MISSION STATEMENT

To make Leitrim a sustainable, creative, inclusive county where individuals, family and business can flourish
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Leitrim County Council Annual Report, 2017
INTRODUCTION

We are pleased to present on behalf of Leitrim County Council the 2017 Annual Report which outlines the activities and achievements of Leitrim County Council. The report follows the format of our Corporate Plan 2015-2019, which provides a framework for the organisation to deliver on our agreed mission, key strategic objectives and supporting strategies for the five year period covered.

Leitrim County Council continued to advance objectives to ensure that Leitrim is a sustainable, creative, inclusive County where individuals, family and business can flourish. In this context, significant progress continued to be made in 2017 in areas such as the provision of physical and social infrastructure, economic development, environmental improvements and developing sustainable communities as detailed in this report.

The Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) continues to set the strategic direction and high level goals to drive economic, social and community development in the county up to 2021 and significant progress is being made.

Among the other noteworthy achievements during the year were:

- Multi-million euro funding and project delivery achieved for communities across the county under the Town and Village, CLAR, RAPID, Outdoor Rural Recreational Infrastructure and REDZ schemes
- Major capital projects including the construction of Phase 2 of the N16 Cornacloy to Sradrine Realignment Scheme and realignment of 1.4km section of N16 at Drummahan
- Tourism growth continued to be a priority for the Council through active marketing of bespoke tourism products and with significant investment in tourism infrastructure such as the Shannon Blueway, Greenways, Lough Rinn Recreational Facility and other angling and tourist attractions
- The Council has been actively pursuing innovative solutions to facilitate the design of a wastewater treatment system for rural single houses
- Following ongoing collaboration with the Council and the Town Team, Carrick on Shannon retained the Purple Flag Status which is a standard for a vibrant, well-managed evening and night time economy
- The Upper Shannon-Erne Future Economy Project has progressed a number of initiatives in 2017 including securing significant Enterprise Development funding to develop Digital Innovative Hubs
- Taste Leitrim - a 5 year Food Strategy has been developed for 2017-2021 and was launched during 2017.
2017 was a transformational year for Leitrim County Council’s Arts Programme as it prepared the groundwork for a new multiannual strategy.

Work progressed on the Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAMs) with the OPW on the development of suitable flood mitigation options regarding the management of flood risk in the Shannon River Basin District in the Leitrim area.

Under Rebuilding Ireland Leitrim County Council has a social housing delivery target 2017-2021 of 167 units. In 2017 Leitrim County Council delivered 27 of these units through acquisitions, Voids reinstatement and Voluntary Housing Body provision.

The Traveller Accommodation Programme for the period 2014-2018 had achieved over 90% of the target of 46 Units of Accommodation at the end of 2017.

Leitrim County Library Service became part of a national library system in 2017. Library members now have free access to over 15 million items in the 333 library branches across the country.

The Public Participation Network (PPN) progressed considerably in 2017. The inaugural Voluntary and Community Sector Awards proved hugely successful.

A two year plan for Peace and Reconciliation, Peace IV, has been approved by the Special EU Programmes Body with Leitrim obtaining funding of just under €1.8 million.

Leitrim Age Friendly Alliance in conjunction with the Older Persons Council launched a new Age Friendly Strategy for 2017-2020.

The Local Enterprise Office (LEO) continued to deliver key programmes during 2017 to support business throughout the county. Leitrim was the strongest performing county for On-line Trading Vouchers for small businesses administered by the LEO office. The Graduate Internship for Entrepreneurship Programme saw the placement of 23 students in work placements in Leitrim.

The embedding of the three Municipal Districts in Leitrim continued to ensure the delivery of effective public services to our communities. The Corporate Policy Group and the three Strategic Policy Committees continued to review and recommend policy to the Council. The Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) continues to be actively involved coordinating, planning and overseeing local and community development funding and in the implementation of community elements of the Local Economic and Community Plan.
The Annual Report also includes a section on progress to date achieved in meeting the objectives of our Corporate Plan and a report on the performance of the local authority as measured by the National & Local Performance Indicator for 2017. The National Performance Indicators are subject to ongoing scrutiny by the National Over-sight and Audit Committee.

Despite ongoing resource pressures, 2017 was a successful year for Leitrim County Council. The performance and outputs detailed in this report were made possible through the combined efforts of the elected members and staff of this authority, working in close co-operation with our key stakeholders, most notably the people of the County themselves. We want to take this opportunity to sincerely thank and publicly acknowledge the role and contribution of all concerned for their commitment and dedication to securing our vision and in making continued significant progress throughout 2017. We look forward to continuing to deliver high quality services to all our customers and to working with all stakeholders in order to develop County Leitrim as a vibrant and attractive County for people to live, work, invest and visit.

Councillor Finola Armstrong-McGuire  
Cathaoirleach  

Lar Power  
Chief Executive
ELECTED MEMBERS OF LEITRIM COUNTY COUNCIL 2014-2019

CARRICK-ON-SHANNON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

Councillor Finola Armstrong-McGuire
Councillor Des Guckian
Councillor Sinead Guckian
Councillor Seadhna Logan
Councillor Sean McGowan
Councillor Enda Stenson

BALLINAMORE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

Councillor Brendan Barry
Councillor Gerry Dolan
Councillor Cailian Ellis
Councillor Caroline Mulvey
Councillor John McCartin
Councillor Paddy O’Rourke

MANORHAMILTON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

Councillor Mary Bohan
Councillor Frank Dolan
Councillor Padraig Fallon
Councillor Felim Gurn
Councillor Sean McDermott
Councillor Justin Warnock
STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES

Following the Local Elections Local Authorities were required to establish new SPC’s in line with the guidelines set out in Circular LG 07/14 and in accordance with the provisions of Section 48 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended by Section 41 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014.

At the Annual Meeting of Leitrim County Council the establishment of three (3) SPCs, aligned to the three Service Directorates, and anchored in the main local government functions/services, was approved by the Members:

- Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning SPC
- Housing Policy, Social and Cultural Development SPC
- Environmental, Transportation and Infrastructural Policy SPC

Each SPC is to consist of six (6) elected members and four (4) nominees from sectoral interests. The Council is and remains the decision making Authority, and it is the task of the SPCs, as committees of the Council, to advise and assist the Council in the formulation, development and review of policy. The SPC system is intended to give Councillors and relevant Sectoral Interests an opportunity for full involvement in the policy making process from the early stages.

**Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning SPC**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Leitrim County Council Members</th>
<th>Cllr. Sean McDermott (Chairperson) replaced Councillor Frank Dolan 3rd July 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cllr. Finola Armstrong McGuire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cllr. Caillian Ellis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cllr. Caroline Gildea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cllr. John McCartin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cllr. Frank Dolan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business / Commercial (National Pillar)</td>
<td>Mr. Colm McGrath, Brady Insurance, Main St., Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim – Chambers Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development/Construction (National Pillar)</td>
<td>Mr. Brendan Sammon, Brendan Sammon Aughnasheelin Ltd., Derrinkeher, Aughnasheelin, Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim. – Chambers Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental/Conservation (Env Pillar and associated Env College under PPN)</td>
<td>Mr Scott Coombs, Gortnalibber, Manorhamilton, Co. Leitrim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Enterprise (PPN)</td>
<td>Mr. Brian Smyth, Lurganboy, Co. Leitrim - PPN</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Issues considered by SPC:**
• Amendments to the County Development Plan arising from implementing the Vacant Site Levy
• Upper Shannon Erne Future Economy Project (USEFE).
• Council Food Strategy
• National Planning Framework
• Mid-term review of the Leitrim County Development Plan 2015-2021.
• Secure NPA Programme (Energy Efficiency).
• Casual Trading Bye-laws
• Diaspora Strategy

### Housing, Social and Cultural Development SPC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing Policy, Social and Cultural Development SPC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Leitrim County Council Members</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cllr. Gerry Dolan (Chairperson) replaced Councillor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enda Stenson 3rd July 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cllr. Mary Bohan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cllr. Enda Stenson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cllr. Padraig Fallon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cllr. Seadhna Logan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cllr. Paddy O’Rourke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Social Inclusion (PPN)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colin Grimes, Tully, Carrigallen, Co. Leitrim - <strong>PPN</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Community/Voluntary (PPN)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helen Corcoran, Drumury, Moyne, Co. Longford - <strong>PPN</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Voluntary Housing Sector</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Marie Finney, Tenancy Sustainable Officer, North</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Simon, 23 Mailcoach Road, Sligo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Creative Industries Network</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Sarah Searson, Director, The Dock, Carrick on</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shannon, Co. Leitrim <strong>Interim nominee pending</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>establishment of new Creative Sector Network**</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Housing Policy, Social & Cultural Development SPC

#### Issues considered by SPC:

- Statutory Assessment of Housing Need 2017
- Mid-Term Review of the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014-2018,
- Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)
- Housing Grants.
- Arts Strategy.
- The SPC Work Programme 2017
- Peace IV Programme,
- Floral Pride/Community Awards Scheme,
- Housing & Disability Strategy
- Creative Ireland Programme
- Housing Programme,
- Arts and Culture Strategy
- Lifebuoy Community Scheme.
- Housing & Disability Strategy
Environmental, Transportation and Infrastructural Policy SPC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Leitrim County Council Members</th>
<th>Cllr. Sinéad Guckian (Chairperson)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cllr. Brendan Barry</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cllr. Des Guckian</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cllr. Felim Gurn</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cllr. Sean McGowan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cllr. Justin Warnock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture/Farming (National Pillar)</td>
<td>Mr Patrick Duffy, Breanross North, Farnaught P.O., Mohill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental/Conservation (Env Pillar and associated Env College under PPN)</td>
<td>Andy Hallewell, Rossinver, Co. Leitrim - PPN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business/Commercial (National Pillar)</td>
<td>Mr. Padraig Sammon, Brendan Sammon Aughnasheelin Ltd, Derrinkeher, Aughnasheelin, Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim – Chambers Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade Union (National Pillar)</td>
<td>Mr. Brendan O’Beirne, Clooncolry, Dromod – ICTU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Issues considered by SPC:

- Graveyard Policy
- Review of General Speed Limits & Road Safety
- Rural Water Strategic Review.
- Hedge Cutting Grant Scheme
- River Basin Management Plan
- Management of Japanese Knotweed.
- Irish Water Operations
- Capital Investment Plan 2017-2021
- Minor Capital Works Programme for Leitrim.
- Bogs and Forestry Planning
**Economic Development**

- To lead, mobilise and support Enterprise and Economic Development in Leitrim, in conjunction with relevant agencies, and ensure that our physical and social infrastructure is sufficiently developed to support this.

**High Quality Sustainable Living Environment**

- To improve, protect and promote the natural and man-made environment, encourage and facilitate participation by citizens in the development of their communities and promote an inclusive, creative, active and vibrant County.

**Maximising Organisational & Operational Capacity**

- To maximise the potential of our Human, Financial and ICT resources to optimise organisational capacity and performance and ensure high quality services and information tailored to meet the needs of all our customers.
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

To lead, mobilise and support Enterprise and Economic Development in Leitrim, in conjunction with relevant agencies, and ensure that our physical and social infrastructure is sufficiently developed to support this.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE (LEO)

Measure 1 – Financial Supports

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Projects Approved</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount Approved</td>
<td>€252,296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Projects paid</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total amount paid</td>
<td>€166,140</td>
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Measure 2 - Training, Mentoring and Networking

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Training Courses</td>
<td>*42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Mentoring Assignments</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of Participants – Training</td>
<td>571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of Participants - Networking</td>
<td>186</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Courses include Start your Own Business, Managing Finances, Sales and Marketing, Human Resource Management, Social Media Marketing etc

Ireland’s Best Young Entrepreneur

LEO Leitrim had 18 applications for the IBYE programme in 2017. LEO Leitrim hosted the Co. Leitrim Final on 6th December with winners as follows;

Best Idea - Raymond Mc Bride
Best Start Up Business (under 36 months) – Oz Ibrahmi, Zenoz Ltd
Best Established Business (over 36 months) – Richard Wilson, Wilson Machinery

The overall “Best Young Entrepreneur” for the county went to Richard Wilson, Wilson Machinery
NATIONAL ENTERPRISE AWARDS
Co. Leitrim finalist and representative at The National Enterprise Awards during 2017 was Jinny’s Bakery. Jinny’s Bakery attended the National Final in the Mansion House on 25th May.

STUDENT ENTERPRISE AWARDS
The 2016/2017 school programme involved all 7 Co. Leitrim secondary schools with 150 students attending the county final, while approx. 1400 students availed of the in house visits to schools. Winners of the Leitrim County Final who were selected to attend the National Final in Croke Park were; “Mad 4 Tar” from Carrigallen Vocational School (Senior), “Bows and Bands” St. Clare’s, Manorhamilton (Intermediate Winner) and “Happy Homework Hut”, Carrigallen Vocational School (Junior Winner). Happy Homework Hut went on to win the Innovation prize in the Junior category at National level. The 2017 National Schools Programme involved 10 schools with 300 students participating and was won by Fatima National School, Cloone.

TASTE LEITRIM
A 5 year Food Strategy has been developed for 2017-2021 and was launched during 2017. A series of Food events were held around the county in Carrick on Shannon, Mohill, Rossinver and Drumshanbo. A Food Strategy Steering Group was established during the year. A series of food events are being planned for 2018 both inside and outside the county.
LEITRIM BUSINESS NETWORK
The Leitrim Business Network was established to exploit the power of business networking. Leitrim Business Network is proudly supported by Local Enterprise Office and meet four times per year. www.leitrimbusinessnetwork.com

MICRO FINANCE IRELAND
The programme continues its partnership approach and 2017 saw 7 approvals to Leitrim clients. Since 2017, all clients in receipt of a loan from Micro Finance Ireland are allocated mentoring hours through the local LEO.

ONLINE TRADING VOUCHERS
There was continued interest again in the Trading Online Voucher programme with 12 vouchers approved during 2017 to Co. Leitrim businesses, giving them the opportunity to create an ecommerce website, a payment system or booking system on their websites.

ENTERPRISE PROMOTION
- With assistance from LEO Leitrim, businesses in Co. Leitrim had the opportunity to attend the following events; Showcase (4 businesses), launch of Ireland West Trade Centre (1), Enterprise Zone at the National Ploughing Championships (1) as well as the National Crafts Fair – Food Hall (6) which was to promote the Taste Leitrim brand outside of the county as per Leitrim Food Strategy.
- The Inside Craft Network was established under the LEO Competitive Funds project, Creative Connections in the USEFE region.

WOMEN IN BUSINESS
Leitrim and Longford LEO’s jointly hosted Women in Business Networking Events during March and December, while Leitrim hosted its own event in October as part of National Women’s Enterprise Day.
COMPETITIVE FUNDS PROJECT USEFE

The two LEO Competitive Funds projects which were awarded in 2016, totalling €217,348 (Creative Connections €70,700 and Graduate Placement €146,648) were rolled out successfully during 2017.

A. The Graduate Internship for Entrepreneurship Programme saw the placement of 23 of the 24 allocated students in work placements in Leitrim, Longford, Cavan and Roscommon. A networking event took place in August for the students and businesses involved in the programme.

B. The Creative Connections Programme saw the development of a new brand, Inside [Craft] and the rollout of pop up shops, development of a craft trail as well as a website and a network among craft practitioners in the four counties of Leitrim, Longford, Cavan and Roscommon.

OTHER

- IT Sligo continue to meet clients in The Hive, Carrick on Shannon
- Local Enterprise Week 2017 took place from 5th-10th March with 10 separate events hosted.
- The Sustainable Energy Communities Project continued during 2017 in Mohill, with events taking place during EU Energy Week as well as securing funding under the Better Energy Communities. Both Mohill and Manorhamilton are working towards starting their own Energy Master Plans.
- Two applications were submitted to Regional Enterprise Development Fund programme, with funding secured on one of them, development of ehubs in Leitrim, Longford and Cavan.
- Two Brexit events were delivered during 2017 – in March and November. (During 2017, LEO received a specific budget for Brexit events)
- Additional funding was received to deliver a LEAN programme in Leitrim, a tool which involves 9 businesses eliminate or reduce waste or any activity that consumes resources without adding value.

EUROPEAN PROGRAMMES

LEO Leitrim have secured money to deliver the following;

- Co-Innovate which is a cross border research and innovation (R&I) initiative funded under the INTERREG VA Programme. The aim of the programme is to increase the numbers of SMEs engaged in cross border research and innovation in the regions of Northern Ireland, Border Counties and Western Scotland.

- Smart Data Smart Regions is an Erasmus Programme (led by Omagh Enterprise Company Ltd) which involves partners from Leitrim, Omagh, Lisburn, Germany, Netherlands and Belgium. The programme looks at the levels of data available and how it can be turned into “smart data” which will increase productivity, innovation and competitiveness.

- The WISE project partnership financed by the ERASMUS+ Program has a strong cross representational consortium led by Omagh Enterprise Company involves 6 partners from 4 countries, including an applied sciences university (MUAS, Germany), an EU-wide network of Women in STEM, (European Centre for Women and Technology - ECWT), a local government authority (Leitrim County Council, Ireland), Irish & UK VET organization specialised in entrepreneurship curriculum development and social inclusion (OEC & MMS), and a UK specialist e-learning company (CCL, UK). The WISE project will introduce an apprenticeship style learning
placement framework tested with at least 40 female entrepreneurs in participating regions who will experience work in a high growth STEM enterprise for a structured placement period.

LEITRIM DESIGN HOUSE

Supported by LEO, the Leitrim Design House continues to develop and expand its range of services. Highlights from 2017 include

- The third annual conference “Developing a craft or Design business” and had 78 in attendance.
- Summer Sundays saw the Leitrim Design House open over a number of weekends during the summer months
- The ART WALL continues to build up a very successful reputation.
- Additional showcase space opportunities were also given to individual makers at selected times in the year.

SPARK

The artist in residence programme has been running a number of years with very positive feedback. In 2017, Leitrim County Council were chosen as the company for the artist to work with.

CREATIVE FRAME

The programme has been busy delivering the training requested by members of the network. It is aimed at professional and emerging practitioners from any arts or design field such as visual arts, architecture, music, performing arts, literature, film, craft and design who wish to make a living or a significant part of their living from their practice.

MEASURE 1 – FINANCIAL SUPPORTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Projects Approved</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount Approved</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Projects paid</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total amount paid</td>
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</table>
### MEASURE 2 – TRAINING, MENTORING AND NETWORKING

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<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Training Courses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Mentoring Assignments</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of Participants – Training</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of Participants - Networking</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Council continued to carry out an extensive range of work on promoting Leitrim as a strong location for economic development and facilitating infrastructure and other supports to encourage economic development during 2017. This was carried out through targeted infrastructure provision, proactive forward planning and active marketing and collaboration with other agencies. In addition, a number of applications were submitted for funding around business Diaspora related activity and funding was received of €10,000 late in 2016 for the development of a Diaspora Strategy over 2017. Work has commenced on developing the Diaspora Strategy across the 4 Counties of the USEFE Region, Leitrim, Longford, Roscommon and Cavan.

The High Level Advisory Group met in September 2017 in Drumshanbo and ensures on-going support and engagement of Leitrim connected people in Dublin and elsewhere as well as key local business people.

The Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) and the SPC responsible for Economic Development commenced work on implementing some of the projects contained in the Local Economic Community Plan (LECP).

Following joint consultations in several locations across the County, the Leitrim Local Development Strategy was finalised and recommended for submission by the LCDC. Approval for the LDS was received in July and a contract was signed with the Dept of Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht between LCDC, LCC and Leitrim Development Company in July. Following the signing of the contract, work has taken place on the development of a Service Level Agreement (SLA) between LCDC, LCC and LDC. In addition, the Rural Development Operational Committee has met over 6 times in order to develop the policies and procedures in relation to the rollout of the LEADER Programme. The Programme was officially launched on October 28th by Minister Michael Ring in Carrick on Shannon. Initial Expressions of interest were opened for certain targeted calls in the areas of tourism and social inclusion with a closing date of December 9th. The Expressions of interest were reviewed and approved as appropriate at the LCDC meeting on December 16th.

Year one of the Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) through the LCDCs was completed with the programme being reviewed on an ongoing basis by the Monitoring Sub-Committee.

**SICAP**

The current SICAP programme is ongoing and this programme will finish at the end of the current year. Following a tender process and evaluation Leitrim Development Company have been awarded the contract as Service Provider for SICAP 2018-2022 and the contract has been signed.

As regards the 2017 SICAP programme – the following was the funding situation for the year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Budget</th>
<th>€524,650.00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
USEFE

Leitrim County Council continued to facilitate the Upper-Shannon-Erne Future Economies Business initiative, which has 6 key partners – local authorities of Leitrim, Longford, Cavan and Roscommon as well as Bord na Mona and ESB. The Upper Shannon-Erne Future Economy Project has progressed a number of initiatives during 2017 including:

- 2017 is the third year of the USEFE jointly funded programme between Bord Na Mona, ESB and the counties of Leitrim, Cavan, Roscommon and Longford. The 2017 work programme included:
  o Building on the USEFE Invest4Success event and workshop with Kingsley Aikins to promote the region both within Ireland and with Diaspora
  o The coordination of county and regional Diaspora strategies to be developed in 2018
  o Delivery and completion of the Laktive Tourism project
  o Consolidating the work on the Blueway project
  o Development of a joint tourism project for angling in the region
  o Relationship building with the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment Development to progress the work of the USEFE Renewable Energy Group
  o Scoping a cross county economic networking platform
  o Working with county partners for the development of a digital strategy
  o Working with county partners on Regional Enterprise Development Fund application
  o Working with the EU TRINNO project to examine the possibility of establishing a regional food distribution hub in the USEFE region
  o Assisting Local Enterprise Offices in partner counties on the evaluation and review of Competitive Fund graduate placement and creative connections programmes
  o Ongoing communication of initiatives across six partners
  o Identifying and obtaining additional funding for initiatives that emerge from the sectoral groups and with direction from the Steering Group.

  o LEO Competitive Fund: Two programmes were rolled out under this scheme during 2017 across the USEFE region.
    1. Creative Connections a project across the region to replicate the model of Leitrim Deign House across the USEFE region in 2017 with a budget of approximately €70,000.
    2. Graduate Internship for Entrepreneurship Programme – A strategic graduate placement programme across the USEFE the region with a budget of approximately €146,000

RENEWABLE ENERGY

The Council continued to facilitate a Renewable Energy Group comprising additional agencies such as SEAI, NWRA, LDC, UCD and businesses involved in the renewable energy sector. Renewable Energy Group: The Renewable Energy Group, chaired by the Chief Executive, met in June and September. The areas of interest for the group are developments across solar, wind and biomass. The group are also the Stakeholder Group for the SECURE project and will be advising on ways of promoting energy efficiency to the wider
community. As a follow through from the Renewable Energy Group, the following projects have commenced:

- **District Heating System**: Feasability Study Completed, the new system will happen alongside the planned extension of Leitrim county Council.
- **Local Authority Renewable Energy Strategy**: Work has commenced for a renewal energy Strategy for Leitrim.
- **SECURE**: Leitrim County Council is one of the partners under the Northern Periphery and Arctic (NPA) co-funded SECURE Project which is all about building Smarter Energy Communities. SECURE is a 3 year (2016 – 2019) transnational project to help build the capacity of partners organisations to deploy successful energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies and solutions in housing and public infrastructure. The learning across peripheral and arctic regions on energy efficiency and use of renewable technologies will be shared between partners and to communities they serve. The project partnership includes eight partners across the Northern and Arctic Region: Ernact, Leitrim and Donegal County Councils (ROI), Derry City & Strabane District Council (NI), Association of Local Authorities in Vasternorrland (ALAV) in Sweden, Karelia University of Applied Sciences in Finland, Umhvørssistovan in Faroe Islands and the Ecology Action Centre (Canada). Actions in 2017 included the following:
  - Two Stakeholder meetings held in Leitrim in June and September 2017
  - Energy Awareness Day held in Mohill and Energy Workshop for Small Business held in Manorhamilton as part of EU Energy week
  - Attendance at Partner Meeting in Sweden, bringing two stakeholders to attend also.
  - Directory of best practice finalised across the NPA region
  - Karelia University preparing baseline survey for staff and communities on energy efficiency and renewable technology which we will issue by end of year. This will be repeated at end of project.
  - Baseline analysis of energy usage across council with particular focus on Aras, Ballinamore library and Dock.
  - Planned and co-ordinated Partner meetings, site visits and conference in Carrick on Shannon November 28th to 30th.
  - Work commenced on pilots for the Dock Arts Centre, Ballinamore, and Manorhamilton Library.

**REDZ**

In September 2017, the Manorhamilton REDZ Team/Town team were approved under the Town and Village 2017 scheme for investment in the Caislean Hamilton Project, work has commenced on this.

A number of meetings took in place in Mohill over 2017 in relation to the sustainable energy community group and assisting them with completing the application for funding for the Energy Masterplan. This was successful and the group are now planning to commence the Energy Masterplan in 2018. In addition Mohill was successful under the 2017 Town and Village Scheme the focus being to enhance the town of Mohill across a number of areas while maintaining the renewable energy focus and work has commenced on this project also.

**PURPLE FLAG**
The Economic Development unit co-ordinated the renewal application for Carrick on Shannon to retain Purple Flag Status – which is a standard for a vibrant, well-managed evening and night time economy. The formal launch of achieving the Purple Flag standard took place in January 2017. The Renewal process involved a number of meetings with the Purple Flag Steering Group and data collection and analysis on different aspects of the evening and night time economy. A Public Perception Survey on the town was also organised to allow for a comparison against 2016. 360 people completed the survey.

Work continued on the development of a structured town team approach in Carrick on Shannon. A submission was made under Town and Village 2017 and was successful in relation to a retractable roof at the Market Yard.

Progress has been made on another initiative in Carrick is the Carrick on Shannon Town Clock Community Civic Space, an application has been submitted to LEADER.

**CCTV**
Work on the Garda Commissioner Approval submission was completed in November and Commissioner Approval for the Scheme was achieved in early December 2017.

The Grant Application was submitted to the Department of Justice in December 2017.

A site visit to Longford County Council to learn from their experience took place in December 2017

Similar town groups Ballinamore, Drumkerrin, Carrigallen and Drumshanbo to identify a priority project under the town and village scheme which resulted in a total of 12 successful projects in the Town and Village scheme with over 1.1million investment in Leitrim.

The REDZ programme secured in 2016 for the Taste Leitrim Initiative has been progressing well, the youth Education Programme around Health eating, preparing your own food and nutrition worked well over the course of the year with significant numbers of disadvantaged youth engaging in the programme in Mohill, 4 Taste Leitrim Food Events took place around the County, Carrick on Shannon, Mohill, The Organic centre Rossinver and The Food Hub Drumshanbo. The Capital investment in the Food Hub Food Experience is almost complete.

**RECREATION AND AMENITY**

Leitrim Council will continue to prioritise the development of recreation and amenity infrastructure within the County as a means to support economic development and in particular, support the ongoing development of our tourism product.

**TOWN AND VILLAGE**

**Town and Village**

- 8 Schemes under the Town & Village 2016 were approved with a Total Grant of €380,000. All the works were completed in 2017

- 12 Schemes were approved in October 2017, Total Grant €1,098,538. All schemes will be fully expended and drawndown by mid 2018 as per Scheme Outline Requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Grant Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ballinamore</td>
<td>Renovations to St Felims College</td>
<td>€100,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carrick on Shannon</td>
<td>Retractable Roof</td>
<td>€99,520.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cloone</td>
<td>Cross Country Facility,</td>
<td>€96,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Two Schemes were approved in 2016 with a total grant of €300,000 and these were completed in 2017.

- Ballinamore REDZ is fully completed which included an Angling project at Garadice and Kiltybarden lakes. A lot of additional fishing infrastructure was provided as part of this project, which also included access roads, footpaths, toilet facilities and picnic facilities. Softer measures were also undertaken including promotion and training.

- Carrick on Shannon REDZ project included Development of new culinary tourism experience unit at The Food Hub, Drumshanbo together with the “Taste Leitrim Food Supply Chain” and also included for education and Training in this area.

**OUTDOOR RURAL RECREATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE SCHEME**

2016

The following projects are proposed over the next three years:

- An application for funding for the construction of the SLNCR Greenway from Sligo to Manorhamilton has been made to Failte Ireland Major Grants Fund. If successful this will proceed through the Part 8 Public Consultation process with a view to being constructed by 2019.

- An application for funding for the construction of the Cavan Leitrim Greenway from Ballinamore to Belturbet has been made to Failte Ireland Major Grants Fund. If successful this will proceed through the Part 8 Public Consultation process with a view to being constructed by 2019.

The following schemes were also funded

- Maintenance and upgrade of the Leitrim Way
- Demonstration stretch of the SLNCR at Dromahair
- Demonstration stretch of the Cavan Leitrim Greenway at Ballinamore

The 3 Schemes received approval with a total Grant of €480,000. Issues arose which delayed completion of projects. Revised Program of Works indicates full completion of works on these 3 projects by 2018

2017

- 10 Schemes received approval under Measure 1 *(Small Scale Maintenance/Promotional and Marketing)* with a total grant of 95,000.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scheme</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Grant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dromhaire Demonstration Stretch of Greenway</td>
<td>Dromhaire</td>
<td>€5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alteen Waterfall</td>
<td>Dowra</td>
<td>€10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shannon Blueway</td>
<td>Drumshanbo</td>
<td>€10,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acres Lake Access</td>
<td>Drumshanbo</td>
<td>€10,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lough Bran</td>
<td>Carrick on Shannon</td>
<td>€10,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convent Wall Trail</td>
<td>Drumshanbo</td>
<td>€10,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keeldra Lake Amenity Cloone</td>
<td>Cloone</td>
<td>€10,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eco Park Trail</td>
<td>Kinlough</td>
<td>€10,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lough Allen Education Centre</td>
<td>Drumshanbo</td>
<td>€10,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pathway Annaghmore</td>
<td>Annaghmore</td>
<td>€10,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All works have been completed and drawdown of funds has been requested from the Department.

- 1 Scheme received approval under measure 3 *(Large Scale Repair/Upgrade and New Strategic Trail Development)* which was a joint application between Leitrim County Council and Waterways Ireland. The total grant approved €955,153. This scheme has three different elements and work has commenced. All aspects of the entire project to be fully completed by mid 2018.

| Blueway | €955,153 |

**CLAR 2017**

- 10 Projects were approved under measure 1 *(Support for Schools/Community Safety Measures)*- Total Grant €288,268. These schemes are 90% funded. It is planned to complete 8 projects by the end of the current year with the other 2 to be completed by February 2018.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>OFFICIAL SCHOOL NAME / COMMUNITY FACILITY</th>
<th>Agreed CLÁR funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Installation of a pedestrian crossing to serve the Gaelscoil which will link the existing car park at the Castle to the Gaelscoil.</td>
<td>Gaelscoil Cluainin</td>
<td>€38,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide a Pedestrian Crossing between the community car park at Gorby’s Bar &amp; Lounge and the current footpath on the opposite side of the road.</td>
<td>Newtowngore Community Hall Group</td>
<td>€41,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision of speed safety signs, provision of a pedestrian crossing to allow the safe crossing area for students outside the school and the provision of road markings.</td>
<td>Carrick on Shannon Community School</td>
<td>€33,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erect street lighting from Acres to the houses of Drumduff north.</td>
<td>Drumduff North Acres Residents Association</td>
<td>€27,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100m footway from St. Mary’s NS to the Aughnasheelin community hall</td>
<td>St.Mary’s National School</td>
<td>€45,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Projects were approved under measure 2 (Play Areas) – Total Grant €95,672. These schemes are 90% funded. 2 projects will be completed by years with remaining 2 completed by March 2018.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Contractor</th>
<th>Grant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provision of a pedestrian crossing to allow the safe crossing area for vulnerable road users access the local health centre and playground.</td>
<td>Dromod Development Association</td>
<td>€19,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erect Street lighting</td>
<td>Annaduff National School</td>
<td>€10,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groundworks for footpath and construction of safety rail/barrier alongside the path.</td>
<td>St. Clares Primary School</td>
<td>€30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction of a footpath/walkway along the river.</td>
<td>St. Patrick’s National School</td>
<td>€30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4Construction of anew 1.8 m wide concrete footpath along the school boundaries</td>
<td>St. Joseph’s NS</td>
<td>€12,068</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2 Projects were approved under Measure 3 (Targeted Community Infrastructure Needs) – Total Grant €83,179. Both of these projects will be completed by year end

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Contractor</th>
<th>Grant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Resurfacing of Playground area and new playground equipment.</td>
<td>McDermott Terrace Residents Association</td>
<td>€27,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repair and upgrading of Playgrounds to address health and safety concerns.</td>
<td>Glenfarne Community Development Trust CLG</td>
<td>€43,805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Installation of new Self closing gate and a multi spinner carousel.</td>
<td>Fenagh Development Company Ltd</td>
<td>€6,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Surface of Tennis Court</td>
<td>Dromod Development Association</td>
<td>€9,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Resurface existing pier; Renovate and upgrade existing changing facilities and toilets and install shower facilities; Replace roadside fence; Provide car parking facilities; Provide picnic tables, sand to swimming area and

Replacement of the existing 1990 rowing pontoon and a trolley for safe use and storage of a training boat

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Contractor</th>
<th>Grant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Resurface existing pier; Renovate and upgrade existing changing facilities and toilets and install shower facilities; Replace roadside fence; Provide car parking facilities; Provide picnic tables, sand to swimming area and</td>
<td>Keeldra Lake Amenity Development, Cloone</td>
<td>€50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacement of the existing 1990 rowing pontoon and a trolley for safe use and storage of a training boat</td>
<td>Carrick on Shannon Rowing Club,</td>
<td>€33,179</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Leitrim County Development Plan 2015-2021 was adopted on 12\textsuperscript{th} January 2015 and came into effect on 9\textsuperscript{th} February 2015. In accordance with the requirements of Section 15(2) of the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2017, a Progress Report must be prepared after 2 years of the plan adoption setting out the progress made in realising the objectives of the Development Plan since the Plan came into operation. The Progress Report was completed in June 2017 and presented to the Council at their July meeting. The progress which has been made in realising the 126 no. objectives contained in the County Development Plan was outlined with considerable emphasis on the economic development, agri-food, tourism, sports and recreational development sectors. With regard to the progress achieved in implementing the Housing Strategy, it was concluded that the review demonstrated that there remains sufficient and suitable land zoned for residential use to meet the requirements of the Housing Strategy and to ensure that a scarcity of such land does not occur at any time during the period of the Development Plan. It was concluded that the Housing Strategy does not need to be adjusted or that the Development Plan needs to be varied at this time. The Council were satisfied that the County Development Plan, with its focus on a sustainable economy, sustainable heritage and sustainable communities, remains appropriate and will act as a catalyst for the continued economic recovery of Co. Leitrim.

**HERITAGE**

The Planning Department has obtained the agreement from The Heritage Council with a view to re-establishing the role of Heritage Officer within Leitrim County Council which role has been vacant during 2017. The Heritage Council part funds the role and provides training and advice through their Heritage Officer programme.

The Planning Authority successfully obtained funding for 3 projects under the Built Heritage Investment Scheme and funding for 1 project under the Structures at Risk Fund, both funds operated by the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.

**DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT & BUILDING CONTROL**

**VACANT SITE LEVY**

The Planning Authority undertook extensive research in the preparation of a report outlining the manner in which the Vacant Site Levy will be implemented in Leitrim. The draft variation which was presented at the January Council meeting was screened for the need to undertake both Strategic Environmental Assessment and Appropriate Assessment. It was determined at that time that as the land use zoning objectives for Carrick on Shannon are contained in the Carrick on Shannon Local Area Plan 2010-2019 rather than in the County Development Plan 2015-2021 a separate amendment to the Local Area Plan would also be required. The same environmental assessments undertaken for the proposed draft variation to the County Development Plan were also required for the proposed draft amendment to the Carrick on Shannon Local Area Plan. This delayed the publication of the proposed variation as a result. By the end of 2017, the formal consultations with the designated environmental authorities arising from the environmental assessments had commenced with the proposed draft variation and proposed draft amendment respectively being scheduled for publication in February 2018.
PLANNING APPLICATIONS

A total of 242 no. planning applications, including 26 no. application seeking retention of planning permission and a further 14 no. applications seeking an extension of duration of planning permission were received during 2017. 27% (65) of these applications were considered invalid, primarily relating to poorly prepared applications with the remaining 177 no. applications considered valid. Of the valid applications received, 36 no. related to commercial development, 15 no. related to community, sporting and educational developments with a further 12 no. applications relating to forestry, primarily forest access provision. The number of valid applications received in 2017 was almost identical to the number received the previous year (241 no.) The proportion of applications relating to commercial developments has increased from 24 no. to 36 no. and there is a notable increase in the level of developments being applied for relating to community and sporting uses reflective of the increase in Government support for such uses. These trends are both encouraging and welcomed.

A total of 148 no. decisions were issued in relation to planning applications during the year which was a reduction on the number of decisions which issued in 2016 (172 no.). The grant rate was recorded at 97.4% of all decisions made in comparison to 92% the year previous. A significant commercial application seeking to construct a new visitor experience at The Shed Distillery, Drumshanbo was granted planning permission and demonstrates further confidence in the local economy and the importance of the tourism and hospitality sectors. Other notable commercial developments for which planning permission was granted included enabling works to allow the Town Centre development at Main Street / Church Lane, Manorhamilton recommence development, the redevelopment of the former Gilmartin’s Cash & Carry on the Dublin Road, Carrick on Shannon for use as a hardware store and 3 no. bulky goods showroom display areas and, an office and factory extension to Elastometall, Sligo Road, Manorhamilton. Of the unsuccessful planning applications, this included a proposed discount convenience store at Circular Road, Carrick on Shannon which was the subject of an unsuccessful appeal to An Bord Pleanála by the applicants. 2 no. of the 4 no. applications which were refused planning permission by Leitrim County Council were subsequently appealed to An Bord Pleanála and both decisions were upheld on appeal by the Board.

PART 8 DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

The Council successfully brought four of its own development proposals through the Part 8 public consultation process during the year. These developments were:

- Carrigallen – 588 metre footpath extension on the R201 Carrick on Shannon Road to connect the existing local GAA grounds to the town.
- Ballinamore – 2.3 km demonstration stretch of walkway / cycleway (Greenway) to be provided from the town to Corgar Lake.
- N16 - Proposed realignment of the existing N16 National Primary route for a distance of 1.55 km in length within the townlands of Diffreen, Drummahan, Tawnamachugh and Mulkaun.
- Carrick on Shannon - develop an extension (1,636 sq. m.) to the existing civic offices and associated works at Leitrim County Council’s Áras an Chontae.
- Ballinglageragh - re-route a section of the Leitrim Way to accommodate a proposed new footbridge over the Yellow River.
- Dromahair - the construction of a pedestrian bridge, and footpath, adjacent to the existing bridge over the Edergole River, at Ardakip and Killananima, Dromahair.

PRE PLANNING CLINICS

A total of 88 no. formal pre-planning queries/meetings were facilitated in 2017 with the average waiting time for such meetings or queries being dealt with recorded at 16.9 days. There were numerous other pre planning queries dealt with by e-mail or telephone which did not necessitate formal meetings.
EXEMPTED DEVELOPMENTS

A total of 29 applications for a determination on exempt / non exempt status of a proposed development (Section 5 Declarations) were received over the course of the year which is the same number of applications as 2016. A number of applications related to agricultural developments and reflects the availability of grant aid assistance from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine under the Young Farmers Capital Investment Scheme. This was also reflected in the number of planning applications for agricultural development (10 no.) which were submitted over the course of the year. There were also a significant number of such applications on behalf of community groups in relation to walkways again reflective of the availability of state provided grant aid assistance.

One application for a Certificate of Exemption under Section 97 of the Planning & Development Acts 2000-2017 (exemption from the provisions of Part V) was received in 2017 again reflective of the lack of multiple residential unit development presently under construction/being considered across the county.

In 2017, 86 no. tree felling, 31 no. tree planting and 32 no. forest road applications were referred to the Planning Authority reflective of the extent of the county under forestation. The number of tree felling applications referred to the Planning Authority increased significantly from 57 no. applications in 2016 whereas the combined planting and forest road applications referred in 2016 were 56 no.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS FOR SINGLE HOUSES

Leitrim County Council has been actively pursuing innovative solutions to facilitate the design of a wastewater treatment and disposal facility that would have the potential to have a zero discharge of effluent and, if successful, allow sites with poor percolation characteristics to treat the discharge of treated wastewater in a manner which was not prejudicial to public health. Through a process whereby the Council sought expressions of interest, 13 no. potential site owners were invited to participate in a willow based evapotranspiration Pilot Scheme. The Council undertook a process to develop the parameters within which this scheme will operate taking into account complexities such as revisions to the Building Regulations Technical Design documents. The system is going on trial only, subject to participants, and is not of general application at this time and is also subject to external academic and technical monitoring.

This more recent pilot scheme builds on from an earlier and separate pilot scheme seeking to develop a design of a wastewater treatment and disposal facility that would have the potential to have a zero discharge of effluent. At the end of 2017, 7 no. of these designs had the benefit of planning permission 3 no. houses have been occupied with the wastewater treatment and disposal systems having been commissioned with construction having commenced on two others.

PLANNING ENFORCEMENT

A total of 49 no. new planning enforcement cases were referred to or initiated by the Planning Authority in 2017 of which 25 no. had been successfully resolved and closed by the year end. A total of 22 no. Warning Letters were issued which resulted in 6 no. cases being the subject of Enforcement Notices. Of the 22 no. Warning Letters which issued, 8 no. of these cases have been resolved to date whilst of the 6 no. Enforcement Notices served, 3 no. cases have been successfully resolved.

TAKING IN CHARGE OF ESTATES/UNFURNISHED ESTATES

A total of 6 no. housing developments were taken in charge during 2017. Significant work was done over the course of year in progressing works within a significant number of housing developments which would allow for these developments to be taken in charge by the Local Authority in 2018. The Council continued to progress the resolution of unfinished estates in 2017 with all relevant stakeholders. Work has been ongoing with various developers, banks and bond companies in this regard.
The Local Authority completed the works provided by the financial assistance secured under the National Taking in Charge Initiative from the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government. €101,950 was obtained under Measure 1 which has allowed works to be completed in nine no. estates to a condition where they are capable of being taken in charge. An additional €50,000 was obtained under Measure 3 towards funding for a research project relating to the engagement of legal counsel in relation to development bonds and the undertaking of Site Resolution Plans by Consulting Engineers/Quantity Surveyors with respect to 4 no. housing developments. The Council are now at an advanced stage of finalising the claims on these 4 no. housing developments.

TOURISM PROMOTION AND DEVELOPMENT

The following is the current situation regarding Tourist Product development in Leitrim:

Recreational Funding - (80% of Total Project Cost)

Applications were made under the Recreational Infrastructure scheme under the three measures stipulated

1. Measure 1 – (Maximum Grant €10,000)

(Grants for upkeep and maintenance of already established trails/walkways/cycleways/blueways, improved access to leisure or recreational facilities)

We received funding for 10 projects under this measure totalling €95,000. Details of the projects are as follows with the figures below showing the 80% funding received.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dromahaire Demonstration Stretch of Greenway – Promotion day</td>
<td>€5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alteen Waterfall, upgrade access Dowra</td>
<td>€10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shannon Blueway – Marketing &amp; promotion</td>
<td>€10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acres Lake Access car-park</td>
<td>€10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lough Bran, access upgrade</td>
<td>€10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upgrade Convent Wall Trail, Drumshanbo</td>
<td>€10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keeldra Lake Amenity  Cloone – refurbishment of Dressing Rooms for swimming</td>
<td>€10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eco Park Trail upgrade at Kinlough</td>
<td>€10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lough Allen Education Centre up grade access road</td>
<td>€10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pathway at Annaghmore, Gortlettra</td>
<td>€10,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

€95,000

All of these projects are completed with the exception of the following:

- **Alteen Waterfall** – This project did not proceed as, after protracted negotiations between the local group and a local landowner, - agreement for the use of the land was not reached due to unforeseen circumstances regarding a right of way, and the project could not proceed. €5000 of this funding was transferred to Dromahair Demonstration stretch of the SLNCR in order to bring their total to the maximum allowable, and provide for additional trail promotion and extra new signage.

- **Shannon Blueway – Marketing & Promotion** - This funding has not yet been spent because it is proposed to spend it after the Measure 3 (€1 million Shannon & Shannon Erne Blueway works) have been completed next summer. It is proposed to use if for extensive promotion after the €1 million Blueway project is complete.

2. Measure 2 - (Maximum Grant €100,000)
We made applications for three greenway demonstration stretches under this measure including
1) Manorhamilton Demonstration Stretch of Greenway – (SLNCR)
2) Glenfarne Demonstration Stretch of Greenway – (SLNCR)
3) Dromod Rooskey Greenway – (Cavan – Leitrim Greenway)

The Department has not yet made a determination on this measure but we are hoping that a decision will be taken in the coming month or two.

3. Measure 3. (Maximum Grant €1,000,000)
   (Large Scale Repair/Upgrade and New Strategic Trail Development)
We made a joint application under this measure with Waterways Ireland for the Shannon and Shannon Erne Waterway. We were successful in being approved for 80% funding for a project to the value of €1,193,941. A joint Steering Group and an Operational committee have been established between Leitrim County Council and Waterways Ireland, for the management and delivery of this project. The project includes three different elements as follows:-

1. Leitrim Village to Carrick On Shannon – 4.3 km including
   • Constructing an off-road trail of 1.8 km in length and 3.0m wide; Detail design is well advanced and it will be advertised for Part 8 in February 2018.
   • A three metre wide trail with a dense base macadam material will run along- side the roadway in the widened grass verge at Tullylannon, Leitrim Village and at Hartley Carrick on Shannon. -Total 0.8 km in length; - The work is substantially completed at Tullylannon, except for surfacing which will take place when the weather improves.
   • Approximately 1.7km of the trail will traverse an existing tertiary local road where signage and road-markings will be provided. The design of this is under way for this section. (Note:- a group sachem is planned for this road and we are co-ordinating with them to carry out the works in conjunction with this scheme.)
   • Some Head of Trail works i.e. signage etc,. at the Tourist Office (Old Barrel Store)

   Total Cost - €555,055

2. Leitrim Village to Kilclare – 4.9km
   • Greenway along the canal From Lock 16 (Leitrim Village) to Lock 9 (Kilclare)
   • Unbound surface
   • One no. Footbridge
   • Two at Grade road crossings;

   Total Cost - €254,600

   Part 8 Planning has been approved and consultants have been appointed and detailed design is progressing. Works will commence in the coming months.

   The link from Lock 16 to Leitrim Village will be delivered under the Town & Village Renewal scheme detailed later in this report.

   (The option of putting pathway under Leitrim Bridge is also being investigated at present.)

3. Acres lake to Lough Allen – 2.5 km
   • Includes part new trail and part upgrade of existing tow-path along Drumshanbo Canal
• Will link Acres Amenity to Adventure centre at Lough Allen and Hotel complex

• One road Crossing

• Unbound surface in part and part surface dressing surface

Total Cost - €384,286

Different route options are being examined for the short section between Acres Amenity and the Drumshanbo canal at Acres Cove because of land owner issues and the suitability of the route of the cycleway over a gabion retaining wall. A joint site inspection is taking place Monday 29th January. A contractor has commenced works on upgrading the section along Drumshanbo canal, including grading, some widening and fencing. It will also be surfaced dressed when weather conditions allow. The detailed design of the road crossing on the R208 and on the section from Drumshanbo Bridge at Blackrock to Lough Allen Adventure centre is being progressed. Because of ecological issues the route had to be somewhat altered. Land owner negotiations are at an advanced stage. A safety audit is now completed and it is planned that this section will go to Part 8 in mid February. The road crossing on the Blueway at Drumharvour Bridge is also being examined in order to ascertain if it would be feasible to construct an underpass. (However additional funding may be required for such a development).

When completed, this project will deliver a Blueway, Walkway and Cycleway of approximately 22 km. The benefits of this development are huge for the area as it will provide a critical link from Co. Leitrim’s hub town of Carrick on Shannon to the Blueway at Leitrim Village, Kilclare and Drumshanbo, thus inter-connecting the towns and villages with this unique project.

GREENWAYS

SLNCR Greenway – (Sligo to Manorhamilton)

An application is with Failte Ireland Major Grants for funding for this project. However a decision will not be made by Failte Ireland on the funding of Greenways until a strategy is developed and adopted regarding the development of Greenways. At present the Department of Transport is undertaking this strategy. Leitrim County Council made a submission to the department which will be taken into consideration by the department.

In the meantime Leitrim County Council is liaising with Sligo County Council in order to reinvigorate the process of engaging with the landowners, particularly on the section in Co. Sligo, and a local deputation recently met with the minister. The next meeting between Leitrim and Sligo Co Cos. is scheduled for 19th February.

Cavan Leitrim Greenway

An application has also been lodged with Failte Ireland for this scheme and we await Greenway Strategy as detailed above.

Demonstrations Stretches of Greenways

We are currently working on the development of two demonstration stretches of Greenway as follows:

• Ballinamore Demonstration Stretch

This is a section of Greenway from Ballinamore to Corgar Lake and is part of the Cavan – Leitrim Greenway Route, and is approximately 2.5 km in length. It has been approved through the Part 8 Public Consultation Process. The funding that has been received will complete the first 1.6km of the scheme and works. LCC are currently in final negotiations with the landowners and these are proving somewhat difficult, but we will continue to progress these matters. The remaining section has been tendered and a contractor recommended for the works. This section is 830 metres in length and an application has
been made by the local Trail group to the Leader program for funding, and this is being assessed at present.

- **Dromahair Demonstration Stretch**

  Works in realigning the junction at Fowley’s garage are completed. The design of the pedestrian bridge was agreed and the project has been approved for Part 8 Planning. The project is now with the OPW for approval and it is hoped to go to tender in February. Funding is in place for this work.

### THE LEITRIM WAY

Following consultation with and advice from the National Trails office, a survey was carried on the Trail by the Trails officer and a significant number of issues were identified that will require remedial works. In addition to this the Trails Officer compiled a list of affected landowners. A local Trail group has been established and these are going to meet with the effected landowners with a view to getting land access agreements signed.

One of the main items of work to be completed is the construction of a new bridge on the Yellow river. The project has been approved for Part 8 Planning approval and detailed design is well advanced. An application has been made to the OPW for their approval. We hope to go to tender in February. Funding is in place for these works. When landowners are signed up a contract will be put in place for the works.

### LOUGH RINN RECREATIONAL FACILITY

The Design/Build contract for the Starting Bridge and Finishing Pontoon was awarded and all Civil/Marine works are now completed on site including the Start Bridge Structure and Finish Pontoon with associated Piles and Anchor blocks.

This will greatly assist in the further development of this Regional Sports Facility and have a very positive impact in attracting Clubs/Regatta/National and International Clubs and people to the region thus enhancing the Tourist potential of the region and giving a much needs economic boost to the area.

The Connaught Branch of Rowing Ireland held their 2017 National Regatta at Lough Rinn on Saturday 13th May 2017 which was a great success with up on 1800 rowers from 40 affiliated clubs located around the island of Ireland with 517 crews and 107 races on the day. This was double the size of the 2016 Lough Rinn Rowing Regatta.

Many different clubs, colleges and groups are also using this facility for training purposes with the National team taking part in an Easter Training Camp 2017 at Lough Rinn.

Canoe Ireland held the 2017 National Canoe Sprint Championships on Lough Rinn on 30th October 2017.

We now have a world Class Lough Rinn Recreational facility which caters for Rowing/Canoeing and Kayaking.

### REDZ PROJECT BALLINAMORE

**REDZ Project Ballinamore - €125,000**

The REDZ Angling project in Ballinamore included the upgrading of the Fishing Facilities at Garadice and Kiltybarden lakes. The project is now completed and the works included the following elements:

- Surfacing of access roadways;
- Provision of car-parking;
- Construction of pathways;
- Construction of Fishing stands for people with disabilities:
- Construction of standard fishing bays;
- Erection of notice boards;
- Provision and erection of marking pegs for competitions;
- Upgrading of pathways;
- Erection of self closing gates;
- Upgrading of toilet block;
- Provision of picnic facilities, etc.

In addition other softer measures such as capacity building workshops and promotion at Angling Shows in the UK and mainland Europe took place.
The World Pairs fishing competition took place at Garadice in 2017.

REDZ PROJECT DRUMSHANBO
This project is almost complete and includes the provision of a visitor centre among other works. This will be done in conjunction with the works included in the town & Village program 2017 which is currently commencing.

CLAR SCHEMES
Access roads to fishing areas at Herons Shore and Yugon in Ballinglera (both at Lough Allen), and an access road to Carraigallen lake has been completed under this scheme. These works greatly enhanced these fishing areas. These works were completed in consultation and agreement with IFI.
In addition we were successful in being approved a number of Clar grants recently some of which relate to recreational infrastructure. These applications were made by LCC in partnership with local groups. The following recreational infrastructure was approved. All of these works are now completed.

Measure 1: Funding for 10 Projects received totalling €288,286
This measure relates to Support for Schools/Community Safety Measures.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Project Summary</th>
<th>Grant Amount</th>
<th>Match Funding from L.C.C</th>
<th>Match Funding Group</th>
<th>Total Project Cost</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drumduff North Acres Residents Association</td>
<td>Public lighting along this walkway plus lighting at Trail head at Acres Amenity</td>
<td>€27,900</td>
<td>€1,550</td>
<td>€1,550</td>
<td>€31,000</td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Patrick's National</td>
<td>Provision of access</td>
<td>€30,000</td>
<td>€1,725</td>
<td>€1,725</td>
<td>€34,500</td>
<td>This phase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School, Drumshanbo</td>
<td>Pathway along Drumshanbo River from Housing area to school and sports ground.</td>
<td>complete but further phases required</td>
<td>€65,500</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Measure 2: Play Areas - Funding for 4 grants received totalling €86,105**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Grant Received</th>
<th>Match Funding LCC</th>
<th>Match Funding Group</th>
<th>Total Grant</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>McDermott Terrace Residents Association</td>
<td>Resurfacing of Playground area and new playground equipment.</td>
<td>€27,000</td>
<td>€1,500</td>
<td>€1,500</td>
<td>€30,000</td>
<td>Contract Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glenfarne Community Development Trust CLG</td>
<td>Upgrade playground</td>
<td>€43,805</td>
<td>€2,500</td>
<td>€2,500</td>
<td>48,805</td>
<td>Contract Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fenagh Development Company Ltd</td>
<td>Equipment and safety measures in playground.</td>
<td>€6,300</td>
<td>€350</td>
<td>€350</td>
<td>€7,000</td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dromod Development Association</td>
<td>Resurfacing of the Tennis Courts at Dromod Village</td>
<td>€9,000</td>
<td>€500</td>
<td>€500</td>
<td>€10,000</td>
<td>Completed when suitable weather</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Measure 3: Targeted Community Infrastructure Needs – Funding for 4 grants received totalling €83,179**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Project Summary</th>
<th>Grant Amount</th>
<th>Match Funding from L.C.C</th>
<th>Match Funding Group</th>
<th>Total Project Cost</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Keeldra Lake Amenity Development, Cloone</td>
<td>Upgrade Keeldra Lake amenity area</td>
<td>€50,000</td>
<td>€5,000</td>
<td>€10,000</td>
<td>€65,000</td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carrick on Shannon Rowing Club, Carrick on Shannon</td>
<td>Replace the pontoon and purchase a launch trolley</td>
<td>€33,179</td>
<td>€3,903</td>
<td>€1,952</td>
<td>€39,034</td>
<td>Pontoon in place</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Total works Value - €265,308

TOWN AND VILLAGE SCHEME

Town & Village Scheme Ballinamore 2016
This scheme was completed in 2017. Under this scheme a major upgrade to the Tourism & Angling hub building in Ballinamore has been completed. Another element of this scheme which was completed included the provision of large Notice boards in Ballinamore along a Heritage trail, which depicts many historical aspects of the town. These boards greatly enhanced the streetscape. This project also included a finger sign post trail around the town.

Town & Village Scheme Drumshanbo 2016
This project which was recently completed includes the upgrade of the access road and entrance to the Food Hub in Drumshanbo. Works included the realignment of the entrance, provision of signage, lighting, re surfacing, footpaths, brick paving and decorative walls. This will greatly enhance the access to the Food hub and thus to the proposed privately run visitor centre that is planned for the Shed Distillery at the Food Hub. In addition, under another REDZ funded project, it is also planned to develop further visitor experiences at the Food Hub in the coming year.

Town & Village Scheme Kinlough 2016
These works included the provision of a pedestrian link from the town centre to the ECO Park. This project is now completed.

Town & Village Scheme Mohill 2016
This project included the provision of a walkway on the R202 in Mohill and is now completed. This will form part of a longer Looped walk that is planned in the area.

Town and Village schemes 2017
Leitrim County Council in partnership with local community groups submitted detailed applications to the department under Town and Village schemes in mid 2017 for the following tourism related projects. The following were approved in November 2017. these projects are 80% funded. Leitrim County council are now working closely with the local applicant groups to deliver these projects in 2018.

- Ballinamore – Major Development at St Felims – €125,000
- Carrick On Shannon – Market Yard - €124,000
- Cloone – Sport Recreation heritage & Nature park + Village enhancement- €93,000
- Dromahair – access to community Park - €60k
- Kinlough – Access to ECO Park - €55,000
- Leitrim Village – Access from Village to Lock 16 - €55,000
- Manorhamilton – Upgrade Castle as tourist Destination, Cafe, repairs to roof, Interpretive media, lighting etc. – Ancillary buildings - €125,000
- Mohill – Part of overall project is a heritage Trail – Overall -€ 100,000
- Rooskey – Upgrade Quay Area – Playground - €125,000
- Drumshanbo Food Hub – Includes a visitor centre
KNOCK AIRPORT (IWAK)
Leitrim County Council are also working with the five other the counties in Connaught and County Donegal on the development of a discovery Centre at Knock Airport. This project is funded under the Major REDZ scheme and Leitrim is an equal partner with the other counties. At present the project is at tender stage for a design / build contract. The works will include redesigning the arrivals area which, when completed, will showcase the different counties, and also additional signage promoting the counties will be erected on the approach road to the airport.

LEADER FUNDED PROJECTS
Leitrim County Council is assisting a number of local and community groups with funding applications to the Leader Program. Some of these projects are tourism related including:

- Demonstration stretch of SLNCR at Manorhamilton:
- Demonstration Stretch of Ballinamore Greenway;
- Walkway at Dromahair;
- Cycling Signage in North Leitrim;

ARROO TRAIL
Leitrim County Council is working with the Leitrim development Company and local community groups in developing this hill walking trail in North Leitrim. LDC has now got all Permissive Access agreements in place with the effected landowners and works will commence shortly with upgrading the trail.

Astro turf

New Astro turf Pitches completed

TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE

LOUGH RINN RECREATIONAL FACILITY
Leitrim County Council secured 2014 Sports Capital Grant funding of €150,000 for Phase II of Lough Rinn Rowing Course Project. The works completed the provision of an additional Launch Pontoon adjacent to the existing Launch Pontoon. Works were tendered and a Design/Build Contract was awarded to Deane Public Works who completed all works in 2016.

Leitrim County Council were delighted to receive additional funding under the 2015 Sports Capital of €200,000 towards further development of the world class Lough Rinn Recreational facility and these works were completed in 2017. This provided a Start Bridge and a Finish Tower Pontoon. This will greatly assist in the further development of this regional Sports facility and have a very positive impact in attracting Clubs/Regatta/National and International clubs and people to the region thus enhancing the tourist potential for the region and giving a much needed economic boost to the area. The Connaught branch of
Rowing Ireland held the Lough Rinn Rowing Regatta on Lough Rinn on Saturday 13th May, 2017 which attracted rowing clubs from all over Ireland. The rowing clubs had a very positive experience and enjoyed rowing to a large crowd. Many different clubs, colleges and groups are also using this facility for training purposes.

Canoe Ireland held the National Canoe Sprint Championships on Lough Rinn on 7th October 2017. Large crowds from all over Ireland turned out for this event.

Lough Rinn Rowing Course Project featured as an article in the 2017 Leitrim Guardian as a critical piece of Infrastructure for Mohill in County Leitrim and which will play a pivotal role in increasing visitor numbers to the County and hence generates more economic activity and spend within the County.

Lough Rinn Rowing Facility was shortlisted for the Excellence in Local Government Awards which was sponsored by Vodafone under the category “Local Government Innovation”.

Leitrim County Council Annual Report, 2017
Photo No 1: Lough Rinn Recreational Facility

Photo No 2: Launch Pontoon @ Lough Rinn.
Photo No 3: Start bridge completed in 2017

Photo No 4: Start bridge completed in 2017
LABOUR ACTIVATION MEASURES

The final remaining Intern completed her contract under the JobBridge Internship Scheme in May 2017. The aim of JobBridge is to assist in breaking the cycle where jobseekers are unable to get a job without experience, either as new entrants to the labour market after education or training or as unemployed workers wishing to learn new skills. Internships provide individuals with an opportunity to put into practice skills they have learned during training and/or education, in a workplace setting, to enhance those skills, understand the workplace environment and context and to benefit from a mentor or supervisor’s experience and advice.

The remaining 10 participants on the ‘Gateway’ Labour Activation Initiative also completed their 22 month maximum term on the scheme during 2017. The Scheme provided short-term work and training opportunities for long-term unemployed people who had been on the Live Register for over 2 years. A total of 60 participants were engaged on the scheme across the period 2014 to 2017 and the associated work opportunities have benefited areas such as local amenity upkeep, tourism promotion etc.

A review of Labour Activation Schemes is ongoing by Government at national level.

In September 2017 Local Authorities advertised an initiative to recruit recent graduates with a primary degree and strong interest in one of six skills areas. These employment opportunities will include a structured development programme as part of a 3 year fixed term contract. Leitrim County Council proposes to engage 2 graduates under the Programme – a graduate in the Economic Enterprise and Business Development skills area and a graduate in the Communications and Marketing skills area. Recruitment under the Programme is being co-ordinated by the Public Appointments Service (PAS) and it is envisaged that Graduates will be in place during Quarter 2 2018.
TRANSPORTATION – PLANNING AND MAINTENANCE
The Annual Roads Budget for 2017 was €12 million, an increase of €1.8 million on the 2016 budget of €10.2 million.

Works completed in 2017 included the following:

- **Realignment of 2km section of the N16 from Cornacloy to Sradrine Phase 2** – The construction of Phase 2 of the N16 Cornacloy to Sradrine Realignment Scheme was completed in 2017. Works have commenced on the extension of the Greenway as part of these works.

- **Realignment of 1.4km section of N16 at Drummahan** – This realignment scheme received Planning Approval in 2017. Detailed Design and associated documents for this Construction Contract will be completed in 2018 and while the construction works are subject to funding by the TII, it is expected to have this re-alignment completed by 2020.

- **Provision of 2 Lay-By’s on the N4 Dromod Roosky ByPass** – The provision of 2 Lay-By’s on the N4 Dromod Roosky Bypass was completed in 2017.

- **Leitrim County Council received approval from the TII in 2017 to commence Pavement Design for Overlay’s on National Primary Roads at the following locations:**
  - N4 Jamestown to Drumsna
  - N4 Carrick on Shannon – Attyfinlay Roundabout to County Boundary at Coffeys’s Roundabout
  - N16 Shanvaus to Manorhamilton

  Surveys in respect of these proposed overlays commenced in 2017. The progression of these Schemes to Construction phase is subject to Funding Approval from the TII

- **60 Km of Non National Roads were strengthened in 2017.**

- **38 Km of Non National Roads were surfaced dressed in 2017.**

- **Bridge Rehabilitation Works** - Bridge Rehabilitation Works under the Bridge Rehabilitation Grant Programme were completed at a total of 8 Bridges throughout the County.

- **Safety Improvement Works** - Safety Improvement Works under the Low Cost Safety Improvement Works Programme were completed at a total of 9 locations in the County.

- **Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) Programme** - The Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) Programme received Funding in 2017 for the first time in a number of years. This Scheme provides funding for Private/Non-Public Roads which are of general public utility and which provide access to parcels of land of which at least 2 are owned or occupied by different persons engaged in agricultural activity. The total Funding allocated to Leitrim County Council by the Department of Rural & Community Development for this Scheme in 2017 amounted to €487,947 and this Allocation has allowed 20 of the LIS Schemes on our LIS Waiting List to be progressed.

- **Community Hedge Cutting Grant Scheme** - Leitrim County Council introduced a Community Hedge Cutting Grant Scheme for the first time in 2017. This Scheme was introduced in order to encourage communities, groups of residents and landowners to cut hedges/trees which require attention along the public road network. The Scheme provided a grant of €50 per km of roadside hedges/trees cut along the public road network. A total of 7 applicants were approved for grant assistance under this Scheme in 2017 to the total value of €1,715

- **Declaration of Public Roads** – A total of 6 Private Roads in 6 Housing Estates were declared public roads in 2017

**Speed Limit Review** – Following the publication of new Guidelines for Setting and Managing Speed Limits in Ireland by the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport, a nationwide review of Speed Limits on both National and Non-National Roads commenced. The proposals contained in the Speed Limit Review for
County Leitrim were discussed at Municipal District Meetings in December 2016 and June 2017 following which proposed changes to the Speed Limits on both National and Non-National Roads in County Leitrim were advertised for public consultation in June 2017 for a period of one month. Submissions received following this consultation process were considered by members of Leitrim County Council at the October Municipal District Meetings. Submissions received in relation to National Roads were discussed with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII). Arising from these consultations and discussions, further changes to the Speed Limits were proposed and as a result of these further changes, the proposed changes to the speed limits were re-advertised for public consultation in January 2018 and following this public consultation, the Draft Speed Limit Bye-Laws have now been approved at Municipal District level. The Draft Speed Limit Bye Laws must now be approved by the TII in relation to Speed Limits on National Roads and will then be brought to a full meeting of Leitrim County Council for approval and adoption.

Road Safety
The County Leitrim Road Safety Plan 2016 – 2020 was published in 2016. The Road Safety Working Together Group met on 2 occasions in 2017 in order to review the objectives set out in this Plan – this Group consists of Representatives from Leitrim County Council, An Garda Siochana, the Road Safety Authority (RSA), Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII), the HSE, Carrick on Shannon Education Centre and North Connacht Youth Services. The following initiatives were undertaken in respect of Road Safety in 2017:

- **Promotion of Road Safety on our Website and via Facebook and Twitter** – particularly leading up to Bank Holiday Weekends and other high risk times on our roads; prior to, during and after severe weather events; promotion of road safety initiatives such as National Road Safety Week, National Slow Down Days, Project EDWARD (European Day without a Road Death) and general road safety advice
- Close and ongoing liaison with the Road Safety Authority in relation to the promotion of Road Safety and Education on Road Safety
- Participation in a number of I-Radio Road Safety Campaigns over a number of Bank Holiday Weekends in 2017
- **Transition Year Student Information Day** – The Transition Year Student Information Day was held in April 2017 and included a Workshop on Road Safety and the RSA Shuttle and Simulator attended.
- **“Drive for Life” Programme** – this is an Educational Road Safety Programme delivered to Secondary Schools. The Programme is delivered by a Private Company engaged in road safety promotion and this Programme is a day long programme delivered in Schools around the Country. The Road Safety Office of Leitrim County Council facilitated the provision of the “Drive for Life” Educational Road Safety Programme to be provided in the following Secondary Schools in County Leitrim in 2017 – Carrick on Shannon Community School, Ballinamore Community College, Lough Allen Community College and Drumshanbo Vocational School
- **RSA Child Car Seat Checking Service – “Check it Fits”** – This service visited Carrick on Shannon on 2 occasions in 2017
- **Speed Monitoring at identified sites in County Leitrim in 2017** – a total of 12 sites were identified by Leitrim County Council for Speed Monitoring in 2017. Leitrim County Council works in close liaison with An Garda Siochana in relation to the results of this Speed Monitoring and some of these sites may form the basis of specific Road Safety Schemes in future years.
- Completion of Low Cost Safety Works Schemes on Non National Roads at 9 Locations in 2017

OPW Flood Relief Scheme
OPW Minor Flood Relief Scheme
The purpose of the Minor Flood Relief Scheme is to provide funding to Local Authority’s to undertake minor flood mitigation works in order to address localised flooding problems. The funding available under the Scheme is 90% of the cost of the works with the balance of 10% being the responsibility of the Local Authority. In 2016 Leitrim County council received funding of €47,700 in respect of Flood Relief Works at Mountcampbell. These Flood Relief Works at Mountcampbell were completed in 2017.

In 2017, Leitrim County Council received funding for 2 Minor Flood Relief Projects under this Scheme. Details as follows:-

- **Flood Relief Works at Rossinver** – Funding of €59,600
- **Flood Relief Works at Dromore/Carrigueen, Dromahair** – Funding of €8,116

**OPW Capital Flood Relief Scheme – Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAMS)**

**Flood Relief Works at Leitrim Village** – Leitrim County Council made an application to the OPW in 2017 to carry out Flood Defence Works as detailed in the CFRAMS Project for Leitrim Village.

**HIGH QUALITY SUSTAINABLE LIVING ENVIRONMENT**

**ARTS**

2017 was a transformational year for Leitrim County Council’s Arts Programme as it prepared the groundwork for a new multiannual strategy. Some programmes continue to grow in response to increasing demands with Leitrim having one of the largest creative sectors in the country and communities and individuals the length and breadth of the county eager to engage in the arts.

**Leitrim Youth Theatre Company** The numbers of young people joining Leitrim Youth Theatre grew by over 28% this year with the programme expanding to eight groups in three centres. Funded under the Creative Ireland programme a new group started in Carrigallen in September specifically for children with special needs and those marginalised for a variety of reasons.

**Artist in Schools and Artist in Communities Schemes** These two schemes have been continuously reviewed and refined and we now have in place a system of recruitment of artists, schools and community groups; project development; and review and evaluation that maximises the return on investment in terms of outcomes for communities, children, artists and teachers. The schemes provide for four residencies each and meet a geographic and artform spread. Schools participating in 2017 are the Hunt NS, Mohill; St. Brigid’s NS, Drumcong; St. Clare’s Primary School, Manorhamilton and the Gaelscoil in Carrick on Shannon. Community projects included the North Leitrim Men’s Group in Manorhamilton working with Scottish artist Jen Bradley; Childhood Days in Ballinamore working with dancer Deirdre Grant; Annaduff ICA working with visual artist Julie Griffiths and Glenfarne Development Trust working with Manorhamilton artist Seamus Dunbar.

**SPARK** is one of two major programmes managed in partnership with Leitrim Local Enterprise Office. Tinka Bechert’s residency at Prior PLM Medical concluded in a very successful exhibition ‘Shadows of Ourselves’ which was opened by the Director of the National Science Gallery, Lynn Scarff. Leitrim County Council is the company this year and Vanya Lambrecht Ward has just been appointed Artist in Residence. She will be working with Leitrim County Council over the next six months initially engaging with management, staff and elected members to get a better insight into the work we do and our role within the community.
Traditional Arts As well as developing a specific strand for young traditional musicians as part of the Music Generation programme, we have been working closely with Leitrim Dance Project to develop a weeklong professional development programme for Sean Nóis dancers from Leitrim and as far away as Japan with an open access festival in Drumshanbo for anyone of any age and ability.

Culture Night continues as a very valuable platform for venues throughout the county to build their audience and to provide opportunities for people to try something new. While we concentrate on places where people can continue to engage with the arts year round, two noteworthy projects this year saw a young theatre company present a Yeats inspired project ‘Stolen Child’ at Glencar Waterfall and two artists commenced a programme of projects at Mohill Train Station in partnership with the Mohill Railway Preservation Society that will continue for the rest of the year.
Creative Frame is a relatively unique user-driven continuing professional development network for the creative sector of Leitrim and the wider region run in partnership with Leitrim Local Enterprise Office. Over the last 12 months membership has grown from 120 to 260 practitioners. Training events in tax, web design, collaborative practice, and photographing your work and info sessions with VAI, Irish Writers Centre and First Music Connect have been followed by mentor and mentee training and support to mentoring partnerships. Future plans for the project include developing links with IT Sligo and developing a European network of rural creative clusters.

Professional Development Bursaries are provided to support the development of emerging and established Leitrim based professional artists from any arts discipline through any means that will demonstratively contribute to their continued development. In December 2016 we allocated a total of €12,500 to 23 applicants in the areas of visual art, theatre, dance, film and literature.

Leitrim Sculpture Centre is supported in two ways – The first of these is bursaries for two Leitrim based artists taking residence at LSC to develop their own practice. The second is for national or international artists to undertake projects that connect with communities in North Leitrim and conclude in an exhibition or presentation.

Drumshanbo Library Studios contain two studios and a workshop space at the Library. Instead of rent artists provide one hour per week pro rata to develop a work programme that benefits community, school or library groups. Residencies by Kate Wilson and Gerry Boland concluded in July. Visual artists Margot Quinn and Cathy Reynolds have just commenced their residencies and in the coming months will be developing projects with different groups within the community.

Film Leitrim, Roscommon and Sligo local authorities have come together with representatives of the film sector to develop a joint approach to film development. We have been undertaking research into needs and opportunities for filmmakers and as part of the project a tour of the three counties with the Irish Film Board and film location managers was held last month.

The Dock The Dock is an iconic cornerstone of Leitrim’s Arts Infrastructure. The centre provides a crucial service to the community and its high quality cultural offering is key to the type of offering that the town of Carrick on Shannon wishes to put forward to visitors as well as its own citizens. Leitrim County Council is committed, in partnership with the Arts Council, to providing for the programming, staffing and operational costs of the building. As a local authority owned arts facility, we provide funding to maintain
the building and sufficient staffing to ensure its safe operation. Grant funding from the Arts Council ensures that the Dock can continue to programme a high quality innovative calendar of performing and visual arts and workshops throughout the year. In 2017 Leitrim County Council was successful in an application for funding to the Department of Arts to undertake essential capital improvements to the building which will be undertaken in 2018.

**Other Venues** In addition to the Dock, The Glens Centre, Solas Gallery and Cornmill Theatre are all integral partners in the continued development of various aspects of the arts in the county. All venues work together and with the Local Authority to maximise resources and opportunities for the production and dissemination of new work, professional development and the development of new audiences. Our support to The Glens Centre primarily centres on its priority to support the development of emerging musicians and theatre companies in the region, its youth theatre programme and festival events. The Glens is also a core partner in our Music Generation Programme. Solas Gallery has a membership of over 60 amateur and semi-professional visual artists. The gallery provides an essential service for its membership and for visual arts audiences in Ballinamore and the wider Leitrim/Cavan region. In Carrigallen the Cornmill Theatre has been a seeding ground for many in the performing arts and it is now home to one of the highest concentrations of youth theatre membership in the country.

**Iron Mountain Literature Festival** Arising from the John McGahern seminar which ran from 2007 for eight years, the Iron Mountain Festival was established in 2016, reframed in a wider context which looks to ideas central to and arising from an exploration of place, home and identity. In 2017 themes of place, migration and history were to the fore in a gathering of writers, activists and musicians – novelist Pat McCabe, migrant rights campaigner Bernadette Devlin and London Imam and sean-nós singer Muhammad Al-Hussaini as well as Henry Glassie, Eugene McCabe, Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin, Paul Lynch and Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill among the participants. The John McGahern Award for Literature developed by Leitrim County Council with the Tyrone Guthrie Centre and John McGahern Estate was awarded by Cathaoirleach Finola Armstrong McGuire to Mullingar writer Anne Griffin.
Wild Words Children’s Book Festival has developed into a high quality literature event for young people locally and nationally, particularly young adults. As well as the weekend programme of readings, workshops, masterclasses and ancillary events, the festival manages a publication of writing by teenagers from throughout Ireland, the authors of which take part in an intensive masterclass programme led by leading authors.

Other festivals Leitrim County Council provides funding through an application process to a range of independent arts festivals throughout the county to enhance the quality of their programming and their capacity to deliver events safely to audiences in the county. In 2017 we supported the following events - Sessions on the Shannon; Green Door; Carrick Water Music Festival; Five Glens Arts Festival; An Tostal; Ballinamore Drama Festival; Manorhamilton Samhain Festival; Rabbit’s Riot Theatre Company; Kiltubrid Drama Group; and The Fierce Moon Festival.

Creative Ireland Creative Ireland is an all of government programme designed to facilitate an ecosystem of creativity from an understanding that engagement with the arts and culture enhances wellbeing and because culture and creativity are essential features of an innovative society. In 2017 as well as organising events with venues throughout the county for Cruinniú na Cásca, publishing an Activation Plan and working towards the development of a Culture and Creativity Strategy for Leitrim, the principal part of the Creative Ireland programme in Leitrim was the Creative Ireland Open Call. The Open Call was a countywide call to communities, venues, artists and all those involved in the culture and creative sectors to develop high quality projects and programmes that encourage creativity and greater access and engagement with the arts, culture and heritage.

Projects are ongoing and include: Intercultural Writing Project with Leitrim International Community Group; a famine wall project with Carrick on Shannon Heritage Group; Remembering the Big Band Era with Glenfarne Community Development; At The Station with Mohill Heritage Railway Restoration Society; Little Red & The Black Dog at The Glens Centre; Architecture Talks & Workshop Programme at The Dock; a primary school programme with the Leitrim Percy French Society; Use Your Brain Not Your Fists with Comhairle na nOg; Postcards from the Terrace with the McDermott Terrace Residents Association; Make A
Movie with Dromahair Foroige Youth Club; Kidzine - Comic Book project with Chluainin Art Club; Bright Sparks with Leitrim Youth Theatre Company Carrigallen; Street Theatre Workshops with Leitrim Sculpture Centre; Connecting Cultures at The Leitrim Design House; Éigse Chluainín by Glor Chluinin; Winter Lecture Series with Leitrim Library Service; and a Music Education programme and a Creative Sector Impact Study at the Arts Office.

**Music Generation** announced in September that Leitrim will receive €340,000 in philanthropic funding from U2 and The Ireland Funds to create access to high-quality, music education programmes for children and young people throughout the county. The project was developed by Leitrim County Council and Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim Education and Training Board (ETB) working with youth and education services, and arts centres and organisations, along with a range of music education providers in Leitrim. The project will develop a range of affordable and accessible programmes for children and young people age 0 to 18 within schools and community groups as well as key projects in Choral Music, Trad Orchestra and Music Production and Engineering.

**Alongside ongoing priorities of maintaining our level of service to the community in the coming year across all our projects areas, further developing the Creative Frame project and our work in film, Youth Theatre and literature, 2018 will see a burgeoning of new activity and opportunities for artists and communities through new initiatives such as Music Generation and Creative Ireland.**

In 2018 Leitrim County Council will publish its new Arts Strategy as well as a Culture and Creativity Strategy and together these describe what we hope to achieve and the ambition we as a Local Authority hold for the creative sector in Leitrim into the future.

**Public Participation Network (PPN)**

The Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government allocated a budget of €50,000 to the Leitrim Public Participation Network for 2017. The guidelines for the work and structure of PPNs were updated in May 2017 reflecting the ongoing evolution of PPNs across the country. A National Advisory Group is established to monitor and oversee the work of the PPN’s. Bi-monthly meetings for Resource Workers were in place to support the workers.
Leitrim County Council allocated €30,000 to Leitrim Public Participation Network. A Memorandum of Understanding was agreed between the PPN and Leitrim County Council. A work plan and budget were also agreed and signed off.

Leitrim PPN was without a Resource Worker for more than 6 months of 2017. Leitrim County Council and Leitrim PPN worked together in the lacuna to keep the network viable and ensure that reporting requirements were met. The absence of a worker specifically tasked with PPN duties affected the progress of the PPN in 2017.

**PPN Resource Worker**
A recruitment process undertaken between the local authority and the PPN was successful and a new worker commenced in the role in mid-September 2017.

**PPN Secretariat**
There are nine Community Representatives on the Secretariat. Work begun in 2016 was finalised on PPN Policies and Procedures, a Constitution for the PPN and a Representatives Charter. The Secretariat met more than monthly to ensure the continued running of the network throughout 2017. In December 2017 the Secretariat volunteered time to complete the Workplan for 2018.

**PPN Groups**
There were 214 groups registered with the PPN at year end 2017 which can be broken down as follows:

- **Colleges**
  - Voluntary and Community: 141
  - Social Inclusion: 69
  - Environment: 4

- **Municipal Districts**
  - Ballinamore Municipal District: 84
  - Manorhamilton Municipal District: 69
  - Carrick on Shannon Municipal District: 61

- **Environmental & Community Awards 2017**
One of the most significant new projects for Leitrim PPN was the co-sponsoring of annual awards for the voluntary and community sector. Replacing Floral Pride, the Environmental & Community Awards recognised both efforts to enhance and improve Leitrim’s natural and built environment and the considerable work of communities in ensuring Leitrim is a better place to live for all.

Leitrim PPN sponsored and provided judging for three awards:
- Community Facilities: The shared spaces of towns and villages;
- Social Inclusion: the work done by groups in including and promoting the needs of all our citizens regardless of age, race, ability, creed or health;
- Unsung Hero: celebrating the tireless input of individuals in communities over time and projects.

Three awards were given in each category, one for each municipal district. The judging process allowed for meeting PPN member groups and a wider discussion of the aims and potential of Leitrim PPN as a body facilitating influence on decision making at local and national level. All groups nominated were invited to the awards ceremony in Carrick on Shannon in October. Leitrim PPN looks forward to expanding the scope of awards and their role within the process in 2018.

**Meetings/Events**
The absence of a Resource Worker for much of the year lessened the opportunities for meetings between members and events in 2017. Notwithstanding this, Leitrim PPN held Plenary in November and attended Age Alliance Launch and Social Justice Ireland events.

**Communications/PR**
The Leitrim PPN website was completed in 2017. While the website was active during the year, after September a significant increase in articles being posted was seen. Leitrim PPN selected Facebook and
Twitter as its social media channels. With the completion of the website and staff in place Leitrim PPN was able to affect growth in its followers and reach on the website and social media channels. From September to December Leitrim PPN increased its following from just above zero to 130 and 78 on Facebook and Twitter respectively. The growth of engagement and reach increased steadily over the period.

In conjunction with the online activity e-newsletters recommenced issue from November 2017 on a 2-3 week interval. All communications provide information on consultations, funding, training, courses, activities and events. Information is also circulated on an ad hoc basis to meet deadlines as required.

**PPN Training**

Office Training Solutions was engaged to provide QQI Level 5 training to 16 Leitrim PPN members in Management Committee Skills. This certified training is an elective module for the Level 5 Certificates in Community Development and Youth Work. The training took place in Mohill in evening sessions and complemented the previous day sessions undertaken in Manorhamilton and hosted by Leitrim Development Company. Leitrim PPN looks forward to this cooperative approach to best utilise resources across the county again in 2018.

Social Justice Ireland provided training to Management and Staff of Leitrim Council on the role of the Public Participation Networks in decision-making and the subsequent role of local authorities in facilitating and enhancing its work. Training also explored the reciprocal benefits to a local authority of working with the local PPN. Leitrim County Council was the first local authority in Ireland to avail of this training. Over 120 Leitrim Council personnel attended this training.

At the end of 2017 Leitrim PPN issued an online survey asking member groups for their training and capacity needs for 2018. Not surprisingly, groups asked to be Funding Ready and for ideas on fundraising and sustain their membership.

**PPN Outreach Work**

The Plenary Meeting of November 2017 voted to continue to reach out to communities throughout the county and provide a presence in Ballinamore and Rossinver in 2018.

**PPN Consultations**

Leitrim PPN issued notice of 14 public consultations during 2017. There were 10 of local interest including river basin and waste water management and the effects of Brexit and 4 national consultations.

**PPN Representation on Committees:**

Leitrim PPN has representatives who sit on the following Committees:

- LCDC – five representatives.
- Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning SPC – 2 representatives.
- Housing Policy, Social and Cultural Development SPC – 2 representatives.
- Environment, Transport and Infrastructure – 1 representatives.
- Joint Policing Committee – 6 representatives.
- Leitrim Sports Partnership – 2 representatives.
- County Childcare Committee – 1 representative.
- Leitrim County Enterprise Fund – 1 representative.
- NW Regional Drug & Alcohol Task Force – 2 representatives.
- Leitrim Peace IV Partnership – 5 representatives.
- Leader Evaluation Committee – 5 representatives.
- Leitrim Development Company Board of Management – 6 representatives.
- Leitrim Recreation Forum – 3 Representatives
- Social Justice Ireland delivered training for Leitrim County Council Management and Staff.
Leitrim Development Company

The PPN have representation on the Community Development Sub-Committee of Leitrim Development Company and regularly attend meetings of the Leitrim Equality Disability Network meetings.
The PPN worked closely with both Community Development Workers from the Development Company in the promotion of the PPN throughout the County and also the sourcing and signing up of groups to the PPN membership.
The PPN have 2 representatives from each Municipal District on the Board of Management of Leitrim Development Company.

An Inclusive County

County Leitrim Public Participation Network encouraged greater activity by groups and ensured community representatives could participate in the various committees and organisations in which PPN is involved. A total of 214 groups registered with the PPN by year-end. Thirty-seven representatives sit on twelve committees, seven of which are Council Committees and five external Committees. This level of engagement has ensured that community views feature significantly in the policy making process.

COMHAIRLE NA NOG

Comhairle na nOg Liatroma continues to enjoy the support of all second level schools and youth clubs in the county. In 2017, Comhairle, with support from Creative Ireland and North West Drugs Taskforce produced a short video on ‘Use your Brain, Not Your Fist’ dealing with the issue of physical aggression and the consequences among young people. The AGM was held in November and, again, attracted almost 100 young people from all second level schools. In addition, there were 5 members of Comhairle na nOg at the Dail na nOg event in Croke Park in December. This was addressed by Minister Katherine Zappone.

Leitrim Winners of the National Youth Garda Awards for Sligo/Leitrim
Peace IV

A two year plan for Peace and Reconciliation, Peace IV, has been approved by the Special EU Programmes Body with Leitrim obtaining funding of just under €1.8 million. The Leitrim County PEACE IV Action Plan was accepted by the Special EU’s Programme Body (SEUPB) and a Letter of Offer was issued in July and represents an investment of approx €1.7m in County Leitrim.

The Leitrim PEACE IV Programme was launched on September 21st, was well attended by the community and faith representatives and was widely covered on social media, in the Leitrim Observer and on Shannonside Radio.

Community consultations have been held throughout the county around the Shared Space theme of the PEACE IV programme and an application for three capital builds was submitted to SEUPB in November 2017. Subject to final approval of funding and planning, Shared Space projects will be commencing at Mohill Library, Kiltyclogher Community Centre and Sexton’s House, Manorhamilton.

Under the Building Positive Relations Theme the Support for Ethnic Minorities and Supporting Minority Christian Faiths programmes have already commenced and it is expected to roll out the remaining programmes in 2018:

1. Support for Ex-Prisoners & Former Combatants
2. Events Around Women’s Suffrage
3. Remembering Leitrim’s War Dead
4. Rural Women Along the Border
5. Supporting Kiltyclogher & Cashel Communities

These programmes will be delivered by Leitrim County Council, Leitrim Development Company, North Leitrim Women’s Centre and by way of open tender.

A Development & Support Officer for Minority Christian Faiths was hired in September and a wide programme of capacity building and events involving Minority Christian Faiths has been approved and will be rolled out over the next eighteen months.

Development and Support was offered to the Support for Ethnic Minorities Programme a Development Officer being appointed in October and a programme of capacity building and events involving Leitrim’s Ethnic Minorities will be rolled out over the next eighteen months.

The Children and Young People theme will also be rolled out in 2018 with the following programmes commencing:

1. Cross Border Exchange Programme
2. Peace Learning for Young People
3. Diversity Project
4. Anti-Social Behaviour Programme

These programmes will be delivered primarily by way of open tender with the Leitrim Development Company delivering the Anti-Social Behaviour programme.
Peace IV Launch

**Age Friendly**
Leitrim Age Friendly Alliance in conjunction with the Older Persons Council launched a new Age Friendly Strategy for 2017-2020 during Positive Aging Week. The strategy was launched by novelist Michael Harding during Positive Aging Week on 27th September 2017, in Lough Allen Hotel, Drumshanbo. The event, organised by The Leitrim Age Friendly Alliance, was a celebration of older people. Both Michael Harding and Charlie McGettigan regaled the audience with some wonderful stories and music. Michael spoke eloquently on the issue of social isolation and loneliness and urged people to avail of the many services provided.

The plan is based on the World Health Organisation (WHO) Age-Friendly Cities Framework and Guidelines and deals with issues such as accessibility, rural transport, housing, social participation, respect, community support, health services and communication.
The Leitrim Age Friendly County Alliance ensures that all the relevant agencies work together to promote and maintain the best possible health and well being of older people and to make County Leitrim itself a great place to grow old in. It aims to increase the participation of older people in the social, economic and cultural life of Leitrim for everyone’s benefit, improve the health and well being of older people in the county and show how services and supports for older people can be made more responsive, caring, professional and accessible through imaginative and cost effective partnership working.

Leitrim Older Person’s Council is made up of representatives from active age groups from all over the county, and it has three representatives on the Age Friendly Alliance, ensuring that the Alliance is kept up to date with older people’s needs.
Leitrim entered three communities in Pride of Place in 2017, one from each MD. These were Bornacoola and Carrigallen in the Population Category and Manorhamilton in the Creative Place Category. Each presented an excellent entry and there was no surprise when Bornacoola won runner up prizes at the awards event in Letterkenny.

Bornacoola Runners Up in Pride of Place Competition

Judges in the Sculpture Centre, Manorhamilton.
Central to the work of the Community Development section is recognition of the work done by people in the community - young people, older people, voluntary groups, etc.

In 2017, Environmental & Community Awards and Pride of Place Awards showcased the work done in communities all over Leitrim and acknowledged the contribution that individuals and groups make to their communities. Floral Pride has been replaced by the Environmental & Community Awards and were held in conjunction with the PPN (Public Participation Network). The awards honoured the significant work of community groups, residents’ groups, businesses, schools and individuals in making their area a better place to live, work and visit. The event proved to be more popular than ever in 2017, with a record 126 entries and 200 people attending the awards event in Carrick on Shannon. Manorhamilton Girl Guides won the overall community award.
Community Awards: Guests Eanna Ní Lamhna (also a judge) and Eleanor Shanley with Cathaoirleach Finola Armstrong McGuire

The district winners in each category are listed below:

**Schools Awards**: Newtowngore NS, Hunt NS and Lough Allen College, Drumkeerin

**Social Inclusion Award**: Ballinamore Mens Shed, Leitrim Ladies Lunch Committee and Manorhamilton Girls Brigade

**Best Estates**: Corryard Woods, Drumshanbo, Knocklongford, Mohill and Forest Grove, Dromahair.

**Community Facility**: Ballinamore Fishing & Tourism Ltd, Bornacoola Development Association and South Leitrim and Northern Counties Railtrail Working Group.

**Business**: McGuires Cottages, Drumshanbo, Drumsna Garden Centre, and Wynnes Market Bar, Drumkeerin.

**Cleaner and Greener**: Fenagh Tidy Towns, Drumsna Development Association, and Dromahair Development Association.

**Unsung Heroes**:  
*An individual award for outstanding contribution to the local area.*  
Terry Shortt, Ballinamore Fishing & Tourism Ltd, Catriona Tighe, Mohill Youth Café, and Margaret & Charlie Sharkey, Dromahair Development Association.

The outright winner of Leitrim Environmental & Community Awards 2017 was awarded to Manorhamilton Girls Brigade with Leitrim Cathaoirleach, who “blew the judges away” with their passion and commitment to their members and projects.
Community Funding

Community Facilities Scheme

- Leitrim were allocated €64,500 under the Community Facilities Scheme funded by the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and local Government in 2017. This fund was for projects that seek to enhance communities and address disadvantage at a local level and was for capital only. 126 Community Groups were approved for funding and payments issued in 2017.

Clár Funding

- Clár Funding was received of €82,805 for three playgrounds in Co. Leitrim namely Glenfarne, McDermott’s Terrace (Manorhamilton) and Fenagh.

RAPID Funding

- Leitrim were allocated €64,500 funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development under RAPID National Programme in November 2017. This funding is for capital projects that will improve the quality of life for residents in disadvantaged areas and tackles social exclusion in urban areas or provincial towns only. This funding was rolled out to our 7 major towns in Leitrim with minimum allocations of €7000 to maximum allocation of €10,000.

- The following successful applicants were funded for projects that came under the strategic themes of Living and Well Being (C1) and Inclusion (C4) as stated in Leitrim’s Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP). They were also assessed under the seven RAPID strategic themes of Family Support, Health, Youth, Employment & Training, Community Safety & Anti-Social Behaviour, Physical Environment, and Education.
  - Kinlough Community Development Co Ltd
  - Manorhamilton Enterprise Forum
  - Dromahair Arts & Recreation Group
  - Ballinamore Community Council
  - Drumshanbo Tidy Towns
  - Brefni Youth Cafe
  - Leitrim Association for Disabilities
**Town and Villages Funding**

- Almost €1.1 Million was allocated under Towns and Villages Funding for 2017 to 12 Community Groups. The funding is for expenditure on capital and assets to improve town and village centres and also access various facilities and amenities close to towns and villages. These projects will be rolled out in 2017 and 2018.

**Traveller Interagency Group**

Leitrim Inter Agency Traveller Services Group is made up of representatives from the relevant agencies in Leitrim and from the Traveller Community and met several times in 2017 to devise the IATSG Plan 2018-2020.

There are three working groups within the IATSG: Education and Training, Accommodation and Integration and Health and Wellbeing.

The TIG supported the Pony Riding and Animal Welfare Project which took place in 2017 with 16 participants mainly from the Traveller Community.

This very successful project will be repeated and expanded in 2018 providing an advanced course for those who completed last year’s programme, and two novice courses.
Community Smoke Alarm Scheme
The Community Alarm Scheme was reactivated in 2017 with 85 smoke alarms provided to vulnerable homes in the county where there are currently no smoke alarms installed.

Under the community smoke alarm scheme, two 10 year battery operated smoke alarms (one Optical and one Ionisation) are provided to vulnerable homes in Leitrim who do not currently have them.

ENVIRONMENT

WATER PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION

The Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government issued a document for Public Consultation “Significant Water Management Issues in Ireland” on the 17th June, 2015. Ireland is currently preparing its second round of RBMPs (2015 – 2021) which will be in place by May, 2018. This document has been informed by a variety of National and EU Reports including those on water quality, drinking water quality, urban waste water treatment, bathing waters and protected habitats and species. In July 2014, the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government issued the European Union (Water Policy) Regulations 2014, which gave effect to a new, three Tier governance framework and placed new obligations on local authorities to co-ordinate the catchment management and public participation elements of the Water Framework Directive. The regulations also provide for the establishment of a Water Framework Directive Office (WFD office) to deliver on these obligations as a shared service on behalf of all
Local Authorities. Kilkenny County Council and Tipperary County Council have been appointed as the lead Authorities for this Project and will take responsibility for the WFD Office.

The WFD office will ensure that the resources are utilised locally within an integrated National Implementation Plan, based on a single River Basin District. Three Regional Co-Coordinators were appointed and twelve Water Community Officers were appointed with one Community Water Officer based in Carrick-on-Shannon serving the Border Region counties of Sligo, Leitrim, West Cavan and Longford.


Water is essential for life and for our natural environment. It is also critical to our wellbeing and our economy and provides essential services supporting people and communities, agriculture, industry, transport and tourism. However, water is a fragile resource that needs to be protected from the many pressures that are placed on it. It must be managed and used in a sustainable manner.

River Basin Management Planning provides a catchment based framework to protect our waters and develop collaborative approaches to water management that should engage all stakeholders, increase awareness of its value, protect biodiversity and deliver multiple benefits to all stakeholders.

This second cycle River Basin Management Plan aims to build on the progress made during the first cycle.

A presentation was given by LAWCO and Local Authority staff on the Draft River Basin Management Plan for Ireland to the Environment, Transportation & Infrastructural Policy Committee took place on Wednesday 3rd May 2017. The Draft River Basin Management Plan can be viewed on the Department web site http://www.housing.gov.ie/


The Border Regional Water & Environment Management Committee chaired by Frank Curran (CE) continue to have quarterly meetings. A wide range of stakeholders attends these meetings such as senior management staff from EPA, LAWCO, Waterways Ireland, Teagasc, Department of Agriculture, National Parks & Wildlife Service, Irish Water, Marine Institute, Inland Fisheries Ireland, Office of Public Works, Coillte, EPA Regional office staff, Forest Service, Loughs Agency, Geological Survey of Ireland, New Regional Resource, ESB, Regional Authorities etc.

A Border Regional Operational Committee was set up and they held their first meeting on the 27th July 2017 under the chair of Michael Mc Garvey (DOS – Donegal County Council). The membership is similar to the Management Committee but focused on staff working on the ground and developing and enhancing interagency networking, develop relationships and work together to help achieve objectives of the Water Framework Directive to benefit both the local Community and the Environment.

Leitrim County Council held a Briefing session in conjunction with LAWCO on the Proposed Areas of Action in Leitrim on Thursday 26th October 2017 to the elected members and to members of the public.
The Draft RBMP is expected to be finalised and signed off in May 2018. The DHPLG is reviewing all submissions from the public consultation process and its likely such submissions will result in significant changes to the draft Plan. RPS have been engaged by LAWCO to analysis and report on over 900 submissions made directly to the LAWCO (Local Authority Waters and Communities Office). When this report is received LAWCO plan to respond to those who made submissions and also where appropriate to discuss issues raised at the public consultations with relevant public bodies. The Regional Committees are up and running and recruitment is ongoing (by LAWCO) for additional resources to work in priority areas to be identified in the River Basin Management Plan.

**Farm Inspection and GAP Regulations**

The good management of organic fertilisers is a principal environmental concern in maintaining and improving water quality. All detailed information pertaining to the management of agriculturally derived organic fertilisers is prescribed under the EU (Good Agricultural Practice for the Protection of Waters) Regulations 2017, known as ‘the GAP regulations’ (SI 605 of 2017). While there is an onus on all to whom this legislation applies (farmers, contractors, enforcers) to have good understanding of the workings of this legislation this info-graphic is intended as an ‘at a glance’ reminder of the restrictions of the 2017 legislation.

**GAP Regulations and their background**

These updated regulations came into force on the 20th December 2017. This is the 10th Statutory Instrument regarding agricultural practice and water protection since 2005. Regulation 605 gives effect to the Nitrates Action Programme. Ireland is about to finalise the 4th Nitrates Action Programme. This is the overarching framework designed to prevent pollution of surface waters and ground water from agricultural sources and to protect and improve water quality. Additionally the following European Directives are also incorporated into the current GAP regulations - Public Participation, Water Framework, Dangerous Substances, Groundwater, and the Waste Framework.
The GAP Regulations in Practice

Farming with consideration of the environment is now the norm. This mindset is a result of legislation. Farmers in every sector and every county farm to regulation and face constraints in doing so. In Leitrim soil type, weather conditions, part-time operations and land parcel size may be the most likely reasons for breeches of the legislation. Knowledge of the regulations and their limitations are essential to compliance and minimising breeches. While every aspect of SI 605 is very relevant, adhering to closed period dates and buffer distances from significant features during the practice of fertiliser application will mitigate the most common breeches of the GAP regulations. To this end Leitrim County Council Environment Department produced an info-graphic as a quick reference guide for farmers. This document was circulated in local press, the Local Authority website and shared with other agencies.

The Closed Landspreading Season

Chemical Fertiliser  
15th September – 31st January

Organic Fertiliser  15th October – 31st January

Farm Yard Manure  1st November – 31st January

Regulation 605 of 2017 prescribe for a doubling of the buffer distance from 5m to 10m from any surface waters from 1st September (chemical fertiliser) 1st October (Organic Fertiliser) 18th October (farm yard manure) until the 14th February, that being two week preceding and two weeks after the closed period.

Leitrim County Council carried out routine farm Inspections in 2017 and two no Farms were Cross complied to the Department of Agriculture, Food & Marine (DAFM) where Financial Penalties as a % of the Farmers
Grant Payments were imposed on Farmers for non compliance with the GAP Regulations. Leitrim County Council will continue this work on farm inspections in 2018 to help improve water quality in our Lakes and rivers.

**DOMESTIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM INSPECTIONS, 2017**

Domestic Waste Water, if not managed properly, has the potential to contaminate surface and ground waters, causing pollution and creating a risk to human health and the environment. The second *National Inspection Plan (NIP) 2015-2017: Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems*, published by the EPA, aims to protect water and human health in two ways: by raising public awareness of the issues involved and by providing a framework for a nationwide risk-based inspection programme to be delivered by Local Authorities. It focuses on areas where the potential risk to public health and water resources is high and sets out the minimum number of inspections to be carried out by each Local Authority for the period 1st January, 2017 to 31st December, 2017 as part of the three Year NIP 2015-2017 three year programme.

Two staff members from the Environment Section were trained to undertake inspections on behalf of Leitrim County Council. Following successful completion of the training course, the staff members were registered as Inspectors with the EPA. Following on from the training areas were identified for inspections using the risk based approach adopted by the EPA. The Inspectors called to the houses in the chosen area in advance to meet with the householders, provide notice of the upcoming inspections and assist with any queries related to the inspection process. An Information Pack detailing the process was also distributed to each householder.

The minimum number of inspections required to be carried out by Leitrim County Council during the period was twenty-eight. A total of thirty inspections were carried out in Leitrim during the months May to October 2017. The Inspections determined if the domestic wastewater treatment system is fit for purpose and does not pose a risk to human health or the environment. Of the treatment systems inspected in Leitrim 14 passed the inspection representing a 47% pass rate on inspections completed in 2017. Advisory Notices were issued to sixteen properties representing a 53% failure rate in 2017, regarding the systems that failed the inspection, specifying the issues and the measures required to resolve the problem. The majority of failures required minimal work in order to comply with the legislation with the most common reasons for failure including unlicensed discharge to surface water, operation and maintenance issues and roof or surface water entering the system. Leitrim County Council will continue with DWWTS inspections in 2018 as per the new EPA National Inspection Plan 2018-2021 requirement.
WASTE MANAGEMENT

GREEN SCHOOLS

Promoting long-term, whole-school action for the environment Green-Schools is a student-led programme with involvement from the wider community. The programme is operated and co-ordinated by the Environmental Education Unit of An Taisce in partnership with Local Authorities and is supported by the Department of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government.

The following schools were awarded flags for work on the Green Schools Programme in 2017.

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<tr>
<th>SCHOOL</th>
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<tr>
<td>St. Patrick’s National School, Tarmon</td>
<td>Water</td>
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<td>Carrigallen National School</td>
<td>Travel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Four Masters National School, Kinlough</td>
<td>Travel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scoil Naísiunta Naomh Brighid, Kilnagross</td>
<td>Travel</td>
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<td>St. Caillins National School, Fenagh</td>
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<td>St. Joseph’s National School, Dromahaire</td>
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<td>Ballinamore Community School</td>
<td>Biodiversity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fatima National School, Cloone</td>
<td>Biodiversity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lough Allen Community College, Drumkeeran</td>
<td>Biodiversity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scoil Mhic Diarmada, Kiltyclogher</td>
<td>Global Citizenship Litter and Waste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scoil na Maighdine Mhuire, Carrick on Shannon</td>
<td>Global Citizenship Litter and Waste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drumeela National School, Carrigallen</td>
<td>Global Citizenship Litter and Waste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Joseph’s National School, Carrigallen</td>
<td>Global Citizenship, Energy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2017 Anti-Dumping Initiative**

Under the 2017 Anti-Dumping Initiative, Leitrim County Council received a grant of €25,919.83 through the Connaught/Ulster WERLA. This was an opportunity for Leitrim County Council, along with key stakeholders from our local communities, to identify instances of illegal dumping and key problem areas around the county and to tackle the problem which has increased greatly in recent times. A number of initiatives were implemented as follows;

- CCTV Campaign; problematic areas were identified, in particular a number of bring bank sites in the county and a CCTV company appointed to carry out covert CCTV surveillance. Footage was reviewed and followed up with by the appropriate enforcement actions.
• Media Campaign – An advert ran in local media as part of ‘Clean Up Month’ – to highlight the issue of illegal dumping and to increase public awareness

• Signage – Anti-dumping signs were purchased and place at areas of recurring illegal dumping.

• Major Clean ups; Together with local communities, a number of Clean Ups were carried out across the county – Tullaghan Coast/Beach, Paric Sean MacDiarmada, Glenaniff/Kinlough, MillRace River Drumshanbo.

• Electronic Equipment was purchased to assist in the monitoring and recording of illegal dumping instances

• Support provided to Tidy Towns groups for Clean Up operations

Through these anti-dumping initiatives, Leitrim County Council were able to highlight the illegal dumping problem in the county and put in force measures to identify offenders through CCTV surveillance and prosecute as necessary. Through engagement with local communities, Tidy Towns groups, GAA clubs, the clean up campaigns provided an opportunity for the local community to take ownership for enhancement of their local area and this also enhanced the working relationship between the Local Authority and the voluntary sector. Images from Clean Up undertaken at Mill Race River, Drumshanbo, Co. Leitrim

Overall the Anti-Dumping initiative proved very worthwhile to Leitrim County Council and its stakeholders, in assisting with implementation of measures through a number of initiatives to ensure the continued prevention of illegal dumping in the county.

CONNAUGHT-ULSTER WASTE ENFORCEMENT REGIONAL LEAD AUTHORITY (CUWERLA)

Leitrim County Council in partnership with Donegal County Council secured the role as Connaught/Ulster Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authority (CUWERLA). This office established on 18th January, 2016 with all positions of three officers filled by mid-March 2016. The lead authorities would have a visible presence in the field to support local authorities in the delivery of their statutory functions with a clear “boots on the ground” approach to waste enforcement. The local authorities will have responsibility for developing regional enforcement plans that would take account of national enforcement priorities and for ensuring that Local Authority Waste Enforcement Plans/RMCEI’s take the regional enforcement plans into account. In addition to risk based inspections the Lead Waste Enforcement Authorities can ensure that sufficient random checks are also being carried out in the region.

In addition, a pilot targeted packaging enforcement project was launched in 2017.
The National Waste priorities was the focus of the Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authorities (WERLAs) work in 2017 and they co-ordinated the work of the Local Authorities within the regions in pursuit of the effective and consistent enforcement of these priorities which were as follows:

- Illegal Dumping including construction and demolition waste
- Household Waste Management Compliance including Brown Bin
- End of Life Vehicles
- Tyres PRI.

**Hazardous Waste Collection in County Leitrim**

Leitrim County council held a Free Household Hazardous Waste Drop off day on Saturday 25th November 2017 at its Civic Amenity site In Mohill. It was kindly funded by Connaught Ulster regional Waste Management Office. Leitrim County Council is aware that common household items such as cooking oil, paints and detergents can be considered hazardous if not treated with proper care and consideration. The collection day was an opportunity for people to dispose of such waste items safely and for free. A total of 10.86 tonnes of Hazardous Waste was collected on the day, one of the largest collections in the Connaught/Ulster Waste Management Region. This collection was funded by the Connaught Ulster Regional Waste Management office.
Civic Amenity Sites (Manorhamilton & Mohill)

A review of the operation of the Civic Amenity Sites at Mohill and Manorhamilton was undertaken and as a result of this assessment, a number of changes to the operation of the sites have taken place during 2017.

The use of the sites will be strictly for household recyclable waste only, and no waste from the commercial sector can be accepted.

The system of collection of cash at the gate will be replaced by a ticketing system. The tickets are available for purchase in advance, in retail outlets in Manorhamilton and Mohill.

The cost for disposal of certain bulky items has been realigned to be reflective of the cost incurred by Leitrim County Council for their recycling / disposal.

Because of the high cost of disposal of Hazardous Waste such as waste paint and paint cans, these items are no longer accepted at the sites and an annual hazardous waste collection is to be organised. A Household Hazardous Waste Collection with Free Entry to any householders in need of hazardous waste disposal was held at Mohill Civic Amenity Site on 25th November 2017.

The changes were advertised in the local media and became operable from the 21st April 2017.

The operations of the Civic Amenity Sites are being kept under review on an ongoing basis. It is anticipated that more retail outlets will be brought on board in 2018 to sell Civic Amenity Site Tickets.

Ocean Clean up Week – Coastal Clean Up (Tullaghan June 2017)

Northwest Coastal Cleanups was established in 2017 and are the first Leitrim Clean Coasts Group. They did their first beach clean at Tullaghan shoreline as part of Coca-Cola Clean Coasts Week on World Oceans Day on Thursday June 8th 2017. This beach clean saw 50 plus people take part over the course of 3 hours. Vans were used to transport rubbish to a main collection point and extra supplies had to be sourced for this clean-up that brought together the whole coastal community of Leitrim. No one could have estimated the
amount of litter that would be collected by the local community who came out on the day to tackle the litter issue around their beautiful coastline.

The group worked with Leitrim County Council under an Anti Dumping Initiative, who arranged collection of the litter and recorded the amount collected as being over 1 tonne of marine litter. The cost to Leitrim County Council to collect the rubbish was €416.77.

From the outset there was a very positive engagement between Leitrim County and the Northwest Coastal cleanup committee members. Agreement was reached on the location as to where the collected rubbish was to be stored and Leitrim County Council organised the collection of same and the provision of litter pickers and bags for the group. We could never have anticipated and were pleasantly surprised at the
number of people who gave up their time to participate in the Coastal Clean Up on June the 8th. Such was the number of people who turned up and the amount of rubbish collected on the day this generated a lot of online debate and discussion on the issue of coastal pollution and the polluting of our seas. This online activity undoubtedly attracted further Media Attention and was a news feature in the Leitrim Observer on June 14th 2017.

The North-West Coastal Clean Ups, ‘Tullaghan Beach Clean’ was nominated in the An Taisce Ocean Hero Awards Category for ‘Beach Clean of the Year’. The Ocean Hero Awards Ceremony was held on 21st November 2017 at the Royal College of Physicians, Dublin.
COMMUNITY WARDENS

Our Community Warden Service, in addition to their enforcement activities in relation to litter and waste disposal, abandoned vehicles and parking offences, continued to monitor our Bring Centre and Amenity Areas and carried out regular Playground Inspections in 2017.

CFRAM’s – OPW

CFRAMs – OPW and their Consultant Jacobs Engineering are working on the development of suitable flood mitigation options regarding the management of flood risk in the Shannon River Basin District in the Leitrim area. The Flood Risk Management Options had Public Consultation meetings which took place within Leitrim on in November 2015. The Office of Public Works (OPW) is leading the CFRAM Programme in part to meet Ireland’s obligations under the 2007 EU Floods Directive, in accordance with the European Communities “Assessment and Management of Flood risks) Regulations 2010, SI No. 122 of 2010, which transposed the EU Floods Directive into Irish Law, as amended by SI No. 495 of 2015.

Draft Flood Maps went on Public Display as part of the Statutory Public Consultation from Friday 20\textsuperscript{th} November 2015 to Wednesday 23\textsuperscript{rd} December 2015 inclusive and were available at all Local Authority offices for viewing.

A Stakeholder Workshop took place with OPW/Jacobs Engineering in Athlone on Wednesday 25\textsuperscript{th} May 2016 on Preliminary Options report Stage.

The OPW in conjunction with their Consulting Engineers have Draft Flood Risk Management Plans completed. Public Consultation on the Draft Flood Risk Management Plan for the Shannon CFRAM catchment took place between Friday 15\textsuperscript{th} July 2016 to 23\textsuperscript{rd} September 2016 both dates inclusive with final adoption of plans by end of 2016.

The OPW and their Consulting Engineers are currently examining all the submissions before making the final Draft Plan which will be then due to go for Ministerial approval. Further details on the draft Flood risk Management Plans consultation process, including the date which observations or comments are required, are now available on the website:

[www.opw.ie/Floodplans](http://www.opw.ie/Floodplans)

The Shannon CFRAM Consultants continue to work hard on completing the Flood Risk Management Plans for the Shannon CFRAM areas and these are scheduled for submission to the Department of Public Expenditure (D/PER) for review (including the assessment and checking of the environmental assessments and conclusions).
It is envisaged that that D/PER will complete their review of all Plans by the end of September 2017.

The national Suite of Plans will then be signed off officially by the Commissioners of Public Works and Minister Kevin 'Boxer' Moran T.D. (subject to any final amendments as required), and submitted to the Minister of Public Expenditure and Reform for approval.

The OPW will be engaging and liaising with the Local Authorities and elected representatives as the Plans go through the above-outlined process. In the meantime, the OPW is also working on developing a public-facing website through which the recommended measures and other information around the plans and final maps will be published in due course.

The Department for Public Expenditure and Reform’s environmental assessment review of the FRMPs and (environmental (SEA/AA) documentation) is complete and any related issues are now resolved.

It's really a political issue as to when these get launched, but the formal submission by OPW to the Minister for F/PER for approval is scheduled to happen Mid-March 2018.

**HOUSING**

During 2017 Leitrim County Council’s Housing Department continued to facilitate the provision of suitable, cost effective, quality accommodation and housing support for people in need of housing. Efforts also continued to improve the social housing stock from the available funding streams provided by the Department of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government.

In conjunction with the Department of Justice and Equality and the Irish Refugee Protection Programme Taskforce, Leitrim County Council took the lead on setting up an Interagency group comprising of various relevant stakeholders within Leitrim, to embark on an ambitious programme of relocating Syrian Refugees families to County Leitrim. During 2017, 13 families were successfully provided with housing within the county and a programme of integration of the new families was undertaken by all the relevant agencies. The programme will continue in 2018.

**HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT & HOUSING ALLOCATIONS**

A total of 307 new housing applications for social housing support were received and processed in 2017. 114 offers of accommodation issued to housing applicants for casual vacancies arising within our existing Social Housing Stock. 79 tenants completed mandatory Pre-tenancy training – this figure is inclusive of 71 newly appointed local authority tenants, 7 transfer applicants and 1 regularisation of existing tenancies. Leitrim County Council and all Housing Authorities were required to complete the Statutory Assessment of Housing Need as at 28th June 2017. At the completion of this Statutory Assessment of Housing Needs, i.e. at 28th June 2017, there were 328 applicants on Leitrim County Council’s Housing Waiting List. At the end of 2017, there were a total of 348 Applicants on our Housing Waiting List.

**TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION PROGRAMME (TAP)**

The adopted Traveller Accommodation Programme (TAP) 2014 – 2018 sets out annual targets for the delivery of outputs in respect of Traveller Accommodation. The target set for 2017 was 8 outputs, 6 No outputs were achieved as outlined hereunder:

- Group Housing Scheme (Existing) 1
- Standard Local Authority Accommodation 3
- Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) 1
The delivery of 6 outputs represents a 75% achievement of the target of 8 outputs in 2017 as set out in the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014 – 2018.

In the overall TAP for the five year period 2014 -2018 the target is for 46 Units of Accommodation of which Leitrim County Council has achieved 42 to date (March 2018), this represents a 91.3% completion rate.

**New Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2023**

By the end of 2018 Leitrim County Council will have formulated and approved a new TAP for 2019-2023. This is a five year programme and will be developed in consultation with state, semi-state, neighbouring local authorities and voluntary bodies, as well as local interest organisations.

As part of the process an assessment will be made of the current accommodation situation for Travellers in County Leitrim and based on current and projected demographics a new set of targets will be identified for the five year period 2019 -2023.

**FIRE SAFETY UPGRADE WORKS AT SHANNONSIDE VIEW**

In 2016 substantial Fire Safety Upgrade Works were completed at Shannonside View Halting Site situated at Rosebank, Carrick on Shannon. These upgrade works comprised of the following:-

- Completion of a full Periodic Inspection Report (full electrical check) of all Units at Shannonside View & Completion of any necessary electrical repairs/upgrades arising
- Installation of Smoke Alarms & Carbon Monoxide Alarms in each Unit
- Installation of Fire Extinguishers & Fire Blankets in each Unit.
- Fire Safety Training was provided to all Tenants in the maintenance and use of all fire Safety Equipment.
- Installation of 2 Wall Mounted Fire Cabinets with Hose, Stand Pipe and associated Fittings on site at Shannonside View
- Supply & Installation of Fuel Storage Sheds to each Unit

**2017 Re-inspection of Fire Safety at Shannonside View**

On 30th May 2017 a full Fire Safety re-inspection was carried out by Leitrim County Council’s Assistant Chief Fire Officer accompanied by the Traveller Liaison Officer. There were a number of minor issues which had developed in the period from the last inspection and any issues identified were addressed by the Housing Department maintenance team.

**LOCAL TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (LTACC)**

The (LTACC) is a statutory body established under the Housing (Traveller Accommodation) Act 1998 to assist in the delivery of accommodation options for members of the Traveller Community. The role assigned to the LTACC is to facilitate consultation between the Council and Travellers and to advise on
any aspect of accommodation for Travellers, assist in the preparation, adoption and implementation of Leitrim County Council’s Traveller Accommodation Programme, advise on the management of accommodation for Travellers and to provide a link between Travellers, Elected Members and Officials of the Council. Membership of Leitrim County Council’s LTACC is made up of 6 No Elected Members, 4. No Traveller Representatives and 3. No Officials from Leitrim County Council. One of the Traveller representatives resigned from the committee in 2017 as he moved his family from Co. Leitrim. A replacement Traveller representative is currently being sought from within the local Traveller community. Leitrim LTACC met on four occasions in 2017. (February / May / September and December.) In 2018 the LTACC will be consulted on the formulation of the new TAP (2019 -2023)

**LEITRIM PONY RIDING AND ANIMAL WELFARE PROJECT 2017**

Leitrim Pony-Riding & Animal Welfare Project was funded and delivered by Leitrim County Council, Dept of Agriculture & Food, Leitrim Sports Partnership and Leitrim Development Company. The aim of the project is to introduce young people from traveller and disadvantaged backgrounds aged between 12-17 to horse-riding, horse management skills and animal husbandry / welfare.

In 2017 a total 12 boys and 6 girls participated in the project. The project ran for 8 weeks in the summer for 2 hours per week in Moorlands Equestrian Centre, Drumshanbo and involved 1 hour pony-riding and 1-hour animal welfare and management, with participation from the Irish Donkey Sanctuary and Leitrim Animal Welfare. All the participants that completed the programme went on a field trip to the Irish National Stud and the Racing Academy and Centre of Education in Kildare. There was a very strong attendance record for this course and great interest was shown by all involved.

At the conclusion of the programme all the participants were presented with Certificates of Achievement for completing the programme at a special night in the Drumshanbo with the students and their families present.

The programme is being extended to include three groups in 2018. Those students who completed the course in 2017 will move on to the intermediate course and there will be two new beginner groups in 2018.

**HOMELESSNESS**

The Housing Department responded to 25 homeless presentations in 2017. With the introduction of the Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) the payment of deposits to assist homeless households in securing rented accommodation is now administered by the Community Welfare Officer (CWO) of the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection (DSASP). A number of meetings of both the Management Group and the wider North West Regional Homeless Forum were held in 2017.

**RENTAL ACCOMMODATION SCHEME (RAS) AND SOCIAL HOUSING LEASING INITIATIVE (SHLI)**

The Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) and the Social Housing Leasing Initiative (SHLI) are both long term social housing supports provided through direct arrangements between the local authority and the private rented sector. In 2017, the accommodation needs of 11 households were met through new transfers into the RAS and at 31st December, 2017, the accommodation needs of a total of 116 households were being meet by RAS. In 2017 the accommodation needs of a further 2 households were met by the
securing of properties under the SHLI. As at 31st December 2017 the accommodation needs of 15 households were being met by SHLI.

**HOUSING ASSISTANCE PAYMENT (HAP) SCHEME**

The Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) is a new form of long term Social Housing Support which was introduced in Leitrim with effect from 1st December, 2016. HAP replaces Rent Supplement for those with a long term housing need. A person must be qualified for Social Housing Support in order to be eligible for HAP. Under HAP, a person must source their own private rented accommodation (within specific Rent Caps) and the Local Authority will pay their landlord directly and the tenant will pay a rent to the local authority based on Leitrim County Council’s Differential Rent Scheme. Leitrim County Council accommodated 101 Households under HAP in 2017.

**PRIVATED RENTED INSPECTION PROGRAMME**

A total of 1640 tenancies in the private rented sector in County Leitrim are registered with the Private Residential Tenancies Board (PRTB) at the end of 2017. Leitrim County Council completed 112 inspections under our Private Rented Inspection Programme in 2017.

**HOUSING GRANT SCHEMES**

Leitrim County Council provided grant aid in the sum of €392,519.90 to a total of 66 applicants under the Housing Aid for Older People Grant Scheme, the Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme for People with a Disability and the Mobility Aids Grant Scheme.

**TENANT (INCREMENTAL PURCHASE SCHEME)**

While many queries were received under the above Scheme a lot of them were ineligible to purchase their local authority house as they did not satisfy the terms and conditions of the current Scheme. A total of 10 eligible applications were received in 2017. To date 3 tenants have purchased their local authority dwellings under the Tenant (Incremental Purchase Scheme) with their applications being finalised in early 2018.

**ESTATE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME**

Our Estate Management Programme was ongoing throughout the county in 2017 and encompasses the following:-

- Tenancy Sustainment in relation to a number of individual tenancies, including participation in multi-agency case conferences and initiatives in relation to individual or particular issues
- Liaison with North West Simon, the HSE and other agencies in relation to specific tenancies and issues
- Annual Estate Management Grant Scheme - The Housing Department supports the voluntary work of active Residents Associations in local authority estates in the county under the annual Estate Management Grant Scheme. In 2017, a total of 17 Residents Associations received grant assistance under this Scheme.
- The Estate Management Programme is also supplemented by a Community Employment Scheme which is part-funded by the Council, and a Jobs Initiative Scheme, with participants making a very valuable contribution to the maintenance of the communal and green areas within a number of estates.
- In 2017 each of the three Municipal Districts were allocated funding of €2,000 to fund particular local authority estate works. This funding was utilised to carry out general estate enhancement works in a number of local authority estates.
• A Tenant Liaison Officer is employed to progress our Estate Management Programme and to establish best practice in the management and maintenance of our housing stock and to develop estate management initiatives.

• Our Estate Management Programme involves an inter-agency approach involving ongoing liaison with the Gardaí, Leitrim Development Company and other relevant agencies in order to create more sustainable communities.

HOUSING MAINTENANCE
The Housing Maintenance Team continued to respond to housing maintenance requests from tenants residing in the Council’s Social Housing Stock. A total of 492 repair requests were received and assessed in 2017.

HOUSING DISABILITY STRATEGY
The National Housing Strategy for People with a Disability 2011 - 2016, is a joint initiative between the Department of the Housing, Planning and Local Government and the Department of Health, to support people with disabilities in community based living with maximum independence and choice. The vision of the Strategy is to facilitate access, for people with disabilities, to the appropriate range of housing and related support services, delivered in an integrated and sustainable manner, which promotes equality of opportunity, individual choice and independent living. Housing Authorities, as part of this National Housing Strategy for People with a Disability, were requested to draw up specific strategies to locally meet the identified housing needs of people with physical, intellectual, mental health and sensory disabilities. To this end, Leitrim County Council set up a Housing & Disability Steering Group consisting of representatives from the Housing Department of Leitrim County Council and representatives from the HSE representing each of the above disability categories. This Housing & Disability Steering Group met on a number of occasions in 2016 in order to develop and finalise a Strategic Plan for Housing People with a Disability. This Strategic Plan for Housing People with a Disability, which is a joint strategy between Leitrim County Council and the HSE, was finalised in December, 2016. This Strategy will be rolled out on an ongoing basis with proposed scheduled 5 year reviews. The Strategy sets out an annual target that not less than 5% of all dwellings will be reserved for People with a Disability that are qualified for Social Housing Support. This Strategy will form an integral part of Leitrim County Council’s Housing Service Plan and will promote and support the delivery of accommodation for people with disabilities using all appropriate housing supply mechanisms.

REBUILDING IRELAND
Under Rebuilding Ireland the Department of Housing, Planning, and Local Government have set Leitrim County Council a social housing delivery target 2017-2021 of 167 units. In 2017 Leitrim County Council delivered 27 units of this target as follows:

• Housing acquisitions - 8 no.
• Long term voids / derelicts - 17 no.
• AHB Build under CAS - 2 no.
SOCIAL HOUSING INVESTMENT PROGRAMME (SHIP)

Taobh Tire Phase 2, Manorhamilton

Construction commenced of an additional 7 units of social housing at Taobh Tire the anticipated completion date is October 2018. Approved construction costs are set at €885,000.

Autumn View, Carrick on Shannon

The Department of the Housing, Planning and Local Government gave stage 1 approved for the design and construction of 28 social housing units (to the value of €5,493,200) at Autumn View, Carrick on Shannon. An Architect led Design Team has been appointed and work is progressing on the design of this social housing project.

Attirory, Carrick on Shannon

The Department of the Housing, Planning and Local Government gave stage 1 approved for the design and construction of 24 social housing units (to the value of €3,743,850) at Attirory, Carrick on Shannon. An Architect led Design Team has been appointed and work is progressing on the design of this social housing project.

ACQUISITION OF SOCIAL HOUSING UNITS

The Council continued its acquisition programme subject to Departmental approval and targets identified under Rebuilding Ireland 2015 – 2017. In 2017 the Council purchased 8 number houses across the county. The purchase price in each case was fully recouped from the Department. These houses will require some energy and remedial works to return them to productive use in 2018 and the costs of the works will also be funded by the Department.
Overview of House Acquisitions in 2017

The Voids Programme & Derelict Scheme Programme are aimed at returning long-term vacant local authority properties to productive use. In 2017, the Council made comprehensive submission to the Department to maximise the available funding to complete the reinstatement to useful service of void and derelict units countywide. This Council was successful in returning 17 units back to productive use under these Programmes. The total cost of these works was €252,678 and €200,684 of funding was recouped from the Department in respect of works completed under these Programmes in 2017. This now presents the Council with 17 additional productive properties spread throughout the County. This has significantly reduced the Council’s vacant properties which require extensive repair and refurbishment works. The units by area are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>No. Houses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carrick-on-Shannon/Drumshanbo</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohill</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ballinamore</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manorhamilton/Kinlough</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drumkeerin/Dromahaire</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
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**HOUSING voids PROGRAMME 2016 & DERELICT PROGRAMME 2016**

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>No. Houses</th>
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</thead>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drumkeerin</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drumkeeran</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carrigallen</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Under the Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS), in 2017 approval was received for a project led by St. Vincent de Paul, Ballinamore for demolition of derelict properties in Cannaboe Terrace, Ballinamore and the construction of two family type two storey dwellings on the site. Construction commenced in April 2017 and was complete in December 2017 at a construction cost of €253,254. The Council will have 100% tenancy nomination rights on all these CAS scheme properties from the Housing Waiting List.

TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION PROGRAMME

Leitrim County Council made a Submission to the Department for Capital Funding for a total of three projects in 2017 as follows:

- 1 No. Project sought Capital Funding for the complete Refurbishment of a Traveller Specific House. Funding was approved for this Project but the Funding approved was insufficient and this Project has been resubmitted for further Capital Funding. However, in the meantime, alternative temporary accommodation has been provided on site for the family, pending the refurbishment of this House
- 1 No. Project sought Capital Funding for the completion of Essential Fire Safety Works at Shannonside View Halting Site in Carrick on Shannon.
- 1 No. Project related to the acquisition of 3 No. Family Type Properties in the general Carrick on Shannon area in order to meet the needs of Traveller Households in the area. No Funding was received for these proposed Acquisitions.

DISABILTY WORKS TO LOCAL AUTHORITY DWELLINGS 2017

Medical/Disability related adaptation works are carried out to individual units of our housing stock where necessary to render the dwelling more suitable to the particular needs of a member of the tenant household. Typical works include, depending on the individual circumstances, installation of level access shower, installation of rails in bathrooms, installation of ramp access to front/back doors, installation of oil heating systems or storage heating and associated works.

Adaptation Works were completed in 2017 in respect of 29 local authority dwellings. A total of €79,447 was recouped from the Department in respect of the costs of these Adaptation Works.
RURAL WATER PROGRAMME

Multi Annual Rural Water Programme 2016 – 2018

The Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government introduced a 3 year Multi Annual Rural Water Programme in 2016 covering the period 2016 – 2018.

Under this Multi Annual Programme, Grants totalling €103,301 were paid by Leitrim County Council in 2017 to the following Group Water Schemes (GWS) from the Block Grant Allocation in respect of Network Upgrades Works completed by them in 2017:

- Antfield GWS
- Drumkeelan GWS
- Lismoyle / Coolcreve GWS
- Mohercregg GWS
- Drumaleague GWS
- Tarmon GWS

Also, under this Multi Annual Programme, a Specific Grant of €11,554 was paid to Carrigallen GWS in respect of works completed by them in order to improve Water Quality on the Scheme and in particular Chlorine Boosting on the scheme.

Environmental and Public Health Compliance – Breveiga Co-Operative Society Ltd. (Formerly known as Cornashamsogue GWS) – Leitrim County Council and the National Federation of Group Water Schemes (NFGWS) continued to work closely with this GWS in 2017 in order to progress the upgrade of this GWS. A Consultant Engineer was appointed in 2017 to prepare a design for the upgrade of this GWS and these design works have commenced.

Group Sewerage Schemes - In relation to Group Sewerage Schemes, works are progressing on Hartley-Cartown Group Sewerage Scheme. A Consultant Engineer was appointed to complete a preliminary design of this scheme and this preliminary design was completed in 2017. It will be necessary to re-advertise for planning approval for the proposed 3 Pumping Stations on this Scheme. The preparation of a detailed design for this scheme is currently in progress.

WATER SERVICES

Leitrim County Council has successfully completed the fourth year of a twelve year Service Level Agreement with Irish Water. An Annual Service Plan was agreed in advance and an operations budget of €4.4 million was provided in 2017. An allocation of €1.06 million was also provided to fund the Central Management Charge associated with Water Services delivery.

In addition to this a number of Major Infrastructure Projects and Minor Capital Works continued on from 2016 which, when completed, will enhance the Water Services infrastructure in the county and improve the quality of the Drinking Water produced. Irish Water have also continued to fund other refurbishment works deemed necessary on Health and Safety grounds to provide a safe working environment for all staff involved in Water Services delivery.
Leitrim County Council working together with Irish Water under the guidance of a Service Level Agreement and an agreed Annual Service Plan for 2017 continued to provide Water Services for the County of Leitrim. During 2017 there was a total of 5,525,221 m³ of Drinking Water produced at the three Water Treatment Plants in Co. Leitrim.

A dedicated Leak detection team working primarily in the Operations field continued to find and repair leaks. There were a total of 50 leaks repaired during 2017 which has substantially reduced the Unaccounted for Water within the County.

Leitrim County Council continues to operate Irish Water’s Work and Asset Management protocol through Irish Water’s Maximo System. This system is used to manage Operational Asset Management issues which arise during day to day operations. This system is also used to manage the day to day queries received from Irish Water Customers, including Water queries, Wastewater queries, New Connections queries, Complaints, First Fix queries and Contractor related issues. Leitrim Co Co dealt with 1140 queries during 2017.

Leitrim County Council with Irish Water manages agreed Water - Wastewater Sampling Plan in line with the 2017 Annual Service Plan and the EPA’s statutory requirements. This requires the management of sample taking, collection, analysis and reporting results to Irish Water and the EPA.

Leitrim County Council with Irish Water operates 3 Water Treatment Plants in County Leitrim. Leitrim County Council collected 149 Regulatory and 264 Operational Water samples from its Water Treatment Plants and Networks. The total number of parameters tested and reported from these samples to Irish Water and the EPA was 6,850.

Leitrim County Council with Irish Water operates 14 Waste Water Treatment Plants in County Leitrim in line with the Licences and Certificates of Operation issued by the EPA. Leitrim Co Co collected 124 Regulatory samples from Wastewater Treatment Plants and 232 Regulatory samples collected from the associated receiving waters – rivers and lakes. There were also 228 Operational samples collected and tested. The total number of parameters tested and reported to Irish Water and the EPA from the collected samples was 4,480.

IRISH WATER - MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS 2017

Projects ongoing 2017

1. **Rossinver and Kiltyclogher Pipelines.** The extension of pipeline works to serve Rossinver was completed early in 2017. These works together with the section to supply Kiltyclogher completed in 2016 secure the water supply to these two areas with fully treated water from the NLRWSS Moneyduff Water Treatment Plant.

2. **Moneyduff Water Treatment Plant extension and upgrade:** Work continued throughout 2017 on the Design Build of the Moneyduff Water Treatment Plant extension and upgrade which commenced in October 2016.
Electrical & Pump Services Ltd (EPS) are the main contractor on this project which is valued at €3.84 million. There have been some delays on the project and an extension of time to complete has been sought by the contractor. The date for completion is now programmed for April 2018. When completed this extended plant will increase the capacity of the plant to 5,500cum/day and will secure water supply demands in the North of the County for the foreseeable future.

3. **Manorhamilton and Mohill Waste Water Treatment Plants Upgrades.** Tendering was completed for this major capital project in 2016. In December 2017 Irish Water appointed Coffey Water Ltd as the main contractor for these works. The all in cost of these works is valued at approximately €3.0 million and works are scheduled to commence in 2017. The commencement date is set as 15th January 2018 and the contract is programmed to take one year with a further year for process proving and commissioning. Handover of the completed works is set for 15 January 2020.

4. **Drumshanbo WWTP Upgrade** - The major upgrade of this plant is included in Irish Waters 2017-2021 Infrastructure Capital investment Plan. Irish Water appointed Atkins Consulting Engineers as Employers Representative in October 2017 to undertake a feasibility report outlining options for the upgrade and extension of this plant. This report is due in early 2018 following which the planning and construction phases of the project will begin with a view to completion within the 4 year time frame of the programme.

### CAPITAL PROGRAMMES / PROJECTS

In 2017 Leitrim Co. Council received approval and funding from Irish Water for a number of Minor Capital Projects.

1. **Eslin – Mohill 8” AC trunk main replacement.** MAST Construction Ltd was appointed by Irish Water for the replacement of a 2.5Km section along the R201 at Kildoo to Mohill. These works commenced in October 2017 and were substantially completed by the end of the year.
2 **Killenna watermain extension.** Sean Quigley Contracts Ltd was appointed by Irish Water for the replacement of a 2.0 Km section pipeline at Killenna on the R286 West of Shancurry cross. These works commenced in October 2017 and were substantially completed by the end of the year.

3 **Drumshanbo, Ballinamore Carigallen and Leitrim Village WWTP upgrades.**

The works include specific improvements and additions to the various processes requiring upgrade in these 4 No. WWTP’s. Following Tendering phase Irish Water appointed RCC Engineering as the main contractor for these works in November 2017. A pre commencement meeting was held on 1st Dec 2017. The works are scheduled to commence early in 2018 with a 30 week programme for completion. The all in cost is expected to be circa €800,000.

4. **Inline UVT and Crypto Samplers.**

Coffey’s Water Ltd. has completed all works on these samplers at the WTP’s at Moneyduff and Carrick-on-Shannon. These instruments allow for continuous monitoring and reduction of the Crypto risk at these plants. A 12 month monitoring of raw and treated water at these plants to process prove the instrumentation is ongoing.

5 **Disinfection Programme - Leitrim Cavan and Monaghan**

In August 2017 Irish Water appointed Veolia on this programme which sets out to upgrade and standardise the primary disinfection and Ph control at all Water Treatment Plants in this bundled scheme which includes Carrick-on-Shannon WTP (SLRWSS) and Glenade WTP (Kinlough Tullaghan WSS.) Reports and recommendations were completed for the two WTP’s in Leitrim in 2017 and it is expected that the necessary upgrade works will progress in 2018.

6 **Energy Efficiency Programme**

Irish Water has examined in detail the Energy usage at the water treatment plant at Carrick on Shannon and has decided that a complete refit of certain pumps would yield efficiencies and has, following a tendering procedure in 2017, awarded a contract to EPS for the replacement of all major pumps at the plant and associated civil works These works will take place in 2018. J.B. Barry’s Consulting Engineers act as Employers Rep on the project which has an all in estimate of approximately €400,000. The pay back is estimated at less than 5 years.

7 **Water Networks Portfolio Programme;**

In 2017 Irish Water has appointed Farran’s Construction of Northern Ireland as the main Framework Contractor for all “networks portfolio” work in the North West and West regions including Leitrim. The networks portfolio covers all work on pipelines below ground and includes for all water main upgrades, pipeline, and water conservation measures, find and fix leaks, lead replacement, first fix etc.

**New Pipeline Works** commenced under this programme in 2017 namely;

1. Replace 1,680 meters of old 300 mm AC Trunk Main at **Mountcampbell.** Work began on this new trunk main in November and should be completed by end of March 2018.
2. Site investigation, planning and design work completed for three projects in 2017 Replace 2,270 meters of old cast iron mains at **Ballinamore.**
   Replace 4.5 Km old water main at **Corraleehan**
   Replace 2.0 Km of old cast iron watermain at **Manorhamilton**

All three projects will go to construction by the Framework Contractor Farran’s early in 2018.
**Water Conservation Find and FIX**

Find and fix is included in the network portfolio initiative and Irish Water in 2017 approved additional staff and additional funding of €650,000 in 2018 to target a 7% reduction in unaccounted for water in Leitrim in the year.

**First Fix Free customer side leakage**

Work began by the Framework Contractor by Farran’s on the “First Fix free” initiative in November 2017. Domestic customers with excessive (>5.0cum/day) usage are being offered a once off free repair. This will be ongoing and should prove effective.
VETERINARY SERVICES

SLAUGHTERHOUSES
There are currently 6 slaughterhouses operating in County Leitrim.
968 Cattle, 2490 Sheep and 165 Pigs were slaughtered in 2017.
6 Water Samples, 8 Veterinary Residue Samples and 26 Microbiological samples were collected in 2017.

SMALL MEAT MANUFACTURING AND DISTRIBUTION PREMISES
Leitrim County Council currently supervises two ready-to-eat meals plants, two approved Meat Cutting plants and one meat distributor. 54 Hygiene Inspections were carried out at these premises in 2017.
5 water samples, 143 food samples and 144 environmental swabs were sent for microbiological analysis in 2017.

DOG LICENSING & MICRO-CHIPPING
Leitrim County Council issued 1,206 dog licences in 2017 including 106 licences were issued on-line. 4 General Dog licences were issued. On-line licences may be purchased on www.leitrimcoco.ie. The Leitrim Dog Warden continues to carry out dog licensing checks throughout the county on a regular basis.

RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP CAMPAIGN
Leitrim County Council continues to support micro-chipping, neutering and responsible dog ownership in 2017. Leitrim County Council Dog Warden Service neutered 86 dogs and issued 89 dog neutering vouchers to qualifying individuals under the Leitrim County Council/ Dog’s Trust subsidised neutering programme. 151 dogs were also microchipped and registered to their owner.

STRAY DOGS
A total of 273 dogs were seized or surrendered to the Leitrim Dog Warden Service in 2017. A re-homing rate of 95 % was achieved in 2017. All dogs re-homed are neutered, vaccinated, groomed and wormed and a home-check is carried out after re-homing. A list of dogs available for re-homing is available on the Leitrim Animals website; http://www.leitrimanimals.com/

STRAY HORSES
A total of 13 stray horses were collected on behalf of Leitrim County Council in 2017. Many of these horses were abandoned by their owners on roads or public lands. 8 horses were re-homed to responsible owners and 5 horses were deemed unsuitable for re-homing and were humanely euthanised.

STRAY CATS
70 stray or feral cats were trapped, neutered, vaccinated and released under the Leitrim County Council Trap-Neuter-Release programme in 2017. 58 stray cats were re-homed under the Cat Re-homing Programme, 2017.

TRANSITION YEAR INTEGRATION DAY
A Transition Year Integration Day, organised and sponsored by Leitrim County Council was held on 16 April 2017 in the Lough Allen Hotel, Drumshanbo. The event was highly successful and was enjoyed by 126 Transition Year students. Topics covered included Responsible Dog Ownership, Road Safety, Fire Brigade Demonstration and Healthy Eating.

LEITRIM PONY RIDING AND ANIMAL WELFARE PROJECT
18 young people participated in the first Leitrim Pony-riding and Animal Welfare Project. They enjoyed 8 weeks of Pony-riding, Animal Welfare Education and a Field Trip to the RACE Academy and Irish National Stud in Kildare.

Leitrim County Council Annual Report, 2017
Leitrim County Library Service – 2017

Leitrim County Library Service became part of a national library system on February 7th 2017. Libraries Ireland provides library members with free access to over 15 million items in the 333 library branches across the country. This builds on the free Library membership initiative which was introduced in all public libraries in 2016. The service now allows members of the library to request titles and have these delivered quickly and efficiently to their local branches. Over the twelve month period, January to December 2017, there were 147,916 visits to libraries, with 80,685 items issued to borrowers.

Library Technology

Leitrim County Library Service continues to develop and encourage further digital participation, as well as providing users with alternative and flexible ways to access the endless range of online resources. Free high-speed internet access is available on public PCs in all libraries. WiFi facilities were extended in 2017 to include Drumshanbo Library, with free WiFi access now available in each of the 5 full-time libraries. The number of Internet sessions provided in Leitrim Libraries in 2017 totalled 25,095. Self-service printing was successfully trialled in Carrick-on-Shannon Library in 2017, and it is planned to roll out this new technology to additional locations in 2018.

Getting our members online

Free introductory computer classes, as part of a Digital Skills for Citizens programme funded by the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment, were held in Ballinamore, Manorhamilton and Mohill Libraries during 2017, along with one-to-one classes in Carrick-on-Shannon Library, facilitated by Age Action.

Library Event Programming

Throughout 2017, the library service coordinated an extensive programme of events, developed in partnership with local schools, community groups and public agencies. Examples include Foróige, Citizen’s Information, Leitrim Astronomy Club, Age Action, Irish Countrywomen’s Association, Men’s Shed groups and local History Groups. Irish Language Classes, Film Screenings, Computer Classes, were held in a number of branch libraries, while Craft and Games Clubs such as Knitting and Draughts met on a regular basis across the Library network.

Serving the Community

Leitrim County Library Service continues to support and encourage local community groups, by providing meeting spaces, publicising events of local interest etc. For example,

- Dromahair Library hosted a committee meeting of the local Heritage Group
- Kinlough Library facilitated a meeting of the local Tidy Towns Committee
- Ballinamore Library accommodated one-to-one mentoring sessions, co-ordinated by Leitrim Development Company

Supporting Literacy

Leitrim County Library Service is committed to providing a quality collection of books and other resources, aimed at enhancing reading skills and the enjoyment of reading and learning across all ages. Government funding was made available in 2017 to acquire additional book stock for children, family reading and literacy development which also served to complement the range of activities delivered:

- Spring into Storytime - a national initiative which brought storytelling sessions to every library during the month of April
• Summer Stars Reading Programme - a nationwide reading challenge for children during their summer holidays. An awards ceremony was held in September for all participants.
• Storytelling workshops for parents of babies and toddlers to help foster early reading habits in Carrick-on-Shannon Library as part of “Wild Words” – Carrick-on-Shannon’s Children’s Literature Festival.
• Children’s Book Festival activities during the month of October.
• Library Reading Groups and Creative Writing Groups continued to flourish in a number of our branches during 2017, with a new Poetry Appreciation Group being set up in Drumshanbo Library and a reading group for children in Dromahair Library.

Local Studies
Interest in the local history and heritage of County Leitrim remains high, as reflected in the large number of visits and enquiries to the Local Studies Department in 2017. Leitrim County Library Service is committed to supporting local history research and family history enquiries, and to collect, preserve and make available for reference any material relating to the history and heritage of the County.
A limited County Archive Service was provided by Local Studies staff on an appointment basis only during 2017.

Heritage Week 2017
Leitrim County Library Service prepared and presented an impressive programme for Heritage Week 2017, with a total of 8 events taking place in 8 branch libraries. Activities included a children’s art exhibition, myths and legends storytelling event, needlework exhibition, céili music presentations, community singing event and lectures. As part of National Heritage Week, the County Library hosted the Leitrim Launch of Cumann Ceoil Chonmhaicne, the traditional music society.

Creative Ireland
As part of Leitrim County Council’s Creative Ireland programme for 2017, the Library Service presented a number of lectures during 2017, which included a double-bill on the role of women in revolutionary Ireland, and an archaeological talk on the Holy Wells of South Leitrim. A series of drama workshops for children, also supported by Creative Ireland, took place in Ballinamore Library.

Library Staffing
The Library staff team are our principal resource, and they have embraced the new opportunities presented by the national library system with enthusiasm and consistently demonstrate their commitment to deliver a high standard of service across all areas. 2017 saw the retirement of Mary Corby, Assistant Staff Officer, a most valued member of the Library team.

Library Infrastructure:
Manorhamilton Library was selected for inclusion in a Smarter Energy Efficiency Project in 2017, to upgrade the lighting throughout the library.
Pictured in Carrick-on-Shannon Library is Tom Bruen, winner of the Summer Stars Grand Prize of a brand new bicycle.

Pictured in Ballinamore Library are participants in an Art workshop, displaying their efforts, as part of the Summer Stars programme.
Pictured in Ballinamore Library is author Nicola Kearns, with local playwright and actor Seamus O’Rourke, at the launch of her novel “The Azure Window”.

Pictured in Ballinamore Library is a group of young people who participated in a series of Drama Workshops which explored the works of Jane Austen, as part of the Summer Stars programme.
Pictured in Manorhamilton Library is a small section of the capacity crowd which attended a most entertaining International Women’s Day event, organised in partnership with The Glen’s Centre and The North Leitrim Women’s Centre.

Pictured in Ballinamore Library is Michael Davies, photographer and railway historian, who called to view the Cavan/Leitrim Railway Photographic Exhibition. Michael was the man behind the lens in many of the photographs.
Pictured in Kinlough Library are local schoolchildren taking part in an interactive storytelling “Spring into Storytime” session.

Pictured in Kiltyclogher Library are members of the Library’s Reading Group, enjoying some light refreshments and literary discussion.
LEITRIM SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

Operation Transformation Walks
Leitrim Sports Partnership teamed up with RTE’s Operation Transformation Programme and Sport Ireland and organised Sli Na Slainte 5.5km Walk in Carrick on Shannon, Ballinamore, Manorhamilton and Dromahair in partnership with the local sports clubs and community groups.
Ballinamore – 103 walkers
Carrick on Shannon – 142 walkers
Dromahair – 110 Walkers
Manorhamilton – 48 walkers
Total Number 403

O.T. Community Walks
Leitrim sports partnership have set up two community walks in Carrick on Shannon and Dromahair due to the interest and follow up from the successful O.T. walks in both location. In Carrick on Shannon we have two walks per week with on average number 24 participating at each walk and 20 people participating in Dromahair weekly walk.
Total Number 44

Sports Ability Day
Leitrim Sports Partnership in partnership with Sligo Sport and Recreational partnership, IWA and the HSE delivered a Disability Sports Ability day in Sligo for children and adults with a physical and sensory disability. On the day we had 5 children and 5 family siblings that attended the morning session and 20 adults that attend the afternoon session
Total participants 30
Sports Hall Athletics Primary Schools Programme
Leitrim Sports Partnership in association with Leitrim County Athletics Board held the Leitrim Primary Schools Sports Hall Athletics Competition which is part of a National Sports Partnership Programme. This programme involved 17 primary Schools with over 982 children participating on this programme over four days, one heat in Manorhamilton for the north Leitrim primary schools and two heats in Ballinamore. We also completed the County final in Ballinamore with 10 primary schools taking part and 265 children participating on the day.

Heat 1 - Ballinamore 1 – 6 Schools with 263 children participating on the day.
Heat 2 - Manorhamilton – 6 Schools with 271 children participating on the day.
Heat 3 - Ballinamore 2 – 5 Schools with 183 children participating on the day.
Heat 4 - Ballinamore 3(County Final) – 10 Schools participated with 265 children participating on the day.

All Ireland Final Day in Athlone - 3 Schools with 48 students participating on the day.

Total participants 982

Mohill Community School Sports Day
Mohill Community School organised a physical activity sports day for all the students in the School. The students got opportunity to select one of three activities that they normally wouldn’t get the chance to participate in. There was a choice of tag rugby, zumba dancing and circuit training. The objective of the day was to encourage students to get involved in different forms of physical activity, not just the traditional football or basketball. The activities reinforced the idea that physical activity can be challenging and fun at the same time. It was brilliant day with 371 students benefiting from the programme.

Total participants 371
Swim Camps in Leitrim

In association with Leitrim’s Irish Water Safety Committee Swim weeks are took place throughout July/August in the following locations. 669 children participated on the swim weeks.

1. Drumshanbo: 2 camps from June 27th to June 8th – 271 participants
2. Rossinver: 2 camps from 18th to 29th July – 136 participants
3. Gulladoo: 2 camps from 11th to 22nd July 64 participants
4. Keeltra: 2 camps from 4th to 15th of July – 174 participants
5. Cleihranmore: 2 camps from 1st – 12th August – 20 participants

Total Number 665

Leitrim County Council staff members on the Shannon Blueway outing

Leitrim County Council staff members completed the Shannon Blueway from Acres Lake in Drumshanbo to Leitrim Village. The intention was to introduce the staff members to a physical activity in the form of a fun kayaking or cycling outing. The day was a great success and enjoyed by all with beautiful and stunning scenery along the Shannon blueway 7k route. We were well supported on the day by three members of River mania staff, who supervised us along the route. We had 32 staff members who participated on the day including Michael Melia who tragically passed away a week later. Ar dheis de go raibh sé.

Total Number 32

Carrigallen Multi Sport Summer Camp

We held a one week multi sport summer camp in Carrigallen, where the participants get opportunity to try out different sports, Soccer, Tennis, Gaelic, Olympic handball and Kayaking on the town lake. We had 53 participants involved on the camp.

Total Number 53

Carrigallen Kayaking Camp

This summer camp was held over two weeks and was filled to capacity. The coaching was provided by Rivermania. There were 60 participants involved.

Total Number 60

Women on the Water

A woman on the Water is a 6 week Kayaking programme for women funded by Sport Ireland. The programme is taking place in Acres Lake, Drumshanbo and in Lough Rynn rowing facility. The programme
proved so popular that a second evening had to be provided in Lough Rynn. The programme commenced on August 22nd and there are 87 women taking part with a waiting list in place.

**Total Number 87**

**National Play Day**
This year Leitrim Sports Partnership and Leitrim Childcare Committee decided to send out expression of interest request to local childcare providers in Leitrim to see if they would be interested in delivering the National Play day event in their service facilities. Eivers Lane Childcare Centre in Mohill was awarded the project to deliver this initiative in their facility in Mohill. The day was well planned out and well delivered with a lot of staff members, parents and children attending the event, along with support on the day from the Leitrim Sports Partnership and Leitrim Childcare committee staff.
The activities that were planned out and delivered on for young children & their families were as follows:

- Large Bouncy Castle with slide for all age children
- Large Garden area with sand trays and messy play open to all ages
- Large climbing frame for all ages
- Face painting open to all ages
- Soft play area with ball pond soft mats and music for all babies and toddlers up to 2 years
- Outdoor games with Michelle Fanning and Pat O’Toole tutors from Leitrim Sports Partnership for all children 4 years and upwards
- Indoor messy play area with sand and water open to all ages
- Arts & crafts room with colouring, gluing, painting and drawing.
- Refreshments provided for all parents and children and treats and drinks provided to all children.

Between children and parents at we had 140 people benefiting from National Play day and the event was a great success compared to other years.

**Total Number 140**

**Kidz on the Run**
This 8 week running & fitness programme engaged Leitrim Primary Schools students and teachers from 1st Class to 6th Class. A group event was held in Lough Rynn Castle Hotel grounds with 625 students completing the 3k run and we had other group events in Dromahair community facility, Lurgan Boy woods in Manorhamilton and in some of the schools grounds that participated on the programme with another 1068 children participating and completing the 3k challenge.

**Total Number 1693**

**National Recreational Week**
As part of National Recreational week we gave funding to Foróige and North Connacht Youth Services to deliver a comprehensive range of activities for their groups.

**Foróige National Recreational Programmes:**
Young people in county Leitrim engaged positively and actively in sport and recreation activities during National recreation week 2017 (3rd to 9th of July). Activities consisted of kayaking, water sliding, archery, assault course and wall climbing engaging young people from Mohill, Dromod, Drumkeeran, Drumshanbo, Annaduff and Carrick on Shannon areas.

In total 36 young people were engaged on two separate days in fun and active activities during national recreation week. Refreshments were provided throughout the two days of activities.

Evaluations/testimonials from young people:
“The water sliding was so much fun”
“All the activities we got to do were amazing thanks so much for an amazing day”
“I got to do things that I would never get to do, I will never forget the kayaking and pier jumping”
“It was amazing”
“Everything was brilliant, I wouldn’t change anything”
“It was brilliant because it was with people my own age and class activities”

Total Participants 36

North Connacht Youth Services - The Base Youth Cafe “Sharing the Joy of Fun and Active play in the natural environment of Leitrim.

Target Group – Seldom Heard Young People from Local Authority Estates, new communities, travelling community, Tulsa Referrals and youth clubs/ Cafes (7-12 years old)

We completed the Shannon – Blueway from Drumshanbo to Leitrim Village by Canoeing/kayaking the 9k route on water. We had a 1 hour taster session to developed our technique and improve our skills before we started the 9k challenge. Along the route, we took rest and water breaks and all the children took part in fun games and activities, like, Bingo, Soccer, rounders and arts and crafts. The children got opportunity to see and use the natural environment of the River Shannon in Leitrim, they learned to respect the water, and how important it is to be safe while having fun on the water. The children also got a chance to mix with new people in a positive and fun way.

Evaluations/testimonials from young people:
“Will definitely go kayaking again on the Shannon – Blueway”
“Are there any kayaking lessons available for children during the summer holidays”.
“One of the best days that I ever had”
“We had great fun with the multi –games during the breaks on the kayaking day.”

What the children thought of the activity day??
75% of the children thought the day was excellent
15% of the children thought the day was good
8% of the children thought the day was ok, 2% no comment

Total Participants 36
Lough Melvin Angling programme
This Programme was a School /Club initiative to promote angling on Lough Melvin in north Leitrim. The programme was about educating and training students about how to fish properly using different techniques and the importance of looking after the environment, (Leave no Trace). The students also got opportunity to learn about the many different fish species founded in Lough Melvin. The primary school students were taught how to fish properly on the lake shores and in a boat on Lough Melvin by the experience anglers from both angling clubs. The programme was delivered in partnership with the two angling clubs on Lough Melvin, Kinlough & District Anglers and Rossinver Melvin Angling club, Inland Fisheries Ireland, Angling Council of Ireland, Leitrim County Council, Leitrim Sports Partnership and the two local primary schools, Four Masters N.S., and Ballymeehan (Rossinver) N.S. We had 34 children registered for the programme,
Total Number 34

Leitrim Pony Riding and Animal Welfare Programme
Leitrim Pony Riding & Animal Welfare Programme:
This 8 week programme finished in August. Its aim was to introduce young people from travelling and disadvantaged backgrounds to horse-riding, horse management skills and animal welfare. The programme was funded by Leitrim County Council, Dept. of Agriculture & Food, Leitrim Development Company and Leitrim Sports Partnership. The programme was extremely successful with a 100% attendance record by participants. 18 children in total took part in the programme.
Total Number 18

Couch to 5k
Couch to 5K is a beginners running programme which will run every Wednesday for 6 weeks with the aim of the group participating in a 5K run at the end. This programme received huge interest with over 77 participants registered.

**Total Participants 77**

**Men on the Move**

Men on the Move is a physical activity programme run by Leitrim Sports Partnership that is aimed at men over 35 years, to get them active, have fun and improve fitness levels. Leitrim Sports Partnership currently has two Men on the Move programmes running in Mohill and Drumshanbo which will run for 8 weeks. We had 13 men that registered in Mohill and 5 in Drumshanbo.

**Total Participants 18**

**Active Age Group Fit Sticks Workshop**

Leitrim Sports Partnership in partnership with Leitrim Development Company delivered a Fit-Sticks workshop for the active age groups members in Lough Allen Hotel with 71 people attending this event. The workshop is geared at exploring how Fitsticks poles can add value in fitness walking, including joint mobility, muscle strength, aerobics fitness and improved overall balance and coordination. The workshop was a great success with over 40 people buying the fit-sticks poles at the end of the workshop.

**Total participants 71**

**Nordic poles Tutor Training**

Leitrim Sports Partnership in partnership with Leitrim Development Company delivered an activator walking programme workshop for the active age groups in Leitrim. As a follow up we organised a workshop for our local external tutors on the activator walking programme and they can now deliver the programme to the local active age groups that were interested in participating on the programme. We had 4 tutors who completed the programme.

**Total Participants 4**

Leitrim’s Active Age Group programmes
Leitrim Sports Partnership completed a four week programme flexibility and mobility programme with the Aughasheelin active age group with 8 people attending, and 6 wheel chair aerobics programmes with Ballinaglera Active age group with 7 people attending. Dromahair active age group have a multi – sport and Nordic poles programme meeting every two weeks with 20 people attending.

**Total participants 33**

We completed a 3 week chair aerobics and exercises programme with the Active age groups in Ballinamore 20, Carrigallen 20 and Mohill 24 with 64 people participating over the three week programme.

Leitrim Sports Partnership facilitated a Fitsticks workshop in advance of the launch of Leitrim’s Positive Ageing Strategy. This took place in the Lough Allen Hotel, many older adult community groups were represented and everyone thoroughly enjoyed their day. We had 80 older adults that participated on the day. **Total Participants – 80**

**Sports First Aid Courses**

This First Aid course covered Patient Assessment, Wounds and Bleeding, Altered Level of Consciousness, Musculoskeletal Injuries and CPR with the use of the defibrillator. The course took approximately 6 hrs and participants received an Irish Heart Foundation Heartsaver AED certificate valid for 2yrs along with a first aid certificate of attendance from First Aid Aware. We held two day courses in Carrick on Shannon with Drumshanbo A.C club members with 10 people participating on this course and 12 people participating on the second course.

**Total participants 22**

**Safe Guarding 1 Workshops**

Leitrim Sports Partnership delivered 8 Safe Guarding 1 Workshops with 123 club and community coaches attending these workshops.

**Total participants 123**

**Safe Guarding 2 Workshops**

Leitrim Sports Partnership delivered 6 Safe Guarding 2 Workshops with 21 club and community coaches attending these workshops.

**Total participants 21**

**Safe Guarding 3 Workshops**

Leitrim Sports Partnership delivered 6 Safe Guarding 3 Workshops with 19 club and community coaches attending these workshops.

**Total participants 19**

**Ag Sughradh Le Cheile Workshop**

Leitrim Sports Partnership delivered 27 workshops in 24 primary schools in Leitrim with 565 children and 233 parents attending and benefiting from this programme.

**Total participants 798**

**Youth Sports Leadership Programme**

Leitrim Sports Partnership is delivering the Sports Leadership course in four post primary schools in Leitrim, Ballinamore (24), Carrigallen Vocational school(28) Mohill (30), Carrick on Shannon Community School (22), St Clare’s Comprehensive school (30) with 106 students participating on the programme.

**Total Number 134**
**FAI Summer Soccer Schools**
Leitrim Community Soccer Development officer organised and delivered 4 summer soccer camps in Manorhamilton 100, Carrick on Shannon 105, Ballinamore 90 and Kinlough 45 with 340 children participating on the summer soccer camps. **Total Participants 340**

**TY Olympic Handball schools Programme**
Leitrim Sports Partnership Community Coaches Paul & Pat have been coaching Olympic Handball with TY student in Ballinamore Community School, Mohill Community College and Carrigallen Vocational School over the past few weeks. All students have taken up the sport very well and Leitrim Sports Partnership is organising an Olympic Handball Blitz to conclude the programme. **Total Participants 83**

**Girls Active Programme**
The Girls active programme, a physical activity programme for Post-primary girls will be rolled out in five Post-primary schools, Ballinamore (60), Carrick Community School (34), Carrigallen Vocational School(43), Drumshanbo Vocational School(27), St Clare’s Comprehensive School (39 ), & Lough Allen College(20). **Total Number 223**

**Girls Active Festival**
All the students involved in the girl’s Active programme were invited to the girl’s active festival in Drumshanbo Vocational School. The girls got the opportunity to try out 5 different activities, Zumba Dance, Mountain biking training, Hula Hoops, Olympic Handball and boxercise. We had 68 girls participating on the first day and 154 participating on the second day. **Total participants 222**

**Get Ireland Community Walking Programmes**
Leitrim Sports Partnership delivered four walking community programmes in Carrick on Shannon, Mohill, Manorhamilton and Cloone. For a variety of reasons there is a real lack of interest and people participating on this programme. The only walks that were successful were Mohill and Cloone, with 8 people in Mohill and 6 people in Cloone. The other two walks had to be cancelled due to low numbers. **Total Participants 14**
WATER SAFETY

Learn 2 Swim a Mile Programme

The participants who participated on “the learn 2 swim a mile” programme completed the 1 mile challenge (64 lengths of the pool) in the Aura Leisure centre. On the programme we had 32 people who participated on the 10 week programme and on the day, 24 people completed the 1 mile challenge. We plan to start adults only swim club in September as a follow on to the programme.

Total participants 24

Adult Swimming Group

Leitrim Sports Partnership is an adult swimming group in the Aura Leisure Centre. The programme is on every Tuesday and Thursday evenings with 12 people registered on the programme. This group is for people who are comfortable swimmers and are capable of completing a coached training programme with the overall aim of increasing their fitness levels and improved swimming technique. The programme will be finished in December.

Total Participants 12

CE Sports Development Coaches

The 2 LSP sports coaches who coordinate and manage the delivery of the sports and recreational programmes in Leitrim Schools for the LSP have just completed coaching in 5 Primary Schools in Leitrim and all the children to participate in multi sport activities in a fun environment. In Drumeela NS we had 30 students, Fatima 70 students, Drumcong we had 100 students, Annaduff we had 193 students and Leitrim Village we had 222 students participating on this programme. Total Number 615
The Leitrim Sports Star Awards is about acknowledging Individuals performances, best Sports Clubs, Teams, Schools and Community Volunteers for their outstanding contributions and achievements to sport and recreation in Leitrim for 2017. On the night in Lough Rynn Castle hotel, we had 194 people that attended the awards night in Landmark Hotel and our guest of honour was Eric Elwood former Ireland rugby and Connacht rugby legend.

**Total Participants 194**

**Leitrim Mental Health Services Fitness Programme**

Leitrim Sports Partnership with the support of Leitrim Mental Health Services delivered a fitness initiative for service users in the Aura Leisure, Carrick on Shannon. This programme last 5 weeks with 5 participants involved in the programme. We also have programme being delivered in Manorhamilton with one of our tutors completing a one to one programme.

**Total Participants 6**

**Leitrim’s Walking Programme**

We ran 3 walking groups beginning of October in Drumshanbo, Carrigallen and Carrick on Shannon. There was no interest in the Carrigallen group so it was postponed; we had 10 participants for the Drumshanbo group and 10 for the Carrick Group. We had to cancel Carrick on Shannon programme due to numbers as well.

**Total Participants 20**

**Transition Year Integration Day**

Leitrim County Council and Leitrim Sports Partnership organized a one day integration day for all TY students in Leitrim in the Lough Allen Hotel, Drumshanbo. Over the course of the day the students participated in the following workshops, Responsible Dog Ownership, Road Safety, and nutrition, these workshops were chosen because of their relevance to all teenagers growing up in Leitrim today. It is hoped
that every student will have gained some valuable insight in these areas. We had 156 Students from five Secondary schools that attended the event.

**Total participants 156**

### Disability Programmes

Leitrim Sports Partnership delivered the following disability programmes in Leitrim:

- Ballinamore Rehab Care programme, we delivered a nutrition and exercise programme for 8 weeks with 15 people benefiting from the programme.

- IWA group programme, we delivered the Go For Life Games programme in the IWA centre in Carrick on Shannon with 13 service users benefiting from this programme.

- St Ciaran’s Day Service centre, we delivered a Zumba dancing programme for 10 service users in the day centre.

- We delivered an 8 week Zumba dancing programme with St Ciaran’s day service with 10 people completing the programme. The participants really engage in dancing and especially Zumba dancing.

- We completed an 8 week chair exercise and fun games programme in the IWA Carrick on Shannon centre with 16 people benefiting from the programme.

- We delivered a 8 week programme in the Rehab Care centre in Ballinamore with 12 adults participating and benefiting from the programme.

- We completed an 8 week Games and Dancing programme with Childhood days in the centre in Drumshanbo with 6 children benefiting from this programme.

- We completed an 8 week chair exercise and fun games programme in the IWA Carrick on Shannon centre with 16 people benefiting from the programme.

- We completed an 8 week Games and Dancing programme in the centre in Drumshanbo with 6 children benefiting from this programme.

**Total Participants 104**

### Active Age groups

We completed a 3 week chair aerobics and exercises programme with the Active age groups in Ballinamore 20, Carrigallen 20 and Mohill 24 with 64 people participating over the three week programme. **Total Participants 64**
St Clare’s N.S. – Bike at School Day
The schools organised and delivered a Bike at school day, where all the children were encouraged to cycle to school and take their bikes to school with over 50 children participating on the day along. Many Parents took the opportunity to cycle to school with the child. There was a strong Cycling safety element to the day. All cyclists at school were required to have a high visibility vest, a helmet and parental permission. There was a session entitled Bike-Check where all bikes were checked for size, brakes, gears and saddle height. Basic bike care such as oiling and proper parking was also covered. All those with bikes were given basic bike maintenance advice. The children also cycle, learned to signal, be aware of other road users cycle on the roadway, cycle a roundabout and cycle as a group. An obstacle course around school grounds tested the skills and bike fitness of everyone. A slow cycle event was one of the fun bike events. Pupils of all ages/all classes from 1st to 6th classes who can cycle could participate. All children were encouraged to bring their families also to Leitrim Glens Cycling Club’s Fun Family Cycle on the following Sunday at the Bee Park. Total Number 58

Scoil Clann Naofa – School Family Cycle
All pupils from classes 3 -6 and their families participated in a 5 mile leisurely cycle from the school in Ballinamore to Ballyduff locks on the Shannon Erne Waterway and back. All participants had to wear their cycling helmets, high-vis vests and we received Garda patrol support on the day with 78 children, 25 parents and 7 school staff completing the cycle. When the cyclists returned to the school a barbeque was provided to all involved. There was great excitement on the day and this event was very first cycle as an amalgamated school with both boys and girls participating on the day. Everyone enjoyed the day with the children and adults getting some exercises and working together and socialising at the barbeque. Total Number 110

Leitrim Glen’s Cycling Club -10k Family Cycle
The club organised a 10k family cycle around the Manorhamilton area for children and adults with refreshments for all at the finish line. On the day, we got a very small response with 11 people participating.
Melvin Cycling Club
The club held a kids fun cycling event with over 40 children participating on the day, the trip was around the Kinlough Community area. At the start of the programme, there was a safety briefing and all bicycles and helmets were checked. There were two events, one for 4-9 years old, which was obstacle course, including ramps, slaloms and limbo challenge. The second group was for 9 -12 years old completed the time trial which were timed by club marshals and stewards. A great day was had by all and refreshments were served to adults and children at the end of the programme. **Total number 40**

St Brigid’s N.S. – Schools Cycling Skills Day
The school got a community Bike week grant from Leitrim County Council to promote cycling in the school and to introduce the children to different cycling and safety skills in the school playground. All the children brought in their bikes and helmets and they got opportunity to participate in fun cycling games, like slow bicycle races, obstacle races, bike wars and fast cycle races around the playground.
Principal’s Quote: This was our third year participating in Bike week and similar to last year, the children really look forward to Bike Week. The event is well organised and well delivered by the tutors and the children bring their bikes and helmets to school. We hope to continue Bike week next year in the school and a big thank you to Leitrim County Council and Dept of Transport for the funding to make this possible, it would be one of the main highlights of the school year. **Total participants: 80**

Gaelscóile Liátroma - School Picnic Cycle in Lock Key Forest Park
The school held a 10k family leisure cycle around Lough Key Forest Park, “Rothaigh agus Cothaigh”, followed by a family picnic and refreshments. Prizes were awarded on the day and for the Bike Safety Poster Competition being held in the school all week. **Total participants: 160**

Fatima N.S. – School Bike Fun Day
The school organised their own Cycling Sports Day similar to last year with a range of different activities such as relay marathon (42km) for 5/6th classes, bike ability events, fun events, picnic in the GAA park and bicycle races. The aim of the event was to promote cycling as a healthy, safe and enjoyable exercise for children. All 62 of the pupils took part as well as staff members and parents. The parents also came out to support the cyclists and to steward the event. There were refreshments and drinks for everyone when they arrived back at the school. All participants were presented with medals to mark their achievement and there were Special Endeavour plaques for one cyclist in each class. **Total participants: 80**

Newtowngore N.S. – School Bike Week Fun Day
Newtowngore N.S. hosted a Bike Fun Day in School, the children brought in their bikes and helmets on the day. All the bikes received a safety and maintenance check to make sure that all bikes were in good working order. The rules of the roads and safety issues were discussed in the playground. In the class grouping the students participated in multiple races, like obstacle races, slow bicycle races, bike Limbo challenge and team building races. The parents were all invite to attend/participate on the day, and the day was finished off with refreshments for all. **Total participants: 60**

Schools Cycling Skills and Safety programme
Annaduff N.S Scoil, Gaelscóil Cluainne, Mhuire N.S. St Patrick’s N.S, and Aughasheelin N.S took part in the schools cycling skills day and safety programme. All the children learn the fundamentals of learning to cycle on the day. The club will continue to promote and encouraging cycling in the Manorhamilton area. **Total Participants 11**
a bicycle, from getting on a bike, to learning how to use your brakes and using your hand signals when cycling on the road etc, improved their balance and coordination. They all took part in a fun element at the conclusion of the programme, with obstacles races and slow bicycle races etc. This programme was very successful and the children, teachers and schools were delighted that they got opportunity to participate on the programme. Annaduff N.S. – 40 Children, Aughasheelin N.S. – 59 Children, Gaelscoile Cluainne – 38 children, Drumshanbo N.S. – 54 Children.

**Total Number 191**

**Leitrim Sports Partnership – Cycling Sports Day**

Leitrim Sports Partnership organised a Primary schools cycling sports day in Leitrim Village Community facility with 7 schools and 181 children attending the sports day. This event is always well attended and all the children get opportunity to try out many different cycling activities, like obstacle races, slow bicycle races, run, Limbo challenge and fast bicycle race, skills bicycle races and fun games and activities sessions for all children. The age profile for the children was from 8 -12 years old that attended the event.

**Total Number 181.**

**Total Number 971 that participated in Bike Week 2017 in Leitrim**

**Physical Activity Grant Programme 2017**

A meeting of the executive committee to review applications was held on Monday May 15th 2017.

Present:

Cllr Enda Stenson, Chairperson
Bernadette Glancy
Dennis Hardman

**Leitrim County Council Annual Report, 2017**
In attendance:
Declan Boyle
Caolinn Bruen

Nine applications were examined. Seven were found to be eligible and were approved.
The following recommendations were made for awarding of Grants:

- **Drumsna Boxing Club (Equipment)** €300.00
- **Glencar/Manor GAA (First Aid Course)** €200.00
- **Aughnasheelin GAA (Training Course & Equipment)** €200.00 & €300.00
- **Rossinver Melvin Angling Club (Equipment)** €300.00
- **Lough Key Triathlon Club (Equipment)** €300.00

**Total grants to be awarded:** €1600

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**CIVIL DEFENCE**

In January two Volunteers were sent to Scotland by Civil Defence HQ to undergo specialised training in the operation of Sonar Equipment. This additional training enabled Civil Defence to provide a more effective response to water based missing person searches. In March July and October requests for assistance from An Garda Siochana resulted in Civil Defence Volunteers assisting in three separate missing person searches. Two bodies were located using Sonar equipment during these searches. The Sonar based search system developed by Leitrim Civil Defence has now been adopted as the standard by Civil Defence Nationally. Volunteers also assisted at a number of other emergency operations during the year. The Coastguard requested Civil Defence assistance in September and October to provide assistance to Cruisers in difficulty on the Shannon. In November assistance was provided to the Environment Department during an oil spill on the Canal in Ballinamore. Assistance was also provided to the Environment Department throughout the year with lake water sampling.

Assistance was provided to a number of Community Events during the year. This assistance involved the provision of Safety Boats for water based events and First Aid services for a variety of local Community events.

Throughout the year Volunteers met on a weekly basis to refresh their skills and undertake courses both locally and at the Civil Defence HQ in Roscrea.

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**FIRE SERVICES**

**STAFF**

Leitrim County Council employs 4 Senior Fire Officers and 1 Assistant Staff Officer to run the service for the County from headquarters in Carrick-on-Shannon. Leitrim County Fire Service has 5 Fire Stations with the following number of retained fire-fighters employed as of 31/12/2017:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station</th>
<th>No. of fire-fighters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carrick-on-Shannon</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohill</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ballinamore</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drumshanbo</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Retirements in 2017
2 fire-fighters from Manorhamilton retired during 2017, namely, Bridget McGrath and Fintan McGourty.

EMERGENCY INCIDENTS 2017
Leitrim Fire Service provides an emergency response service to Leitrim and part of north Roscommon by agreement with Roscommon County Council. Fire brigades in the adjoining counties of Donegal and Cavan (Bundoran, Killeshandra, Dowra and Ballyconnell) also provide first attendance cover to parts of Leitrim. In 2017 there were a total of 252 emergency incidents in Leitrim generating 257 callouts serviced by Leitrim brigades.

BREAKDOWN OF EMERGENCY INCIDENTS BY TYPE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of incident</th>
<th>Total 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chimney</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road Traffic Collisions</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle fires</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bog / Forest /Gorse / Grass</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storm damage / flooding</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Special Service Calls</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ambulance Assist</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>False alarms (good intent)</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>False alarms (malicious)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>252</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Breakdown of incidents by type 2017
A pie chart analysis of the incidents for 2017 gives the following breakdown by incident type:

Overall the numbers of calls are very similar when compared to 2016.

Each fire brigade unit covering Leitrim responded to the following number of emergency callouts in 2017. A comparison with other years is also included.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station</th>
<th>No of inc. 2017</th>
<th>No of inc. 2016</th>
<th>No of inc. 2015</th>
<th>No of inc. 2014</th>
<th>No of inc. 2013</th>
<th>No of inc. 2012</th>
<th>No of inc. 2011</th>
<th>No of inc. 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manorhamilton</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carrick-on-Shannon</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohill</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drumshanbo</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ballinamore</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**INSPECTIONS**

Leitrim Fire Service carried out a total of 126 inspections under the following Acts in 2017, namely:

- Fire Services Act 1981 (Section 24)
- Indoor Licensing Bill, 2003
- Dangerous Substances Act, 1972
- Intoxicating Liquor Acts, 1833 and 1988
- Dance Halls Act, 1935 and 1977
- Gaming and Lottery Act, 1956
Leitrim County Council personnel took part in a regional Major Emergency Management exercise held in LCC offices Carrick-on-Shannon in December 2017.

**Training:**
- A number of LCC staff attended a Training Course for Information Managers

**Exercise**
- The exercise scenario was based around a Terrorism incident in Carrick-on-Shannon.

**NATIONAL FIRE SAFETY WEEK 2017**
National Fire Safety Week took place during the first week of October and was jointly launched in Northern Ireland by Dame Mary Peters and the Chief of Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service Gary Thompson.

Pictured at the launch in Central Station in Belfast was Alan Walmsley, Deputy CFO, NIFRS, Finian Joyce CFO, Dame Mary Peters and Gary Thompson CFO NIFRS

The theme for the week was “**STOP Fire - Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives**”. Leitrim fire service prepared a special programme of events.
A local programme of activities was undertaken in Leitrim including visits to primary schools.
MAXIMISING OPERATIONAL AND ORGANISATIONAL CAPACITY

To maximise the potential of our Human, Financial and ICT resources to optimise organisational capacity and performance and ensure high quality services and information tailored to meet the needs of all our customers.

CORPORATE SERVICES

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COUNCIL

MEETINGS OF LEITRIM COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council Meetings Held:
- Bi Monthly Meetings 6
- Annual Meeting 1
- Budget Meeting 1

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETINGS

Municipal District Meetings
- Ballinamore Municipal District Meetings 11
- Annual Meeting 1

- Carrick-on-Shannon Municipal District Meetings 11
- Carrick-on-Shannon Municipal District Special Meeting 1
- Carrick-on-Shannon Municipal District Area Roads Meeting 1
- Annual Meeting 1

- Manorhamilton Municipal District Meetings 11
- Manorhamilton Municipal District Special Meeting 1
- Manorhamilton Municipal District Area Roads Meeting 1
- Annual Meeting 1

ANNUAL MEETING OF LEITRIM COUNTY COUNCIL

At the Annual Meeting in June 2017, Councillor Finola Armstrong McGuire was elected Cathaoirleach.

The Agenda and Minutes of Council meetings can be viewed on the Leitrim County Council website www.leitrimcoco.ie

CORPORATE POLICY GROUP (CPG)

The Corporate Policy Group (CPG) consists of the Cathaoirleach and the Chairpersons of the Strategic Policy Committees, and is supported by the Chief Executive. The role of the CPG includes advising and assisting the Elected Council in the formulation, development, monitoring and reviewing of policy for Leitrim County Council. Full decision making power however remains with the Elected Council. The Corporate Policy Group met on 8 occasions in 2017.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS

Under Section 19 inserts a new Part 3A in the Local Government Act 2001 providing that every county will be divided into municipal districts consisting of specified local electoral areas. The elected members for the local electoral areas in each municipal district will be known as “the municipal district members” and act in that collective capacity for the purpose of performing a range of reserved functions of the county council in respect of the municipal district. The functions of the members at district level involve a local
policy/regulatory role in areas of planning, roads, traffic, housing, environmental services, recreation, amenity, community matters etc. County Leitrim have three Municipal Districts – Ballinamore, Carrick-on-Shannon, and Manorhamilton. Each District have 6 Members one of whom is elected Chairperson of the Municipal District.

AUDIT COMMITTEE
The Council’s Audit Committee was re-established by resolution at Leitrim County Council’s 2014 Annual Council meeting. The committee comprises 2 (two) Elected members and 3 (three) External Members. The Elected Members appointed to the Committee are Councillor Sinead Guckian and Councillor John McCartin.

The role of the Audit Committee is to advise the Council on financial reporting process, internal control, risk management and audit matters. A total of 4 meetings were held in 2017, matters considered included:-

- Statutory Audit Report for the year ended 31st December 2016
- Audit Reports on Travel and Subsistence Audit, Public Spending Code and Low Value Purchase Cards
- Protected Disclosure Audit Committee Protocol
- Risk Register
- Commercial Rates process
- Performance Indicators

JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE
No. of Meetings held in 2017 4

BYE LAWS
No Bye-Laws were made by Leitrim County Council during 2017

SECTION 140
No ‘Section 140’ Motions were submitted by the Council during 2017

MEMBERS EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payments to Members of Leitrim County Council in 2017</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cathaoirleachs’ Allowance</td>
<td>€ 20,000 (in line with National Regulations)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leas Cathaoirleachs’ Allowance</td>
<td>€ 4,000 (in line with National Regulations)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Policy Committee Chairpersons’ Allowance</td>
<td>€ 18,000 (in line with National Regulations)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal District Chairpersons’ Allowance</td>
<td>€ 18,000 (in line with National Regulations)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members’ Representational Payments</td>
<td>€298,219.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members’ Annual Allowance</td>
<td>€91,511.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members’ Mobile Phone Allowance</td>
<td>€ 3,508.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>€453,240.19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Council was represented on deputations and receptions at meetings of the Irish Central Border Areas Network, Chairpersons of the Joint Policing Committees, Senate on the Border Counties/Brexit, Purple Flag 2017 Awards, Leitrim Luton Dinner Dance, Leitrim People’s Association Dinner Dance, St Patrick’s Day Celebrations in New York and launch of findings on Brexit in Brussels.

Representatives of the Council attended a total of 8 conferences, courses and seminars and 10 training events during 2017. The total cost of these activities, together with ad-hoc expenses paid in respect of attendance at meetings of ICBAN, meeting of Chairpersons of the Joint Policing Committees, meeting with Senate on the Border Counties/Brexit, Purple Flag 2017 Awards, Leitrim Luton Dinner Dance, Leitrim People’s Association Dinner Dance, St Patrick’s Day Celebrations in New York and launch of findings on Brexit in Brussels which was made up of travel and subsistence and course fees amounted to €27,586.31 (Details of conferences/seminars/training attended by Councillors are contained in Appendices 6 & 7). The total cost of foreign travel in 2017 was €5,377.49 (this figure includes €331.08 - Dinner dance tickets for Leitrim Society of New York Annual Dinner Dance In March 2017, presentation gifts at the Leitrim New York Society Dinner Dance, Leitrim Peoples Association Dinner Dance and Leitrim Luton Dinner Dance.

QUALITY CUSTOMER SERVICE

The Council has a pro-active group of middle managers known as the Quality Assurance Group which continues to monitor and report on key Performance Indicators for the organisation which in turn are reported on nationally to the National Oversight and Audit Committee. The Customer Services Desk in Aras-an-Chontae continues to provide front-line services to the public. As part of the continued investment in improving customer services, a new telephone console system was introduced in 2016. The system is a touch-screen system operated by the Customer Care Agents and allows for an increased volume of calls to be handled. During peak call times, the system also provides the caller with the option of requesting a call back later that day by a member of staff thus reducing their call waiting time.

CUSTOMER COMPLAINTS

In 2017, Leitrim County Council received three formal Customer Complaints. Two complaints were received from the Office of the Ombudsman. A detailed response issued to the Office of the Ombudsman in response to the complaint and the decision of the Office of the Ombudsman was not to uphold the complaints.

MEDIA REQUESTS

The Designated Media Liaison Officer continued to manage media enquiries in 2017. A significant number of media requests were received in 2017 from the local and national print and broadcasting media. The Council also actively promoted news, events and announcements of funding for projects by releasing press releases and statements to the local media. Information was also disseminated via the newspaper of the Internet and there was a continued focus on communicating information via the Council’s social media channels on facebook and twitter.

LEITRIM COUNTY COUNCIL SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS

The Council continued to proactively using the social media channels to communicate with our customers and promote local authority events and initiatives. The number of followers on the Council’s social media channels continued to grow in 2017. At the end of the year, the Council had a total of 3,015 followers on facebook and 3,104 on twitter.

Social Media has proved very beneficial with the public for instant updates on the Council’s activities with it being particularly commended during times of severe weather events.

REGISTER OF ELECTORS
The Register of Electors for 2017/18 was published on 1st February, 2017. The figures in relation to the Live Register at 2017/2018 were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dáil Constituency</th>
<th>Presidential Electors</th>
<th>Dáil Electors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sligo/Leitrim</td>
<td>24,873</td>
<td>25,933</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>24,873</strong></td>
<td><strong>25,933</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>European Parliament Constituency</th>
<th>European Electors</th>
<th>Potential European Electors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midlands- North West</td>
<td>26,133</td>
<td>493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>26,133</strong></td>
<td><strong>493</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local Electoral Areas</th>
<th>Local Government Electors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ballinamore</td>
<td>9,479</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carrick-on-Shannon</td>
<td>8,643</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manorhamilton</td>
<td>8,726</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>26,848</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PROTECTED DISCLOSURES**

Pursuant to the Protected Disclosures Act 2014, Leitrim County Council hereby confirm that no request was received in the period 1st January to 31st January 2017 in accordance with the Act.

**HUMAN RESOURCES**

**Economic Development - To lead, mobilise and support Enterprise and Economic Development in Leitrim, in conjunction with relevant agencies, and ensure that our physical and social infrastructure is sufficiently developed to support this**

**Maximising Operational and Organisational Capacity** - To maximise the potential of our Human, Financial and ICT resources to optimise organisational capacity and performance and ensure high quality services and information tailored to meet the needs of all our customers

Leitrim County Council recognises that one of its most valuable assets is our staff and, against a continuing backdrop of reduced human resources and a difficult financial operating environment, the Council continues the drive to reduce costs through organisational rationalisation and restructuring and by service delivery organised in different ways with the ongoing support and cooperation of all staff.

**Recruitment and Workforce Planning**

The workforce planning process has continued throughout 2017 with a view to streamlining operational processes and to assist in making the best use of available staff resources. There were a total of 5 staff retirements in 2017 and 1 Death in Service (R.I.P.). A further 5 permanent staff members resigned during the year while 25 staff members on temporary contracts left Leitrim County Council during 2017. Recruitment activity also continued to be significant however with 32 recruitment competitions completed to fill a range of vacancies arising and a total of 25 new staff joining Leitrim County Council on either permanent or temporary contracts during the year. Following detailed Business Improvement Reviews
BIRs in the Environment, Planning and Finance functions a range of actions were implemented to deliver efficiencies in the respective areas.

Staff Profile at 31/12/17 – 323

Staff Learning & Development
The Performance Management and Development System (PMDS) for staff continued to be closely linked to the Annual Service Delivery Plan as adopted by the Members, and the associated Departmental Team Plans, in 2017. The national Competency Framework, aimed at developing a competency-based approach to performance development within the local government sector, continued to be implemented at senior and middle management levels as part of the PMDS process in 2017. The Council was re-accredited as an Engineers Ireland Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Accredited Employer in 2017, following a detailed review audit and assessment. A comprehensive Learning and Development Plan was implemented in 2017 which is complemented by the expansion of the Staff Education Scheme, providing support to staff members pursuing further education opportunities. 32 Staff are also availing of our Mentoring Programme, providing staff with the opportunity to avail of the advice, assistance and support of more senior staff in
relation to aspects of their work and/or career development. The Council’s Service Level Agreement for the provision of an Employee Assistance Programme was renewed for 2017 and is due for review in 2018.

The Council’s HR Management System – CORE HRM - provides an integrated end to end modular IT solution. Current Core HRM System Modules include Personnel Management, Superannuation, Training, Payroll, Time & Attendance, Recruitment and Business Intelligence Reporting. Employees can access their individual employment records, pension calculator, online payslips, training details and submit leave requests etc with significant automation while the manager dashboard supports approvals, automated reminders and team analytics. Additional modules have been developed at national level with the Safety Management System Module installed in late 2017 and scheduled for roll-out in early 2018 and the PMDS module scheduled to be rolled out during 2018. The Service Level Agreement with the Local Authority Shared Payroll & Superannuation Centre in Portlaoise – MyPay – continued to operate successfully during 2017.

**Quality Customer Services**

**Freedom of Information**

Activity under the Freedom of Information legislation continued to increase significantly (15% increase) in 2017 with 99 FOI requests received. This compares to 86 requests in 2016, 52 in 2015 and 18 in 2014 and reflects increasing activity, particularly by journalists (53% of 2017 requests), since the introduction of the FOI Act 2014 in November 2014 and the associated abolition of fees. 93 of the 2017 FOI requests related to non-personal employment information. 93 FOI Requests were determined during 2017, including 2 requests carried forward from 2016, with a further 3 requests withdrawn during the year – 61 of these FOI requests were granted, 22 part-granted and 10 refused. 5 Freedom of Information requests were live awaiting decision at year end.

The Council’s Model Publication Scheme is published on www.leitrimcoco.ie in line with the provisions of Section 8 of the 2014 Act. The Scheme is designed to facilitate the provision of information to the general public to the greatest extent possible and gives extensive information regarding the Council’s activities and functions. The Scheme also includes a Disclosure Log of all decisions made in relation to non-personal Freedom of Information requests received, updated on a quarterly basis.

**Higher Education Grants**

Leitrim County Council continues to process Higher Education Grants for students who are currently in receipt of a student grant from Leitrim County Council and who are progressing to the next year of the same course, until such time as those students have completed their current courses. All new applications, including applications from existing students changing courses or progressing to new courses, are made online to SUSI (Student Universal Support Ireland).

Expenditure on Higher Education Grants in 2017 was €14,985 broken down as follows: €6,000 (Fees), €7,057 (Ordinary Maintenance) and €1,928 (Special Rate of Maintenance Grant). A total of 1 renewal application was received as at 31st December 2017 and this application was approved grant assistance for the 2017/18 academic year.
**FINANCE**

In 2016, Leitrim County Council again returned a surplus and succeeded in reducing the cumulative general revenue deficit to €266,479. This was supported in part, by higher than expected levels of income from the NPPR (Non Principal Private Residence Charge) in 2016.

**MOTOR TAXATION**

During 2016 a total of 38,448 vehicle licence transactions were processed for Leitrim which represented a 2% decrease on 2015 transactions. The details are as follows:

- Motor tax counter transactions – 14,753 (38.37%)
- Motor tax postal transactions  - 2,546 ( 6.62% )
- Online transactions  - 21,149 (55.01%)

The online motor tax service allows customers to renew their Motor Tax 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, through the website www.motortax.ie.

**PROCUREMENT**

The public procurement process spans the whole project life cycle, from definition of need through to the end of the useful life of an asset or the end of a contract. In 2016, Leitrim County Council developed a Corporate Procurement Strategy and Action Plan and established a Procurement Unit to ensure value for money and compliance in the procurement of works, goods and services within Leitrim County Council.

This Unit will collaborate with the Office of Government Procurement to maximise the use of national frameworks and engage with the small and medium size business sector within County Leitrim to raise awareness of public sector procurement requirements and build capacity within the sector to facilitate effective procurement and competition locally.

**MOTOR TAXATION**

During 2017 a total of 38,206 vehicle licence transactions were processed for Leitrim which represented a 0.6% decrease on 2016 transactions. The details are as follows:

- Motor tax counter transactions – 13,628 (35.67 %)
- Motor tax postal transactions  - 2,050 (5.37 %)
- Online transactions  -22,528(58.96%)

The online motor tax service allows customers to renew their Motor Tax 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, through the website www.motortax.ie.

**PROCUREMENT RATES REVALUATION 2017**

Rates Revaluation 2017

The revaluation of all commercial and industrial properties in Leitrim was completed in 2017. The purpose of a revaluation is to bring more equity, uniformity, fairness and transparency into the local authority rating system. Following revaluation there will be a much closer relationship between the rental value or valuation of a property and its commercial rates liability.

The new valuations were published in September, 2017 and come into effect for rating purposes from 1st January, 2018.
INFORMATION COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (ICT)

In February 2017, the management team of the Council adopted its ICT strategy which sets out the vision for ICT from 2017 to 2020. The strategy reflects the business aims and objectives of the Council and the Council will continue to develop its use of ICT to provide public services in a dynamic and challenging environment.

The ICT department, in a substantial investment, completed a major Wide Area Network upgrade across all our sites in the county. The upgrade, built on EIR infrastructure, resulted in the decommissioning of obsolete and end of life equipment and technology, and has led to dramatic improvements and increased speeds to central services for all staff around the county. We also replaced outdated networking and telephony equipment in the Aras headquarters and in campus buildings in Carrick on Shannon thus proofing our network for the foreseeable future.

ICT replaced the Council’s entire fleet of multi function printers in a new contract with Datapac Ltd. All sites now have top of the range printing, scanning and copying devices thus increasing speeds and functionality for all users. During a time of widespread cyber security attacks, the Council installed and implemented a comprehensive anti-virus and anti-malware solution to safeguard the organisation’s electronic data security. This is part of our ongoing development and review of systems to ensure data integrity, security and availability.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Leitrim County Council has implemented a robust Safety Management System spanning all areas of the organisation. The harmonisation of these policies and procedures strengthens our approach in the management of health & safety, ensuring that all staff, contractors and members of the public are considered and protected from risk to safety and health.

Safety inspection rates significantly increased in 2017 demonstrating our commitment to monitor and review safety practices. Other highlights included the upgrading and expanding of the Lone Working System, the facilitation of on-site Health Screening and the development of the Health & Safety Portal.
APPENDIX 1 – STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 2017

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT STATEMENT) FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2017

The income and expenditure account statement brings together all the revenue-related income and expenditure. It shows the surplus/deficit for the year. Transfers in/out 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing &amp; Building</td>
<td>4,189,932</td>
<td>3,597,291</td>
<td>592,641</td>
<td>720,646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roads Transportation &amp; Safety</td>
<td>12,676,746</td>
<td>9,863,513</td>
<td>3,013,233</td>
<td>3,034,234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Services</td>
<td>3,528,454</td>
<td>3,455,303</td>
<td>73,051</td>
<td>136,015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development Management</td>
<td>3,543,010</td>
<td>1,400,730</td>
<td>2,142,282</td>
<td>2,070,597</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Services</td>
<td>4,115,547</td>
<td>1,133,286</td>
<td>2,982,251</td>
<td>3,045,453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation &amp; Amenity</td>
<td>3,039,718</td>
<td>325,036</td>
<td>2,714,682</td>
<td>2,616,447</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, Education, Health &amp; Welfare</td>
<td>496,003</td>
<td>269,839</td>
<td>226,164</td>
<td>172,129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Services</td>
<td>3,124,027</td>
<td>1,887,286</td>
<td>1,236,742</td>
<td>1,416,973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenditure/Income</td>
<td>34,713,437</td>
<td>21,360,342</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Net cost of Divisions to be funded from Rates & Local Property Tax
- Rates: 13,363,096
- Local Property Tax: 5,243,704
- Pension Related Deduction: 8,868,515
- Total: 27,675,315

Surplus/(Deficit) for Year before Transfers
1. Surplus/(Deficit) for Year before Transfers 836,923
2. Surplus/(Deficit) for Year before Transfers 815,563

Transfers from/to Reserves
- 14. Transfers from/to Reserves (834,540)
- 15. Transfers from/to Reserves 242,079
- 16. Overall Surplus/(Deficit) for Year 2,374
- 17. Overall Surplus/(Deficit) for Year 1,087,642

General Reserve @ 1st January 2017
- 18. General Reserve @ 1st January 2017 (286,480)
- 19. General Reserve @ 1st December 2017 (132,122)

** Unaudited figures subjected to change
### Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet) at 31st December, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fixed Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operational</td>
<td>106,610,831</td>
<td>194,491,661</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructural</td>
<td>734,410,817</td>
<td>734,172,098</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community</td>
<td>5,120,236</td>
<td>4,792,283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Operational</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>846,141,884</strong></td>
<td><strong>843,457,941</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Work in Progress and Preliminary Expenses</strong></td>
<td>2,696,196</td>
<td>3,692,497</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Long Term Debtors</strong></td>
<td>6,489,792</td>
<td>6,867,143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stocks</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade Debtors &amp; Prepayments</td>
<td>5,510,631</td>
<td>5,850,671</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Investments</td>
<td>14,210,037</td>
<td>8,681,622</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash at Bank</td>
<td>4,397,836</td>
<td>7,300,066</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash in Transit</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>24,635,553</strong></td>
<td><strong>21,612,558</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Liabilities (Amounts falling due within one year)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Overdraft</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creditors &amp; Accruals</td>
<td>3,980,401</td>
<td>8,949,437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,960,491</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,898,374</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Current Assets / (Liabilities)</strong></td>
<td>20,052,352</td>
<td>14,693,122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Creditors (Amounts falling due after more than one year)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans Payable</td>
<td>11,411,555</td>
<td>6,951,370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance Leases</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refundable deposits</td>
<td>3,034,573</td>
<td>3,028,748</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>14,446,128</td>
<td>9,970,118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>859,915,691</td>
<td>855,300,495</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Represented by**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capitalisation Account</td>
<td>846,141,884</td>
<td>843,457,941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income WP</td>
<td>7,597,526</td>
<td>3,142,256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specific Revenue Reserve</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Revenue Reserve</td>
<td>(264,105)</td>
<td>(260,483)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Balances</td>
<td>7,131,386</td>
<td>11,966,777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>859,915,691</strong></td>
<td><strong>855,300,495</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Reserves**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Unaudited figures subjected to change**
Membership of Committees following the Annual Meeting of Leitrim County Council held on 6\textsuperscript{th} June 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Border, Midland and Western Regional Assembly</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Justin Warnock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Frank Dolan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Ballinamore/Ballyconnell Joint Drainage Committee</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Paddy O’Rourke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Caillian Ellis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor John McCartin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Gerry Dolan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Caroline Gildea co-opted in place of Councillor Martin Kenny on 14\textsuperscript{th} March 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Association of Irish Local Government</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>will be voting delegates at the Association of Irish Local Government Annual Conference and will also be the permanent delegates to the Standing Policy of the Association of Irish Local Government for the full five year term</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Councillor Sean McGowan elected 26\textsuperscript{th} June 2015 to replace Councillor Mary Bohan |
| Councillor Sinead Guckian                      |
| Councillor Paddy O’Rourke elected 7\textsuperscript{th} March 2016 to replace Councillor John McCartin |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Local Authority Members Association</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Sean McGowan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>PEACE III Partnership</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Mary Bohan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Sean McDermott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Brendan Barry</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Leitrim County Enterprise Fund Limited</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Felim Gurn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Justin Warnock</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Irish Central Border Areas Network</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Sean McDermott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Paddy O’Rourke elected 26\textsuperscript{th} June 2015 to replace Councillor Caillian Ellis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Cathaoirleach is an ex-officio member.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Limited</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Mary Bohan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Drugs Task Force</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim Training Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Community Development Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governing Body of The NUI Galway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Advisory Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lough Oughter and Gowna and River Erne Drainage Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western River Basin District Advisory Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Western River Basin District Advisory Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shannon River Basin District Advisory Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Forum West</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Councillor Caillian Ellis  
| Councillor Felim Gurn  
| Councillor Finola Armstrong-McGuire  

**County Leitrim Local Sports Partnership**

| Councillor Enda Stenson  
| Councillor Frank Dolan  
| Councillor Caillian Ellis  

**Audit Committee**

| Councillor Sinead Guckian  
| Councillor John McCartin  

**Disability Advisory Group**

| Councillor Felim Gurn  
| Councillor Finola Armstrong-McGuire  
| Councillor Des Guckian  

**Leitrim Joint Policing Committee**

| Councillor Sinead Guckian  
| Councillor Mary Bohan  
| Councillor Justin Warnock  
| Councillor Caillian Ellis  
| Councillor Des Guckian  
| Councillor Brendan Barry  
| Councillor Padraig Fallon  
| Councillor Finola Armstrong-McGuire  
| Councillor Sean McDermott  
| Councillor Enda Stenson  
| Councillor Felim Gurn  
| Councillor Gerry Dolan  
| Councillor John McCartin  

**Tourism Alliance**

Cllr Felim Gurn – Manorhamilton Municipal District - appointed 15th Sept 2014  
Cllr Finola Armstrong McGuire – Carrick Municipal District - appointed 8th Sept 2014  
Cllr Caillian Ellis – Ballinamore Municipal District – appointed 7th October 2014  

**1916 Centenary Committee**

Cllr Sean McDermott- Manorhamilton Municipal District - appointed 15th Sept 2014  
Cllr Sinead Guckian – Carrick Municipal District – appointed 8th Sept 2014  
Cllr Paddy O’Rourke – Ballinamore Municipal District – appointed 7th October 2014  
Cllr Brendan Barry – Ballinamore Municipal District – appointed 2nd March 2015  

**Steering Committee on Comhairle na nOg**

Councillor Paddy O’Rourke appointed 26th June 2015 Annual Meeting  

**Board of Arigna Enterprise Fund Ltd.**

Councillor Brendan Barry appointed 25th April 2016 at Ballinamore Municipal District Meeting
Peace IV Committee
Councillor Justin Warnock - Manorhamilton MD. Appointed 15th February 2016
Councillor Enda Stenson - Carrick-on-Shannon MD Appointed 14th March 2016
Councillor Gerry Dolan - Ballinamore MD. Appointed 22nd February 2016
### APPENDIX 4 - DETAILS OF CONFERENCES/ SEMINARS ATTENDED BY THE ELECTED MEMBERS OF LEITRIM COUNTY COUNCIL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Details of the Conference/Seminar</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>No of Members attending</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>Celtic Conferences - Constituents Tax Entitlements &amp; Reliefs</td>
<td>Cork</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Celtic Conferences - The Fair Deal Scheme</td>
<td>Louth</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tourism Conference</td>
<td>Wexford</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Celtic Conferences - What Does a Hard BREXIT mean for Ireland</td>
<td>Louth</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>Sean MacDiarmada Summer School 2017</td>
<td>Leitrim</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>The Fair Deal Scheme</td>
<td>Louth</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>Celtic Conferences - A Practical Guide to Budget 2018</td>
<td>Cork</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Celtic Conferences - Audit Committees in the Irish Local Government System</td>
<td>Louth</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No Conferences/Seminars were attended by Elected Members during the following months: January, April, May, July, August, September and October 2017.
### APPENDIX 5 – DETAILS OF TRAINING EVENTS ATTENDED BY THE ELECTED MEMBERS OF LEITRIM COUNTY COUNCIL IN 2017

#### Appendix 7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Details of Training Events</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>No of Members attending</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>Association of Irish Local Government – Module 1 – National Planning Framework Ireland 2040</td>
<td>Waterford</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Association of Irish Local Government Annual Conference – “An up and coming Ireland – Looking forward”</td>
<td>Clare</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Local Authority Members Association Spring Training Seminar</td>
<td>Meath</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>Association of Irish Local Government – Module 2 From Plans to Action - Community Development Initiatives Urban and Rural</td>
<td>Mayo</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>Association of Irish Local Government - “Rating Powers Reform and Revaluations”</td>
<td>Donegal</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Association of Irish Local Government - Wellbeing for Councillors</td>
<td>Cork</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Local Authority Members Association Autumn Seminar – “Waste Management Better Energy”</td>
<td>Tipperary</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>Association of Irish Local Government - Autumn Seminar – “BREXIT – Concerns for Local Government”</td>
<td>Sligo</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>Association of Irish Local Government -</td>
<td>Monaghan</td>
<td>2</td>
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No Training Events were attended by Elected Members during the following months: January, March, July, August, or December 2017.
## APPENDIX 6- CORPORATE PLAN ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2017

### Corporate Plan-Annual Progress Report 2017

This report is being presented to the Council in accordance with the requirements of Section 134 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended. The report sets out in summary fashion progress made in relation to commitments set down in the Council’s Corporate Plan for the period 2014-2019. The report specifically highlights the progress made during 2017 and follows the same format as the Corporate Plan itself.

### Economic Development

The Council continued to carry out an extensive range of work on promoting Leitrim as a strong location for economic development and facilitating infrastructure and other supports to encourage economic development during 2017. This was carried out through targeted infrastructure provision, proactive forward planning and active marketing and collaboration with other agencies. In addition, a number of applications were submitted for funding around business and Diaspora related activity.

The High Level Advisory Group met in September, 2017 in Drumshanbo and ensures on-going support and engagement of Leitrim connected people in Dublin and elsewhere as well as key local business people.

The Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) and the SPC responsible for Economic Development commenced work on implementing some of the projects contained in the Local Economic Community Plan (LECP). Following joint consultations in several locations across the county, the Leitrim Local Development Strategy was finalised and recommended for submission by the LCDC. Approval for the LDS was received in July and a contract was signed with the Department of Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht between the LCDC, Leitrim County Council and Leitrim Development Company in July.

### SICAP

The current SICAP Programme is ongoing and this programme will finish at the end of the current year. Following a tender process and evaluation Leitrim Development Company were awarded the contract as Service Provider for SICAP 2018-2022 and the contract has been signed. As regards the 2017 SICAP programme a total budget of €524,650.00 was provided.

### LEO Competitive Fund:

Two programmes were rolled out under this scheme during 2017 across the USEFE region.

1. **Creative Connections**: a project across the region to replicate the model of Leitrim Design House across the USEFE region in 2017 with a budget of approximately €70,000.
2. **Graduate Internship for Entrepreneurship Programme**: A strategic graduate placement programme across the USEFE the region with a budget of approximately €146,000

The Council continued to facilitate a Renewable Energy Group comprising additional agencies such as SEAI, NWRA, LDC, UCD and businesses involved in the renewable energy sector.

### Renewable Energy Group:

The Group, chaired by the Chief Executive, met in June and September. The areas of interest for the group are developments across solar, wind and biomass. The group are also the Stakeholder Group for the SECURE project and will be advising on ways of promoting energy efficiency to the wider community.

### Purple Flag

**Purple Flag**: The Economic Development Unit co-ordinated the renewal application for Carrick on Shannon to retain Purple Flag Status – which is a standard for a vibrant, well-managed evening and night time economy. The formal launch of achieving the Purple Flag standard took place in January, 2017.

### Town Team:

Work continued on the development of a structured Town Team approach in Carrick on Shannon.

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CCTV: Work on the Garda Commissioner Approval submission was completed in November and approval for the Scheme was achieved in early December, 2017.

Similar Town Groups in Ballinamore, Drumkerrin, Carrigallen and Drumshanbo identified a priority project under the Town and Village Scheme which resulted in a total of 12 successful projects in the Town and Village scheme which resulted in over a €1.1 million investment in Leitrim.

The REDZ Programme secured in 2016 for the Taste Leitrim Initiative has been progressing well, the Youth Education Programme around healthy eating, preparing your own food and nutrition worked well over the course of the year with significant numbers of disadvantaged youth engaging in the programme in Mohill. Four Taste Leitrim Food Events took place around the county in Carrick on Shannon, Mohill, The Organic Centre, Rossinver and The Food Hub, Drumshanbo. The capital investment in the Food Hub Food Experience is almost complete.

The Local Enterprise Office continued to provide supports to start up and expanding businesses throughout 2017. A total of 24 grants were awarded under the Financial Supports Programme, and the LEO Office continued to deliver a host of training, networking and mentoring supports, targeting areas such as Lean Manufacturing and Brexit.

LEO Leitrim hosted an Enterprise Week in March with 10 events, as well as hosting Women in Business networking event On National Women’s Enterprise Day in October and a joint Women in Enterprise networking event with LEO Longford in December. The Leitrim Business Network continues to meet quarterly. A total of 300 students (from 10 national schools) and 180 students (from 6 secondary schools) participated in Student Enterprise Programmes with Carrigallen Vocational School winning the Innovation prize in the Junior category at National level. LEO Leitrim also delivers a programme to National School children in Leitrim. LEO Leitrim supported clients to attend Showcase and the Ploughing Championships.

LEO Leitrim continues to deliver national LEO programmes including Ireland’s Best Young Entrepreneur Programme, and the newly announced in 2017 LEO Innovation Investment Fund (LIIF) as well as the two LEO Competitive Funds Programmes of Graduate Internship for Enterprise and Creative Connections. LEO Leitrim is also working on two Erasmus Programmes – WISE and Smart Regions Smart Data, with partners in Northern Ireland and Europe as well as Co-Innovate with Northern Ireland and Scotland. LEO Leitrim continues to deliver the Taste Leitrim Initiative, having launched the 5 year strategy in early 2017 and a Food Strategy Steering Group has also been established.

The Sustainable Energy Communities Project in Mohill continues to be delivered in 2017, with an Energy Awareness Day taking place in June and funding received under the Better Energy Communities programme. LEO Leitrim also support Leitrim Design House and work with the Arts Office in the delivery of SPARK (Artist in Residence) and The Creative Frame programmes.

Recreation and Amenity

Leitrim County Council has worked actively with Community Groups, Town Teams and various stakeholders in the pursuit of funding and delivery of key projects for the county under the Town and Village Schemes, The Clár Programme, REDZ and Rural Recreation. The Council will continue to prioritise the development of recreation and amenity infrastructure within the county as a means to support economic development and in particular, support the ongoing development of our tourism product. Details of scheme funding and areas of concentration are detailed at Appendix 1.

Infrastructural Development
Non National Roads Network
The Non-National Roads Budget for 2017 was €7.3m. While this was a decrease on the 2016 Budget of €8.3m, it should be noted that the 2016 Budget included €2.0m for works on roads damaged as a result of storms in December, 2015. A total of 38km of non national roads were surface dressed in 2017 and a total of 60km of non national roads were strengthened in 2017.

- Safety Improvement Works under the Low Cost Safety Improvement Works Programme were completed at a total of 9 locations in the county.
- Bridge Improvement Works under the Bridge Rehabilitation Grant Programme were completed at a total of 7 Bridges throughout the county.

The Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) Programme received funding from the Department of Rural and Community Development in 2017 amounted for €487,947. The Council has a LIS Waiting List of approximately 205 applicants and the 2017 Allocation will allow approximately 20 of these LIS Projects to be completed.

- Leitrim County Council introduced a Community Hedge Cutting Grant Scheme for the first time in 2017. A total of 7 applicants were approved for grant assistance under this Scheme in 2017.
- Declaration of Public Roads - A total of 6 Private Roads in 6 Housing Estates were declared public roads in 2017.
- The Council continued to support the Tidy Towns Committees across the county with a workshop for all in April 2017, financial support through the GMA and assistance from the area structures on an ongoing basis.

National Roads Network
In terms of our National Road network, a total allocation of €1.8m was received from Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) for improvement and maintenance works on National Roads in 2017. Improvement Works completed under this Programme include the following:-

- **Realignment of 2km section of the N16 from Cornacloy to Sradrine Phase 2** – The construction of Phase 2 of the N16 Cornacloy to Sradrine Realignment Scheme was completed in 2017. Works have commenced on the extension of the Greenway as part of these works.
- **Realignment of 1.4km section of N16 at Drummahan** – This realignment scheme received planning approval in 2017. Detailed design and associated documents for this construction contract will be completed in 2018.
- **Leitrim County Council will continue to pursue funding for similar such re-alignment schemes on the N16 including a proposed scheme at Munakill** which it is hoped to seek planning approval for this in 2018.
- **Provision of 2 Lay-By’s on the N4 Dromod Roosky ByPass** – The provision of 2 Lay-By’s on the N4 Dromod Roosky ByPass was completed in 2017.
- **Leitrim County Council received approval from the TII in 2017 to commence pavement design for Overlay’s on National Primary Roads at the following locations:**
  - N4 Jamestown to Drumsna
  - N4 Carrick on Shannon – Attynfinlay Roundabout to County Boundary at Coffey’s Roundabout
  - N16 Shanvaus to Manorhamilton

Surveys in respect of these proposed overlays commenced in November. The progression of these Schemes to construction phase will be subject to funding approval from the TII.
Speed Limit Review
Following the publication of new Guidelines for Setting and Managing Speed Limits in Ireland by the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport, a review of Speed Limits on both National and Non-National Roads commenced in Leitrim.

Road Safety
The County Leitrim Road Safety Plan 2016 – 2020 was published in 2016. The Road Safety Working Together Group met on two occasions in 2017 in order to review the objectives set out in this Plan.

OPW Flood Relief Scheme
OPW Minor Flood Relief Scheme
In 2016, Leitrim County council received funding of €47,700 in respect of Flood Relief Works at Mountcampbell. These Flood Relief Works at Mountcampbell were completed in 2017.

In 2017, Leitrim County Council received funding for 2 Minor Flood Relief Projects under this Scheme. Details as follows:-

- Flood Relief Works at Rossinver – Funding of €59,600
- Flood Relief Works at Dromore/Carrigeen, Dromahair – Funding of €8,116

OPW Captial Flood Relief Scheme – Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAMS)
Flood Relief Works at Leitrim Village – Leitrim County Council made an application to the OPW in 2017 to carry out Flood Defence Works as detailed in the CFRAMS Project for Leitrim Village.

Rural Water
Under this Multi Annual Programme, an allocation of €90,000 was received by Leitrim County Council in 2017 under the Block Grant Allocation in respect of Network Upgrades completed to Group Water Schemes.

Environmental and Public Health Compliance – Breveiga Co-Operative Society Ltd. (Formerly known as Cornashamsogue GWS) – Leitrim County Council continued to work closely with this GWS in 2017 in order to progress the upgrade of this Scheme.

Group Sewerage Schemes - In relation to Group Sewerage Schemes, works are progressing on Hartley-Cartown Group Sewerage Scheme. A Consultant Engineer was appointed to complete a preliminary design of this scheme and this preliminary design was completed in 2017. It will now be necessary to re-advertise for planning approval for the proposed three Pumping Stations on this Scheme.

Water Services
Leitrim County Council continues to work with Irish Water under the existing Service Level Agreement to manage, maintain and improve water services infrastructure within the county. The following schemes were progressed by Irish Water in 2017;

- The North Leitrim Regional Water Supply Scheme Phase II Contracts 3a Moneyduff Water Treatment Plant extension currently under construction in 2017 and will be completed in April, 2018. The increased treatment capacity will ensure supplies in the North Leitrim Area for the next 10-12 years. The total estimated cost of €8.076m
- New pipelines to supply treated water from NLRWSS to Kiltyclogher and Rossinver completed in 2017
Manorhamilton and Mohill Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade progressed through Tendering and procurement in 2017 with Contracts signed on 14th November, 2017. Works will commence in December 2017 and will take one year to complete. The total estimated all in cost is in excess of €4m.

Minor Capital Programme works progressed during the year including the replacement of 2Km of old Trunk Main on the R202 at Mohill and 2.2 Km of old cast iron water mains at Kilenna, Manorhamilton.

Contractor appointed for replacement of 2.2 Km of old Trunk main on R199 at Mountcampbell with works commenced in November, 2017 and scheduled for completion March, 2018.

Other various Capital Programmes provided minor upgrade works and process improvements at water treatment plants and waste water treatment plant in Leitrim in 2017.

Tendering and Procurement of Contractor for the upgrade of 4 Waste Water Treatment Plants at Drumshanbo, Leitrim Village, Carrigallen and Ballinamore completed and commencement date for works in December 2017 with substantial completion by September, 2018.

Tourism
Leitrim County Council continued to invest in the promotion of County Leitrim as a visitor location in 2017. This investment was strategically aligned with that of other key partners such as Waterways Ireland, Failte Ireland, and Inland Fisheries Ireland and supported through the work of the Leitrim Tourism Growth Alliance(LTGA) and Marketing sub group, to deliver the following promotional activities;

- Attendance at trade shows, including Meitheal, and Holiday shows in Dublin and Belfast.
- Attendance at the National Ploughing Championships.
- Carrying out advertising campaigns through online, radio and social media.
- Hosting of media and tour operator visits to the county.
- Support the operation of the Carrick on Shannon Tourist Office in conjunction with Failte Ireland.
- Support the information units at Knock Airport, Glencar and Ballinamore.
- Update and promotion of the Leitrim Tourism website enjoyleitrim.com which provides the central call to action for all promotion and marketing campaigns.
- In 2017, Leitrim County Council supported priority investment areas in tourism based upon an open call for projects under the General Municipal Allocation.
- 2017 saw the continued development of the Slow Adventure Tourism concept, which is currently been researched under the Northern Periphery and Arctic programme, where Leitrim has been identified as a designated area.

A strong focus continues on the promotion and development of the County as a tourism destination including:

- Development work regarding identified Greenway Projects in the County.
- Redevelopment of Leitrim Way and its linkage to the Beara Breffni Way.
- Engagement in the development of a fourth strategic tourism proposition by Failte Ireland for the Midlands and Lakeland area.
- Continued development of the Glencar Amenity as a key attractor for visitors to the county along with promotion of other new tourism assets.
- Continued engagement and collaboration with partners in the development of the Blueway concept

2018 will see the full integration of the role and functions of Leitrim Tourism within the Councils Enterprise function. This role will continue to be informed and supported through the work of the Leitrim Tourism Growth Alliance.
High Quality Sustainable Living Environment

Environment

RMCEI Plan – The 2017 RMCEI Plan was submitted by the Environment Department to the EPA in January 2017, and was approved by the EPA. The Objectives provided in the plan were delivered in 2017. Works targeted for the year in the Environment Department were based on the 2017 RMCEI Plan and the same shall apply for 2018.

National Inspection Program (DWWTS) – The Water Services (Amendment) Act, 2012 provided for the introduction of a registration and inspection system for Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems (DWWTS). The Council have inspected 30 No DWWTS in 2017 and these inspections are complete.

LAWCO: Leitrim County Council and LAWCO held an engagement and feedback session on the recommended Areas for Action in April and November of this year to facilitate the engagement process. LAWCO have also recently developed a Border Regional Operational Committee (BROC) which comes together on a quarterly basis with the view to improving knowledge sharing. A community information evening ‘Who’s Who in the Lough Melvin Catchment’ was held in the Kinlough community centre on 21st November, 2017 and was well attended.

WERLA: The WERLA Office arranged targeted inspections of Illegal Dumping including Construction and Demolition Waste, household Waste Management Compliance including Brown Bin, End of Life Vehicles and Tyres PRI. In addition, a pilot targeted packaging enforcement project was also launched.

CFRAMs
The full National suite of 29 Flood Risk Management Plans was submitted to the Department for Public Expenditure and reform for an Environmental Assessment review between early August and early October 2017. It is expected that, that the Department will be in a position to recommend approval by the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform.

Planning & Sustainable Development

- The Mid Term Review of the County Development Plan 2015-2021 was completed in July 2017 which included a review of the Housing Strategy contained therein. It was concluded that reasonable progress has been made in realising a significant number of the objectives contained therein and that the existing Housing Strategy remains fit for purpose.

- The Planning Authority has appointed consultants (McCarthy Keville O’Sullivan Ltd. Planning & Environmental Consultants) to undertake the screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment and Appropriate Assessment for the proposed Variation to the County Development Plan 2015-2021 in relation to the implementation of the provisions of the Vacant Site Levy. An amendment to the Carrick on Shannon Local Area Plan 2010-2019 to give effect to the Variation to the County Development Plan will also be undertaken at the same time. This will be placed on public display in January, 2018.

- The Council continued to progress the resolution of unfinished estates in 2017 with all relevant stakeholders. 6 No. estates have already been taken in charge this year and arrangements to commence the process to take in charge a further 20 no. estates by year end. This has been facilitated significantly by the funding secured by the Council through the National Taking in Charge Initiative (Measure 1). The Council have also prepared Site Resolution Plans for a 4 estates funded as part of Measure 3 of this initiative.

- The Planning Department has met recently with The Heritage Council with a view to re-establishing the role of Heritage Officer within Leitrim County Council which role is presently vacant.
• The Planning Authority successfully obtained funding for 3 projects under the Built Heritage Investment Scheme and funding for 1 project under the Structures at Risk Fund, both funds operated by the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.

• 160 no. valid planning applications had been received to 24th November 2017, with 33 no. of the applications lodged relating to commercial developments. This compares to 154 no. applications received during the same period in 2016. A further 60 applications were received during 2017 (up to 24th November) which were deemed invalid which is the same number as received to the same date in 2016.

• Planning permission was granted for a new visitor experience at The Shed Distillery, Drumshanbo and for an extension to the Elasto Metall facility in Manorhamilton. The new Gaelscoil in Carrick on Shannon is presently under construction with an application being considered to develop a 135 bed nursing home adjaing. The Planning Authority also processed 7 no. Part VIII applications for our own development proposals which included a significant extension to our Corporate Headquarters at Aras an Chontae.

• The pre planning process continued in 2016. The Clinic System operates on an appointment basis with the relevant Area Planer. A total of 77 no. formal meetings took place in 2017.

• Leitrim County Council has actively pursued innovative solutions to facilitate the design of a wastewater treatment and disposal facility that would have the potential to have a zero discharge of effluent and, if successful, allow sites with poor percolation characteristics to treat the discharge of treated wastewater in a manner which was not prejudicial to public health.

**Emergency Services**

Leitrim Fire Services continued to provide emergency fire services in the County. Plans to provide a new Fire Station in Manorhamilton progressed with the purchase of a site for the new station on the Sligo Road out of Manorhamilton. Following a capital submission to the Department capital funding of €400,000 was also sanctioned in respect of the refurbishment of Ballinamore fire station on the existing site. Capital funding of €106,000 was also sanctioned for an extension to Drumshanbo Fire Station.

Assistance was provided by Civil Defence to the Principal Response Agencies during a number of missing person searches and water based incidents during the year. Civil Defence continued to assist the Environment Department throughout the year in completing the lake water sampling programme. Civil Defence also provided safety boat and first aid assistance to a number of local community events during the year.

**Quality Housing**

In terms of meeting housing needs the Council continued to address the housing need of approved housing applicants on the Housing Waiting List. In 2017, 78 new tenancies were created in standard local authority accommodation, this figure is inclusive of 7 transfers, 11 RAS contracts which were negotiated and 2 dwellings that were allocated under the Long-Term Leasing Scheme. At year-end 104 households were in receipt of HAP payments. In order to address supply issues in areas with a high demand for social housing support an ambitious Housing Acquisition Programme was progressed in 2017. At year-end a total of 13 new dwellings were being progressed through this Programme.

The Statutory Assessment of Housing Need was completed in June, 2017 which required a detailed review of all approved housing applicants. On completion of the detailed assessment the net need identified was
328 households deemed qualified for and in need of social housing support. The implementation of the Leitrim Housing & Disability Strategic Plan for Housing People with a Disability plan was progressed in 2017.

Under the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014-2018 the target for delivery has been set at a total 46 outputs over the life-time of the Programme. To date 49 outputs have been achieved which equates to 106.5% delivery rate. The Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee met 4 times in 2017 and monitored the implementation of the Traveller Accommodation Programme and other matters arising.

In meeting the housing needs of the wider community to support housing modifications under the housing grants schemes, the Council received an allocation of €436,736. This allocation was fully committed in 2017. Efforts continued to upgrade and enhance the Council’s Social Housing Stock. Funding in the order of €200,000 was expended under the 2017 Voids and Derelicts Programme and a total of 17 units were upgraded via this funding stream.

An Inclusive County

- A two year plan for Peace and Reconciliation, Peace IV, has been approved by the Special EU Programmes Body with Leitrim obtaining funding of just under €1.8 million.
- At the start of 2017 the PPN had 187 registered members. Representatives on 9 Committees including the LCDC, Strategic Policy Committees and LEADER Evaluation. There were two vacancies on the Secretariat and vacancies on Sports Partnership and Peace IV Partnership.
- Leitrim PPN has held a county Plenary and elected representatives to fill vacancies on all committees.
- Comhairle na nOg Liatroma continues to enjoy the support of all second level schools and youth clubs in the county. In 2017, Comhairle, with support from Creative Ireland and North West Drugs Taskforce produced a short video on ‘Use your Brain, Not Your Fist’.
- Leitrim Age Friendly Alliance in conjunction with the Older Persons Council launched a new Age Friendly Strategy for 2017-2020 during Positive Ageing Week.
- Leitrim entered three communities in Pride of Place in 2016, one from each Municipal District. Bornacoola and Carrigallen in the Population Category and Manorhamilton in the Creative Place Category. Bornacoola won a runner up prize.
- The first Community and Environmental Awards, was held in conjunction with the PPN (Public Participation Network). The awards recognised the significant work of community groups, residents’ groups, businesses; schools and individuals in making their area a better place to live, work and visit. Manorhamilton Girl Guides won the overall community award.
- Leitrim were allocated €64,500 under the Community Facilities Scheme funded by the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government in 2017. A total of 126 Community Groups were approved for funding.
- Clár Funding was received of €82,805 for three playgrounds in Co. Leitrim namely Glenfarne, McDermott Terrace, Manorhamilton and Fenagh.
- Leitrim were allocated €64,500 funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development under RAPID National Programme in November, 2017. This funding was rolled out to 7 towns in Leitrim with minimum allocations of €7,000 to maximum allocation of €10,000.
- Almost €1.1 Million was allocated under Towns and Villages Funding for 2017 to 12 Community Groups.
• The Traveller Interagency Group met on a number of occasions in 2017 and Action Plans are in place for three core groups; Education, Accommodation and Health.

• The Community Alarm Scheme was reactivated in 2017 with 85 smoke alarms provided to vulnerable homes in the county where there are currently no smoke alarms installed.

The Leitrim Joint Policing Committee met on four occasions in 2017. A public meeting of the JPC was also held on Tuesday 28th February, 2017 in the Mayflower, Drumshanbo with the theme of ‘Community Safety in Leitrim’.

The Council’s Sport, Recreation and community Department continued to deliver, in conjunction with Leitrim Sports Partnership, an ever expanding range of sports and recreational activities and participation initiatives to the local communities. Work continued in primary, secondary schools, local communities, local sports clubs and specific target groups throughout Leitrim. Leitrim Sports Partnership delivered a variety of sport and recreation programmes for the disability groups involved in the Leitrim Disability Sports Forum. A number of other education and training workshops were also delivered e.g. Safe Guarding 1, 2 & 3 Workshops.

The seventh annual Leitrim Sports Star Awards Night took place on 24th November, 2017 in the Lough Rynn Castle hotel, Mohill with guest of honour, the former International Rugby and Connacht star, Eric Elwood. Leitrim and Carrick on Shannon A.C. Athletic Star Eanna Madden was the overall winner of the Leitrim Sports Person Star of the Year award. The night was a great success and it was celebration of the outstanding achievements of Leitrim sportspeople in a wide variety of sports in 2017.

Children and Young People
Leitrim Youth Theatre Company grew by 28% expanding to eight groups in three centres. In September, Music Generation announced that Leitrim will receive €340,000 over three years to increase access to high-quality, subsidised vocal and instrumental music education programmes for children and young people throughout the county.

Creative Communities
The Artist in Communities Scheme mirrors the Artist in Schools Scheme encouraging participation in high quality arts projects by community groups. Culture Night continues as a very valuable platform for venues throughout the county to expand and build their audience bases and to provide opportunities for people to try something new.

Festivals
In 2017, the Iron Mountain Literature Festival looked at themes of place, migration and history in a gathering of writers, activists and musicians. Traditional Arts in 2017 saw the development of a specific strand for young trad musicians as part of the Music Generation programme. We have also been working closely with Leitrim Dance Project which combines a weeklong professional development programme for Sean Nós dancers. Funding through a Festival and Events Scheme to a range of arts festivals to enhance the quality of their programming and their capacity to deliver events to audiences in the county is also provided.

Cultural Infrastructure
The Dock is an iconic cornerstone of Leitrim’s Arts Infrastructure garnering a substantial national and international reputation and providing a crucial service to the community with its high quality cultural offering being key to the town of Carrick on Shannon, and its visitors and citizens. In addition to the Dock, The Glens Centre, Solas Gallery and Cornmill Theatre are all integral partners in the continued
development of various aspects of the arts in the county. Leitrim County Council support to Leitrim Sculpture Centre is provided for two Leitrim based artists taking residence at LSC.

Supporting Leitrim Artists
Creative Frame is a user-driven continuous professional development network for the creative sector of Leitrim and the wider region. Over the last 12 months membership has grown from 120 to 260 practitioners with over 400 artists on our wider database. The Individual Artists Bursary programme is designed to support the development of emerging and established Leitrim based professional artists from any arts discipline. This year we allocated a total of €12,500 to 21 applicants in the areas of visual art, theatre, dance, film and literature. Under the title ‘SLR Film’ Leitrim, Roscommon and Sligo local authorities have come together with representatives of the film sector to develop a joint film development strategy.

In 2018 the Leitrim County Council will publish its new Arts Strategy as well as a Culture and Creativity Strategy as part of the Creative Ireland programme.

Maximising Operational and Organisational Capacity
Supporting the Elected Member
The three Municipal Districts of Ballinamore, Carrick-on-Shannon and Manorhamilton continued to operate in 2017 and held monthly meetings and they also adopted the General Municipal Allocation for Municipal District Works. The Municipal District also received a number of presentations at their meetings from staff across a range of service areas. Regular meetings of the Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning SPC; Housing Policy, Social and Cultural Development SPC and Environmental, Transportation and Infrastructural Policy SPC took place throughout 2017 and a number of policy matters were progressed and brought to the full Council for adoption. The Joint Policing Committee also meet on four occasions in 2017 and progressed actions included in the Joint Policing Committee Strategic Plan.

Staff Learning & Development
The workforce planning process has continued throughout 2017 with a view to streamlining operational processes and to assist in making the best use of available staff resources. There were a total of 5 staff retirements in 2017 and 1 Death in Service (R.I.P.). A further 5 permanent staff members resigned during the year while 25 staff members on temporary contracts left Leitrim County Council during 2017. Recruitment activity also continued to be significant however with 32 recruitment competitions completed to fill a range of vacancies arising and a total of 25 new staff joining Leitrim County Council on either permanent or temporary contracts during the year. Following detailed Business Improvement Reviews (BIRs) in the Environment, Planning and Finance functions a range of actions were implemented to deliver efficiencies in the respective areas.

The Performance Management and Development System (PMDS) for staff continued to be closely linked to the Annual Service Delivery Plan as adopted by the Members, and the associated Departmental Team Plans, in 2017. The national Competency Framework, aimed at developing a competency-based approach to performance development within the local government sector, continued to be implemented at senior and middle management levels as part of the PMDS process in 2017. A comprehensive Learning and Development Plan was implemented in 2017 which is complemented by the expansion of the Staff Education Scheme, providing support to staff members pursuing further education opportunities. 32 Staff are also availing of our Mentoring Programme, providing staff with the opportunity to avail of the advice, assistance and support of more senior staff in relation to aspects of their work and/or career development. The Council’s Service Level Agreement for the provision of an Employee Assistance Programme was extended for 2017 and is due for review in 2018.
Managing Risk & Resources
Leitrim County Council continued to adopt a prudent approach to expenditure during 2017, resulting in the delivery of services within budget. In 2017, the Valuation Office completed a revaluation of County Leitrim and Commercial Ratepayers have been notified of their new valuation which will come into effect on 1st January, 2018. In the year, following a revaluation process, the Local Authority is subject to a Rates Limitation Order which is set by the Minister and Leitrim County Council is subject to such an order in 2018. Leitrim County Council has prepared a Corporate Risk Register in collaboration with the Internal Audit Committee and each Directorate within the Local Authority. The Internal Audit Committee has an advisory role in promoting good accounting practices and improving the focus on value for money throughout the organisation. In this regard, the Committee provided oversight to the ongoing activities of the Internal Audit function during 2017.

Quality Customer Services
In 2017, the Quality Assurance Group continued their role in the review of the National and Local Performance Indicators. All data was compiled, validated and submitted to the LGMA in advance of the deadline for submission of data on the National Performance Indicators in April, 2016. The extended Quality Assurance Group and the Management Team also met quarterly to review and analyse the data relating to the National & Local Performance Indicators for 2017.

The Internal Communications Working Group finalised the Communications Strategy and Guidelines for Leitrim County Council in June, 2017. The Social Media Group continued to ensure maximum use of the Council’s social media accounts on Facebook and Twitter promoting the wide range of activities occurring across all service areas. The number of followers on the Council’s social media channels continues to grow and is currently in excess of 5,500 followers.

Conclusion
The foregoing achievements were made possible through the combined efforts of the Elected Members and Staff of this Authority and, together with the many voluntary and community organisations with whom the Council interacts. We wish to thank them for their commitment and dedication to securing our mission, vision and goals in 2017. We look forward to continuing to deliver high quality services to all our customers and to working with all stakeholders in order to develop County Leitrim as a vibrant and attractive County for people to live, work, invest and visit.

Appendix 1 to the Corporate Plan Progress Report 2017
Recreation and Amenity
Leitrim Council will continue to prioritise the development of recreation and amenity infrastructure within the County as a means to support economic development and in particular, support the ongoing development of our tourism product. The following is an overview of the projects that have been advanced in 2017 under the various funding streams accessed by Leitrim County Council.

Town and Village
- 8 Schemes under the Town & Village 2016 were approved with a Total Grant of €380,000. All the works were completed in 2017
- 12 Schemes were approved in October, 2017 at a total value of €1,098,538. All schemes will be fully expended and drawdown by mid 2018 as per scheme requirements.

Ballinamore  Renovations to St Felims College  €100,000.00
Carrick on Shannon  Retractable Roof  €99,520.00
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Cloone Cross Country Facility, €96,000.00
Dowra Enhancement €59,121.00
Dromahair Walkway €100,000.00
Drumshanbo Support Hotspot €200,000.00
Fenagh Footpath €24,978.00
Kinlough Slipway €44,000.00
Leitrim Walking Trail between Shannon Erne & Blue €76,021.00
Manorhamilton Manorhamilton Castle - Destination Hub €100,000.00
Mohill Hot Desk-Bus Shelter-Trail-Lighting €100,000.00
Roosky Tourism Initiatives & Use of Vacant Sites €98,898.00

REDZ
- Two schemes were approved in 2016 with a total grant of €300,000.
- Ballinamore REDZ is fully completed.
- Carrick-on-Shannon REDZ: Contractors are on site and all works will be completed by early 2018.

Outdoor Rural Recreational Infrastructure Scheme
Three Schemes received approval with a total Grant of €480,000:
- SLNCR Greenway from Sligo to Manorhamilton
- Cavan Leitrim Greenway from Ballinamore to Belturbet has been made to Failte Ireland Major Grants Fund.
- A Greenway from Leitrim Village to Carrick on Shannon to connect into the existing Blueway

2017
- 10 Schemes received approval under Measure 1 (Small Scale Maintenance/Promotional and Marketing) with a total grant of €95,000.

| Dromahaire Demonstration Stretch of Greenway | Dromahaire | €5,000 |
| Alteen Waterfall | Dowra | €10,000 |
| Shannon Blueway | Drumshanbo | €10,000 |
| Acres Lake Access | Drumshanbo | €10,000 |
| Lough Bran | Carrick on Shannon | €10,000 |
| Convent Wall Trail | Drumshanbo | €10,000 |
| Keeldra Lake Amenity Cloone | Cloone | €10,000 |
| Eco Park Trail | Kinlough | €10,000 |
| Lough Allen Education Centre | Drumshanbo | €10,000 |
| Pathway Annaghmore | Annaghmore | €10,000 |

works have been completed and drawdown of funds has been requested from the Department.

- 1 Scheme received approval under Measure 3 (Large Scale Repair/Upgrade and New Strategic Trail Development) which was a joint application between Leitrim County Council and Waterways Ireland. The total grant approved €955,153. This scheme has three different elements and work has commenced. All aspects of the entire project to be fully completed by mid 2018.

Clar 2017

Leitrim County Council Annual Report, 2017
10 Projects were approved under measure 1 (Support for Schools/Community Safety Measures)-Total Grant €288,268. These schemes are 90% funded. It is planned to complete 8 projects by the end of the current year with the other 2 to be completed by February 2018.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Official School name / Community Facility</th>
<th>Agreed CLÁR funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>It is proposed to install a pedestrian crossing to serve the Gaelscoil which will link the existing car park at the Castle to the Gaelscoil.</td>
<td>Gaelscoil Cluainin</td>
<td>€38,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide a Pedestrian Crossing between the community car park at Gorby’s Bar &amp; Lounge and the current footpath on the opposite side of the road.</td>
<td>Newtowngore Community Hall Group</td>
<td>€41,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision of speed safety signs, provision of a pedestrian crossing to allow the safe crossing area for students outside the school and the provision of road markings.</td>
<td>Carrick on Shannon Community School</td>
<td>€33,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erect street lighting from Acres to the houses of Drumduff north.</td>
<td>Drumduff North Acreas Residents Association</td>
<td>€27,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100m footway from St. Mary’s NS to the Aughnasheelin community hall</td>
<td>St. Mary’s National School</td>
<td>€45,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision of a pedestrian crossing to allow the safe crossing area for vulnerable road users access the local health centre and playground.</td>
<td>Dromod Development Association</td>
<td>€19,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erect Street lighting</td>
<td>Annaduff National School</td>
<td>€10,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groundworks for footpath and construction of safety rail/barrier alongside the path.</td>
<td>St. Clares Primary School</td>
<td>€30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction of a footpath/walkway along the river.</td>
<td>St. Patrick’s National School</td>
<td>€30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction of a new 1.8 m wide concrete footpath along the school boundaries</td>
<td>St. Joseph’s NS</td>
<td>€12,068</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• 4 Projects were approved under Measure 2 (Play Areas) – Total Grant €95,672. These schemes are 90% funded. 2 projects will be completed by year end with remaining 2 due to be completed by March, 2018.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Community Facility</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Surface of Tennis Court</td>
<td>Dromod Development Association</td>
<td>€9,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• 2 Projects were approved under Measure 3 (Targeted Community Infrastructure Needs) – Total Grant €83,179. Both of these projects will be completed by year end

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Community Facility</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Replacement of the existing 1990 rowing pontoon and a trolley for safe use and storage of a training boat</td>
<td>Carrick on Shannon Rowing Club,</td>
<td>€33,179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resurface existing pier; Renovate and upgrade existing changing facilities and toilets and install shower facilities; Replace roadside fence; Provide car parking facilities; Provide picnic tables, sand to swimming area and</td>
<td>Keeldra Lake Amenity Development, Cloone</td>
<td>€50,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## APPENDIX NO. 7 NATIONAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Housing: H1, H2 &amp; H4</strong></td>
<td>A. No. of dwellings in the ownership of the LA at 1/1/2017</td>
<td>930</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B. No. of dwellings added to the LA owned stock during 2017 (whether constructed or acquired)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C. No. of LA owned dwellings sold in 2017</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>D. No. of LA owned dwellings demolished in 2017</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E. No. of dwellings in the ownership of the LA at 31/12/2017</td>
<td>938</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>F. No. of LA owned dwellings planned for demolition under a DHPLG approved scheme</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A. The percentage of the total number of LA owned dwellings that were vacant on 31/12/2017</strong></td>
<td>5.86 %</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The number of dwellings within their overall stock that were not tenanted on 31/12/2017</strong></td>
<td>55</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A. Expenditure during 2017 on the repair and maintenance of housing bought or built by the LA compiled on a continuous basis from 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2017, divided by the no. of directly provided dwellings in the LA stock at 31/12/2017</strong></td>
<td>€1319.18</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expenditure on repair and maintenance of LA stock compiled on a continuous basis from 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2017, including planned maintenance expenditure but excluding expenditure under approved major refurbishment schemes</strong></td>
<td>€1237390</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Housing: H3 &amp; H5</strong></td>
<td>A. The Time taken from the date of vacation of a dwelling to the date in 2017 when a new tenancy had commenced in the dwelling, averaged across all dwellings re-let during 2017</td>
<td>70.25 wk</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Approved</strong></td>
<td>B. The cost expended on getting the</td>
<td>€17253.90</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The number of dwellings re-tenanted in 2017 ready for re-letting, averaged across all dwellings re-let in 2017

The number of dwellings that were re-tenanted on any date in 2017 (but excluding all those that had been vacant due to an estate-wide refurbishment scheme)

The number of weeks from when the previous tenant vacated the dwelling up to the date of the new tenant’s first rent debit totalled for all dwellings re-tenanted in 2017

Total expenditure on repairs necessary to enable re-letting of the dwellings

A. Total number of registered tenancies in the LA area at end of June 2017

B. Number of rented dwellings inspected in 2017

C. Percentage of inspected dwellings in 2017 that were found not to be compliant with the Standards Regulations

D. Number of non-compliant dwellings that became compliant during 2017

The number of dwellings inspected in 2017 that were found not to be compliant with the Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) Regulations

Housing: H6 Approved

A. Number of adult individuals in emergency accommodation that are long-term homeless as a % of the total number of homeless adult individuals in emergency accommodation at the end of 2017

The number of adult individuals classified as homeless and in emergency accommodation on the night of 31 December 2017 as recorded on the PASS system

The number out of those individuals
who, on 31/12/2017, had been in emergency accommodation for 6 months continuously, or for 6 months cumulatively within the previous 12 months

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Roads: R1 &amp; R2 Approved</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The % of Regional road kilometres that received a PSCI rating in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2017</td>
<td>51 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The % of Local Primary road kilometres that received a PSCI rating in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2017</td>
<td>41 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The % of Local Secondary road kilometres that received a PSCI rating in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2017</td>
<td>39 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The % of Local Tertiary road kilometres that received a PSCI rating in the 60 month period prior to 31/12/2017</td>
<td>85 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The % of total Regional road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 1-4 at 31/12/2017</td>
<td>2 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The % of total Regional road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 5-6 at 31/12/2017</td>
<td>19 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The % of total Regional road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 7-8 at 31/12/2017</td>
<td>32 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The % of total Regional road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 9-10 at 31/12/2017</td>
<td>25 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The % of total Local Primary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 1-4 at 31/12/2017</td>
<td>2 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The % of total Local Primary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 5-6 at 31/12/2017</td>
<td>25 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The % of total Local Primary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 7-8 at 31/12/2017</td>
<td>47 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The % of total Local Primary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 9-10 at 31/12/2017</td>
<td>20 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Percentage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The % of total Local Secondary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 1-4 at 31/12/2017</td>
<td>7 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The % of total Local Secondary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 5-6 at 31/12/2017</td>
<td>42 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The % of total Local Secondary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 7-8 at 31/12/2017</td>
<td>38 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The % of total Local Secondary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 9-10 at 31/12/2017</td>
<td>8 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The % of total Local Tertiary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 1-4 at 31/12/2017</td>
<td>15 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The % of total Local Tertiary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 5-6 at 31/12/2017</td>
<td>39 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The % of total Local Tertiary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 7-8 at 31/12/2017</td>
<td>25 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The % of total Local Tertiary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 9-10 at 31/12/2017</td>
<td>6 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A1. Kilometres of regional road strengthened during 2017</td>
<td>15.8 km</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2. The amount expended on regional roads strengthening work during 2017</td>
<td>€1627840.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B1. Kilometres of regional road resealed during 2017</td>
<td>3.6 km</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B2. The amount expended on regional road resealing work during 2017</td>
<td>€114422.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C1. Kilometres of local road strengthened during 2017</td>
<td>56.9 km</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C2. The amount expended on local road strengthening work during 2017</td>
<td>€2238085.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D1. Kilometres of local road resealed during 2017</td>
<td>51.9 km</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D2. The amount expended on local road resealing work during 2017</td>
<td>€833561.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Tax: R3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. The percentage of motor tax</td>
<td>62.84 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Leitrim County Council Annual Report, 2017
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approved transactions which were dealt with online (i.e. transaction is processed and the tax disc is issued) in 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Water: W1</strong>&lt;br&gt;Approved % of Private Drinking Water Schemes in compliance with statutory requirements in respect of the monitoring of the quality of private drinking water supplies during 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Waste: E1</strong>&lt;br&gt;Approved A. The number of households, based on the 2016 Census, who are situated in an area covered by a licensed operator providing a 3 bin service at 31/12/2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. The % of households within the local authority (also as per the 2016 Census) that the number at A represents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Environmental Pollution: E2</strong>&lt;br&gt;Approved A1. Total number of pollution cases in respect of which a complaint was made during 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2. Number of pollution cases closed from 1/1/2017 to 31/12/2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A3. Total number of cases on hands at 31/12/2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Litter Pollution: E3</strong>&lt;br&gt;Approved A1. The % of the area within the LA that when surveyed in 2017 was unpolluted or litter free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2. The % of the area within the LA that when surveyed in 2017 was slightly polluted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A3. The % of the area within the LA that when surveyed in 2017 was moderately polluted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A4. The % of the area within the LA that when surveyed in 2017 was significantly polluted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A5. The % of the area within the LA that when surveyed in 2017 was grossly polluted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Planning: P1</strong>&lt;br&gt;Approved A. Buildings inspected as a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Approved

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage of new buildings notified to the local authority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total number of new buildings notified to the local authority i.e. buildings where a valid Commencement Notice was served in the period 1/1/2017 to 31/12/2017 by a builder or developer on the local authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of new buildings notified to the local authority in 2017 that were the subject of at least one on-site inspection during 2017 undertaken by the local authority</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Planning: P2 & P3

<p>| A. Number of LA planning decisions which were the subject of an appeal to An Bord Pleanála that were determined by the Board on any date in 2017 | 2 |
| B. % of the determinations at A which confirmed (either with or without variation) the decision made by the LA | <strong>50.0 %</strong> |
| Number of determinations confirming the LA's decision (either with or without variation) | 1 |
| A. Total number of planning cases referred to or initiated by the local authority in the period 1/1/2017 to 31/12/2017 that were investigated | 49 |
| B. Total number of investigated cases that were closed during 2017 | 25 |
| C. % of the cases at B that were dismissed as trivial, minor or without foundation or were closed because statute barred or an exempted development | <strong>60.0 %</strong> |
| D. % of cases at B that were resolved to the LA's satisfaction through negotiations | <strong>8.00 %</strong> |
| E. % Cases at B that were closed due to enforcement proceedings | <strong>32.00 %</strong> |
| F. Total number of planning cases being investigated as at 31/12/2017 | 24 |
| Number of cases at 'B' that were | 15 |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planning: P4 &amp; P5 Approved</th>
<th>dismissed under section 152(2), Planning and Development Act 2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of cases at 'B' that were resolved to the LA's satisfaction through negotiations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of cases at 'B' that were closed due to enforcement proceedings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planning: P4 &amp; P5 Approved</th>
<th>A. The 2017 Annual Financial Statement (AFS) Programme D data divided by the population of the LA area per the 2016 Census</th>
<th>€34.87</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AFS Programme D data consisting of D01 - Forward Planning, D02 - Development Management, D03 - Enforcement (inclusive of the relevant Programme D proportion of the central management charge) for 2017</td>
<td>€1117416</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A. The percentage of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2017 that were decided (granted or refused) within two months of their receipt</td>
<td>85.00 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B. The percentage of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2017 that were decided (granted or refused) within an extended period agreed with the applicant</td>
<td>10.0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The total number of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2017 that were not withdrawn by the applicant</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The number of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2017 that were decided (granted or refused) within two months of the date of receipt of the application</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The number of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2017 that were decided (granted or refused) within an agreed extended time period</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Fire Service: F1          | A. The Annual Financial Statement | €66.23 |
(AFS) Programme E expenditure data for 2017 divided by the population of the LA area per the 2016 Census figures for the population served by the fire authority as per the Risk Based Approach Phase One reports

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fire Service: F2 &amp; F3 Approved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of all other (non-fire) emergency incidents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of all other (non-fire) emergency incidents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. % of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance at scene is within 10 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. % of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. % of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. % of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance at the scene is within 10 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. % of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. % of cases in respect of all other</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
emergency incidents in which first attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes

Total number of call-outs in respect of fires from 1/1/2017 to 31/12/2017 103

Number of these fire cases where first fire tender attendance at the scene is within 10 minutes 33

Number of these fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes 46

Number of these fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes 24

Total number of call-outs in respect of all other emergency incidents (i.e. not including fire) from 1/1/2017 to 31/12/2017 135

Number of these non-fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is within 10 minutes 66

Number of these non-fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes 55

Number of these non-fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes 14

---

**Library Service: L1**

Approved

A. Number of visits to libraries per head of population for the LA area per the 2016 Census 4.62

B. Number of items issued to borrowers in the year 80685

Number of visits to its libraries from 1/1/2017 to 31/12/2017 147916

---

**Library Service: L2**

Approved

A. The Annual Financial Statement (AFS) Programme F data for 2017 divided by the population of the LA area per the 2016 Census €49.68

AFS Programme F data consisting of F02 - Operation of Library and Archival Service (inclusive of the €1592039

---
### Youth and Community: Y1 & Y2

**Approved**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Relevant proportion of the central management charge for Programme F) for 2017</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Percentage of local schools involved in the local Youth Council/Comhairle na nÓg scheme</td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of second level schools in the LA area at 31/12/2017</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of second level schools in the LA area from which representatives attended the local Comhairle na nÓg AGM held in 2017</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Number of organisations included in the County Register and the proportion who opted to be part of the Social Inclusion College within the PPN</td>
<td>31.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of organisations included in the County Register for the local authority area as at 31/12/2017</td>
<td>238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of those organisations that registered for the first time in 2017</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of organisations that opted to join the Social Inclusion Electoral College on whatever date they registered for the PPN</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Corporate: C1 & C2 & C4

**Approved**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. The wholetime equivalent staffing number as at 31 December 2017</td>
<td>259.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Percentage of paid working days lost to sickness absence through medically certified leave in 2017</td>
<td>4.77 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Percentage of paid working days lost to sickness absence through self-certified leave in 2017</td>
<td>0.32 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of working days lost to sickness absence through medically certified leave in 2017</td>
<td>2822.1 day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of working days lost to sickness absence through self-certified leave in 2017</td>
<td>191.3 day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of unpaid working days lost</td>
<td>0.34 day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
to sickness absence included within the total of self-certified sick leave days in 2017

| Number of unpaid working days lost to sickness absence included within the total of medically certified sick leave days in 2017 | 5.5 day |
| If any staff are on long-term sick leave (i.e. a continuous period of more than 4 weeks), include a text note of the number of staff on long-term sick leave | 25 staff were on long term sick leave in 2017 including 13 who were out for more than 60 days, 3 of whom were out for the full year. Excluding long term sick leave brings the indicator figure back to 558 certified sick days or 0.95%.

| A. All ICT expenditure in the period from 1/1/2017 to 31/12/2017, divided by the WTE no. | €3919.06 |
| Total revenue expenditure on Account Elements | €1018602 |

**Corporate: C3 Approved**

| A. Total page views of the local authority's websites in 2017 | 217574 |
| B. Total number of followers at end 2017 of the LA's social media accounts | 6119 |
| The number of social media accounts operated by the local authority | 2 |

**Finance: M1 & M2 Approved**

<p>| A. Cumulative balance at 31/12/2013 in the Revenue Account from the Income &amp; Expenditure of the AFS | €-1579451 |
| B. Cumulative balance at 31/12/2014 in the Revenue Account from the Income &amp; Expenditure of the AFS | €-1426331 |
| C. Cumulative balance at 31/12/2015 in the Revenue Account from the Income &amp; Expenditure of the AFS | €-1324122 |
| D. Cumulative balance at 31/12/2016 in the Revenue Account from the Income &amp; Expenditure of the AFS | €-266479 |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E. Cumulative balance at 31/12/2017 in the Revenue Account from the AFS</td>
<td>€-264105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Cumulative surplus or deficit at 31/12/2017 as a percentage of Total</td>
<td>-0.74 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income from the AFS statement</td>
<td>This figure is a deficit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Revenue Expenditure per capita in 2017</td>
<td>€1083.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The 2017 Total Income figure from the Income and Expenditure Account</td>
<td>€35550361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statement of the AFS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The 2017 Total Expenditure figure from the Income and Expenditure Account</td>
<td>€34713437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statement of the AFS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection level of Rates from the Annual Financial Statement for 2013</td>
<td>65.0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection level of Rates from the Annual Financial Statement for 2014</td>
<td>60.0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection level of Rates from the Annual Financial Statement for 2015</td>
<td>79.0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection level of Rates from the Annual Financial Statement for 2016</td>
<td>81.0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection level of Rates from the Annual Financial Statement for 2017</td>
<td>82 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection level of Rent &amp; Annuities from the Annual Financial Statement</td>
<td>91.0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for 2013</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection level of Rent &amp; Annuities from the Annual Financial Statement</td>
<td>87.0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for 2014</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection level of Rent &amp; Annuities from the Annual Financial Statement</td>
<td>86.0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for 2015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection level of Rent &amp; Annuities from the Annual Financial Statement</td>
<td>88.0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for 2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection level of Rent &amp; Annuities from the Annual Financial Statement</td>
<td>88 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for 2017</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection level of Housing Loans from the Annual Financial Statement</td>
<td>63.0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for 2013</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection level of Housing Loans from the Annual Financial Statement</td>
<td>60.0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for 2014</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection level of Housing Loans from the Annual Financial Statement for 2015</td>
<td>65.0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection level of Housing Loans from the Annual Financial Statement for 2016</td>
<td>63.0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection level of Housing Loans from the Annual Financial Statement for 2017</td>
<td>64 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Economic Development: J1 to J4 Approved**

A. The no. of jobs created with assistance from the Local Enterprise Office during the period 1/1/2017 to 31/12/2017 | 31.0 |

A. The no. of trading online voucher applications approved by the Local Enterprise Office in 2017 | 12 |

B. The no. of those trading online vouchers that were drawn down in 2017 | 5 |

A. The no. of participants who received mentoring during the period 1/1/2017 to 31/12/2017 | 101 |

A. Does the local authority have a current tourism strategy? | Yes |

B. Does the local authority have a designated Tourism Officer? | Yes |

Figures may be subject to change if an Audit Query is raised in the review of the data by the LGMA or NOAC. Awaiting external data sets for
## APPENDIX NO. 8 - LOCAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ref</th>
<th>Functional Area</th>
<th>Metric/Performance Indicator</th>
<th>Quarter 4, 2017 Output</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loc 1</td>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>Number of units upgraded under Improvement Works Programme</td>
<td>438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loc 3</td>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>Number of private Housing Adaptation Grants Paid</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loc 1</td>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>Number of units upgraded under Improvement Works Programme</td>
<td>438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loc 2</td>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>New tenancies created</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loc 3</td>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>Number of private Housing Adaptation Grants Paid</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loc 4</td>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>% achievement Traveller Accommodation Programme targets</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loc 5</td>
<td>Planning</td>
<td>Number of formal pre planning enquiries and average waiting time</td>
<td>88 (16.85 working days)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loc 6</td>
<td>Environment</td>
<td>% schools participating in environmental campaigns (Green Schools)</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loc 7</td>
<td>Water</td>
<td>% of unaccounted for water</td>
<td>50.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loc 8</td>
<td>Youth/Community</td>
<td>Participation in sport (Leitrim Sports Partnership Events / Activities)</td>
<td>10,791</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Loc 9 | Youth/Community      | Usage of social infrastructure:  
  • No. of visitors to local authority facilitated leisure facilities per 1,000 population  
  • No. of children's playgrounds per 1,000 pop directly provided/facilitated by LCC  
  | 4,340 visitors per 1,000 population .594 |
| Loc 10| Youth/Community      | Number participating in Arts activities                                                                                                                                                                                         | 7,222                  |
| Loc 11| Corporate            | % Customer Contacts closed within 4 weeks                                                                                                                                                                                         | 95.38%                 |
| Loc 12| Finance              | % suppliers paid within 15 days                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 92.22%                 |
| Loc 13| Economic Development | Number of start-ups through LEO/local services (not including non eligible start ups who availed of training and mentor support).                                                                                           | 9                      |
| Loc 14| Economic Development | Number of grants approved (LEO)                                                                                                                                                                                                | 24                     |
| Loc 16| Economic Development | Number of participants on Start your Own Business Courses                                                                                                                                                                      | 5                      |
| Loc 17| Economic Development | Business vacancy rate                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 16%                    |
| Loc 18| Tourism              | Number of page visits to Tourism website  
  Number of Facebook Likes  
  Number of Twitter Followers  
  | 25,000  
  11,941  
  3,044 |
| Loc 19| Tourism              | Number of visitors at specific points  
  • Glencar Waterfall  
  • Costello Chapel  
  • Glenade Car Park  
  • Lime Kiln  
  | 91,571  
  31,906  
  4,010  
  2,803 |