



Comhairle Chontae Liatroma
Leitrim County Council

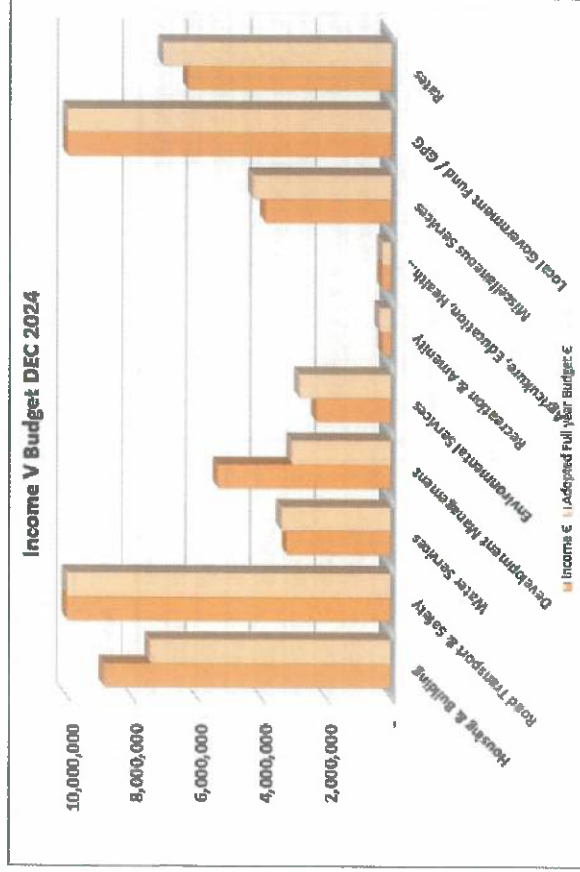
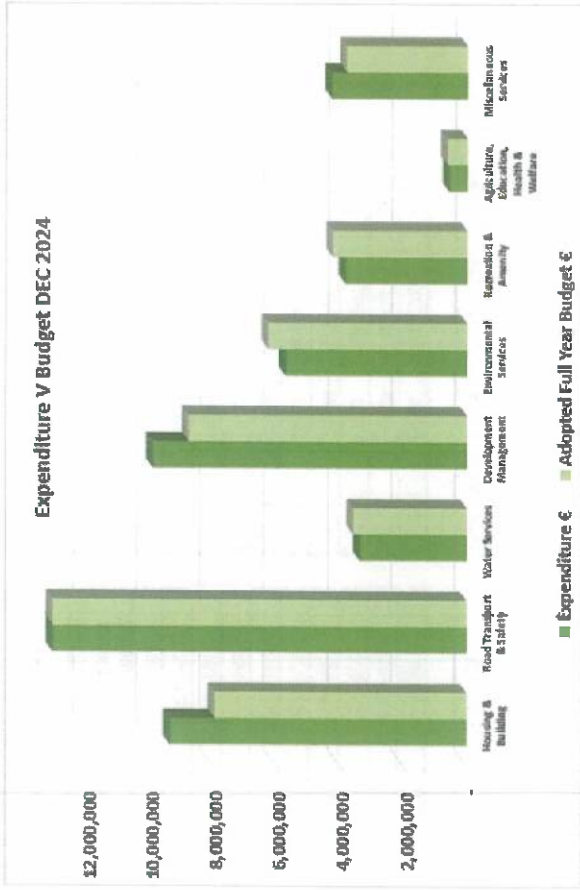
Chief Executive Monthly Management Report

December 2024

Prepared in accordance
with Section 136 (2) of the
Local Government Act,
2001 as inserted by
Section 51 of the Local
Government Act, 2014

www.leitrim.ie

FINANCE, WATER SERVICES, ENVIRONMENT & EMERGENCY SERVICES



MAIN POINTS AS AT END OF DEC, 2024

- Housing includes Crail Conaith grants
- Development Mgt includes ICOB & Power Up payouts for 2024
- Dec 2024 Figures are only provisional as all transactions not yet completed for AFS 2024

2024 - Collection Rates

	YTD		
	€ Dec-24	€ Dec-23	€ FY 2023
Housing Rents	€2,842,757	€2,706,878	€2,706,736
Commercial Rates	€6,282,965	€6,005,958	€6,005,958
Housing Loans	€297,172	€296,418	€296,418

	YTD		
	% Dec-24	% Dec-23	% FY 2023
Housing Rents	96%	98%	98%
Commercial Rates	78%	77%	77%
Housing Loans	91%	84%	84%

COMMENTARY
2024 Rents collection % slightly down on 2023, however all 2024 receipts not yet processed.
2024 Rates collection % is in line with 2023, however all transactions not yet processed
Improvement on Loans collection rates in 2024

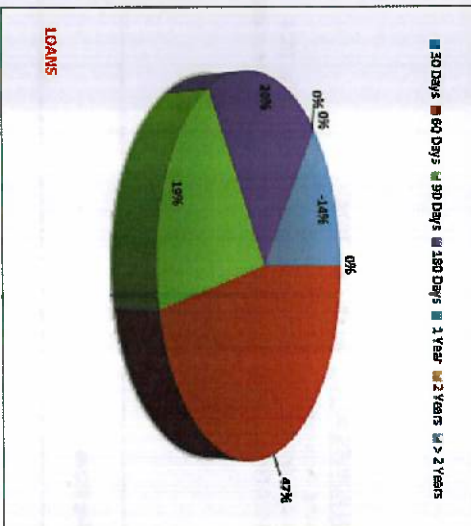
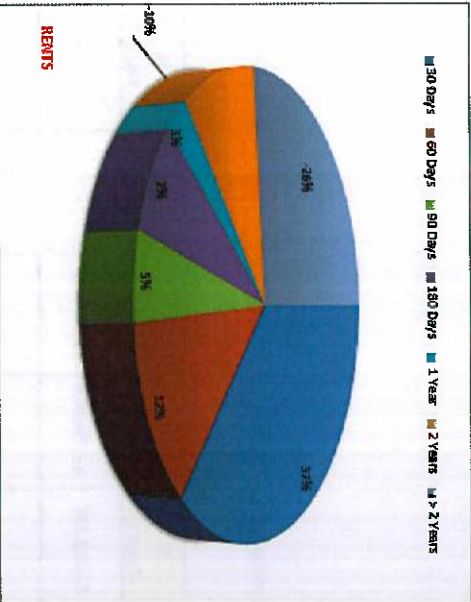
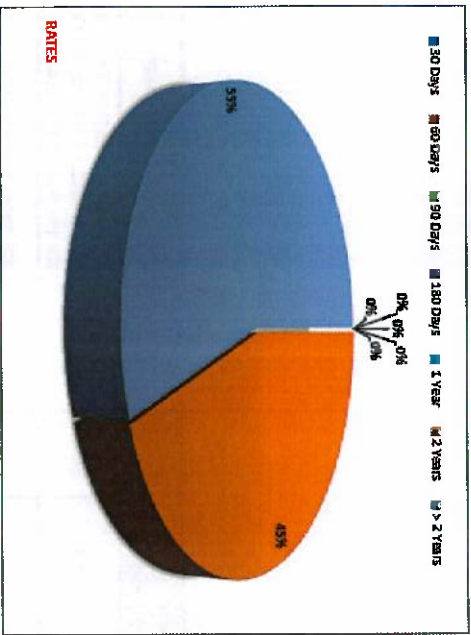
Dec 2024 - Revenue Account Income & Expenditure Summary by Service Division
(PRELIMINARY DEC. 2024 - FIGURES)

	EXPENDITURE		
	Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent
A Housing & Building	9,314,927	7,902,729	118%
B Road Transport & Safety	22,598,987	17,502,847	129%
C Water Services	3,350,147	3,539,682	94%
D Development Management	9,871,384	8,741,809	91%
E Environmental Services	5,688,685	6,236,437	91%
F Recreation & Amenity	3,823,952	4,219,543	91%
G Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	571,660	629,228	91%
H Miscellaneous Services	4,260,692	3,798,946	112%
LG Local Government Fund/GPG	0	0	0%
RA Rates	€59,479,994	€52,591,121	113%

	INCOME		
	Income €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Raised
A Housing & Building	8,851,628	7,432,718	119%
B Road Transport & Safety	18,572,438	13,256,033	139%
C Water Services	3,185,686	3,359,654	95%
D Development Management	5,336,554	3,047,571	175%
E Environmental Services	2,307,410	2,821,788	82%
F Recreation & Amenity	244,017	350,643	70%
G Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	273,592	271,683	101%
H Miscellaneous Services	3,881,232	4,255,070	91%
LG Local Government Fund/GPG	10,738,091	10,738,091	100%
RA Rates	6,282,965	7,057,870	89%
	€59,474,813	€52,591,121	113%

NET	
Actual Overall Surplus/Deficit €	Fav/(Unfav) €
(463,099)	6,912
(4,226,129)	20,685
(183,461)	36,567
(4,534,810)	1,159,428
(3,579,935)	33,374
(298,058)	288,985
(379,460)	59,477
10,738,091	(835,684)
6,282,965	0
	(774,905)
	(65,181)
	(55,181)

Dec 2024 - Aged Debt Analysis



	30 Days	60 Days	90 Days	180 Days	1 Year	2 Years	> 2 Years
RATES	€0	€0	€0	€0	€0	€1,589,144	€1,950,538
RENTS	€219,474	€70,996	€31,683	€41,657	€16,162	€56,505	€156,261
LOANS	€0	€18,854	€7,507	€8,052	€0	€0	€5,741

Climate Action Plan

Climate action progression ongoing in December 2024

1. Whole of Council Climate Action Team asked to update to end of year, progress on implementation of actions in the Climate Action Plan through the Microsoft Planner package. Annual report for LGMA will require progress report on actions in January 2025.
2. There were 15 no. expressions of interest in home energy assessments and retrofitting of homes grants following the information event in the Breffni Family Resource Centre in November {Local Energy Agencies in Peripheral Regions (LEAP) project}. These will be progressed with interested parties via Sligo Leitrim Energy Agency in January 2025.
3. Agreement to undertake a Decarbonising Zone awareness video after agreeing funding under the Climate Action Works (via E&M CARO). Onsite videography carried out 6 December 2024 of case studies of Climate Action in Carrick-on-Shannon. Further development required in Q1 2025.
4. Reclaim for period 1 November 2023 to 31 October 2024 made to DECC for administration of climate action implementation in Leitrim County Council (Year 1 of Phase 3 of LA CAP) and remaining costs relating to the making of the Plan. DECC approved €187,455.62 as there is a threshold of €187,608 per year in Phase 3, however this does not allow for other outstanding costs legitimate to making of the Plan. Other Local Authorities are in a similar position, and there may be pressure to settle any legitimate and outstanding costs to making of the Plan (from Phase 2). Going forward Phase 3 reclaim will only allow for salary and expenses of the Climate Action Coordinator and Climate Action Officer. Funding for climate action initiatives must be mainstreamed into action and budgets.
5. Second speaker in the climate action lunch and learn series for staff on 11 December 2024 with Anna Browne (*Big Sky Flowers*) on reducing food waste. Intention to run a speaking event monthly.
6. *Climate Action* attended the first sitting of the Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) for the *Physical Environment*. Climate action is a relevant consideration for all SPCs (*Economic and Enterprise Development, Local Development, Social Development*); *Climate Action* will report directly on progress of implementing the Climate Action Plan to the *Physical Environment* Committee only.
7. *Climate Action* participated in an event at the community park in Leitrim Village on invitation from the Biodiversity Officer, to distribute native trees to Leitrim people as part of the *Hare's Corner* initiative in association with local growers and *Burren Beo* on 13 December 2024. There was a great response from Leitrim people to the initiative.
8. Agreement to partner with Border sub region on pre-feasibility study for district heating in each county. SEAI have made €120,000 available (without requirement for match funding) under the renewable heat category of Pathfinder. Tender to go out for consultants in January 2025. Expected that SEAI will make €300m available to support district heating under the SSRH (support scheme for renewable heat) to develop out projects.
9. Application made by Leitrim CC under the EU Cohesion Fund Life Seventh Call for a community energy project in Mohill on 18 December 2024 (led by LEO, assisted by CA). Funding up to €60,000 available for development and investment in the project.
10. Leitrim CC registered a Sustainable Energy Community with SEAI called *Carrick-on-Shannon Climate Action* to support the community related goals of the Decarbonising Zone. The SEC will be used to develop a taskforce as required by the Climate Action Plan and engagement will be extended to leaders in the community, business and sectoral interest in the new year. Leitrim CC to look at signing a Memorandum of Understanding with SEAI to provide rolling bridging funding for SECs across Leitrim to develop energy masterplans.

Community Climate Action Programme Fund

Climate Action continue to work with groups in developing their projects and preparing for drawdown of funding. There was a window for reclaim with DECC in November for recovery of claims made to date.

There were 3 no claims made for

- Drumreilly Community Centre completion of project installation (solar panels)
- Mohill Community Enterprise completion of one element of their project (solar panels) and
- the administration costs of the Community Climate Action Officer to date.

DECC have approved a reclaim for the above costs of €106,188.

DECC have confirmed that Phase 2 of the CCAP Fund will not open for calls until March 2025, there will be a phase on engagement with the community required ahead of phase commencement.

VETERINARY SERVICE

Slaughter Returns

AM/PM Examinations	7
Cattle	24
Sheep	75
Pigs	4
Goats	0

Premises Inspections

Premises Inspections	4
Food Samples	0
Environmental Swabs	0
Water Samples	0
Veterinary Residue Samples	1
Carcass Swabs	0
TB Lesions	0

Dog Warden Service Activities

Stray Dogs	5
Surrendered Dogs	8
Seized Dogs	0
Dogs Re-Homed	10
Dogs Reclaimed	1
Dog Deaths	0
Dogs Euthanised	0
Warden Service Requests	16
Dog Fouling Complaints	1
Barking Complaints	1
Livestock Attacks by Dogs	0
Dog Control & Roaming Complaints	8
Dog Licence Inspections	47
Dogs Neutered	4
Neutering Vouchers Issued	4
Dogs Micro-Chipped	2
Fines Issued – Dogs	0
Statutory Notices Issued	0
Newspaper Articles/ Radio	3
School/ Community Workshops	0
Social Media Posts	87
Stray Horses Seized	0
Stray Cats Neutered	0

Animal Carcasses Removed	1
Dog Waste Station Service Visits	57
Dog Waste Bags Dispensed	3500

As you may be aware, the Local Authority Veterinary Service transferred to the Dept. of Agriculture, Food & the Marine on 1st Jan. 2025. As this will be the final Veterinary Services report for Leitrim County Council, I wish to thank all staff and Councillors for their kindness and support over many years and wish you all well in your future endeavours.

The **Veterinary Services Report** will be replaced by the **Animal Warden Services Report**. This will detail the activities of the Animal Warden Service in Leitrim in relation to control and welfare of dogs, cats, horses and other animals in Leitrim.

FIRE SERVICE

Fire Stations

Manorhamilton FS

Leitrim County Council has received approval to progress to Stage 2C: Detailed Design. Fortnightly meetings are now scheduled between the Fire Service and the Design team to advance this. It is envisaged that this process will be completed by Q2 2025

Fire Appliances and Equipment

New Fire Appliance

The chassis for the new fire appliance is ordered and the first design meeting with the manufacturer's is scheduled for Q1 2025.

New Hand portable radios

The contract for the procurement of new hand portable radios for the fire service is being handled by Dublin County Council and the tender process is now complete. Capital funding is being provided by the Department. An update on this project is expected soon.

Building Control activity in December 2024

	Received	Valid	Granted	Completed
Commencement Notices	9	9		
Fire Safety Certificates	5	4	5	
Disabled Access Certificates	1	3	3	
Certificate of Compliance on Completion	4	1		
Building Control Act Inspections (Commencements, on-site, BERs, Market Surveillance etc)				4
Dangerous Substances Act Applications	1	0	2	2

WRC agreement for retained firefighters.

A meeting between Fire Service Management and SIPTU Fire was held on 17th December 2024. Proposals were presented about the introduction of Structured Time off and the transition to fortnightly pay. Leitrim County Council is awaiting a response from SIPTU Fire to progress the implementation of the WRC agreement.

Recruitment

Four new recruits successfully completed their initial training in Donegal. They are now operational within the county. Recruitment campaigns are ongoing for Carrick-on-Shannon and Mohill Fire Stations.

Station	Recruits	Training Status	Operational
Carrick-on-Shannon	2	Completed	Yes
Mohill	2	Completed	Yes

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING, AND INFRASTRUCTURE

LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE (LEO)

Mentoring & Export

The demand for one-to-one mentoring continues to remain high. Assistance is also available on Export related issues and can be booked online free of charge to discuss any issues facing businesses or identifying and managing opportunities available for exporting.

All In A Days Work Programmes & Associated Financial Supports

The “All In A Days Work” campaign continues to be rolled out on the areas of Lean, Green and Digital supports. There is a growing demand for all three supports as well as the Energy Efficiency Grant (EEG) and Grow Digital (GD) Voucher. The revised EEG, which is now available, with up to 75% of eligible costs up to a maximum grant of €10,000 can be supported following the completion of a Green for Business, Green Start or a SEAI Energy Audit. The GD voucher is a grant covering 50% of eligible costs (minimum grant of €500 up to a maximum grant of €5,000) limited to new software subscriptions for a period of 12 and training and configuration of the software.

Atlantic Economic Corridor Update:

Interreg Europe Digital Rural

Participation in the Interreg Europe Digital Rural Project continues. Leitrim County Council are a partner on the project to examine ways to improve polices for the development of smart towns and villages. The project will run until 2028.

PEACE Plus: Digital Services Funding

Leitrim County Council are a partner in the recently successful ‘DS3 project’ under PEACE Plus investment area 2.4 Smart Towns and villages The DS3 Project aims to increase cross border collaboration and co-operation engaging civil and business communities in the adoption of ICT solutions in community service delivery and economic activity, thereby creating more connected and sustainable communities.

Regional Enterprise Development Fund: Creative Heartlands

To date over 600 people have engaged in training under the programme across 60 workshops and €75,000 has been invested in equipment. Several enterprises have availed of the catalogue of film and deign equipment that is available.

Northwest Regional Enterprise Plan Implementation

Entrepreneurship development in the NW

Developing entrepreneurship in the region is a key focus of the NW REP. Ongoing efforts to develop an entrepreneurship exchange programme are underway with a focus on running the programme 29/30th January with 2 businesses from Leitrim being mentored by senior entrepreneurs in the region. 12 senior entrepreneurs have been secured of extremely high calibre to mentor local/regional businesses.

Offshore Wind Regional development

The NW REP continues to encourage regional collaboration in pursuing advancement in the development of the wind industry. A working group meeting was held online in December to discuss development of a Northwest/West concept for a centre of excellence.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LCDC

A meeting of the LAG took place on 18th December 2024. Three projects were approved funding under LEADER.

Broadband

Digital Steering group meeting took place in December. The RFT is being drafted for the new Digital Strategy 2025-2029 and will issue in January 2025.

Leitrim Diaspora

Regular meetings are continuing regarding the execution of the Diaspora Strategy, presently focused on “The Leitrim Gathering” scheduled to take place in May 2025. Promotion of The Leitrim Gathering took place in the Christmas edition on Leitrim Observer and on social media over Christmas and New Year, and was mentioned by The Cathaoirleach in his Christmas message. The Leitrim GAA included The Leitrim Gathering in their winter newsletter.

Purple Flag

No decision has been received on the assessment yet.

LECP Progress Review

Follow up is continuing with stakeholders to finalise updates for 2024.

Leitrim County Council Project Development Grant

Engaging with successful applicants to progress projects deemed eligible.

County Promotion

Planning meetings took place in December re the EmpowHer 2025 event planned for early February at Carrick Campus.

TOURISM

Marketing

A comprehensive digital media Christmas campaign was launched, showcasing a variety of festive events and unique gift ideas available throughout the county. This campaign aimed to engage the local community and reach the wider diaspora.

One of the campaign's standout features was the spotlight on The Gathering competition, an exciting initiative offering two lucky participants the opportunity to return to Leitrim in 2025 for this prominent and meaningful event. This competition not only fosters a sense of connection among those with roots in the area but also invites them to celebrate and participate in Leitrim's vibrancy. The campaign has successfully captivated the attention of many, resulting in a substantial and enthusiastic response from participants both locally and abroad eager to reconnect with their heritage.

Visitor information App

A new subgroup of the Tourism Forum has been established to represent various tourism sectors across the county and to oversee the development of a visitor information application. The subgroup has convened with developers to establish the app's framework, and the development process has commenced. Monthly updates on the progress will be provided. The application is anticipated to be completed by April 2025, in preparation for the peak tourist season. In the forthcoming months, businesses will be invited to contribute content for the app and to update their individual profiles.

IHH Workshop

A workshop took place for all Tourism Officers in Ireland's Hidden Heartlands region. Providing an opportunity to engage with representatives from various teams within Fáilte Ireland, including the Digital, Marketing, and Publicity departments. The workshop proved to be highly informative and facilitated the establishment of important relationships with key personnel within the organisation.

Interpretation Scheme for the Shannon and Shannon Erne Waterways

A collaborative initiative between Waterways Ireland and Ireland's Hidden Heartlands emerged from the Shannon Master Plan. The goal is to create a series of interpretative signs along the Shannon and Shannon Erne Waterways, similar to those along the Wild Atlantic Way. Tandem Consultants were commissioned to research potential sites along the river and evaluate the suitability of each location. Each selected site will feature either a totem or a lectern sign, while each county will be allocated a uniquely designed installation at one designated location.

Acres Lake

Work is currently in progress at Acres Lake, and Fáilte Ireland has held a series of informational workshops for all tourism providers from across the country who will utilise the proposed facilities. The purpose of these workshops was to inform attendees about the developments at Acres Lake and similar sites, as well as how they can engage with the centre once it becomes operational.

TOWN REGENERATION

Croí Conaithe – Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant

The Croí Conaithe scheme was introduced to help bring vacant and derelict properties back into use as family homes and rental residential units. The Vacant Homes Officer of Leitrim County Council works closely with applicants to allow suitable properties to be brought back into productive use. Since scheme inception, 230 applications have been received, 111 have been received since January 2024 with 41 grants being processed for payment during 2024.

Manorhamilton Town Centre First Plan

The Town Regeneration office held an initial meeting with Manorhamilton Town Team to discuss the process of producing a Town Centre First Plan. The tender documents to procure a consultant for the development of a Town Centre First Plan for Manorhamilton have been advertised on eTenders on 12th November 2024 with a closing date of 10th January 2025.

Kinlough, Dromahair & Ballinamore Town & Village Suite of Supports Funding

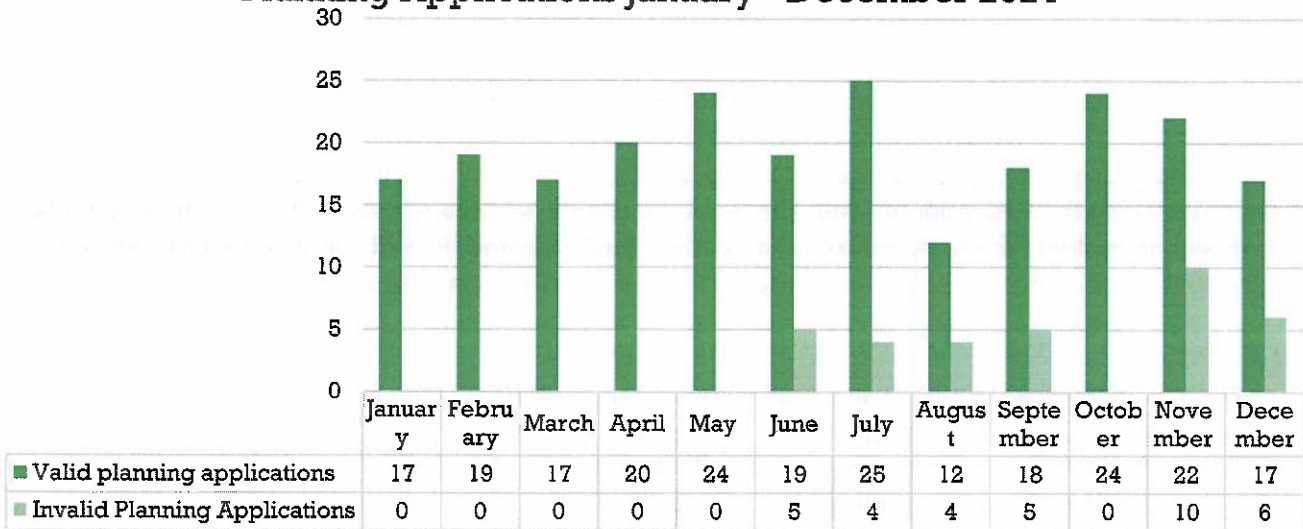
Minister Humphreys announced that Ballinamore, Dromahair and Kinlough were awarded €10,000 per town, under the Town Centre First, Town Team Support Fund. The funding may be used to support the establishment and/or development of town teams where they are not already well established, and to better understand the unique features of towns. During the month of December meetings were held with Kinlough & Ballinamore Town Teams and the formation of the Town Teams are now at an advanced stage. It is hoped that a public meeting to set up a Dromahair Town Team will be advertised early in the new year.

THRIVE - Town Centre First Heritage Revival Scheme – Application Strand 1

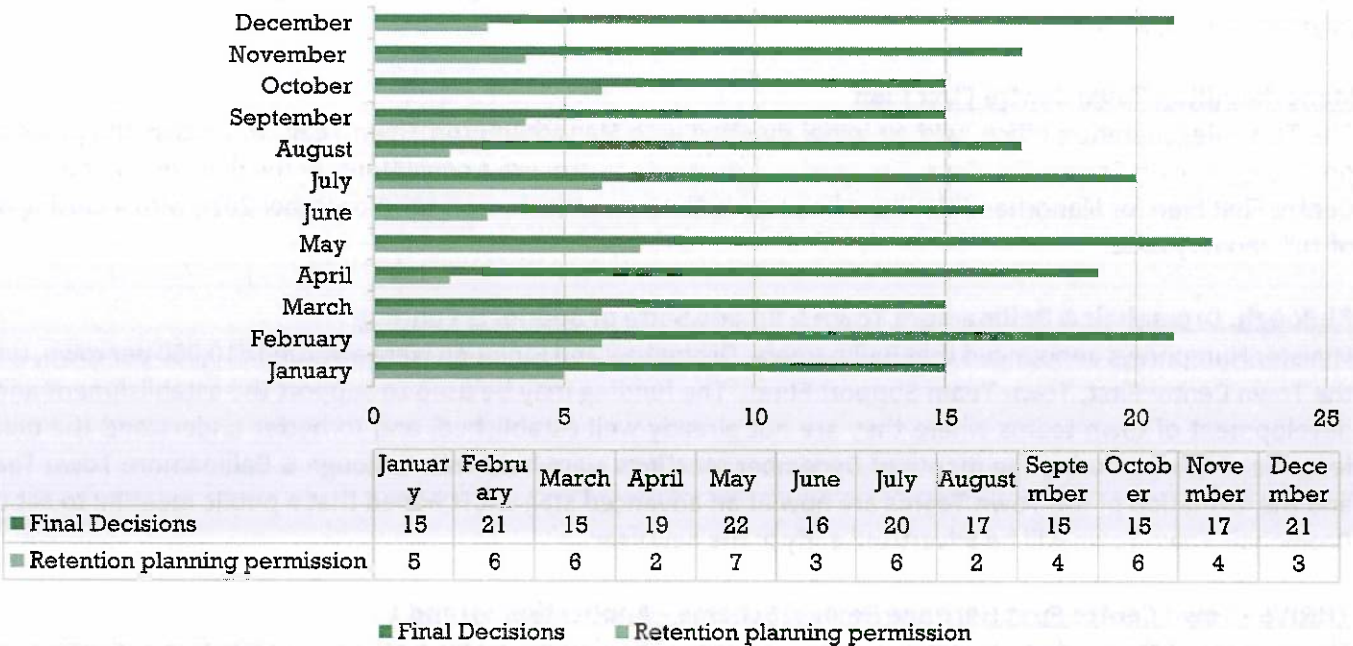
The purpose of the funding stream is to reduce vacancy and dereliction by creating a sustainable and viable reuse of Heritage buildings, in line with Town Centre First Approach. Leitrim County Council successfully secured funding under this scheme to carry out a feasibility study on the Town Hall Building in Carrick on Shannon to establish an end use for the building following widespread consultation process. A public consultation was arranged for the Market Yard on Thursday, 19th December 2024 by Allies & Morrison, this was notified to the public via leaflet drop. In addition, an online survey was launched seeking the ideas & views of the public to assist in determining the future end use of the building.

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

Planning Applications January - December 2024



Breakdown of Planning Decisions January - December 2024



Further Information Requests

	Further Information Requests Issued	Further Information Responses Received	Formal Pre-Planning Enquiries
January	19	11	6
February	6	11	4
March	15	9	17

April	5	14	13
May	8	0	7
June	6	8	6
July	12	8	10
August	9	7	3
September	9	8	5
October	10	4	13
November	12	8	8
December	7	11	16

Forward Planning

Carrick-on-Shannon Joint Local Area Plan

The Elected Members of Carrick-on-Shannon Municipal District and Boyle Municipal District decided separately to make material alterations to the draft Joint Local Area Plan at meetings held on Monday 9th December. The Planning Department will be screening these amendments for the need to undertake environmental assessments and will be placing the material alterations to the draft Plan on display in early January 2025.

Residential Zoned Land Tax

Ongoing mapping updates to the RZLT in December were carried out by the GIS contractors appointed by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. One update to the mapping in December was the updated capacity registers published by Uisce Éireann which lead to the omission of lands in Leitrim Village from the RZLT maps. Annual Draft RZLT map will be published on the 31st of January.

Heritage

- The Heritage Plan Projects for 2025 have been developed and funding applications are being prepared for submission to The Heritage Council.
- The *Community Monument Fund 2025* has been promoted and potential applicants engaged with.
- The Killahurk Ringfort project synopses and all project reports has been sent to *The Shared Island Fund*.
- Three events have been developed for *The Leitrim Gathering*, which will focus on telling the story of The O'Rourke's of Leitrim.

ROADS

Annual Area Programme 2024

The Annual Area Programme of Works for 2024 are now complete. Road crews are continuing to carry out routine maintenance works as necessary. Winter Maintenance (i.e. Gritting of Roads) is being carried out as and when required.

N4 Carrick on Shannon Bypass & Traffic Management Project

The N4 Carrick on Shannon Bypass & Traffic Management Project is progressing as follows:

- Phase 3 Design and Environmental Evaluation is progressing.
- The Phase 3 Design TII peer review took place on the 20th of November and the Design Report is currently being updated
- Surveys ongoing and completed in 2024 include:
 - Ground Investigation Contract

- Hydrology Monitoring
- Topographical Survey Contract
- Ecology Survey Contract
- Ongoing consultations / meetings are currently taking place with different stakeholders including
 - Land and property owners
 - IFI
 - Irish Rail
 - NTA
 - Bord Na Mona
 - TII
 - LCC/RCC Planning departments
 - ESBI and ESB

Pavement Overlays

- **N16 Pavement Overlay Scheme (POS) - Manorhamilton to Cornacloy Phase 1** – This POS Scheme was completed in 2023, and final Retention has now been paid to the Contractor. Awaiting close out Report from Consultant.

Realignment of N16

- **Realignment of the N16 at Drummahon** – Works on this Realignment Scheme are now complete. Awaiting specialist contractor & Manorhamilton District Engineers office to complete additional residual network works.

N16 HD17 Road Safety Inspections – Works include:

- **N15 Tullaghan Traffic Calming** –A revised preliminary design has been submitted to TII and Leitrim County Council await approval from the TII on this revised preliminary design.

N16 Glenfarne VRU improvements – Leitrim County Council to procure a consultant to complete Preliminary design report & detailed design as feasibility and options report has been approved by TII.

Bridge Rehabilitation Works

- Tender documents have been prepared for De-Vegetation Contract for 2025 Bridge Rehabilitation Programme

Specific Improvement Grants – Works include:

- **R280 Killarga** – Design Consultant appointed, and Topographical survey completed. Options Report has been completed and approved by the Department.
- **R278 Junctions** – Proposed Land take drawings issued to Area office for agreement with landowners.
- **R280 Erriff Realignment** – Design Consultant has been appointed and is currently working on Tender Documents for various Surveys required.

Community Involvement Schemes (CIS)

A total of 5 CIS Schemes were completed in 2024 - 3 CIS Schemes in South Leitrim and 2 CIS Schemes in North Leitrim.

Local Improvement Schemes (LIS)

9 LIS schemes were completed in 2024. 4 Schemes in Manorhamilton MD and 5 Schemes in Ballinamore MD. A total LIS Grant of €634,212 was drawn down for these 9 LIS Schemes.

Roads in Charge Queries

Roads in Charge Queries processed this month	YTD Roads in Charge Queries processed
34	375

Abnormal Load Permits

Abnormal Load Permits processed this month	YTD Abnormal Load Permits processed
0	37

Hedge Cutting Grant Scheme

The Hedge Cutting Grant Scheme 2024/2025 remains open. The Grant is €75 per km of roadside hedge/overhanging trees which are cut back, with a new additional Grant of €50 per km to encourage the cutting of dangerous overhanging tree canopies/branches. This gives applicants a potential grant claim of €125 per km. **Closing Date is Friday 31st January 2025.**

No. Of Hedge Cutting Applications Received for Hedge Cutting Grant Scheme 2024/2025	No. Of Hedge Cutting Applications deemed Ineligible/Not Proceeded with	No. Of Hedge Cutting Grants paid up to 31.12.24
42 Applications of which 8 include the Tree Canopy Grant Ballinamore MD = 13 Carrick on Shannon MD = 11 Manorhamilton MD = 18	2	0

Road Safety

A meeting of the Road Safety Working Together Group (RSWTG) was held on 9th December 2024 and included a review of the County Leitrim Road Safety Strategy 2023 – 2030 and Phase 1 Road Safety Action Plan 2023 – 2024.

ACTIVE TRAVEL

Schemes completed in 2024

- Roosky Active Travel Shared Path.
- Drumkeerin Active Travel Scheme.
- Cara Court to Glencarrick Permeability Link
- Safe Routes To School St. Joseph's National School, Leitrim Village.
- Bike Parking
- Bus Stop Enhancement Programme.
- Bus Shelter Programme.

Schemes currently under construction by Leitrim County Council Direct Labour:

- Tullaghan Footpath Connection to Housing Estate
- Dromahaire – Churchfield Active Travel Link
- Ballinamore – Tully Heights connection to Town Environs
- Aughnasheelin Active Travel Link

Schemes currently being progressed by Consultants:

- O'Connor Sutton Cronin - Carrick on Shannon – Leitrim Road Active Travel Scheme:
 - Awaiting Preliminary Design report from consultants.
- Tobins - Scheme 1 - Carrick on Shannon – Attifinlay Roundabout to Summerhill Cycle Scheme and Circular Road Rapid Build Cycle Scheme.
 - Phase 2 – Options Report with NTA for approval – once approved we will progress to Phase 3 Preliminary Design.
- Tobins - Scheme 2 – Town Junctions upgrade – Drumshanbo:
 - Phase 2 – Options Report with NTA for approval – once approved we will progress to Phase 3 Preliminary Design.

Safe Route to Schools

- St. Clare's NS, Manorhamilton – Phase 5 - Detailed design and procurement.

CAPITAL PROJECTS OFFICE

Carrick on Shannon Flood Relief Scheme

Following a recent Public Consultation Day which took place on the 7th of November, the Steering Group met at the end of November, following submission from various stakeholders following the recent PCD the program was updated accordingly with certainty looking toward lodging a planning application. A design freeze is becoming more and more critical at this stage having identified a preferred scheme. Full details of the project are available on the project website www.carrickonshannonfrs.ie.

Leitrim Village Flood Relief Scheme

A preferred Option for the Scheme has been identified and will be on Display to the public on Wednesday the 22nd of January 2025 in the St. Joseph's Resource Centre. The Project team will continue to engage with the relevant landowners affected in advance of our upcoming PCD currently scheduled for mid-February 2025. Full details of the project are available on website www.leitrimvillagefrs.ie

Mohill Flood Relief Scheme

The hydraulic analysis and economic feasibility on this project to determine the need/extent for flood defenses have been substantially complete in Mohill by OPW in partnership with LCC Capital Projects Office. We await OPW's determination on the Scheme progressing to Planning Consent & Construction.

OPW Minor Flood Schemes

Dromahair Scheme

The Capital Projects Team are currently liaising with the planning department in finalizing documents in advance of applying for planning consent to ABP in Q1 2005.

Leitrim Village (Keadue Road Scheme) Scheme

The earthen berm is 95% complete with tidying of the site remaining thereafter, installation of the non-return flap valve has yet to be undertaken, delivery of the gate is due in early February. Works adjacent to Drumheirny Manor are almost complete with raising of the pumping station lids remaining, this requires working in tandem with a 3rd party contractor who has been employed by Rural Water to carry out internal mechanical works.

Manorhamilton Minor Works Scheme

An onsite meeting was held with Manorhamilton District Office staff, they have set about to contact landowners identified to gain access to the river edge. Manorhamilton MD staff will liaise with Fisheries Inspector for the Northern Region to ensure works are undertaken with their consent and advice. These works are scheduled to commence in early January.

Carrick on Shannon Urban Regeneration Scheme

Four construction contracts have been undertaken as part of this Scheme

- Reconstruction of Footpaths and Roads Main Street/St George's Terrace/Approach roads
- Construction of Car Park at Flynn's Field
- Construction of Boardwalk along river edge
- Lighting of N4 Bridge and Boardwalk at Linear Park

All work is complete except the Bridge and Boardwalk lighting contract. A substantial completion certificate has been issued for the Scheme.

Mohill Public Realm Scheme

Footway Paving is 99% complete with only USP reinstatements remaining. ESB completed diversions in December which will enable reinstatements to service pits. The works at Eivers Lane are now complete. The following tasks remain outstanding:

- Reconstruction of Carriageway
- Works to library
- Public Lighting
- Installation of Planters & Street Furniture

Works were suspended on the main thoroughfare for the Christmas period and resumed on Monday 06.01.25.

Drumshanbo ExChange

Part 8 planning approval was obtained at the February 2024 MD meeting. RRDF Funding approval has been received to construct the project. Mc Cabe Architects have been appointed as the Design team to prepare detailed design and construction contract documents. It is expected that the scheme will go to tender Q1 2025.

Carrick Business Campus

DHB Architects have been appointed as design consultants for the project. Detailed design for phase 2 of the building is ongoing. It is expected that the scheme will go to tender Q1 2025.

Drumshanbo Food Innovation & Knowledge Hub

Work on the appointment of a Design Team for this Scheme is currently ongoing.

Shannonside Recreational Campus

Work is underway on the preparation of on tender documents to appoint a Design Consultant. It is expected that competition will be advertised on eTenders before the end of Jan 2025.

Manorhamilton NCYS Building

Tenders for the construction contract have now been returned and are being assessed. Works may have to be carried out in Phases due to budget constraints. It is hoped that additional funding will be granted in Q2 2025 to enable project to be completed in full.

SLNCR Greenway – Sligo to Enniskillen

Arup Consulting Engineers have been appointed as Design consultant for the project. Phase I - Concept and Feasibility of the project is complete. Phase II – Options selection stage is well under way. A TII Peer Review took place on the Option Selection Report on 29th August 2024 and the report has now been updated and submitted to TII for approval. Meetings to take place with DFI Northern Ireland & TII in relation to approval process WebTag UK Standards in January 2025 and agree a DFI approval process for works in Fermanagh. It is expected that an Emerging Preferred Corridor will be on Public Display in Feb/March 2025 which is dependent on TII/DFI approvals. Full details on web site www.slncr-greenway.com.

Carrick on Shannon to Battlebridge Blueway

Jennings O'Donovan Consultants have been appointed as Design Consultant for this Scheme. Phase 3, Detailed Design and Environmental evaluation is nearing completion on the preferred route. An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR), NIS and AA screening report are currently being reviewed by legal counsel. It is expected that a Planning application will be lodged to An Bord Pleanála once the review is complete, and amendments made to documents.

Hartley Bridge

Planning approval received from an Bord Pleanála in Dec 2023. Funding received from Dept of Transport to advance this project. Punch Consulting Engineers have been appointed and are working on detailed design and tender documents. It is expected that the tender will be published in Q1 2025 subject to funding approval. Site vegetation is scheduled to commence in the coming weeks following Onsite meeting was held with Carrick on Shannon MD.

Dromod Roosky Greyway

Part 8 planning consent was obtained at the September 2024 MD meeting. Funding options for the construction stage and currently been investigated.

Fenagh Abbey Trail

Details on the proposed scheme are being finalised and Work is ongoing on reports and documents required for submission for Part 8 Panning consent for the proposed scheme.

Carrick on Shannon Destination Towns

A substantial completion Certificate has been issued for the scheme.

HOUSING, CORPORATE SERVICES, COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Housing Allocations

Offers issued to 31 st December 2024	Offers accepted	Acceptance Rate	Offers refused	Refusal Rate	Awaiting Reply
8	5	71%	2	29%	1

New Tenancies created to 31st December 2024

Existing tenants transferred to alternative accommodation to 31 st December 2024	New Tenants (1 st time allocation)
0	2

Traveller Accommodation Programme TAP July 2019 – June 2024 – (Amended to Dec 2024) Progress Report at 31st December 2024

Accommodation Type	2019 to 2024 5 year targets Targets	Outputs achieved at 31st December 2024 (Inc 7 No. outputs from 01.01.19 to 30.06.19
Group Housing Scheme – Existing		2
Service Block – Existing		1
Local Authority Standard Housing		37 (Including 12 No Offers refused)
Rental Accommodation Scheme (incl. renewals)		5 (Including Renewals)
Long Term Leasing SHLI (incl. renewals)		1
Housing provided by Approved Housing Body under CAS Scheme		1
Housing Assistance Payment (incl new family formations)		1
Totals		
	25	48 (5 Year Target is 25 units = 192%)

Private Rented Inspection Programme

Overall target for delivery in 2024 For Dwellings Inspected Target – 280 308 (25% of registered rented properties in Leitrim) (Note: Department updated target to 308)	No of Dwellings inspected to 31st December 2024 Total – 309	% Complete (Department Target 280 308) (Note: Department updated target to 308) 100.32%	Overall target for delivery in 2024 For Total Inspections completed Target – 345 (Depending on number of Re-inspections carried out)	No of inspections completed to 31st December 2024 (Total number of inspections including Re-inspections) Total – 345
--	---	---	---	--

HOUSING GRANTS

NOTE:

HGD = Housing Adaptation Grant; MAG = Mobility Aids Grant; HOP = Housing Aid for Older People

2025 Allocation ¹ - €690,099.15		(80% of allocation - €552,079.32)		
01/12/2024 - 31/12/2024	GRANT	NO	VALUE	
PAID 2024	HGD	1	€3,769.60	
	MAG	3	€12,848.00	
	HOP	2	€3,785.50	
	TOTAL	6	€20,403.10	€20,403.10
Approved not paid ²	HGD	52	€490,771.58	
	MAG	20	€80,527.00	
	HOP	82	€365,004.05	
	TOTAL	154	€936,302.63	€936,302.63
Applications Rec'd Not Yet Approved ³ Estimated (Averaged @ €2,000 / Grant)	HGD	5	€50,000.00	
	MAG	8	€24,000.00	
	HOP	35	€175,000.00	
	TOTAL	48	€249,000.00	€249,000.00
				Available Balance: €-515,606.58

¹ 65% of 2024 Allocation of €1,061,691 (2025 Allocation not yet received)

² Includes applications approved in 2023/2024, not yet paid

³ Includes applications received in 2024, not yet approved

Local Enhancement Programme 2025

Funding for the Local Enhancement Programme 2025 was announced on 7th November by Ministers Heather Humphreys and Joe O'Brien. Of the €7million fund, Leitrim's allocation is as follows: **€102,037 capital funding** to use towards carrying out necessary repairs and improvements to facilities, energy efficiency type projects, purchase of equipment etc.

€17,006 current funding to be used towards running costs e.g. rental/lease costs, utility bills, insurance costs.

The following funding will be available: Capital Funding Grants up to €5000, Current Funding Grants up to €750. The online application form will open on 10th January 2025

Age Friendly Programme

Leitrim and Sligo Co. Co. are exploring a joint Age Friendly event to be hosted by ATU Sligo. The ATU are planning to be the first Age Friendly certified third level institution in the country and are providing the Knocknarea Arena at no cost to support the event. Requirements and schedule for the day are being compiled and will be reviewed shortly.

Healthy Ireland

Healthy Leitrim continues to receive end of year reports and are progressing with plans for 2025. Planning is in place to create a more coordinated approach to the two funding outcomes. Meetings with all implementing partners are under way for 2025 funding, with expression of interest forms circulating. Healthy Leitrim are on course to have all reports completed by the February 15th deadline for POBAL and Healthy Ireland.

Community Recognition Fund

The deadline for submissions to the third and final window 3 of the Community Recognition Fund 2024 was extended to 20th December 2024.

PEACEPLUS**Tendered Programmes**

The following tenders for PEACEPLUS projects are currently open on eTenders for submissions. Closing dates for tenders are between the 10th and 17th February 2025

- Community Development Training & Education
- Voice of Women in Rural Ireland
- Traveller Community Programme
- Digital Hubs for Young People
- Environmental awareness & Biodiversity programme

PEACEPLUS Small Grants

The Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB) and Pobal are currently preparing to open two new PEACEPLUS grants schemes aimed at grassroots communities. The Change Makers Funds, due to open for applications in January 2025, will distribute €40 Million over the next three years to support people to people projects on a cross community and/ or cross-border basis. A series of information events are being run for regional bodies, umbrella groups, statutory agencies, elected representatives, and other stakeholders. Grants will range from €5,000 to €100,000.

Just to note these events are not for community & voluntary groups – there will be a series of events rolled out for them later in the Spring and the Council will have no involvement in these grants – it will be Pobal rolling them out.

Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP)

The Department of Justice have advised that Pat Forde will assume the role of Chairperson of the LCSP in Leitrim. Shortlisting is taking place for the Grade VII post for the The Community Safety Coordinator with interviews for the post to be scheduled once complete. LCSP's are to be established in each Local Authority Area in line with the Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2014.

Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT)

The Integration Team are continuing to conduct clinics within IPAS centres to identify needs of the residences/families living in the centres.

The team are meeting with agencies to communicate the role and functions of the LAIT and to ensure we all work together for the positive outcomes of Beneficiaries of temporary protection and internationally protected individual/families.

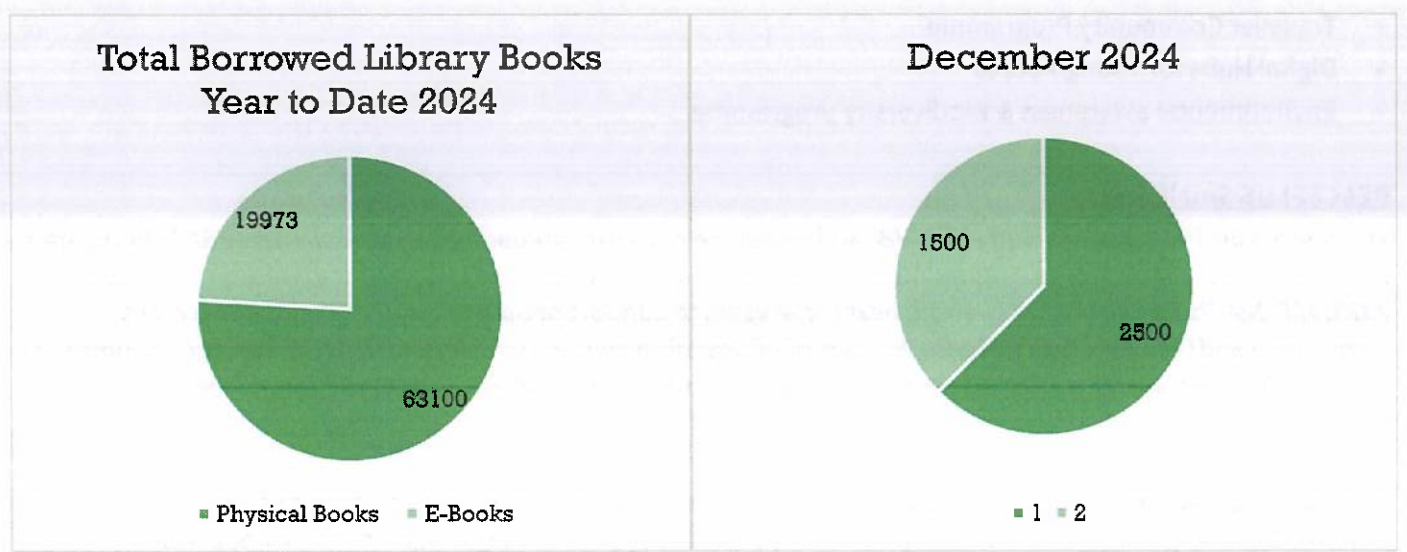
The Integration Team held a community event on December 19th in Ballinamore. Families from Abbey Manor and Carraig Accommodation along with members from the surrounding community and Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection (BTOP) attended. In total 120 people/families attended the event.

LEITRIM SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

The following programmes took place in December:

- **Kids on the Run**
Introduction to running for primary School Children from 3rd-6th class.
Naomh Mhuire Carrick on Shannon
Annaduff N.S
- **Safeguarding 3**
Designated liaison training 3-hour online workshop.
- **Couch to 3k programme**
Drumshanbo couch to 3k programme
- **Health and Wellbeing Programme**
HSE Health and Wellbeing Pilates Classes in Manorhamilton Hospital for patients and staff

LIBRARY SERVICES



Regular events taking place in many of the libraries included Yoga sessions, Knitting and Craft groups, Bridge Clubs, Language Learning, Reading groups, Writer's Groups and multiple school visits.

Drumshanbo Library hosted the MSLETB Art & Photography Exhibition and Carrick-on-Shannon Library hosted the local Tidy Towns Art Exhibition which was inspired by the heritage buildings in the town.

The Local Studies Library organised a talk entitled 'An Emerging Nation: Ireland 1937 to 1973' which was delivered by local historian Padraig Griffin in Ballinamore Library

Family Time at Your Library events took place in a number of libraries. Carrigallen Library hosted Christmas stories and craft sessions and also a Christmas Quiz Night.

A range of Christmas themed events took place across the library network. A fun linen Christmas Stocking activity was hosted by Manorhamilton Library where Jane and Dominic from Lough Melvin Studios provided lots of inspiration to the children from 3rd class at St. Clare's Primary School. Santa's Post Box in Drumshanbo Library proved to be very popular and Mohill Library had some Advent Calendar making workshops.

SIGNED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Signed: 

Joseph Gilhooly Chief Executive

Date: 13th January , 2025