



ANNUAL
REPORT
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INTRODUCTION

This past year of 2019 has been another interesting and eventful chapter in the ongoing story of a resurgent county. The expanding role of Mayo County Council in shaping the communities and county to which we all aspire; that future Mayo, which is Sustainable, Inclusive, Prosperous and Proud was reinforced during these twelve months. 2019 government funding announcements for Mayo roads and projects were greatly welcomed, they are vital for the progression of the county and for the wellbeing of our people.



Brendan Mulroy
CATHAOIRLEACH
Mayo County Council



Peter Duggan
CHIEF EXECUTIVE (Interim)
Mayo County Council

After Cabinet approval, funding of €241 million for the new N5 dual carriageway from Westport to Turlough road was passed in October and we have started with earnest the initial stages of engineering works on the construction of 20.3 km of dual carriageway from Deerpark East in Westport to Ballyneggin, near Turlough, Castlebar - in addition to a 2.5 km single carriageway link to the N59 Westport to Mulranny Road.

The Leisure Complex at Lough Lannagh, a state-of-the-art facility, comprising of an eight-lane competitive swimming pool, gym and yoga studios opened to the public. It is a great resource to the county with many swim clubs, teams and groups making great use of the pool and gym.

Ireland West Airport Knock received approval by Government as a Strategic Development Zone, demonstrating their acknowledgment of the importance of the airport as a critical driver of regional economic development in the North West. Plans are in the pipeline to provide a campus for new business and an enterprise zone, including a hotel and conference centre, that will harness the benefits of living and doing business in the West of Ireland.

In its fifth year, the wonder and success that is Mayo Day went from strength to strength in 2019. This was clear to see at the jam-packed attendance of our flagship event 'The Mayo Word' at the National Museum of Ireland - Country Life. Further afield, Mayo Day was amplified to a new level, when our boys lined out to win in Gaelic Park in New York, with our county brand, Mayo.ie emblazoned on their chests as they took to the pitch for the first round of the 2019 Championship on Mayo Day weekend.

After the great success of the first year of Other Voices, Ballina welcomed the return of the music show and trail in September. We as a County Council are proud to have worked hard to partner with such an iconic music brand and positive effects that this association has for our county.

For a third year in a row, Westport was named Ireland's Tidiest Large Town at the 2019 National Tidy Towns awards.

Brendan Mulroy
Peter Duggan

MISSION STATEMENT

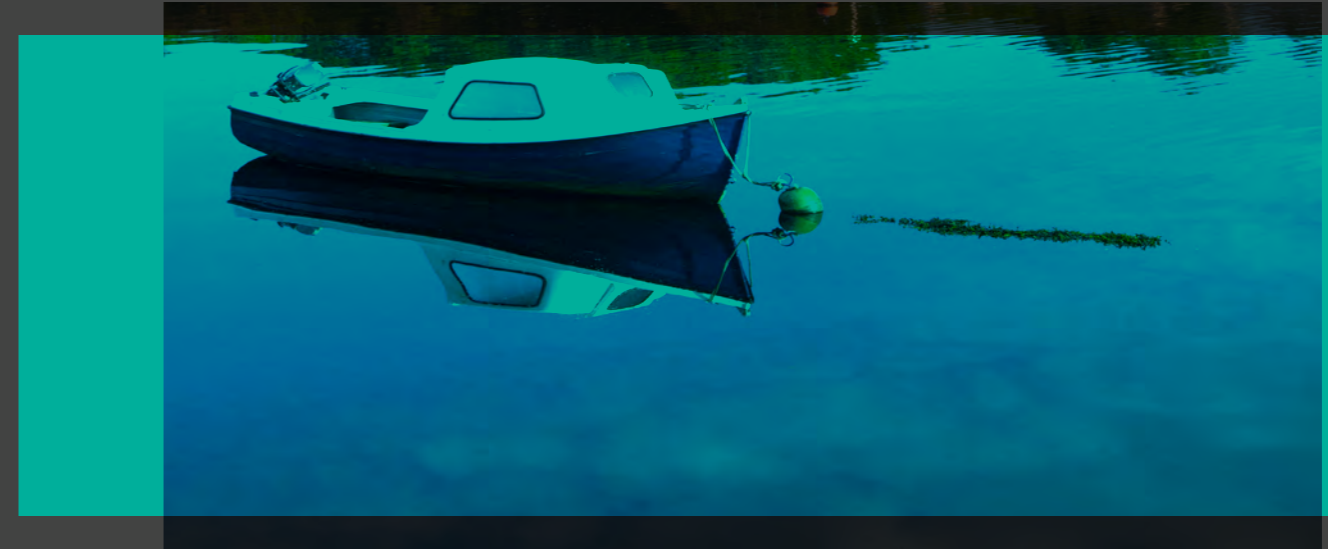
"Promote the well-being and quality of life of our citizens and communities in Mayo and to enhance the attractiveness of the County as a place in which to live, work, visit, invest in and enjoy".

VISION

A county that is sustainable, inclusive, prosperous and proud



'THE SENTINEL', WESTPORT, CO MAYO



CORPORATE PLAN

Mayo County Council is at the heart of local community, we are a key provider of economic and social development in the county, by delivering vital local services that are central to the quality of life for the people that we represent proudly.

As the leading public sector body, we also support and facilitate those who are responsible for providing key public services. When we deliver our responsibilities, they can deliver their obligations, we are always mindful of this so that we can effectively deliver on our commitments to make County Mayo, Sustainable, Inclusive, Prosperous and Proud.

The Corporate Plan was devised as a guide in delivering our commitments to the people of County Mayo. It sets out our mission, as the democratic body, of how we work and how we measure our efforts so that the end result transparently demonstrates the successes achieved for our communities.

Mayo County Council is community centred and people focused. Our Councillors represent the people of the county, and our staff is part of the Mayo community. All people and parts of this combined effort is to achieve the a positive contribution to the continuous and ongoing development of County Mayo.

A successful Mayo requires a successful Council, the corporate plan is a cornerstone in devising, tracking and implementing successful aspirations for the County.



COUNTY COUNCILLORS

BALLINA MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



Michael Loftus
CATHAOIRLEACH
FF



Seamus Weir
LEAS-CATHAOIRLEACH
NP



Annie May Reape
FF



Mark Duffy
NP



Jarlath Munnely
FG



John O'Hara
FG

CASTLEBAR MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



Michael Kilcoyne
CATHAOIRLEACH
NP



Blackie K Gavin
LEAS-CATHAOIRLEACH
FF



Donna Sheridan
FG



Cyril Burke
FG



Ger Deere
FG



Martin McLoughlin
FF



Al McDonnell
LEAS-CATHAOIRLEACH
MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL
FF

CLAREMORRIS SWINFORD MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



Tom Connolly
CATHAOIRLEACH
FF



Patsy O'Brien
LEAS-CATHAOIRLEACH
NP



John Caulfield
FF



John Cribbin
FG



Michael Burke
FG



Richard Finn
NP



Gerry Murray
SF



Damien Ryan
FF



Neil Cruise
FG



Michael Smyth
FF

WESTPORT BELMULLET MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



Christy Hyland
CATHAOIRLEACH
NP



Seán Carey
LEAS-CATHAOIRLEACH
FF



Gerry Coyle
FG



Peter Flynn
FG



Paul McNamara
FF



Brendan Mulroy
CATHAOIRLEACH
MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL
FF



John O'Malley
NP

MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS

Claremorris Swinford Municipal District



Castlebar Municipal District



Westport Belmullet Municipal District



Ballina Municipal District



For Municipal District Annual Reports, please see **Appendix 1**



BALLINA MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



€690,000
INVESTED IN
LOCAL ROADS
SURFACE
DRESSING



644
UNITS OF HOUSING
STOCK IN THE MD



160 GRANTS WORTH
€786,342 APPROVED
IN BALLINA MD UNDER
HOUSING GRANT
SCHEMES



VISITORS TO THE
40,385 JACKIE
CLARKE
COLLECTION

FUNDING AWARDED FOR THE
REGENERATION OF **9**
PROPERTIES IN BALLINA TOWN
UNDER THE **HISTORIC CORE
FACADE IMPROVEMENT SCHEME**



48 PERMANENT
TENANCIES
ALLOCATED



DRAINAGE WORKS FUNDING OF
€308,000
INVESTED
THROUGHOUT THE
DISTRICT



BALLINA MOTOR TAX OFFICE
14,011 TRANSACTIONS
WITH A VALUE OF
€2,332,696



CIVIC RECEPTIONS FOR: **BENNY
WALKIN** (RECIPIENT OF AWARD
FOR 50 YEARS SERVICE TO THE
SCOUTS, AND FOR
**ST VINCENT DE PAUL
MEMBERS, SWINFORD**



HOUSING COMPLETIONS
8 AT CNOC MÓR, KNOCKMORE
10 AT SLIABH RUA, FOXFORD



**JACKIE CLARKE
MEMORIAL GARDEN**
RETAINED GREEN FLAG AWARD FOR
PARKS FOR THE THIRD TIME, ONE OF ONLY A
FEW IN IRELAND TO DO SO



6 REBUILDING
IRELAND HOME LOAN
APPLICATIONS
APPROVED
DURING
209



VIEW THE COMPLETE BALLINA MUNICIPAL
DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT 2019 IN APPENDIX 1

CASTLEBAR MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



€29,000
FOR BALLINTUBBER
AND KILTIMAGH
PLAYGROUNDS
FROM GENERAL MUNICIPAL
ALLOCATION



102 GRANTS WORTH
€558,407.38
APPROVED IN
CASTLEBAR MD
UNDER HOUSING
GRANT SCHEMES



€12.5 million
LOUGH LANNAGH
LEISURE COMPLEX
OPENED TO PUBLIC

CIVIC RECEPTIONS FOR:
BALLYHEANE FC U-18 TEAM
PROFESSOR BRIAN DOLAN OBE
BALLA COMMUNITY, 2018 PRIDE
OF PLACE WINNERS



CONTRACTS SIGNED FOR
TURLOUGH TO WESTPORT
ROAD PROJECT

N5



**2 HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS
COMPLETED**

TAOBH AN CHNOIC, POUND ROAD
COIS CAIRN, PARKE



CASTLEBAR MOTOR TAX OFFICE

34,595 TRANSACTIONS
WITH A VALUE OF
€5,563,745



OVER **12,000**
VISITORS TO MAYO DAY
FLAGSHIP EVENT AT
TURLOUGH HOUSE



CASTLEBAR WINS
'RISING STAR AWARD'

AT BANK OF IRELAND
**NATIONAL ENTERPRISE
TOWNS
AWARDS**



€2,300,000 ALLOCATED
FOR PAVEMENT
IMPROVEMENT WORKS
ON LOCAL ROADS



HOSTED THE **10th**
ANNUAL WOMEN'S
MINI-MARATHON &
SCHOOLS FUN RUN

VIEW THE COMPLETE CASTLEBAR MUNICIPAL
DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT 2019 IN APPENDIX 1

CLAREMORRIS SWINFORD MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



€599,127.86 FUNDING
APPROVED UNDER THE HOUSING
GRANT SCHEMES SUPPORTING
118 HOUSEHOLDS



€6,814,429
SPENT ON NATIONAL,
SECONDARY, REGIONAL
AND LOCAL ROADS IN
THE DISTRICT



**GROWING FOR
BIODIVERSITY**

WORKSHOPS HELD IN
BALLINROBE & CONG IN
SEPTEMBER

**55KM N17
ROAD**
PUBLIC
CONSULTATIONS



TOOK PLACE IN OCTOBER 2019

PLANNING SCHEME FOR THE
**STRATEGIC
DEVELOPMENT
ZONE**



AT
IRELAND WEST
AIRPORT KNOCK
ADOPTED BY
MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL

30th ANNIVERSARY
COMMEMORATION EVENT
IN BALLINROBE
FOR **CORPORAL FINIAN
HENEGHAN**, WHO DIED
ON DUTY IN THE
LEBANON IN 1989



**OUTDOOR GYMS DEVELOPED AT
BALLYHAUNIS
AND
BALLINROBE**



POPULATION OF
THE MUNICIPAL
DISTRICT
INCREASED BY

11,958

FOLLOWING BOUNDARY
CHANGES IN **MAY 2019**

MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL'S **AGE
FRIENDLY PROGRAMME** & IRELAND
WEST AIRPORT KNOCK WON A
CHAMBERS IRELAND AWARD FOR
THEIR **AGE FRIENDLY AIRPORT
GUIDELINES**



VIEW THE COMPLETE CLAREMORRIS SWINFORD
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT 2019 IN APPENDIX 1

WESTPORT BELMULLET MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



150+ FESTIVALS AND EVENTS SUPPORTED

COMMUNITY **BIODIVERSITY** MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR LOUISBURGH, MURRISK, WESTPORT & MULRANNY

BELMULLET MOTOR TAX OFFICE

6,230 TRANSACTIONS WITH A VALUE OF €983,579



MULRANNY

AWARDED A SILVER MEDAL IN THE ENTENTE FLORALE COMPETITION. THE OLD IRISH GOAT PROJECT TOOK A BEST PRACTICE AWARD



NEW €300,000 FLOATING PONTOON AND SLIPWAY COMPLETED AT WESTPORT HARBOUR

TIDY TOWNS AWARD WINNERS



A NEW COMMUNITY FUTURES PLAN COMPLETED FOR BELMULLET

BELMULLET MULRANNY LECANVEY WESTPORT (IRELAND'S TIDIEST LARGE TOWN)



10 BLUE FLAGS AWARDED TO WEST MAYO BEACHES

HOUSING ALLOCATIONS

- 11 NEW DWELLINGS
- 20 CASUAL VACANCIES
- 5 TRANSFERS
- 3 SUCCESSION TENANCIES



THE RUNNING CLUB AT WESTPORT LEISURE CLUB WIN BEST COMMUNITY SPORTS INITIATIVE AT THE 2019 LAMA AWARDS

CONTRACTS SIGNED FOR WESTPORT TO TURLOUGH ROAD PROJECT **N5**



VIEW THE COMPLETE WESTPORT BELMULLET MUNICIPAL DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT 2019 IN APPENDIX 1

STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES

Corporate, Education, Culture, Heritage and Library Services SPC

Cllr Gerry Coyle
(Chair)

The work programme of the Corporate, Education, Culture, Heritage and Library Services SPC included:

- ➔ Agreement of Priority Actions for 2020.
- ➔ Development of a Programme of Events for 2020 in accordance with the Mayo Commemoration Strategy 2013-2023
- ➔ Continuous development of Mayo Library Services
- ➔ Implementation of Mayo County Council Strategic Arts Plan 2018-2022
- ➔ Implementation of Scéim Teanga Comhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo

Economic Development, Enterprise Support, Planning and the Marine SPC

Cllr Mark Duffy
(Chair)

The work programme of the Economic Development, Enterprise Support, Planning and the Marine SPC included:

- ➔ Local Enterprise Office progress
- ➔ Mayo County Council Business Support Scheme
- ➔ National Broadband Plan and the rollout of Rural Broadband in Mayo
- ➔ Enterprise and Investment Projects

Housing SPC

Cllr John Cribbin
(Chair)

The work programme of the Housing SPC included:

- ➔ Housing Delivery 2020
- ➔ Housing Capital Projects underway in the county
- ➔ Revised Housing Allocation Scheme
- ➔ Refugee Resettlement Programme
- ➔ Repair & Leasing and Buy & Renew Schemes
- ➔ Housing Disability Strategy
- ➔ Differential Rent Scheme

Environment, Climate Action, Agriculture & Emergency Services SPC

Cllr B K Gavin
(Chair)

The work programme of the Environment, Climate Action, Agriculture & Emergency Services SPC included:

- ➔ Climate Ready Mayo - Draft Climate Adaptation Plan
- ➔ Sustainable Agricultural Strategy for Mayo
- ➔ To consider submission report on Draft Waste Collection Bye Laws
- ➔ To nominate four members to the Mayo County Council Agricultural Working Group
- ➔ To nominate the Chair of the Mayo County Council Agricultural Working Group

Road Transportation and Safety SPC

Cllr Damien Ryan
(Chair)

The work programme of the Road Transportation and Safety SPC included:

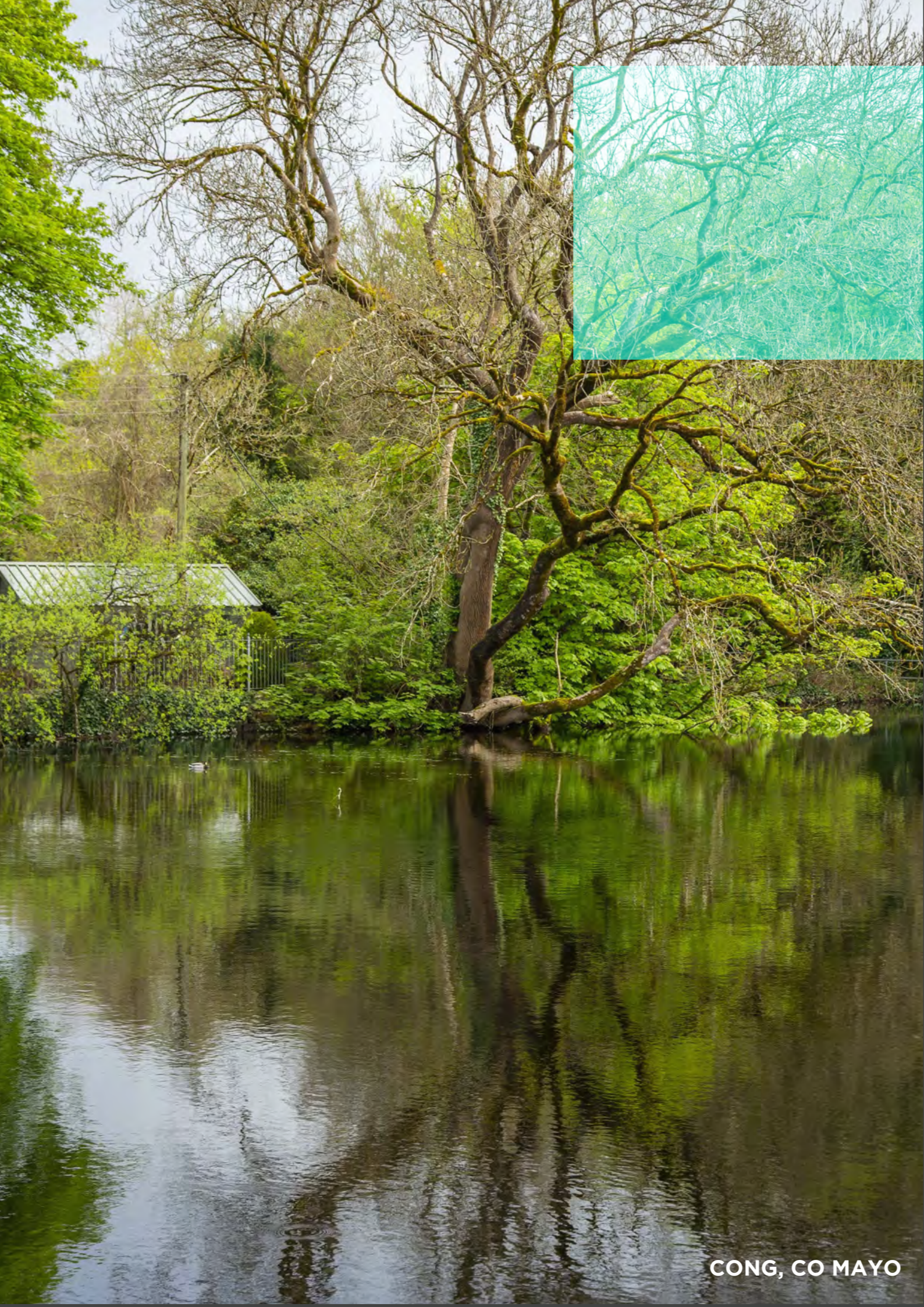
- ➔ Road Grants Allocation 2019
- ➔ Roadworks Scheme 2019
- ➔ Winter Services Plan 2019/2020
- ➔ Regional Road Improvements
- ➔ Public Lighting Initiatives
- ➔ Presentation on Local Link Mayo
- ➔ Hedge Cutting Forum
- ➔ Road Safety

Tourism, Recreation, Food & Community Engagement SPC

Cllr Seamus Weir
(Chair)

The work programme of the Tourism, Recreation, Food and Community Engagement SPC included:

- ➔ The implementation of 'Destination Mayo - A Strategy for the Future Development of Tourism in County Mayo 2016 - 2021'
- ➔ Consideration of funding sources for projects
- ➔ Tourism Marketing of County Mayo



COMMUNICATIONS, INFORMATION SYSTEMS & CORPORATE DEVELOPMENT

IN THIS SECTION

Castlebar Regional Training Centre

Corporate Affairs

Property Portfolio & Asset Management Section

Communications Department, Oifig na Gaeilge, Road Safety Awareness

Architects

Mayo County Library

Mayo Heritage Office

Mayo Arts Services

Information Systems



CASTLEBAR REGIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

Castlebar Regional Training Centre continues to provide workplace training on a shared services basis for six local authorities and other public and private sector organisations in the West and Midlands, with Mayo County Council as the lead authority.



The facility has accreditation from SOLAS, QQI, City & Guilds and ECITB, and has grown consistently over the past few years, now delivering over 7,300 training days per annum. We are self-financing and our turnover in 2019 was 1,497,931.32, a 15% increase on 2018. Established to facilitate the provision of appropriate training to local authorities in key operational areas such as Roads, Water and Environment and more recently Fire Services, Housing and Planning, the Training Centre Network also provides a wide range of Occupational Health and Safety, Continuing Professional Development, Leadership and ICT courses. Many local authorities now have quality assurance such as OHSAS 18000/ISO 45000 accreditation and the centre has high quality procurement, data protection and quality assurance standards. With recovery in the construction industry, demand from the private sector and new local authority staff for quality training is increasing. One driver of this demand is mandatory training in the updated area of 'Managing Openings in Public Roads'.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- › Part VIII approval received for development of a state-of-the-art outdoor training facility for the provision of Roads and plant and machinery courses previously only available in Dublin
- › Overall winner of Public Sector Magazine Training and Development Category

2019 IN NUMBERS

Over **7,350** training days delivered

Turnover of **€1,497,931**

CORPORATE AFFAIRS



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

The total number of requests received under the Freedom of Information Act, 2014, for 2019 was **160**.

LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Mayo County Council is committed to Human Resource Learning and Development to achieve our objectives and goals. We recognise that our success in providing a high quality of service to the community has been built on a loyal, dedicated and committed workforce. We deem it important to foster a team spirit in all our employees by implementing a progressive Learning and Development Plan for our employees throughout all areas of activities.

ETHICS REGISTER

Annual Declarations for 2019 from relevant employees and elected members were received within the statutory period, with the exception of **seven** employees, however, all **seven** completed declarations were subsequently received.

PROTECTED DISCLOSURES ACT, 2014

There were no complaints received under the above Act in 2019.

PROPERTY PORTFOLIO & ASSET MANAGEMENT

2019 was another busy year for the newly established Property Portfolio and Asset Management Section.

Along with identifying the organisation's land assets, the Property Portfolio and Asset Management Section provided property related support and advisory services to other sections in the organisation in areas including conveyancing (sales, purchases and leases), Section 183s, land-related queries, provision of office accommodation, insurance and health and safety to allow for the efficient and effective management of the Council's non-housing land assets.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- › Property Register and Lease Register updated
- › Improved Lease Management
- › Continuation of First Registration Project.
- › Commencement of implementation of Workplace Fire Safety Policy
- › Relocation of staff to Mayo House, Moneen, Castlebar

COMMUNICATIONS

The Communications Department of Mayo County Council had a productive 2019 focused on achieving the key communications priorities and objectives for Mayo County Council, while amplifying the activities that take place within the county to a wider audience.



Striving to improve the quality and reach of public information about council services, events, activities and policies, the Communications Department is responsible for the syndication of all external communications of Mayo County Council, enhancing internal communications within the organisation, promoting the county brand, Mayo.ie and the delivery of the services of the Irish Office/Oifig na Gaeilge and the Road Safety Awareness programme.

During 2019 the Department:

Provided media engagement and responses on behalf of the organisation across a range of issues including roads, housing, environment, economic development, corporate matters and libraries. The Department ran proactive social media campaigns promoting Mayo's involvement in national calls such Healthy Ireland at your Library, and Culture Night.

Planned for the redevelopment of www.mayo.ie, launching in mid-2020. The new version of the website will be both the online representation of Mayo County Council providing information and online services that are currently found on www.mayococo.ie, and a showcase for the county through tourism, news, events and campaigns, as are represented currently on Mayo.ie website.

Researched and developed content for Mayo County Council's involvement in national campaigns such as #OurCouncilDay, #HousingFocus - shining a national spotlight on the great work being done by this council at a grassroots level. We continue to update the Mayo County Council Image Library with images of the work, people, events, launches and openings of the vital services that Mayo County Council provides.

Further developed Mayo.ie channels, the Mayo.ie Facebook Page is in the top three in the country. Revitalised the Mayo County Council Facebook Page and Twitter account. As channels to provide citizens with regular and reliable Council service announcements. The channel has received very high engagement figures due to consistent information disseminated during extreme weather spells such as Hurricane Lorenzo, road closure announcements and interruptions to water supply.



Mayo Day 2019 was a truly memorable day of celebration of the place and people of Mayo. The Mayo Word at the National Museum of Ireland - Country Life was an outstanding success. Over 12,000 people enjoyed the free family event, and a gathering of 'Leaders and Thinkers' on the opening evening was a special occasion, with notable Mayo people exploring, discussing and sharing the depth of their passion and personal connections with Mayo.

Events in New York had a special significance for Mayo Day 2019. A unique marketing partnership with Mayo GAA, saw the Mayo.ie brand feature on jerseys worn by the Mayo Senior Football team as they lined out to play New York in Gaelic Park in the first round of the 2019 Championship on Mayo Day weekend. In addition, The County Mayo Foundation hosted a special Mayo Day event at Battery Park City's Irish Hunger Memorial in New York City to honour the many generations of the Mayo diaspora who have made New York their home.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- › Festivals and events supported included Rehab Mayo People of the Year Awards, Mayo Manchester Tradfest, Swinford 250, Martin Sheridan Bursary, Mulranny Entente Florale Entry, TILDA (The Irish Longitudinal Study on Aging) Scientific Conference, Junior Chamber International Mayo National Convention, Mayo Business Awards 2019 and the West of Ireland Women's Mini-Marathon.
- › Key council projects and initiatives highlighted in regularly published internal and external ezines.
- › Mayo County Council launched its new Corporate logo incorporating the now familiar Mayo.ie 'M' across a council-wide range of re-branded stationery.
- › The Communications Department writes the submissions for national awards each year. In 2019 five projects were shortlisted for a LAMA Award. Two projects were successful, The Running Club at Westport Leisure Park took top honours in the Best Community Sports category and our Architects Section's Tubberhill Housing Scheme and Masterplan secured a Silver Award in the Best Social Housing Initiative Category.
- › Representatives from Mayo County Council's Age Friendly Programme and from Ireland West Airport Knock received a Chambers Ireland Award for the development of Age Friendly Airport Guidelines. IWAK is the first airport in the world to be recognised by the World Health Organisation as an Age Friendly Airport

2019 IN NUMBERS

Mayo.ie and MayoCoCo.ie had a combined total of **1,545,492** page visits in 2019

Social Media followers increased by **16.7%** from 2018

Twitter followers increased 34% to **10,100**

#MayoDay was seen **16.16 million** times for Mayo Day 2019 as well as a reach over **2.07 million** in the weeks around Mayo Day

OIFIG NA GAEILGE

Oifig na Gaeilge seeks to sustain and promote the use of Irish in County Mayo and it aids in developing and implementing the Irish Language Policy of Mayo's Local Authority.



Whilst continuing to improve the level of service available through Irish, Mayo County Council continues to implement the **Official Languages Act 2003**, and **Mayo County Council's Language Scheme**.

This included informing staff of the Council's obligations regarding the language, undertaking translation work, advising on forms of placenames to be used on road signage, and ensuring the websites and certain publications, forms, information leaflets etc. are available in both official languages.

Oifig na Gaeilge also works closely with other Irish Language Organisations in Mayo in the promotion of the Language.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Like every other event of Mayo Day – **Lá Mhaigh Eo** 2019 built on the success of previous years. At the Gaeilge Mhaigh Eo area there was something for everyone with live music by the very talented group Seoda, Sean-nós Dancing with Liam Scanlon, a Book Launch of "Handlebars: An Irish Goat" written by Cheryl Coburn Browne and translated to Gaeilge by Úna Ní Ghabhláin.
- ▶ For the third year in succession Oifig na Gaeilge in partnership with Togra Mhaigh Eo de Chonradh na Gaeilge organised a hugely successful **Lá Spraoi Teaghlaigh trí Ghaeilge/Family Fun Day trí Ghaeilge** during Seachtain na Gaeilge.
- ▶ Lón Gaeilge and Maidin Caife continued to be organised on a monthly basis by Oifig na Gaeilge

2019 IN NUMBERS

15

Mayo County Council launched their third Language Scheme under Section 15 of the Official Languages Act 2003. The Minister of State at the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Mr. Seán Kyne, T.D., confirmed the draft scheme.

31

senior staff members participated in Irish language training for the Leadership group offered by Gaelchultúr on behalf of Oifig na Gaeilge

ROAD SAFETY AWARENESS

Mayo County Council, in conjunction with the Road Safety Authority, delivers a programme of education and awareness of Road Safety. This involves a proactive approach to promoting the need for caution and awareness of impending dangers on the roads in Mayo.



The Road Safety Officer delivers a suite of Road Safety Programmes to the public through schools/colleges, community groups, sporting organisations, local businesses and industries in Mayo.

The focus of **Road Safety Education** is vulnerable road users, driver behaviour and attitudes, social responsibility, driving for work, impaired driving, and cyclist safety.

The office works with other Departments of Mayo County Council and with the Road Safety Together Committee in the County, comprising of officials of Mayo County Council, HSE West, Gardaí, Road Safety Authority, and Transport Infrastructure Ireland in the implementation of the Road Safety Strategy.

During the winter period the Road Safety Officer issues daily road safety winter driving tips and advice on the Winter Maintenance Program.

Mayo Road Safety Working Group organises the annual Mayo Road Safety Roadshow in **February** each year. This has been running since 2007, attracting audiences numbering approximately **1,500 pupils**, from **29 secondary schools**, including schools from surrounding counties.

The show includes presentations by members of An Garda Síochána, the Ambulance and Fire Services, a Medical Consultant based within the A&E Department of Mayo University Hospital, a family member of a deceased road traffic accident victim, a car crash survivor, and an Undertaker, outlining their firsthand experience of dealing with a serious road traffic accident. The hard-hitting Roadshow is aimed at transition year students, encouraging young drivers and those about to commence their driving career, to adopt a responsible attitude in terms of their own driving behaviour.



The Education Programme

includes visits to schools by the Road Safety Officer and the promotion of Junior Warden and Cycle Training Schemes with schools. With the co-operation of teachers, the Gardaí and parents, these schemes make a significant contribution to Road Safety awareness



The Road Safety Office

supports two Junior Warden Schemes in the county; one in Swinford and the other at The Quay National School, Ballina. Uniforms and signs are provided by Mayo County Council. Road markings are updated regularly. Without the enthusiastic support of the school principals it would not be possible to maintain the scheme.



General Promotion Of Road Safety Through Local Media

Mayo County Council operates in support of the Road Safety Authority and also general promotion in the local media. During the winter the Road Safety Office issues daily winter driving tips and updates about the Winter Maintenance Program.

ARCHITECTS

The Architects Department encompasses a large range of in-house technical expertise incorporating architects, engineers, architectural & civil technicians, horticulturalists, clerks of works and clerical staff located through out the County.



The Architects Department also manage and maintain the grounds of Turlough Park House, keeping it in the pristine condition that we have come to be familiar with.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

Key projects undertaken in 2019 include:

- > provision of Architectural Design and layouts to facilitate the achievement of County Mayo's first **STZ: Strategic Development Zone** at Ireland West Airport Knock Strategic Development Zone.
- > Grant funding secured for Ballina under the **Historic Towns Initiative 2019** allowed for conservation works to be carried out throughout the town centre. Significant architectural built fabric was conserved under this scheme with traditional local skills being employed to advance the works, bringing employment to local specialist contractors in the historic core of the Pearse Street Architectural Conservation Area.
- > Funding received from the Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland for the **Architecture at the Edge Festival 2019** with events presented to encourage engagement with the built environment and inspire new ways of thinking about architecture.
- > New Playgrounds at **Achill Sound** and **Bofeenaun**, extension to **Newport** Playground & Multi Use Game Areas at **Corclough** and **Bonniconlon**.
- > The Conservation Office project-managed grant-aid to many structures of architectural significance. **The Built Heritage Investment Scheme** and the **Historic Structures Fund** provided financial assistance for conservation works throughout Mayo including Ballyglass House, Scardaune, Ballysakeery, Glebe House, Valley House, Achill and St. Peter & Paul's RC Church, Westport.

2019 IN NUMBERS

€Completed an energy efficiently retrofitting to over **20** dwellings

62 homes designed and delivered to families throughout the county to a value of 10.5 million

12.5 million designed and delivered the Castlebar Pool & Outdoor Pursuits Academy which opened to the public in April 2019

2,700 infestations of Japanese knotweed mapped and treated in Co Mayo. The Parks Office within the Architects Department will continue to map and trace invasive species with a particular focus on Japanese Knotweed in partnership with local communities.

MAYO COUNTY LIBRARY

The largest cultural or heritage organisation in the county, Mayo libraries attracted 480,000 visits in 2019. With an extensive cultural programme, over 350 events were hosted by Mayo libraries during the year, including a wide range of events for children, culminating with the month-long Children's Book Festival in October.



The **Creative Ireland Programme** continued to be rolled out in 2019. Among the highlights were: a residency by acclaimed writer Mike McCormack in Castlebar, a public art initiative in Ballina, a retrospective exhibition by Camille Souter and the digitization of a selection of The Western People photographic collection which will be donated to the council. On Saturday, June 23rd Cruinniú, a festival of creativity, culture and heritage ran in 30 venues throughout the county. A Sandcastle Festival in Achill, coding workshops in Belmullet, Wildcraft in Partry and Moon Craft in Ballina were among the variety of attractions. The highlight of the day was the **Cruinniú@Love Lough Lannagh** festival in Castlebar where Glastonbury met the Wild Atlantic Way in an explosion of creativity, adventure, art and music.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

› Almost 60 events were held during October for **Children's Book Festival** month. Author talks, writing workshops, dramatic performance and mindfulness workshops were just some of the scheduled events which saw over 2,000 children from across the county attend libraries with their schools.

› The **Spring into Storytime** initiative encouraged parents to bring their children for story time sessions at sessions hosted through our branch libraries during February and March.

› The **Time to Read** programme which helps children develop a love for reading whilst increasing their confidence and self-esteem is run by volunteers from Mayo County Council staff, who read to children in disadvantaged schools over a period of 20 weeks.

› Le haghaidh **Sheachtain na Gaeilge** i mí an Mhárta, eagraíodh imeachtaí éagsúla trí mheán na Gaeilge i leabharlanna tríd an chontae.

› **Healthy Ireland at your Library**, a government strategy which places libraries at the heart of the community, provides resources and events which feed into the national strategy of improving health. An extensive programme of events, covering topics such as positive parenting, mental health, obesity, alcoholism and chronic pain took place in 2019.

› A **National Delivery Service** allows books from any library in the country to be delivered within two days to any library in Mayo.

› **Book Magic**, a new scheme provides books to help children deal with a wide range of emotions and feelings such as anxiety, fear, anger, bereavement, sibling illness and loneliness. Through a network of family support workers, speech and language therapists, family resource centres (and more), these have been put directly into the hands of many children throughout the county.

2019 IN NUMBERS

600,000

Over 600,000 books borrowed by the 23,000 members of Mayo County Library

2,000

2,000 children read over 7,700 books as part of the **Summer Reading Challenges**

43,895

€43,895 funding from the Department of Rural and Community Development made available for the provision of **sensory facilities and equipment** in Mayo libraries to help people with sensory impairments, special educational needs and other learning difficulties.

1,000

Mayo is the only library service in Ireland or the UK that provides the **Musical Instrument Lending Scheme** and over 1,000 instruments were on loan throughout the county in 2019

50,000

The **Liam Lyons Collection** of over 50,000 images is available on the library website to Mayo people at home and abroad.

The Jackie Clarke Collection

Decade of Commemorations

As part of Mayo County Council's **Decade of Centenaries Commemorations**, the Jackie Clarke Collection launched a major exhibition on the War of Independence.

The exhibition will run for the duration of the commemorations and educational workshops and local talks are being held in tandem with the exhibit.

Route Millennia Mayo

Successful collaboration with other cultural attractions in county to develop Route Millennia Mayo joint marketing campaign continues

40,385

visitors in 2019, an increase of 8,249 since 2018.

'Sliabh na mBan'

The Jackie Clarke Collection was honoured yet again by the Irish Defence Forces, hosting the 'Sliabh na mBan', the armoured car used to transport General Michael Collins after he was fatally wounded at Béal na mBláth in 1922.

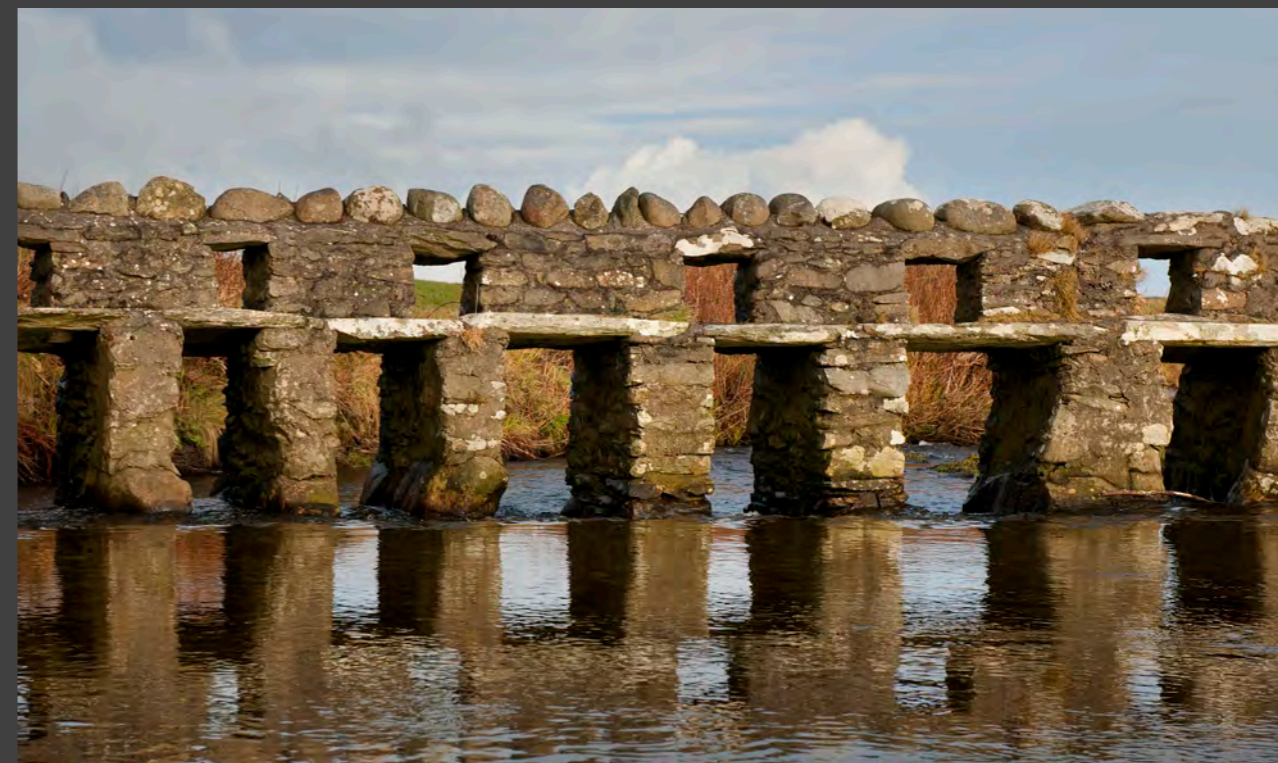
The armoured car made a welcome return to the Jackie Clarke Collection on Wednesday 10th July as part of "Heritage Day"

Culture Night

Hosted the 9th Annual Cultural Night event on September 20th 2019.

MAYO HERITAGE OFFICE

The Heritage Office works to promote awareness, interest, knowledge, pride and conservation of the built, natural and cultural heritage of the county.



2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- A diverse and eclectic programme of over 100 events was organised for Heritage Week, including heritage walks, talks, demonstrations events.
- Hosting **Local Authorities Heritage Officers** in June 2019 for a Heritage Training and Development Programme on the theme of biodiversity and natural heritage.

2019 IN NUMBERS

In 2019, Mayo Heritage Office continued its ongoing work with communities, assisting them in researching and collecting information, and protecting and promoting their built, natural and cultural heritage. Some of the key projects undertaken include:

- Expansion of the **Mayo Swift Box Project**
- Co-ordinating content for RTÉ Radio 1's **Morning Ireland** in July 2019 which featured Mayo Biodiversity Projects
- Supported the 5th Annual **Mulranny Stone Wall Festival**
- Unveiling of the **Tree of Embracement** artwork by the students of **Ballinrobe NS** under the **Heritage in Schools Scheme**
- Facilitated public consultation on **Heritage Ireland 2030**, the new National Heritage Plan, holding drop-in information sessions in each of the Municipal Districts.
- Progressed the Department of Community & Rural Development's **National Town Centre Residential Occupancy Pilot Project** in which Ballinrobe is participating along with Boyle, Callan, Cappoquin, Castleblayney and Navan.

'Reading the Rocks'

Mayo's rich geological heritage is highlighted in the publication **'Reading the Rocks - Exploring Mayo's Geological Heritage'**. Based on an audit of 110 of Mayo's geological heritage sites, the book and an accompanying exhibition present a selection of Mayo's important geological heritage sites and features. The exhibition will tour to various locations throughout Mayo during 2020.

Killala Town Study

A comprehensive analysis of the historic town of Killala and its setting was undertaken. The historical development and evolution of the town was examined, and a study of its built heritage carried out. The study comprises an identification of Killala's unique character and recommendations on how that character can be enhanced.

Growing for Biodiversity

A series of workshops was delivered with funding from the National Biodiversity Action Plan, including **Summer Propagation, Wildflower Seed Collection and Saving, Pollinator-friendly Planting in Challenging Spaces, and Hedgerows and Winter Propagation**. The workshops equipped participants with information and practical skills to develop biodiversity- and pollinator-friendly plantings in town and rural settings, and fostered discussion and sharing of issues, ideas and good practice across community groups in Mayo and connected the work of these groups with the National Biodiversity Action Plan and the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan.

Pollinator Workshops

Workshops were held in Castlebar, Westport and Crossmolina to provide an introduction to native pollinators and the All-Ireland Project to protect them. Pollinators and pollination was the theme for the **Bee Creative** event held in the Jackie Clarke Library Garden to celebrate Cruinniú na Cásca. Talks on pollinators, along with bee puppet making workshops for children were held.

Wildflowers of Mayo

The theme chosen for the **2019 Mayo Heritage Calendar** was Mayo's wildflowers. The calendar features images of a selection of wildflowers to be found in the county, along with information on their ecology, heritage and traditional uses.

Ballina Consumer Survey

RED C Research and Marketing was commissioned to undertake a consumer survey of Ballina as part of the Heritage Council's Collaborative Town Centre Health Check Programme. The **Ballina Consumer Survey Report** was edited and prepared for publication by the Heritage Office. Minister Michael Ring launched the report in December 2019.

Heritage Week 2019 was a great success with more than 100 events taking place in Mayo, including heritage walks, talks and demonstrations, many of which were organised by communities, showcasing the rich and diverse built, natural and cultural heritage of their local areas.

The **Mayo Heritage Week Event Grant Scheme** provided support to 35 communities to organise and host events.

MAYO ARTS SERVICE

Mayo Arts Service is responsible for the development and implementation of services which supports the arts in Mayo. The service aims to ensure that the arts and associated areas are open, enjoyable, accessible and provides challenging events for all to experience, regardless of their background or previous experience of the arts.



Annually, the service works with artists, festivals, venues and community groups and impacts directly on the lives of at least 200,000 people who access the services direct supports (grants, training, information) and who attend events organized or funded through the arts service.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- Mayo County Council finalised its **Framework Agreement** with the Arts Council.
- Under the **Arts & Disability Programme** with **Creative Ireland** funding, artists from KCAT Arts Studios (Kilkenny) worked with arts and disability groups in Mayo.
- Visual artist Niamh McCann was awarded the 2019 **On Sight** commission, in partnership with National Museum of Ireland - Country Life. The artwork entitled **IMMRRAM PAVILLION/Mother's Lament** was launched in 2019.
- **Public Art Programme:** An installation at the new Castlebar Pool and Leisure Complex, **'Amphitheatre'** by Alice Lyons was launched.
- **Mayo Youth Theatre** performances of **'The Crucible'** by Arthur Miller at Ballina Arts Centre.
- **Mayo Artsquad** had a Willow Sculpture Residency at Ballycroby National Park.
- **Grounded**, a Youth Theatre event organised by Mayo Arts Service and funded by Creative Ireland took place to great success.
- **Dementia Friendly** visits took place to Arts Centres in collaboration with **Community Action on Dementia West** during **Bealtaine** and **Social Inclusion Awareness Week 2019**.
- **Film Mayo** liaised with location scouts to secure Mayo as the location for the Hollywood film **Wild Mountain Thyme**.
- Fergus Sweeney, Film Mayo/Creative Ireland Award Resident held **'Reports of a Crash'** photographic exhibitions in Ballina and Áras Inis Gluaire.

2019 IN NUMBERS

400 events took place via the Arts Service in 2019

4 primary schools availed of workshops with poet, Terry McDonagh and artist, Rónán Quigley) to celebrate Poetry Day Ireland. Between being part of Mayo Day celebrations and being interviewed by MidWest Radio, the overall audience for **Mark My Words** was **30,000**

13 events took place during **Bealtaine 2019** which engages with older people as makers and audiences for the Arts. Bealtaine 2019 had an audience of **1,500**

5 UpstART projects took place in 2019 employing **9** artists, delivering **56** workshops to **71** participants with disabilities. **3** exhibitions were viewed by **311** audience members.

250 individuals benefitted from a **Professional Development Programme** for the arts community in Mayo.

13 events, with an audience of **1,500** young people, took place as part of **Excel Youth Arts Festival 2019**.

Mayo Artsquad worked with **45** community groups in a diverse number of settings throughout 2019 including Family Resource Centres, Autism Mayo, Tidy Town Committees, schools, GMIT, Adoption Ireland, art centres, drama groups and Mayo Women's Refuge.

50 venues across Mayo took part in **Culture Night**, with **4,000** people visiting venues across the county.

Venue Partnership funding totalling **144,000** was provided to **6** Arts venues. These venues collectively had audiences of **175,000** for their programmes and events.

Supporting Artists & Engagement Mayo Arts Service provided **3** Tyrone Guthrie Awards, **17** Visual Art Materials & Exhibition Assistance Awards, **1** Music Recording Assistance Award, **23** grants to community-led Arts Festivals & Events through the **Arts Acts** and **1** Amateur Drama Award.

INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Mayo County Council's IS Department provides IT Service Desk support, systems development, GIS & Data Management, and IT Security & Infrastructure services for the Council, providing staff, councillors, citizens, visitors and businesses with a digital platform for enhanced service delivery. The Department continues to build its capabilities both from a technology platform and staff competency perspective.



New industry best practice, ITIL-designed Help Desk system, live for all staff and Councillors. Requests are entered via an Online Portal or app with follow up status notifications at each stage of resolution. Over 1,500 helpdesk calls resolved each quarter.

Implementation of new datacentre hardware with active-active, resilient connectivity between the Áras and Annex Buildings, representing a five-year investment in core infrastructure providing a high-availability, hybrid cloud solution to replace legacy hardware.

Progressed service catalogue design in collaboration with the national service catalogue project team. This will provide a common standard for customer-facing services nationally.

Completed deployment of new GIS server infrastructure for comprehensive mapping system including improved online mapping services and story maps.

Completed all IT and networking tasks for move from Cedar House to Mayo House and designed and implemented IT infrastructure for new Lough Lannagh Leisure Centre.

Upgrade of core network connection to government networks - enabling a three-fold increase in bandwidth. Completed implementation of new cloud-based traffic fines system and integration with financial management system as part of a larger move towards online services for citizens.

Maintained our ISO 27001-2013 Information Security Management standard as the only local authority in Ireland to hold this security standard certification.

Continued coordination and support for Digital Champions group through on-going liaison with representatives from each functional unit or area office.

Continued roll-out of Mayo's cloud-enabled digital workplace: Skype for Business and Teams, OneDrive and SharePoint for electronic document and records management, provision of iPads, digital desktop and meetings management for Councillors

Collaborated with the Communications Department on the design and development of the new Mayo.ie website as a consolidated platform and online manifestation of all things Mayo, replacing the current mayo.ie and mayococo.ie sites.

Documented a three-year IS Strategy.



PLANNING, COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

IN THIS SECTION

- Community Engagement
- County Childcare Committee
- Mayo Sports Partnership
- Local Enterprise Office
- Invest
- Tourism Development
- Broadband & Digital Development Unit
- Planning & Development
- Planning Enforcement



2019 HIGHLIGHTS

Community Engagement 2019 highlights:

➤ **Straide** Community received an All-Island Special Award at the **2019 IPB Pride of Place Awards**.

Knock Community Futures, Ballinrobe and the **Mayo Age-Friendly Intergenerational Programme** were all runners up in their respective categories.

➤ Representatives from Mayo County Council's **Age Friendly Programme** and from **Ireland West Airport Knock** received a Chambers Ireland Award for the development of **Age Friendly Airport Guidelines**. IWAK is the first airport in the world to be recognised by the World Health Organisation as an **Age Friendly Airport**.

➤ Over 200 young people participated in the **Comhairle na nÓg** Annual General Meeting in October 2019.

➤ 2019 saw the launch of a National Community Day, **'The Big Hello'**. Funded by the Local Community Development Committee and the Department of Rural and Community Development, **32** community groups across County Mayo held events ranging from street parties to treasure hunts, from coffee mornings to quizzes.

➤ Ballina Community Gardaí and Refugee Resettlement Mayo hosted a **'Welcoming of the Syrian & Palestinian Community'** event at Ballina Garda Station as part of Social Inclusion Week in October.

Social Inclusion Week supports and highlights initiatives throughout Mayo that foster inclusion, connection and equality.

FUNDING OUTCOMES 2019

SOURCE	TOTAL ALLOCATION	NUMBER OF PROJECTS FUNDED
SICAP (Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme)	€1,236,411	29
Community Enhancement Programme	145,203	83
Healthy Ireland	374,100	12
LEADER	4,300,000	67
CLÁR	420,010	10

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Community Engagement section was established to strengthen and enhance community wellbeing by Supporting Participation: Enabling civic participation in initiatives and policy-making aimed at improving quality of life for all, Building Strategic Partnerships: Working with other organisations and the voluntary sector to ensure better outcomes for communities throughout the County in the areas of community development, sports and childcare, and Oversight: Ensuring transparency and good governance in the administration of programmes supporting community, sporting and childcare development.

Facilitating & Supporting Integrated Development, Community Development & Social Inclusion

MAYO LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (LCDC):

The LCDC, a Committee of Statutory and Non-Statutory Members met on 10 occasions in 2019 and comprises 4 working groups: Education & Training, Health & Wellbeing, Social Inclusion & Community Development and Culture, Heritage, Environment & Language which operate as part of LCDC structures.

The committee's main task is develop and implement a 6 year Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) for the county and it has primary responsibility for co-ordinating, planning and overseeing local and community development funding in County Mayo i.e. SICAP and LEADER Programmes. The committee brings a more joined-up approach and better co-ordination to the implementation, delivery and evaluation of local and community development programmes.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NETWORK (PPN)

An independent umbrella organisation that provides a voice for voluntary, environmental and social inclusion groups throughout the county.

In 2019 elections were held for community representatives on several committees including the PPN Secretariat, SPC, Joint Policing Committee and the LCDC.

During the year, Mayo PPN organised a suite of free training courses for community groups, including social media training and governance training, how to run effective meetings training and how to create graphics for community events. This involved 15 evening workshops delivered throughout the county with 72 participants attending.

E-newsletters now issue twice monthly and during 2019 190 new groups registered with the network.

PLANNING, COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE (JPC)

A forum to support consultation and cooperation on policing and crime issues between An Garda Síochána, local authority officials and elected members and the community and voluntary sectors. The committee held 3 meetings during 2019 and the principal work areas for 2019 were:



➤ **Road Safety**

➤ **Estate Management**

Collaboration with Clúid Housing on addressing nuisance and anti-social behaviour to the benefit of our residents in mixed tenure estates and communities.

➤ **Promotion of Justice Policy**

➤ **CCTV schemes**

➤ **UNHCR Resettlement Programmes**

with the Department of Justice & Equality

➤ **Farm Safety**

MAYO COMMUNITY FUTURES

A partnership of community and agencies established as a sub-committee by the County Community Forum in 2005, Mayo Communities Futures assists communities prepare Community Action Plans, encourages more people to become active in their communities, strengthens and develops local community organisations, enables communities to identify and progress priority projects and actions and to effectively represent their interests at local, county, and national levels.

Over 2019 new Community Plans have been completed for **Belmullet, Kiltimagh** and renewals have been completed for **Tourmakeady, Kiltaine** and **Belcarra**. The planning process has commenced in **Aghagower** and **Ballintubber**.

MAYO COUNTY CHILDCARE COMMITTEE

Mayo County Childcare Committee supports the delivery of early childhood care and education programmes in Mayo and works collaboratively and collectively with the Department of Children & Youth Affairs, Pobal and all stakeholders within the childcare sector.



The committee provides information, support and guidance about National Childcare Funding and related programmes to parents, early years services and local agencies which provide financial and educational support to these groups.

Programmes promoted include the **National Childcare Scheme which is the first ever statutory entitlement to financial support for Childcare in Ireland**, the Free Pre-School Year (ECCE), Community Childcare Subvention Programme (CCSP), Training and Employment Childcare (TEC), Community Childcare Subvention Resettlement (CSSR), Aistear and Siolta – the national quality and curriculum frameworks for Early Years, Parent & Toddler Grant Schemes, Childminding Development Grant Schemes, Learner Fund Bursaries and Small-Scale Capital Grant schemes.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- › Roll out of national **Childcare Scheme** training to services in the county to assist working parents by providing reduced childcare fees
- › Delivery of ongoing **Diversity and Equality Training** to Early Years Educators throughout Mayo which links with The **Access and Inclusion Model (AIM)**, a model of supports designed to ensure that children with disabilities can access the **Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE)** Programme. Its goal is to empower pre-school providers to deliver an inclusive pre-school experience.
- › MCCC nationally trained mentors deliver National **Aistear** and **Síolta** curriculum and quality frameworks training and mentoring to services throughout the county.
- › Appointment of a **Regional Childminding Development Officer** to support childminders in the region.

2019 IN NUMBERS

144 early years care services supported across Mayo

200 toddlers supported through the national Parent & Toddler Initiative, with **11,000** in Parent and Toddler Group funding provided to **24** groups.

Childminders Development Grants totalling **14,458** distributed to **17** childminders

61 Early Years workers trained in Child Safeguarding representing **48** services

255,045 capital funding accessed by **11** early years services focusing on the creation of new early years and school-aged childcare places

31 Early Years Educators participated in Equality and Diversity training to support childcare providers to deliver an inclusive quality service to all children

154 children in **10** preschools participated in the **Soundworlds** early years music programme

MAYO SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

Mayo Sports Partnership aims to increase participation in sport and physical activity among all sectors of the community through information sharing, education and policy development and implementation.



Programmes are facilitated and co-ordinated at local level targeting disadvantaged groups including youths at risk, people with a disability, teenage girls, women, ethnic minorities including members of the travelling community, older people and the unemployed.

Core staff, together with a team of nearly 30 tutors/coaches deliver training and participation programmes on behalf of the partnership in areas including Safeguarding, Club Development, Leadership Training and more.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- › Launch of **Castlebar Urban Adventure Initiative** as part of European Week of Sport. The initiative, supported through the **Sport Ireland Dormant Account Fund** seeks to engage those from disadvantaged backgrounds in adventure sports.
- › 1,200 people participated in **Operation Transformation** walks at 16 locations during January 2019.
- › Nine GAA Clubs participated in the **Ireland Lights Up** programme providing lit walkways for community use.
- › Outdoor gyms developed at the Friary in **Ballyhaunis** and at the Town Park, **Ballinrobe**.
- › Staged the **10th West of Ireland Mini-Marathon** and the **Primary Schools 2K Fun Run** with over 1,600 adult participants and 800 Fun Run participants.
- › Mayo's first ever **Autism Summer Camp**, at Manulla FC grounds supported by Mayo Sports Partnership's Sports Inclusion Officer.
- › **Men on the Move**, a physical activity programme for men aged 30+ to be rolled out to 12 locations. The initiative currently operates at eight locations across County Mayo.

2019 IN NUMBERS

13,760

people participated in 81 locally delivered programmes in 2019

516

people with a disability provided with sports participation opportunities

780

volunteers took part in 19 training programmes during the year

118,735

of **Dormant Account Funding** was shared between Ballyhaunis and Ballinrobe Sports Hubs, Castlebar Urban Adventure Initiative, Youth Sport Leadership, Disability Sports Equipment provision and Volunteer Training

100

took part in the Ladies **Tri a Triathlon** event at Lough Lannagh, Castlebar in late March

45

older adult groups around the county shared 12,790 under the **Go for Life Grant Scheme**

25

events with 800 participants took place to mark **Bike Week 2019** in June

247

volunteers trained in 26 **Safeguarding in Sports** courses during 2019

LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE

Part of a national network of Local Enterprise Offices established in accordance with government policy in 2014, **Local Enterprise Office Mayo** forms part of the **Enterprise & Investment Unit** within **Mayo County Council** and acts as a “**First Stop Shop**” for anyone seeking information and support on starting or growing a business in Mayo.



Driving the development of local enterprise and putting micro and small businesses at the heart of job creation, **Local Enterprise Office Mayo (LEO)** supports start-ups and works to increase the job creation potential of new and existing microenterprises by providing access to information, advice, training, mentoring, seminars and selective financial support.

The key functions of LEO Mayo are the provision of business information and advice, enterprise support services, entrepreneurship support and local enterprise development services on behalf of Mayo County Council.

LEO Mayo is funded by the Department of Enterprise, Jobs & Innovation (via Enterprise Ireland), Mayo County Council and through income generated from programme fees and other initiatives. It operates in accordance with a Service Level Agreement (SLA) between Enterprise Ireland and Mayo County Council.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- **Mentor Mayo**, a structure business mentoring support service launched in February offering free access to expertise, guidance and business advice to a variety of sectors.
- **Sean McGarry** (Showergem) and **Brendan Maloney** (Skillko) won national titles at the final of **Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur** in September.
- **Castlebar** won the **Rising Star Award** at the Bank of Ireland Enterprise Town Awards 2019, while **Belmullet** was the regional winner for towns with a population of less than 2,000

- Two Mayo schools won awards for Intellectual Property and best Commercial Potential at the national finals of the **Student Enterprise Programme**.
- LEO Mayo supported microenterprises to exhibit at **Showcase** and at the **National Ploughing Championships**.
- **Brendan Maloney** of Skillko represented Mayo at the **National Enterprise Awards 2019**, winning a regional prize for his business on the night.
- LEO Mayo secured 210,000 to roll out the **Lower Carbon Lower Cost initiative** in partnership with Sligo and Roscommon.

2019 IN NUMBERS

134

A nett figure of 134 jobs were created by LEO Mayo client businesses

380

clients received **free mentoring** services

938

clients participated in subsidised training programmes

10

Microfinance Ireland applications facilitated by **LEO Mayo**

10

Mayo companies participated in the **Lean for Micro** programme

570,179

in capital grants approved for client businesses

38

clients availed of the **Technical Assistance for Exporters Grant**

31

applicants received **Trading Online Vouchers** up to a value of €2,500 each

13

events for new and existing entrepreneurs during **Local Enterprise Week 2019**

20

schools from around county Mayo participated in the **Student Enterprise Programme 2019**

The main activity of LEO Mayo in 2019 involved the provision of an integrated range of supports to micro-enterprises, including financial support and a variety of soft support interventions such as mentoring and training. Central to the work of LEO Mayo is providing tailored support to meet the needs of clients at various stages of their development and introducing new programmes in response to the changing needs of LEO Mayo's client base.

INVEST

Invest promotes the economic development of the county, co-ordinating available enterprise supports to potential investors.



During 2019, while the government launched the Climate Action Plan, Mayo County Council commenced work on a Horizon 2020 Project called IDEAS (Novel building Integration Designs for increased Efficiencies in Advanced climatically tunable renewable energy Systems).

This project is funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme. Mayo County Council are among 14 participants to receive €4 million to help develop new and more efficient energy solutions for our built environment over the next three years. The project involves developing new technologies including the creation of novel solar electricity generation systems (PV), using materials for heat storage and dissipation for buildings, the use of heat pump technology and the development of a user friendly App to control the whole system.

Work continued on plans to deliver a test site to develop airborne wind energy in Mayo. Ampyx Power propose to fly a tethered aircraft that converts wind energy into electricity in an environmentally friendly manner. Negotiations entered the final

stage with Bord Na Móna on the lease of a suitable site while environmental studies are also concluding. This opportunity allows for County Mayo to work alongside lead innovators in this area.

Mayo County Council in partnership with the Claremorris and Western District Energy Co-operative initiated plans during 2019 to develop a 5 MW Solar PV Farm in Clare, Claremorris, Co Mayo. Part of the proposed site is made up of the former landfill site owned by Mayo County Council. Proposed works include the capping of the former landfill and construction of a community PV farm.

Work continues with prospective developers and consultants to market the Killala Business Park site as a possible Data Centre location. The feasibility of situating a Data Centre Complex on Local Authority lands located within the Killala Business Park continues. The site has a unique selling point for Data Centres after the America Europe Connect sub-sea fibre optic cable project was completed in 2016.

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

The implementation of the County Mayo Tourism Strategy titled “Destination MayoA Strategy for the Future Development of Tourism in County Mayo 2016 – 2021” is ongoing.



The vision for Mayo’s tourism industry in 2021 is to be a high quality, inclusive and authentic destination. Intrinsic to this vision is that Mayo’s tourism product appeals to the next generation of tourists, targeting both the mainstream mass market and niche specialist market segments with an array of high quality attractions and activity options coupled with a solid selection of accommodation, hospitality services and ancillary service products.

Key to the successful delivery of this vision is the building of collaborations between agencies, industry operators and local communities.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ The **Leisure Complex at Lough Lannagh** in Castlebar opened to the public in April 2019.
- ▶ The Great Western Greenway, the Gourmet Greenway Food Trail and Achill Island were showcased on the **RTÉ travel programme ‘Getaways’**, which broadcast in both Ireland and the UK
- ▶ Phase I of a 2km section of the **Bowers Towpath, Ballinrobe** officially opened in July. Phase II commences in 2020.
- ▶ New footbridge installed on the **Bangor Trail**
- ▶ **Trade Shows** attended in collaboration with industry stakeholders include Holiday World Shows (Belfast and Dublin), the British Tourism and Travel Show (Birmingham), Milwaukee Irish Fest (USA) and Mayo Tourism Networking Events Series
- ▶ The cross-border **Moorehall Cooperation LEADER Project** with Newry Mourne and Down District Council launched in March, partnering to develop synergies to progress the regeneration of Derrymore Demense in Bessbrook, Armagh and Moorehall, in Carnacon

2019 IN NUMBERS

Mayo County Council was one of **7** partner local authorities that developed the innovative new **Visitor Discovery Centre** at Ireland West Airport Knock

2.3 million National Greenway Fund Grant approved for the proposed **Clew Bay Greenway**

Presented to over **70** tour operators and travel agents at Cologne Airport in advance of the new scheduled flight service from Cologne to Ireland West Airport Knock

9 American Travel Agents/Advisors hosted for a **2** day familiarisation trip in April in conjunction with the EI Travel Group and Tourism Ireland

80 acres of land at Moorehall acquired to facilitate the Moorehall Nature Reserve and Restoration Project

12 Festivals and Participative Events supported under the Regional Festivals and Participative Events Programme 2019, administered by Mayo County Council on behalf of Fáilte Ireland

1.3 million Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure Grants approved for projects including Mount Jubilee Adventure Bridge Design, Achill Greenway, Great Western Greenway Upgrades and extension of Bower’s Trail, Ballinrobe



BROADBAND & DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT UNIT

The Broadband Unit of Mayo County Council continues to work towards enhancing digital connectivity in the county and assisting with the rollout of the National Broadband Plan in Mayo.



In November 2019, the Government awarded the contract to deliver the National Broadband Plan (NBP) to National Broadband Ireland (NBI).

The investment figure for County Mayo will be €145 million and the roll out will cover 44% of premises in Mayo. In Year 1 of the National Broadband Plan, Broadband Connection Points will receive high-speed broadband connectivity. There are currently twelve locations identified as Broadband Connection Points in County Mayo. These locations will provide quality broadband services for local communities.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

› The **Digiwest** initiative aims to develop digital working hubs in Counties Mayo, Donegal, Sligo and Roscommon. The Mayo DigiWest hub is the former courthouse in Swinford. Works are currently underway to provide a fit for purpose working environment with high speed broadband and conferencing facilities.

› The launch of the **Turas Siar Online Digital Archive** for the historical collection of Irish oral history and folklore took place in August 2019. The Broadband Unit secured funding for this project in 2018 through the **Digital Innovation Fund**.

› The **Wifi4EU** scheme, an initiative to provide free Wi-Fi access in public places such as main streets, public parks, museums, libraries and other public areas commenced in 2019. Nine towns/villages in Mayo will host this new service.

› Mayo County Council was awarded an Ireland eGovernment Local Government Award for the **Mayo Telecommunications Register** initiative in September 2019. The initiative digitally recorded the ducting infrastructure in County Mayo.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

The Development Management Section process all planning applications, including those from the former Town Council areas of Ballina, Castlebar, and Westport. The emphasis within the Development Management Section has changed from a planning control function processing of planning applications, to economic development and assisting development throughout every town and area in the County.



2019 HIGHLIGHTS

► The **Forward Planning Section** of Mayo County Council co-ordinated and prepared the Council's submission to the Northern and Western Regional Assemblies, **Draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES)** in February 2019.

The Forward Planning Section also co-ordinated and prepared the Council's submission on the proposed material amendments to the Draft RSES in October 2019. The Final Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy was adopted in January 2020.

► • The Review process of the **Mayo County Development Plan** was paused in 2018, pending the adopted of the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Northern and Western Regional Assembly.

The Forward Planning Section of the Council have continued preparation work for the new Mayo County Development Plan in the intervening period.

► The **Forward Planning Section**, on behalf of Mayo County Council, prepared the Draft Planning Scheme for the **Ireland West Airport Knock (IWAK) Strategic Development Zone (SDZ)** in May 2018.

The Ireland West Airport Knock Strategic Development Zone Planning Scheme was finally adopted by the Elected Members of Mayo County Council in September 2019.

The Planning Scheme provides a fast-tracking planning mechanism for the purpose of airport, aviation, airport located business and enterprises consistent with the scheme. The adopted IWAK SDZ has real potential to become an economic driver for County Mayo and the wider western region.

2019 IN NUMBERS

1,599

Walk-in Planning Clinics continue to be held each Wednesday at seven Council Area Offices. During 2019 there were 1,599 enquiries at the Walk-in Planning Clinics, an increase of 218 since 2018.

886

Decisions to Grant planning permission issued during 2019. 43 Decisions to Refuse planning permission issued in the same period.

137

A greater emphasis has been placed on the formal **pre-planning process**. In 2014 there were 104 pre-planning applications, but this has increased in 2019 to 137

1,007

valid **Planning Applications** were received during 2019

PLANNING ENFORCEMENT

The main function of the Planning Enforcement Section is to investigate written complaints received in relation to alleged unauthorized developments in accordance with the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended).

Mayo County Council is the Planning Enforcement Authority for the administrative area of County Mayo. The main function of the Planning Enforcement Section is to investigate written complaints received in relation to alleged Unauthorised Developments in accordance with the Planning and Development, Act, 2000 (as amended).

A summary of activity for the Planning Enforcement Section is shown below.

Table 1: Planning Enforcement Activity from 2015 to 2019

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Number of new complaints	149	155	129	131	129
Number of complaints resolved	69	73	115	83	52
Number of complaints dismissed	40	42	41	22	23
Number of Warning Letters issued	93	97	89	89	77
Number of Enforcement Notices issued	22	9	16	20	5
Number of files with County Council Solicitor	33	37	42	40	47
Number of prosecutions	2	0	0	0	0



HOUSING, ROADS & SERVICE DEVELOPMENT

IN THIS SECTION

- Housing
- Roads Transportation & Safety
- Procurement & Efficiency Review



HOUSING

2019 was another busy year for Mayo County Council's Housing Service. The provision of good quality, affordable accommodation presents challenges, but also opportunities for Mayo and significant funding has been provided for the delivery of housing solutions for those in need. The standard of housing being delivered by Mayo County Council is of the highest standard and in line with national standards.



The Government's mission is to ensure that everyone can access a home, either on their own or with State support. They are determined to deal with the dramatic under supply of housing and the problems it generates for families and Communities.

Mayo County Council continues to work towards the actions contained in the **Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness** which shapes the future housing within Mayo.

The Principal work areas for the Housing Service in 2019 were:

- Delivery of the Housing Capital Programme 2016-2021
- Housing Needs Assessment 2019
- Management of the Housing Assistance Programme (HAP), Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS), and Social Leasing Scheme (SLS)
- Operation and Management of the three Housing Grant Schemes
- Mortgage to Rent
- Development of Vacant Homes

- Review and development of Housing Policy Statements and Procedures and Protocols for housing staff and clients
- Management of the Buy & Renew and the Repair & Leasing Schemes
- Operation and management of the three Housing Grant Schemes
- Continued implementation of the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024
- Rebuilding Ireland Home Loans and Home Improvement Loans
- Management and refurbishment of the housing stock
- Homelessness/Tenancy Sustainment

The target for Mayo County Council for 2016-2021 is 708 units.

Mayo County Council has a net need of 1,205 Households.

The promotion of the **Repair & Leasing, Buy & Renew, Derelict Sites** and the **Vacant Homes** initiatives is a priority for the period 2019-2021. This will not only provide accommodation, but will also help contribute to the revitalization of the County's towns and villages.

VacantHomes.ie, the web portal initiated by Mayo County Council on behalf of the local government sector, to allow people to anonymously log possible vacant properties and alert housing authorities, who can follow up with the owner to see whether the property could be brought back into use for social housing was launched in August 2017. Each local authority has a designated Vacant Homes Officer who follows up on entries for their administrative area. At the end of 2019 there were in excess of 3,478 properties logged on to the site from across the country.

168 people resettled in County Mayo under the Refugee Resettlement Programme up to the end of 2019.

The **Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)** has been designed to bring all long-term social housing services, provided by the State, together under the Local Authority system, thereby providing for integrated social housing under one sector.

HAP plays a vital role in the delivery of affordable housing to the residents of County Mayo.

There were **1,280** live **HAP TENANCIES** in Mayo at 31st December 2019, an increase of 14% since 2018

2019 IN NUMBERS

Mayo County Council budgeted for expenditure of **€2,200,000** for **Housing Grants** for 2019. The Schemes are **Housing Aid for Older People, Mobility Aids Grants and Housing Adaptation Grants** for people with a disability

22 units were acquired by Mayo County Council in 2019 to ensure that additional housing stock is brought into play while the building programme is being rolled out

17 Mortgage to Rent applications were received during 2019. **4 Mortgage to Rent** cases were closed in 2019.

Agreements to lease for **10 units** were signed under the **Repair & Lease Scheme** during 2019

31 vacant/void units were brought back into use during 2019

HOUSING CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2016-2021

PROJECT PHASE	UNITS
Completed (Construction, Acquisition, Buy & Renew, Leasing, Voids, Voluntary Sector)	495
Various Stages (from Appraisal to On Site)	248
TOTAL	743

TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION PLAN 2019-2024

The projected accommodation requirement in the **Traveller Accommodation Plan 2019-2024** is **100** units:

- ➔ **29** units in the Ballina Municipal District
- ➔ **30** units in the Castlebar Municipal District
- ➔ **36** units in the Claremorris Swinford Municipal District
- ➔ **4** units in the Westport Belmullet Municipal District

Since the adoption of the **Traveller Accommodation Plan** in April 2014 a total of **124** units for Traveller Accommodation have been delivered using the full range of housing options available.



COIS CAIRN, PARKE

ROADS TRANSPORTATION & SAFETY

An efficient road transportation system provides the necessary infrastructure to support the economic and social development of a region. Mayo County Council continued to play its part in 2019 in supporting the county's economy through the maintenance and improvement of the road network throughout the county.



2019 IN NUMBERS

128,117,685 (excluding VAT) Contract signed for the new N5 Westport to Turlough Road Project

Speed limit in additional **11** Housing Estates reduced to 30km per hour, bringing total number to **389**

491 staff availed of Cycle-to-Work Scheme between 2010 and 2019

53.9m spent maintaining and improving the **6,615 km** of roadway in the charge of Mayo County Council including:

- €23,305,208 on National Primary and Secondary Roads, and
- 30,606,822 on Regional and Local Roads

230 of 250 landowner cases settled in 2019 for the new N5 Westport to Turlough Road Project

10.71 km Pavement Overlay/Inlay schemes completed on the N5 Castlebar & Breaffy, the N26 Swinford & Foxford and the N17 Kilkelly, N59 Ballycroy and the N84 Ballinrobe

The 2019 Pavement Overlay/Inlay Programme for County Mayo was an extensive programme, with a cost of **8.2** million

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

► Mayo County Council has been appointed as lead authority for the 'Local Authority Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project for the North West Region', comprising the five counties in Connacht, as well as Donegal, Monaghan and Cavan, under a Section 85 Agreement. This project will result in all public lights in Mayo being retrofitted to LED, with an anticipated energy saving of approx. 60%.

► 595,000 was allocated for Bridge Rehabilitation Works and 610,000 for Safety Improvement Works on Non-national Roads in 2019.



The contract signing for the N5 Turlough to Westport Project took place in October 2019

NATIONAL PRIMARY ROUTE ROAD PROJECTS ADVANCED IN 2019

N5 Westport To Turlough (27kms)	N5 Westport to Turlough negotiations with landowners continued throughout 2019 with 230 of the 250 landowner cases settled and €0.6million spent on land acquisition throughout the year. The procurement of the Design & Build Construction Contract concluded with the signing of a contract between Mayo County Council and Wills BAM Joint Venture in October 2019. The contract sum is €128,117,689, excluding VAT and it is anticipated that the project will take between two and three years to construct.
N26 Realignment at Cloongullane Bridge	Throughout 2019 land acquisition, tree felling, archaeological testing and ESB diversions all progressed. In tandem with this the detailed design for the River Moy bridge and 1.8km realigned N26 progressed as planned to enable Mayo County Council to commence the procurement of a construction contract in 2020.
N17 Knock to Collooney	During 2019 this 55km project commenced route selection and it is anticipated that it will take four years to progress this project through the statutory processes. Mayo County Council and Sligo County Council have signed a Section 85 Agreement giving Sligo County Council the lead authority role with Mayo County Council providing a supporting role.
N17 & R320 Junction at Lisduff	The scheme proposes the introduction of a Compact Grade Separated Junction to replace 2 No. existing at-grade junctions on the N17. The design and environmental assessments progressed throughout the year while the Part 8 Planning Process commenced in October 2019 and, if approved, will see the Compulsory Purchase Order commence during 2020.

NATIONAL SECONDARY ROUTE ROAD PROJECTS ADVANCED IN 2019

N59 Westport - Mulranny (40 kms)	This project is the overarching project covering the 25km on-line upgrade of the N59 between Westport and Mulranny scheduled to be delivered in a series of sections. The 3km section of the N59 at Kilbride is complete while the 2km section of N59 at Rossow bends was completed in 2018 by Ward & Burke Construction Limited. Throughout 2019, PJ Carey (Contractors) Limited advanced the construction of the 3km section of N59 at Kilmeena, at a cost of approximately €5.3million, excluding VAT. Mayo County Council also advanced the detailed design of the next stage of the N59 upgrade between Newport and Derradda.
N60 Lagnamuck (2km)	All land acquisition cases concluded during 2019. P&D Lydon Limited completed the construction of the 1.5km section of the N60 at a cost of approximately €3.8million, excluding VAT.
N60 Heathlawn	Most of the landowner negotiations concluded during 2019 while the detailed design and preparation of contract documents progressed in preparation for the award of a construction contract in 2020, subject to TII approval.
N60 Manulla Cross	The preliminary design and the environmental assessment for this 4km offline route progressed throughout the year in preparation for the commencement of the statutory processes in 2020.



PROCUREMENT & EFFICIENCY REVIEW

Mayo County Council champions the Office of Government Procurement model by embedding sustainable procurement throughout the organisation. Our key procurement principles incorporate fairness, openness, transparency, mutual recognition, non-discrimination and proportionality. The Procurement Office is committed to supplier inclusion and seeks to conduct business with a wide range of providers, including small and medium enterprises (SMEs), and third sector/socio-economy organisations, including supported businesses



The main changes introduced by the procurement reform regime are additional reporting obligations to ensure greater transparency when awarding contracts, greater focus on sustainable procurement, using smaller contracts lots to ensure fairer opportunities for SMEs, developing new solutions to meet the council's requirements through greater collaboration and more innovative approaches and reducing minimum time limits for procurement exercises, meaning that contracts can be put in place more quickly.

The role of the Procurement Office is outlined in the Corporate Procurement Plan 2019-2021 and the team have developed this role achieving increased value for money and greater efficiencies through common procurement frameworks, increased professionalism and innovative use of technology.

Procurement within the organisation is decentralised, with buyers in all areas of the council, with most of the procurement being conducted using the two electronic procurement portals; www.ETenders.gov.ie and www.SupplyGov.ie

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- Mayo County Council's **Corporate Procurement Plan 2019-2021** was launched in January 2019. The plan supports effective value for money purchasing, while ensuring the following principles of procurement apply: **Transparency, Equal Treatment, Proportionality** and **Mutual Recognition**.
- The scope of spending monitoring was expanded in Spring 2019 to include **Plant Hire** Spending.
- The policy of saving money by purchasing vehicles to replace those on long term hire continued with the purchase of **23 new vehicles** during Summer 2019.
- Electricity is a major cost to Mayo County Council. **Significant savings** were achieved in 2019 by transferring metered electricity accounts to a new supplier.
- A draft **Efficiency Strategy for Mayo County Council** was prepared in 2019. Supporting the Corporate Plan, 2019-2024, the strategy proposes to make Mayo County Council a leading exemplar organisation in efficiency whilst focusing on new and innovative ways of service delivery.

2019 IN NUMBERS

41

41 competitions published on **eTenders** across a wide range of functional areas

622

Requests for Tender and 13 Requests for Quotations published on **SupplyGov.ie**

3,700

The Procurement intranet page, an important resource for disseminating information, had approximately **3,700** clicks during 2019.

WATER SERVICES, ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE & EMERGENCY SERVICES

IN THIS SECTION

Rural Water

Environment, Climate Change and Agriculture

Mayo County Fire Service

West Region Fire Service

Mayo Civil Defence

Water Safety





RURAL WATER

More than 18,000 rural households in County Mayo are served by 198 group water schemes (GWS) in the Rural Water Programme 2019-2021 administered by the Rural Water Section of Mayo County Council.

2019 was the first year of the new Multi Annual Rural Water Programme, a funding framework, the objective of which is to provide certainty for priority investment to support implementation of sustainable development in rural areas, meet the requirements of Drinking Water Regulations and support objectives in River Basin Management Plans.

As the Supervisory Authority for group water schemes under the European Communities (Drinking Water) Regulations, 2007 and 2014, Mayo County Council is required to monitor group water supplies. Monitoring frequencies are based on the volume of water distributed or produced daily within the supply zone of the scheme and the HSE carry out the sampling on behalf of the council. The bulk of the 2017 budget was spent on addressing parametric non-compliance under Measure 1A, particularly on schemes experiencing trihalomethane (THM) issues.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- Treatment Plant upgrades were completed on 12 of the 13 Group Water Schemes in DBO Bundle 1A in 2018. In 2019, **Belderrig**, the remaining scheme in the bundle had its new Water Treatment Plant completed.
- Major upgrade works were completed in Knockatubber GWS and Meelickmore GWS in 2019.
- The strong focus on identifying and reducing water leakage and wastage continues, with the Rural Water Conservation Engineer advising schemes on how to reduce leakage and assisting with minor works which help the Rural Water Office prioritise future capital projects.
- The completion of DBO upgrade contracts in DBO Bundle 1A and Mayo DBO Bundle 2 will result in all 23 schemes having a water supply that is fully compliant with the Drinking Water Regulations.
- 12 schemes were submitted to Irish Water for takeover in 2019. Works in advance of takeover by Irish Water have been carried out on an additional 12 schemes.

2019 IN NUMBERS

15,265,000

million was invested in the **Rural Water Programme** in Mayo in 2019 from a national budget of 50 million

78

Construction started on a new Group Water Scheme in **Kilmurray** which will serve 78 domestic households, and amalgamate with the **Nepin Valley GWS** when completed.

7

Group Water Schemes were taken in charge by Irish Water in 2019

10

schemes in Mayo DBO Bundle 2 were assessed to establish what improvements are needed to address THM exceedances

27

households at **Downpatrick Head** will benefit from a new Community Water Connection. An allocation of 247,644 has received following the submission of a revised proposal by the Rural Water Office to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG)

350

The DHPLG have agreed in principal to fund a new Community Water Connection to serve approximately 350 domestic households in Murrisk/Lecanvey/Killsallagh

231

For private schemes, the **domestic connection subsidy** rate increased from 140 in 2017 to 231

5.2 million

5.2 million in subsidies towards the operation costs of schemes were paid out to 89 schemes who applied

5

5 **Well Grant** subsidies totaling 8,913 were paid

670

Approximately 670 **water samples** were taken during 2019

ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE & AGRICULTURE

Reflecting a shift in national priorities towards advancing climate action and acknowledging the contribution of agriculture were two key motivations for the department in 2019.

Assisted and supported by the Planning, Environment and Agriculture Strategic Policy Committee and the Agriculture Working Group, the department continued to promote the integration of knowledge and perspectives from a wide range of stakeholders.

Priorities centred on creating new strategies on agriculture and climate change, flooding and flood emergency planning.



A high-quality environment is essential for a good quality of life and is a key component of sustainable development. Mayo County Council places a high emphasis on increasing environmental awareness and promoting behavioural changes to foster that quality.

In tandem with the climate action work of the Department, the Environment, Climate Change & Agriculture team is tasked with the enforcement of environmental legislation, the implementation of EU directives and regulations, national and regional policies and the raising of awareness of environmental issues with the general public.

THE TWO ELEMENTS IDENTIFIED IN NATIONAL PLANS FOR TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE ARE:

MITIGATION: Reducing Greenhouse gases emissions and enhancing carbon sinks

ADAPTATION: Adapting to the actual and expected impacts of Climate Change both positive and negative

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

➔ An 84kw solar PV array installed at Áras an Chontae will provide over 11% of the buildings' electricity usage and offset over 30,000kg of CO₂ per year.

➔ Commenced a **Microbial Source Tracking Project** in partnership with UCD which will lead to greater protection of Mayo's high quality bathing areas.

➔ Launch of the **Cleaner Catchments Award - Source to Sea**, acknowledging the work of communities who enhance and protect their waters.

➔ Developed and adopted Mayo County Council's first Climate Adaptation Strategy, **Climate Ready Mayo**. In October the Council signed a **Climate Action Charter** committing to objectives to address the climate challenge and advocate for climate action and behavioural change among citizens.

➔ One of nine successful applicants to the first **Public Sector Innovation Fund**, allowing the Climate Action Regional Office to develop an App to assist local authorities across the country in capturing the impact of climate events in conjunction with a GIS map viewer and reporting tools.

➔ September saw the launch of '**A Sustainable Agricultural Strategy for Mayo**', a comprehensive analysis of Mayo's farming sector that provides a road-map for the future development of the industry in the county

➔ Many environmental awareness campaigns ran during 2019 to further increase environmental awareness and build on strong links with communities throughout Mayo, including our **Keep Cup** and **Bonfire Night** campaigns, **National Spring Clean** campaign, a media campaign for Phase II of the **Anti-Dumping Initiative**, **Reuse Month**, **Green Christmas**. An extensive Programme of Community Talks and Information Events complimented these campaigns.

➔ In Spring 2019, an information workshop was held for all **Tidy Towns** groups in partnership with Balla Tidy Towns and Gavin Harte.

➔ **Household Hazardous Waste Collections** took place at Derrinnumera and Rathroeen Civic Amenity Centres to facilitate environmentally friendly disposal of hazardous waste from the home.

➔ Mayo County Council hosts the **Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) - Atlantic Seaboard North**, which supports and coordinates climate action activities for Donegal, Sligo, Mayo and Galway. The CARO office was officially opened by Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment, Richard Bruton, in April 2019.

➔ Chaired the **Regional Operational Committee for the delivery of the River Basin Plan** through multi-agency collaboration including Galway and Roscommon local authorities, the EPA, the Local Authorities Waters & Communities Programme and other stakeholders.

2019 IN NUMBERS

65,000+

customers served at the Civic Amenity Sites at Derrinnumera and Rathroeen

807

complaints resolved

108

Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems (DWWTs) inspected

193

groups registered and participated in the National Spring Clean

10

Blue Flag Beaches in the county and 7 Green Coast Awards

1300+

water quality samples taken from our rivers, lakes and bathing areas

10

3 sites were removed from the Derelict Sites Register in 2019

50+

tonnes of material removed from bonfires before Bonfire Night under the Anti-Dumping Initiative

VETERINARY DEPARTMENT

The Veterinary Department has two main areas of focus, Food Safety and the Dog Warden Service.



Carried out under a Service Contract with the Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI), the Veterinary Department carries out Food Safety Work with a particular emphasis on hygiene and traceability. By working closely with local Food Business Operators to achieve and maintain the highest standards of food safety, the Department is actively involved in combating zoonotic diseases i.e. diseases transmittable between animals and humans and has direct input into the elimination of Notifiable Diseases.

There are eight approved Small Meat-Manufacturing premises and a further eight registered premises throughout the county are inspected and monitored on a regular basis

In addition, veterinary staff carry out ante-mortem and post-mortem inspections on every animal slaughtered at the 13 abattoirs in the county, as well as overseeing general conditions of operational and structural hygiene. In 2019 there were **1,031** cattle, **9,678** sheep and **16** goats slaughtered in Mayo abattoirs.

The Veterinary Department was instrumental in the organisation of the two-day **Local Authority Veterinary Conference** in the Institute of Public Administration, in Dublin on October 31 and November 1, 2019.

Mayo's **Dog Control Service** is provided directly by the Department, ensuring that dogs in Mayo are licenced and kept under effectual control. In 2019 195 dogs were taken into the Dog Pound. 57 dogs were reclaimed, and 124 dogs were rehomed during the year. An allocation of €37,500 was made to six animal welfare groups in County Mayo during 2017.

Dog owners are required to have a dog licence and to have their dog microchipped and the Department strives to increase awareness of responsible dog ownership. Awareness event and initiatives during 2019 included a series of interviews with the Connaught Telegraph in February 2019, the organisation of **A Dog's Life**, two free workshops held in Ballina promoting **Responsible Dog Ownership** and a **Be Dog Smart** campaign. Social media was used during the year to share information about **Keeping Dogs safe at Hallowe'en** and **Walking Safely with your Dog at Night**, among other themes.

MAYO COUNTY FIRE SERVICE

Mayo County Council has a statutory obligation, as a fire authority, under the Fire Services Acts 1981 and 2003, (a) to make provision for the prompt and efficient extinguishing of fire, for the protection of and rescue of persons and property from injury by fire, (b) establish and maintain a fire brigade and premises, and (c) make adequate provisions for the reception of and response to call for the assistance of the fire brigade.



Fire Prevention Office assesses buildings, from a fire safety perspective, to ensure that they are planned, designed, constructed and maintained in a safe manner, conducted via inspections on foot of licensing and planning applications.

122 firefighters employed in 12 fire stations located around the county, deal with a vast array of incidents annually, ranging from chimney fires, house fires, bog/forest fires, road traffic accidents, rescues and incidents involving hazardous materials.

The County Fire Service role in regard to Building Regulations is to guarantee people's health, safety and welfare within a premises, to ensure building access for people and the conservation of energy. Inspections are carried out via spot checks on compliance with the regulations.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- Further investment was made in the fleet to enhance response capability, with a new **Class B fire appliance** purchased to support fire-fighting operations.
- As part of the continuous **SEVESO Programme**, Mayo Fire Service coordinated and participated in an interagency emergency management exercise at Bellanaboy Bridge Gas Terminal in November 2019.
- Regional training for information management and on-site coordination organised and co-delivered by Senior Fire Officers at Lough Lannagh on behalf of the three principal response agencies covering Mayo, Galway and Roscommon.
- Active involvement in **Community Fire Safety** events continued during 2019, including an innovative Online Fire Safety Quiz for primary schools in Mayo.

2019 IN NUMBERS

121 Fire Safety Certificate Applications received

500 Commencement Notice Applications received

143 Licensing Application inspections carried out

36 other inspections carried out

NDFEM Primary Schools Programme delivered to **2,750** students in **125** schools

Attended **658** incidents resulting in **787** fire brigade responses

78 valid Disability Access Certificate Applications received

77 new building inspections carried out

WEST REGION FIRE CONTROL

Operated by Mayo County Council on behalf of local authorities of Connaught and Co Donegal, the West Region Communications Control (Fire) or WRCC provides the 112/999 emergency call answering for the region.



2019 IN NUMBERS



16,285
Incoming calls were received



12,285
Outgoing calls were made



3,986
Fire brigade emergency incidents across the region resulted



ISO 9001
Since January 1st 2018, the West Region Fire Control Centre has ISO 9001 Quality Management Standard accreditation.

MAYO CIVIL DEFENCE

A voluntary organisation, with approximately 85 highly trained volunteers, Mayo Civil Defence continuously provides support to Primary Response Agencies and local communities. Our activities are much valued by the front-line emergency services and communities that we serve



The strength of Mayo Civil Defence lies in our voluntary ethos and the commitment to purpose of our members who willingly and freely give of their time, expertise, and training on a weekly basis.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- ➔ Civil Defence Officer, Rose Doherty, retired from Mayo County Council in December 2019.
- ➔ A new Ford Ranger was handed over to Mayo Civil Defence by Michael Ring TD, Minister for Community & Rural Development. One of sixteen new vehicles assigned to Civil Defence groups across Ireland, the vehicle was funded from the Dormant Accounts Fund which is under the remit of the Department of Community & Rural Development.
- ➔ Mayo Civil Defence Volunteers participated in a very successful training day at Lough Lannagh, Castlebar undertaking Search & Rescue, Casualty, Boat and Drone handling, Communications, 4 x 4 Driving Skills and Team Building Exercises.

2019 IN NUMBERS

- ➔ 5 volunteers completed a Personal Survival Techniques Sea Survival and Capsize Training Day in the National Maritime College of Ireland as part of the continuous training undertaken by our boat crews and coxswains.
- ➔ Assistance was provided for 7 missing persons searches during 2019.
- ➔ 75 community event duties completed.



2019 IN NUMBERS



85
85 Volunteers



7
Assistance provided for 7 missing persons searches



1
Ford Ranger acquired, funded from the Dormant Accounts Fund administered by the Department of Community & Rural Affairs



75
community event duties completed

WATER SAFETY

Mayo County Council is responsible for the employment of Beach Lifeguards during the summer months. In 2019 twenty-one full time Beach Lifeguards were in place from June to September at Bertra, Carramore, Carrowniskey, Keel, Keem, Mulranny, Old Head, Ross and Silver Strand beaches.

A further two full-time Pool Lifeguards were employed at Belmullet Tidal Pool and eight Reserve Beach Lifeguards supported these staff

Lifeguard - Rescue Statistics- Full 2019 Bathing Seas

BEACH /POOL	RESCUE WITHOUT CRAFT	RESCUE USING CRAFT	1ST AID	LOST CHILD	ADVICE GIVEN	ACCIDENT PREVENTED	OTHER
Belmullet Tidal Pool			9		713	2	
Bertra			5		248		
Carrowmore	1		16		491	1	
Carrowniskey			21		968	2	
Keel		2	24	7	685		1
Keem			21	2	478	1	6
Mulranny			10		336		4
Old Head	1	2	16		849	6	
Ross			5		565	2	
Silver Strand			5		195		1
Total	2	4	132	9	5528	14	12



FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT & MOTOR TAX

IN THIS SECTION

Finance

Motor Tax



FINANCE

The Finance Department is responsible for the financial operations in Mayo County Council with particular emphasis on ensuring that adequate arrangements are in place to finance revenue and capital activity.

Revenue, or day-to-day expenditure, is defrayed from sources such as:



Government Grants



Commercial Rates



Housing Rents



Planning Application Fees



Other goods and services such as

Landfill/Civic Amenity Charges, Pay & Display Charges



A wide range of services are provided by the Finance Section, including:

- Financial & Budgetary Control, Cash Flow & Treasury Management
- Preparation of the Annual Budget
- Preparation of Annual Financial Statement
- Administration of the Financial Management Systems
- Payroll Administration
- Commercial Rates Billing and Collection
- Housing Rents and Loans Billing and Collection
- Payment of supplier accounts
- Cash Receipting
- Administration and Collection of the Non-Principal Private Residence Charge

The Finance Department also ensures that statutory and financial accounting principles, which apply to all money, paid by, or to, the Council are complied with.

2019 was another challenging but successful financial year for Mayo County Council. The challenging economic conditions have impacted considerably on the Council's financial circumstances since 2008. Income sources have particularly suffered while at the same time demand has increased for many of the services provided by the Council. This continuing financial situation places pressures on the Council and requires very focused and ongoing financial management of available resources and appropriate discipline to work within available budgets and affordability thresholds.

2019 IN NUMBERS

Revenue Expenditure of **138,389,521** and Capital Expenditure of **67,452,960** indicate the extent of day to day service delivery and infrastructural development and demonstrates the significance of Council operations on the local economy.

Capital expenditure levels increased in key areas including Housing Construction/Acquisitions/Refurbishments, the RAS Scheme, the LEADER Programme, and Libraries/Arts Centres.

€ **8,310,112** of the Local Property Tax received was collected within the county with **€11,502,232** received from the Equalisation Fund

Collection levels increased in the three major collection areas below:

- Rates **87.6%** ↑ 1.0% from 2018
- Rent and Annuities **88%** ↑ 1.5% from 2018
- Housing Loans **76.6%** ↑ 1.6% from 2018

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT STATEMENT)

FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2019

The Income and Expenditure Account Statement brings together all the revenue related income and expenditure. It shows the surplus/(deficit) for the year. Transfers to/from reserves are shown separately and not allocated by service division. Note 16 allocates transfers by service division in the same format as Table A of the adopted Local Authority budget.

	Gross Expenditure	Income	Net Expenditure	Net Expenditure
	2019	2019	2019	2018
	€	€	€	€
Housing & Building	17,999,446	16,752,099	1,247,347	(391,340)
Roads Transportation & Safety	44,408,234	34,193,046	10,215,187	9,554,897
Water Services	18,596,768	18,451,604	145,164	129,802
Development Management	12,547,633	4,588,810	7,958,823	8,035,275
Environmental Services	16,935,815	5,598,504	11,337,310	11,461,188
Recreation & Amenity	10,893,747	3,658,994	7,234,753	7,600,698
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	1,590,558	620,838	969,720	890,887
Miscellaneous Services	19,645,025	12,087,536	7,557,489	7,425,090
Total Expenditure/Income	142,617,225	95,951,432		
Net cost of Divisions to be funded from Rates & Local Property Tax			46,665,793	44,706,497
Rates			32,194,404	31,296,415
Local Property Tax			19,812,344	19,812,344
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year before Transfers			5,340,955	6,402,261
Transfers from/(to) Reserves			(4,872,764)	(5,985,293)
Overall Surplus/(Deficit) for Year			468,191	416,968
General Reserve @ 1st January 2019			(4,533,867)	(4,950,835)
General Reserve @ 31st December 2019			(4,065,676)	(4,533,867)

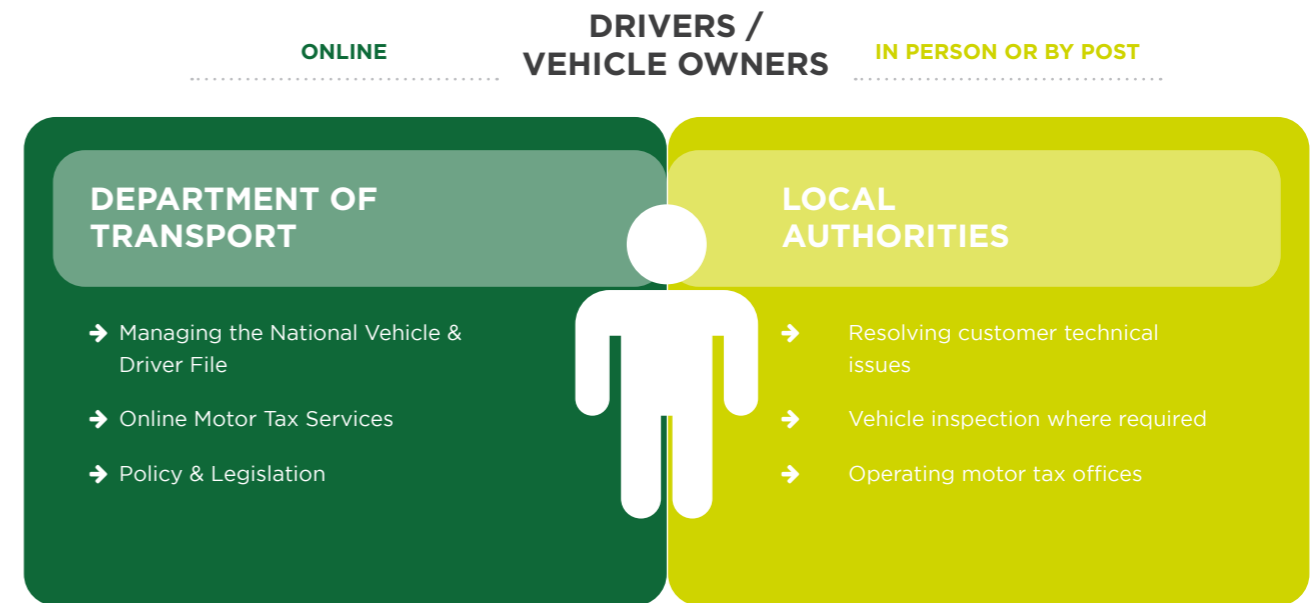
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (BALANCE SHEET) AT 31st DECEMBER 2019

	NOTES	2019	2018
		€	€
FIXED ASSETS	1		
Operational		452,805,789	427,329,522
Infrastructural		2,988,263,442	2,988,412,538
Community		10,814,972	11,023,344
Non-Operational		58,860,757	59,560,128
		3,510,744,960	3,486,325,532
Work in Progress and Preliminary Expenses	2	84,598,529	75,811,361
Long Term Debtors	3	60,183,756	61,885,473
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks	4	390,867	409,978
Trade Debtors & Prepayments	5	25,739,763	24,788,110
Bank Investments		21,302,079	19,619,042
Cash at Bank		3,976,151	12,721,047
Cash in Transit		151,203	103,883
		51,560,064	57,642,060
CURRENT LIABILITIES (AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR)			
Creditors & Accruals	6	52,740,372	58,354,439
Finance Leases		267,976	52,285
		53,008,348	58,406,724
NET CURRENT ASSETS / (LIABILITIES)		(1,448,284)	(764,665)
CREDITORS (AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR)			
Loans Payable	7	125,328,199	130,135,923
Finance Leases		556,262	311,736
Refundable deposits	8	6,383,663	6,841,131
Other		845,225	539,919
		133,113,350	137,828,709
NET ASSETS		3,520,965,610	3,485,428,993
REPRESENTED BY			
Capitalisation Account	9	3,510,744,960	3,486,325,532
Income WIP	2	82,004,979	71,669,539
General Revenue Reserve		(4,065,676)	(4,533,867)
Other Balances	10	(67,718,653)	(68,062,211)
TOTAL RESERVES		3,520,965,610	3,485,428,993

MOTOR TAX

Mayo Motor Tax continues to deliver quality and timely services, providing customer focused and friendly services to its users.

Below is a breakdown of the roles and responsibilities for the collection of Motor Tax, identifying the key role Mayo Motor Tax has in the collection and delivery of this service.



These services are delivered through our three strategically located offices within Mayo, detailed below

01 Glenpark, The Mall,
Castlebar

02 Civic Office,
Ballina

03 Belmullet Civic Centre,
Belmullet

2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ The Total Income for Mayo Motor Tax in 2019 was €29,128,162.78 This total is comprised of €19,713,241 (online) and 8,880,020.09 (Mayo Motor Tax Offices). The total number of transactions was 54,836.
- ▶ The total collected in the Mayo Motor Tax Offices during 2019 is broken down as follows;
 - Castlebar **5,563,745**
 - Ballina **2,332,696**
 - Belmullet **983,579**

2019 IN NUMBERS

The Department of Transport has estimated that **98%** of renewal facilities are available for completion online



2019 IN PHOTOS





 Comhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo
Mayo County Council

A PUBLICATION OF THE COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT AT MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL

