

Audit Opinion

To the Members of Donegal County Council

I have audited the annual financial statement as set out on pages 37 to 69 for the year ended 31 December 2004 and have also issued a separate report in accordance with section 120 of the Local Government Act, 2001.

Responsibilities of the Council and the Local Government Auditor

The Council is by law, responsible for the maintenance of all accounting records including the preparation of the Annual Financial Statement. It is my responsibility, based on my audit, to form an independent opinion on the statement and to report my opinion to you.

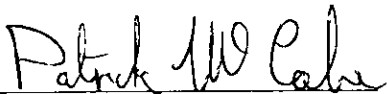
Basis of Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the principles and practice of Local Government Audit. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the annual financial statement. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made in the preparation of the financial statement, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Council's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

I planned and performed my audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which I considered necessary in order to provide sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the annual financial statement is free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error.

Opinion

In my opinion the annual financial statement presents fairly, in accordance with the Code of Practice and Accounting Regulations the financial position of the Donegal County Council at 31 December 2004 and its income and expenditure for the year then ended.



Local Government Auditor

Date: 9th March 2006