

November 20

Highlights



Dates to Note



Chief Executive Report

Peter Duggan



CoVid-19

From midnight on Wednesday 21st October, the county has moved to Level 5 under the Plan for Living with COVID-19.

As providers of essential services our offices remain open and the services we provide will continue to be delivered. In line with public health guidelines on remote working, and keeping our safety, and the safety of the public in mind, we are encouraging the public to make every effort to do their business with us online or over the phone. An appointments-based service is in operation where necessary.

Following the guidance laid out in Framework for Restrictive Measures, the following public buildings and venues will remain closed for the duration of the Level 5 restrictions.

- Mayo County Council Motor Tax Offices – Services are available online
- Mayo County Council Libraries - Online services are available
- Mayo County Council Museums and Art Centres
- Leisure Centres, Swimming pools and gyms are also closed to the public

We will continue to promote the public health advice in relation to wearing of face coverings, cough etiquette, social distancing and reducing contacts in an effort to reduce the numbers of cases in the county and to combat the spread of the virus.

“Keeping Well” Campaign

An Taoiseach, Micheál Martin T.D, launched the “**Keep Well**” on October 29th. Local Authorities have been asked to lead out on this campaign which aims to support people and communities to mind their physical and mental health over the coming months.

The “**Keep Well**” campaign is focussed on five main themes:

- **Keeping active** - keeping active and being outdoors, even during the winter, is important to help physical and mental health and wellbeing.
- **Staying connected** - staying connected with people, addressing isolation, supporting volunteerism and initiatives that support person-to-person connection is important to our wellbeing
- **Switching off and being creative** - switching off and being creative or learning something new, getting back to nature and finding ways to relax can help our general wellbeing.
- **Eating well** - by nourishing our bodies and minds, we can develop a better connection between the food we eat and how we feel and positively impact our physical and mental wellbeing.
- **Minding your mood** – equipping people with information on where to go if they need support. This will also be linked with the local community helpline to ensure that people can access the support they need.

The council has commenced work on this initiative and in conjunction with other state agencies and bodies will be rolling out programmes and initiatives in support of this campaign.

November 20

Highlights

Chief Executive Report

Peter Duggan



N26 Realignment at Cloongullane Bridge-Contract Signing



The contract for the N26 Realignment at Cloongullane Bridge was signed on 28th October 2020. The successful tender BAM Civil Limited and the contract price is €10 million.

The project comprises the construction of a new bridge over the River Moy to replace the existing stone arch bridge and the project will include sections of the road that approach Cloongullane Bridge.

The new bridge comprises a single span of 83.1m over the River Moy and no in-stream works will be required. The bridge is a steel composite beam structure with reinforced concrete abutments. The road development also includes two new culverts over tributaries of the River Moy, local road realignments and accommodation works/farm accesses.

The award of this project, which has been many years in planning, is welcomed and I would like to convey my thanks to the members and the staff of the Roads Office in Mayo County Council for progressing the project to this point. The project which is a significant improvement in the roads infrastructure of north Mayo will improve access to the region and will vastly improve the day-to-day commutes for the people of Swinford, Foxford, Ballina and surrounding areas.

Dates to Note



November 20

Directorate Highlights

The Planning statistics for October are as follows:

- Applications received - 101
- Decisions to grant - 67
- Decision to refuse - 3
- Applications in hand - 145
- Preplanning applications - 21
- Preplanning meetings (Phone & email) – 98
- Appeals to An Bord Pleanala - 4

Dates to Note

Planning, HR, Communications, Information Systems and Corporate Development

Catherine Mc Connell



DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Teams Project – Complete /Ongoing support and training.
Planning Digitisation Project progressing.
Consultation Portal – ready for County Development Plan.
European NPA project – Phase I to be completed by Dec 31st.
Tech support for Council & MD Online Meetings.

IT

- Procured and commenced deployment of 200 additional laptops to enable staff for remote working.
- Completed development of Online payments system for Housing Loans, Rates and Rents.
- Collaboration with Maynooth University on a set of systems architecture principles for the local government sector.
- 595 Calls to the helpdesk completed.

LIBRARY SERVICE

Cubbe Hub for people with learning and behavioural difficulties launched in Castlebar Library.
The *Through the Ages* magazine shortlisted in the Age Friendly Initiative Category of the Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards 2020.
Grants of €119,000 received for small scale capital works in Mayo libraries.

CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

Public Information Updates: Covid-19 daily public health messaging, Traffic Disruption, Water disruption, Weather alerts.

Media: Responses issued to media requests locally and nationally across a variety of queries. Press releases issued on Local Authority matters including Level 3 and 5 Service Continuation, Restart Grant Plus, Winter Service Plan for Roads, Mayo Arts Service, Mayo Social Inclusion Awareness Week, Student Enterprise Program in Mayo, Mayo Science and Technology Festival.

Virtual Events: Live Streamed events hosted on Mayo.ie to mark Mayo Social Inclusion Awareness Week 2020.

Targeted Campaigns - Social Inclusion Awareness Week, Restart Grant Plus, Men on the Move Initiative, Micro Enterprise Assistance.

Road Safety Awareness – Various Campaigns: Staying safe on the roads when the time changes, Winter Driving Preparedness, Halloween Road Safety.

CORPORATE DEVELOPMENT AND HR

Competitions advertised - Executive Librarian
Interviews Held for General Operatives and Clerical Officers
Appointments - Retained Firefighters and ISTSO
Retirements - 2

Training and Wellbeing - Health and Wellbeing Committee has been established in Mayo County Council.

Health and Safety -Worker Safety and COVID Compliance Forum has been established to facilitate communications between management and worker representatives in relation to COVID 19.

General Corporate

- 3 FOI Requests
- Corporate Plan 2019-2024 published and available on Website.

November 20

Directorate Highlights

Two projects shortlisted in the seventeenth annual Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards 2020:

CARO - Atlantic Seaboard North, which is hosted by Mayo County Council for **The Weather Impact Register App – WIRE** has been shortlisted in the Local Authority Innovation Category

A Sustainable Agricultural Strategy for Mayo in *Sustainable Environment Category*

Dates to Note

- An awareness campaign will run in November to highlight the issue of preventing pollution from domestic oil storage tanks.
- Awareness campaign to run in relation to the Smoky Coal Ban.

Water Services, Environment, Climate Change, Agriculture & Emergency Services



John Condon

CLIMATE ACTION:

Mayo County Council submitted its year one Climate Adaptation progress report to DCCE on October 30th. Work is ongoing on 75% of the 76 actions with work commencing in the coming period on the outstanding actions. The climate adaptation implementation plans for the period Sept 2020 – 2021 were also completed by each MCC section in October.

WASTE MANAGEMENT:

- An illegal dump site in Kilkelly was located & a clean up arranged, involving the removal of 39.42 tonnes of waste. “No Dumping” signs were installed as a deterrent.
- A Certificate of Authorisation Application was submitted to the E.P.A., in relation to the Claremorris Historic Landfill Site.

AWARENESS:

- October was National Reuse Month. An awareness campaign ran throughout the month, to encourage participation in online workshops available through My Waste and the Upcycle Challenge. A series of special guest interviews were arranged on the Tommy Marren Show, on Midwest Radio, each Tuesday of the month, where discussion took place on the topic of Reuse. A series of Reuse month adverts also ran on Midwest and iRadio.
- On October 20th, eight digital Green School Seminars were ran by An Taisce and supported by Mayo County Council for Mayo schools on a range of environmental themes.
- An awareness campaign commenced following the adoption in October of the Waste Management Bye Laws (Segregation, Storage & Presentation of Household & Commercial Waste) 2020.

VETERINARY:

• **Tender for Provision of Dog Pound:**

Mayo County Council has invited tenders for Provision of Dog Pound and related services. This tender was published on eTenders.gov.ie (RFT 177418) and advertised in the local newspapers. The closing date was 4.00p.m. Wednesday 28th October 2020.

• **Ex- Gratia Funding:**

Since 2011 an allocation for animal welfare has been made available to animal welfare groups. This year an advertisement was placed in the local newspapers inviting applications for funding. We are in the process of making recommendations on the applications received.

CIVIL DEFENCE - SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2020:

TRAINING - Civil Defence has undertaken to recommence essential training which was suspended due to COVID 19 restrictions earlier in the year.

The following courses have been undertaken by our Volunteer members during this period: **Cardiac First Responder – Community, Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council - Responder Level Instructor Re Certifications, UAS (Drone) Pilot Recertification - Search & Rescue**

OPERATIONS - Civil Defence as part of our response to the COVID 19 Pandemic, we have assisted members of our community in accessing hospital appointments.

Civil Defence has assisted the Irish Blood Transfusion Board with the logistics of their clinics in Ballina. We have assisted the Health Service Executive with their response to the pandemic in areas such as transport and delivery of essential equipment. Civil Defence in Mayo has undertaken over 80 individual taskings to date since March 2020 to support the fight against Covid 19.

November 20

Directorate Highlights

The Architecture at the Edge Festival 2020 took place from 2nd-5th October 2020.

Works completed to a community MUGA park adjacent to the national school in Corcloch Village.

The handover of 18 new dwelling at Ballyhaunis to the Claremorris – Swinford Municipal District.

Housing and Architectural Services

Simon Shevlin



HOUSING

Housing Construction/Acquisition Programme 2016-2021.

- Rebuilding Ireland target for Social Housing in Mayo is 708 however County Council will endeavour to exceed this figure.

Progress on 2016-2021 programme is as follows:

- 506 units have been completed with another 246 in different stages of progress.

HAP and RAS

In October 2020 the following was delivered;

- 23 houses delivered under the HAP scheme.
- 2 houses delivered under the RAS scheme.

This gives a total of 2,150 active households supported by RAS and HAP in Mayo at the end October 2020. (1,348 HAP; 802 RAS).

LEASING

In October 2020 under the leasing programme the following were delivered:

- 4 houses

This give a total of 240 households supported under the Leasing Programme in Mayo.

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT

186 persons accommodated in Mayo to date (170 Mayo County Council and 16 persons accommodated by the Red Cross in pledged accommodation).

HOMELESSNESS

There were 13 presentations in October 2020. 81 presentations to date in 2020.

ARCHITECTS

Receipt of Consultant Tenders for the interpretation / fit out of the Mary Robinson Centre Ballina, with a view to awarding the contract next month.

CONSERVATION

Works commenced for urgent stabilisation works at Ballysakeery Glebe House, the former home of Dr. Kathleen Lynn.

Works continue on projects in the historic core of Ballina to support the adaptive re-use of vacant properties and allow for repairs to facades within the Pearse Street Architectural Conservation Area.

A works contract was signed for works to The Linenhall Arts Centre in Castlebar.

HERITAGE

- Funding secured under the Community Monuments Fund for 3 projects: Kill Abbey Kilmovee Heritage Trail and Old Killeen Graveyard
- Compilation of Mayo Wetlands Database
- Development of online video highlighting the Heritage of Lough Carra.

PARKS

- Works have commenced to new play facility in Bofeenau village.
- MCC has treated over 2000 infestations of Japanese knotweed in the past 2 months.

November 20

Directorate Highlights

Social Inclusion Awareness Week: 12th – 18th Oct.
32 mostly virtual events.
Flagship event Webinar Mayo Men & Diversity.

Positive Ageing Week (PAW) 28th Sept to 2nd Oct. Age Friendly Mayo & Mayo (PPN) partnered to provide afternoon tea parties to CNU's: Cuan Cathriona and The Dalton Home



National Women's Enterprise Day took place on Wednesday, 14th October.

Dates to Note

Mayo Science Week 8th – 15th November

Digital Strategy - Public Consultation Deadline: 6th November

ENTERPRISE, COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM

John Magee



COMMUNITY & INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT, ARTS, SPORTS, CHILDCARE

- **Community Call Helpline:** hours extended to 12 hours daily. PPN Covid-19 Community video available on www.mayoppn.ie
- **Funding approved:** Town & Village €460,000, CLAR €265,000, CEP €168,258. **Mayo LAG** approved funding of €400,000
- Mayo Social Inclusion Week 'Meitheal' hosted 32 events
- **Mayo County Childcare Committee** continue to provide strategic and critical supports to the sector including: Crisis Management & Sustainability, Covid Grant Support, Emergency Wage Subsidy Scheme,
- **Healthy Ireland Wellbeing 'Soundworlds' Project** for 0 to 6-year olds commenced on 19th Oct with 3 services providing the programme to over 60 preschool children.
- **Mayo Arts Service:** continued CPD programme. Film Mayo Creative Ireland Award and Mayo Arts Service Creative Ireland Cultural Diversity Curatorial Award announced.
- **Crown Project** - Crown *Lakeen* exhibition Linenhall Arts Centre & Crwn *beoir*, National Museum, by artist Breda Mayock, selected for an RTÉ/Creative Ireland TV ad and 6 min promotion documentary <https://www.crowncloseup.ie>
- **Mayo Sports Partnership** launched **Men on the Move** Autumn Programme, **#YourPersonalBest** National Men Over 45 and **Activities for All** Exercise Programmes in October. Sports Hub Programmes underway in October include Blokes in Boats, Outdoor Gym Classes and Walking Programmes.

ENTERPRISE & INVESTMENT UNIT

LEO: Mentoring sessions and training programmes continue to be rolled out including a Prepare your Business for Customs workshop which took place on 13th October

Broadband & Wifi4EU: - Westnet are currently installing equipment in Ballina and Ballinrobe with an additional 4 locations scheduled before Christmas. BCPs have been activated in Bofeenau, Islandeady, Killasser and Taugheen with go-live date scheduled for early December.

TOURISM, RECREATION & AMENITY

Infrastructure planning and construction ongoing at Erris, Achill, MooreHall, Ballina and Ballintubber Abbey.

November 20

Directorate Highlights

Tender for the R312 Glenisland Bridge has been awarded.

Connacht Public Lighting – lead CA for 6 counties. Contract has been awarded.

The Contract for the N26 Re-alignment at Cloongullane Bridge has been awarded to BAM Ireland. Contractor to commence on site mid-Nov.

N26 Ballina Bypass Phase 1; - Strategic Assessment Report approved by TII and now under review by the Dept. of Transport.

Circular 16/2020 – Notified of 3-month extension of waiver of commercial rates.

Finance, Roads & Service Development

Tom Gilligan



ROADS

- The Works on the N59 Pavement Inlay Contract 2020 at Sandymount, Newport, are now completed.
- Works on the N26 Swinford – Foxford Road Pavement Overlay 2020 at Cloongowan & Carrowbeg, N84 Shrulë – Kilmaine Road at Tobernadarry and the N84 South of Castlebar to Ballyheane are almost complete.
- Contractors have been awarded for several Pavement Overlays Contracts and they are due to commence shortly.
- Bridge Rehabilitation Works for a further 5 bridges have also been awarded to Triur Construction Ltd.
- N59 Kilmeena Scheme is complete except for snagging.
- N60 Lagnamuck complete except for snagging and landscaping work
- Part 8 Planning approved for N17/R320 Lisduff, Claremorris. CPO approved and Mayo Co. Co. to publish Confirmation Notice.
- Design works ongoing for the N60 Manulla Scheme. Requirement to prepare Business Case will delay progression to the statutory processes.
- Funding secured from TII for LED Lighting Upgrade Schemes. The upgrades also include for the retrofit of heritage style lanterns and for designed lighting levels near the Dark Sky Park region. These works are substantially complete at this stage and are expected to be completed by mid-November.
- The Machinery Yard has sprayed 4,340 tonnes of bitumen and laid 32,543 tonnes of macadam since the covid restrictions were lifted on the 18th May 2020.
- The Winter Maintenance season commenced on 12th October and will run until the 30th April 2021. Details of the Winter Maintenance Plan are available on Mayo.ie.

PROCUREMENT & EFFICIENCY REVIEW TEAM

- Monitoring Covid-19 PEE and other related procurements.
- Conducted, assisted or facilitated several eTenders competitions.
 - SRFT for Internal Audit services Currently being evaluated.
 - Dog Pound currently being evaluated.
 - Mary Robinson Centre – Exhibition and consultancy tender (Competitive Dialogue).
 - QS for Rehins Fort Ballina tendered.
 - Foxford village enhancement tendered.
- Conducted & assisted with several Supplygov competitions.
 - Hedge cutting (Belmullet).
 - Geotextiles.
 - Footpaths.
 - Concrete products.
- Liaising on supplier issues.
 - Westport APC (public convenience) to be cancelled.
 - Merchant a/s's PMI compliance.
 - Cash collection.
- Assisted on national OGP evaluation for shredding services.
- Ordered Card enabled P&D machines for Westport/Belmullet Municipal District.
- Signed up to use National Road Authority Frameworks.
- Delivery of 17 no. vehicles (3.5T & 4.5T day & Crew Cabs).

Dates to Note

16th Nov. - Budget 2021 workshop

23rd Nov. – Statutory Budget Meeting

1. Major Expenditure and Income by Division with 2020 Adopted Budget
nine months ended 30th September
2020

Service Division	Description	EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
		Exp. To Date	Budget	Remaining	% Spent	Inc. To Date	Budget	Not Rec'd	% Rec'd
		Sep-20	2020	2020	2020	Sep-20	2020	2020	2020
		€	€	€		€	€	€	
A	Housing and Building	12,379,720	16,787,251	4,407,531	74%	12,779,014	17,140,159	4,361,145	75%
B	Roads Transport and Safety	28,139,226	40,161,103	12,021,877	70%	22,648,480	33,766,003	11,117,523	67%
C	Water Services	11,099,139	16,646,566	5,547,427	67%	13,640,733	19,986,244	6,345,511	68%
D	Development Management	23,291,401	12,593,741	-10,697,660	185%	17,637,369	4,010,066	-13,627,303	440%
E	Environmental Services	11,423,107	16,477,347	5,054,240	69%	3,446,663	5,642,900	2,196,237	61%
F	Recreation and Amenity	7,353,789	10,434,578	3,080,789	70%	1,540,151	3,340,580	1,800,429	46%
G	Agriculture, Education Health and Welfare	1,206,516	1,789,219	582,703	67%	419,354	584,250	164,896	72%
H	Miscellaneous Services	10,895,574	13,200,546	2,304,972	83%	4,129,752	6,504,929	2,375,177	63%
J	Central Management Charges	15,918,583	19,970,850	4,052,267	80%	1,125,000	1,500,000	375,000	75%
	Rates	-	-	-	-	25,909,016	35,773,727	9,864,711	72%
	Local Government Fund	-	-	-	-	14,859,258	19,812,344	4,953,086	75%
GRAND TOTAL		121,707,056	148,061,201	26,354,145	82%	118,134,788	148,061,201	29,926,413	80%

2. Performance of Local Authority Revenue Collection Levels

	Total for collection	Collected Sep-20	Arrears Sep-20	% Collected
Rents	6,688,337	5,586,299	1,102,038	84%
Rates	38,366,846	18,474,080	19,892,766	48%
Housing Loans	3,362,226	2,458,751	903,475	73%

3. Recourse to Overdraft Facility

Number of days in overdraft	29
Estimated Interest incurred	2,336