

**March  
2024**

**Chief Executive Monthly  
Management Report**

**Monthly Report**



**Leitrim County  
Council**

for the period 1<sup>st</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> March 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



# FINANCE, WATER SERVICES, ENVIRONMENT & EMERGENCY SERVICES

## Mar 2024 - Revenue Account Income & Expenditure Summary by Service Division

(PRELIMINARY March, 2024 - FIGURES)

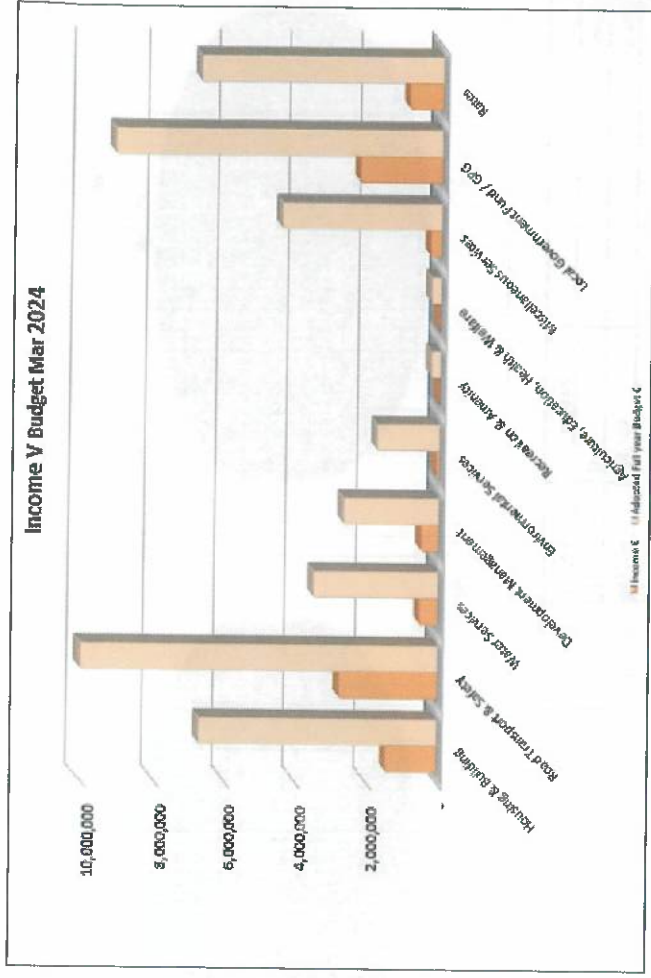
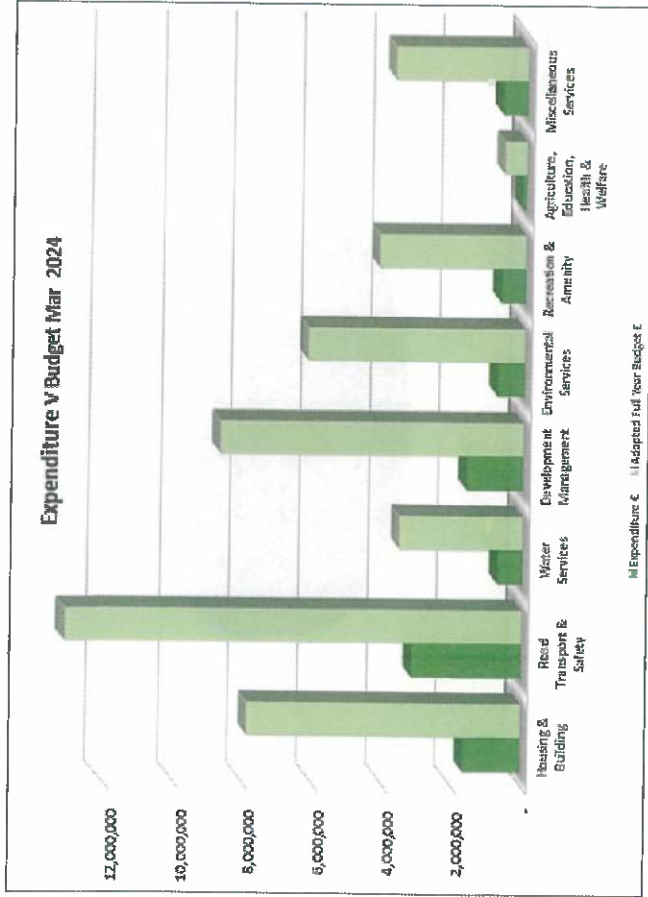
	EXPENDITURE		
	Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent
A. Housing & Building	1,651,325	7,902,729	21%
B. Road Transport & Safety	3,176,000	17,502,847	18%
C. Water Services	703,316	3,559,681	20%
D. Development Management	1,619,004	8,741,810	19%
E. Environmental Services	769,566	6,236,437	12%
F. Recreation & Amenity	696,487	4,219,543	17%
G. Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	110,504	628,228	18%
H. Miscellaneous Services	690,507	3,788,845	18%
LG Local Government Fund / GPG	0	0	0%
RA Rates	0	0	0%
	<b>€9,421,719</b>	<b>€52,591,420</b>	<b>46%</b>

Budget Remaining € **43,169,401**

	INCOME		
	Income €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Raised
	1,441,973	6,716,851	21%
	2,765,576	13,159,615	21%
	508,411	3,515,409	14%
	486,227	2,890,998	18%
	71,523	1,770,908	4%
	8,640	246,862	3%
	11,089	262,770	4%
	299,754	4,489,033	7%
	2,305,722	9,222,898	25%
	930,011	6,820,230	14%
	<b>€6,828,924</b>	<b>€48,903,616</b>	<b>18%</b>

Budget outstanding € **40,074,692**

	NET	
	Actual Overall Surplus/ (Deficit) €	Fav/(Unfav) €
	(209,352)	976,525
	(440,424)	3,933,808
	(199,985)	(155,624)
	(1,132,777)	4,916,034
	(698,043)	3,767,485
	(687,857)	3,284,824
	(38,416)	267,043
	(390,753)	(1,089,941)
	2,305,722	(6,917,166)
	930,011	(5,899,279)
	<b>€502,795</b>	<b>€3,094,709</b>



No. of Days in Overdraft during Jan 2024

0

Mar 2024 - Recourse to Overdraft

Interest Incurred

€0

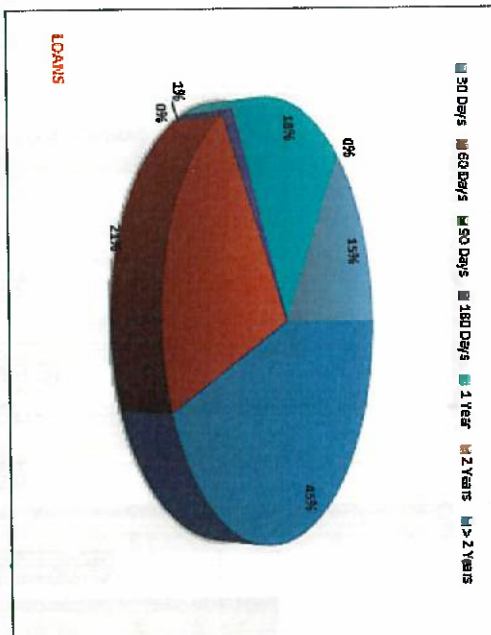
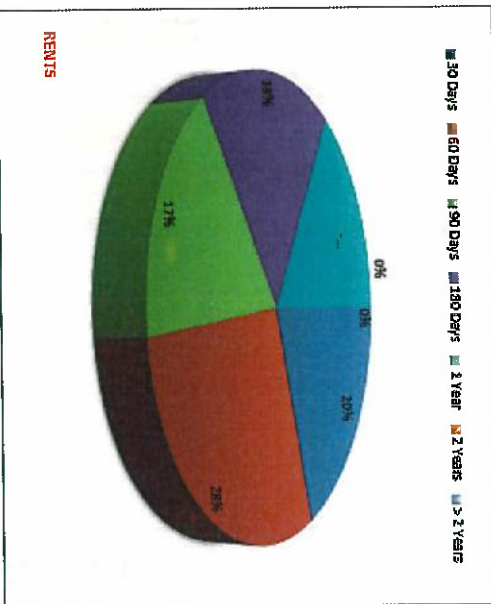
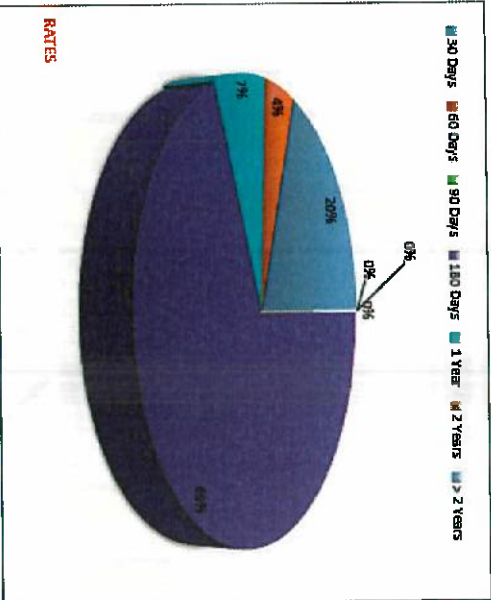
2024 - Collection Rates

	YTD		
	€ Mar-24	€ Mar-23	€ FY 2023
Housing Rents	€691,547	€659,031	€2,706,796
Commercial Rates	€390,011	€1,477,663	€5,006,946
Housing Loans	€77,066	€69,462	€295,948

	YTD		
	% Mar-24	% Mar-23	% FY 2023
Housing Rents	88%	89%	98%
Commercial Rates	11%	19%	77%
Housing Loans	59%	53%	84%

COMMENTARY
Rents collection has improved when compared to Mar 2023.
Rates collection reduced when compared to Mar 2023 due to timing of issuing of rates demands.
Loans collection has improved when compared to Mar 2023

Mar 2024 - Aged Debt Analysis



	30 Days	60 Days	90 Days	180 Days	1 Year	2 Years	> 2 Years
RATES	€0	€0	€0	€6,417,114	€678,145	€415,990	€1,841,816
RENTS	€37,936	€53,490	€31,310	€34,704	€31,027	€0	€0
LOANS	€23,332	€11,177	€0	€724	€9,107	€0	€8,058

## CLIMATE ACTION

### Climate Action Plan

Leitrim County Council Climate Action Plan (2024 – 2029) has been published on 20 March 2024. The Climate Action Team are currently establishing internal governance and reporting structures for the implementation of the Climate Action Plan. A Climate Action Committee will be established to facilitate implementation across the whole-of-Council.

### Community Climate Action Programme Fund

Applications for Strand 1 (Building Low Carbon Communities) and Strand 1a (All-Island Community Climate Action) of the Fund are being processed before final evaluation and recommendation to the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications.

## VETERINARY SERVICE

### Slaughter Returns

AM/PM Examinations	8
Cattle	37
Sheep	143
Pigs	7
Goats	0

### Premises Inspections

Premises Inspections	9
Food Samples	2
Environmental Swabs	0
Water Samples	5
Veterinary Residue Samples	0
Carcass Swabs	0
TB Lesions	0

### Dog Warden Service Activities

Stray Dogs	4
Surrendered Dogs	9
Seized Dogs	0
Dogs Re-Homed	18
Dogs Reclaimed	1
Dog Deaths	0
Dogs Euthanized	0
Warden Service Requests	15
Dog Fouling Complaints	0
Barking Complaints	0
Livestock Attacks by Dogs	0
Dog Control & Roaming Complaints	7
Dog License Inspections	3
Dogs Neutered	0
Neutering Vouchers Issued	14
Dogs Micro-Chipped and Registered	7

Fines Issued – Dogs	6
Statutory Notices Issued	0
Newspaper Articles/ Radio	2
School/ Community Workshops	0
Social Media Posts	77
Stray Horses Seized	0
Stray Cats Neutered	12
Animal Carcasses Removed	1
Dog Waste Station Service Visits	59
Dog Waste Bags Dispensed	3900

## CIVIL DEFENCE

### Civil Defence

Service	Qty
Water Sampling Assisting LCC	1
Assisting LAWPRO water sampling	1
ICG callout to assist cruiser aground	1
Swiftwater Training	1
SAR Training	1
Ongoing Incident (Containment) Leitrim Village (involving Civil Defence & Environment)	1
CISM workshop	1
Assisted Roscommon Civil Defence with missing person search	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>

Civil Defence Volunteers remained on standby during the month to provide assistance to the Principal Response Agencies and the Community Response Forum.

## FIRE SERVICE

### Capital Programme

#### Fire Stations

##### Manorhamilton FS

The Part 8 planning application submission for the new fire station in Manorhamilton was formally submitted to An Bord Pleanála in June 2023. Approval has been granted, with conditions, on the 09<sup>th</sup> of February 2024. Awaiting approval in relation to the claim for increased consultancy fees and the progression to Stage 2C: Detailed Design.

#### Fire Appliances and Equipment

##### Spare Class B appliance

We have received approval from the National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management (NDFEM) of €84,494 incl. VAT to purchase a spare second-hand Class B appliance. Angloco Ltd have a Scania Class B available and it was inspected on February 29<sup>th</sup>.

We are expecting delivery of the Appliance in May 2024 once the upgrade works are completed.

##### 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 has gone to tender. Capital funding is being provided by the Department.

### Building Control activity in March 2024

	Received	Valid / Invalid	Granted	Completed
Commencement Notices	12	11/0		
Fire Safety Certificates	1		0	
Disabled Access Certificates	1		0	
Completion Certificates	0			
FSA / Planning Inspections / H&S / Licensing inspections				3
BC inspections / BER / Market Surveillance				5

### WRC agreement for retained firefighters.

National agreement reached at WRC in relation to firefighters' dispute. Details of the implementation of the agreement are being worked on at local level. The 2<sup>nd</sup> local implementation committee meeting took place with SIPTU on January 24<sup>th</sup>.

The next local implementation committee meeting is scheduled for April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

### Recruitment

Following on from the recent Retained Firefighter recruitment campaign a significant number of applications were submitted to HR for positions across the 5 Fire Stations. After processing the applications, practical suitability assessment tests took place on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>. The successful candidates were called for interview and HR are continuing with the next steps in the recruitment process.

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING, AND INFRASTRUCTURE

## LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE (LEO)

### Local Enterprise Week

Local Enterprise Week took place from 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> March and a total 12 different events were offered to LEO clients over the week.

### Mentoring

The demand for mentoring continues to remain high. A Dealing with Taxes and Revenue and a Marketing Review Mentoring clinic took place during March.

### Training

Training delivered during March included Unlock your Sales Potential, Workshop for Ltd Company Directors, The Dark Side of AI, Instagram Advanced, Instagram Reels, A Guide to Employer Obligations, New Etenders Platform for Buyers, LinkedIn Masterclass, Time Management, Festivals Training, Start Your Own Business, and the New Etenders Platform for Suppliers.

### Other Sustainable Supports for Business

The “All in A Day’s Work” campaign continues to be rolled out on the areas of Lean, Green, and Digital supports.

### Outreach Office

An Outreach Office took place in Manorhamilton during March and continues every month.

### Student Enterprise Awards

The County Final of the Student Enterprise Programme took place in the Bush Hotel on 5<sup>th</sup> March. Winners on the day include Junior Category: DCA Machinery Lighting at Drumshanbo Vocational School, Intermediate Category: Caring Candles at Drumshanbo Vocational School and Senior Category: DSKE Calendar at Carrigallen Vocational School. These students will represent Co. Leitrim at the Student Enterprise Programme National Final, taking place in the Mullingar Park Hotel on the 9<sup>th</sup> of May.

### Women’s Networking Event

A joint Women’s Networking event took place in Mullingar Park Hotel to celebrate International Women’s Day on 8<sup>th</sup> March. Women from the three counties of Leitrim, Longford and Westmeath were invited to attend.

### Entrepreneurship development in the Northwest

A working group was held with regional stakeholders to discuss the output from the “Levelling up – entrepreneurship in the NW” event in January. Action outputs were agreed including developing a Northwest specific business course with senior executives from the region to assist our SME’s.

### Stakeholder engagements

Ongoing stakeholder engagement in the region and intra region to ensure all agencies are engaged with the NW REP and relationships are developed. This month has included engagements with IDA regional Director and the Department of Enterprise who invited the regional PM team to Dublin for an engagement.



## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

### **LCDC**

A meeting of the LCDC took place on March 20<sup>th</sup> 2024.

### **Town and Village/ORIS/Clár Projects**

Ongoing review and follow up on progress of various ongoing projects in terms of delivery, claims and reporting to the DRCD etc.

### **Broadband**

NBI attended the March meeting of Leitrim County Council to give an update on progress around the County.

### **Carrick Campus**

Ongoing promotion of the space available at Carrick Campus. Works ongoing for the planning of refurbishment works to Phase 2 and energy retrofit of the Building. Interviews took place for the marketing Development Manager.

### **County Promotion Events**

The Leitrim County Promotion Event promotion Leitrim as a place to Live, Work and Visit took place on March 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Irish Cultural Centre, Hammersmith in London, the event was well received and there were over 60 guests in attendance.

### **Leitrim Diaspora Strategy**

Regular meetings are continuing regarding the execution of the Diaspora Strategy, presently focused on the launch of "The Leitrim Gathering" scheduled to take place in late May 2025.

The Leitrim Gathering Sub Group met on 2 occasions. The Leitrim Gathering Soft Launch commenced on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March. The Diaspora Steering Group met on the 27<sup>th</sup> of March for their first meeting. Promotion of the Leitrim Gathering is ongoing hereafter.

### **Town and Village PDM & LCC Project Development Grant**

A number of Project Development Measure grant applications were received by the deadline of March 13<sup>th</sup>, following evaluation 3 project applications were developed for submission on April 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **Sustainable Mobility Projects**

Ongoing work with ATU researchers and other stakeholders in relation to several projects involving the potential for sustainable mobility options within the County. Community consultation workshops took place during the month of March in Mohill, Ballinamore, Manorhamilton and Carrick on Shannon.

## **TOURISM**

### **Support**

The Tourism Team organised a Regenerative Tourism Event, which took place online on March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The event hosted international speakers who presented on Regenerative Tourism and how it can apply to and benefit tourism providers in Leitrim. It was a successful event, with 26 participants in attendance.

A series of training workshops for Festival and Events committees in the county took place over three two-hour sessions in March. These online workshops covered various topics including Finance & Governance, Programming & Festival Delivery and Marketing & Promotion. Up to 46 participants attended the workshops over the three weeks, representing various festival and event groups throughout the county.

Applications for Festival and Event Grants were invited with a closing date at the end of March. A large number of applications were received. These applications will be evaluated and sent to the MDs for final approval.

### Slow Adventure Tourism

Following on from previous workshops, Think6 consultants are working with relevant tourism businesses in a mentoring capacity to develop new Slow Adventure experiences. Each experience is designed and tested according to the necessary criteria; once they are market-ready, the experiences will be part of all relevant promotions for the county.

### Diaspora Marketing

In collaboration with the diaspora working group, the tourism team developed a survey targeting the Leitrim diaspora. The purpose of this survey is to identify where in the world the diaspora currently resides. The data received will assist with further opportunities and the promotion of the Leitrim gathering event planned for 2025.

### Tourism Framework

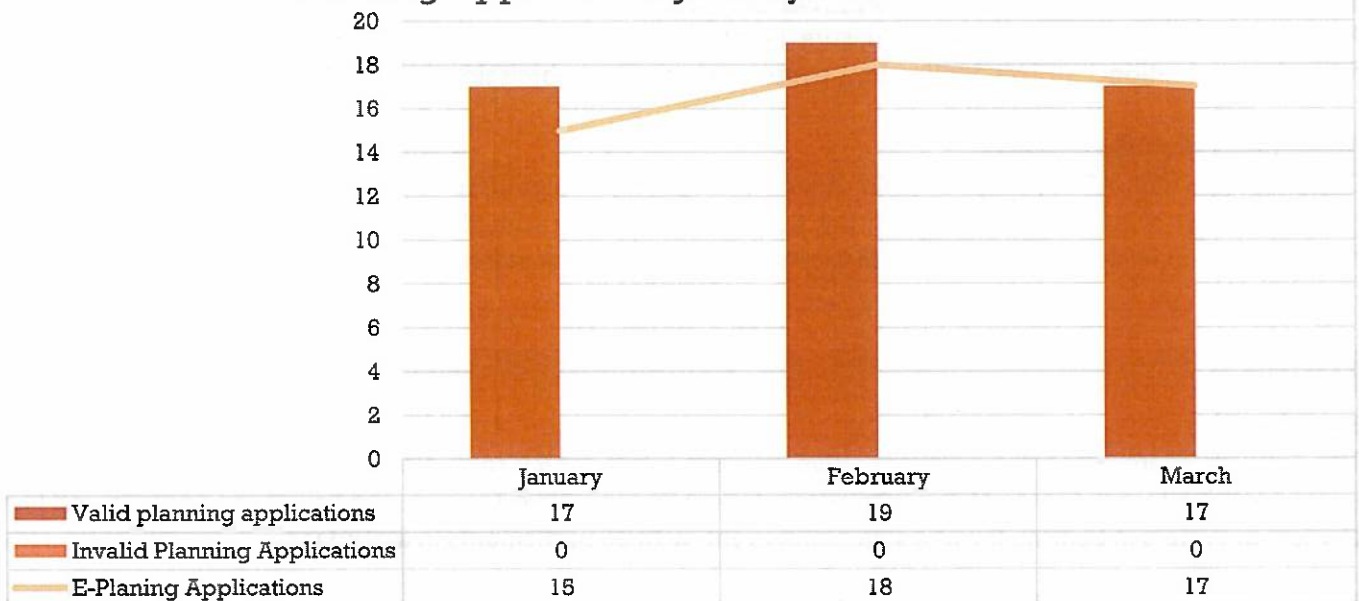
Planning for 2024 continues with a focus on implementing the actions arising from the Tourism Framework document. An action arising from the framework is the setting up a new tourism structure for the county, which is currently being developed.

### Tourist Information

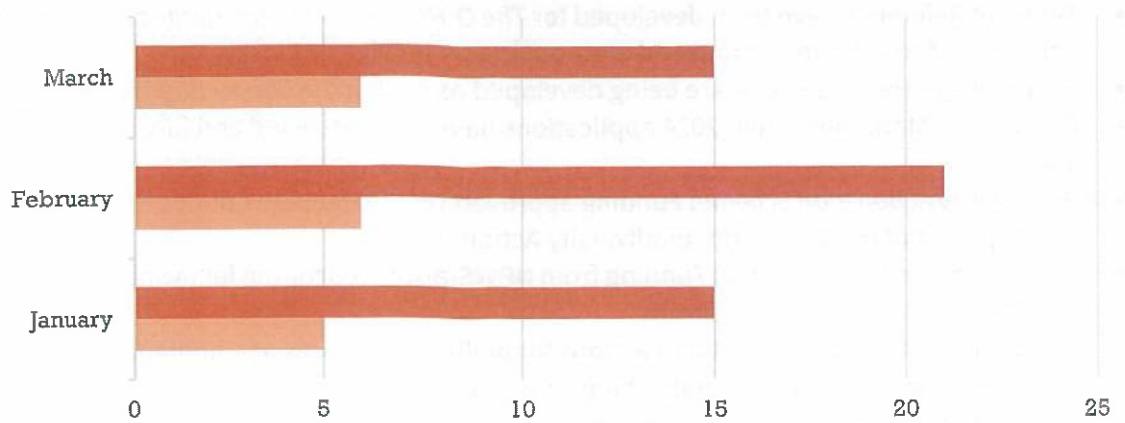
The Tourist Information Office in Carrick on Shannon opened in March and has been busy since its opening. We continue to support the Tourist Office in Ballinamore, tourist information points at Glencar Waterfall and Sliabh, an Iarainn Visitor Centre.

## DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

Planning Applications January - March 2024



## Breakdown of Planning Decisions January - March 2024



	January	February	March
Final Decisions	15	21	15
Retention planning permission	5	6	6

■ 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

There were 5 no. Local Authority own development proposals going through the public display phase of their Part 8 public consultation process during March. These projects relate to housing developments in Mohill, Manorhamilton and Newtowngore, an active travel scheme in Dromahair and flood relief scheme in Leitrim Village.

### Forward Planning

#### Carrick-on-Shannon Joint Local Area Plan

Work has commenced with Roscommon County Council on the preparation of the joint Local Area Plan for Carrick-on-Shannon to include the village of Cortober. A Local Transport Plan will form the joint Local Area Plan. A new dedicated website [www.carrickjointplan.ie](http://www.carrickjointplan.ie) provides updates of the process. The pre-draft consultation phase of the plan preparation concluded in December last. A report has issued to the elected members of both the Boyle and Carrick-on-Shannon Municipal Districts providing a summary of the various issues raised in the 30 no. submissions received.

#### Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT)

The annual Draft RZLT maps for Co. Leitrim was published on the 1<sup>st</sup> of February. Public consultation on these draft maps is now open until the 1<sup>st</sup> of April and the Final Map for lands liable to the RZLT for 2025 will be published in January 2025. A total of 11 no. submissions have been received to date.

### Heritage & Biodiversity

- Consultants have been appointed to carry out an Access, Environmental and Archaeological Assessment of Killahurk Ringfort, funded under The Shared Island Fund.

- Funding has been approved under the Local Biodiversity Action Fund to carry out a *Leitrim Wetland Field Phase III Survey* and consultants have been invited to submit fee proposals.
- Terms of Reference have been developed for *The O'Rourke's of Leitrim Heritage Audit* and consultants have been invited to submit proposed methodologies and fee proposals.
- Two heritage themed videos are being developed as part of the *Connecting Through Heritage* series.
- Community Monument Fund 2024 applications have been assessed and forwarded to the department for approval.
- *Biodiversity Action Plan Scheme*: Funding approved by the Heritage Council for financial assistance for the development of the Co. Leitrim Biodiversity Action Plan.
- *Local Biodiversity Action Fund*: Funding from NPWS approved for the following biodiversity projects:
  - The Hare's Corner – Co. Leitrim
  - Biodiversity enhancement and actions for pollinators at Áras an Chontae, Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim
  - Recording Irish mayfly – establishing conservation status
  - Biodiversity awareness in Co. Leitrim
- *Biodiversity enhancement at Áras an Chontae*: Delivered practical workshop on bareroot planting for LCC staff and planted native hedging in the Áras Garden.
- *National Tree Week 2024*: Distributed 300 native trees, from the Tree Council of Ireland and Coillte to community groups and schools in Co. Leitrim.

## ROADS

### Annual Area Programme 2024

The Annual Area Programme of Works for 2024 are now underway.

### N4 Carrick on Shannon to Dromod Road Project

N4 Carrick on Shannon to Dromod Road Project is progressing as follows:

- Public Display No. 4 – Presentation of Proposed Route Alignment and Junction Strategy – This Public Display was held in the Landmark Hotel on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024.
- Individual meetings are ongoing with directly impacted landowners and members of the public following the above Public Display No. 4.

### Pavement Overlays

- **N15 Pavement Overlay Scheme - Redbrae to Donegal County Boundary** – Fully complete
- **N16 Pavement Overlay Scheme (POS) - Manorhamilton to Cornacloy Phase 1** – Works are now substantially completed, council are awaiting documentation to agree Final Account.
- **N16 Pavement Overlay Scheme - Manorhamilton to Cornacloy Phase 2** – Parris Report has been approved, and Consultants are currently completing the design and tender documents for this pavement overlay scheme.
- **N4 Pavement Overlay Scheme - Carrick on Shannon** – Parris Report has been approved, and consultants are currently working on the design and tender documents for this pavement overlay scheme.

### Realignment of N16

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

### N16 HD17 Road Safety Inspections – Works include:

- **Strabrick Junction** – Road Safety Audit is complete. Preliminary Design Report has been approved. Construction phase of this project will be completed by the Area Office and works are due to commence soon.
- **N15 Tullaghan Traffic Calming** – Preliminary report completed. Since the preliminary design report was approved by the TII, a new Cycling Design Manual (CDM) was published towards the end of 2023. Following an assessment of the new CDM, Leitrim County Council raised a number of queries with the TII.

Leitrim County Council are currently in discussions with the TII regarding these queries before preparation of documents for Part 8 Planning can be commenced.

- **N16 Glenfarne VRU improvements** – Leitrim County Council to commence preliminary design report as feasibility and options report has been approved by TII.

### Community Improvement Schemes (CIS)

Funding of €307,350 remains unchanged from 2023. The CIS Programme for 2024 is currently being finalised.

### Local Improvement Schemes (LIS)

Leitrim County Council has not yet received any allocation for Local Improvement Schemes for 2024. Up to date costings for the top 30 LIS Schemes on the LIS Waiting List are currently being compiled.

### Services in Charge Queries

Services in Charge Queries processed this month	YTD Services in Charge Queries processed
16	74

### Abnormal Load Permits

Abnormal Load Permits processed this month	YTD Abnormal Load Permits processed
10	16

### Hedge Cutting Grant Scheme

The Hedge Cutting Grant Scheme for this year closed on 29<sup>th</sup> February, 2024.

Applications Received for Hedge Cutting Grant Scheme 2023/2024	Applications deemed Ineligible/Not Proceeding	No. of grants paid up to end of last Month
70 Ballinamore MD = 23 Carrick on Shannon MD = 21 Manorhamilton MD = 26	5	47 (67% of applications are completed)

### Active Travel

Schemes currently been progressed through consultants:

- Roosky Bridge Active Travel Measures
  - Trial of the proposed option is to be arranged.
- Carrick On Shannon – Leitrim Road Active Travel Scheme
  - Active Travel to discuss Scheme with NTA and advise Consultants of next steps.

Archaeological Investigation phase:

- Carrick on Shannon – Glas na hAabhainn Housing Estate Link.

Currently at Design Stage (In House):

- Ballinamore – Tully Heights connection to Town Environs.

Part 8 Planning advertised for following Scheme:

- Dromahaire – Churchfield Active Travel Link.

Consultants to be procured for:

- Rapid Build Cycle Track Summerhill Link Road Carrick-on-Shannon.

### Safe Route to Schools

- Consultants appointed for the design of SRTS for 2 no. Schools.
  - St. Clare's NS, Manorhamilton – Currently at Preliminary Design stage.

- Scoil Mhuire NS, Carrick – Currently at Preliminary Design Stage.
- Currently at Design Stage (In House).
  - St. Josephs NS – Leitrim Village.
- Design Required:
  - Mohill Community School.

### **Bus Shelter Programme**

Contractor has completed construction of Bus shelters at the following locations:

- Leitrim Village.
- Hyde Street, Mohill.
- Drumkeerin (2 No.).

Contractor to continue with programme of work when approval is received from the TII and Irish Rail for Bus Shelters at the following locations:

- Glenfarne.
- Dromod Train Station.

## **CAPITAL PROJECTS OFFICE**

### **Carrick on Shannon Flood Relief Scheme**

Ryan Hanley Consulting Engineers have been appointed design consultant for this project. Design works have commenced. A Public Consultation Day was held on the 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023 to discuss options available.

Full details of project are available on project website [www.carrickonshannonfrs.ie](http://www.carrickonshannonfrs.ie).

### **Leitrim Village Flood Relief Scheme**

Ryan Hanley Consulting Engineers have been appointed for the scheme. Environmental surveys underway. Public Consultation held for the scheme. Topo Surveys complete, Ground investigation underway. Environmental surveys are ongoing. Full details of project are available on website [www.leitrimvillagefrs.ie](http://www.leitrimvillagefrs.ie)

### **Mohill Flood Relief Scheme**

The OPW have updated the flood maps for Mohill. The OPW are currently carrying out hydrology and hydraulic analysis on this project.

### **Carrick on Shannon Public Regeneration Scheme**

Four construction contracts will be undertaken.

- 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 works complete except Bridge and Boardwalk lighting contract. Contractor currently on site.

### **Manorhamilton Public Realm Scheme**

Contract works for works on Main Street completed. Currently working on tender documents for works at Enterprise lands. Expect to advertise construction tender in May 2024.

### **Mohill Public Realm Scheme**

A contractor has been appointed and commenced construction.

### **SLNCR Greenway – Sligo to Enniskillen**

Design consultant has been appointed for the project. Phase I of project complete. Started work on Phase II. Public consultation of route options held from 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct 2023 to 17<sup>th</sup> Nov 2023. Full details on web site [www.slncr-greenway.com](http://www.slncr-greenway.com).

#### **Cavan Leitrim Greenway – Corgar to Aghawillin**

Under construction. Expected completion May 2024

#### **Carrick on Shannon Destination Towns**

Funding of €500,000 has been received from Fáilte Ireland for this project. Display board signs have been erected. Construction work on new bus stops and public realm areas to be completed in April 2024.

#### **Carrick on Shannon to Battlebridge Blueway**

Jennings O'Donovan Consultants has been appointed as design consultant. Detailed design underway on the preferred route. Full details on web site <https://www.carrickblueway.com/>

#### **Hartley Bridge**

Planning approval received from an Bord Pleanála in Dec 2023. Funding received from Dept of Transport to advance this project. Consultant working on detailed design and tender documents. The start on site will be dictated by environmental constraints as to when we are allowed to carry out works in the river.

#### **Narrow Gauge Trail Drumshanbo**

Planning approval received for this project. Currently working on tender documents for construction contract. Awaiting funding approval for the construction contract.

## HOUSING, CORPORATE SERVICES, COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE

### Housing Allocations

Offers issued to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024	Offers accepted	Acceptance Rate	Offers refused	Refusal Rate	Awaiting Reply
7	7	100%	0	0%	0

### New Tenancies created to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

Existing tenants transferred to alternative accommodation to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024	New Tenants (1 <sup>st</sup> time allocation)
0	1

### Traveller Accommodation Programme TAP July 2019 – June 2024 – Progress Report at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

Accommodation Type	2019 to 2024 5-year targets Targets	Outputs achieved at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 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		31 (Including 9 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
<b>Totals</b>		
	<b>25</b>	<b>42</b> (5 Year Target is 25 units = 168%)

### Private Rented Inspection Programme

Overall target for delivery in 2024 For Dwellings Inspected	No of Dwellings inspected to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024	% Complete (Department Target 280)	Overall target for delivery in 2024 For Total Inspections completed	No of inspections completed to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024 (Total number of inspections including Re-inspections)
Target – 280 (25% of registered rented properties in Leitrim) *Figure to be updated by the Department	<b>Total – 149</b>	<b>53.21%</b>	Target – 350 (Depending on number of Re-inspections carried out)	<b>Total – 173</b>



## HOUSING GRANTS

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

2024 Allocation <sup>1</sup> - €465,615.15		(80% of allocation - €372,492.12)			€465,615.15
01/01/2024 - 31/03/2024	GRANT	NO	VALUE		
<b>PAID 2024</b>	HGD	12	€84,954.90		
	MAG	1	€6,000.00		
	HOP	23	€113,226.68		
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>€204,181.58</b>	<b>€204,181.58</b>	
<b>Approved not paid <sup>2</sup></b>	HGD	38	€418,105.83		
	MAG	18	€82,911.00		
	HOP	51	€276,067.25		
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>€777,084.08</b>	<b>€777,084.08</b>	
<b>Applications Rec'd Not Yet Approved <sup>3</sup> Estimated</b> (Averaged @ €2,000 / Grant)	HGD	11	€110,000.00		
	MAG	7	€28,000.00		
	HOP	30	€150,000.00		
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>€288,000.00</b>	<b>€288,000.00</b>	<b>€1,269,265.66</b>
<b>Available Balance: €-803,650.51</b>					

65% of 2023 Allocation of €716,331 (2024 Allocation not yet received<sup>2</sup> Includes applications approved in 2022/2023, not yet paid.

Includes applications received in 2022/2023, not yet approved.

## COMMUNITY

### Local Enhancement Programme 2024

111 applications for funding were received under the Local Enhancement Programme by the closing date which was 18<sup>th</sup> February. An evaluation was carried out by the LDCD Evaluation Committee. A list of 89 proposed projects for funding was compiled and submitted to the Department of Rural and Community Development on March 27<sup>th</sup> which amounted to €18,661.66 for Women's Groups and €116,314 for all other community and voluntary groups.

### Age Friendly Programme

On going work continued the review of the Age Friendly Strategy by the implementing partners. Preparations continued for an Age Friendly event in collaboration with Healthy Ireland and the Older People's Council which is planned for April 2024.

### Comhairle na nÓg

Leitrim County Council and North Connaught Youth Services completed the 2024 Annual Work Plan and submitted the request for funding from Pobal for 2024 as well as reporting on the Work Plan for 2023.

### Healthy Ireland

Final reports submitted to Pobal in anticipation of the Funding Contract 2024. Healthy Ireland have prepared SLAs to work with the 9 implementation leads in 2024.

### **Period Poverty**

An application was successful with funding of €15,000 roll out the programme at additional locations in Ballinamore in 2024.

### **Africa Day 2024**

Funding of €7,500 was granted by the Dept. of Foreign Affairs to fund Africa Day on May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The event is planned to be held at the Junction, Ballinamore.

### **PeacePlus**

- **Theme 1.1: Local Authority Action Plans**

The PP Coordinator has been responding to several queries from the funders SEUPB on Leitrim's Action Plan. Two other local authorities were approved at the March Steering Committee of SEUPB – Cavan and Derry City & Strabane. The next Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for the end of May, and we are expecting our Action Plan to be put forward at this meeting for approval. We have been preparing procurement documentation for projects in terms of tender and quotation requests in advance of approval.

- **Theme 1.4 Reimaging Communities**

We have been notified that decisions on this Investment Area under which the Shannonside Recreational Campus applications falls have been deferred from the March meeting. There has been no further update on when these projects will be put forward for approval.

- **Theme 4.1 Collaborative Health & Social Care**

Leitrim County Council have agreed to be an Associate Partner on a project application submitted under this theme. 'PEACETIME' is an application led by Ulster University, Sligo ATU, the National Institute of Preventative Cardiology, Irish Coalition of People Living with Obesity, and the Derry GP Federation. It will focus on obesity management and is looking at developing a cross-border clinical healthcare service model that will increase access to care for people living with obesity complicated by type 2 diabetes in the Northwest region. An Associate Partner is a non-budget holding role and in the context of this project there will be a requirement for a representative from LCC to attend Project Steering Committee meetings to ensure the project is aligned to our strategies and needs.

- **Theme 4.2 Rural Regeneration & Social Inclusion**

Leitrim Sports Partnership are involved in a project application being led out by Outscape, a not-for-profit organisation whose aim is to make it easier and more accessible for people to responsibly enjoy the outdoors. The project entitled 'Walking for All' will be looking at bringing people together on walking programmes, improving both physical and mental health and highlighting our outdoor recreation facilities in terms of walkways, blue ways & greenways.

### **Love Where You Live**

The ongoing promotion of Leitrim's Love Where You Live Awards continued throughout March, including a social media campaign and local media coverage. The aim of these awards is to publicly acknowledge the great work of communities and volunteers. The Love Where You Live 2024 Award Categories are:

- Green Community of the Year
- Estate of the Year

- Primary Schools-Actions for Pollinators
- Diaspora
- Social Inclusion
- Community Achievement

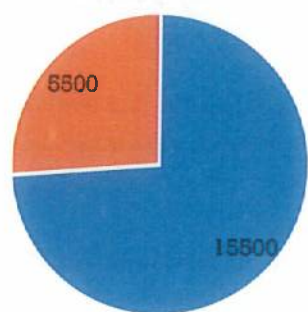
The closing date for nominations is 7th April 2024, Judging will take place in May and an awards ceremony will be held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

### Community Recognition Fund

The Minister for Rural and Community Development announced €2.2m funding for Leitrim under the Community Recognition Fund on 15<sup>th</sup> March. The Community Development section prepared application forms, evaluation criteria and guidelines for the scheme which was due to open for applications in April.

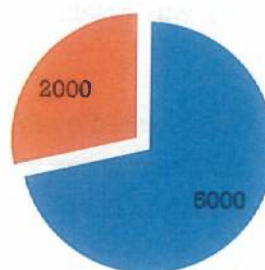
## LIBRARY SERVICES

Total Borrowed Library Books Year to Date 2024



■ Physical Books ■ E-Books

March 2024



■ Physical Books ■ E-Books

**Seachtain na Gaeilge** events took place in several branches with a range of traditional music and Tráth na gCeist activities being enjoyed by all. There was a Harp and Song Recital with Claire Roche in Mohill Library and Harpist Celia Briar and musician Gian Castello played a selection of Irish airs and other popular musical compositions in Drumshanbo Library.

A number of **Spring into Storytime** events took place. Author Oisín McGann visited Drumshanbo Library there was a hand puppet workshop in Carrick on Shannon Library and a in Manorhamilton Library.

The Thursday **Games Night** in Carrigallen Library continued and has grown in popularity. Other activities in the branches included Chair Yoga, Knitting and Crochet, Scrabble, Bridge, Parent and Toddler, Fáilte Isteach, Book Clubs, Writing Group, and a large number of Class Visits.

The **Aontas Star Awards** were held at the beginning of March and the library's Digital Skills for Adults programme was shortlisted in the Social Inclusion category.

**Down Syndrome Ireland** held an Employment and Training Day in Mohill Library. The day included a training session for library staff on setting up a book club for adults with Down Syndrome.

The **Dementia Inclusive Social Club** met twice during March in Mohill Library.

Mohill Library celebrated **International Women's Day** with a visit from author Majella Moynihan who read from her book 'A Guarded Life' and engaged in a Q&A with the audience.

There were a number of Healthy Leitrim talks provided. Maj Cunningham gave a **Menopause and Bone Health** talk in Mohill Library and Ballinamore Library. Dietician, Josh Percival, gave a talk in Carrick-on-Shannon Library entitled '**Nutrition as a Shield: fortifying against muscle loss, frailty and falls.**

An exhibition was held in Mohill Library showcasing the original artwork and original plaster frescoes by artist Kate Murtagh Sheridan which she created to form the book illustrations in the book '**Brian O'Lynn - a rare Irish Gentleman**' which also involved singer Fionnuala Maxwell. Children were invited to scan the QR code and sing along with Fionnuala.

A filming and recording session with local musicians took place in Ballinamore Library. The session will be screened by **TG4** later this year.

The **Local Studies** Librarian paid a visit to TY students in Lough Allen College and Carrigallen Vocational School and gave a presentation about the collection and provided assistance with regard to the Young Historian competition.

**World Poetry Day** poetry was celebrated in Ballinamore Library with readings by poets Patrick Anderson-McQuoid and Cathy Briel.

A **Meteorites Lecture** was delivered by Dr. Ian Sanders from Trinity College Dublin who is a leading authority in Ireland on meteorites. Members of the local astronomy club and Mohill Boys Scouts attended, and Dr. Sanders brought along several meteorites samples for all to see and touch.

**President Michael D. Higgins** has gifted a copy of 'Leitrim and Longford 1798: Undaunted by Gibbet and Yeos' published by Des Guckian in 1998. This is a copy from his personal collection.

**Leitrim Adult Educational Guidance Service** provided walk-in information clinics in Mohill and Ballinamore Libraries. This provided an opportunity to meet with the Guidance Information Officer and avail of free impartial and confidential support.

## SIGNED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Signed:   
Joseph Gilhooly Chief Executive

Date: 12th April 2024