>Meath Heritage Forum</b>	Cllr Seán Smith (Jan-Sept)	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
<b>Trim Sports &amp; Leisure Centre Company Ltd (Directors)</b>	Cllr Ronan McKenna	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr Caroline Lynch	Sinn Féin
<b>Navan Sports &amp; Leisure Company</b>	Cllr Wayne Forde	Non-Party
	Cllr Francis Deane	Non-Party
	Cllr Joe Reilly RIP (Jan-Jun)	Sinn Féin
<b>Indaver Community Liaison Committee</b>	Cllr Sharon Tolan	Fine Gael
	Cllr Stephen McKee	Fianna Fáil
<b>North East Regional Drugs Task</b>	Cllr Gillian Toole	Fine Gael
	Cllr Maria O’Kane	Sinn Féin

Committee	Name	Party
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. Sinéad Burke	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. Stephen McKee	Fianna Fáil
Cllr. Joe Reilly RIP (Jan-Jun)	Sinn Féin	
Cllr. Enda Flynn	Fine Gael	
Community Reps	John Tobin	
	Carol O'Flaherty	
	Bernard Kenny	
	Conor O'Leary	
	Bill Comerford	
	Salomé Maher Bordalo/Patrycja Sjuza	

Committee	Name	Party
	Tracy McElhinney	
	Ronnie Owens	
MCC Staff	Jackie Maguire	
	Barry Lynch	
	Áine Bird	
Gardai	Chief Superintendent Fergus Healy	
	A/Superintendent Martina Noonan	
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
	Cllr Joe Fox	Fine Gael
	Cllr Pdraig Fitzsimons	Fianna Fáil
	Cllr Gerry O'Connor	Fine Gael
	Cllr Sinéad Burke	Sinn Féin
	Cllr Sarah Reilly	Fine Gael
	Cllr Maria Murphy (January-June)	Fine Gael
	Cllr Eugene Cassidy (January-June)	Fine Gael
	Cllr Tom Kelly (June-December)	Non-Party
	Cllr Suzanne Jamal	Fine Gael
CPG	Cllr Gerry O'Connor (Jan-Jun)	Fine Gael
	Cllr Tom Kelly (Jun-Dec)	Non-Party

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Party</b>
	<b>Cllr Brian Fitzgerald</b>	<b>Non-Party</b>
	<b>Cllr Joe Fox</b>	<b>Fine Gael</b>
	<b>Cllr Paddy Meade</b>	<b>Fine Gael</b>
	<b>Cllr Alan Tobin</b>	<b>Fine Gael</b>
	<b>Cllr Tommy Reilly</b>	<b>Fianna Fáil</b>
	<b>Cllr Sarah Reilly</b>	<b>Fine Gael</b>
<b>Municipal District Chairs (change yearly)</b>	<b>Cllr Seán Smith (Jan-Sept)</b>	<b>Ashbourne</b>
	<b>Cllr Eugene Cassidy</b>	<b>Kells</b>
	<b>Cllr Wayne Harding</b>	<b>Laytown/ Bettystown</b>
	<b>Cllr Jim Holloway</b>	<b>Navan</b>
	<b>Cllr Maria Murphy</b>	<b>Ratoath</b>
	<b>Cllr Trevor Golden</b>	<b>Trim</b>

## Appendix 4 – Payments to Members of Meath County Council

<b>Annual Councillors Expenses (Travel, subsistence, vouched/unvouched element)</b>	<b>€ 244,578.70</b>
<b>Cathaoirleach and Leas Cathaoirleach Allowances</b>	<b>€78,000.00</b>
<b>Allowances paid to Chairpersons of Strategic Policy Committees</b>	<b>€24,000.00</b>
<b>Members Representational Payments (subject to taxation)</b>	<b>€668,938.35</b>
<b>Miscellaneous Expenses</b>	<b>€6,120.88</b>

# Appendix 5 – Conferences Abroad

List OF Approved Abroad Conferences and members who attended in 2018

<b>Title</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Members Attended</b>
<b>St Patrick's Day – New York</b>	<b>March 2018</b>	<b>Cllr. Nick Killian</b> <b>Cllr. Maria Murphy</b> <b>Cllr. Gerry O'Connor</b> <b>Cllr. Seán Smith</b>
<b>St Patrick's Day – London</b>	<b>March 2018</b>	<b>Cllr. Jim Holloway</b> <b>Cllr. Tom Kelly</b> <b>Cllr. Claire O'Driscoll</b>
<b>Cary, North Carolina</b>	<b>April 2018</b>	<b>Cllr. Brian Fitzgerald</b> <b>Cllr. Gerry O'Connor</b> <b>Cllr. Alan Tobin</b>
<b>Broccostella, Italy</b>	<b>June 2018</b>	<b>Cllr. Gerry O'Connor</b> <b>Cllr. Tommy Reilly</b>
<b>Corcubion, Spain</b>	<b>July 2018</b>	<b>Cllr. Suzanne Jamal</b> <b>Cllr. Tom Kelly</b> <b>Cllr. Claire O'Driscoll</b> <b>Cllr. Alan Tobin</b>
<b>Brussels, Belgium</b>	<b>October 2018</b>	<b>Cllr. Sharon Keogan</b> <b>Cllr. Damien O'Reilly</b>
<b>Venice, Italy</b>	<b>October 2018</b>	<b>Cllr. Jim Holloway</b>

## Appendix 6 – Conferences at Home

Title	Dates	Members Attended	Travel & Subs Cost	Conference Cost	Total Cost
28th Colmcille Winter School	23/02/2018 – 24/02/2018	Cllr. Jim Holloway	€291.05	€150.00	€441.05
		Cllr. Joe Bonner	€0.00	€150.00	€150.00
MacGill Summer School 2018	22/07/2018 – 27/07/2018	Cllr. Joe Fox	€650.03	€60.00	€710.03
		Cllr. Michael Gallagher	€609.48	€60.00	€669.48
		Cllr. Stephen McKee	€373.37	€20.00	€393.37
		Cllr. Paddy Meade	€600.00	€100.00	€700.00
		Cllr. Joe Bonner	€0.00	€100.00	€100.00
Pearse Summer School	26/07/2018 – 27/07/2018	Cllr. Wayne Harding	€700.00	€0.00	€700.00
Parnell Summer School	12/08/2018 – 15/08/2018 16/08/2018	Cllr. Tommy Reilly	€561.69	€0.00	€561.69
		Cllr. Stephen McKee	€98.54	€0.00	€98.54
World Canals Conference 2018	10/12/2018 – 12/12/2018	Cllr. Tom Kelly	€285.00	€415.00	€700.00
		Cllr. Sharon Keogan	€439.33	€175.00	€614.33
Smart Towns & Villages	22/10/2018	Cllr. Pdraig Fitzsimons	€93.34	€75.00	€168.34
Let's Talk Tourism	09/11/2018	Cllr. Pdraig Fitzsimons	€356.66	€175.00	€531.66
		Cllr. Sharon Tolan	€525.00	€175.00	€700.00
Eolas Housing Conference 2018	04/12/2018	Cllr. Nick Killian	€86.42	€270.60	€357.02
Approaches in Contemporary River Management	07/12/2018 – 09/12/2018	Cllr. Damien O'Reilly	€471.08	€100.00	€571.08

# Training

Title	Dates	Members Attended	Travel & Subs Cost	Training Cost	Total Cost
AILG "In Service" Training – Module 1 2018 – Councillors & Journalists – How best to convey your message as a member of your Council through the media	17/02/2018	Cllr. Joe Bonner	€0.00	€55.00	€55.00
	22/02/2018	Cllr. Wayne Harding	€234.38	€55.00	€289.34
		Cllr. Jim Holloway	€233.93	€55.00	€288.93
		Cllr. Claire O'Driscoll	€127.99	€55.00	€182.99
		Cllr. Sharon Keogan	€93.95	€55.00	€148.95
		Cllr. Tom Kelly	€122.62	€55.00	€177.62
		Cllr. Nick Killian	€114.55	€55.00	€169.55
		Cllr. Damien O'Reilly	€55.80	€55.00	€110.80
	Cllr. Tommy Reilly	€65.29	€55.00	€120.29	
LAMA Spring Training Seminar 2018	05/04/2018 – 07/04/2018	Cllr. Joe Fox	€390.04	€160.00	€550.04
		Cllr. Trevor Golden	€384.67	€160.00	€544.67
		Cllr. Wayne Harding	€404.05	€160.00	€564.05
		Cllr. Jim Holloway	€381.98	€160.00	€541.98
		Cllr. Suzanne Jamal	€294.40	€160.00	€454.40
		Cllr. Tom Kelly	€429.58	€160.00	€589.58
		Cllr. Caroline Lynch	€360.15	€160.00	€520.15
		Cllr. Paddy Meade	€413.35	€160.00	€573.35
		Cllr. Damien O'Reilly	€388.05	€160.00	€548.05
		Cllr. Tommy Reilly	€412.90	€160.00	€572.90
		Cllr. Sharon Tolan	€423.76	€160.00	€583.76
AILG Annual Training Conference 2018	12/04/2018-14/04/2018	Cllr. Joe Fox	€419.28	€135.00	€554.28
		Cllr. Trevor Golden	€413.33	€135.00	€548.33
		Cllr. Wayne Harding	€459.14	€135.00	€594.14
		Cllr. Jim Holloway	€445.10	€135.00	€580.10
		Cllr. Tom Kelly	€466.90	€135.00	€601.90
		Cllr. Sharon Keogan	€438.42	€135.00	€573.42
		Cllr. Nick Killian	€433.94	€135.00	€568.94
		Cllr. Paddy Meade	€450.06	€135.00	€585.06



Title	Dates	Members Attended	Travel & Subs Cost	Training Cost	Total Cost
		Cllr. Damien O'Reilly	€383.27	€135.00	€518.27
		Cllr. Tommy Reilly	€449.74	€135.00	€584.74
Irish Planning Institute Annual Planning Conference 2018 – 2040 and Beyond	19/04/2018 – 20/04/2018	Cllr. Joe Fox	€502.59	€299.00	€801.59
		Cllr. Wayne Harding	€682.44	€299.00	€981.44
		Cllr. Jim Holloway	€781.16	€299.00	€1,080.16
		Cllr. Tom Kelly	€668.73	€299.00	€967.73
		Cllr. Damien O'Reilly	€457.08	€299.00	€756.08
		Cllr. Tommy Reilly	€587.80	€299.00	€886.80
AILG "In Service" Training - Module 2 2018 – 'Councillors & Community Safety – A briefing on Joint Policing Committees and Presentation on "Use your Brain Not your Fists"	15/05/2018	Cllr. Nick Killian	€39.42	€55.00	€94.42
	19/05/2018	Cllr. Joe Fox	€449.53	€55.00	€504.53
		Cllr. Michael Gallagher	€207.72	€55.00	€262.72
		Cllr. Trevor Golden	€311.42	€55.00	€366.42
		Cllr. Wayne Harding	€524.65	€55.00	€579.65
		Cllr. Suzanne Jamal	€345.14	€55.00	€400.14
		Cllr. Tommy Reilly	€504.60	€55.00	€559.60
AILG "In Service" Training - Module 3 2018 – Irish Water and a Single Public Water Utility	23/06/2018	Cllr. Joe Fox	€144.90	€55.00	€199.90
		Cllr. Michael Gallagher	€24.63	€55.00	€79.63
		Cllr. Tom Kelly	€94.78	€55.00	€149.78
		Cllr. Sharon Keogan	€68.49	€55.00	€123.49
		Cllr. Nick Killian	€65.29	€55.00	€120.29
		Cllr. Damien O'Reilly	€152.84	€55.00	€207.84
		Cllr. Tommy Reilly	€109.81	€55.00	€164.81
		Cllr. Sharon Tolan	€41.65	€55.00	€96.65
AILG "in Service" Training - Module 4 2018- The new ePlanning (on-line planning applications) & The National Building Management Project	14/09/2018	Cllr. Joe Fox	€548.23	€55.00	€603.23
	23/09/2017	Cllr. Wayne Harding	€648.66	€55.00	€703.66
		Cllr. Jim Holloway	€608.37	€55.00	€663.37
		Cllr. Sharon Keogan	€598.35	€55.00	€653.35
		Cllr. Damien O'Reilly	€531.09	€55.00	€586.09
		Cllr. Tommy Reilly	€631.12	€55.00	€686.12

Title	Dates	Members Attended	Travel & Subs Cost	Training Cost	Total Cost
LAMA Autumn Training Seminar 2018 – Tourism – It's Economic Benefits – Role of Local Authorities	28/09/2018 – 29/09/2018	Cllr. Pdraig Fitzsimons	€239.16	€180.00	€419.16
		Cllr. Joe Fox	€575.79	€180.00	€755.79
		Cllr. Trevor Golden	€617.10	€180.00	€797.10
		Cllr. Wayne Harding	€789.71	€180.00	€969.71
		Cllr. Jim Holloway	€619.03	€180.00	€799.03
		Cllr. Suzanne Jamal	€396.52	€180.00	€576.52
		Cllr. Tom Kelly	€770.11	€180.00	€950.11
		Cllr. Sharon Keogan	€741.90	€180.00	€921.90
		Cllr. Paddy Meade	€689.28	€0.00	€689.28
		Cllr. Damien O'Reilly	€625.42	€180.00	€805.42
Cllr. Tommy Reilly	€775.51	€180.00	€955.51		
AILG "In Service" Training - Module 5 2018 – Local Authority Finance & Budgeting, Budget Preparation and key decisions for the Elected Members in the Budget Process & A Briefing on the Elected Members Gratuity Scheme	11/10/2018	Cllr. Joe Fox	€171.62	€55.00	€226.62
		Cllr. Sharon Keogan	€188.78	€55.00	€243.78
		Cllr. Nick Killian	€223.41	€55.00	€278.41
		Cllr. Damien O'Reilly	€185.05	€55.00	€240.05
		Cllr. Tommy Reilly	€173.30	€55.00	€228.30
		Cllr. Sharon Tolan	€136.05	€55.00	€191.05
AILG Autumn Training Seminar 2018	25/10/2018 – 26/10/2018	Cllr. Francis Deane	€326.11	€135.00	€461.11
		Cllr. Pdraig Fitzsimons	€68.96	€135.00	€203.96
		Cllr. Joe Fox	€317.59	€135.00	€452.59
		Cllr. Michael Gallagher	€51.06	€135.00	€186.06
		Cllr. Suzanne Jamal	€142.61	€135.00	€277.61
		Cllr. Sharon Keogan	€300.71	€135.00	€435.71
		Cllr. Nick Killian	€416.78	€135.00	€551.78
		Cllr. Damien O'Reilly	€422.08	€135.00	€557.08
		Cllr. Tommy Reilly	€420.12	€135.00	€555.12
AILG "In Service" Training - Module 6 2018 – GDPR – General Data	17/11/2018	Cllr. Francis Deane	€50.95	€55.00	€105.95
		Cllr. Sharon Keogan	€98.95	€55.00	€1153.95

Title	Dates	Members Attended	Travel & Subs Cost	Training Cost	Total Cost
Protection Regulation and The Elected Member		Cllr. Nick Killian	€76.85	€55.00	€131.85
		Cllr. Damien O'Reilly	€4.64	€55.00	€59.64
		Cllr. Tommy Reilly	€83.92	€55.00	€138.92

## Appendix 7 – Meetings of the Council – 2018

<b>Monthly Meetings</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Special Meetings</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Annual</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Pre Budget and Budget</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Protocol</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>CPG</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>SPC – Environmental</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>SPC - Transportation</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>SPC – Housing, Community &amp; Cultural Development</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>SPC – Planning, Economic Development &amp; Enterprise</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Municipal District –</b>	
<b>Ashbourne</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Kells</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Laytown/Bettystown</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Navan</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Ratoath</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Trim</b>	<b>13</b>

# Appendix 8 – Annual Financial Statement

## Meath County Council Annual Financial Report 2018

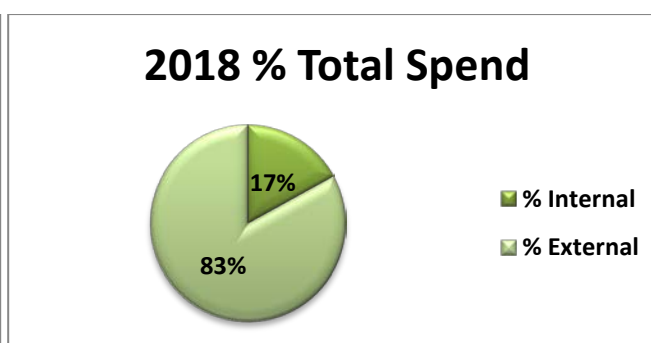
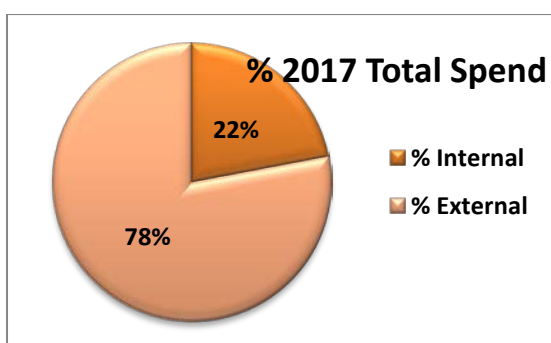
Expenditure	Revenue (€m)	Capital (€m)
Housing & Building	24.026	62.286
Roads Transportation & Safety	40.068	7.947
Water & Sewerage	9.720	0.315
Development Incentives & Controls	10.978	2.392
Environment Protection	13.653	6.646
Recreation & Amenity	7.396	0.965
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	0.854	0.672
Miscellaneous	10.213	0.922
<b>Total</b>	<b>116.908</b>	<b>82.145</b>
Income (see funding sources below)	75.094	83.730
Net Transfers		3.925
Net Revenue Cost to be funded from County	(41.814)	
Rates	34.341	
Local Property Tax	13.992	
Transfer from Reserves	(6.184)	
Surplus/(Deficit) for year	0.335	5.510
Opening Balance (01/01/18)	(1.287)	45.736
Closing Balance	(0.952)	51.246

# Appendix 9 - Municipal District Members Discretionary Fund 2018

This section of the report provides an overview of expenditure for the overall Municipal District Allocation for 2018.

## Overview

(a)	Total no. of applications received	619
(b)	No. of applications withdrawn	9
(c)	No. of deferral forms submitted	30
(d)	<b>No. of valid applications for processing received (a – (b &amp; c))</b>	<b>580</b>
(e)	Total annual fund	€480,000.00
(f)	Total amount deferred from 2017	€63,486.73
(g)	<b>Total fund available in 2018</b>	<b>€543,486.73</b>
(h)	Amount that reverted to MD at year end	€2,475.00
(i)	Total amount deferred to 2019	€48,607.48
(j)	<b>Total amount spent - 2018</b>	<b>€492,404.25</b>



## Internal Allocations<sup>1</sup>

Total number of internal applications complete 51

Total internal spend €83,916.35

% of Total Spend 17%

Department/Project	No. of allocations	Total amount allocated €	% of total spend (j)
Transportation - Footpaths	3	22,200.00	5%
Transportation – CIS	30	20,362.50	4%
Transportation – LIS	11	17,630.00	3.5%
Housing – Homeless Services	2	16,350.00	3%
Community – Playground	1	2,500.00	0.5%
Transportation – Bollards	1	2,400.00	0.5%
Transportation –Hanging Basket Brackets	1	1,070.10	0.2%
Library Services – Awareness Programmes	1	1,000.00	0.2%
Transportation – Road Closure Advertisement	1	403.75	0.1%

<sup>1</sup> 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.

## External Allocations

Total number of external applications complete 529

Total external spend €408,487.90

% of Total Spend 83%

Category	No. of allocations	Total amount allocated €	% of total spend (j)
Sports organisations/facilities	136	116,420.00	24
Community development/organisations	62	65,268.65	13
Support Services	81	53,415.00	11
Schools	32	38,885.00	8
Residents Associations	90	35,459.00	7
Heritage/Tourism/Environment	39	28,920.00	6
Tidy Towns/Pride of Place	21	19,975.00	4
Youth organisations/facilities	23	18,406.25	4
Drama/Culture/Arts	23	17,789.00	3
Festivals/Events	22	13,950.00	3



## 2019 Deferrals

<b>Total number of deferrals to 2019</b>	<b>30</b>	
<b>Total amount deferred</b>	<b>€48,607.48</b>	
Department/Project	No. of deferrals	Amount deferred €
Community – CCTV	1	12,000.00
Sports organisations/facilities	9	8,349.75
Transportation – Public Lighting	1	7,647.73
Transportation – Well works	1	5,500.00
Heritage/Tourism/Environment	5	2,600.00
Support Services	2	2,000.00
Transportation – Pelican Crossing	1	2,000.00
Transportation – Hedge Cutting	1	1,240.00
Tidy Towns/Pride of Place	3	1,150.00
Community development/organisations	2	1,000.00
Transportation – CIS	1	1,000.00
Transportation – Enhancement Works	1	1,000.00
Residents Associations	2	560.00
Transportation – Footpath Restoration	1	300.00

Produced by  
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