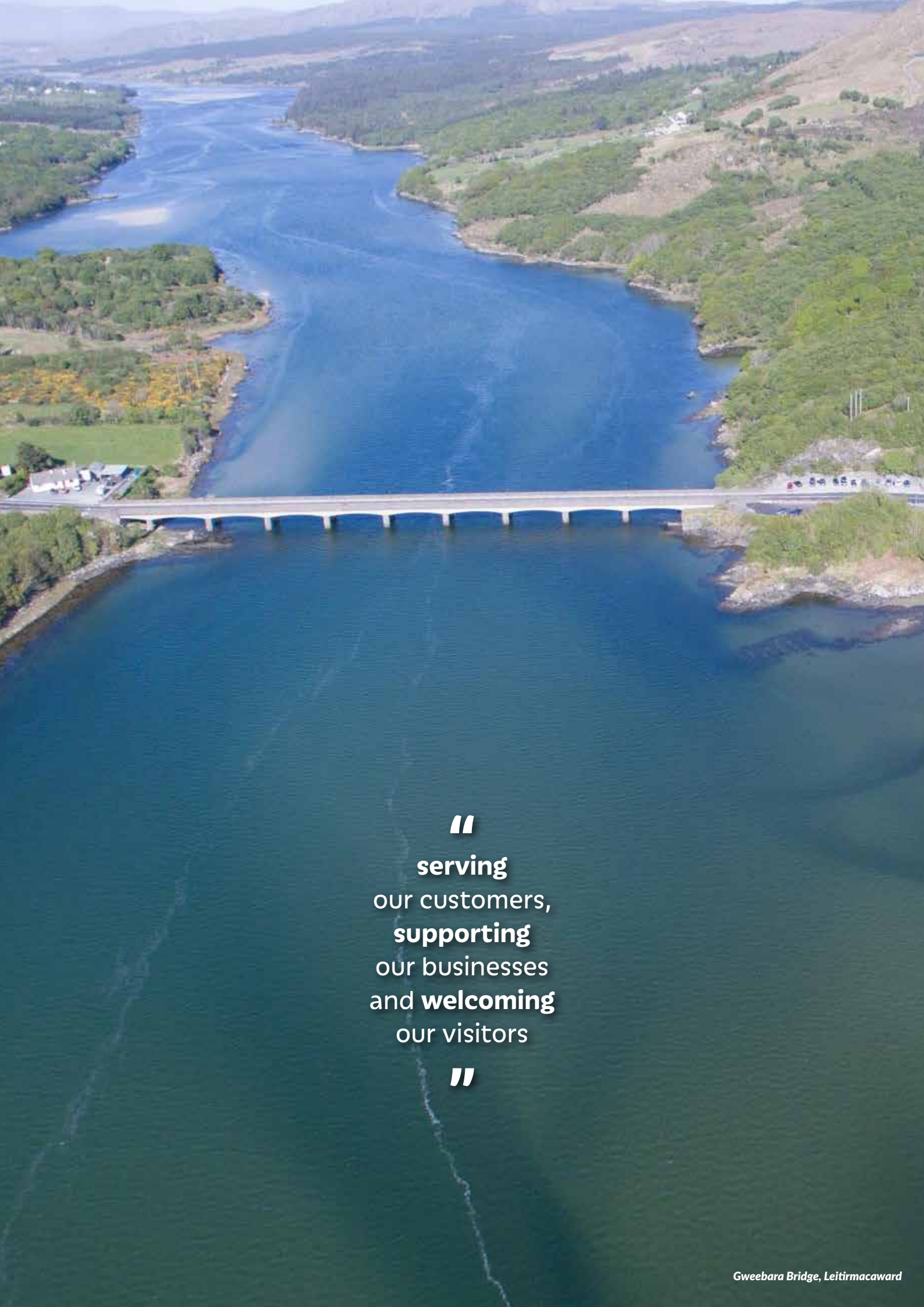




Annual Report 2017



**Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall**
Donegal County Council



“
serving
our customers,
supporting
our businesses
and **welcoming**
our visitors
”

Foreword

In 2017 Donegal received a number of impressive accolades including the 'coolest place on the planet' by National Geographic Traveller UK, 'the media's favourite place in Ireland' at the prestigious Travel Media Awards and 'Ireland's hidden gem' by the Irish Independent.

These accolades have contributed in no small way to the increase in visitor numbers to the county as has the filming of Star Wars: The Last Jedi at Malin Head and the success of the world class Wild Atlantic Way.

The Council continued to invest in the marketing of Donegal as a destination of choice and in the development of flagship tourism projects with works progressing well at Sliabh Liag, Malin Head and Fanad Lighthouse.

The momentum for growth generated by the work of the North West Strategic Growth Partnership received a strong endorsement from An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar when he visited the region in October. An Taoiseach confirmed the Government's commitment to delivering on the strategic growth priorities for the region including a commitment to the development of the A5/N2/N14 route.

Work to deliver our ambitious Social Housing Programme continued with new and innovative mechanisms being introduced for the delivery of social housing under a variety of programmes leaving us well placed to meet the targets set in the Government's Rebuilding Ireland Programme.

Investment in our national roads infrastructure continued with TII investing in excess of €19m in national roads in Donegal in 2017. The official opening of the N15 Blackburn Bridge Scheme Phase 1 and the N56 Boyoughter to Kilkenny took place in May.

Supporting businesses and promoting economic development and job creation continued to be a key priority for the Council. Revitalisation works were initiated in a number of towns and villages and substantial funding was secured for the development of a new Digital Innovation Hub at the former Buncrana Town Council offices.

In August the Inishowen peninsula experienced an extreme flooding event and the flood waters had a catastrophic impact on both private and public property with more than 50 households being displaced and causing destruction to roads infrastructure on an unprecedented scale.

Typical damage included collapsed bridge structures, entire sections of roadway washed away, road surfaces and drainage networks washed away, roads blocked with landslides and parks infrastructure destroyed.

Council staff responded to this event in a remarkable way and worked tirelessly not only on the night of the flooding but in the days, weeks and months following to assist and support those affected by the flood. We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the outstanding commitment and efforts made by our staff. We would also like to acknowledge the support provided by the community not just in Inishowen but across the whole county which demonstrated the compassion, the resourcefulness and the resilience of the people of Donegal.

It was with great sadness that we acknowledged the passing of the late Cllr. Sean McEniff one of the longest serving members of Donegal County Council and the former Bundoran Town Council. His service to Donegal and in particular to his beloved Bundoran spanned six decades and his loss will be felt by all in Donegal County Council.

We would also like to acknowledge the tremendous service given by former Cllr. Mick Quinn who retired from Donegal County Council in 2017. Cllr. Quinn represented the Letterkenny Municipal District and contributed greatly to the workings of the Council. We would like to wish Cllr. Quinn every health and happiness in his retirement.

This Annual Report summarises the many and varied activities and achievements of the Council in 2017. Working in partnership is the cornerstone of all that we do and we would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the support and assistance we receive from a range of agencies, groups and organisations that enable us to deliver this work with the purpose of developing sustainable, inclusive and prosperous communities.

We would like to thank the elected members, management and staff of the Council whose commitment and dedication is instrumental in making the Council such a vibrant, progressive and responsive organisation.



Gerry McMonagle

Cllr. Gerry McMonagle
Cathaoirleach



Seamus Neely

Seamus Neely
Chief Executive

Table of Contents

Members of Donegal County Council.....	5
Municipal Districts of County Donegal.....	7
Donegal County Council Management Structure	8
Council Meetings 2017	10
Civic Honours 2017	11
Community, Enterprise & Planning	12
Corporate, Housing & Culture	24
Finance, Information Systems & Emergency Services.....	38
Roads & Transportation	47
Water & Environment	54

Appendices

Council Membership of Committees and Other Bodies	64
Attendance of Members at Conferences 2017.....	69
Travel Abroad 2017	71
Members' Expenses 2017.....	71
Performance Indicators 2017	72



Europe Direct Information Centre Soap Box event in Central Library, Letterkenny.

Members of Donegal County Council

Municipal District of Donegal



Cllr John Campbell

Party: Independent



Cllr Tom Conaghan

Party: Independent



Cllr Noel Andrew Jordan

Party: Sinn Fein



Cllr Niamh Kennedy

Party: Independent



Cllr Michael Naughton

Party: Fianna Fáil from
24 July 2017



The late Cllr Sean McEniff

Party: Fianna Fail
Deceased 21 April 2017



Cllr Barry O'Neill

Party: Fine Gael

Municipal District of Glenties



Cllr Enda Bonner

Party: Fianna Fail



Cllr Maire Therese Gallagher

Party: Sinn Fein



Cllr Michael Cholm Mac
Giolla Easbuig

Party: Independent



Cllr Seamus O'Domhnaill

Party: Fianna Fail



Cllr John Seamais
O'Ferraigh

Party: Sinn Fein



Cllr Terence Slowey

Party: Fine Gael

Members of Donegal County Council

Municipal District of Inishowen



Cllr Paul Canning
Party: Fianna Fail



Cllr Nicholas Crossan
Party: Independent



Cllr Albert Doherty
Party: Sinn Fein



Cllr Rena Donaghey
Party: Fianna Fail



Cllr Martin Farren
Party: Labour



Cllr Martin McDermott
Party: Fianna Fail



Cllr Bernard McGuinness
Party: Fine Gael



Cllr Jack Murray
Party: Sinn Fein



Cllr John Ryan
Party: Fine Gael

Municipal District of Letterkenny



Cllr Liam Blaney
Party: Fianna Fail



Cllr Ciaran Brogan
Party: Fianna Fail



Cllr Jimmy Kavanagh
Party: Fine Gael



Cllr Michael McBride
Party: Independent



Cllr James Pat McDaid
Party: Fianna Fail



Cllr Ian McGarvey
Party: Independent



Cllr Gerry McMonagle
Party: Sinn Fein



Cllr John O'Donnell
Party: Independent



Cllr Mick Quinn
Party: Sinn Fein
Retired 31 May 2017



Cllr Dessie Shiels
Party: Independent



Cllr Adrian Glackin
Party: Sinn Féin from 29 May 2017

Municipal District of Stranorlar



Cllr Gerry Crawford
Party: Fianna Fail



Cllr Gary Doherty
Party: Sinn Fein



Cllr Liam Doherty
Party: Sinn Fein



Cllr Martin Harley
Party: Fine Gael



Cllr Frank McBrearty
Party: Independent



Cllr Patrick McGowan
Party: Fianna Fail

Municipal Districts of County Donegal



Donegal County Council Management Structure

There are five directorates in Donegal County Council. Each directorate is headed by a Director of Service and provides a range of functions and services.



Council Meetings 2017

There were 14 meetings of the Council in 2017 and each Municipal District met as follows:

- Donegal - 12 times
- Glenties - 12 times
- Inishowen - 10 times
- Letterkenny - 13 times
- Stranorlar - 10 times.
- Donegal Roll of Honour
- Donegal Draft Culture and Creativity Strategy 2018-2022.

Economic, Enterprise & Planning Policy

Cllr. Paul Canning

Chairperson

The Economic, Enterprise and Planning Policy SPC held three meetings and the following topics were discussed:

- Draft County Development Plan
- Local Area Plan
- Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy
- Letterkenny Local Area Plan
- Likely Impacts of Brexit on the North West
- 2017-2020 Draft Donegal Enterprise Development Plan
- Register of Protected Structures Process
- Structures at Risk Funding 2017
- Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2017
- Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2017
- Consideration of Draft Diaspora Plan
- Draft National Planning Framework Consultation
- Guidelines relating to Extension of Duration of Housing Scheme developments of 20 or more houses
- Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2017
- Interim Wind Energy Guidelines.

The Corporate Policy Group held 5 meetings.

Strategic Policy Committees

There are five Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs).

Community, Social & Cultural

Cllr. Marie Therese Gallagher

Chairperson

The Community, Social and Cultural SPC met three times and reviewed the following policies and issues:

- 1916 Programme
- Creative Ireland
- Peace IV – Update
- Communities Facilities Scheme
- Town & Village Programme 2017
- CLAR 2017 Programme



Council Meetings 2017

Environment & Emergency Services

Cllr. John O'Donnell

Chairperson (to 28/05/2017)

Cllr. Jack Murray

Chairperson (from 29/05/2017)

The Environment and Emergency Services SPC met four times and the following policies were agreed:

- Installation of fixed Air Quality Monitors for County Donegal
- A new competition for Tidy Towns groups in Donegal
- Provision of Public Conveniences in Donegal
- Promotion of Blue Flag Beaches in Donegal

Housing & Corporate Services

Cllr. Frank McBrearty

Chairperson

The Housing & Corporate Services SPC held three meetings and reviewed policies and procedures in relation to the following topics:

- Housing Capital Programme
- Polling Scheme
- Housing Adaptation/Mobility Aids Grant – Policy Review

- Resettlement Programme
- Housing Needs Assessment

Roads & Transportation

Cllr. John Ryan

Chairperson

The Roads and Transportation SPC met on five occasions during 2017 and was briefed on and considered many topics including;

- Road maintenance funding
- N2/A5 (Dublin to Derry/Donegal)
- TEN-T Projects in Donegal
- Speed Limit Review & Housing Estate Speed Limits
- School Safety Measures
- Local Improvement Schemes
- August 2017 Flood Event – Response and Repairs
- New arrangements for the Management of Road Openings
- NW Greenway Project
- CLÁR
- Unauthorised Roadside Signage
- Dredging
- Brexit
- National Planning Framework
- 3 Year Lighting and Footpath Programme
- Winter Maintenance Operation.



New house at Manorcunningham.

Civic Honours 2017

Seamus Coleman

Killybeg's man Seamus Coleman was awarded the Freedom of the County at a Civic Reception on the 2 June 2017 in recognition of his role in captaining the Ireland Soccer Team and as a highly respected member of the Everton Football Team. Seamus joins an elite group of eight on whom the Freedom of the County has been conferred.



Patsy McGowan

The former Finn Harps manager Patsy McGowan was honoured with a civic reception in the County House Lifford on the 27 March 2017 in recognition of his contribution to soccer in Donegal.



Josie Murray

A special reception to honour Josie Murray took place on Tuesday 9 May 2017 in Dungloe Public Services Centre in recognition of his outstanding achievements in Martial Arts and the contribution he has made to Martial Arts in Donegal, in Ireland and at an international level.



Community, Enterprise & Planning

2017 Highlights

89

groups

funded under Community
Facilities Scheme and 10
funded under RAPID
scheme.

→ **€4M**

awarded to
PEACE IV Action Plan



Donegal named as the
**'Coolest Place
on the Planet'**

by National Geographic Traveller UK.

500

attend

22 events

during Donegal
Enterprise Week



€2.1M

awarded to **64 projects** under

LEADER

€740,000 for **123** community projects under the Strategic Development Fund.

€318,000 for **453** community initiatives from Members Development Fund

Promoted Donegal at **9** national and international trade events.

€88,237 to **3 projects** under CLAR and **€1.4m** Town and Village monies to **13** projects.

LEO approved **€683K** to **35** projects with potential to create more than **90** new jobs.

Over **1,615** persons engaged in **94** training and management development programmes.

14 Businesses from North West participated in Trade Mission to Boston.

1,993 planning applications received.

240 new enforcement cases pursued.

40 estates taken in charge.

Community Development



Official signing of the new SICAP for Donegal

Fund Management

€740,000 was allocated to 123 projects or groups under the Development Fund Initiative and 453 community groups or projects benefited under the Members Development Fund which saw a total of €318,000 allocated.

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

The LCDC has responsibility for the implementation of SICAP 2015-2017 which focuses on empowering disadvantaged communities, lifelong learning and employment. It is delivered by Donegal Local Development Company and Inishowen Development Partnership.

It is also the Local Action Group responsible for the LEADER/ Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 and oversees a budget of €12.9m.

64 projects were approved with LEADER funding of €2.1 million being awarded.

89 groups received funding under the Community Facilities Scheme and a further 10 were funded under the RAPID scheme. Both schemes had a budget of €64,000.

Working with the Children and Young Peoples Services Committee €138,000 was secured under the Healthy Ireland Fund for projects that support the implementation of national policies relating to obesity, smoking, alcohol, physical activity and sexual health.

CLAR / Town & Village

The following funding was allocated:

- €88,237.50 to 3 project under CLAR
- €1,448,750 to 13 projects under Town & Village

PEACE IV Programme

The LCDC PEACE IV Partnership leads the development and implementation of the Peace IV Action Plan for County Donegal. This Plan has been allocated an indicative budget of €5.5 million to deliver a range of actions in the following areas:

- Children and Young People
- Shared Spaces & Services
- Building Positive Relations

€4,047,626 was approved in 2017 and it is expected that the remaining funding will be approved in 2018.

PEACE IV – Riverine Project

Stage Two application for the Riverine Project was submitted to SEUPB in March. A financial appraisal was undertaken and a final decision is expected in early 2018.

Social Inclusion / Community Development

Various social inclusion initiatives were continued including: Social Inclusion Week; Pride of Place; the Age Friendly Strategy and the Social Inclusion Measures Coordinating Group (SIM). Administrative support was provided to the Public Participation Network (PPN), the Older Persons Council and the Youth Council.



Environmental Showcase hosted by Donegal PPN in October

Letterkenny Gateway

A grant of €2 million was secured under the Designated Urban Centres Grant Scheme (2014-2020) for the Letterkenny Gateway. Plans were progressed for a Social Enterprise building in Letterkenny which will create a communal space for community and voluntary groupings.

IPB Pride of Place Awards

The IPB Pride of Place awards ceremony was hosted for the first

time by the Council and saw more than 800 people from all over Ireland attend the event which was held in Letterkenny on 2 December.

Comharchumann Forbartha Gaoth Dobhair came out top in the Creative Place Initiative while Letterkenny Youth and Family Services were runners up in the Category 8 - Community Reaching Out Initiative and Oileán Thoráí Tory Island were runners up in Category 10 - the Islands and Coastal Communities.



Comharchumann Forbartha Gaoth Dobhair winners of IPB Pride of Place award

Donegal Sports Star Awards

The 41st Donegal Sport Star Awards ceremony took place on Friday 27 January and Donegal County Council continued as the exclusive long time sponsor of these awards.

These awards recognise and honour the outstanding achievements of Donegal's sporting heroes in a wide array of sports. Sinead Jennings was named as the Overall Donegal Sports Person of the Year.

EU Funding and Policy Unit

The EU Unit continued to proactively target external funding opportunities. A number of EU funded projects are currently being delivered and a significant number of applications for a variety of projects have been submitted and are being assessed.



EU Funded Approved/Active Projects

Programme	Project Title	Description	DCC Budget
Interreg (NPA)	SECURE	Smarter energy communities.	€255,000
Interreg (NPA)	ASCENT	Errigal Mountain – environmental management.	€568,000
Interreg (NPA)	WaterPro	Water protection.	€252,000
Interreg (NPA)	Cool Route	Investigating business potential of yacht cruising routes.	€196,600
Interreg Europe Prog	HERICOAST	Heritage & cultural tourism.	€285,600
Interreg Europe Prog	NICHE	Innovation in the food industry.	€354,850
Creative Europe: COSME Ocean Heritage Route	Wildsea Atlantic conservation.	Marine tourism/	€61,000
ERDF/ALDA	LADDER	Global-development awareness raising.	€154,550
Interreg Atlantic Area Prog	CAPITEN	Marine tourism – sailing.	€165,000
Interreg Atlantic Area Prog	Atlantic on Bike	Marketing/ promotion of cycle ways.	€310,000
Interreg Cross Border Prog	North West Greenways Network	Development of Sustainable transport route on cross border basis	€8,334,132
Interreg Cross Border Prog	CatchmentCARE	To improve water quality in cross border river basins.	€2,850,000
Interreg VA Programme	BRYDEN Centre	Advanced Marine & Bio-Energy Research	No Donegal budget.
Interreg (NPA)	IMPROVE	Increase the level of innovation in six NPA peripheral regions in the field of technology-driven public service solutions.	€170,000
Interreg Northern Periphery & Arctic Prog	CINE	CINE is a collaborative digital heritage project which will explore the social, economic and political role of heritage within remote communities.	€168,000
Interreg Northern Periphery & Arctic Prog	Donegal Digital	Increase the level of innovation in six NPA peripheral regions in the field of technology-driven public service solutions.	€180,000
EU: COSME	Enterprise Europe Network	Assist local businesses with exporting opportunities. (over 3 yrs).	€600,000
Interreg Cross Border Prog	Co-Innovate	Enhance innovation capacity of SME's. (5 year plan).	€16.6M

Tourism Development & Promotion



Promoting Donegal at Holiday World 2017

A broad range of tourism related activities and events were delivered including:

- Ongoing financial support for Donegal Tourism CLG;
- An extensive marketing campaign promoting Donegal in not only the domestic market but the UK, European and American markets. This included TV, radio, print, direct mail and social media.
- Worked with industry providers to promote Donegal at nine trade events (nationally and internationally).
- Donegal Tourism, working with Failte Ireland, brought thirteen of the world's biggest bloggers to Donegal.
- Two tourism seminars were held.
- Donegal Tourism brought National Geographic UK to Donegal for one week which resulted in a 20 page supplement for the

September edition of National Geographic UK.

- Significant investment in flagship tourism projects including: Sliabh Liag, Malin Head and Fanad Lighthouse. Capital works including mountain path works at Sliabh Liag and the construction of a toilet block and car parking at Malin Head were progressed.

Donegal received a number of impressive accolades in 2017 including:

- Named as 'The Coolest Place on the Planet' by National Geographic Traveller UK.
- Named as the media's 'Favourite Place in Ireland' at the prestigious Travel Media Awards in Dublin.
- Named as 'Ireland's Hidden Gem' by the Irish Independent.

Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards

Donegal's Sea Sessions Surf and Music Festival was named Festival of the Year at the Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards.

This festival is one of Ireland's most highly respected small festivals and is widely recognised as being the country's premier music, camping and surfing lifestyle event. The Festival sells out to capacity crowds each year and continues to grow in popularity and has been supported by Donegal County Council.

Donegal County Council had three projects shortlisted for a Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Award including Wainfest Arts and Book Festival for Children under the Best Library Service category and County Donegal in 1916 History and Education Pack under the Commemorations and Centenaries category as well as the winning Sea Sessions Surf and Music Festival.

Air Access / Ferry Services

Air access to the region was supported with financial contributions being made to Ireland West and Donegal International airports. Financial contributions were also made towards the operation of two ferry services namely Greencastle-Magilligan (Foyle Ferry) and Bunrana-Rathmullan (Swilly Ferry).



Receiving National Geographic Traveller UK 'Coolest Place in the Planet' accolade

Enterprise and Economic Development

Local Enterprise Office

Grant Aid

The Local Enterprise Office approved grant aid of over €683,462 to 35 projects which had the potential to create 90 new jobs. There was a net gain of 100 jobs in LEO assisted businesses in 2017.

Mentoring / Training

1,615 persons engaged in 94 training and management development programmes with over 50% of these participants being female. Programmes included: Public Sector Tendering; Start Your Own Business; Digital Marketing; HR Programme; Strategic Marketing and Branding; Creative Business Development and Investment Programme; GENERATE; the Food Academy and a range of workshops in the Food sector.

In addition, 36 clients received mentoring support during the year.

Business workshops were run on the following: Intellectual Property; Public Procurement; Digital Marketing; Sales and Selling; Customer Service and Writing a Business Plan.

Following a formal review of the Food Coast Strategy in 2016, the key actions that were focussed on were on driving the Food Coast Brand, Food Coast Network and developing a Food Series.

Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur Programme

Over 50 applications for the county heat of Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur were received with the winning applicants being Thomas Mc Laughlin, Tadais, (Best Existing Business and Overall County Winner), Ciara Mc Glynn, Niche Specialist Resourcing, (Best New Start-Up Business) and Deirdre Ward (Best New Idea).

Enterprise Week

Donegal Enterprise Week ran from March 6th to 10th and had over 500 attendees. Enterprise Week 2017 had 22 individual events and featured key note speakers Nigel Risner, John Mahony, David Parrish and Aiden Blake. The week also featured a range of local small businesses in the food and creative sectors.

Trading Online Vouchers

38 Trading Online Vouchers to 38 businesses were approved. These vouchers fund the costs of a business enhancing its online presence and selling capabilities. The Voucher is at a rate of 50% to a maximum of €2,500 and is funded by the Department of Communications, Marine & Natural Resources.

Enterprise Europe Network

The LEO continued to lead out in the national delivery of the Enterprise Europe Network project through the 31 LEOs. Enterprise Europe Network is a national project involving the lead partner, Enterprise Ireland, the Chambers of Commerce in Dublin



Sharon McDaid Overall Business of the Year winner 2017



and Cork and the Local Enterprise Office in Donegal. It provides access to a network of over 600 enterprise support agencies in over 60 countries to assist businesses of every size in identifying and accessing international market opportunities.

NICHE

NICHE is a project aimed at increasing the level of innovation in businesses involved at all levels of the food value chain. The lead partner is the Western Region of Romania and there are seven partners in the project from Finland, Estonia, Poland, NI and Greece.

A Food Innovation programme was developed and delivered, best practice visits with companies from Donegal to Finland and Poland were held and work commenced on an action plan to identify key challenges and actions.

Co-Innovate

This cross border programme involves InterTradelreland (as the lead partner), Scottish Enterprise, Highland and Islands, Enterprise NI and the six border local authorities (LEOs). The project, which will run for a further four years, aims at increasing the number of small and micro businesses engaging in formal innovation with the ultimate outcome being at least 19 businesses or groups of businesses being capable of applying on the next round of Horizon 2020 funding. Delivery commenced in June 2017 and is on-going with regional workshops as the initial access point for companies to the project.

Everywhere International SMEs (EIS)

This EU INTERREG project is led by Hampshire County Council and has a range of 10 partners from 9 countries across Europe.

Its overall aim is to identify best practice, at both business and regional level, in the area of internationalisation of small businesses and the way in which internationalisation can be driven through competitiveness.

Donegal Diaspora

Quarterly editions of the Diaspora e-zine, Donegal Connected were issued.

In September the Tip O'Neill Diaspora awards were held with the 2017 award recipients being Packie Bonner, Barbara Koster, Marty Meehan and Frazer Doherty. The Diaspora Awards weekend featured workshops hosted by each award recipient in Ulster University, Magee on the Friday and an inaugural golf challenge with universities from the USA taking part.

In November there was a Trade and Investment mission organised in conjunction with Derry City and Strabane District Council that as well as re-affirming previous development and public sector networks also sought to identify inward investment opportunities for the region and new opportunities for the businesses that participated. In all, 14 businesses from Donegal and Derry/Strabane participated in the trade mission. Engagements were organised in Philadelphia, Worcester and Boston. The final event on the mission was attendance at the Golden Bridges Conference in Boston.

Research and Policy Unit

The Research and Policy Unit was involved in a wide range of activities including:

- the preparation of a monitoring and evaluation framework to

assess the impact of the Local Economic and Community Plan, 2016 – 2024;

- the analysis, collation and dissemination of key results from Census 2016 through Statistical Factsheets to understand the needs of those living or working in Donegal;
- research support for the development of the NICHE Action Plan;
- the assessment of key environmental indicators against the SEA objectives of the CDP 2012 – 2018;
- policy advice and expertise in drafting the Dungloe Local Area Plan;
- the measurement of key outputs and outcomes of the Donegal Road Safety Plan, 2016 – 2021;
- providing data for the Vacancy Action Plan, 2018;
- extensive baseline profiling for the CYPSE Children & Young People's Plan 2018-2020;
- the policy implications of the sectoral implication of BREXIT on County Donegal and the region;
- the preparation of needs assessments for the Local Area Hackney Licenses and feeding into the development of the North West City Dashboard.

Local Economic Development Committee (LEDC)

The Local Economic Development Committee met three times. The focus of the committee is on the delivery of the economic and enterprise related actions within the Local Economic and Community Plan and the identification of key challenges for the county.

The Enterprise & Skills sub-committee was established and met on three occasions. This sub-committee is made up of executives from the development agencies and organisations with the objectives of enhancing information sharing, maximising available resources and identifying any gaps in supports and key challenges.

North West Strategic Growth Partnership

The North West Strategic Growth Partnership led jointly by Donegal County Council and Derry City and Strabane District Council continued its work in 2017.

An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar visited the North West in October endorsing the North West regional growth structures and reaffirming the Government's commitment to delivering on the strategic growth priorities for the region.



An Taoiseach Leo Varadkar visiting North West in October

Planning Services

Central Planning Unit

A key element of the Central Planning Unit's work saw the publication of the Draft County Development Plan, 2018-2024, completion of the first phase of public consultation, and member's agreement to the publication of 40 no. material alterations for public consultation. It is anticipated that the Plan will be adopted in May, 2018 and that it will become operative the following month.

The Seven Strategic Towns Local Area Plan project also saw significant progress with the publication of the Draft Plan in November and the associated public consultation.

Two conservation grant schemes were administered:

- the Structures at Risk Fund
- the Built Heritage Investment Scheme.

150 structures were added to the Record of Protected Structures.

HERICOAST Project

The INTERREG Europe-funded HERICOAST project continued. The aim of this project is to improve the management of coastal natural and cultural heritage policies and members were updated at key junctures.

IMPROVE Project

The service is also a partner in the IMPROVE project working with local community groups seeking to develop methods of public participation and engagement with Planning using a living-labs approach. The project has partners in Iceland, Finland, Norway, Sweden and Derry that are collaborating on a number of initiatives where experience and methods of delivering co-produced public services can be shared.

Enforcement Unit

The Council's Enforcement Unit was strengthened and a number of reviews took place which resulted in the number of total live cases being reduced from 2188 to 818. This resulted in improved customer service and a significant drop in FOI and Ombudsman's requests.

Enforcement Data	2017
New cases opened	240
Warning Letters issued	330
Enforcement Notices issued	99
Urgent Notices Issued	42
Referrals for Court action	14
Cases Dismissed Following Investigation	234
Cases resolved through Negotiation	153



N56 Kiltroy Roundabout in Letterkenny

Housing Estate Improvement Works/ Unfinished Housing Estates

Work on unfinished estates under the Government's Site Resolution Funding scheme continued with €90,000 being spent.

A number of unresolved sites continue to be addressed using funds realised from developers' bonds. In the region of €321,000 was spent on such estates.

Taking in Charge - Residential Housing Estates

The taking in charge of residential estates progressed with funding received under the Government's National Taking in Charge Initiative. This funding was awarded for two different types of residential developments:

- a) €334,020 allocated to estates connected to the public foul network with €130,000 of this allocation spent in 2017.
- b) €625,653 allocated to estates serviced by developer provided infrastructure with €100,000 of this funding spent in 2017.

Funding was made available subject to the developments being taken in charge by the Council. 40 estates were taken in charge.

Development Applications Unit

The restructuring of staffing within the Development Applications Unit enabled specific measures to be taken to deliver a distinctly customer focused approach through the Municipal District structures. Customer services are subject to regular review to seek ongoing improvements.

There was a continued increase in the number of Planning applications received with 1993 applications received in 2017 representing a 24% increase in the number of applications received in 2014.

The profile of application types continued to show a steady number of residential type applications but also indicated a significant number of commercial applications.

The data belies the increasing complexity of cases, particularly in the area of habitat assessment, which has resulted in applications requiring a higher threshold of consideration than may have been the case previously.

Roughly a third of all applications have been the subject of requests for further information highlighting not just the complexity of cases but also a need for increased communications with Agents and Architects in relation to the emerging issues that have to be considered as part of the assessment of many applications. It is proposed that a series of localised workshops for Agents will be held in 2018.

The Planning Service is also involved in a range of other case types. These include for example, Pre-planning enquiries, Part 8 applications, forestry proposals, Section 254 licences, casual trading licences and enquiries relating to the processing and payment of development contributions.

The cumulative case load represents an unseen workload that has technical and administration resource demands that are delivered on a consistent basis by the service.





Corporate, Housing & Culture

2017 Highlights

124

events held during
Heritage Week

7,100

children and adults attended
Wainfest 2017



Improvement works to over 380 dwellings



€7m

spent on maintaining and improving
Housing stock and estates

2,426 persons in need of social housing with a net need of **905**

4,914 Council tenants

Improvement works to **483** dwellings under Fabric Upgrade Programme

Small scale adaptations to **31** dwellings and extensions to **6** dwellings

115 dwellings benefited from **€361K** for specific remedial or refurbishment works

105 households assisted with temporary or emergency homeless accommodation

Accommodation needs of **26** Traveller families met

864 private rented properties inspected

55 housing units acquired through Turnkey Acquisition

64 properties acquired under the Housing Acquisition programme

Development of **114** housing units progressed across the county

42 recruitment competitions held

New play 'Shoot The Gear' created from stories and memories gathered from Killybegs fishing community

History Table: Elevation sculpture unveiled in Lifford

Donegal's History touring exhibition curated



408 dogs

reunited with owners or re-homed
through the Donegal Dog Shelter

Housing Services

The overall aim of our housing policy is to enable every household to have an affordable dwelling of good quality, suited to its needs, in a good environment and, as far as possible, at a tenure of its choice.

The types of assistance provided ranged from a combination of allocating tenancies under the Social Housing Programme, the Voluntary Housing Programme, the Social Leasing Programme, and the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS), as well as transfers and approval of supports via the Housing Assistance Payment Scheme (HAP).

The Council also continued to manage and maintain tenancies and dwellings and provide support to our tenants. The refurbishment and upgrading of dwellings and estates continued through a number of programmes.

Grant assistance was provided to older people and people with disabilities under the Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme, the Mobility Aids Grant Scheme and the Housing Aid for Older People Grant Scheme. Housing Loan options continued to be available for first time buyers seeking to house themselves.

Housing Need

The Housing Needs Assessment undertaken at 28th June 2017 identified that there were 2,426 households approved for Social Housing Support in County Donegal. 1,521 of these were already in receipt of social housing support, and were seeking transfers from existing Council houses or from HAP tenancies. Therefore the net need in the county was 905.

The Council continues to strive to meet the needs of applicants using a combination of allocating existing or new Social housing stock, leased properties, accommodation acquired under RAS

and HAP, as well as accommodation obtained via Approved Housing Bodies.

Tenancies

A total of 218 new local authority tenancies were created, bringing the total number of local authority tenants to 4914 at the end of the year.

A total of 1,627 tenancies were in place under the Housing Assistance Payment Scheme by the end of the year. Together with new applications, significant progress was made in the transfer of existing rent supplement customers to the HAP scheme during the year. There was a further 256 households accommodated under the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS).

Maintenance and Improvement of Housing Stock

The Council has responsibility for 4,914 units. Over €7 million was spent on maintaining and improving our stock and estates. This includes routine maintenance and repairs, bringing vacant dwellings back to productive use, improving the energy efficiency of dwellings, as well as other specific remedial and refurbishment works.

Breakdown of Housing Units

Local Authority Standard Units	4701
Demountables	32
Long Term Leased Units (Private)	181
Total	4,914

Over €2.4 million was spent on routine maintenance and repairs.



Improvements to the Social Housing stock were also carried out under the following programmes:

- **Fabric Up-Grade Programme**
Improvement works to over 483 dwellings were carried out, with assistance from the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government, to the value of approximately €750,000 under the Programme. A total of 2,057 units have now had improvements carried out under this programme, which is aimed at improving the energy efficiency of dwellings.
- **Returning Vacant Properties to Productive Use**
159 vacant properties were returned to productive use in 2017. Over €3 million was spent which included funding assistance of almost €2 million from the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government under the Voids and the Long Term Derelict Voids Programmes.
- **Once off Adaptation Works and Extensions**
Over €600,000 was spent carrying out small scale adaptation works to 31 units and extensions to 6 units of our social housing stock. In most cases, this was for tenants with special needs and/or disabilities.
- **Specific Refurbishment/Remedial Works**
Another 115 units benefitted from expenditure of €361,973 on specific remedial or refurbishment works.

Estate Management

Estate Management forms an important part in the overall context of Housing Management. The Council presently has five Housing Assessment / Tenant Liaison Officers engaged in this role. Almost €67,000 was made available for estate management initiatives.

Homeless Supports

An interagency Homeless Action Team meets regularly in the county, to ensure that the appropriate support plans are in place for persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. During the year, 105 households were assisted with temporary or emergency homeless accommodation. The assistance was provided in conjunction with other local statutory and voluntary agencies including the St. Colmcille Hostel, in Letterkenny.

Tenders for Tenancy Support & Sustainment Services were sought. The overall objective is to provide a resettlement service to persons exiting emergency or short term accommodation, and to support households that are at risk of becoming homeless, to assist them to occupy (or continue to occupy) accommodation and progress from homelessness or potential homelessness towards independent sustainable living. The Service will not duplicate, replace or overlap with other relevant services, but will assist in accessing such services.

Inishowen Floods

In August 2017 there was major flooding in the county, mainly in the Inishowen Municipal District. Many families were displaced from their homes, and required various forms of assistance and support from a range of agencies including the Council. Part of the assistance involved arranging emergency and temporary housing support for displaced households.

Refugee Resettlement Programme

The Council was requested by the Department of Justice and Equality to act as the lead agency supporting the resettlement of Programme Refugees in Donegal. The Department's Irish Refugee Protection Programme (IRPP) is working through Local Authorities and local agencies in a number of counties to facilitate the integration and resettlement of refugees. The Resettlement Programme is steered and monitored by the Donegal Interagency Resettlement Working Group that includes representatives from statutory, community and voluntary agencies. The first families have been welcomed and housed in the county, under the Programme.

Housing Grants

Donegal County Council operates three grant schemes which are funded jointly by the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government (80%) and Donegal County Council (20%). The schemes are to assist people with disabilities and older people, to help them to live more comfortably or independently with their own homes. Over €1 million was paid out in grants during 2017 in respect of 216 dwellings.

The details of the grants activity is listed in the table below:

Grant Type	No of Grants Paid	Value
Housing Adaptation Grant.	70	€503,953
Mobility Aids Grant	21	€68,147
Housing Aid for Older People	125	€524,126

Traveller Accommodation

The Council in implementing accommodation targets set out in the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014 – 2018 continues year on year to meet and exceed target figures. A varying range of accommodation and improvements to existing accommodation for members of the Travelling community continues to be delivered. These are in addition to the accommodation solutions provided to meet the needs of the Traveller community through the Social Housing Investment Programme.

The completion of the Ballintra Halting site refurbishment and upgrade works were a significant achievement in 2017.

The accommodation needs of 26 Traveller families were as follows:

- 10 Standard Scheme Housing
- 4 Voluntary Housing



- 10 HAP
- 2 New/Refurbished Halting Site Bays

Capital Assistance Scheme

Over the years, Donegal County Council has engaged with the Approved Housing Body Sector and the Health Service Executive under the Capital Assistance Scheme to meet the needs of the elderly and persons with special needs.

Schemes under this Programme are now specifically targeted to provide special needs accommodation where the traditional forms of social housing supports will not deliver on this need. A total of 10 units was delivered under this programme with works under way on a further 61 units.

Social Leasing Programme

Under the Social Leasing Programme, suitable properties can be leased to the local authority for a ten year period. A total of 181 units have been leased under this programme to date.

The Council is also engaging with the Approved Housing Body Sector to deliver leased units under the Capital Advance Leasing Facility (CALF)/Payment & Availability Agreement Scheme. In 2017, 28 units were delivered under this scheme, bringing the total number leased by the Approved Housing Body Sector to 104 units.

Inspection of private rented dwellings

Our inspection programme of private rented dwellings increased to assess compliance with the statutory requirements for rented accommodation as outlined in the Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) Regulations, 2008 - 2017.

A total of 910 inspections were carried out on 864 properties,

and the Council has been following up with landlords with a view to having improvements carried out to private rented dwellings. While the initial programme of inspections has concentrated on those properties for which a HAP payment is being made it is intended to extend this to all private rented properties over the next couple of years.

Housing Capital

The Council is committed to meeting the targets and objectives set out in Rebuilding Ireland and continue to work closely with the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government as the main funder of our social housing capital programmes.

Significant progress was made in the design and delivery of social housing and a number of delivery mechanisms are being used to help meet the social housing need and the Council is successfully combining both acquisition and construction in the provision of high quality social housing.

The outturn figure for completed social housing units was 94. These units were delivered across a number of programmes. New and innovative mechanisms to deliver social housing were explored and these will be advanced and implemented under the Social Housing Investment Programme. Design of further housing schemes were progressed using both our internal design team and also by contracting external Architect Led Design Teams.

Social Housing through Turnkey Acquisition

Two separate procurement processes seeking social housing through turnkey acquisition was undertaken. 21 units at Stranorlar was acquired, made up of 18 no. 3 bedroom units and 3 no. 4 bedroom units, and departmental approval was received for the acquisition of a further 34 units at Letterkenny.

Initial steps to undertake a further turnkey procurement process were taken. This is a very ambitious project and is evident of the Council's commitment to meeting our social housing obligations and targets whilst encouraging economic development and employment at a local level.

House Acquisition Programme

62 properties were acquired under the House Acquisition Programme representing total investment of €8.6m. The House Acquisition Programme aims to enable the provision of social housing in an effective and timely manner to meet the needs of housing applicants and families.

Social Housing Design & Construction

The Council continued to design and construct social housing in line with departmental guidance. At the heart of the design of these homes are the tenants who will occupy them. All units are designed to be highly energy efficient, with low running costs, meeting the specific needs and requirements of tenants where necessary and are delivered to high specifications and standards in line with the building regulations.

The progression of developments is as follows:

**Donegal County Council
Social Housing Design & Construction Projects**

Location	Status	No. of Units
Ardara Phase 1	Completed Quarter 1 2017	1

Ardara Phase 2	Completed Quarter 3 2017	8
Manorcunningham Phase 1	Completed Quarter 2 2017	2
Carndonagh (Abbott's Wood)	Construction Stage	4
Newtowncunningham		7
Manorcunningham Phase 2		8
Buncrana	Design / Tender Stage	21
Killybegs		9
Long Lane Letterkenny		29
St. Johnston		6
Malin		8
Raphoe		11

It should be noted that the above developments are subject to Departmental approval as well requiring approval under Part VIII of the Planning and Development Acts 2000.

Energy Management System

Our energy performance improved by 7.9% from 2016 and we used over 4 million kWh less energy than in 2016.

A number of projects were implemented as part of our ISO 50001 accredited Energy Management system, including lighting upgrades in Dungloe and Carndonagh PSC, LED street lighting upgrades and energy awareness campaigns.

This was part of the Council's drive to improve energy performance throughout all operations.



Launching 'Turn it Off' Driver Awareness Campaign

Veterinary Service

Donegal County Council's Veterinary Service provides a statutory advisory and administrative role on matters relating to veterinary public health, responsible animal ownership and responsible animal management.

Veterinary Public Health

Under service contract to the Food Safety Authority of Ireland, Donegal County Council provides the regulatory control service in low throughput abattoirs, on-farm poultry slaughtering plants and meat processing establishments.

- 11 premises were under supervision
- 8,891 animals were inspected in 6 local abattoirs.
- 238 official control inspections were completed
- 134 control samples taken.

Animal Control

- 10 general dog licences, 6 lifetime dog licences and 8,051 individual dog licences were issued.
- 9 inspections were carried out under the Dog Breeding Establishment Act.
- 408 dogs were either reunited with their owners or re-homed through the Donegal County Council Dog Shelter.
- 24 stray horses were reported with 13 impounded.



Human Resources

Recruitment

A total of 42 competitions were held to fill vacancies across a range of areas. The competitions were held for both temporary/seasonal posts and full time posts as outlined in the Council's Workforce Plan. The Workforce plan sets out the staffing numbers required to support the delivery of essential Council Services across a range of areas.

Training and Development

The Council's Training Department delivered a range of courses for staff with a particular emphasis on Health and Safety, IT Skills and Customer Care.

The Staff Education scheme continues to provide opportunities for staff to pursue ongoing professional development, with access provided to a range of Diploma, Degree and Post Graduate courses. Staff undertook courses in the areas of Finance, Law, IT Skills and Engineering.

The Stranorlar Regional Training Centre saw a 16.43% increase in persons trained, compared with 2016. The Regional Training Centre delivered training across a range of areas, including Health & Safety, Plant and Machinery, and specialised roads, water and wastewater courses.

The new Road Opening and Reinstatement training area was completed further enhancing the outdoor training facilities available at the centre.

Staff Welfare

The Staff Welfare Office continued to provide support and assistance to staff. The Council provided access to the Employee Assistance Programme, which is a free and confidential service available to all employees and their immediate family members.

A pre-retirement planning course took place in July providing a range of advice and information to staff.

General Assemblies were held across the county, providing information and advice to outdoor workers on a range of areas, including Training, Retirement, Public Service Sick Leave Scheme and Staff Welfare/Employee Assistance Services.

Under the auspices of the County Partnership Committee, a new Sub-Group was established to develop a Health and Wellbeing Initiative for the Council.



Cultural Services

History Table: Elevation

History Table: Elevation which was created by artist Brian Connolly was unveiled on 27 March and embodies the commemoration themes of Remember, Reflect, Reimagine. The artwork, located at the Diamond, Lifford, just in front of the County House, represents an archway, a threshold and a link between past, present and future.

Commemorative Medal

Defence Force Ireland donated a 1916 Centenary Commemorative Medal (An Bonn Comórtha Céad Bliain 1916) to the County Museum. It was designed to reflect the tradition of the original 1916 medals but was made respectfully different in deference to the men and women of 1916 who were originally awarded the medal.

Digitization of meeting minutes

The minutes of meetings from the year 1916 (and surrounding years) of the local authorities of County Donegal were digitised in 2016 and launched in May. The minutes reflect the social, economic and political climate of local areas in the county, the county itself, and the country during the early years of what we now know of as the Decade of Centenaries. The minutes are available to view on the Archives section of the Council's website.

Creative Ireland Programme

Creative Ireland is a culture-based programme underpinned by the key values identified in Culture 2025/Éire Ildánach.

Local Authorities are involved in the delivery of all 5 pillars in the programme and will take the lead on Pillar 2:

- Enabling the creative potential of every child
- Enabling creativity in every community
- Investing in our creative and cultural infrastructure
- Ireland as a centre of excellence in media production
- Unifying our global reputation

A well attended public workshop was held in April to outline the programme and to inform the Donegal Creative Ireland 2017 action plan, which along with all other local plans, was launched at Dublin Castle in May. The Taoiseach selected a single event out of all 31 plans, and it was an acknowledgement of how Donegal's plan perfectly reflected the aims and ethos of Creative Ireland when Donegal's Arts and Book Festival for Children, Wainfest, was the one event selected for special mention.

Further public consultation took place in September/October to inform the Donegal five year plan. Five strategic priorities were identified and the draft document was approved at the November SPC meeting.

Library Service

Wainfest Arts and Books Festival for Children

A hugely successful Wainfest festival took place from the 7 -15 October. The programme comprised of 119 events in 34





Laureate na nÓg, PJ Lynch guest readers during Night Night North West

venues across the county with over 7,100 children and adults attending these events. A major highlight for Wainfest was the short listing of the festival for a Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Award in the Best Library Service Category.

Night Night North West

In November the Library Service partnered with Donegal based television, film & radio company Real Films and Highland Radio to work on the radio series, Night Night North West. Guest storytellers read Irish stories of myth and legend. The storytelling sessions were recorded for broadcast in early 2018. The Library Service hosted Laureate na nÓg, PJ Lynch as one of the guest readers.

Library Promotional Video

A three minute promotional video was commissioned and launched in August. The video entitled Transform, Enrich and Inspire is available to view on the library website www.donegallibrary.ie. The video promotes libraries in Donegal as vibrant, busy, educational and cultural community hubs.

ICT Services

The network of RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) self-service kiosks was extended to include the Twin Towns and Bundoran Community libraries. Funding announced by the Department of Rural and Community Development enabled RFID tagging of approximately 143,000 items, and the planned



Breandán de Gallai's new work, Aon, performing in Amharclann Ghaoth Dobhair

installation of 11 further kiosks and security gates across the library network.

Right to Read

The Right to Read programme brings together local authorities and local bodies involved in supporting literacy and reading development. An Action Plan for Donegal was drawn up and implemented. Highlights included Spring into Storytime sessions during April, the Summer Stars reading programme and Wainfest in October. Partnership projects included Bookworm Babies and Creating Lifelong Readers, as well as programmes with local schools such as Battle of the Books and Bite Size Books.

Arts Service

The Arts Service continued to support the creation of new artwork in Donegal, including a Spring tour of Bread and Roses Theatre's Waving Not Drowning as well as touring shows and new productions by Inishowen Carnival, Balor Rep Theatre, Donegal Drama Circle and Dark Daughter Productions.

The Service was delighted to partner with An Grianán Theatre to devise and present a new play, Shoot The Gear, created from stories, memories and reminiscences gathered among the fishing community of Killybegs, by An Grianán's theatre-artist-in-residence, Guy Le Jeune.

Arising from a visit to Donegal, in 2016, of Cultural Directors from the Council's EDGES International Cultural Partnership region of Vesteralen, Burnfoot-based LUXe landscape theatre company travelled to Northern Norway in February and September to complete residency projects in Andøy, Sortland and Melbu.

The Council continued its support of the Earagail Arts Festival who animated Donegal's Wild Atlantic Way with an exciting, bilingual programme of some 165 events in 30 venues spread across 16 towns, villages and islands. Among the highlights was the world premier of Gaoth Dobhair choreographer Breandán de Gallaí's new work, Aon, at the newly refurbished and re-opened, Amharclann Gaoth Dobhair.

An Grianán Theatre had a major focus on youth activities, including its first fully staged production from An Grianán Youth Theatre, presented in July. The young actors adapted the classic television comedy series, 'Blackadder Goes Forth', for the stage, and performed and produced the project under the mentorship of the professional in-house team.

The Theatre also collaborated with Letterkenny's ZoNa Dance Company, for the first time, to produce a beautiful adaptation of The Nutcracker as their Christmas show. With a new script from An Grianán's Theatre Artist in Residence, the show enjoyed six sell-out performances which appealed to schools and family audiences alike.



Artist Maria McKinney whose Sire exhibition featured in the RCC

Regional Cultural Centre

Exhibition programme

The Regional Cultural Centre, one of the finest arts facilities in Ireland, continued to commission and show major Irish and international art exhibitions. The programme featured a number of large-scale, one-person, shows by Donegal artists. These included Maria McKinney's Sire comprising sculpture, photography and film, investigating genetics in cattle. The main summer exhibition was Exploring Architecture, paintings and drawings, by Eamon O'Kane, as part of a series of art & architecture exhibitions.

Music programme

The music development programme continued and presented a year-long series of concerts that featured Spring and Autumn programmes and a number of festivals including, Letterkenny Trad Week, Distorted Perspectives and Donegal International Folk & Roots Weekend as part of the Earagail Arts Festival.

Donegal County Museum

A Vanished World: the Landed Gentry of Donegal exhibition

A series of events was organised to commemorate the Decade of Centenaries and as part of the Creative Ireland programme for Donegal. The updating of the County Donegal Book of Honour continued and in November the Museum worked with



Fanad Health Club Archive Collection

the Inniskilling Museum, Enniskillen to host a World War I Study Day for Secondary Schools at which the Victoria Cross won by Private James Duffy was displayed.

The Museum developed exhibitions with the Archives Service and the Heritage Office including In Search of the Donegal Vernacular Cottage and A Vanished World: the Landed Gentry of Donegal.

The Museum organised events during the Bealtaine Festival, Heritage Week, Culture Night and Wainfest.



A Vanished World: the Landed Gentry of Donegal exhibition

In September the Museum took part in the first partner meeting of the Connected Culture and Natural Heritage in a Northern Environment (CINE) project. CINE is a collaborative digital heritage project between partners from Norway, Iceland, Ireland and Scotland, funded by the Northern and Arctic Periphery Programme (ERDF).

Archives Service

The Archives Service curated a new touring exhibition, in English and Irish, focusing on aspects of Donegal's history. Themes include railways, the GAA, schools, maps, workhouses and the War of Independence. The exhibition went on display in various venues.

Collections on Donegal Grand Jury, Fanad Nursing Association, and life in west Donegal were digitised. Two fragile 19th century hotel visitors' books from Gweedore Hotel were conserved, part funded by Creative Ireland.

Collections

Several significant collections were acquired. These included school rollbooks, the O'Donnell Genealogy from the Courthouse in Lifford and the Fr Jackie Fitzgerald oral history.

Researchers were assisted by letter, phone, email, social media and at the Archives Service research room. The Archives Service provided access to Donegal County Council's non-current

records and made recommendations regarding the disposal of the Council's non-archival records and preservation of its archives.

County Donegal in 1916: From the Edge, History & Heritage Education pack, coordinated by the Archives Service with the Museum, Heritage Office & Library Service in 2016, was shortlisted for a Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Award.

County Donegal Heritage Office

Over 120 people attended the Conservation without Frontiers Cross-Border Built Heritage Summer School in June organised by the Ulster Architectural Heritage Society and the Irish Georgian Society in association with Donegal County Council, Derry City & Strabane District Council and The Heritage Council. The Heritage Office in association with other Cultural Services curated and produced the In Search of the Donegal Vernacular Cottage exhibition.

A study of lime kilns, a booklet on the 1930s Schools' Manuscript Collection and an oral history training workshop were undertaken.

Heritage Week was a tremendous success again with over 124 events organised and the popular Heritage Week Event Guide produced.



Éanna Ní Lamhna with schoolchildren in forest during Heritage Week

The annual Local Authority Tidy Towns Pollinator Award was co-sponsored and Bunrana Tidy Towns was a regional award winner.

The Heritage Office co-organised Creative Habitats workshops, launched the Heritage & Habitat Teachers' Guide and oversaw the conservation of a traditional chair.

Donegal Film Office



Donegal Film Office received over 80 enquiries from production companies' including enquires for assistance with locations, services, accommodation and promotion. The film office

continues to work in co-operation with the Irish Film Board and more recently with the WRAP Fund Manager to secure productions to the county.

The continued support of the community of Donegal ensures that the Film Office can promote the county as a viable location. Living on the edge of Europe we depend on film to get Donegal seen by international audiences and use film production as a driver for tourism and economic development. This is our motivation to succeed.

The first look screening of Star Wars: The Last Jedi took place in Century Cinemas in Letterkenny in December and over 200 invited guests were invited. In May 2016, Malin Head was one of a number of locations across the world where scenes from Star Wars: The Last Jedi was filmed.



First look screening of Star Wars: The Last Jedi in Century Cinemas



Finance, Information Systems and Emergency Services

2017 Highlights

Councils IT infrastructure serves
107 locations
countywide

15,508



Facebook likes



6,955

Twitter followers

91

volunteers with
Donegal Civil Defence

over
€1.7m
NPPR
charges collected



New

**Central Invoice
Matching Team**

established

907

incidents requiring Fire Brigade response

120,000 individual payment transactions worth **€130m**.

Almost **€11.6m** in rent collected from Council tenants

Rate demands issued to **5,325** commercial properties and **€26.4m** collected

€1.5m secured for development of the Inishowen Digital Innovation Hub

15 retained Fire brigades and **2** voluntary brigades

176 Fire Safety Certificate applications received and **202** inspections under annual licensing programme

36 training courses for Fire Service personnel delivered

Donegal Civil Defence provided community assistance to **33** community events providing **3,165** voluntary man-hours

Management Accounts

The Management Accounts Section has primary responsibility for the preparation, management and oversight of the Annual Revenue Budget and the rolling three-year Capital Budget.

The 2017 Revenue Budget was adopted by the Elected Members on the 28th of November 2016 in accordance with the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) and within the period prescribed by the Minister for Housing, Planning & Local Government.

The 2017 - 2019 Capital Budget was prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) and was considered by the Elected Members at the Council Meeting of 28th November 2016.

Annual Revenue Budget 2017	€135,063,846
Three-Year Capital Budget 2017 - 2019	€191,306,487

Quarterly EU/IMF Financial Returns and other statutory returns were made on a periodic basis. The Council's submission under the Public Spending Code was completed and is published online.

Amongst other things, the Management Accounts Section also manages the Council's Insurance Book, Loan Book, Procurement function, recoupment of costs under the terms of the Service Level Agreement with Irish Water and the many ongoing day-to-day budgetary matters affecting the organisation at large.

Financial Accounts & Financial Information Systems

Payroll

In excess of 1,700 staff past and present were paid and this amounted to a gross payment in excess of €52 million with all the associated deductions, both statutory and voluntary.

The Section also implemented:

- Shorter Working Year
- Re-introduction of functionality back to the Payroll team
- Payroll now provides all the calculations related to deductions and allowances
- All amendments now communicated through PDIS & PDCS (MyPay)
- Consolidate prior year changes in process and procedures
- All staff complete detailed tax training.
- Work on MyPay continued.

Accounts Payable & Central Invoice Matching

Payments in excess of €130 million per year were processed representing over 120,000 individual transactions.

This section also managed all the indirect taxes; VAT, Intra Community Acquisition Tax, Relevant Contracts Tax, Professional Services Withholding Tax and Income Tax and all associated regulatory and compliance requirements.

A new Central Invoice Matching (CIM) Team was constituted.



Main Street Letterkenny

This Team underwent specific tax training in all of the above taxes. They also received training on Agresso 5.4 and Agresso MS4, an upgraded financial management system (FMS) for the Local Government sector.

The implementation team (comprising the CIM & FMS Team) first implemented Central Invoice Matching in Agresso 5.4 and CIM was then re-implemented in MS4. Updated processes and procedures were implemented taking into account the new functionality offered by MS4.

Financial Accounting, Financial Systems Management & Milestone 4 Project Team

The work of the Financial Accounting section included:

- Annual Financial Statements
- Annual Audit
- General Government Balances /EU/IMF Reporting
- Tax Compliance
- Advice for other Departments

The work of Financial Systems Management included:

- Systems support
- Systems maintenance
- Accounting changes
- System advice

Milestone 4 Project Team

The Milestone 4 Project Team was formed and tasked with the introduction of Agresso Milestone 4, an upgraded financial management system for the Local authority sector. Milestone 4 was the biggest system change since the introduction of Agresso in 2001.

Bank & Treasury Management

Management of the Councils bank accounts and investments continued ensuring adequate financial resources for the Councils activities. A review of investment options was undertaken resulting in the highest rate of interest possible being attained while ensuring that the Councils assets are safeguarded including cognisance of the Bank Resolution and Recovery Directive.

Income Collection Unit

Commercial Rates

In January, rates bills were issued to 5,325 businesses and the combined total of the rates bills was €30.3m. The value of the individual rates bill varied greatly with only 25% of properties having a bill of more than €4,359 in 2017, which represented 1,362 of the total properties. Cash collected totalled €26.4m, and over €3m was deemed as not collectable as the property was not occupied for all or part of the year.



Playground at Tamney

Almost 2,000 customers availed of the Business Incentive Scheme.

Housing Rents

Almost €11.6m was collected from tenants and represents a collection performance of 89%.

Housing Loans

Almost €2m is collected annually from borrowers who are repaying housing loans. A number of options are available to borrowers who are experiencing financial difficulties in maintaining their repayments and the Local Authority Mortgage to Rent Scheme has facilitated a number of families to remain in their homes and become tenants of the Council.

The Shared Ownership Restructuring Option was progressed allowing borrowers to restructure their existing shared ownership loans.

NPPR

Over €1.7m was collected from property owners liable for arrears of the Non Principal Private Residence (NPPR) charge.

Development Charges

The Unit took over responsibility for the collection of development charges which are attached to conditions of planning permission.

Income and Expenditure Account Statement for Year ending 31st December 2017 (Unaudited)

	Gross Expenditure 2017 €	Income 2017 €	Net Expenditure 2017 €
Housing & Building	18,096,869	19,793,096	(1,696,227)
Roads Transportation & Safety	47,085,595	32,490,907	14,594,688
Water Services	17,182,566	16,821,180	361,386
Development Management	11,002,915	2,851,698	8,151,216
Environmental Services	12,011,450	1,540,546	10,470,905
Recreation & Amenity	7,864,823	613,752	7,251,071
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	2,086,148	594,874	1,491,274
Miscellaneous Services	23,672,566	14,650,306	9,022,261
Total Expenditure/Income	139,002,931	89,356,358	
Net cost of Divisions to be funded from			49,646,573
Rates & Local Property Tax			
Rates			30,400,611
Local Property Tax			25,119,850
Pension Related Deduction			
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year before Transfers			5,873,888
Transfers from/(to) Reserves			(5,109,853)
Overall Surplus/(Deficit) for Year			764,035
General Reserve @ 1st January 2017			(9,717,139)
General Reserve @ 31st December 2017			(8,953,104)

Note: These figures are inclusive of transfers to/ from reserves and Standard Rounding rules apply.

Note: These figures are inclusive of transfers to/ from reserves

Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet)**at 31st December 2017 (unaudited)**

	2017 €	2016 €
Fixed Assets		
Operational	728,582,040	724,843,910
Infrastructural	2,597,728,501	2,597,728,501
Community	6,744,538	6,753,662
Non-Operational	55,734,953	55,734,952
	3,388,790,032	3,385,061,025
Work in Progress and Preliminary Expenses	95,171,860	92,762,694
Long Term Debtors	62,513,693	66,959,775
Current Assets		
Stocks	920,907	772,789
Trade Debtors & Prepayments	17,844,490	19,361,684
Bank Investments	49,786,156	40,390,555
Cash at Bank		
Cash in Transit	477,089	716,239
	69,028,642	61,241,266
Current Liabilities (Amounts falling due within one year)		
Bank Overdraft	1,037,618	2,357,705
Creditors & Accruals	37,257,766	28,570,431
Finance Leases	38,295,385	30,928,136
Net Current Assets / (Liabilities)	30,733,257	30,313,130
Creditors (Amounts falling due after more than one year)		
Loans Payable	115,216,897	122,997,563
Finance Leases		
Refundable deposits	6,606,978	6,937,623
Other	20,979	136,105
	122,044,854	130,071,291
Net Assets	3,455,163,988	3,445,025,332
Represented by		
Capitalisation Account	3,388,790,032	3,385,061,025
Income WIP	95,565,359	92,497,131
Specific Revenue Reserve		
General Revenue Reserve	(8,953,104)	(9,717,139)
Other Balances	(20,238,300)	(22,815,684)
Total Reserves	3,455,163,988	3,445,025,332

Note: 2016 figures included reflect the final audited figure for that year.

Information Systems

Information Systems

Donegal County Council's Information Technology infrastructure serves 107 locations countywide and is one of the largest Local Authority networks in Ireland. The infrastructure comprises of:

- 91 Servers
- 1,170 Desktop & Notebook computers
- 480 Printers/Scanners/Plotters
- 17 PABX Telephone Systems
- 900 Telephone Handsets
- 107 Tablets

In addition to this ICT infrastructure, a wide range of Council business support systems are managed on a daily basis.

The Council's Corporate Plan 2015-2019 provides a local context for Information Systems Operational Planning which is geared to supporting its strategic objectives and priorities.

New system implementations included a cloud based office automation solution for the Roads Management Office, a web based project management system for the Local Economic & Community Plan as well as a GIS based public consultation pre-planning system. The Council's Web Mapping Portal continues to develop and delivers mapping on a wide variety of themes such as winter weather, public services and public events.

Ernact

Participation continued, via the ERNACT (www.ernact.eu) network, in co-operative EU projects. The CLEAN project was launched in April with a focus on energy efficiency in public buildings.



ERNACT Interregional Management Committee held in Donegal in September

Donegal Digital



The Donegal Digital Project was further developed and is driving a range of job creation activities associated with Digital Technologies. This cross agency initiative is supported by Enterprise Ireland, IDA, Údarás na Gaeltachta, Fáilte Ireland, ERNACT, Letterkenny Institute of Technology, Pramerica Systems Ireland, and is co-ordinated by the Donegal County Council Head of Information Systems.

Under the Donegal Digital framework, the Council was successful in a funding application to Enterprise Ireland for the development of a Digital Innovation Hub on the site of the former Town Council Offices in Bunrana. This €1.5m project is of strategic importance for the entire Inishowen peninsula and it will provide a range of innovation, technology transfer and digital enterprise support services to potential start-ups and existing businesses in the region. The Innovation Hub will support job creation by increasing the level of digital innovation education and training, as well as providing office accommodation for small digital enterprises as well as multinational organisations.

Broadband

The Information Systems Department continued to work with relevant Government Departments and Telecommunications Companies to assist the roll-out of high-speed broadband throughout Donegal. Fibre to the premises high speed broadband continued to rollout strongly throughout the county as a result of the OpenEir rural fibre programme and the SIRO project in Letterkenny.

In line with government policy, a Broadband Development Officer was assigned with the objective of supporting the expeditious roll-out of the National Broadband Plan in Donegal, and in delivering associated elements of the Council's Digital Action Plan.

Communications Office

The Communications Office is responsible for proactively promoting the services, supports and activities of the Council, managing the Council's online presence including website and social media sites, providing a media enquiry service and issuing official Donegal County Council comment to the media.

Social Media

Social media is an essential communications tool and is particularly important during times of service disruption or extreme weather events.

The number of Likes on Donegal County Council's Facebook page increased by 52% in 2017 to 15,508 Likes and its reach increased by 116% to 4,029,243 with 290,186 engaged users, an increase of 126% on 2016 figures.

Key performance indicators for Councils Facebook Page

	2016	2017	% Change
No. of Likes	10,214	15,508	52
New Likes	4,007	5,787	44
Engaged Users	128,205	290,186	126
Total Reach	1,869,133	4,029,243	116

Donegal County Council posted 1,585 tweets in 2017 and the number of Twitter followers increased by 23% to 6,995 on its @DonegalCouncil account. There were 1,678,400 Twitter impressions representing an increase of 36% on the 2016 figure and 54,697 profile visits.

Key performance indicators for Councils Twitter account

	2016	2017	% Change
Followers	5,663	6,955	23
Tweets Posted	1,588	1,585	0
Impressions	1,231,700	1,678,400	36
Profile visits	40,834	54,697	34
Mentions	2,313	4,058	75
New followers	1,115	1,292	16

Website

The number of users increased almost two-fold since 2015 (99.55%) from 135,596 in 2015 to 270,579 in 2017. The number of sessions increased by 52% from 281,572 in 2015 to 426,766 in 2017 while the number of page views increased by 33% to just over one million page views in 2017.

Media relations

The Communications Office continues to work closely with local print, broadcast and online media in conveying important messages from the Council to the general public.

374 press releases and news alerts were issued and approximately 520 queries from local and national media outlets were dealt with. The office managed a number of packages with local media outlets for use by various Council services.



Fire Service

Donegal County Council as the Fire Authority for the County continues to discharge its operational and fire safety functions. The operational service is provided by 15 Retained Fire Brigades, by voluntary units on Aran Mór Island and on Toraigh Island and by Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service which provides the operational service to defined parts of the county, primarily in the vicinity of Bridgend and Lifford. Donegal County Council also provides the operational service to parts of counties Leitrim and Sligo.

Incidents

The provisional incident data indicates that there were 907 incidents in the county in 2017 that required a fire brigade response which is an increase of 31.4% compared to 2016.

These incidents covered a spectrum of activities that include fires, road traffic collisions, flooding and other special services.

The extensive flooding that occurred in Inishowen on the 22 August 2017 was one such incident and this event resulted in the mobilisation of 7 brigades.

In total Donegal brigades mobilised on 1,082 occasions in 2017 which includes mobilisations into Counties Fermanagh, Leitrim and Sligo.

Capital Programme

The three year programme to enhance the welfare facilities at Ballyshannon, Bundoran and Glencolmcille fire stations concluded with the placing of portacabins and the completion of associated ancillary works.

Fire Prevention

176 Fire Safety Certificate applications were received representing an increase of 21.3% when compared to 2016.

202 inspections under the annual licensing programme were carried out and a fire safety seminar for nursing home providers was held. The objective of the seminar was to increase awareness among service providers of their obligations under the Fire Services Acts, 1981 and 2003.

The Primary Schools Programme on fire safety in the home continued to be rolled out to third class pupils.

Major Emergency Planning

Donegal County Council continues to participate with its partner Principal Response Agencies, and with other Statutory and Voluntary Agencies, in planning and training activities organised by the North West Regional Group for Major Emergency Management.

The Northwest Regional Group hosted a Conference / Expo for the Voluntary Emergency Services on Saturday 21 October 2017 at Finner Camp in Ballyshannon showcasing the specialist skills and resources available from within the Voluntary Emergency Services sector. The objective was to develop and enhance the links that already exist between the Principal Response Agencies and the Voluntary Emergency Services.

Training

36 training courses were organised by Donegal Fire Service or sourced from external providers including the National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management (NDFEM).

Each retained brigade has two, three hour drills each month. The drills are both lecture room and activity based and cover a spectrum of training activities.



Conference/Expo for Voluntary Emergency Services at Finner Camp, Ballyshannon.

Civil Defence

Donegal Civil Defence, a volunteer based organisation, continues to support the Primary Response Agencies, while also assisting, where feasible, the local communities in Non-Emergency activities.

The operational service was provided by 91 volunteers, (37 Female, 54 Male) and was managed by the Civil Defence Officer. Training continues to be delivered weekly through 4 centres:

- o Civil Defence Headquarters, Stranorlar
- o Carndonagh Auxiliary Fire Station
- o Donegal Town Fire Station
- o The Hay Hall, Carrigart.

Community Assistance

Civil Defence provided community assistance to 33 Non-Emergency events, where they provided 3,165 voluntary man-hours with Ambulance and First Aid Cover and Water Safety Duties to a variety of events that included Community Festivals, Sporting Events, and other local events.

Training

To maintain operational readiness Civil Defence continued to develop and roll out its training programmes in a variety of areas;

- 19 members in Cardiac First Response.
- 20 members in the new First Aid Responder course.
- 6 members in Emergency First Responder Training.
- 12 volunteers in Search Operator Training.
- Civil Defence Officer and 3 volunteers awarded Lantra 4 x 4 Off Road Driving (Professional) certificates
- 12 Swiftwater and Flood First Responders.
- All volunteers received the revised CISM and Induction and Child Protection training.
- 16 Auxiliary Fire Fighters trained under the Fire Services Council programme.
- 6 additional camera operators were trained to assist the Drone Pilots.
- 36 volunteers participated in service training day on treatment of casualties, following a road traffic accident,
- Participated in Department of Agriculture training on prevention and control of Avian Influenza.
- 16 volunteers undertook advanced helicopter training with the Irish Coastguard.

Participated in Expo for Voluntary Emergency Services in North West in October.

PRA Support

Donegal Civil Defence assisted:

- o Health Service Executive with Patient Transfers on 9 separate occasions.



Members of Donegal Civil Defence at Emergency Services Expo at Finner Camp

- o An Garda Síochána at 3 separate missing person searches at Doolin, Co. Clare, Grange, Co. Sligo, and Enniscrone, Co. Sligo.
- o An Garda Síochána, daily from 20 March 2017 until 8th April in search for the missing crew from Rescue 116, which crashed into the Atlantic Ocean during a rescue mission off the coast of County Mayo.
- o Donegal Fire Service at Gorse Fire near the Glenevin Waterfall, Clonmany.

Charitable Work

On Saturday the 20 May 2017, 31 members of Donegal Civil Defence along with members of Leitrim, Cavan, Tipperary and Sligo Civil Defence took on the challenge of climbing Errigal Mountain, in aid of The Irish Motor Neurone Disease Association (IMNDA) following the diagnosis of one of their long serving members and friend Mr. John Cunningham, AFS Unit, Carndonagh, who was diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease. The event raised €4,856.50.

Regional Competitions

Donegal Team were overall winners in the Regional Competition and progressed to the National Finals.

Presentations

2016 marked the centenary of the 1916 Easter Rising. In honour of the role played by Civil Defence volunteers throughout the country during the year, Mr. Paul Kehoe TD, Minister with Responsibility for Defence, commissioned a specially designed medal to be presented to members of Civil Defence.

The medals were awarded to all members of Civil Defence who were in active service with Civil Defence during 2016. 66 members were awarded the medal, by Commandant John Anderson, Irish Defence Forces, Finner Camp.

Roads & Transportation

2017 Highlights

€525k
spent on
refurbishment
of piers and
harbours

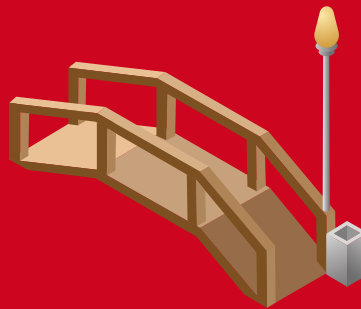


1,827

lights retrofitted as part of
LED upgrade programme

€250,000

on strengthening 15 local bridges



Improvement works on

three sections

of national road/TEN-T network advanced

Cockhill Bridge

Buncrana constructed

€200,000 spent on the ongoing maintenance of 9 regional bridges

€118,500 on repairing severe weather damage to 8 bridges

Council awarded **Excellence in Business Road Safety Award 2017** for the third year running

1 new large service van, 2 brine manufacturing plants, 1 tipper lorry and 2 brine salters purchased

29km N56 Dungloe to Plenties LVNS scheme continued

N56 Kiltroy Roundabout in Letterkenny completed

TII Roads Conference held in Letterkenny

Donegal National Roads Office



Official opening of Blackburn Bridge Realignment Scheme on the N15

There was a considerable increase in overall levels of activity in both design and construction on National Roads. TII invested in excess of €19m in National roads in Donegal in 2017. The Donegal National Roads Office has delivered substantial improvements on the National Road network through this funding and continues to progress further significant projects.

Following quality accreditation in 2016 (ISO 9001(2008)), the Donegal National Roads Office is only one of a small number of such offices nationally to have been awarded the ISO 9001:2015 standard.

Donegal TEN-T Route Improvement

This key project involves major investment in three sections of the National Road / TEN-T Network. The three sections involved are:

- N15/N13 Ballybofey – Stranorlar Urban
- N56/N13/N14 Letterkenny to Manorcunningham including the Dual Carriageway, Four Lane Road Letterkenny and Letterkenny Relief Road.
- N14 Manorcunningham to Lifford Realignment Scheme including the link to A5 WTC in Northern Ireland.

This project is advancing these three priority sections up to and including Statutory Processes/CPO/EIA.

The Strategic Research and Development Section of DTTaS confirmed that the project passed the initial pre appraisal stage in October 2017. A public consultation on the Project Constraints areas was held in December and preliminary route options will be considered in early 2018.

N56 Dungloe to Glenties LVNS Road Scheme

The 29km N56 Dungloe to Glenties LVNS scheme continued to proceed steadily. Phase 2, Boyoughter to Kilkenny, was completed.

The previous two projects removed the noteworthy Meenacarn and Gweebarra bends. The next phase from Kilkenny to Letterilly started on site and is 4km in length and will amongst other improvements provide a realignment at Maas junction.

Design for the final two phases of this overall scheme from Dungloe to Cloughbolie and from Letterilly to Glenties / Kilraine will commence detail design in 2018 with a view to follow on from the construction of the current section. The entire projected is programmed to be completed by 2020. On the Wild Atlantic Way, it will provide significant improved local and tourist access and a separate greenway/cycleway for its entire 29km length.

N56 Coolboy to Kilmacrennan Road Realignment scheme (The 'Blue Banks')

Following completion of detailed design, this project was tendered and construction is expected to commence in early 2018. This project will remove the infamous 'Blue banks' bends on the road between Kilmacrennan and Letterkenny. Irish Water will also deliver a critical water main upgrade to the Lough Salt/Goldrum Letterkenny Regional Water Supply Scheme.

N56 Mountcharles to Inver (Phase 1 and 2)

Following detailed design, tenders for Phase 1 the N56 Mountcharles to Drumbeigh project were returned in October and construction will start in early 2018.

Design of phase 2 will commence in early 2018. This important new road will remove the very poor section of the existing N56 on what is the main access route to Killybegs Port, Slieve league, Glencolmcille and the Wild Atlantic way.

National Road Resurfacing and Strengthening works

Eleven individual projects were funded by TII on the National Roads ensuring a high quality of maintenance of the main road network in the county. TII has indicated a further 20 schemes for Donegal in 2018/9 and work on designing these commenced.

Kiltoy Roundabout

Construction of the N56 Kiltoy Roundabout in Letterkenny was completed. This project provided immediate benefit to traffic flow on the N56 and to the adjacent IDA Letterkenny Business Park.

N56 Four Lane Road Safety and Improvement Project

This is one of five HD15 Safety Schemes currently at planning & design stage in Donegal. Part 8 was completed and it is hoped to commence construction in 2018. The project will improve safety on the primary access to Letterkenny.

The N15 Laghey Village and National road access improvement was substantially complete. The N15 Lough Eske Junction was at preliminary design and public consultation.

The N15 Corcam Bends between Stranorlar and Killygordon was at design/land acquisition stage and the N15 Cappry to Ballybofey was at detailed design stage with an expected construction start in early 2018.

Network Management

The National Roads Office continues to manage contracts for the ongoing maintenance of Signs and Lining on National roads in the county.

The Bridge Management Section of the National Roads Office commenced a programme of significant new and improvement works on various bridges in the county. This includes a new pedestrian crossing of the River Finn in Stranorlar/Ballybofey.

TII Roads Conference 2017

The TII Roads Conference was held in Letterkenny for the first time ever in September 2017 and over 200 delegates attended.

Municipal District Roads Division

The overall budget for the Municipal District Roads Division was approximately €37m.

This funding allowed the Roads Division to undertake a variety



N56 Boyoughter to Kilkenny at the Gweebarra Bridge, Leitrimacaward

of essential works on our road network, including general maintenance, surface restoration, pavement strengthening, bridge maintenance, winter gritting, low cost safety works, parks maintenance, street sweeping and the Pay & Display car parking service.

The Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport (DTTas) provided funding of €13.68m for Restoration Maintenance and Restoration Improvement on our non-national road network.

During the night of 22 August and the morning of 23 August the north of the county was hit by an extreme flood event. The flood waters had a catastrophic impact on both private and public property across Inishowen and caused destruction to roads infrastructure on an unprecedented scale.

Typical damage included collapsed bridge structures, entire sections of roadway washed away, road surfaces and drainage networks washed away, roads blocked with landslides and

debris washed onto the roads, drainage systems clogged and parks infrastructure destroyed. It is estimated that the cost of repairing the damage to roads infrastructure will be in the region of €15m.

The Council's Roads staff worked long hours in the aftermath of the flood to reopen main roads and to clear up debris. Clean-up and repair work continued for the remainder of 2017 and will continue in 2018.

2017 also saw the return of Local Improvement Schemes, albeit funded by the Department of Rural & Community Development. In all Donegal secured in excess of €3m in LIS funding.

The Council's winter gritting programme is one of the most extensive in the country and in excess of 1,000km of our road network is routinely gritted each winter. The cost of winter gritting for the calendar year was approximately €1.2m.



Installing box culvert at Three Trees, Quigley's Points following August floods

Central Technical Services



Works at new Cockhill Bridge, Buncrana

Bridge Maintenance

A Specific Improvement Grant for Bridge Rehabilitation on Regional Roads of €200,000 was allocated and works were undertaken to 9 bridges.

€250,000 was allocated to bridge strengthening works spent on 15 local bridges (including guniting / grouting, concrete repairs, full replacement as required).

The Bridges team played a key role in the emergency response to the Inishowen floods, designing the replacement of 9 collapsed structures and providing ongoing technical assistance to the Council's direct labour force during construction. A further €118,500 was spent on strengthening flood damaged bridges.

Bridge Capital Projects

Construction commenced on the Cockhill Bridge and was substantially completed by year end.

Route options reports were developed both for Logues Bridge and Fintra Bridge while the Tirconnail Bridge in Donegal Town was tendered for the construction phase.

Road Design

The Joe Bonner Road project detailed design progressed with the drainage and earthworks contract tendered. Land acquisition progressed well on the Aghilly Road project in Buncrana with 90% of land now at conveyancing stage.

Road Safety

The Road Design Safety team completed the assessment and

design of many low-cost accident schemes to improve road safety and HD15 schemes on the National Roads were further developed.

The Road Safety Officer continued to provide support to the Donegal Road Safety Working Group (DRSWG) and organised the 11th annual Road Safe Show in October to audiences numbering approximately 3,000 pupils.

The Donegal Road Safety Working Group continued its collaborations with Donegal Daily, Donegal Sports Hub website and CLG Dhún na nGall to highlight road safety and to help get the road safety messages across to the general public.

Finn Harps FC also continued to support Road Safety through the Primary School Road Safety Art competition. Donegal County Council was awarded the "Road Safety Award



Winners of 2017 Finn Harps Road Safety Art Competition



Official launch of Bunagee Marine Development

2017 in the Excellence in Business Awards by the Public Sector Magazine". This is the third year in succession that the Council won this award.

Speed Limits Review

The bye laws for the county including in housing estates under the charge of the Council and were finalised and the bye laws were approved and published by April 2017. The relevant speed limit signs were erected thereafter.

Machinery Yard & Stores

The Stores team continued on its programme of improvement and the provision of a cost effective service to its customers.

In particular the team managed the procurement and delivery of approximately 5 million litres of bitumen for use in the maintenance of the road network.

The team continues to utilise the national framework agreements for the supply of a wide variety of products to ensure the best value for money for the Council.

The Machinery Yard continued to provide a fit for purpose fleet of both owned and hired vehicles to the Councils Roads area team, the Housing Services team and Irish Water, facilitating the ongoing maintenance, repair and operation of the Council's assets.

The following new plant was purchased under the Capital Plant

Replacement and Refurbishment programme :

- 1 no. large 5t machinery yard service van
- 2 no. brine manufacturing plants for installation at Laghey/ Letterkenny depots
- 1 no. 6x4 tipper lorry

Progress was also made on some of the design elements of the Machinery Yard refurbishment project.

Public Lighting

The Council purchased DeadSure, a public lighting computer package, to aid in the management of its 17,500 public lights asset.

The public lighting maintenance contractor continued with the LED upgrade programme (2016/2017) across the county resulting in the retrofit of 1827 lights and so achieving a power saving of 570,978 kwhr which equates to approx 25% of Donegal County Council's NEEAP 2020 target.

Design work progressed on the TII NW National Road Bypasses tender for the upgrade of 1,345 public lights in the North West including lights on the N15 Bundoran Ballyshannon Bypass and on the N15 Donegal Town Bypass.

NW Greenways

2017 saw the establishment of the NW Greenways team in both Derry and Donegal. The main focus during the year was



the procurement of the consultants and the commencement of initial stage engagement with key stakeholders.

Piers & Harbours

A DAFM grant of €393,750 with an additional €131,250 Council match funding was spent on the refurbishment of the county's piers and harbours.

The review of all piers and harbours was completed and this work will inform the application for DAFM funding for the next 3 years.

Road Management Office

Since 2014 Donegal County Council has been the lead authority in the Road Management Office shared service.

The RMO is a shared service between local authorities and Donegal works closely with Cork County Council and others in the operation of the office.

In conjunction with the LGMA (Local Government Management Agency) we manage a GIS system, MapRoad, which records road inventory and asset data as well as roadworks information for roadworks completed by local authorities and utilities.

During 2017 the office:

- led out and supported Road Authorities and Utilities in the Implementation of Purple Book Guidelines improving management and completion of roadworks by utilities and facilitating works such as broadband rollout and infrastructure improvements by Irish Water,
- assisted utilities and authorities in the assessment of alternative methods such as micro-trenching for broadband rollout,
- developed the MapRoad Licensing system with the LGMA to the point where it is in use in 30 of 31 authorities and handles over 2000 applications per month,
- provided supports and training to authorities in recording their roadworks programmes recording over 4000km of roadworks nationally and reported to bodies such as NOAC and DTTAS,
- provided supports and training to authorities in recording the condition of their road networks nationally and reported to bodies such as NOAC and DTTAS,
- developed a business case for upgrading of public lighting nationally to more energy efficient systems,
- developed software to support authorities in the management of their pavements and roadworks.

The RMO is funded by all authorities, DTTAS and TII and its budget was €2,519,698 for 2017.



Constructing new bridge at Illies following major flooding event in August 2017

Water and Environment

2017 Highlights

First Blue Flag

awarded for seasonal marina at Greencastle



6



recycling centres at
Carndonagh, Dungloe, Milford,
Laghey, Letterkenny and Stranorlar
managed by Bryson Recycling

New Wastewater

Treatment Plants constructed
in Dungloe and St. Johnston



450

bring banks at
73 sites for glass
and cans

59

fixed penalty notices
for litter issued

32 Public Water Supplies producing **23.9** million cubic meters of drinking water serving a population of approximately **160,000**

89 municipal wastewater scheme discharges, **38** subject to Certificates of Authorisation

CatchmentCARE Project approved with budget of almost **€14m**

Over **300** community clean-ups during Big Donegal Clean Up campaign

18 sites cleared under national Anti Dumping Initiative

196 schools took part in the green schools programme and **164** Green Flags awarded

12 beaches awarded Blue Flags and **5** beaches awarded Green Coast status

Water and Environment

The Water & Environment Service is responsible for:

- Water services both on behalf of Irish Water (IW) and as a stand-alone Water Services Authority
- Waste management
- Water pollution control and the River Basin Management Plan
- Environmental Education and Awareness
- Litter management
- Managing beaches and sports & leisure facilities

Drinking Water Supplies

Under the Service Level Agreement with IW the Council continued to operate public water services. This included the operation of 32 Public Water Supplies (PWS) producing 23.9 million cubic meters of drinking water serving a population of approximately 160,000. The Council purchased a further 139,600 cubic meters of water from Northern Ireland Water. Water from public water supply sources is also provided to consumers through 7 public Group Water Supply schemes (GWS).

The Domestic Water Meter Surveying Programme identified almost 81,000 domestic connections to piped water mains in the county. 10,835 non-domestic connections were identified for billing purposes of which some 9,820 are metered.

The following table reflects production of drinking water in Donegal in 2017.

Municipal District	Drinking Water (cubic metres)
Inishowen MD	5,739,290
Donegal MD	5,279,473
Glenties MD	4,526,304
Letterkenny MD	5,456,020
Stranorlar MD	2,908,563
Total	23,909,650

A significant number of private water supplies operate across the county, including 4 private GWS's and 18 wholly private water supplies which are reported to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). A further 16 smaller private GWS's & 20 smaller private supplies are monitored but reporting to the EPA is not required. Individual households continue to obtain their water supply from private wells.

The Council operates an annual subsidy scheme on behalf of the Department as a contribution towards operational costs for GWS's and a Well Grant Scheme for individual potable drinking water wells.

Drinking Water Quality

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is the supervisory authority for Irish Water in relation to publicly operated water services and for Donegal County Council in relation to private supplies.



Rossnowlagh Beach



Drinking Water Compliance Monitoring is carried out by the Health Service Executive on behalf of Donegal County Council and determines the quality of public and private supplies at consumers' taps, according to microbiological, chemical and indicator parameters.

The microbiological compliance level in Donegal Public Water Supplies was 100%, while the overall compliance level (including chemical and indicator parameters) was 99%. Private supplies monitored achieved an average microbiological compliance of 82% with an overall compliance of 92%.

The EPA publishes a Remedial Action List (RAL) to focus attention on non-compliant schemes and identify remedial works to achieve compliance with the drinking water regulations. There were 8 schemes remaining on the RAL in Donegal at the end of 2017, (down from 11), which are the subject of Irish Water improvement plans. The Council continued to work with Irish Water and the EPA in addressing schemes where directions have been served or schemes remaining on the RAL.

Wastewater Schemes

89 municipal wastewater scheme discharges have been identified for authorisation by the EPA.

Discharges from larger schemes are subject to licenses whereas smaller scheme discharges are subject to Certificates of Authorisation, all of which are in the name of Irish Water.

38 scheme discharges in Donegal are candidates for discharge licenses and 36 have been issued to date. Bridgend WWTP was granted a discharge licence on 30 May 2017. The remaining 51 scheme discharges are candidates for

Certificates of Authorisation, all of which have been issued.

Wastewater Discharges Quality Compliance

Donegal County Council monitors all licensed and certified wastewater discharges. Results are reported monthly to Irish Water and to the EPA, and via an Annual Environmental Report (AER) to the EPA.

The monitoring programme was fully delivered. Compliance of the licensed discharges is assessed against the Discharge Licence requirements and also against the Urban Waste Water Directive requirements.

The newer, more modern, plants achieved compliance, but a significant number of older plants were non-compliant, reflecting the need for investment in wastewater treatment.

WaterPro

The WaterPro project is funded through the EU INTERREG VB Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme and focuses on developing sustainable systems to protect water from diffuse agriculture and mining activities.

The WaterPro project is building on the platform created during the restoration of the Churchtown Landfill at Lifford, including detailed monitoring of the performance of the on-site treatment which combines Integrated Constructed Wetlands & Short Rotation Coppice willows developed for the management of nutrients prior to discharge to receiving waters.

Knowledge gained from all aspects of this project will be shared and developed between partners and the wider stakeholder interests.

Water Services Capital

The construction of new wastewater treatment plants and associated pumping stations was completed in Dungloe and St. Johnston.

Works contracts for the construction of new water treatment plants for Letterkenny and Creeslough/Dunfanaghy as well as 6km of associated pipelines and pumping station improvements commenced in August.

Works contracts for the construction of a new pumping station, reservoir and pipelines to supply East Inishowen area commenced in March.

Construction works on the Group B contract continued (Bundoran, Glencolmille, Killybegs and Convoy) and

construction works on the Gortahork/Falcarragh and Owenteskina water treatment plants continued.

Pipelines to supply Fintown and Portnoo from Glenties and Lettermacaward water treatment plants respectively were completed.

Detailed design and planning works continued on a number of major and minor projects in both the drinking water and wastewater areas which will be moving to construction stage in 2018.

Planning permission was secured on a large number of water and wastewater facilities.



Beach at Carrickfinn

Pollution Control



The Council's Central Laboratory undertakes a range of programmes aimed at environmental protection and pollution control. These include monitoring programmes in drinking water, wastewater and additional activities including:

- licencing and monitoring of commercial / industrial discharges to sewers (on behalf of Irish Water) and to waters,
- monitoring of rivers and lakes,
- septic tank inspections,
- bathing water monitoring,
- farm inspections, and
- responding to environmental complaints.

INAB accreditation, granted to the laboratory in September 2016, was temporarily suspended due to relocation of the laboratory.

Water Framework Directive / River Basin Management

The draft River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018-2021, was published for a six month public consultation period.

In March, the EPA Catchments Unit held a two day Catchment Characterisation Workshop, the purpose of which was to complete the sub catchment characterisation process and identify the following 13 Priority Areas for Action across the county, River Finn, St Johnston, Donegal SW & Murlins, Laghy Stream – Bridgetown, Lough Eske, Melvin/Drowes (Leitrim Co.Co. Lead), Glen Lackagh, Leannan, Roosky, Donagh, Clonmany, Malin and Lough Nastackan.

A briefing and feedback session was hosted by the Council in October.

CatchmentCARE Project

Donegal County Council is the Lead Partner on the CatchmentCARE Project which received final approval from SEUPB in November. The project will be funded under the Environment measure of the EU Interreg VA programme with an approved budget of almost €14m.

Other partners involved include Agri-Food & Biosciences Institute (AFBI); Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI); The Loughs Agency; University of Ulster; Armagh Banbridge and Craigavon Council, Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI) and the Geological Survey of Northern Ireland (BGS/GSI).

The aim of the CatchmentCARE project is to establish three water quality improvement projects in the Finn, Blackwater and Arney Catchments and install 51 boreholes across the region. This will be achieved through three policy actions, six catchment actions and three community actions which have been selected based on three critical criteria;

- measurable impact on water quality,
- transferable beyond the three catchments, and
- contribution to a project legacy.

Local Authorities Waters and Communities Office

The Local Authorities Waters and Communities office (LAWCO) is a shared service on behalf of all Local Authorities, with responsibility for the national roll out of the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD). The public consultation on the Draft River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) was completed. New national and regional, water and environmental management structures were initiated for the implementation of the 2nd cycle of the WFD 2018-2021.

The Council's Director of Service, Water and Environment, has been appointed Chairman of the newly established Border Regional Operational Committee (BROC), which will oversee the implementation work under the RBMP and roll out of the Programme of Measures in the region.

LAWCO have continued to work with The Inishowen Rivers Trust and developed links with the Erne Rivers Trust to consult on Cross-Border activities. They have worked with various groups including the Cloughaneely Anglers Association, groups in Ardara, Trusk Lough and Lough Melvin.

Waste Management

Donegal County Council is one of 9 Local Authorities making up the Connacht Ulster Waste Region and a Regional Waste Management Plan is in place. This plan sets out aims and objectives of waste management in the region until 2021.

Waste Collection

Kerbside waste collection services throughout the county are provided by private waste collectors. There are 75 waste collectors authorised by the National Waste Collection Permit Office (NWCPO) to collect waste in Co. Donegal. The Council regulates their operations in conjunction with national agencies.

Waste Disposal

There are no active waste disposal facilities operating in Donegal. Waste Collectors take the waste to facilities elsewhere in the country.

The Council continued to manage six licensed landfills in the county namely Ballynacarrick, Churchtown, Drumaboden, Balbane, Muckish and Glenalla. All are closed and are monitored for compliance with EPA licence requirements.

Five sites (Muckish, Glenalla, Drumaboden, Churchtown and Ballynacarrick) have been fully remediated.

There is a pilot project at Churchtown for the treatment of leachate using willows and an integrated constructed wetland.

This is part of the WaterPro project.

Leachate at Drumaboden is treated on site while leachate from the other three sites is taken to the wastewater treatment works at Letterkenny for full treatment.

Waste Recycling

There are 6 Recycling Centres at Carndonagh, Dungloe, Milford, Laghey, Letterkenny and Stranorlar under contract to Bryson Recycling. These sites provide a recycling service for a range of waste items, as well as the disposal of household waste in accordance with the Waste Management obligations.

There are 450 Bring Banks at 73 sites around the county allowing for the collection of glass and cans.

Other waste collection services provided include collection points for Textiles, Hazardous Household wastes and separately, working with WEEE Ireland to host collection days for waste electrical and electronic equipment.

Kerbside collection of dry recyclable household and commercial waste is operated throughout the county by private waste collectors who send the materials to premises outside the county to be recovered and processed for reuse.

The roll out of the brown bin for compostable waste is in the process of being expanded.



Launch of the Big Donegal Clean-up 2017 with the Ryan Family



Launching Bin Your Gum campaign

Waste Facilities are authorised by Donegal County Council to recover waste in the county. These include private sector facilities providing recycling and waste disposal services.

Regulation

Donegal County Council regulates waste management activities under the Waste Management Act 1996 in conjunction with national regulatory bodies such as the Connacht Ulster Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authority, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the National Waste Collection Permit Office (NWCPO).

The Council is responsible for the granting and revocation of Waste Facility Permits and Certificates of Registration. Data collection for these activities is the responsibility of NWCPO while the Council remains responsible for the enforcement of relevant legislation governing these facilities.

Donegal County Council in conjunction with Leitrim County Council operates the Connacht Ulster Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authority (CU WERLA) on behalf of the Connacht Ulster Waste Region. This office implements policies and actions that allow for better co-ordination and co-operation of waste enforcement activities in the Region and Co. Donegal.

The National Waste Priorities for 2017 were, Household Waste Management including Brown Bin, End of life vehicles, Tyres, Illegal Dumping and Pilot Packaging.

Environmental Education and Awareness

The Councils' Waste Awareness Office continued to deliver a comprehensive awareness programme targeting schools, householders, businesses, the agricultural sector and

community groups.

This included the schools environmental programme which involved providing advice on waste management practices and the Green Schools programme. 196 schools were registered with the green schools programme with 164 Green Flags being awarded.

An extensive recycling publicity campaign was undertaken highlighting the range of services such as bring banks, recycling centres, kerbside recycling and home composting.

The Council supported the Recycling Ambassador Programme which aims to upskill members of the public to become more knowledgeable on current recycling practices and to impart their knowledge within the wider community.

The Council continued to promote and participated in national campaigns such as the 'Stop Food Waste' and the 'Make the Most of It' campaign.

Anti-litter awareness campaigns were also carried out including the Big Donegal Clean-Up with over 300 community clean-ups taking place. The National Spring Clean campaign was also supported and an anti-litter publicity campaign through various media outlets was also undertaken.

The Waste Awareness Officer has worked closely with tidy towns and community groups. Three new Tidy Towns initiatives were introduced to support Tidy Towns Groups as follows:

- Tidy Towns Start-Up Fund,
- Tidy Towns Improvement Project Fund and
- Clean & Green Awards.

A number of waste prevention initiatives funded through the LAPN (Local Authority Prevention Network) were organised in support of National Reuse Month during October including the Bikes for Africa Campaign, an Upcycling Exhibition by the Letterkenny Mens Shed and a waste prevention media campaign.

The following grants were administered:

- 48 Local Agenda 21 initiatives.
- 28 Adopt a Road grants.
- 40 Approach Roads grants.

Litter Management

A team of 5 litter wardens and 3 mobile litter units worked closely with the community in preventing litter, detecting offences and coordinating clean ups in conjunction with Tidy Town groups. 59 on the spot Litter Fines and 104 warning letters were issued and 2 prosecutions were pursued.

The Anti Dumping Initiative was launched nationally and €61,300 was secured for 18 projects. The following work was undertaken:

- 18 Sites cleared
- Areas monitored
- Media campaign
- Additional Covert Cameras Purchased
- Additional CCTV and anti-dumping signs purchased

The Council engaged with the Probation Service and this service worked with a number of Tidy Towns groups.



Bikes 4 Africa appeal during Reuse Month

Beach Management

Donegal's Blue Flag Beaches 2017

Murvagh	Rossnowlagh
Magherawarden (Portsalon)	Bundoran
Killahoey	Carrickfinn
Marble Hill	Narin
Shroove	Culdaff
Fintra	Downings

There were 142 Designated Bathing Areas (DBAs) nationally in 2017, with 21 of these in Donegal. Donegal County Council was the leading Local Authority identifying, monitoring and promoting DBAs nationally.

Of the 21 DBA's in Donegal tested for water quality, a number received additional management, adhering to strict promotional initiatives such as Green Coast and Blue Flag awards.

Donegal currently has 12 of Ireland's 81 Blue Flag beaches, one of the world's most recognised eco-labels.

The Council achieved its first Blue Flag for its seasonal Marina

in Greencastle and retained its five Green Coast beach awards. All Blue Flag and Green Coast awarded beaches were designated bathing areas as was Lady's Bay, Lisfannon, Portnablagh and Rathmullan.

Bespoke Bicycle Stands

An initiative was launched to promote cycling as an alternative to short car trips to our beaches. Having selected a bespoke design, the Council had 12 stands engineered in different colours and installed around the coastline. They are an attractive feature of the beaches, promoting cycling as both a sport and mode of transport. With secure locations now available to leave a bike, it is likely that more visitors will choose to cycle to the beach and leave the car at home.

Donegal's Green Coast Award Beaches 2017

Ballyhernan
Dooye
Drumatinney
Magheraroarty
Port Arthur



Unveiling of new beach wheelchair at Carrickfinn beach

Water Safety

Lifeguards were employed on all Blue Flag Beaches and at Rathmullan beach over the bathing season. There is an ongoing maintenance programme for ringbuoys where they are repaired/replaced as necessary around the coastline. Contributions are made to local search and rescue groups in the county and working relations with the Irish Coastguard were strengthened to improve water safety along the coastline.

Coastal Management

A Coastal Management Steering Committee was convened including members of the Coastguard, An Taisce, National Parks & Wildlife Service and Dept of Agriculture, Food & Marine. This allowed information sharing and a co-ordinated approach to address issues such as aquaculture, removal of beach materials, removal of dead/stranded whales & dolphins, and dealing with End of Life Vessels. Many such incidents arose and were dealt with swiftly.

The Council monitors and promotes our shared cross border coastline through involvement with the Loughs Agency and participating in Good Beach Summits.

The Council is also actively engaging with the OPW to monitor and assess coastal processes affecting our coastline in changing climate and oceanic processes, including erosion, in consultation with local stakeholders.

Leisure Centres

Donegal County Council supports the development and operation of a number of leisure centres throughout the county. This includes the Finn Valley Centre, Ballyshannon Leisure Centre and Letterkenny Aura Centre.

The Council is also involved in proposed refurbishment and upgrade to Buncrana Leisure Centre.



Finn Valley Centre

Appendices

Council membership of committees and other bodies

Corporate Policy Group

Cllr Paul Canning
 Cllr Frank Mc Brearty
 Cllr Marie Therese Gallagher
 Cllr John Ryan
 Cllr John O' Donnell (to 29/05/17)
 Cllr Jack Murray (from 30/05/17)
 Cllr Tom Conaghan
 Cathaoirleach of the Day

Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs)

Community, Social and Cultural SPC

Cllr Marie Therese Gallagher, Chairperson
 Cllr Michael McBride
 Cllr Tom Conaghan
 Cllr Ian McGarvey
 Cllr Jack Murray (resigned 28/05/17)
 Cllr Gerry McMonagle (from 29/05/17)
 Cllr Gerry Crawford
 Cllr Martin McDermott
 Cllr Patrick McGowan
 Cllr Jimmy Kavanagh
 Cllr Martin Harley

Sectoral Representation

Ethna Diver – Environmental / Conservation
 Paul Byrne – Business / Commercial
 John C. Quinn – Trade Union
 Paul Kernan/ Kate Morgan (alternate) - Community / Voluntary / Social Inclusion
 Joe Boland/ Martin McBride (alternate) - Community / Voluntary / Social Inclusion

Environment & Emergency Services SPC

Cllr John O'Donnell, Chairperson (to 28/05/ 2017)
 Cllr Jack Murray, Chairperson (from 29/05/2017)
 Cllr Niamh Kennedy
 Cllr Gerry McMonagle (resigned 28/05/2017)
 Cllr Jack Murray (from 29/05/2017)
 Cllr Noel Jordan
 Cllr Gerry Crawford
 Cllr James Pat McDaid
 Cllr Rena Donaghey
 Cllr Martin Farren
 Cllr John Ryan
 Cllr Terence Slowey

Sectoral Representation

Trish Murphy - Environmental/Conservation
 P.J McMonagle - Agriculture/Farming
 J Watson - Development/Construction
 Frank Treaty - Business/Commercial

Alec Carlin/Oliver Farren (alternate) - Fishing/Aquaculture

Housing & Corporate Service SPC

Cllr Frank McBrearty, Chairperson
 Cllr John Campbell
 Cllr Micheál Colm MacGiolla Easbuig
 Cllr Mick Quinn (resigned 3/03/2017)
 Cllr Adrian Glackin (from 29/05/2017)
 Cllr Gerry McMonagle
 Cllr John S. O'Fearraigh
 Cllr Gary Doherty
 Cllr Rena Donaghey
 Cllr Seamus O'Domhail
 Cllr Barry O'Neill

Sectoral Representation

Cecil Fairman – Agriculture / Farming
 Dessie Dorrian – Development / Construction
 John Gildea – Business / Commercial
 Anne Wilkinson – Trade Union
 Finola Brennan/ Anne McGowan (alternate) – Community/ Voluntary/Social Inclusion

Roads & Transportation SPC

Cllr John Ryan, Chairperson
 Cllr Ciaran Brogan
 Cllr Nicolas Crossan
 Cllr Liam Doherty
 Cllr Martin Farren
 Cllr Michael McBride
 Cllr Martin McDermott
 Cllr Patrick McGowan
 Cllr John O'Donnell
 Cllr John S. O'Fearraigh

Sectoral Representation

Enda Healy - Development Conservation
 George Mills - Business/Commercial
 Karen McCormack/ Louise Breslin (alternate) - Community/ Voluntary
 James O'Donnell - Agriculture/Farming
 John D. O'Kane / John McLaughlin (alternate) – Fishing/ Aquaculture

Economic, Enterprise & Planning Policy SPC

Cllr Paul Canning, Chairperson
 Cllr Nicholas Crossan
 Cllr Niamh Kennedy
 Cllr Dessie Shiels
 Cllr Maire Therese Gallagher
 Cllr Gary Doherty
 Cllr Albert Doherty

Appendices

Council membership of committees and other bodies

Cllr Sean McEniff (to April 2017)
 Cllr Michael Naughton (from 24 July 2017)
 Cllr Enda Bonner
 Cllr James Pat McDaid (to January 2017)
 Cllr Seamus O'Domhnaill (from 31 January 2017)
 Cllr Liam Blaney
 Cllr Bernard McGuinness
 Cllr Martin Harley
 Cllr John Ryan

Sectoral Representation

Lisa McMonagle – Agriculture/Farming
 Dermot McLaughlin – Environmental/Conservation
 Barry McMenamin – Development/Construction
 Peter Cutliffe – Business/Commercial
 Charlie F. Kelly – Trade Union
 Annette Patton / John Trearty (alternate) – PPN
 Seamus Bovaird / F. Doherty (alternate) – Fishing/Aquaculture

Donegal Local Traveller Accommodation Committee

Cllr Ciaran Brogan
 Cllr Paul Canning
 Cllr John O' Donnell
 Cllr Mick Quinn (to 31/03/17)
 Cllr Adrian Glackin (from 29/05/17)
 Cllr Albert Doherty
 Cllr Jimmy Kavanagh

Traveller Representatives

Siobhan Mc Laughlin
 Hugh Friel
 Rose Ward

Council Officials

Liam Ward
 Patsy Lafferty
 Fergus Mc Ateer

Coiste na Gaeilge

Stranorlar MD
 Cllr Gary Doherty
 Cllr Martin Harley
Inishowen MD
 Cllr Albert Doherty
 Cllr Paul Canning
Donegal MD
 Cllr Niamh Kennedy
 Cllr John Campbell
Glenties MD
 Cllr Seamus O' Domhnaill
 Cllr John Seamais O' Fearraigh
 Cllr Enda Bonner

Cllr Michéal Mac Giolla Easbuig
Letterkenny MD
 Cllr Ian Mc Garvey
 Cllr Mick Quinn (to 31/03/17)
 Cllr Adrian Glackin (from 29/05/17)

County Donegal Joint Policing Committee

Cllr Seamus O' Domhnaill
 Cllr James Pat Mc Daid
 Cllr Martin Mc Dermott
 Cllr Gerry Crawford
 Cllr Liam Doherty
 Cllr Gerry Mc Monagle
 Cllr Albert Doherty
 Cllr Jack Murray
 Cllr Martin Farren
 Cllr Jimmy Kavanagh
 Cllr Bernard Mc Guinness
 Cllr John Campbell
 Cllr Nicholas Crossan
 Cllr Niamh Kennedy
 Cllr John O' Donnell
 Cathaoirleach as Ex Officio Member

Chief Executive

Seamus Neely

Oireachtas Members

Pearse Doherty
 Pádraig Mac Lochlainn
 Charlie Mc Conalogue
 Pat the Cope Gallagher
 Joe Mc Hugh
 Thomas Pringle
 Brian O' Domhnaill
 Tony Mc Loughlin
 Marc Mc Sharry

An Garda Síochána

Terry Mc Ginn

Donegal PPN

James Trearty
 Joe Boland
 Deirdriú Murray
 Carmel Mulhern
 Lawrence Mc Manus
 Lorraine Thompson
 Gary Doggett

Audit Committee

Cllr Enda Bonner

Appendices

Council membership of committees and other bodies

CLlr Ian Mc Garvey
Paul Carr
Micheál Mac Giolla Easbuig
Henry Mc Garvey

Islands Committee

Members of Letterkenny and Glenties MDs

Islands Representatives

Owey - William Boyle
Rutland - Rosaleen Mc Shane
Inis Caorach - Hughie Gallagher
Island Roy - Marie Uí Dochartaigh
Gola - Eamon S Mac Aoidh
Inishboffin - John O' Brien
Tory - Marjorie Carol
Aranmore - Noírín Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh & Eamon Ó Cnaimhsí
Inisfree - Naul Mc Cole
Inishinney - Seamus Rodgers
Inis Oirthir - Pádraig Mac Gairbheith
Inis Meáin - Charlie O' Donnell

Small Islands Federation

Mairín Uí Fhearraigh

Department of the Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht

Diarmuid O Mordha

Donegal County Council Value for Money Committee

CLlr Enda Bonner
CLlr Liam Blaney
CLlr Tom Conaghan
CLlr Noel Jordan
CLlr Ian Mc Garvey
CLlr Gerry Mc Monagle
CLlr Terence Slowey
CLlr John Ryan
Cathaoirleach of the Day

Donegal County Council Economic Development Committee

CLlr Paul Canning
CLlr Frank Mc Brearty
CLlr Marie Therese Gallagher
CLlr John Ryan
CLlr John O' Donnell (to 29/05/2017)
CLlr Jack Murray (from 29/05/2017)
Cathaoirleach of the Day

IDA

John Nugent
Marie Mc Daid

Enterprise Ireland
Carole Brennan

Údarás na Gaeltachta
Micheál Mac Giolla Easbuig

Education and Training Board
Vinnny Mc Groary

Local Enterprise Office
Michael Tunney

Donegal Local Development Company
Padraic Fingleton

Inishowen Development Partnership
Andrew Ward

Comhar na nOileán Teo
Noírín Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh

IBEC
Declan Thomas

Letterkenny Institute of Technology
Paul Hannigan

Health Service Executive
Peter Walker

Community
Andrew Mc Nulty
Louise Breslin

Failte Ireland
Joan Crawford

Department of Social Protection
Claire O' Neill

Bord Iascaigh Mhara
Michael Gallagher

Donegal Local and Community Development Committee

CLlr Niamh Kennedy
CLlr Martin Mc Dermott (Chairperson)
CLlr Marie Therese Gallagher
Mr Seamus Neely, C.E.(Vice Chairperson)
Mr Michael Tunney, L.E.O

Údarás na Gaeltachta
Micheál Mac Giolla Easbuig

Appendices

Council membership of committees and other bodies

HSE

Peter Walker

Education and Training Board

Anne Mc Hugh

Letterkenny Institute of Technology

Paul Hannigan

Donegal Local Development Company

Jim Slevin

Inishowen Development Partnership

Anthony Doogan to March 2017

Fionan Bradley from March 2017

Public Partnership Network

Susan Mc Loughlin

Susan Mc Cauley

Martin Mc Bride

Environment Representative

Angus Kennedy

Irish Business and Employers Federation

Jan Feenstra (to April 2017)

Irish Congress of Trade Unions

Liam Mc Elhinney

Irish Creamery Milk Suppliers

James O' Donnell

Comhar na nOileán

Noreen Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh

Cultural Committee

Cllr Liam Blaney

Cllr Enda Bonner

Cllr John Campbell

Cllr Paul Canning

Cllr Tom Conaghan

Cllr Gerry Crawford

Cllr Nicholas Crossan

Cllr Albert Doherty

Cllr Gary Doherty

Cllr Liam Doherty

Cllr Martin Farren

Cllr Marie T Gallagher

Cllr Martin Harley

Cllr Noel Andrew Jordan

Cllr Niamh Kennedy

Cllr Micheál Cholm Mac Giolla Easbuig

Cllr Frank Mc Brearty

Cllr James Pat Mc Daid

Cllr Martin Mc Dermott

Cllr Bernard Mc Guinness

Cllr Gerry Mc Monagle

Cllr Jack Murray

Cllr Seamus O' Domhnaill

Cllr John Seamais O' Fearraigh

Cllr Barry O' Neill

Cllr Mick Quinn (to 31/03/17)

Cllr Adrian Glackin (from 29/05/17)

Cllr John Ryan

Cllr Dessie Shiels

Cllr Terence Slowey

Anne Mc Gowan

Rosemary Dunne

Paddy Gildea

Sean Mc Bride

Frankie O' Gorman

John Mc Creadie

Conor Malone

Sean Mc Clafferty

Standing Order Sub Committee

Cllr Ciaran Brogan

Cllr Michael McBride

Cllr Mick Quinn to 31/03/17

Cllr Adrian Glackin from 29/05/17

Cllr Terence Slowey

Cathaoirleach of the Day

Disability Strategy Group

Cllr Jimmy Kavanagh

Donegal Youth Steering Committee

Cllr James P McDaid to June 2017

Cllr Gerry McMonagle to June 2017

Cllr Jimmy Kavanagh

Cllr Micheál Cholm Mac Giolla Easbuig from June 2017-June 2019

Other Committees:

Donegal Heritage Forum

Cllr Tom Conaghan

Cllr Seamus O' Domhnaill

Cllr Albert Doherty

Appendices

Council membership of committees and other bodies

Cllr Michael Mc Bride

Cllr Martin Harley

Cllr Paul Canning

Heritage Officer

Joseph Gallagher

Curator Donegal County Museum

Judith McCarthy

Conservation Officer

Colette Beattie

Central Planning Unit

Sinead Mc Cauley

Environment Section

TBC

Local Development

LEADER Representative

Padraic Fingleton

State Agencies

Coillte

TBC

National Monuments Service

Paddy O'Donovan

National Parks & Wildlife Service

Ger O' Donnell

Faillte Ireland

Maire Aine Gardiner

Teagasc

Carolyn Patterson

Udara na Gaeltachta

Séamas Ó'Gallchóir

Letterkenny Institute of Technology

Marie Kelly

Irish Farmer's Association

Michael Chance

PPN- Heritage Link Group

Michael Mullen

Molly Reynolds

An Taisce

Ethna Diver

Donegal Heritage Network

Ralph Sheppard

Martin Egan

Donegal Historical Society

Edward O'Kane

Ulster Architectural Heritage Society

Caroline Dickson

2016 Centenary Committee

Cllr Marie Therese Gallagher

Cllr Michael Mc Bride

Cllr Tom Conaghan

Cllr Ian Mc Garvey

Cllr Jack Murray

Cllr Gerry Crawford

Cllr Martin Mc Dermott

Cllr Patrick Mc Gowan

Cllr Jimmy Kavanagh

Cllr Martin Harley

PPN Representatives

James Trearty

Dermot Mc Laughlin

Martin Mc Bride

Louise Breslin

Anne Mc Gowan

Appendices

Representation on External Bodies 2017

County Donegal Education and Training Board

Cllr James P McDaid resigned March 2017
 Cllr L Blaney from 27/03/17
 Cllr Martin McDermott
 Cllr Rena Donaghey
 Cllr Albert Doherty
 Cllr Gary Doherty
 Cllr John Sheamais O'Fearraigh
 Cllr Martin Farren
 Cllr Martin Harley
 Cllr Jimmy Kavanagh
 Cllr Niamh Kennedy
 Cllr Michael McBride
 Cllr John Campbell

Regional Health Forum West

Cllr Michael McBride
 Cllr Bernard McGuinness
 Cllr Gerry McMonagle
 Cllr Ciaran Brogan
 Cllr Gerry Crawford

Northern & Western Regional Assembly

Cllr Seamus O'Domhnaill
 Cllr Frank McBrearty
 Cllr Jack Murray

County Enterprise Fund

Cllr Ian McGarvey
 Cllr Enda Bonner

Association of Irish and Local Government

Voting Delegates

Cllr Liam Blaney
 Cllr Patrick McGowan
 Cllr Gerry McMonagle
 Cllr Martin Harley
 Cllr Nicholas Crossan

3 Permanent Delegates

Cllr Nicholas Crossan
 Cllr Patrick McGowan
 Cllr Gerry McMonagle

Local Authority Members Association

Cllr Seamus O'Domhnaill June 2016 -2017
 Cllr Michael McBride June 2017- June2018

Inishowen Development Partnership Ltd

Cllr Rena Donaghey
 Cllr Martin McDermott

Cllr Albert Doherty
 Cllr Nicholas Crossan
 Cllr Bernard McGuinness

Donegal Local Development Company Ltd

Cllr Sean McEniff to April 2018
 Cllr Patrick McGowan from 24/07/2018
 Cllr Ian McGarvey
 Cllr Noel Jordan

ERNACT EEIG

Cllr Niamh Kennedy
 Cllr Rena Donaghey

Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances

Cllr Nicholas Crossan June 2016 – June 2017
 Cllr Gerry Crawford June 2017 – June 2018

NWRCBG

Cllr Bernard McGuinness
 Cllr Martin Farren
 Cllr Paul Canning
 Cllr Albert Doherty
 Cllr Gerry McMonagle
 Cllr John O'Donnell

ICBAN

Cllr Enda Bonner
 Cllr Gary Doherty

Donegal Sports Partnership

Cllr Tom Conaghan
 Cllr James Pat McDaid
 Cllr Jack Murray resigned July 2017
 Cllr Albert Doherty from 24/07/2017
 Cllr Jimmy Kavanagh

Conference Peripheral Maritime Regions

Cllr Martin Harley - Representative (June 2016/2017)
 Cllr Jimmy Kavanagh – Substitute (June 2016/2017)
 Cllr John S O'Fearraigh - Representative (June 2017/2018)
 Cllr Albert Doherty – Substitute (June 2017/2018)

LATCH

Cllr Gerry Crawford
 Cllr Gary Doherty
 Cllr Liam Doherty
 Colmcille Heritage Trust
 Ms Helena Glackin
 Mr Brian Mc Dermott
 Mr Don Gallagher

Appendices

Representation on External Bodies 2017

Mr Danny Neilis

Ms Laura Duddy

Erne Enterprise Development Company

Cllr Tom Conaghan

Cllr Barry O' Neill

Board of Fort Dunree Military Museum

Cllr Rena Donaghey

Cllr Albert Doherty

Cllr Nicholas Crossan

Earagail Arts Festival

Cllr Gary Doherty

Cllr James Pat Mc Daid

Letterkenny Theatre Management Company

Cllr Ciaran Brogan

Cllr Jimmy Kavanagh

Ms Anne McGowan

Ms Lisa Culbert

Management Committee Ballyshannon Leisure Centre

Cllr Barry O'Neill

Cllr Sean McEniff to April 2017

Cllr Michéal Naughton from 24/07/2017

Cllr Tom Conaghan

Board of Bundoran Waterworld

Mr Phillip McGlynn

Ms Anne McGrath

Mr Eamon Barrett

Mr Michael McFadden

Strengthening Families Advisory Board – NW Alcohol Forum

Cllr Rena Donaghey

Finn Valley Leisure Centre

Cllr Liam Doherty

Cllr Martin Harley

Cllr Gary Doherty

Cllr Patrick McGowan

Interreg IVA Gobbins/Sliabh Liag

Cllr Niamh Kennedy

Cllr Noel Jordan

Pettigo/Tullyhommon Project

Cllr Barry O'Neill

Cllr Sean McEniff to April 2017

Cllr Michéal Naughton from 24/07/2017

Údarás na Gaeltachta

David Alcorn to September 2017

Cllr John S O'Fearraigh from 25/09/2017

Comhar na nOileán Teoranta

David Alcorn

PEACE IV Partnership

Cllr Paul Canning

Cllr Marie Therese Gallagher

Cllr Frank McBrearty

Associate Membership Donegal Tourism

Cllr Sean McEniff to April 2017

Cllr Michéal Naughton from 24/07/2017

Cllr Noel Jordan

Cllr Niamh Kennedy

Cllr Martin Harley

Members Attendance at Conferences 2017

Waste Management Conference

13-14 January 2017

Cllr James Pat McDaid

Colmcille Winter School

24 -25 February 2017

Cllr Terence Slowey

Celtic Conferences, Cork

20 -22 October 2017

Cllr Martin McDermott

IPPB Housing in Crisis, Wexford

10-12 November 2017

Cllr Paul Canning

Cllr Martin McDermott

Cross Border Seminar, Armagh

16 November 2017

Cllr Terence Slowey

Local Authorities & Regional Assemblies

15-16 December, Galway

Cllr Paul Canning

Cllr Patrick McGowan

Cllr Nicholas Crossan

Cllr Gerry McMonagle

Appendices

Representation on External Bodies 2017

Travel Abroad 2017

CPMR General Assembly – Atlantic Arc
Les Sables d’Olonne, Pays de la Loire France
1-2 March 2017
Cllr Martin Harley

CPMR Political Bureau, Meeting Stavanger, Norway
21 - 23 June 2017
Cllr Martin Harley

Philadelphia - New York- Boston
12 -20 March 2017
Cllr Terence Slowey- Cathaoirleach
Cllr Barry O’Neill Leas Chathaoirleach

Battle of Messines Ridge, Commemoration, Belgium
7 June 2017
Cllr Terence Slowey

Brussels - Brexit Seminar
10 - 11 Sept 2017
Cllr Gerry McMonagle

Caceres, Spain, Cycleway Launch Atlantic on Your Bike
12 -15 September 2017
Cllr Gerry McMonagle

Frehel - Brittany, France
Twinning Buncrana - Frehel 10th Anniversary
22 - 24 Sept 2017
Cllr Jack Murray

CPMR, Helsinki
17 - 20 October 2017
Cllr John S O’Ferraigh

CPMR, Cardiff
15 -16 November, 2017
Cllr John S O’Ferraigh

Golden Bridges Events - Boston
12 - 17 November 2017
Cllr Noel Jordan

Member’s Expenses 2017

Members Monthly Allowance	€251,391
Representational Payment	€590,847
Mayor’s Allowance	€30,000
Deputy Mayor’s Allowance	€6,000
Entertainment Expenses	€2,610
Insurance	€7,918
Gratuity Scheme	€72,590
Strategic Policy Chairs Allowance	€30,000
Municipal District Chairs Allowance	€36,000
Non Members Expenses	€2,900
Conference Attendance	€1,280
Attendance at Training	€26,006
Conference and Training Fees	€7,965
Other Meetings/ Ad Hoc Travel	€4,420
Foreign Travel	€16,762
Communications Expenses	€10,829
Contribution to Members Representative Associations	€16,450
Total:	€1,113,968

Performance Indicators 2017

Topic	Indicator	Value	
Housing	No. of dwellings in the ownership of the LA at 1/1/2017	4703	
	No. of dwellings added to the LA owned stock during 2017 (whether constructed or acquired)	65	
	No. of LA owned dwellings sold in 2017	17	
	No. of LA owned dwellings demolished in 2017	0	
	No. of dwellings in the ownership of the LA at 31/12/2017	4751	
	No. of LA owned dwellings planned for demolition under a DHPLG approved scheme	4	
	The percentage of the total number of LA owned dwellings that were vacant on 31/12/2017	4.42 %	
	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	40.07 wk	
	The cost expended on getting the dwellings re-tenanted in 2017 ready for re-letting, averaged across all dwellings re-let in 2017	€13,947.77	
	Total number of registered tenancies in the LA area at end of June 2017	7132	
	Number of rented dwellings inspected in 2017	861	
	Percentage of inspected dwellings in 2017 that were found not to be compliant with the Standards Regulations	98.84 %	
	Number of non-compliant dwellings that became compliant during 2017	23	
	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	26.32 %	
	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	19	
	Social Housing Output Delivery 2017 – LA New Build	11	
	Social Housing Output Delivery 2017 – AHB New Build	0	
	Social Housing Output Delivery 2017 – Part V – New Build	0	
	Social Housing Output Delivery 2017 – LA Voids	168	
	Social Housing Output Delivery 2017 – LA Acquisition	51	
	Social Housing Output Delivery 2017 – AHB Acquisition	2	
	Social Housing Output Delivery 2017 – Leasing RAS	20	
	Social Housing Output Delivery 2017 – Leasing HAP	584	
	Roads	The % of Regional road kilometres that received a PSCI rating in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2017	99 %
		The % of Local Primary road kilometres that received a PSCI rating in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2017	95 %
		The % of Local Secondary road kilometres that received a PSCI rating in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2017	90 %
The % of Local Tertiary road kilometres that received a PSCI rating in the 60 month period prior to 31/12/2017		66 %	
The % of total Regional road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 1-4 at 31/12/2017		2 %	
The % of total Regional road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 5-6 at 31/12/2017		21 %	
The % of total Regional road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 7-8 at 31/12/2017		40 %	
The % of total Regional road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 9-10 at 31/12/2017		37 %	
The % of total Local Primary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 1-4 at 31/12/2017		8 %	
The % of total Local Primary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 5-6 at 31/12/2017		31 %	
The % of total Local Primary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 7-8 at 31/12/2017		38 %	
The % of total Local Primary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 9-10 at 31/12/2017		20 %	
The % of total Local Secondary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 1-4 at 31/12/2017		14 %	
The % of total Local Secondary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 5-6 at 31/12/2017		24 %	
The % of total Local Secondary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 7-8 at 31/12/2017		36 %	
The % of total Local Secondary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 9-10 at 31/12/2017		20 %	

Performance Indicators 2017

Topic	Indicator	Value
	The % of total Local Tertiary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 1-4 at 31/12/2017	26 %
	The % of total Local Tertiary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 5-6 at 31/12/2017	14 %
	The % of total Local Tertiary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 7-8 at 31/12/2017	15 %
	The % of total Local Tertiary road kilometres with a PSCI rating of 9-10 at 31/12/2017	10 %
	Kilometres of regional road strengthened during 2017	18.3 km
	The amount expended on regional roads strengthening work during 2017	€2,962,315
	Kilometres of regional road resealed during 2017	28.2 km
	The amount expended on regional road resealing work during 2017	€816,513
	Kilometres of local road strengthened during 2017	141.0 km
	The amount expended on local road strengthening work during 2017	€7,935,795
	Kilometres of local road resealed during 2017	111.2 km
	The amount expended on local road resealing work during 2017	€1,949,193
Motor Tax	The percentage of motor tax transactions which were dealt with online (i.e. transaction is processed and the tax disc is issued) in 2017	50.13 %
Water	% 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	94.84 %
Waste	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	1167
	The % of households within the local authority (also as per the 2016 Census) that the number at A represents	2.00 %
Environmental Pollution	Total number of pollution cases in respect of which a complaint was made during 2017	1077
	Number of pollution cases closed from 1/1/2017 to 31/12/2017	862
	Total number of cases on hands at 31/12/2017	675
Litter Pollution	The % of the area within the LA that when surveyed in 2017 was unpolluted or litter free	7 %
	The % of the area within the LA that when surveyed in 2017 was slightly polluted	85 %
	The % of the area within the LA that when surveyed in 2017 was moderately polluted	7 %
	The % of the area within the LA that when surveyed in 2017 was significantly polluted	1 %
	The % of the area within the LA that when surveyed in 2017 was grossly polluted	0 %
Planning	Buildings inspected as a percentage of new buildings notified to the local authority	19.38 %
	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	23
	% of the determinations which confirmed (either with or without variation) the decision made by the LA	78.26 %
	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	240

Performance Indicators 2017

Topic	Indicator	Value
	Total number of investigated cases that were closed during 2017	387
	% of the cases at B that were dismissed as trivial, minor or without foundation or were closed because statute barred or an exempted development	60.47 %
	% of cases at B that were resolved to the LA's satisfaction through negotiations	7.24 %
	% Cases at B that were closed due to enforcement proceedings	32.30 %
	Total number of planning cases being investigated as at 31/12/2017	835
	Cost per capita of Planning Service	€24.86
	The percentage of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2017 that were decided (granted or refused) within two months of their receipt	15.56 %
	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	52.22 %
Fire Service	Cost per capita of the Fire Service	€49.02
	Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of fire	N/A
	Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of fire	5.97 min
	Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of all other (non-fire) emergency incidents	N/A
	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	6.11 min
	% of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance at scene is within 10 minutes	30.13 %
	% of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	52.21 %
	% of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes	17.66 %
	% of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance at the scene is within 10 minutes	30.37 %
	% of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	51.86 %
	% of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes	17.77 %
Library Service	Number of visits to libraries per head of population for the LA area per the 2016 Census	2.24
	Number of items issued to borrowers in the year	259,188
	Cost per capita of operating Library Service	€24.48
Youth and Community	Percentage of local schools involved in the local Youth Council/Comhairle na nÓg scheme	70.37 %
	Number of organisations included in the County Register and the proportion who opted to be part of the Social Inclusion College within the PPN	18.28
	Total number of organisations included in the County Register for the local authority area as at 31/12/2017	487

Performance Indicators 2017

Topic	Indicator	Value
Corporate	The wholetime equivalent staffing number as at 31 December 2017	908.58
	Percentage of paid working days lost to sickness absence through medically certified leave in 2017	3.61 %
	Percentage of paid working days lost to sickness absence through self-certified leave in 2017	0.33 %
	Overall Cost of ICT Provision per WTE	€2,738.03
Corporate	Total page views of the local authority's websites in 2017	1,644,554
	Total number of followers at end 2017 of the LA's social media accounts	82,899
Finance	Cumulative balance at 31/12/2013 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure of the AFS	€-15,752,132
	Cumulative balance at 31/12/2014 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure of the AFS	€-14,966,588
	Cumulative balance at 31/12/2015 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure of the AFS	€-14,345,654
	Cumulative balance at 31/12/2016 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure of the AFS	€-9,717,139
	Cumulative balance at 31/12/2017 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure of the AFS (Unaudited AFS figure)	€-8,953,104
	Cumulative surplus or deficit at 31/12/2017 as a percentage of Total Income from the AFS statement	-6.18 %
	Revenue Expenditure per capita in 2017	€873.18
	Collection level of Rates from the Annual Financial Statement for 2013	57.1 %
	Collection level of Rates from the Annual Financial Statement for 2014	56.3 %
	Collection level of Rates from the Annual Financial Statement for 2015	62.8 %
	Collection level of Rates from the Annual Financial Statement for 2016	68.0 %
	Collection level of Rates from the Annual Financial Statement for 2017 (Unaudited AFS figure)	74.3 %
	Collection level of Rent & Annuities from the Annual Financial Statement for 2013	86.6 %
	Collection level of Rent & Annuities from the Annual Financial Statement for 2014	89.3 %
	Collection level of Rent & Annuities from the Annual Financial Statement for 2015	89.8 %
	Collection level of Rent & Annuities from the Annual Financial Statement for 2016	89.0 %
	Collection level of Rent & Annuities from the Annual Financial Statement for 2017 (Unaudited AFS figure)	89.2 %
	Collection level of Housing Loans from the Annual Financial Statement for 2013	65.9 %
	Collection level of Housing Loans from the Annual Financial Statement for 2014	63.3 %
	Collection level of Housing Loans from the Annual Financial Statement for 2015	63.4 %
Collection level of Housing Loans from the Annual Financial Statement for 2016	66.0 %	
Collection level of Housing Loans from the Annual Financial Statement for 2017 (Unaudited AFS figure)	67.9 %	
Economic	No. of jobs created with assistance from the Local Enterprise Office during the period 1/1/2017 to 31/12/2017	94.0
Development	No. of trading online voucher applications approved by the Local Enterprise Office in 2017	48
	No. of those trading online vouchers that were drawn down in 2017	25
	No. of participants who received mentoring during the period 1/1/2017 to 31/12/2017	38