



Comhairle Chontae Liatroma
Leitrim County Council

Chief Executive Monthly Management Report

May 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

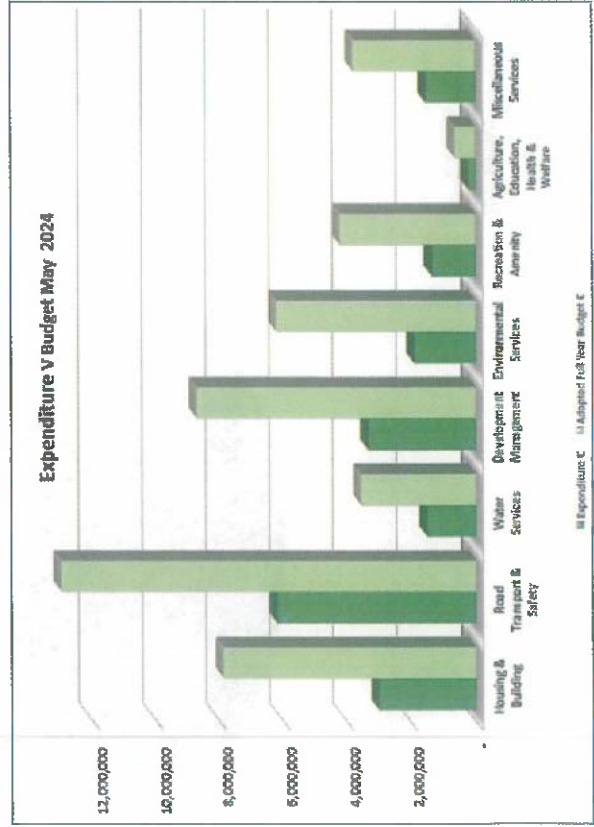
www.leitrim.ie

FINANCE, WATER SERVICES, ENVIRONMENT & EMERGENCY SERVICES

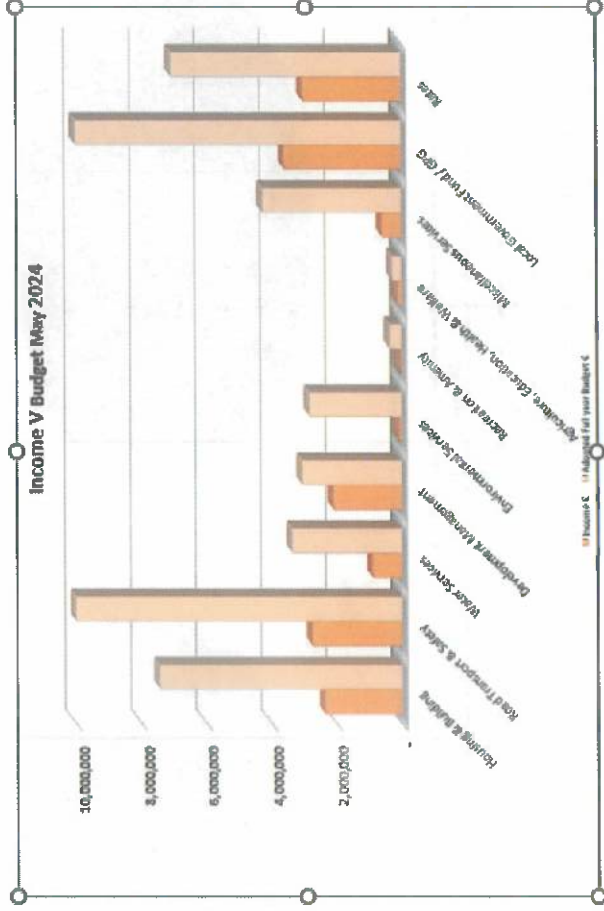
May 2024 - Revenue Account Income & Expenditure Summary by Service Division

[PRELIMINARY May, 2024 - FIGURES]

	EXPENDITURE			Budget Remaining €
	Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent	
A Housing & Building	3,026,187	7,902,729	38%	4,876,542
B Road Transport & Safety	6,224,890	17,592,847	36%	11,277,957
C Water Services	1,501,700	3,559,692	42%	2,057,992
D Development Management	3,345,433	8,741,809	38%	5,396,376
E Environmental Services	1,897,597	6,295,437	30%	4,397,840
F Recreation & Amenity	1,339,139	4,219,543	32%	2,880,404
G Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	231,989	629,228	37%	397,239
H Miscellaneous Services	1,530,624	3,796,846	40%	2,266,222
LG Local Government Fund / GPG	0	0	0%	0
RA Rates			0%	0
	€19,697,139	€52,591,121	36%	33,493,982



	INCOME			Budget outstanding €
	Income €	Adopted Full year Budget €	% Budget Raised	
	2,350,448	7,432,718	32%	5,082,270
	2,749,878	13,258,033	21%	10,508,155
	880,483	3,359,654	26%	2,479,171
	2,083,683	3,047,571	68%	963,878
	48,705	2,821,788	2%	2,773,083
	8,732	350,643	2%	341,911
	81,346	271,683	30%	190,337
	570,628	4,255,070	13%	3,684,442
	3,579,364	10,738,091	33%	7,158,727
	3,008,993	7,057,870	43%	4,048,877
	€15,382,270	€52,591,121	29%	37,228,851



	NET	
	Actual Overall Surplus/ (Deficit) €	Fav/(Unfav) €
	(675,739)	(205,728)
	(3,475,012)	771,802
	(821,217)	(421,489)
	(1,281,740)	4,432,498
	(1,848,692)	1,595,757
	(1,330,407)	2,558,493
	(150,229)	207,322
	(959,996)	(1,416,220)
	3,579,364	(7,158,727)
	3,008,993	(4,048,877)
	€3,734,869	€3,734,869

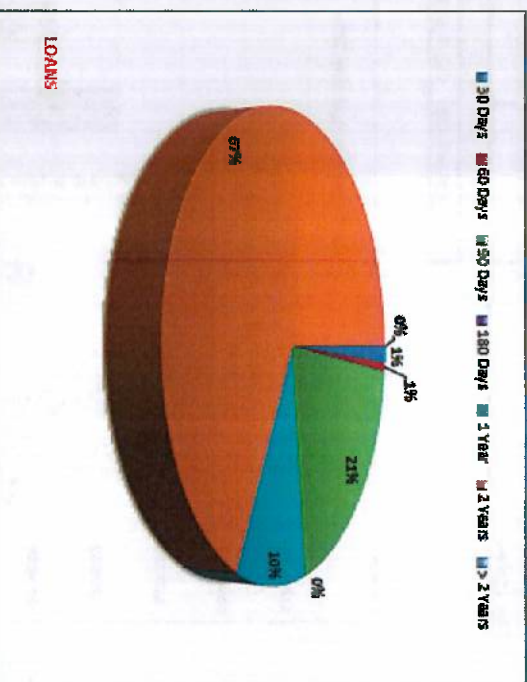
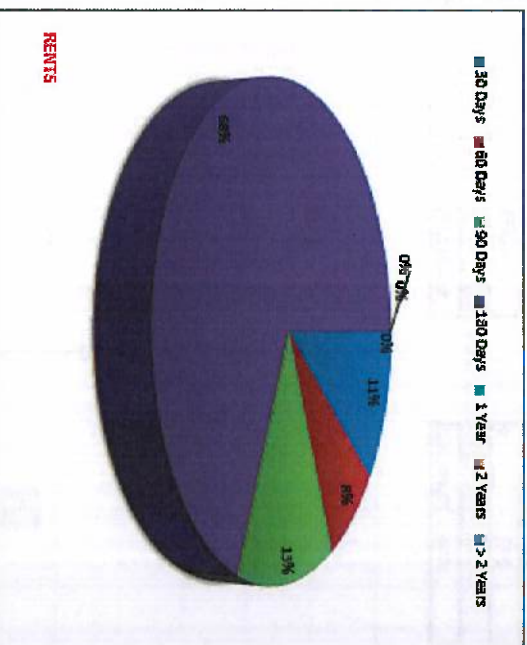
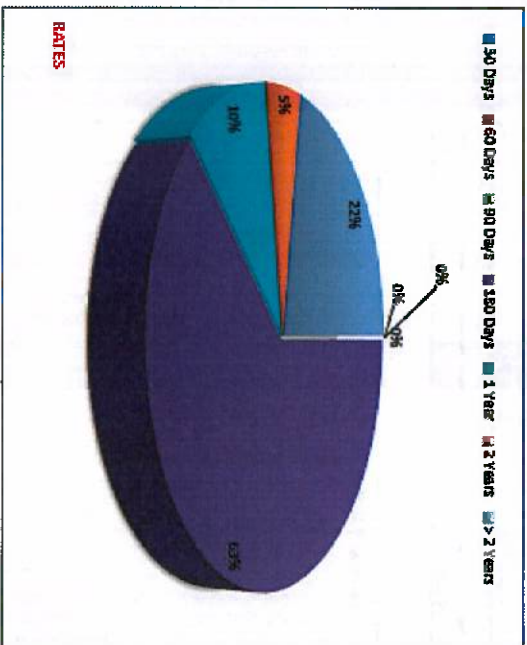
2024 - Collection Rates

	YTD		
	€	€	€
	May-24	May-23	FY 2023
Housing Rents	€1,205,363	€1,077,018	€2,706,736
Commercial Rates	€3,008,993	€2,827,243	€6,006,946
Housing Loans	€129,986	€117,816	€295,948

	YTD		
	%	%	%
	May-24	May-23	FY 2023
Housing Rents	94%	94%	98%
Commercial Rates	35%	36%	77%
Housing Loans	84%	65%	84%

COMMENTARY
Rents collection % the same as compared to May 2023.
Rates collection % reduced when compared to May 2023.
Loans collection has improved when compared to May 2023.

May 2024 - Aged Debt Analysis



	30 Days	60 Days	90 Days	180 Days	1 Year	2 Years	> 2 Years
RATES	€0	€0	€0	€4,580,558	€744,908	€349,183	€1,649,401
RENTS	€28,001	€18,897	€33,196	€171,588	€0	€0	€0
LOANS	€1,109	€555	€17,211	€0	€8,146	€55,094	€0

Climate Action Plan

A Climate Action Committee has been established to facilitate implementation of climate action across the whole-of-Council. A draft Terms of Reference for the Committee has been drafted and circulated to senior officers and their committee nominees. The first meeting was held on 24 May 2024, and will recur on a monthly basis until the end of 2024. Minutes will be circulated to the Committee and to Senior Officers. Below diagram represents a whole-of-Council approach responsibility for climate action and table is the proposed frequency of meetings and discussions.

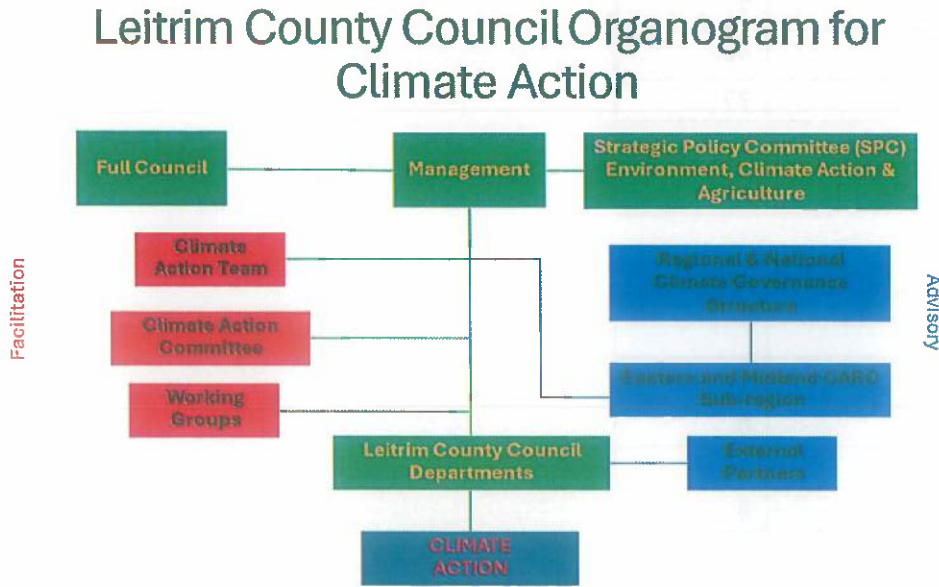


Figure 1 Whole of Council Approach to Climate Action

Leitrim County Council	Meeting Frequency	Communication
Elected Members Plenary	Biennially	Report and Presentation
SPC that includes Climate Action	Biannual	Presentation
Chief Executive	N/A	Contribution to monthly management report
Management	Fortnightly	Short report for Standing Item
Senior Officers	Biannual or as required	Biannual Meeting or as required Committee Bi-monthly minutes
Climate Action Committee	Bi-monthly	Dedicated to Climate Action

Figure 2 Frequency of Internal Meetings on Climate Action

Community Climate Action Programme Fund

Applications for Strand 1 (Building Low Carbon Communities) and Strand 1a (All-Island Community Climate Action) of the Fund have been evaluated by an internal Panel (with an independent Chair) and submitted to the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications in early May for final recommendation. DECC have indicated they may fast-track the process to bring forward projects in so far as practicable.

VETERINARY SERVICE

Slaughter Returns

AM/PM Examinations	7
Cattle	40
Sheep	77
Pigs	7
Goats	0

Premises Inspections

Premises Inspections	9
Food Samples	0
Environmental Swabs	0
Water Samples	0
Veterinary Residue Samples	4
Carcass Swabs	0
TB Lesions	0

Dog Warden Service Activities

Stray Dogs	1
Surrendered Dogs	14
Seized Dogs	0
Dogs Re-Homed	20
Dogs Reclaimed	1
Dog Deaths	0
Dogs Euthanised	0
Warden Service Requests	17
Dog Fouling Complaints	1
Barking Complaints	1
Livestock Attacks by Dogs	0
Dog Control & Roaming Complaints	2
Dog Licence Inspections	11
Dogs Neutered	4
Neutering Vouchers Issued	8
Dogs Micro-Chipped	1
Fines Issued – Dogs	0
Statutory Notices Issued	0
Newspaper Articles/ Radio	0

School/ Community Workshops	0
Social Media Posts	75
Stray Horses Seized	2
Stray Cats Neutered	10
Animal Carcasses Removed	3
Dog Waste Station Service Visits	57
Dog Waste Bags Dispensed	3500

CIVIL DEFENCE

- Water Sampling Assisting LCC
- Regatta Lough Rynn
- Assisting LAWPRO water sampling
- ICG callout to assist cruiser aground.
- Callout from Gardai for cruiser lost engine power

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

FIRE SERVICE

Fire Appliances and Equipment

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 May 2024

	Received	Valid / Invalid	Granted	Completed
Commencement Notices	3	3		
Fire Safety Certificates	1		4	
Disabled Access Certificates	1		3	
Completion Certificates	0	1		
FSA / Planning Inspections / H&S / Licensing inspections				5
BC inspections / BER / Market Surveillance				1

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING, AND INFRASTRUCTURE

LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE (LEO)

National Enterprise Awards Final

The National Enterprise Awards final took place on 23rd May in The Mansion House, Dublin. Leitrim was represented by Leitrim Hill Creamery, but unfortunately, they were not successful on the night.

Student Enterprise Awards

Students from Drumshanbo Vocational School won a National Award at this year's Student Enterprise Programme National Final in Mullingar on May 9th. DAC Machinery Lighting, which sells LED lighting for farm machinery, earned the Best Innovation Award in the Junior Category.

Women in Business networking event

Almost 100 women attended the summer network event (counties Leitrim, Longford and Westmeath) in the Landmark Hotel recently on the theme of Women's Wellbeing in the Workplace.

Training

Training delivered during May included Start Your Own Business, Small Business Strategies for Biodiversity and Pollinator Preservation and Business Planning. The monthly SYOB Plus training continues to provide support to new businesses.

Mentoring

A Marketing Review clinic took place during May.

Other Sustainable Supports for Business

The "All In A Days 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 May.

Interreg Europe Digital Rural

The kick off meeting for Interreg Europe Digital Rural Project took place at the end of May in Chania, Greece. Leitrim County Council are a partner on the project to examine ways to improve policies for the development of smart towns and villages.

Development of Offshore Wind Support enterprise in the NW/West region

The recently released Offshore Wind Strategy by Department of Enterprise identifies the Regional Enterprise Plans as a good vehicle to coordinate regional efforts to support the growth of the Offshore wind industry in Ireland. In May, the 4 chairs of regional working groups (NW/W, MidWest, Southwest, SouthEast) has met to instigate a strong regional forum, facilitated by the NW PM and is seeking meeting with the Government taskforce.

Infrastructure Development in the Northwest region

During May/June, the NW Programme Manager is preparing stakeholders in the region (working group for infrastructure) for a meeting with the Minister of Enterprise in mid-Summer (date to be confirmed). This meeting is on the back of the publication of the infrastructure report commissioned through the NW REP.

Clustering development in the Northwest

The Department of Enterprise held a stakeholder consultation in May to discuss the upcoming clustering programme which was inputted into by stakeholders from the Northwest.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LCDC

A meeting of the LCDC took place on May 15th 2024. The formal launch of the new LEADER programme took place on May 8th 2024.

Broadband

Ongoing work with the Broadband connection points, Our Kids Code and responding to general queries re Broadband.

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. Marketing & Development Manager appointed in early May.

County Promotion Events

Feature article being finalised for the Leitrim Observer outlining the 3 County promotion Events over the last 14 months.

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.

LCC Project Development Grant

4 further expressions of interest were received under this scheme.

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. Final Report expected soon. A pilot shared e-car scheme was introduced in Carrick on Shannon in May.

CLÁR 2024

31 expressions of interest were received under the Clár scheme 2024 by the closing date of May 17th. An evaluation took place on May 22nd where 15 projects were approved to move forward to be submitted to the dept for consideration. Staff are working on preparing the final 15 for submission to DRCD in June 2024.

RRDF Call 5

Leitrim County Council was successful in securing funding under both applications submitted to the 5th call of RRDF back in February 2024. On May 13th the Minister announced a total of €7,884,834 for Leitrim on two projects, Drumshanbo eXchange €5,555,148 and Glenfarne Wood €2,329,686.

Purple Flag

An initial meeting took place re the purple flag renewal for Carrick on Shannon, it will be included on the agenda of the next Carrick Town Team meeting.

TOURISM

Leitrim Tourism Forum

The inaugural meeting of the Tourism Forum took place on May 22nd. It included representatives from various sectors, including accommodation, activities, attractions, arts, heritage, and nighttime economy, as well as one member from each Municipal District. Gabriel Darcy, former Managing Director of Bord na Móna and a native of Ballinamore, has been appointed Chairperson of the Forum, which will convene every quarter. The Forum's primary focus will be implementing the measures outlined in the Tourism Framework document.

EU Project

The tourism officer presented "Slow Adventure" at the Green Health EU Interreg project meeting which took place in County Leitrim. The project aims to improve the management of European Protected Areas by strengthening links and strategic and operational cooperation between biodiversity protection and human health and well-being. Over 30 participants from eight partner countries attended the presentation. The focus of Leitrim County Council in this project is Kinlough and the surrounding area.

Marketing

Preparation for a summer marketing campaign to promote tourism in Leitrim will focus on radio and digital media, targeting the family market.

Festival & Events

Claims for festivals and events are currently being processed as the events happen; all festivals and events are being promoted through social media and on the Enjoy Leitrim website.

TOWN REGENERATION

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. As part of this it was arranged by the Town Regeneration Officer and the Town Team that Dr. Neil Galway and students from Queens University be facilitated to carry out a Health Check on the town during May. This is one of the first steps in the process of the preparation for a town centre first plan. Their findings will be published in due course.

Croí Conaithe – Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant

This scheme was introduced in July 2022 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 applications for 172 properties have been received by Leitrim County Council with 59 applications received since January 2024.

Kinlough, Dromahair & Ballinamore

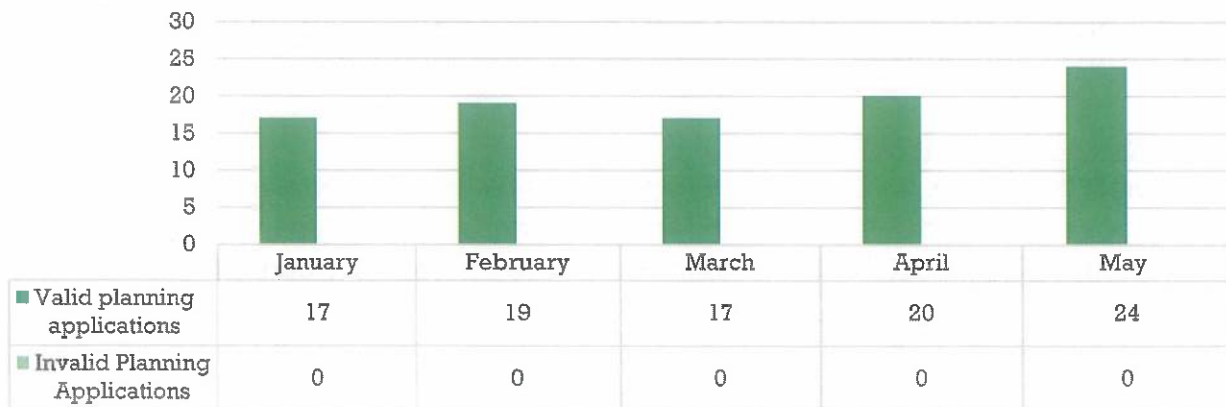
Minister Humphreys announced that Ballinamore, Dromahair and Kinlough were awarded €10,000 per town, under the Town Centre First, Town Team Support Fund. The funding may be used to support the establishment and/or development of town teams where they are not already well established, and to better understand the unique features of towns. Meetings will be arranged with each of the 3 towns to discuss the funding and next steps.

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 and ensure that there is citizen community and stakeholder engagement. All proposed projects must respect the new European Bauhaus rules by being sustainable, beautiful, inclusive and accessible. Leitrim County Council submitted an Application to the Northern and Western Regional Assembly under Strand 1 for the Town Hall in Carrick on Shannon and was successfully awarded funding under the application. The funding will provide for a feasibility study to be conducted to establish an end use for the building following widespread consultation process.

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

Planning Applications January - May 2024



Breakdown of Planning Decisions January - May 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

There were 5 no. Local Authority own development proposals going through the public display phase of their Part 8 public consultation process during May. These projects relate to housing developments in Ballinamore and Kiltyclogher, an active travel scheme in Dromahair, underpass at Aghoo Bridge 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 and is currently being finalised. A new dedicated website www.carrickjointplan.ie provides updates of the process. It is expected that the draft Local Area Plan will be placed on public display in early July.

Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT)

The annual Draft RZLT maps for Co. Leitrim was published on the 1st of February. Public consultation on these draft maps closed on the 31st of May and the Final Map for lands liable to the RZLT for 2025 will be published in January 2025. A total of 12 no. submissions have been received during the public consultation period.

Heritage

- A series of four Leitrim heritage themed videos are being developed to form part of the Connecting Through Heritage series. These include *A Women's History in Mohill*; *Enduring Traditions with Marion McGarry*; *Glennview Folk Museum*; and *Killmakerrill Graveyard*.
- The Killahurk Ringfort Access, Environmental and Archaeological Assessment is progressing. A presentation on 'Archaeology Feasibility Studies Investigating Development Opportunities between Carrigallen, Co Leitrim and Tullaghogue, Mid Ulster' was given to ICBAN.
- The O'Rourkes of Leitrim Heritage Audit and Interpretation Plan research has begun including historical research and researching monuments and locations in the County linked to the O'Rourke's in Leitrim, taking a very holistic view of the family.
- The St Mogue's Abbey Community Monument Fund 2023/24 conservation project and the Jamestown Wall Community Monument Fund Conservation Plan are progressing

Biodiversity

- Gardening for Biodiversity & Climate Action workshop: Organised workshop in Mohill for community groups and had 45 participants in attendance.
- The Hare's Corner: 18 Successful applicants have been approved for pond creation under the funding scheme and have had site assessment visits carried out.

- Biodiversity Garden at Aras an Chontae: Contractor has been engaged and has carried out the initial ecological survey of the site.
- National Biodiversity Week: A programme of public events was organized and delivered across Co. Leitrim and included online webinars, public walks and talks. The events featured a range of topics that included trees, bats, birds, moths, invasive species, pollinators and biodiversity enhancement at SMEs.
- Love where you Live awards: Visited 9 primary schools to assess their “Actions for Pollinators” projects as part of the LWYL awards.

ROADS

Non National Road Grant Allocation

An additional Restoration Improvement Grant (RIG) Allocation of €671,000 was received on 31st May 2024. This allocation was made to assist local authorities in delivering their annual road strengthening programme and to facilitate the repair to the roads infrastructure in light of the prolonged periods of persistent rainfall during the 2023/2024 winter season. This Allocation will be apportioned across the 3 Municipal Districts.

N4 Carrick on Shannon to Dromod Road Project

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

- Preferred Transport Solution will comprise
 - The road component comprising the bypass itself (the off-line section)
 - A new urban street of length 1km
 - Active travel, public transport and demand management measures including signalisation/upgrades of six roundabout junctions on the N4
- Consultations are currently taking place with
 - IFI
 - Irish Rail
 - NTA
 - Bord Na Mona
 - TII
 - LCC/RCC Planning departments

Pavement Overlays

- **N16 Pavement Overlay Scheme (POS) - Manorhamilton to Cornacloy Phase 1** – Works are substantially completed and we are now awaiting documentation to agree Final Account.
- **N16 Pavement Overlay Scheme (POS) - Manorhamilton to Cornacloy Phase 2** – Tenders have been received for the construction of this POS and Tenders are currently being assessed.
- **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

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.
- **Realignment of the N16 at Munakill** – This scheme is currently at Phase 3 – Detailed Design and Environmental Assessment stage. It is being designed by RPS consultants and project managed by Westmeath National Roads Design office (NRDO). The cost estimate for the scheme has recently

significantly increased due to poor ground conditions and this is presenting as 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** – Road Safety Audit is complete. Preliminary Design Report has been approved. Construction phase of this project will be completed by the Area Office and construction work on this scheme commenced recently.
- **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.

Bridge rehabilitation works – Works include:

- Bridge rehabilitation works completed on 1 bridge
- Contractor currently completing Bridge rehabilitation works on 1 Bridge
- Currently assessing tenders / appointing contractors for 7 bridges
- 2 No. bridges currently out for tender

Specific Improvement Grants – Works include:

- **R289 Kilcoon** – The options report from consultant is being finalised
- **R280 Killarga** – Advertised tender to appoint consultant
- **R280 Loughmurrans Realignment** – Advertised tender to appoint consultant
- **R278 Junctions** – Due to commence design works soon
- **R280 Erriff Realignment** – Currently working on tender documents to appoint Consultant

Local Improvement Schemes (LIS)

8 No. LIS offers have been issued to the top 8 Schemes on the LIS Waiting List – 5 Schemes in Manor MD and 3 Schemes in Ballinamore MD. All of these have accepted their LIS offer, 6 No. have paid and 2 No. are organising their Local Contributions. The Department of Rural and Community Development issued a **“Frequently Asked Questions”** following a change to the LIS Terms and Conditions and this FAQ Document is currently being reviewed and will also issue to all Councillors.

Roads in Charge Queries

Roads in Charge Queries processed this month	YTD Roads in Charge Queries processed
31	135

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
1	18

Hedge Cutting Grant Scheme

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	4 (6% of applications declined)	64 (97% of applications are completed)

Road Safety

A meeting of the Road Safety Working Together Group (RSWTG) was held on 3rd May 2024 and included a review of the County Leitrim Road Safety Strategy 2023 – 2030 and Phase 1 Road Safety Action Plan 2023 – 2024. It is planned to hold a Road Safety Education Event in 2 Secondary Schools in the County in November 2024 – Ballinamore Community School on 18th November, 2024 and Lough Allen College in Drumkeeran on 19th November 2024.

ACTIVE TRAVEL

Schemes currently under construction by Leitrim County Council Direct Labour:

- Tullaghan Footpath Connection to Housing Estate – 75% complete.
- Drumkeerin Active Travel Scheme – 95% complete.

Scheme received Part 8 Planning approval on the 13th May, 2024 at Manorhamilton MD meeting and is ready to commence construction by Leitrim County Council Direct Labour:

- Dromahaire – Churchfield Active Travel Link.

TOBIN Consultants are the successful tender following the assessment process. They are currently in the Standstill period until the 6th June, 2024 for the following schemes:

- Scheme 1 - Carrick on Shannon – Attifinlay Roundabout to Summerhill Cycle Scheme and Circular Road Rapid Build Cycle Scheme.
- Scheme 2 – Town Junctions upgrade - Drumshanbo.

Design to be finalised following Road Safety Audit and submitted for Part 8 Planning for the following:

- Ballinamore – Tully Heights connection to Town Environs.

Design commenced on the following:

- Manorhamilton – Park Road Upgrade.

Design required for the following:

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

Safe Route to Schools

- Request for Tender issued to 5 Contractors for construction of SRTS Scheme at St. Josephs NS – Leitrim Village – Closing date 6th June, 2024.
- OCSC Consultant appointed for the design of SRTS for 2 no. Schools.
 - St. Clare’s NS, Manorhamilton – Preliminary Design uploaded to TII Portal.

- Scoil Mhuire NS, Carrick – Awaiting Preliminary Design Report.
- Final Delivery Report from An Taisce received (In- house design to follow):
 - Mohill Community School.

Bus Shelter Programme

Contractor commenced construction of Bus Shelter at the following location:

- Glenfarne.

Contractor to continue with programme of work when Licence is received from CIE for Bus Shelter at the following location:

- Dromod Train Station.

Design Required for the following locations:

- Ballinamore.
- Kinlough.
- Leitrim Village.
- Drumshanbo.

CAPITAL PROJECTS OFFICE

Carrick on Shannon Flood Relief Scheme

Ryan Hanley Consulting Engineers have been appointed design consultant for this project. Options under consideration were presented at a Public Consultation Day held on the 20th of July 2023. A preferred option is currently being identified and the development of this option progressing.

Full details of the project are available on the project website 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

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 are 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.

Mohill Public Realm Scheme

A contractor has been appointed and construction of the scheme is ongoing.

Carrick on Shannon Destination Towns

Wayfinding Signage have been erected throughout the town and construction works on the new bus stops and viewing shelter have now been completed by Source Civil. A substantial completion Certificate has been issued for the scheme.

Carrick on Shannon to Battlebridge Blueway

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

Cavan Leitrim Greenway – Corgar to Aghawillin

Under construction.

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.

Narrow Gauge Trail Drumshanbo

Planning approval received for this project. Detailed design is now complete and contract documents prepared for construction contract. Funding approval from ORIS for the construction contract has now been received.

HOUSING, CORPORATE SERVICES, COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Housing Allocations

Offers issued to 31 st May 2024	Offers accepted	Acceptance Rate	Offers refused	Refusal Rate	Awaiting Reply
3	2	67%	1	33%	0

New Tenancies created to 31st May 2024

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

Traveller Accommodation Programme TAP July 2019 – June 2024 – Progress Report at 31st May 2024

Accommodation Type	2019 to 2024 5 year targets Targets	Outputs achieved at 31 st May 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		32 (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
Totals		
	25	43 (5 Year Target is 25 units = 172%)

Private Rented Inspection Programme

Overall target for delivery in 2024 For Dwellings Inspected	No of Dwellings inspected to 31st May 2024	% Complete (Department Target 280 308) (Note: Department updated target to 308)	Overall target for delivery in 2024 For Total Inspections completed	No of inspections completed to 31st May 2024 (Total number of inspections including Re-inspections)
Target – 280 308 (25% of registered rented properties in Leitrim) (Note: Department updated target to 308)	Total – 243	79%	Target – 350 (Depending on number of Re-inspections carried out)	Total – 251

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)			€1,061,691
01/01/2024 - 31/05/2024		GRANT	NO	VALUE	
PAID 2024	HGD		19	€139,059.96	
	MAG		5	€24,286	
	HOP		34	€166,897.68	
	TOTAL		58	€330,243.64	€330,243.64
Approved not paid ¹	HGD		44	€449,299.08	
	MAG		19	€81,012	
	HOP		62	€314,888.05	
	TOTAL		125	€845,199.13	€845,199.13
Applications Rec'd Not Yet Approved ² Estimated (Averaged @ €2,000 / Grant)	HGD		12	€120,000.00	
	MAG		6	€24,000.00	
	HOP		30	€150,000.00	
	TOTAL		48	€294,000.00	€294,000.00
					€1,469,442.77
Available Balance: €-407,751.77					

¹ Includes applications approved in 2022/2023, not yet paid

² Includes applications received in 2022/2023, not yet approved

Local Enhancement Programme 2024

89 proposed projects for funding were approved for funding by the Department of Rural and Community Development which amounted to €116,314, €18,661 of which was awarded to women's groups.

Age Friendly Programme

The National Older People's Convention was held in Kilkenny on the 9th & 10th May. Two members of the Leitrim OPC & Leitrim County Council's Age Friendly Coordinator attended the conference.

Our Age Friendly Coordinator also attended the inaugural Age Friendly Ambassadors' Day held on Thursday May 23rd which is an annual awareness initiative launched by Age Friendly Ireland to promote positive ageing. The event was spear headed by Meath's Age Friendly Ambassador, Sean Boylan

A walkability study to assess Carrick-on-Shannon Train Station will be carried out by members of Leitrim & Roscommon County Council as part of the process in a pilot project making 10 train stations across the country 'Age Friendly'. Older people, wheelchair users and other relevant stakeholders will also take part in the study. The project is being supported by Iarnrod Eireann, the NTA, Age Friendly Alliance, Leitrim & Roscommon County Council.

Public Participation Network

The PPN Plenary took place in Mohill on 10th May. Community Development presented on the Community Recognition Fund.

Healthy Ireland

The post of Healthy Ireland Coordinator was advertised with closing date May 2nd and interviews scheduled for early June.

Africa Day 2024

Africa Day took place at the Junction, Ballinamore on May 25th. feedback from the day was very positive and TG4 were onsite filming for the final part of the documentary on the restoration of the Old Railway Station & Coach House.

Community Recognition Fund

All applications submitted for the May deadline were assessed by an independent committee and submitted to Department by 31st May. The fund is open again for applications with the tranche 2 closing date of 17th July 2024.

PEACEPLUS

Leitrim County Council have been notified by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB) that the action plan submitted last Autumn has been approved in full, a sum of €3,344,009. There are a number of pre-conditions to be met and the PEACEPLUS Coordinator will be working with an assigned Case Officer to submit these and agree a programme start date.

A summary of the projects approved as follows:

Theme 1: Local Community Regeneration and Transformation - Proposed Capital Projects

Five capital projects with an overall budget of €837,000:

1. Multi Use Games Area in Ballinamore a synthetic grass pitch with recessed goal area & basketball stands with flood lights.

2. Community Meeting Space Carrick-on-Shannon which involves Phase 2 of the renovation of Coleman's building to create a ground floor meeting space with a display area in the shop front and accessible kitchen & toilet facilities.
3. Power Supply in Kinlough Eco Park - Install 2 Solar Photovoltaic Systems at Men's Shed/Community Garden and the Anglers Rest Boathouse; and provide an outdoor heat-pump hot water system and drainage works for Northwest Canoe Club.
4. Play & Art Therapy Facility Drumkeerin - Refurbishment of the old shed to rear of the Garda Station into Play & Art Therapy facility & community meeting space.
5. Cross Community Space, Lurganboy - Refurbishment of Lurganboy Church of Ireland into cross community space. Replace flooring & carpet, internal painting & install new audio system.

Theme 2: Thriving & Peaceful Communities – Proposed Programming

Seven projects with an overall budget of €893,435:

1. Community Capacity Building & Volunteer Support Programme.
2. Environmental Awareness & Biodiversity Programme.
3. Celebrate & Acknowledge our Culture, Heritage & Faith.
4. Voice of Women in Rural Ireland.
5. Engaging and Understanding for Young People in the Digital World.
6. Support Programme for those most Isolated.
7. Shared Space Animation Projects - A programme of activities to be delivered in connection with the capital projects to open them up as shared Spaces.

Theme 3: Building Respect for all Cultural Identities – Proposed Programming

Four projects with an overall budget of €504,913:

1. Active Citizenship and Orientation Programme working with minority communities.
2. Traveller Community Programme working with the Traveller community in Leitrim.
3. Ex political Prisoners their Families and Displaced Persons.
4. Promoting Diversity through the Arts working with those with a non-verbal disability and theatre & drama training for young people.

Love Where You Live

The Love Where You Live awards are a joined Leitrim County Council and Public Participation Network initiative, recognising the contribution that voluntary and community groups make to Co. Leitrim. Judging for the Love Where You Live Awards took place in May. Community Development employees and independent Judge Leonie Cornelious visited 25 Community Groups throughout the county to Judge the Green Community of the Year and Best Estate Categories. Leitrim County Council's Bio Diversity Officer Judged the Schools Category (Actions for Pollinators). The awards ceremony will be held on 10th October.

Community Engagement

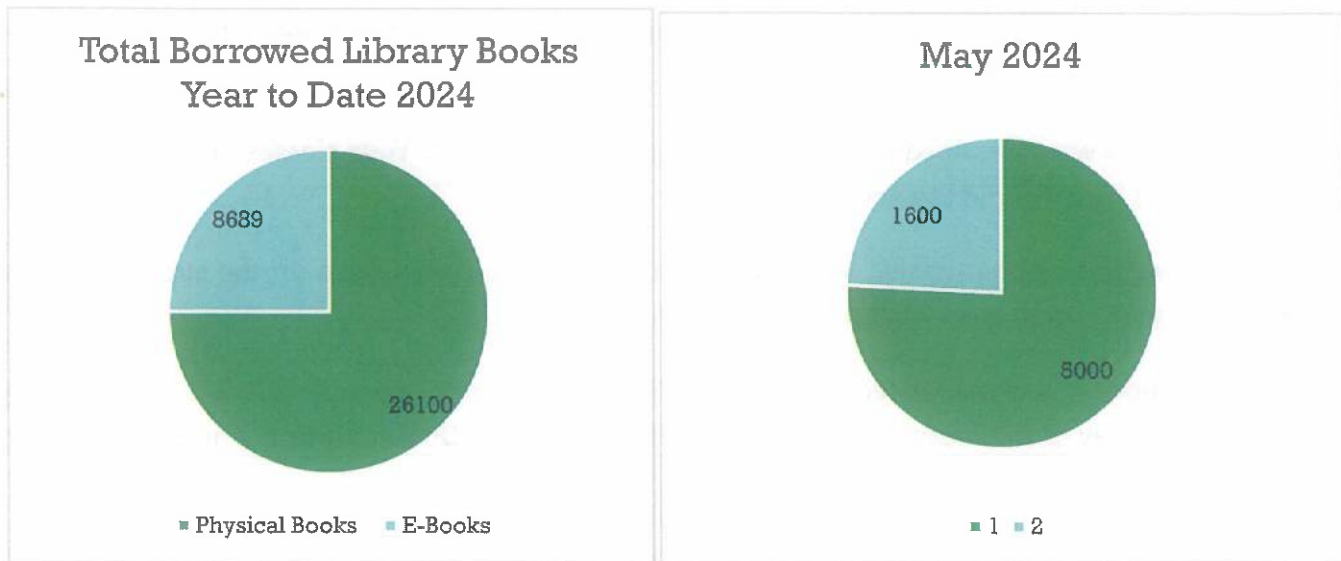
- Planning continued throughout the month as Leitrim is hosting its largest Cruinniú na nÓg celebration ever this year on June 15th with now an increase of 38 events available to young people across the county.
- 33 projects have been funded under the Creative Communities Open Call this year. More than 50% of these are now live or near completion with the other half taking place in the last two quarters of the year.
- Leitrim County Council and The Dock are working with artists and farmers to host six creative Farm Walks in 2024. The project is co-created with The Leitrim Sustainable Agriculture Group and the Ulster Wildlife Farmers Group in Fermanagh and funded through the Creative Ireland Shared Island Programme. Four of the six walks will have taken place by the 22nd of June.

Children & Young Peoples' Arts

- As part of Leitrim's Youth Theatre programme, new leaders were recruited this month for the Summer Culture Camp and the new term in September.
- Following the completion of the first term of the Wild Words young Writers Programme, an evaluation process was undertaken with outcomes in terms of benefits and impact due shortly.
- This year the arts office is working with Healthy Ireland and the breastfeeding group in Mohill to develop an arts project for babies and caregivers. A lead artist with extensive experience of working in early years arts was recruited this month and planning is now underway to develop the project further for rollout in the Autumn.
- The Arts office has developed a Summer School programme with Leitrim Youth Theatre, the Wild Words young Writers programme, Music Generation, Airc Damhsa, Leitrim School of Art and Leitrim Sports Partnership. The week-long programme will be held in Ballinamore in early July.

Professional Development

- On 14th May the Arts Office held Child Protection training in partnership with the National Youth Council of Ireland. The workshop was attended by 20 artists, arts managers and librarians.
- Communication - Regular news and opportunities updates reached 420 subscribed network members while the Arts Office professional development network website www.creativeframe.eu was updated with this information and new network registrations processed.
- As part of the Creative Ireland programme three applicants were successful through the Creative Economy Investment Programme - Tremolo Music Publishing Company, Leitrim Design House and Drumnadubber Arts while the Glens Centre in Manorhamilton will be running an internship funded through the Creative Ireland programme.



A number of branch libraries hosted events to mark Bealtaine. Manorhamilton Library hosted a session with mix of music, song and poetry, a skincare and beauty workshop was held in Drumshanbo Library, the writer’s group in Mohill Library held an engaging words evening and a Flower Arranging workshop was held in Ballinamore Library.

Multiple class visits and story time events were held in all the libraries. In Drumshanbo library, author Shelley Corcoran facilitated a ‘Spring into Storytime’ event which was attended by children from Leitrim Village school and in Carrigallen Library an event with Miss Pink was hosted for children from Carrigallen Parent and Toddler group.

A promotion of book displays in the libraries marked Biodiversity Week May 18th to 25th

A celebration of the work of local artist, Jim Reynolds, was hosted by Mohill Library. The exhibition showcased some of Jim’ unseen works of sketches, paintings, shopfronts and more. Members of Jim’s family also kindly loaned art works for the exhibition.

Beekeeper Mary Hyland presented her Citizen Science project on the Honeybee in Carrick-on-Shannon Library to coincide with World Bee Day.

The Leitrim Libraries Unleashed Podcast ran over the 5 Wednesdays in May. The podcasts featured Dillon Keane who runs the ‘Stronger for Longer’ chair exercise classes in the libraries, a group of pupils from St. Clare’s Primary School in Manorhamilton talked about their favourite books and authors, Friends of the Breastfeeding group spoke about what the library means to them and local studies librarian, Mary Conefrey talked about what’s on offer through the local studies library in Ballinamore.

Writer Brian Leydon gave a workshop to the Let’s Write Together group writers group in Kiltyclogher Library.

The Alzheimer Society of Ireland mobile information bus attended Mohill Library on May 24th and the Dementia Inclusive Social Club also met in the library.

An Organ Awareness talk by given by Cathriona Charles who shared her personal story and spoke about the new human tissue act coming into law soon.

Malcolm Kindness provided a talk in Drumshanbo library entitled 'An alternative to the Irish Winter – travels in southeast Asia'.

Digital Skills sessions were provided as well as Mobility classes and Chair Yoga classes. The photography club met in Mohill Library as did the Active Age Forum.


The health and wellbeing pharmacist, Maj Cunningham, presented workshops on the subject of bone health in both Manorhamilton and Ballinamore libraries.

A new lunchtime book club commenced in Carrick-on-Shannon Library. The book club will meet monthly on the last Wednesday of the month. The Book Club for Adults with Down Syndrome held their second meeting in Mohill Library.

A team from Midas Productions spent two days in the Local Studies Library researching and recording for a future TG4 documentary which will feature former Leitrim County Librarian, Veronica Carey McCarthy.

The Young Historian Award Programme concluded in May, which had 63 entries from Transition Year History Students in 4 Secondary Schools. The Local Studies Librarian attended the awards ceremonies in each school and made presentations of certificates, vouchers and trophies to students in Ballinamore Community School, Mohill Community College, Carrigallen Vocational School and Lough Allen College.

SIGNED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Signed: 
Mary Quinn, Deputy Chief Executive

Date: 18th June 2024