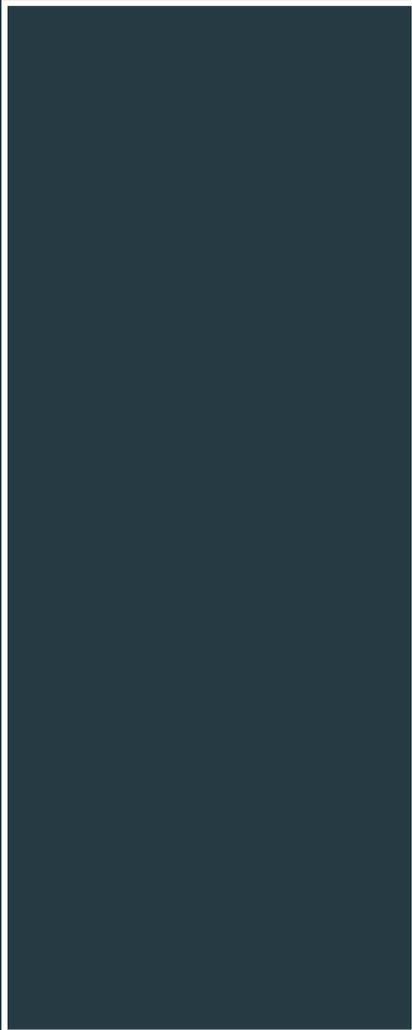


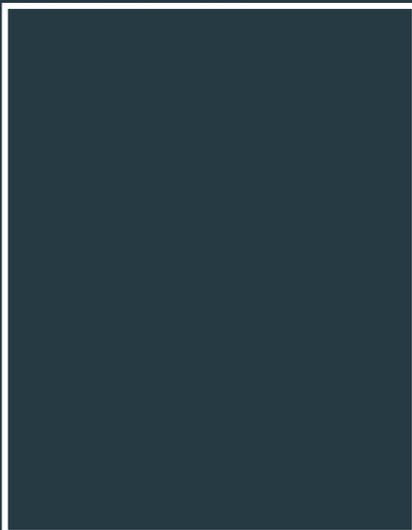


APRIL, 2023

Highlights



Dates to Note



Chief Executive Report

KEVIN KELLY



President Biden visit

Mayo County Council was a key partner in the hugely successful visit of US President Joe Biden to Mayo on Friday, April 14th and worked closely with the White House team, US Embassy staff, and numerous Irish government organisations to ensure all elements of the day moved smoothly and was run to the highest of standards.



Mayo Day

The ninth annual Mayo Day took place on Saturday, April 29th with its flagship event taking place for the first time on the banks of the Moy in Ballina, to coincide with Ballina 2023 – a year-long celebration of the 300th birthday of the town and it was a very successful event.



Local Authority Members announce Mayo as Council of the Year

Mayo County Council was delighted to be named as *Council of the Year* at the Local Authority Members Association (LAMA) Community and Council Awards which recognise and celebrate community and councils working together and highlight the breadth of work ongoing with our communities.



Directorate Highlights

Roads

Castlebar By- Pass section of N5 Westport – Turlough scheme opened to traffic on 26th April 2023. Remaining sections of the scheme to open in June.

N26 / N59 Ballina By -Pass is at Phase 2 route option stage, with preferred route public consultation held on 26th April 2023.

Architects

Planning permission granted Swinford – 3 units
Works commenced on site in Mulranny – 16 units.

Parks Commencement of refurb works – Pairc Bheo Belmullet.
Works at MUGA Park Balla completed.

Housing

Mayo County Council has introduced an expression of interest for the sale of both houses and land which is available on Mayo County Council website.

Dates to Note

Information day held with Developers on the 20th March outlining all the schemes available to assist in the building of new houses.

Mayo Heritage Forum workshop held on 27th April.

SPCs

Roads – 23rd May

Housing - 30th May

Housing, Roads, Architectural Services and Service Development

TOM GILLIGAN



Roads

- Construction works on- going on N60 Heathlawn scheme with completion due in August 2024
- N17 Lisduff Claremorris scheme now open to traffic.
- Contract documents for the N59 Newport – Derrada scheme undergoing final review which will be followed with a request to TII to proceed to tender in Q2 2023.
- Funding allocation of €215,650 secured from TII for pavement renewal works on the N60 at Ardboley Balla.
- N60 Breaffy Active Travel and Safety Scheme now at land acquisition and detailed design phase.
- Local Transport Plans for Castlebar, Ballina and Westport being progressed.
- Proceeding with land acquisition and detailed design for R332 Kilmaine to Foxhall scheme.
- Consultant working on Phase 1 Concept & Feasibility for R345 Cong Relief Road.
- Works to Achill Sound Bridge substantially complete.

Housing

HAP & RAS (Mar., 2023)

- 14 No. delivered under HAP,
- 11 No. delivered under RAS

Total of 1981 active households supported by RAS/HAP at the end of March.

Leasing (Mar. 2023)

- 1 No. house delivered under the Leasing Programme.

Total: No. 372 households currently supported under the Leasing Programme.

Homelessness – 17 No. homeless presentations - March., 2023.

Defective Concrete Block Grant Scheme

To date: -

307 Stage 1 Confirmation of Eligibility Applications received

284 Stage 1 Confirmation of Eligibility have been issued

64 Stage 2 Grant approval applications received and 64 approved to date

66 Stage 3 Grant stage payments have been made.

Croi Conaithe - 94 applications received, 38 approved

Croi Conaithe – Changes to Grant Scheme

Property owners who wish to refurbish properties for rental purposes can now apply for the vacant property grant including the top up grant for a derelict property. The property must be built on or before 2007 (criteria used to be 1993) Increase in grant from €30,000 to €50,000 for a Vacant Property and increase from €50,000 to €70,000 for the top up grant for a derelict property here.

Procurement & Efficiency

- Introduction of new e-tenders for May Go Live
- Evaluation of Tender for Keem Bay Strategic Plan
- Evaluation of Hedge/Verge Cutting tenders for National Primary Routes



Water Services, Environment, Climate Change & Emergency Services

JOHN CONDON



Directorate Highlights

Mayo County Council, in partnership with Climate Action Louisburgh Locality were successful in receiving €22,000 funding from the European Shared Green Deal for an efficient renovations project.

Laura Dixon presented to the Climate and Environmental Sustainability students from DCU on their fieldtrip to Berta Beach on 20th April.

ENVIRONMENT:

Water & Air team:

- 6 complaints received (March)
- 16 Inspections carried out with 2 Enforcement actions taken (March)
- 1 Decision on new Discharge Licence Issued and 1 application being processed.
- 6 Planning files referred (March)
- Septic Tank Inspection presentation made to SPC.

Environmental Awareness:

Septic tank campaign on radio, print and social media, Community recycling and composting workshop Belcarra, Scrap Metal Collection Awareness Campaign.

Veterinary: Working Group on Control of Dogs: During 2022 several serious dog bite/attacks on people and sheep occurred across the country. The Ministers Charlie McConalogue and Heather Humphreys as a result, set up an interdepartmental working group to examine issues in relation to dog control, and from these discussions to produce a report that would be brought to Cabinet.

Laura Mulligan and Paul McDermott are members of this working group. Laura represents Dog Wardens nationally, while Paul sits on the group as the LGMA and LAVS representative.

Waste Permitting and Enforcement Update:

1 new Waste Facility Permit granted., 2 new Waste Facility Permit applications received, 1 Review Certificate of Registration application received, 1 Certificate of Registration Surrender application received, 1 successful prosecution was obtained

Climate Action:

The [Connected Project](#), which we are a partner of, was launched. The project seeks to build an easy to use toolkit which supports communities to take a number of steps to build climate action. Just under half a million-euro funding was secured for the project from the Community Climate Action Fund Strand 2 fund, which is administered by Pobal.

RURAL WATER:

Design & Tender Stage: Tenders received for Murrisk Community Water Connection and are currently being assessed. SDS Consulting Engineers have been appointed as Employers Representative for the Design, Tender and Construction stages for the civil works associated with the amalgamation of Errew/Castlehill GWS & Nephin Valley GWS.

Construction Stage: Winters Plant Hire Civil Contractors have been appointed to carry out the network upgrade and inter-connector pipeline to Johnstown / Lavellyroe GWS to enable the GWS to be connected to the Lough Mask Regional Water Supply Scheme and to be "Taken in Charge" by Uisce Eireann. (Project cost €1,340,276.00). Civil Contractor being appointed to carry out the network upgrade and inter-connector pipeline to Killgalligan GWS to enable the GWS to be connected to the Erris Regional Water Supply Scheme and to be "Taken in Charge" by Uisce Eireann. (Project cost €911,760.00).

WATER CONSERVATION:

Public Mains Rehabilitation Projects: Crew are nearing completion of watermain replacement at Carne, Belmullet. Once completed works will commence at Eden, Knock
Public Find and Fix Project Work Areas: Work currently ongoing at Breaffy, Ballyheane and Crossmolina.

EMERGENCY SERVICES: Health and Safety: The Fire Service had their Safety Management System re-certified to ISO 45001 for a further 3 year period following an external audit by the National Standards Authority of Ireland.

Fleet enhancement: MCC took delivery of a refurbished water tanker of 10,000 litres capacity. The vehicle is now operational at Belmullet Fire Station.

Dates to Note

Workplace food waste recycling awareness event

The Waste Enforcement Team will attend the 2-day NIECE Knowledge Sharing workshop in Mullingar this week.

Connaught School summit at the GAA Centre of excellence on the 24th and 25th April



Directorate Highlights

- Planning Data For April 2023
- Applications Received: 104
 - Decisions to Grant: 92
 - Decisions to Refuse: 6
 - Forthcoming Decisions: 161
 - Formal Preplanning Apps: 18
 - Appointments at Planning
 - Clinics: 60

FOI Requests 8
 Insurance PL Claims 10
 Ombudsman Cases
 2 new cases and 5 closed
 Total Calls Answered 3,788 (April)

Performance Indicators for 2022 were completed and submitted to NOAC by the closing date 21st April 2023. There are 44 indicators covering 11 local authority activities within the following areas:

- Housing
- Roads
- Rural Water
- Planning
- Environment
- Fire Services
- Library and Recreation Services
- Youth & Community
- Corporate
- Finance
- Economic Development

NOAC intend to publish the 2022 Local Authority Performance Indicator Report by September.

Dates to Note

Training figures for April 2023

Indoor – 44 indoor staff participated in Climate Action Awareness, Cardiac First Response, Quality Customer Service, Personal Safety at Work & Dealing with Difficult Customers and Freedom of Information training.
Outdoor -6 outdoor staff participated in Health & Safety at Roadworks and Signing, Lighting & guarding at Roadworks training.

Corporate, Education Culture, Heritage and Library Services SPC Meeting 24th May 2023

Planning, Human Resources, Communications & Corporate Affairs

CATHERINE McCONNELL



Human Resources

New Appointments in April 2023

1 x Staff Officer, 2 x Student Work placement

Promotions

7 x Assistant Staff Officer, 6 x Staff Officer, 1 x Senior Staff Officer, 1 x Town Regeneration Officer (3 year)

Competitions Advertised in April 2023 - Executive Planner

Interviews - Executive Engineer, Retained Fire Fighters, Beach Lifeguards, Belmullet Tidal Pool

Retirements in April 2023 - 1 x Clerical Officer

Training

A total of 64 courses have been delivered safely through Castlebar Training Centre for the month of April 2023 generating an income of €121,583. Work is progressing on our new €2.9 million outdoor training facility at Saleen, Castlebar. We had experienced supply chain delays, but these have been resolved and it is expected that the facility will now be completed by the end of July. April also saw the retirement of the Regional Training Centre Manager, Maura Lawless after 42 years of dedicated and exemplary service.

Property, Internal Audit & Organisational Change

A pilot Online Application process launched in March in conjunction with the Community Section. The Aim of the pilot scheme is to reduce manual input of a paper-based application process through the introduction of a digitised application process.

Communications

- Public Information updates on sever weather, traffic disruption, water repairs, recruitment
- Media Responses to location and national Media queries. Co-ordination of corporate Advertising
- MCC Annual Report 2022 process has commenced

Events

- Co-ordination around the visit of President Joe Biden to County Mayo
- Delivery of Mayo Day 2023 flagship event in Ballina

Social Media/publicity campaigns

- Mayo Day promotion covering all areas of the event
- Presidential visit – public information
- Leader public consultations
- Funding (Clar, community heritage grant etc)
- Poetry week
- Housing Campaigns
- Opening of section of N5 road project
- Library initiatives
- Environmental Campaigns

Oifig na Gaeilge

- Mayo Day: Full programme of La Mhaigh Eo activities organised and promoted; language support also provided to Communications team for wider event
- Translation and compliance support provided to sections across the Council including Planning, Corporate Development, Environment, HR, Community Engagement and MD's



Directorate Highlights

- Over 2,000 participants took part in the 2023 Mayo.ie Western People West of Ireland Womens Mini Marathon, co-organised by Mayo Sports Partnership, on 30 April in Ballina. 1,000 children also participated in the Primary Schools Mini Fun run
- The Arts service participated in the Mayo Day events on 29 April through the Artsquad 'Resonance' Project with Tom Meskell, a display of sculpture at Crough Patrick on Mayo Day & exhibition of the MCC Collection
- Mayo featured in a 12 minute travel segment on the RTE Afternoon Show, 6 April - the Céide Fields, Wild Nephin & Dark Skies; Clew Bay Bike Trail; Achill Island, G/Way Link to Castlebar
- New contract agreed & signed with "The Movement" for service provision for the Leisure Complex at Lough Lannagh
- Exhibition by artist James Seymour currently on display in Ballina Library.

Dates to Note

Mayo Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) undertaking public consultations on the new LEADER programme at 19 locations until 17 May. Details on Mayo.ie

Bealtaine 2023 runs throughout the month of May. [Click Here](#) for details of events

Lough Lannagh Leisure Complex has been chosen to host the National Swimming Community Games finals on 13 May. Between 700 – 800 children anticipated to participate

Enterprise, Community, Economic Development & Tourism

JOANNE GREHAN



Enterprise & Economic Development Unit

- Evaluation & Approvals Committee meeting 12 April - 4 projects supported
- The final event of the REBOOT prog took place on 19 April, covering topics on Communication, Networking etc.
- The Enterprise Ireland Summit took place from 18-20 April and celebrated 25 years of Enterprise Ireland

Community, Arts, Sports, Childcare

- 2023 Return to Sport Grant Scheme now open [Click Here](#) for more info
- Mayo Arts Office celebrated Poetry Day Ireland on 27 April
- Community Support Fund: Grant recommendations considered and approved at the LCDC April meeting. Sent to DRCD for final approval
- BAM- 3 applications for the acquisition of buildings for community use (Charlestown, Louisburgh, Bellacorick) submitted to DRCD on 28 April
- Mayo County Childcare Committee - 16 Parent and Toddler Grants recommended for funding support to Pobal

Tourism, Recreation & Amenity

- Funding of €32k allocated to MCC for the Regional Festivals & Participative Events Programme 2023. 21 applications to receive funding
- Part 8 Planning approved for the Carrowmore Water Sports Activity Centre at the Westport/Belmullet MD meeting on 2 April
- Keel Caravan Site now operational (now "Keel Camping") [Click Here](#) for more
- Euro Velo 1 Signage has been completed in line with National Trails Guidelines. Official launch 18 May in Co. Wexford
- Keem: tenders are currently being assessed for the provision of services for Visitor Management and a Sustainable Tourism Development Plan for Keem Bay
- Annual review of all accredited recreational trails is currently underway in collaboration with the Trail's Office in Sport Ireland
- Moorehall Draft Masterplan & Environmental Report advertised in The Connaught Telegraph on 4 April with Observations open until 2 May

Library Services

- 30 'Spring Into Storytime' sessions held in libraries in April
- Cubbie (Mayo based company who create sensory spaces) launched new APP in Castlebar Library on 24 April. Mayo libraries will pilot this new APP
- 'Hello How Are You' mental health initiative celebrated in Ballina, Westport, Claremorris and Castlebar libraries during March & April
- Basic First Aid training given to 32 members of the public on 17 April in Castlebar Library as part of the 'Healthy Ireland at your library' initiative
- Decade of Centenaries Writer in Residence post advertised, closing date 24 April
- Feroige undertook digital storytelling with 2 groups of children from Castlebar Educate Together on a weekly basis on the 13 & 27 March and 17 & 24 April



**Financial Management,
 Information Systems & Motor
 Taxation**
PETER DUGGAN

Directorate Highlights

Text here

Dates to Note

Text here

Mayo County Council

**1. Major Expenditure and Income by Division with 2023 Adopted Budget
 Three months ended 31st March 2023**

**APPENDIX A
 FINANCIAL REVIEW MAY 2023**

Service Division	Description	EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
		Exp. To Date Mar-23	Budget 2023	Remaining 2023	% Spent 2023	Inc. To Date Mar-23	Budget 2023	Net Rec'd 2023	% Rec'd 2023
A	Housing and Building	5,831,008	24,035,722	18,204,714	24%	5,765,307	23,804,700	18,039,393	24%
B	Roads Transport and Safety	6,364,057	49,856,825	43,492,768	13%	4,276,593	41,526,728	37,520,135	10%
C	Water Services	3,559,557	17,713,690	14,154,123	20%	4,470,869	21,369,276	16,898,406	21%
D	Development Management	3,536,509	14,174,044	10,637,535	25%	1,149,567	4,616,955	3,467,388	25%
E	Environmental Services	4,265,679	17,889,861	13,624,182	24%	1,304,250	6,132,349	4,828,099	21%
F	Recreation and Amenity	3,383,107	13,117,245	9,734,138	26%	1,172,113	4,230,700	3,058,587	28%
G	Agriculture, Education Health and Welfare	482,233	1,980,731	1,498,498	24%	163,690	683,533	519,843	24%
H	Miscellaneous Services	3,189,658	12,810,708	9,621,050	25%	3,577,356	14,170,424	10,593,668	25%
J	Central Management Charges	6,261,037	24,972,867	18,711,830	25%	418,056	1,600,000	1,181,944	26%
	Local Government Fund	-	-	-	-	9,435,710	37,741,670	28,305,960	25%
		-	-	-	-	5,188,937	20,675,346	15,506,510	25%
	GRAND TOTAL	36,872,845	176,551,683	139,678,838	21%	36,902,348	176,551,681	139,648,333	21%

2. Performance of Local Authority Revenue Collection Levels

	Total for collection Mar-23	Collected Mar-23	Arrears Mar-23	% Collected
Rents	1,904,201	703,355	1,200,846	37%
Rates	41,157,275	1,139,105	40,018,169	3%
Housing Loans	915,668	295,514	620,155	32%

3. Recourse to Overdraft Facility

	Number of days in overdraft	Estimated interest incurred
	16	6,358