



Comhairle Chontae Liatroma
Leitrim County Council

Chief Executive Monthly Management Report

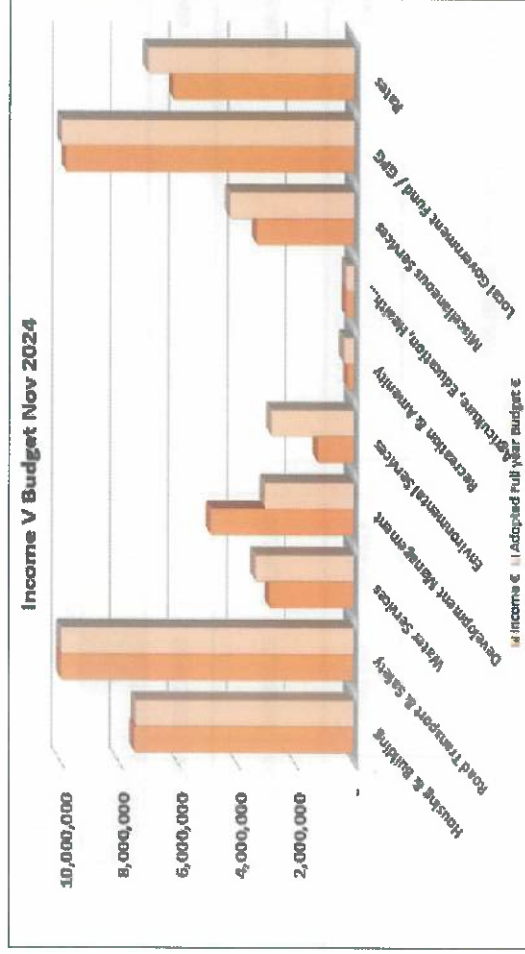
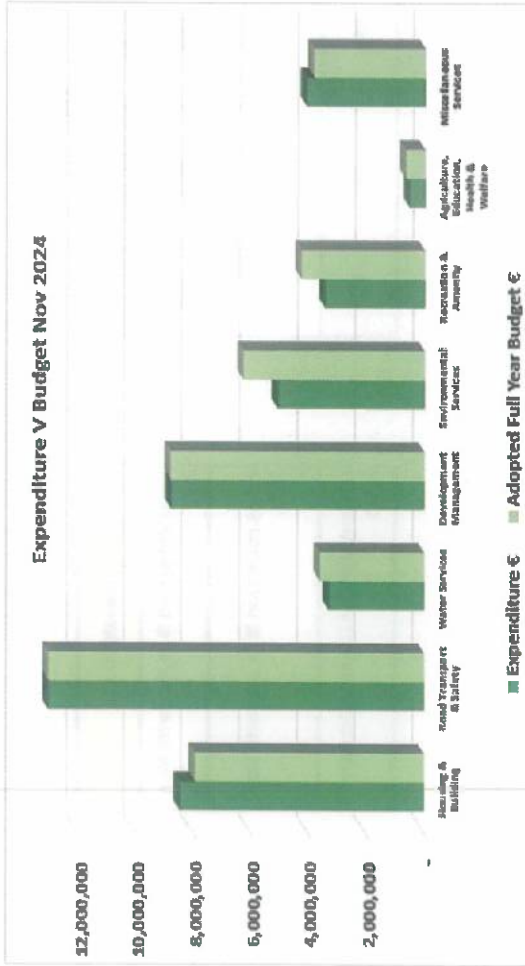
November 2024



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

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FINANCE, WATER SERVICES, ENVIRONMENT & EMERGENCY SERVICES



Nov 2024 - Revenue Account Income & Expenditure Summary by Service Division

[PRELIMINARY NOV. 2024 - FIGURES]

	EXPENDITURE			Budget Remaining €
	Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent	
A Housing & Building	8,406,625	7,902,729	106%	(503,896)
B Road Transport & Safety	22,024,130	17,502,847	126%	(4,521,283)
C Water Services	3,252,631	3,559,662	91%	307,031
D Development Management	8,723,138	8,741,808	100%	18,670
E Environmental Services	5,637,254	6,236,437	91%	1,199,183
F Recreation & Amenity	3,391,336	4,219,543	80%	828,207
G Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	498,256	629,228	79%	128,972
H Miscellaneous Services	4,055,097	3,798,846	107%	(256,161)
LG Local Government Fund / GPC	0	0	0%	0
RA Rates	0	0	0%	0
	€55,389,378	€52,591,121	105%	(€2,798,257)

	INCOME			Budget outstanding €
	Income €	Adopted Full year Budget €	% Budget Raised	
A Housing & Building	7,468,075	7,432,718	100%	(35,357)
B Road Transport & Safety	19,002,535	13,256,033	144%	(5,826,502)
C Water Services	2,878,220	3,359,654	86%	481,434
D Development Management	4,883,541	3,047,571	160%	(1,835,970)
E Environmental Services	1,226,806	2,821,788	43%	1,594,982
F Recreation & Amenity	205,742	360,643	58%	144,901
G Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	269,352	271,693	99%	2,331
H Miscellaneous Services	3,329,642	4,255,070	78%	925,428
LG Local Government Fund / GPC	9,843,250	10,738,081	92%	894,841
RA Rates	6,172,970	7,057,870	87%	884,900
	€55,389,133	€52,591,121	105%	(€2,768,012)

	NET	
	Actual Overall Surplus/ (Deficit) €	Fav/(Unfav) €
A Housing & Building	(938,550)	(468,539)
B Road Transport & Safety	(2,941,595)	1,305,219
C Water Services	(374,411)	(174,383)
D Development Management	(3,839,593)	1,854,640
E Environmental Services	(3,810,448)	(395,799)
F Recreation & Amenity	(3,185,594)	683,306
G Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	(229,304)	127,641
H Miscellaneous Services	(725,365)	(1,181,589)
LG Local Government Fund / GPC	9,843,250	(894,841)
RA Rates	6,172,970	(884,900)
	(€29,246)	(€29,246)

MAIN POINTS AS AT END OF Nov, 2024

- Housing includes Croi Conaithe
- Development Mgt includes ICOB payout for 2024

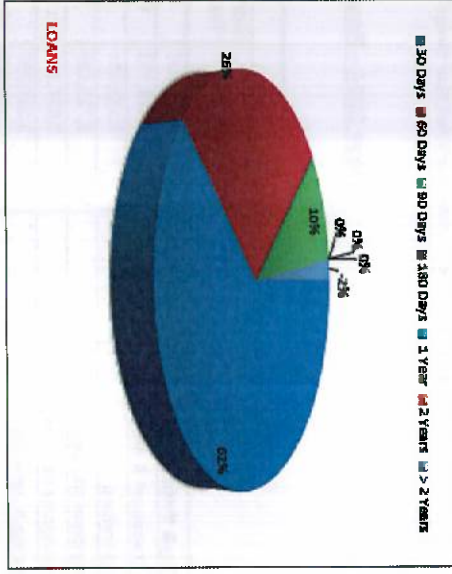
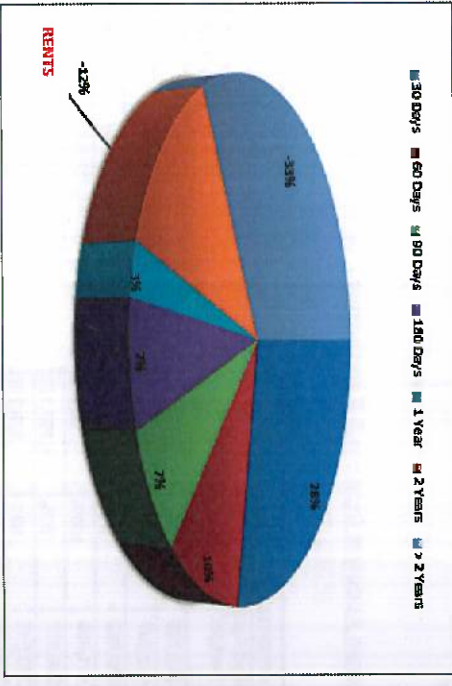
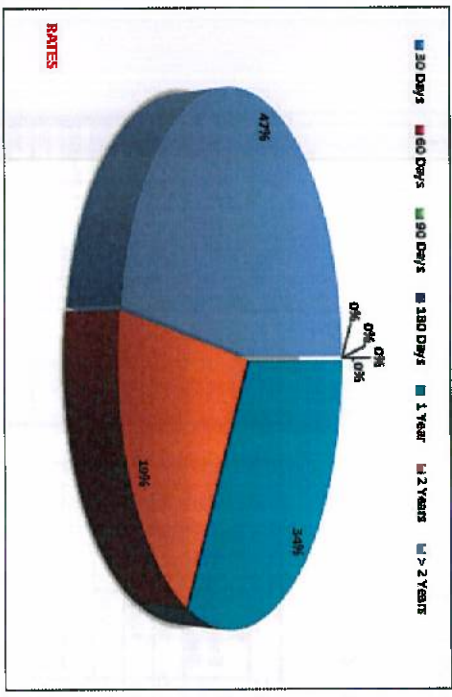
2024 - Collection Rates

	YTD		
	€ Nov-24	€ Nov-23	€ FY 2023
Housing Rents	€2,678,125	€2,462,938	€2,706,795
Commercial Rates	€6,172,970	€5,813,972	€5,006,946
Housing Loans	€280,041	€271,005	€295,948

	YTD		
	% Nov-24	% Nov-23	% FY 2023
Housing Rents	98%	98%	98%
Commercial Rates	76%	76%	77%
Housing Loans	86%	83%	84%

COMMENTARY
Rents collection % in line with Nov 2023
Rates collection % in line with Nov 2023.
Improvement on Loans collection rates

Nov 2024 - Aged Debt Analysis



	30 Days	60 Days	90 Days	180 Days	1 Year	2 Years	> 2 Years
RATES	€0	€0	€0	€1,221,980	€578,716	€1,714,859	€0
RENTS	€133,476	€45,977	€35,720	€32,831	€14,135	€58,271	€154,580
LOANS	€22,317	€9,514	€3,495	€0	€0	€0	€578

Climate Action Plan

Climate Action (CA) progressed through participation in a number of meetings, workshops and information sessions over November

1. Fiona Hannon IACT (International Academy of Computer Training) gave a training demonstration of the Microsoft Planner package to be used for reporting on the Climate Action Plan Actions to the whole-of-Council CA Committee (6 November 2024). A recording was made available for those who missed the session and for the benefit of future changes to the CA Committee.
2. Leitrim CC partnered with ATU (Atlantic Technological University) / SLEA (Sligo Leitrim Energy Agency) to deliver an information session on retrofitting of homes in the Decarbonising Zone, held in the Breifne Family Resource Centre (evening of 13 November 2024). The event was well attended. Sligo Leitrim Energy Agency are offering a full Home Energy Assessment for €200 for the 1st 50 homes to sign up with the intention of moving to the grant application stage. The event and discounted energy assessments are facilitated under the Local Energy Agencies in Peripheral Regions (LEAP) project.
3. A kick-off meeting between Leitrim CC with Tipperary Energy Agency (TEA) under the EU LIFE funded project OwnYourSECAP was held on 28 November 2024. Scope of assistance on implementation of a number of actions in the LCC CAP (Energy Management System, District Heating & Community Energy and Energy Induction) to be agreed.
4. Development of draft Energy Management System (EnMS) documentation is ongoing. Intention to review data more regularly with the Energy WG. Energy Policy drafted for signing by CE.
5. There was a whole-of-Council meeting on 28 November 2024, last of the year (Minutes documented). Feedback from the Working Groups, requirements for reporting under Microsoft Planner, standing item on climate action education and awareness. Presentation of ATU on Sustainable Energy Communities. Most Councils have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with SEAI to bridge fund on a rolling basis Energy Master Plans for SECs in the County. It was also discussed that a SEC supporting the vision of the Decarbonising Zone with leaders within Carrick-on-Shannon would be helpful on awareness and action and be a good starting point on involving external stakeholders on a DZ taskforce.
6. Agreement to undertake a DZ awareness video after agreeing funding under the Climate Action Works (via E&M CARO).
7. Leitrim CC represented on the Agents for Change Conference organised by the LA Climate Action forum (5 November 2024).
8. Reclaim for period 1 November 2023 to 31 October 2024 made to DECC for administration of climate action implementation in Leitrim County Council and remaining costs relating to the making of the Plan (28 November 2024)

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 confirmed that Phase 2 of the CCAP Fund will not open for calls until 2025 (details to be confirmed), there will be a phase on engagement with the community ahead of phase commencement.

Phase 3 of the Green Clubs was launched in Croke Park on 9 November 2024, Climate Action had a representative present on behalf of Leitrim County Council.

VETERINARY SERVICE

Slaughter Returns

AM/PM Examinations	8
Cattle	29
Sheep	62
Pigs	16
Goats	0

Premises Inspections

Premises Inspections	5
Food Samples	0
Environmental Swabs	0
Water Samples	0
Veterinary Residue Samples	2
Carcass Swabs	14
TB Lesions	0

Dog Warden Service Activities

Stray Dogs	10
Surrendered Dogs	2
Seized Dogs	0
Dogs Re-Homed	15
Dogs Reclaimed	1
Dog Deaths	0
Dogs Euthanised	0
Warden Service Requests	27
Dog Fouling Complaints	2
Barking Complaints	0
Livestock Attacks by Dogs	1
Dog Control & Roaming Complaints	9
Dog License Inspections	62
Dogs Neutered	2
Neutering Vouchers Issued	12
Dogs Micro-Chipped	13
Fines Issued – Dogs	3
Statutory Notices Issued	1
Newspaper Articles/ Radio	4
School/ Community Workshops	0
Social Media Posts	68
Stray Horses Seized	0
Stray Cats Neutered	2
Animal Carcasses Removed	1
Dog Waste Station Service Visits	57
Dog Waste Bags Dispensed	3200

RURAL WATER PROGRAMME

On the 6th of November, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage advised Leitrim County Council that a decision has been made on the funding for capital projects under the Multi Annual Rural Water Programme 2024-2026 for 5 out of the 8 measures. The Expert Panel are continuing its evaluation of the applications received under the other 3 remaining measures.

Leitrim County Council had applied for funding under 6 of these measures.

Under the 5 measures that funding has been approved to date, Leitrim County Council were successful in securing funding for 13 projects with the total funding awarded for these projects of €1,073,152.

Below is a summary of the funding approved to date:

Measures LCC applied for Funding	No of Projects Approved	Amount Approved
Measure A1	3	€48,436
Measure A2	1	€9,720
Measure A3	1	€78,000
Measure A6(c)	8	€936,996
Total	13	€1,073,152

FIRE SERVICE

Fire Stations

Existing Fire Stations

Proposals are under development to amend the facilities within the existing fire stations to accommodate the increase in the number of firefighters per station are set out in the WRC Agreement.

WRC agreement for retained firefighters.

A meeting between Fire Service Management and all Junior Officers was held on 20th November 2024. Proposals were discussed about the introduction of Structured Time off and the transition to fortnightly pay. A meeting between Leitrim County Council and SIPTU Fire is scheduled for December 2024 to review the implementation of the WRC agreement.

Recruitment

Initial training for the next set of new recruits is continuing in Donegal. It is hoped to have them operational within the county before the end of 2024.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING, AND INFRASTRUCTURE

LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE (LEO)

Mentoring

Two Digital Marketing Review Clinics took place during Nov. These free one-to-one clinics were offered online and in person.

Training

Our November training schedule covered a wide range of topics including 'How To Develop A Winning Business Plan', 'MicroFinance Ireland Loans Information Session', 'Small Business Accounts', 'Manage Stress, Enhance Productivity and Well-Being in the Workplace', 'Managing Your Cash Flow & Forecasting' and 'Workshop for Limited Company Directors'. Our training programmes are delivered in a hybrid fashion with some taking place online and others in-person and all are free of charge.

Local Enterprise Office Leitrim also hosted a successful 'Networking & Mindfulness For The Creative Sector' event on November 14th in The Dock Arts Centre, Carrick On Shannon. A mindfulness session was provided by Aliene Slein and the event was facilitated by Fran Best. Approx 20 creative businesses gathered on the day to network and exchange ideas. The feedback was positive, and the sector has asked LEO Leitrim to facilitate something similar again in 2025.

Outreach Office

An Outreach Office took place in Manorhamilton during November and continues every month/six weeks.

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 design equipment that is available.

In early November the Creative Heartlands Winter Makethon was held in the Dock as part of Irish Design Week. Creative sector representatives from across the region were in attendance and availed of access to the Digital Fabrication equipment that is available under the programme.

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 now in Q1 October with 2 businesses from Leitrim being mentored by senior entrepreneurs in the region. 12 senior entrepreneurs have been secured 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. Mapping of skills provision, supply chain and development of a Centre of Excellence proposal are ongoing. A letter has been sent to Chief Executives to commence investigations into use of excess energy in the region.

Infrastructure report

In November, the NW REP hosted an online webinar for businesses in the region which inputted into a report commissioned through the NW REP and funded by DETE entitled “The Impact of infrastructure on businesses in the Northwest region”. The webinar was well attended with lively discussion from businesses.

Next REP Development

DETE have tendered for an external consultant to do a review of the REP’s (purpose, effectiveness, governance format) and the output in Q1 2025 will be used in the creation of the new REP 2025-2029. There will be opportunities for Leitrim to input into this tender over the coming months. A meeting has been scheduled with stakeholders in the NW REP to outline the process for the next year and to commence their input into the strategic objectives of the plan.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LCDC

A meeting of the LCDC and LAG took place on 20th November.

ORIS Scheme 2024

The new ORIS scheme closing dates for Measure 1 and Project Development Measure expressions of interest is 11th December and for Measures 2 and 3 is 7th February.

Broadband

Ongoing response to general queries re Broadband. Continuing to liaise with NBI on Licences and processing of same. Continuing to work with BCPs and Our Kids Code to schedule kids coding workshops in the community, Aghanish, Leitrim Gaels and Gortletteragh availed of our Kids Code workshops in November and Killargue BCP is being explored for early 2024. Two Vex robotics workshops in two BCPs took place in November, Aghanish and Gortletteragh. Preparation commenced for the RFT for the new Leitrim Digital Strategy. Promotion of the Microsoft Dreamspace programme was delivered to national schools, 3 schools attend an in person workshops with the Dreamspace Team at the end of November, 4 schools have signed up to the programme to date.

Carrick Campus

Ongoing promotion of the space available at Carrick Campus. A new website has now gone live www.carrickbusinesscampus.ie. Updated promotional brochure also developed.

Once off Christmas Support

The once off support received a great interest and 19 projects received letters of offer, sharing the €50,000 allocated by the Department.

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. The Call inviting applications from Community Groups wishing to organise events to coincide with ‘The Leitrim Gathering’ closed in October and 14 projects have been approved financial assistance to support proposed events.

Purple Flag

The full formal adjudication assessment took place on 16th November. Decision awaited.

LECP Progress Review

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

Excellence in Local Government Awards 2024

Leitrim County Council were shortlisted for Excellence in Local Government Awards under Promoting Economic Development category for the acquisition and development of Carrick Business Campus, but were unsuccessful on the night of the awards.

Sustainable Mobility Projects

Further to the successful 6 month pilot of a shared e car service in Carrick on Shannon, a new e car tender has gone out seeking expressions of interest to supply an e car facility in Carrick on Shannon and Manorhamilton.

LAMA Awards

Two submissions were made to the LAMA awards namely Tullaghan Access to the Sea and The Junction, Ballinamore.

Interreg Peer Review

An application submitted for an Interreg Peer Review for sustainable mobility in rural areas has been successful and will mean engaging with other rural areas throughout Europe to look at best practices, with the online meeting scheduled for next February.

TOURISM

Marketing

The Tourism section is currently in the process of developing a comprehensive marketing plan for the year 2025. This plan will launch an extensive countywide marketing campaign to promote local attractions, events, and experiences. The campaign has successfully secured funding through the Leader program to support this initiative, which will help amplify outreach and engagement with potential visitors. In addition, the plan will incorporate various strategies, including social media promotion, collaborative partnerships with local businesses, and targeted advertising efforts to showcase our county's unique offerings effectively.

Visitor information App

The initial meeting to develop a visitor information app was successfully held. This innovative app is being funded through the Leader Programme, which aims to support projects that enhance local tourism and community development. The members of the Tourism Forum will oversee this initiative, ensuring that the application meets visitors' needs and effectively promotes the region. During the meeting, various aspects of the app's features, target audience, and overall objectives were discussed, laying the groundwork for its future development.

IAAT Conference

The Tourism team participated in the Ireland Association for Adventure Tourism Conference, which addressed various topics, including climate change, insurance, accessibility, and government funding. The conference attracted 400 participants engaged in the adventure tourism sector.

Festival & Events

The final claims for festivals and events are being processed; all festivals and events are currently being promoted through social media platforms and on the Enjoy Leitrim website.

The festival development initiative has successfully concluded its initial round of consultations, gathering valuable feedback and insights from community members, local organisations, and stakeholders involved in the cultural and tourism sectors. Following the positive response, additional consultations are scheduled early in the upcoming year, allowing further discussion and input. The culmination of this initiative will be a comprehensive final report that aims to provide detailed recommendations for establishing at least three new festivals within the county. These festivals are intended to enhance community engagement, promote local culture, and boost tourism in the area.

Acres Lake

Ongoing site work at Acres Lake is progressing, and a series of informational events is scheduled for tourism providers who currently utilise the Acres Lake facilities.

TOWN REGENERATION

Croí Conaithe – Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant

The Croí Cónaithe 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. To date 228 applications have been received, 109 have been received since January 2024, 35 Grants have been paid out to date.

Town Teams

The Town Regeneration Officer and the Vacant Homes Officer continue to engage with town teams on general issues, town team governance and structure issues.

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 finalised during September and quotes will now be sought from a number of consultants.

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

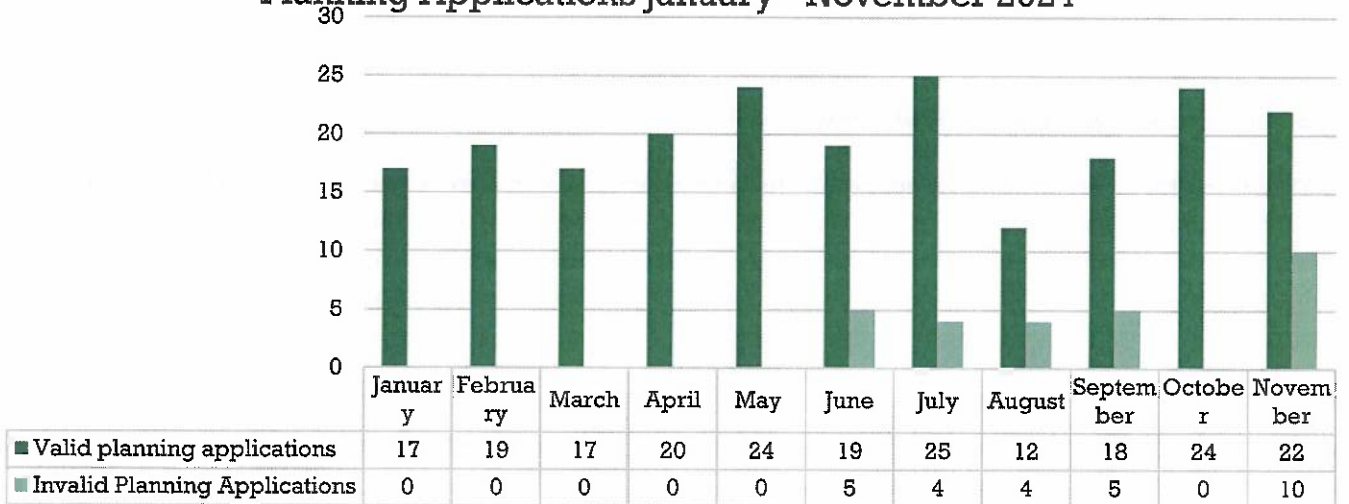
Minister Humphreys announced that Ballinamore, Dromahair and Kinlough were awarded €10,000 per town, under the Town Centre First, Town Team Support Fund. The funding may be used to support the establishment and/or development of town teams where they are not already well established, and to better understand the unique features of towns. During the month of September two meetings were held with Ballinamore Town Team and the formation of the Town Team is now at an advanced stage. An advertisement was placed in the Leitrim Observer to hold a public meeting for the establishment of Kinlough Town Team on Thursday, 03rd October 2024 in Kinlough Community Centre and it is hoped that a public meeting to set up a Dromahair Town Team, will also be advertised shortly.

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

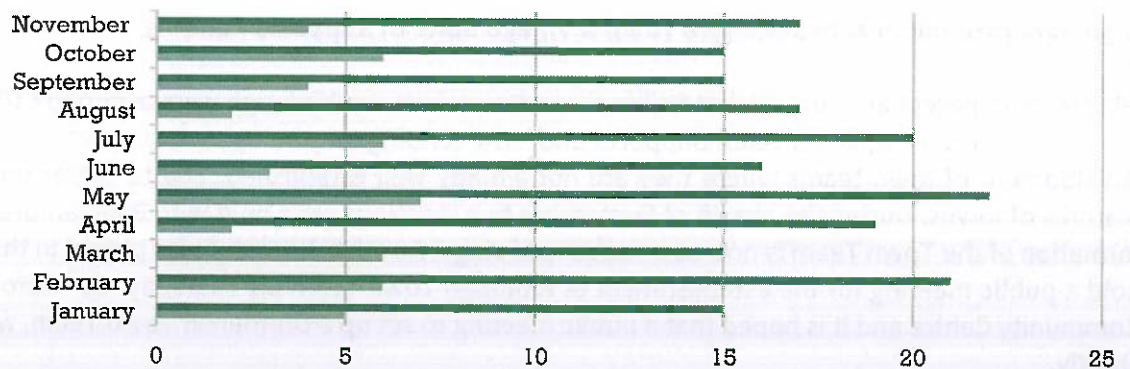
The purpose of the funding stream is to reduce vacancy and dereliction by creating a sustainable and viable reuse of Heritage buildings, in line with Town Centre First Approach. Leitrim County Council successfully secured funding under this scheme to carry out a feasibility study on the Town Hall Building in Carrick on Shannon to establish an end use for the building following widespread consultation process. The project is now at procurement stage and is currently going through evaluation.

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

Planning Applications January - November 2024



Breakdown of Planning Decisions January - November 2024



	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November
Final Decisions	15	21	15	19	22	16	20	17	15	15	17
Retention planning permission	5	6	6	2	7	3	6	2	4	6	4

■ Final Decisions ■ Retention planning permission

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

Forward Planning

Carrick-on-Shannon Joint Local Area Plan

The draft of the joint Local Area Plan for Carrick-on-Shannon, to include the village of Cortober, was published on 14th August. Submissions and observations were sought before 4th October 2024. A Local Transport Plan forms part of the joint Local Area Plan. A new dedicated website www.carrickjointplan.ie provides updates of the process. A total of 37 no. submissions were received with respect to the Draft Plan. The Chief Executives' report with respect to these submissions and recommending a series of amendments to the draft Plan issued to the Elected Members on 12th November. A workshop to discuss this report and outline the next steps in the process was held on 26th November with individual notices of motion by Elected Members having to be submitted no later than Friday 29th November.

Heritage

- The *O'Rourke's of Leitrim* Heritage Audit and Interpretation Plan and the *Leitrim Heritage Outreach Project* have both been completed. The Audit includes in depth historical and archaeological research into the historical O'Rourke's of Leitrim and the recommendations from the report will be used to develop future outreach projects. The recoupment claim has been submitted to the Heritage Council.
- The *Leitrim Wetland Survey Phase III* has been completed with all project data / reports submitted and funding claim submitted to the Department Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
- The launch of both the Community Monument Fund 2025 and the Historic Structures Fund 2025 has been promoted and potential applicants engaged.
- Five episodes of a new *Connecting Through Heritage* Podcast Series has been recorded, with elderly Leitrim residents having been interviewed on the heritage of their local area. These episodes are now being edited and will be launched in the New Year.
- Two new videos have been produced telling the story of Seán MacDiarmada and his homestead in Kiltyclogher. These videos form part of the *Connecting Through Heritage* YouTube series and will be launched in the New Year.

Biodiversity

- All Ireland Pollinator Plan: Leitrim County Council's annual report to National Biodiversity Data Centre was submitted as a Council partner.
- Local Biodiversity Action Fund: Funding recoupment has been submitted to NPWS for the 5 no. biodiversity projects which were all completed in 2024
- Heritage Council: Local Biodiversity Action Plan funding recoupment has been submitted to the Heritage Council for actions related to the development of the Biodiversity Action Plan.

ROADS

Annual Area Programme 2024

The Annual Area Programme of Works for 2024 are now substantially 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:

- The Phase 3 Design TII peer review took place on the 20th of November, the design team are currently addressing the comments
- The Design Report will be updated pending conclusion of the peer review process.
- Consultations are currently taking place with
 - 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.
- **N16 Pavement Overlay Scheme (POS) - Manorhamilton to Cornacloy Phase 2** – This POS commenced in November 2024 and works are now substantially completed.
- **N4 Pavement Overlay Scheme – Carrick on Shannon** – Consultants are currently working on the design and tender documents for this Pavement Overlay Scheme. Going forward this will be advertised for tender subject to TII approval. However, Consultants are also looking at additional drainage works required due to poor condition of storm drainage. Once detailed drainage design is completed, this pavement overlay scheme will be tendered.

Realignment of N16

- **Realignment of the N16 at Munakill** – This scheme was at Phase 3 – Detailed Design and Environmental Assessment stage. It was being designed by RPS consultants and project managed by Westmeath National Road Design Office (NRDO). However, this contract was recently terminated due to the fact that the cost estimate for the scheme has recently significantly increased due to poor ground conditions, and this presented a significant challenge to the progression of the project, as the scheme now exceeds the TII €20m threshold to qualify as a minor scheme. The infrastructure section of Leitrim County Council is currently working closely with Westmeath NRDO and the TII to examine all options in order to secure the progression of this realignment project.

N16 HD17 Road Safety Inspections – Works include:

- **Strabrick Junction** – Safety Works at this Junction on the N16 were substantially completed in 2024.

Bridge Rehabilitation Works

- Bridge rehabilitation works have been substantially completed on 14 bridges

Low-Cost Safety Schemes – 5 Low Cost Safety Schemes have been completed in 2024.

Specific Improvement Grants – Works include:

- **R289 Kilcoon** – Design Consultant currently being appointed. Options report approved by Department.
- **R280 Killarga** – Design Consultant appointed, and Topographical survey completed. Currently working on draft options report.
- **R280 Loughmurrans Realignment** – Design Consultant withdrew tender therefore will have to be retendered

Community Involvement Schemes (CIS)

3 CIS Schemes have been completed in South Leitrim and 2 CIS Schemes have been completed in North Leitrim in 2024

Local Improvement Schemes (LIS)

9 LIS schemes were completed in 2024. 4 Schemes in Manor MD and 5 Schemes in Ballinamore MD.

Roads in Charge Queries

Roads in Charge Queries processed this month	YTD Roads in Charge Queries processed
50	341

Please note that all queries regarding whether Water and/or Wastewater Services are in public charge are now processed by Uisce Eireann.

Abnormal Load Permits

Abnormal Load Permits processed this month	YTD Abnormal Load Permits processed
4	37

Hedge Cutting Grant Scheme

The Hedge Cutting Grant Scheme 2024/2025 is now 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 30.11.24
31 (Ballinamore MD = 12; Carrick on Shannon MD – 7; Manorhamilton MD = 12); Tree Canopy Grant - 7 of these Applications include for Tree Canopy Grant	0	0

Road Safety

Road Safety Education & Promotion - In November 2024, a Road Safety Education Event was held in Ballinamore Community School and Lough Allen College Drumkeeran in conjunction with An Garda Síochána and the RSA. This event was focused on 5th, 6th Year and TY Students – an overall total of approx. 155 Students in Ballinamore Community School and 85 Students in Lough Allen College benefitted from this Road Safety Education event. The RSA Shuttle attended the schools on both days and Road Safety Presentations were given to the Students by the RSA Road Safety Education Officer and the Roads Policing Unit of An Garda Síochána. The event was successful, and good feedback was received from the students and the school.

Ballinamore National School – The Road Safety Office of Leitrim County Council has been working with Ballinamore National School on improving Road Safety at the School. A Road Safety “**Code of Conduct**” has been given to the School and the School has issued it to all Parents/Guardians/Staff Members. This Road Safety “**Code of Conduct**” sets rules and behaviours which all parents/guardians/staff should follow when dropping off/collecting children to/from the School or otherwise attending the School. It is hoped that all parents/guardians/staff members will sign up to the Road Safety “**Code of Conduct**” and therefore improve road safety at the school. It is hoped to roll out a similar Road Safety “**Code of Conduct**” for other National Schools around the County at a later date.

ACTIVE TRAVEL

Schemes completed by Contractor this month:

- Roosky Active Travel Scheme – accommodation works completed
- Bus Shelter at Dromod Train Station
- Bike Repair Stations – Carrick on Shannon, Manorhamilton, Drumshanbo and Glencar.
- Bus Stop Enhancement Programme – Tullaghan, Manorhamilton, Glenfarne, Drumsna and Dromahaire.

Schemes currently being progressed by Consultants:

- Fehily Timoney - Roosky Bridge Active Travel Measures:
 - Technical note on Trial Shuttle System received and currently being reviewed by LCC.
- Tobins - Scheme 1 - Carrick on Shannon – Attifinlay Roundabout to Summerhill Cycle Scheme and Circular Road Rapid Build Cycle Scheme.
 - Phase 2 – Options Report received and currently being reviewed by LCC.
- Tobins - Scheme 2 – Town Junctions upgrade – Drumshanbo:
 - Phase 2 – Option Report received and currently being reviewed by LCC.

Safe Route to Schools

- Scoil Mhuire NS, Carrick – School Principal and Board of Management opposed to Scheme progressing and therefore LCC unable to progress Scheme past Preliminary Design. NTA and An Taisce have been involved in these discussions.
- St. Clare's NS, Manorhamilton – Part 8 Planning received. Detailed design and procurement documents being prepared by OCSC Consultants.
- Mohill Community College – In house design – currently at Preliminary Design State.

Bus Shelter Programme

Contractor appointed for 3 locations in Leitrim as follows:

- Kinlough.
- Ballinamore.
- Drumshanbo.

CAPITAL PROJECTS OFFICE

Carrick on Shannon Flood Relief Scheme

Following a recent Public Consultation Day which took place on the 7th November, the Steering Group met at the end of November, the focus for the month ahead is to compile a more robust program 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 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. Full details of the project are available on website www.leitrimvillagefrs.ie

OPW Minor Flood Schemes

Dromahair Scheme

A Feasibility Report was completed on the flooding situation in Dromahair by Tobin Consulting Engineers. This was submitted to the OPW with an application for funding to further develop the Minor Works scheme. Funding of €588,420 has been approved from the OPW to progress the design of the scheme. Tobin Consulting Engineers were appointed in Q4 2023 to carry out assessment and concept design of possible flood alleviation measures along the

river Bonet, current works are finalizing documents in advance of applying for planning consent to ABP in December 2024.

Leitrim Village (Keadue Road Scheme) Scheme

Construction work is well advanced in the last month, we are nearing completion of the culvert. Earth works associated with the berm have commenced. The Project Team continue to communicate with residents in Drumhierney Manor in relation to queries on the works.

Manorhamilton Minor Works Scheme

Funding of €59,558 has been approved by OPW following a flash flood on the 22nd May 24, Works include clearing Vegetation on the Owenbeg and Skreeny River running North and parallel with the New Line Manorhamilton. An Appropriate Assessment Screening is now completed, the works have been screened out. Works can now progress to programming with the Manorhamilton Municipal District Office, works are anticipated to commence on site in Q1 2025. Landowners have been identified along the area of interest; access will be sought in the coming weeks to allow the Manorhamilton MD undertake de-vegetation works along this river.

Manorhamilton Public Realm Scheme

Contract No 1 for public realm works on Main Street has been completed. Contract No 2 for works at Enterprise lands has been published on etenders and tenders returned. An application has been made to the department to increase funding for this work and complete the scheme, we await approval.

Mohill Public Realm Scheme

Construction Works on this Scheme is underway, Footway Paving works are substantially complete. The following Scheme works remain outstanding:

- Reconstruction of Carriageway
- Works to library
- Eivers Lane entrance
- Public Lighting

Works on the main thoroughfare of the town will cease from Friday 6th December 2024 to Thursday 2nd January 2025 to allow for the Christmas trade by all businesses within the scheme extents. Works may continue at Eivers Lane and the Library during this period.

The Works is expected to be substantially completed in Q1 of 2025

Carrick Arts and Community Centre (Colemans Building along Main Street)

Kenny Lyons Associates Architects have been appointed and detailed design of the Scheme is underway. FSC and DAC were submitted via BCMS in late September. The final design is significantly developed, and it is expected that the scheme will be advertised for tender in Q1 2025.

Manorhamilton NCYS Building

The Scheme is currently advertised for tender via eTenders with a closing date of 27.12.2024. 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.

Leitrim Village Blueway Hub

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

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 and agree a DFI approval process for works in Fermanagh. It is expected that an Emerging Preferred

Corridor will be on Public Display in February 2025 which is dependent on TII/DFI approvals. Full details on web site www.slncr-greenway.com.

South Leitrim Greenway

Tender completed to appoint Roughan O Donovan AECOM alliance as the Design Consultant to complete the Project Outline Document (POD) for Phase 0. TII have now approved ROD/Aecom Alliance on the TII Framework Portal. Works have commenced on the POD and the estimated completion date is the end of March 2025.

Hartley Bridge

Planning approval was received from an Bord Pleanála in Dec 2023. Funding was received from the Dept of Transport to advance this project. A meeting was held with The Department Inspector, and we are currently looking at documents requested by him at that meeting. It is expected that the tender will be published in Q1 2025 subject to funding approval.

Cavan Leitrim Greenway – Corgar to Aghawillian

This section of Greenway has now substantially completed and is awaiting inspection by Sport Ireland for inclusion on their registered trails schedule. The Greenway is predicted to be opened by December.

There is short section on the Aghawillian end which is expected to be completed early in the new year following consultation on works programming with the Contractor and the landowner

Acres Lake Facility Centre

Sammon Developments Ltd has been appointed to construct the scheme. Work has commenced on site with the project estimated to be completed in Oct 2025

Narrow Gauge Trail Drumshanbo

Tenders for the Scheme have now been returned and are being assessed, a contractor will be appointed shortly.

Fenagh Abbey Trail

Brief for fenagh Trail being finalised and will be sent to the Roads and Planning Departments for comments before plans are finalised and Part 8 planning requested

Glencar

Jennings O'Donovan have carried out an assessment of the wastewater system and will submit a report this week which will also include costings for any recommended works

HOUSING, CORPORATE SERVICES, COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Housing Allocations

Offers issued to 30 th November 2024	Offers accepted	Acceptance Rate	Offers refused	Refusal Rate	Awaiting Reply
5	2	40%	3	60%	0

New Tenancies created to 30th November 2024

Existing tenants transferred to alternative accommodation to 30 th November 2024	New Tenants (1 st time allocation)
1	5

Traveller Accommodation Programme TAP July 2019 – June 2024 – (Amended to Dec 2024) Progress Report on 30th November 2024

Accommodation Type	2019 to 2024 5-year targets Targets	Outputs achieved on 30 th November 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%)

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 30th November 2024 Total – 305	% Complete (Department Target 280 308) (Note: Department updated target to 308) 99.02%	Overall target for delivery in 2024 For Total Inspections completed Target – 350 (Depending on number of Re-inspections carried out)	No of inspections completed to 30th November 2024 (Total number of inspections including Re-inspections) Total – 341
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HOUSING GRANTS

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

2024 Allocation - €1,061,691		(80% of allocation - €849,353)		
01/01/2024 – 30/11/2024	GRANT	NO	VALUE	
PAID 2024	HGD	45	€359,378.40	
	MAG	22	€92,816.17	
	HOP	81	€407,889.23	
	TOTAL	148	€860,083.80	€860,083.80
Approved not paid ¹	HGD	42	€425,023.33	
	MAG	19	€80,526.00	
	HOP	61	€282,868.65	
	TOTAL	122	€788,417.98	€788,417.98
Applications Rec'd Not Yet Approved ² Estimated (Averaged @ €2,000 / Grant)	HGD	23	€230,000.00	
	MAG	7	€28,000.00	
	HOP	44	€220,000.00	
	TOTAL	74	€478,000.00	€478,000.00
				€2,126,501.78
				Available Balance: €-1,064,810.78

¹ Includes applications approved in 2023, not yet paid

² Includes applications received in 2023, not yet approved

Local Enhancement Programme 2024

The majority of Grant Payment under the Local Enhancement Programme 2024 have now been paid to grant recipients. 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 €119,043.

Age Friendly Programme

Age Friendly Ireland facilitated Housing and Public Realm training for staff in Leitrim Co. Co. This was attended by a number of staff from relevant departments in the organisation, i.e. Planners, Engineers, Town Regeneration etc. Age Friendly Ireland also carried out North Region Statistics training for programme managers.

Healthy Ireland

End of year reports are being received and expression of interest forms are being circulated to implementing partners for Healthy Ireland Round 4 – 2025.

Outcome 1: Increase in average number of remaining years that persons of a certain age can expect to live without a disability.

- Living Healthy for Longer in your Home event took place in Manorhamilton on November 7th.
- Community events took place for International Men's Day across the County in collaboration with Leitrim County Council Integration team and Leitrim Development Company.
- Further community events took place in collaboration with Leitrim Development Company, WCI-North Leitrim Women's Group and Killenummery and Killery Areas Development Association concluding the series of events for 2024 with almost 800 participants attending Health & Wellness Events.

Outcome 2: Increase in breastfeeding % rates at first PHN visit and at 3 months follow up

- We're Breastfeeding Friendly Leitrim now has 59 local businesses/organisations signed up to the initiative.
- Friends of Breastfeeding Mum2Mum Peer Support training is ongoing with 15 participants.

Community Recognition Fund

Minister Heather Humphreys officially opened "Margaret's Corner Community Centre" in Carrigallen on Friday 22nd November. The project received €250,000 in funding under the Community Recognition Fund for the purchase of a building and its conversion into community centre.

The deadline for submissions to window 3 of the Community Recognition Fund 2024 has been extended to 20th December 2024.

PEACEPLUS**Tender Pre-Engagement Events**

PP Coordinator continued with a number of pre-engagement events for potential tenderers and a number of tenders for the following projects will be advertised in the coming weeks:

- Environmental Awareness & Biodiversity Programme
- Voice of Women in Rural Ireland
- Digital Education and Digital Hubs for Young People
- Traveller Community Programme

Leitrim PEACEPLUS Partnership

The Partnership Committee & Peace staff met with Fermanagh & Omagh District Council Peace Partnership in Enniskillen recently. They participated in a workshop session exploring opportunities for collaboration across the 2 county's Action Plans. The group were then taken on a tour of the recently renovated Enniskillen Workhouse which highlighted the shared history and heritage of our two counties.

PEACEPLUS Theme 1.4 – Reimagining Communities

Leitrim County Council in partnership with the Shannonside Recreational Committee (SRC) has been successful in securing €15.3m in funding for the Shannonside Peace Arena - a multi-sports pavilion and high performance gym as part of the Shannonside Recreational Campus project. This award brings the PEACEPLUS investment into Leitrim to over €18.6m

The Letter of Offer was issued and the Council and SRC formally accepted the offer of funding on 20th November. Target for completion of the facility is July 2027 followed by 18 months of cross community and cross border programming activities to meet targets set out in the letter of offer.

Love Where You Live

Entries are now open for the Love Where You Live Schools Competition. Primary Schools throughout county Leitrim have been invited to enter a Climate Action themed project. The deadline for entry is Wednesday 9th April 2025.

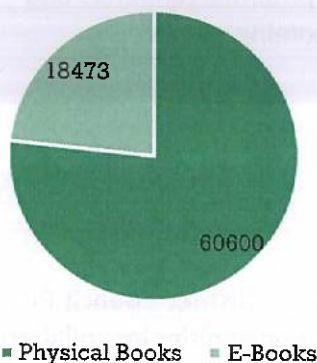
LEITRIM SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

The following programmes took place in November:

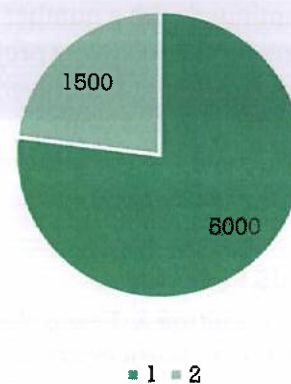
- Ag Sugradh le Cheile Workshop – Bee Park, Manorhamilton
- FAME programme – in Breffni FRC
- International Men’s Day Ballinamore
- International Men’s Day Carrigallen
- Social walking and fit walk programme – in Dromahair
- Couch 2 5k – in Carrick on Shannon on Monday’s and Wednesday’s
- Teenage girls Olympic Handball – in Carrigallen GAA Astro pitch
- First Aid- in St Mary’s GAA clubhouse
- Safeguarding 2 – online workshop
- Safeguarding 1 – online workshop
- Work Positive Sport and wellness lunchtime Yoga – for Leitrim County Council Staff
- Mums and Me post-natal fitness programme – in Mohill GAA clubhouse
- Balance Bike – in Ballinamore childcare, Kinlough childcare and Sunflower Montessori

LIBRARY SERVICES

**Total Borrowed Library Books
Year to Date 2024**



November 2024



Book-clubs, writing groups, exercise, Pilates and yoga classes, language learning sessions, knitting and craft activities, school visits, use of sensory room/sensory hub, games afternoons and evenings, photography club and Bridge sessions took place.

On the staffing front, James McDowell was asked by Libraries Development at LGMA to present as part of the National Staff Training 'Skills Share Sessions'. James presented on effective use of social media in library promotional activities. Thecla Carleton retired from her position of Library Assistant in Drumshanbo Library.

Health and Well Being Pharmacist, Maj Cunningham, provided a number of insightful discussions on women's health issues and offered free blood pressure checks at events in Manorhamilton, Drumshanbo, Mohill, Carrick-on-Shannon and Ballinamore Libraries. All talks were funded under Healthy Leitrim.

As part of a Health Literacy project between the library service and local men's shed groups, the North Leitrim Men's Shed Group visited Manorhamilton Library where MSLETB Tutor Breda Wynne and library staff helped the men to join the library. The men were provided with a demonstration of how to avail of self-service printing and were also shown how to access the range of online library services.

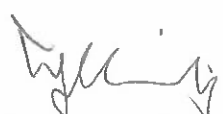
Two events were hosted by the Local Studies Librarian in Ballinamore. The first was a talk entitled 'Framing your family history: how to research and construct the story of your family history' by Ciarán Mollahan. The second event involved the launch of the Michael Whelan Historical Archive which was gifted to the library by the family of the late Michael Whelan. The Local Studies Librarian was also involved in the 'Grief's Boken Brow' project which is funded under Commemorations funding and is being facilitated by artist Carrie Creamer. 30 sixth class pupils in St. Manchan's National School, Mohill and 31 Transition Year students in Mohill Community College were given a presentation about the Library Service, the Local Studies facility and students were shown a number of important resources from the Local Studies Collection. An article by the Local Studies Librarian entitled 'Decade of Vision, Determination and Progress' was published in the 2025 edition of The Leitrim Guardian.

There were a large number of events held at Mohill Library over the course of the month. These included a talk by Dr. Deirdre Foley on 'Irish Women and the Marriage Bar', Drop-in Irish Classes for beginners and the 'Little Larks' singing sessions led by Fionnuala Maxwell proved to be extremely popular where young people were encouraged to sing and learn local traditional songs.

Carrick on Shannon Library hosted a talk entitled 'Falls Prevention and Bone Health in the Older Person' by Clinical Nurse Specialist Irene McPartlin. The MSLETB Carrick ICA group photography exhibition in Carrick-on-Shannon Library was also on display and the 'Wild Words' Young Writers Club continued to meet weekly.

A new seasonal initiative commenced in November entitled 'Conversations on Books'. The initiative is a collaboration between Leitrim Library Service and The Reading Room Bookshop in Carrick-on-Shannon. The event was held in The Dock and was lead out by County Librarian Pauline Brennan and Bookshop owner Orlagh Kelly. This was the first event and was very well attended. The initiative hopes to attract readers from around the county and beyond for future events.

SIGNED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Signed: 
Joseph Gilhooly, Deputy Chief Executive

Date: 13th December 2024