



Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall
Donegal County Council

CORPORATE PLAN 2024-2029

Foreword

We are pleased to present the Corporate Plan 2024-2029 for County Donegal, which will serve as the Council's Strategic Framework over the next five years.

This plan outlines our vision, mission, and core values, guiding us in delivering high-quality services to our community.

Our Strategic Framework is rooted in County Donegal's unique character and is built around five key Strategic Goals; Delivering Services, Enabling Growth, Mainstreaming Climate Action, Building Organisational Capacity and Empowering and Supporting Communities.

Honouring the uniqueness of our county, placing our communities at the heart of every decision, fostering inclusivity, sustainability, and a vibrant future for all.

Key objectives under each Strategic Goal will direct our business processes and performance, aligning them with our Annual Service Delivery Plan and broader performance management systems.

The Corporate Plan is shaped by both national and local policies. It aligns with national strategies such as the National Development Plan and Climate Action Policy while incorporating our local County Development Plan and Climate Action Plan.

Developed through extensive consultation and engagement, the plan reflects a shared commitment to our collective goals.

This Plan defines how we will adapt, seize emerging opportunities, and collaborate with our partners to achieve our objectives. Progress will be monitored and reported to Council members at both Plenary and Municipal District levels, alongside performance measurements aligned with National Performance Indicators.

Donegal continues to thrive as an inclusive and dynamic county. This plan offers flexibility to address future challenges, including lessons learned from the pandemic and our response to global crises such as the war in Ukraine.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to our Elected Members, staff, and stakeholders for their valuable contributions to the development of this plan.

Together, we look forward to building a stronger, more resilient County Donegal.



Cllr Niamh Kennedy
Cathaoirleach



John G. McLaughlin
Chief Executive

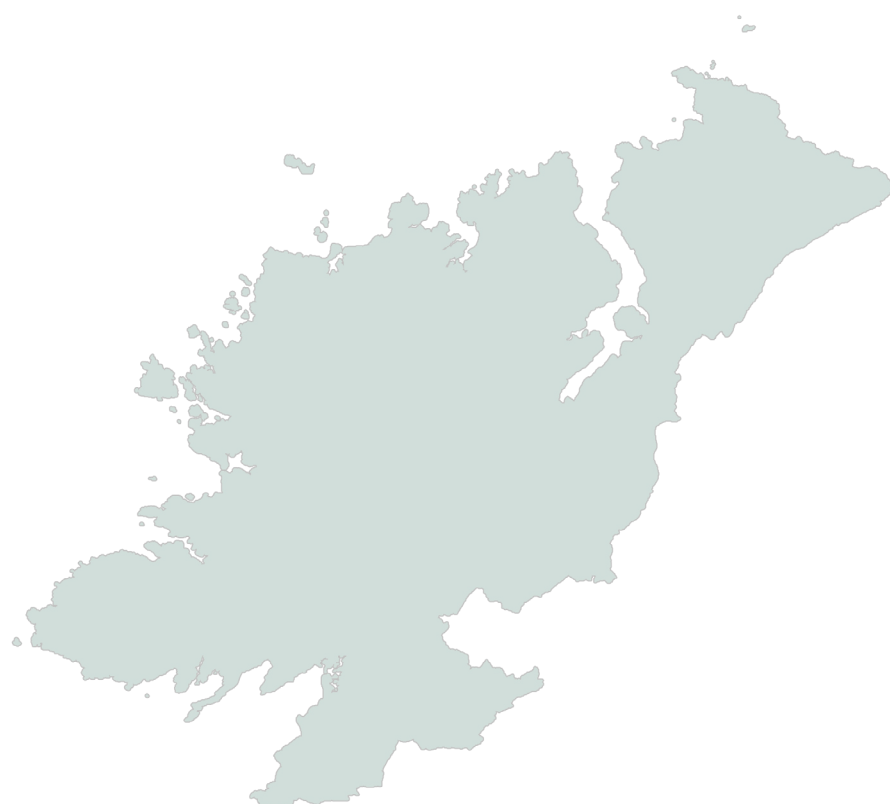




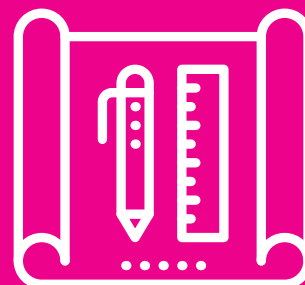
Table of Contents

Foreword	1
What We Do...	4
Looking Back - Our Highlights	6
Donegal At A Glance	12
Donegal County Council - The Role & Function	16
Operating Environment	22
Core Values and Guiding Principles	24
Strategic Framework	25
Strategic Goals and Objectives	26
Sustainable Development Goals	31
Funding Our Corporate Plan	33
Implementation and Monitoring of Our Corporate Plan	35
Appendices	36

What We Do...

Community Development & Planning Service

- Community Development
- Local Community Development Committee
- Local Economic & Community Plan
- Social Inclusion Unit
- Public Participation Network
- Age Friendly Alliance
- Strategic Tourism Product Development
- Spatial Planning Policy
- Development Control
- Planning Enforcement
- Casual Trading Policy and Bye-laws
- Building Control
- Regeneration & Development Unit
- Vacant & Derelict Property Grant Scheme (Croí Cónaithe)
- Refugee Response Unit
- Capital Projects Delivery Unit



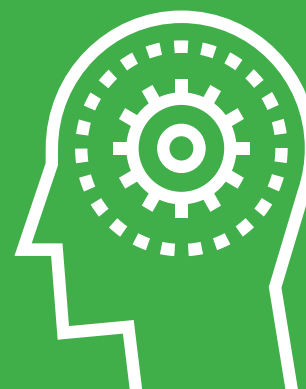
Housing, Corporate & Cultural Service



- Building/Housing Construction
 - Turnkey Management
- Part V House Acquisitions
 - Social Housing Support
- Housing Assistance Payment
- Stock & Tenancy Management
- Homelessness • Traveller Accommodation
- Housing Standards Inspections
 - Housing Grants & Loans
- Approved Housing Body Liaison
- Corporate Meeting Administration
- Motor Tax Services • Cultural Services (Archives, Arts, Biodiversity, Heritage, Libraries, Museum, Regional Cultural Centre) • Freedom of Information
- Register of Electors • County Secretariat • Human Resources
 - Communications Office • Customer Service Centre

Economic Development, Information Systems & Emergency Services

- Local Enterprise Office
- Economic Development
- Tourism Marketing
- Diaspora Engagement
- Strategic Funding Unit
- Fire Service
- Major Emergency Management
- Civil Defence
- Information Systems - Networks, Support & Security
- Applications & Web Development
- Geographic Information Systems
- Broadband
- EU & Digital Unit



What We Do...

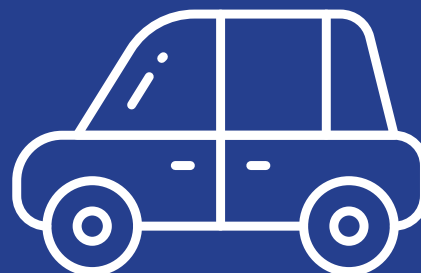


Finance

- Financial Management
- Budget Management
- Annual Financial Statements
- Income Collection Unit
 - Payroll
- Accounts Payable
- Internal Audit
- Procurement
- Insurance
- Loan Book
- Financial Information Systems
 - Property Management
- Central Invoice matching
- Timesheet Processing Unit
 - Tax Compliance
- Treasury Management
- Capital Account Management

Roads & Transportation

- Public Road Asset Management
- Maintenance and Construction
- Traffic Signs
- Lines and Signals
- Road Safety Engineering and Awareness
- Public Lighting
- Roads Management Office Shared Service
- Piers & Harbours
- Active Travel Projects and Awareness
- Development of Greenways
- Public Parks and Open Spaces
- Public Parking Management



Water & Environment Services



- Administration of the Enhanced Defective Concrete Block Grant Scheme on behalf of the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage
 - Climate Action
- Environmental Protection
 - Waste Management
 - Pollution Control
 - Litter Management
 - Beach Management
- Swimming Pools & Leisure Centres
- Facilities and Energy Management
- Flood Relief Schemes on behalf of the OPW
- Water Services via Master Co-operation Agreement with Uisce Éireann

Looking Back - Our Highlights

Community Development & Planning Services



Adoption of the County Development Plan 2024-2030

- Outdoor Recreation Strategy 2023-2029 adopted together with Implementation of Slaintecare and Healthy Ireland Programmes
- Completion of over 3km of pathway and 30 space car park on the Muckish Railway Walk Enhancement Project
- Construction of the Carrigart Digital Hub building, incorporating 18 workstations, on the site of the former Health Centre at Main Street, Carraig Airt
- Completion of over 3km of upland pathway as part of the Sustainable Access & Restoration Project on Errigal
- €26.1m secured under the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund for Letterkenny projects
- Arranmore Island Shore Front Amenity Development opened in July 2022

13,855
planning applications
received from 2018 to
May 2024



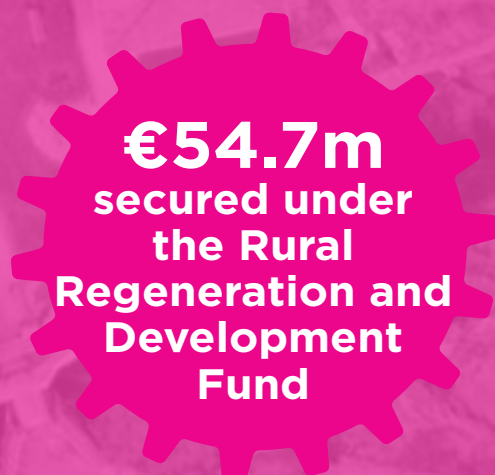
- Over 720 Crói Cónaithe Vacant Property Refurbishment Grants processed
- 143 Private Residential Estates taken in charge
- 393 Disability Access Certificate Applications received between 2019 and 2023
- 2,627 valid Commencement Notices submitted between 2019 and 2023 representing 2,916 new building starts
- 1,324 active planning enforcement cases over the 2018 to 2024 period
- Adoption of the Letterkenny Plan and Local Transport Plan 2023-2029
- New Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2023-2029 adopted

- Over 1,100 projects benefitted from over €3.8m funding under the Development Fund Initiative
- An average of 425 groups per year benefitted from €1.24m allocated under the Members Development Fund
- Adoption of Black & Minority Ethnic Inclusion Strategy and delivery of the Social Inclusion, Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2018-2022 with €17.8m announced for the newly approved SICAP 2024- 2028
- Completion of the LEADER Programme 2014-2020 and Transitional Programme and the development of the LEADER Local Development Strategy 2023-2027 with €10.4m in funding



€10m secured under Town & Villages Programme, CLÁR Programme and Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme together with €6.3m secured under the Community Recognition Fund

- Implementation of a visitor management plan at Sliabh Liag including completion of 3km mountain path and development and planning of major tourism projects at Malin Head and Fort Dunree
- Partnering with Creeslough Community Association and the DRCD to deliver funding of €497,000 towards the Creeslough Together Initiative
- Funding of €13,529,935 has been approved for the Creeslough Community Regeneration Project under the Fifth Call of the RRDF
- €7.6 million allocated under the PEACEPLUS Partnership Programme



Looking Back - Our Highlights

Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services

A total of 245 social homes have been designed, constructed and completed, or are on-site at construction stage on Council owned land across the county, representing an investment of over €64million

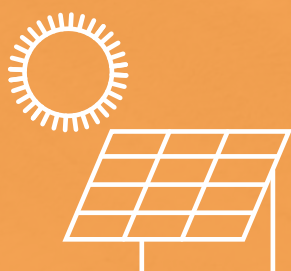


- 20 social housing schemes are at design, tender and contract stage on Council owned land, that will deliver a further 270 houses up to a value of €85m
- 4 projects are being progressed via the Design & Build mechanism and will see 52 social housing units delivered in 4 localities at a cost of €16m
- Turnkey acquisition programmes have delivered 112 properties with a further 45 being constructed and approximately 230 additional units at contract or design stages, representing an investment of approximately €110m.

Over €13.6 million in grant assistance has been provided to 2,602 households under the Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme for Older People and People with a Disability



- Under various house acquisition programmes, the Council has acquired approximately 100 properties with an investment of €16m
- 649 homes have been refurbished and re-let to new tenants at a cost of €12.29m
- Over 9,500 repairs and maintenance works have been carried out at a cost of €9m



Reduction of 16.9% in energy consumption in Council owned buildings from 38,954,396 kWh in 2020 to 32,363,283 kWh in 2023

Reduction of 21.6% of carbon emissions from 10,420 Tonnes in 2020 to 8,166 Tonnes of CO₂ in 2023



Over 570,000 bilingual calls answered by our Contact Centre between 2019-2023

- 24 extensions have been carried out to Council homes at cost of €1.38m
- Over €10.38m has been spent on upgrading 415 Council homes under the Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme
- Over €2.73m in grant assistance has been provided to 389 households under the Disabled Persons Grant Schemes
- Almost 1,400 new Council tenancies have been created since 2019. Over 2,000 HAP tenancies created since 2019 with almost 1,700 active HAP tenancies in the county at present
- €2.62m has been spent on 958 Council owned housing units under the Capital Replacement Programme



Almost €1.9 million was secured for the local Culture & Creativity team to roll out the Creative Ireland programme from 2019 to 2023

- The Decade of Centenaries programme was rolled out with €162,500 secured for commemorative projects from 2020-2023
- Milford hosted the National Famine Commemoration ceremony and community engagement programme on the 21st May 2023



Cultúr le Chéile: Strategic Plan for Culture Division 2022 - 2026 and the County Donegal Heritage Plan were prepared; the Donegal Culture and Creativity Strategy 2023-2027 was launched

- Thousands attended annual festivals and events programmes such as Bealtaine, Culture Night, Wainfest and the Donegal Bay & Bluestacks Festival
- The award-winning Thatch Repair Grant Scheme was established and multi-award winning Historic Towns Initiatives were rolled out with over €2.7m secured in external funding for Heritage initiatives.

Looking Back - Our Highlights

Economic Development, Information Systems & Emergency Services

- Dedicated Economic Development Unit set up in January 2020
- €2m allocated under the Minor Tourism Works Grant Scheme to over 150 projects across Donegal
- Alpha Innovation established to drive innovation capacity across industry in Donegal



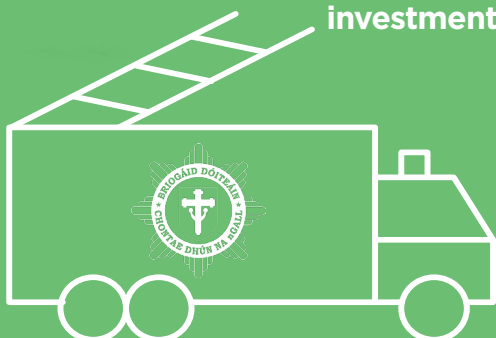
**Donegal DNA
Placebrand launched
in April 2021 with
Donegal.ie & Social
Media Platforms**



**75 WiFi4EU public
access WiFi points
around 56 towns &
villages in Donegal**

- €1.8m awarded in Trading Online Vouchers to 808 local businesses to help their online trading presence
- 11,439 clients engaged in training, seminars, management development programmes and networking events
- 5,108 students in 22 schools participated in several Student Enterprise Programmes

**Donegal Fire services took delivery of
3 new appliances for Letterkenny
Brigade and 1 Class B fire engine for
Gaoth Dobhair brigade totaling
investment of €1.1m**



- 12 community Broadband Connection Points developed along with the commencement of the National Broadband Plan fibre network installation in 11/18 Deployment Areas

- 4 new Digital Hubs in Donegal, notably The Base Stranorlar, Inishowen Innovation Buncrana, Malin Beg, and Carraig Airt Hubs. Also, the development of the Remote Working Strategy and remote working holiday campaign to position Donegal as a place to stay, work, live & play

- Donegal Fire Services responded to 4,038 incidents
- €3.5m awarded to 184 businesses to start and grow in Donegal

248

**SME businesses were grant
aided by the LEO employing**

**1,464
employees**



- Donegal recognized with a wide range of accolades including 'Coolest Place on Earth' by National Geographic, 4th best place in the world to visit by Lonely Planet, and Errigal recognized by Lonely Planet as best place to watch the sunset/sunrise in Ireland

- Continued digitalization across a range of Council services

Looking Back - Our Highlights

Finance

Total Revenue Expenditure 2019-2024 of more than



€915 million

- Introduction of eTax Clearance, eRCT, ePSWT and NLWT. Each requiring significant change and re-programming. Revenue now have access to real time information
- Introduction of payroll modernisation with real time provision of payroll related taxes to the Revenue Commissioners
- Introduction of Enhanced Revenue Reporting with Revenue now provided with real time information in relation to travel & subsistence

- Improvement on the Revenue Account for the period 2019-2023 of €4.6 million
- A reduction in the Council's loan book (long term financing obligations) of almost €2.3 million
- Increase in collection performance across all major income headings most notably Commercial Rates & Housing Rents
- From 1st January 2024 all Commercial Rates properties in the county were revalued by Tailte Éireann ensuring a more equitable and transparent rating system
- The upgrade of the Council's Financial Management system from Agresso MS4 to Agresso MS7

Administration of financial business supports during the Covid-19 pandemic with a combined value in excess of

€53 million

Total Capital Expenditure 2019-2024 of more than



€557 million

- Introduction of new cross directorate payment facilities including ePlan, Online Parking, and Defective Concrete Blocks Grant Scheme claims
- Move of banking and treasury management from Ulster Bank to AIB

Looking Back - Our Highlights

Roads & Transportation Services



€90m
invested in resurfacing over 1,000km
of road under the Restoration
Improvement Programme and 1,200km
of road surface dressed with an
investment of €24m

- €3m invested in public roads on our islands across 30 different roads improvements
- Invested over €60m of own resources in the maintenance and improvement of the roads network in addition to funds from external sources
- Construction of 17km of North West Greenway Network between Muff and Three Trees and between Lifford and Castlefinn at an estimated total cost of €18m
- Over 9,000 students attended the Road Safety Road Show in 2019, 2022 and 2023

Progressing 6 TII funded Greenway
projects across Donegal which will
deliver an additional 220km of
Greenway



- Completion of the Four Lane Road Improvement Scheme and signalisation of the Pole Star Roundabout which delivered safety improvements, Active Travel facilities, signalised crossing facilities and signalised traffic controls
- Completion of 24 National Road Pavement Schemes with a total length of over 68km at a cost of €34m
- Completion of 65 Road Safety Projects at a cost of €1,959,000 under the Low Cost Accident Prevention Programme
- Significant progress in development planning stage of Ten-T project which includes N14 Letterkenny to Lifford, N15 Ballybofey Bypass and Bonagee Link Road

- 321 Local Improvement Schemes completed at a cost of nearly €6m
- 135 Climate Adaptation Schemes completed at a cost of €3.2m
- €7.5m invested in drainage improvements on Regional and Local roads
- Completion of the Joe Bonnar Road and various linkage improvements at a cost of €2m
- Roads Areas have worked with the Communities delivering 332 different schemes on the public road network at a cost of €6.3m under the Community Involvement Scheme (CIS)



Completion of the N56 An
Clochán Liath to Glenties Road
and Active Travel Scheme with an
overall investment of €100m

- Over the 5 year period, 12,243 LED public lights were installed/retrofitted, reducing the annual energy consumption by 33%
- Since 2019, 128 bridges have been repaired/refurbished throughout the county at a cost of €3.5m
- Completion of Safe Routes to School Projects at Scoil Cholmcille, Newtoncunningham, St. Eunan's NS, Raphoe, St. Baithin's NS, St. Johnston and Scoil Mhuire NS, Ramelton
- Redevelopment and extension of Swan Park, Buncrana, following its devastation in the 2017 floods



Repair and refurbishment at 50 piers and
harbour facilities for an investment of
€25.42m
including the completion of the
Greencastle Breakwater project in 2023

Looking Back - Our Highlights

Water & Environment Services

- Delivery of new or upgraded water treatment plants on 6 water supplies in partnership with Uisce Éireann
- Delivery of new wastewater treatment infrastructure serving 7 towns and villages in partnership with Uisce Éireann
- €3m investment to restore Balbane Landfill Site incorporating an Integrated Constructed Wetland for leachate treatment
- Increased Blue Flags to 14 countywide - 12 blue flags for beaches, 2 blue flags for marinas (Greencastle and Rathmullan) and 4 Green Coast Awards
- More than 900 community cleanups supported each year, with over 5,700 volunteers, as part of the Big Donegal Cleanup campaign
- 550 bikes collected as part of the School Bikes Africa campaign which sees refurbished bicycles shipped to The Gambia for school children



Adoption and Launch of Climate Action Plan (2024-2029) with €1,069,000 allocated under the Community Climate Action and Shared Island Funds in 2024

- 12,985 households provided with a three-bin service for improved household waste management
- 385 tonnes of compost collected by the public from recycling centres and 380 kitchen caddies distributed at Council Recycling Centres
- Paint reuse services made available at all six Recycling Centres in the county, collecting 500kgs of paint annually
- Design and distribution of over 2000 copies of All-In-One household recycling pocket guide to householders across Donegal
- 9 Flood Relief Schemes being developed in collaboration with the OPW
- Increased accessibility at our public conveniences including Changing Places at Narin and Letterkenny

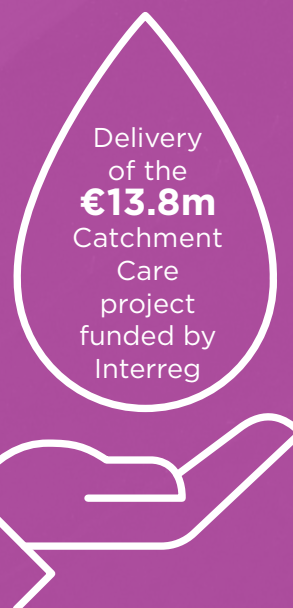
Establishment of the

NWEA

North West Energy Agency

and enhancement of the Project Board in 2024

- Improved access, facilities and sustainable infrastructure at our beaches including 16 beach wheelchairs and 2 new eco-loos
- Winners of the 'Most Inclusive Project' 2024 award at the LAMA All-Ireland Community & Council Awards
- Taking in Charge of 50 Group Water Schemes since 2019 and payment of 136 Well Grants as part of the Multi-annual Rural Water Programme
- 500 septic tank inspections with 114 replaced to EPA environmental standards
- Major refurbishments and energy efficiency measures at our Leisure Centres including planning permission for a new leisure centre in Buncrana
- Delivery of new 3G astro pitch, dugouts, and spectator area at Aura Letterkenny



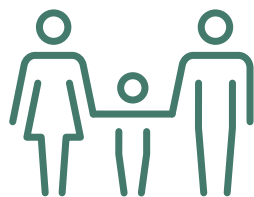
Delivery of the **€13.8m** Catchment Care project funded by Interreg

Donegal at a Glance

In 2022, 167,084
persons called Donegal
their home



representing an increase
of 19,800 people
since 2006

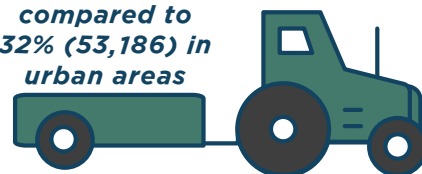


In 2022, 45657 people (27.3%)
were 18 years or under;
14446 people (8.6%)
were 65 years or older



Our border
with Northern Ireland is
140km while our
border with the rest of
the Island of Ireland
is 9km

68% (113,898) of
the population
live in rural areas
compared to
32% (53,186) in
urban areas



In 2022/2023
there were 6,305
students enrolled at 3rd
level institutions (down
from 6,820 in 2021/2022)

In 2022/2023 there were
4,275 students enrolled in
ATU Donegal (down from
4,510 in 2021/2022)

The Donegal Gaeltacht
encompasses an area of
1502km²
of and has a population
of 24,220 persons

Between 2014-2024 Secondary
School Enrolments Increased by
15.1% in Donegal (Source: DOE
Statistical Bulletin August 2024)

15.1%



173 Primary Schools
with
19,075
pupils



27 Secondary Schools
with
14,656
pupils



2 Special Education
Schools with
246
pupils

Donegal at a Glance

The fastest growing sectors in Donegal over the period 2016-2022



There were 67,997 persons at work in County Donegal in 2022



an increase of 9,644 persons since 2016 (Source: Census 2022).

In 2022 The largest economic sector by employment in Donegal was the Services Sector 76.1% (48,655)

76.1%

This was followed by Industry and Construction 17.8% (11,371), and agriculture, forestry and fishing 6.1% (3,885) (Source: WDC)

In 2022 the labour participation was 57% compared to 61% Nationally

57%



In June 2024 there were 8,745 persons on the live register (a decrease of 11.3% relative to June 2023)

Nearly 18,500 people (16% of those aged 15 and over) had completed their education at lower secondary level up from 17,600 people in 2016. This was above the national average of 13%

Almost 28,500 people (25% of those aged 15 and over) had completed full-time education at upper secondary level up from almost 25,900 people in 2016. This was below the 26% National average

Over 18,200 (16% of people aged 15 and over) had completed their education at primary level or had no formal education down from more than 21,300 people in 2016. This was above the national average of 10%

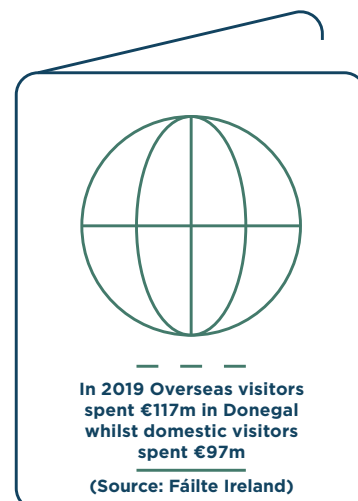
41,300 persons (37% of the population) had a 3rd level qualification, up 32,600 from 2016. This was below the 45% National average

Between 2014-2024 Primary School Enrolments Increased by 1.3% in Donegal (Source: DOE Statistical Bulletin August 2024)

Source: 2022 Census

Donegal at a Glance

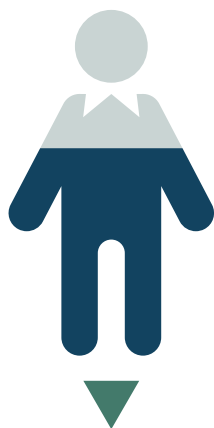
In 2019 Donegal received
354,000
overseas and
445,000
domestic tourists



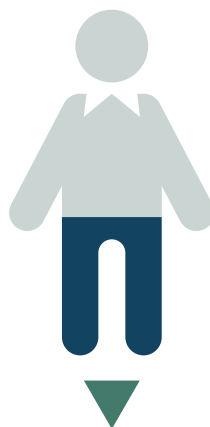
In 2022 59,730 people travelled to work in the county



65.7%
(38,995)
by car



6%
(3,596)
walked



1.2%
(759)
by bus



0.5%
(299)
cycled

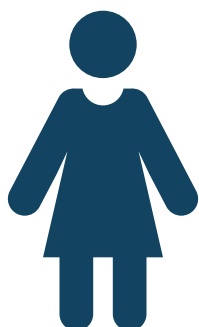


In 2022 9.8% (16,436) of people lived alone in the Donegal. This was up from 15,064 in 2016. 27.7% (7,734) of persons over 65 lived alone in 2022



In 2022 8% (13,500) of Donegal's population smoked daily. Compared to 9% nationally

83%



83% (138,000) of the population stated that their health was 'very good' or 'good' (down from 86% in 2016). This compares to 83% nationally.

23% (38,000) of the population reported experiencing at least one long-lasting condition or difficulty to any extent. This compares to 22% nationally.



23%

Donegal at a Glance



Donegal is well served by international air services which are within reasonable and acceptable commuting distance including;

- Dublin Airport
- Belfast City Airport
- Belfast International Airport
- City of Derry Airport
- Donegal Airport
- Ireland West Airport Knock

Donegal is also well served by international ports at;

- Killybegs
- Greencastle
- Rathmullan



Donegal's road network is **6,407 km**

152km National Primary Roads

National Secondary Roads **157km**

6,099km Regional or Local Roads



High Speed Broadband (30+Mbs) is currently available in all towns and villages.

These networks are being upgraded to Gigabit Fibre by the commercial operators.



Diverse backhaul routes in and out of the county offer resilience, security, and direct access onto the Trans-Atlantic Fibreoptic connection to North America through Letterkenny.

We continue to support the roll out of the National Broadband Plan (NBP) fibre network in the NBP Intervention Areas.

Donegal County Council

The Role and Function

Donegal County Council is the Local Authority for County Donegal and is made up of 37 Elected Members. Each Elected Member is elected to one of 7 Electoral Areas (EAs) across 5 Municipal Districts in Donegal.

The Combined 37 elected members make up the Plenary Council

The Municipal Districts



Donegal County Council

Elected Members

Municipal District of Donegal



Cllr Manus Boyle
Fine Gael



Cllr Jimmy Brogan
Independent



Cllr Noel Andrew Jordan
Sinn Féin



Cllr Niamh Kennedy
Independent



Cllr Michael McMahon
Sinn Féin



Cllr Micheál Naughton
Fianna Fáil

Municipal District of Glenties



Cllr Brian Carr
Sinn Féin



Cllr Micheál Choilm Mac Giolla Easbuig
Independent



Cllr Michael McClafferty
Independent



Cllr Denis McGee
100% Redress



Cllr Anthony Molloy
Fianna Fáil



Cllr John Shéamuis Ó Fearraigh
Sinn Féin

Donegal County Council

Elected Members

Municipal District of Inishowen



Cllr Joy Beard
100% Redress
Buncrana EA



Cllr Fionán Bradley
Fianna Fáil
Buncrana EA



Cllr Paul Canning
Fianna Fáil
Buncrana EA



Cllr Terry Crossan
Sinn Féin
Buncrana EA



Cllr Albert Doherty
Sinn Féin
Carndonagh EA



Cllr Ali Farren
100% Redress
Carndonagh EA



Cllr Martin Farren
Labour
Carndonagh EA



Cllr Martin McDermott
Fianna Fáil
Carndonagh EA



Cllr Jack Murray
Sinn Féin
Buncrana EA

Municipal District of Lifford-Stranorlar



Cllr Gary Doherty
Sinn Féin



Cllr Martin Harley
Fine Gael



Cllr Frank McBrearty
Independent



Cllr Patrick McGowan
Fianna Fáil



Cllr Dakota Nic Mheanman
Sinn Féin



Cllr Martin Scanlon
Independent

Donegal County Council

Elected Members

Municipal District of Letterkenny-Milford



Cllr Liam Blaney
Fianna Fáil
Milford EA



Cllr Ciaran Brogan
Fianna Fáil
Letterkenny EA



Cllr Donal Coyle
Fianna Fáil
Letterkenny EA



Cllr Tomás Seán Devine
100% Redress
Letterkenny EA



Cllr Jimmy Kavanagh
Fine Gael
Letterkenny EA



Cllr Donal 'Mandy' Kelly
Fianna Fáil
Letterkenny EA



Cllr Michael McBride
Independent
Letterkenny EA



Cllr Pauric McGarvey
Independent
Milford EA



Cllr Gerry McMonagle
Sinn Féin
Letterkenny EA



Cllr Declan Meehan
Independent
Milford EA

Policy Making Role

Policy Making Structure and Functions

The Elected Members are responsible for considering and making policy in a range of areas and this role is facilitated through the six Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs) which include participation from external representatives, including the Public Participation Network, and other representative bodies.

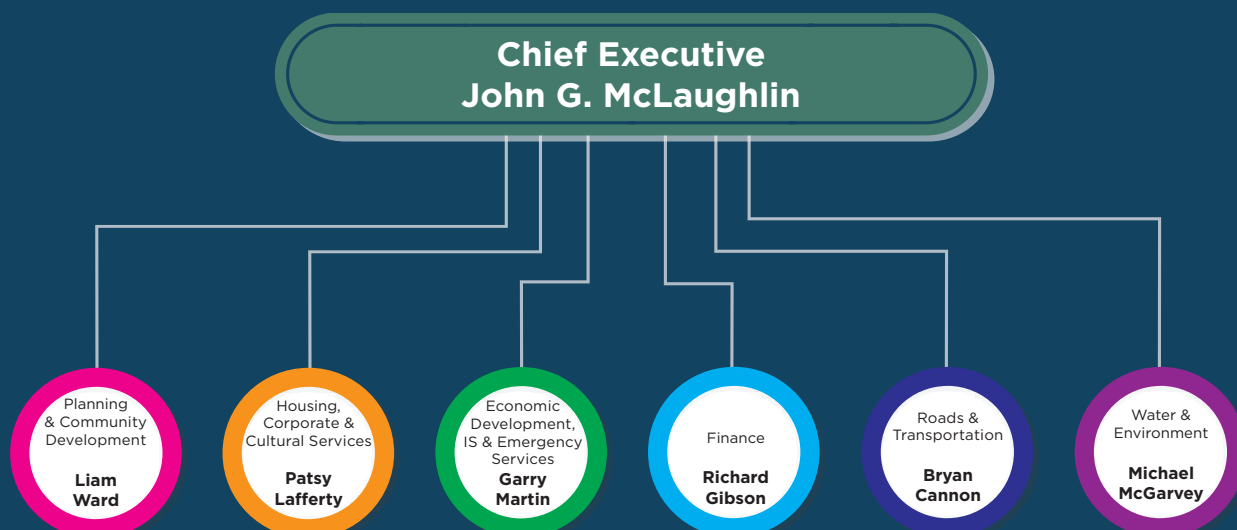
In addition to the SPCs the Corporate Policy Group (CPG), which is made up of the Cathaoirleach and the chair of each SPC and supported by the Chief Executive and the Senior Management Team, is responsible for facilitating the development of key policy instruments such as the Annual Revenue Budget and the County Development Plan.



Policy Making Role

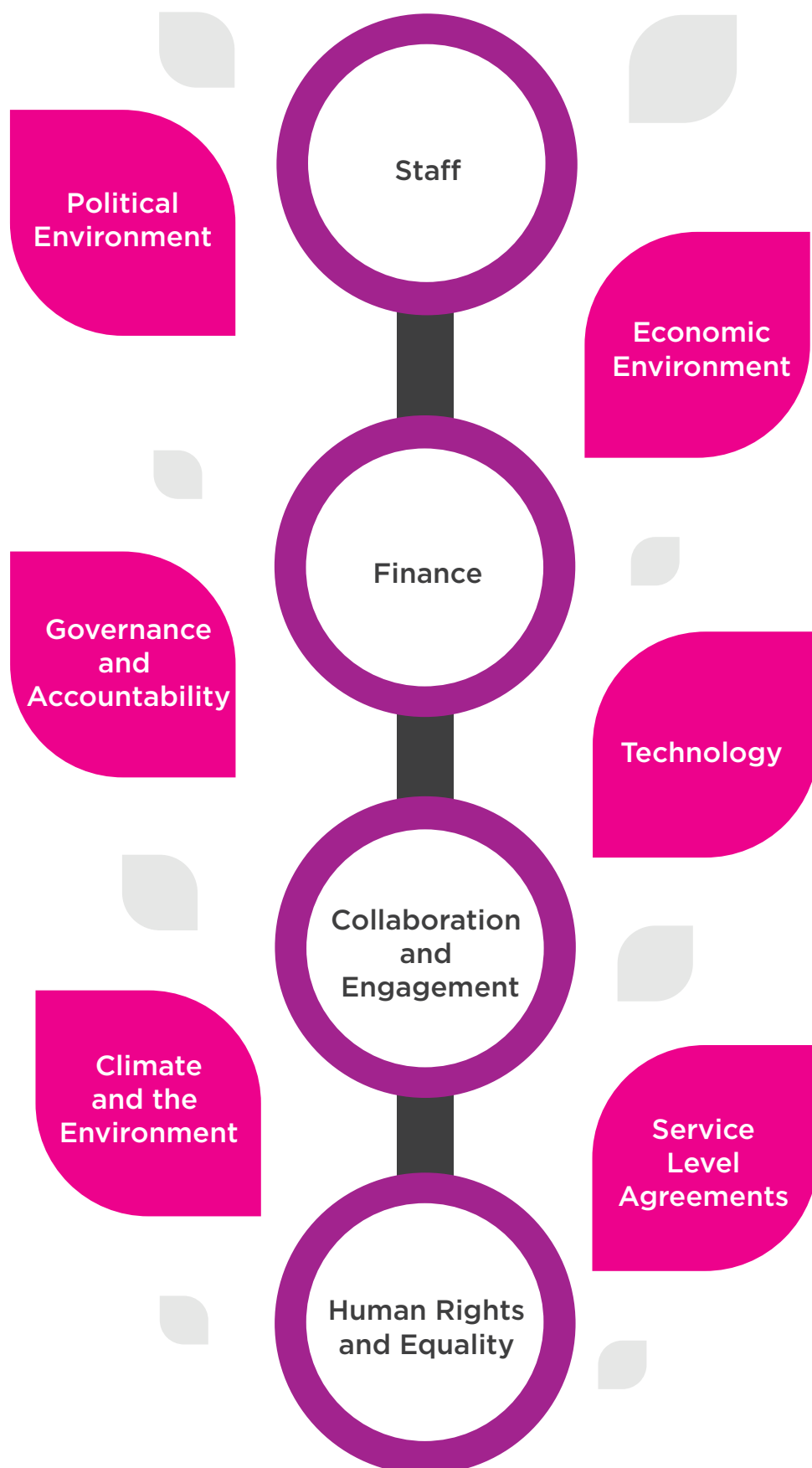
Management Structure and Functions

There are six directorates in Donegal County Council, and each directorate is responsible for providing a range of functions and services as outlined in the 'What We Do...' pages of this Plan.



Chief Executive, John G. McLaughlin (Centre) pictured with members of the Senior Management Team.
 Standing: Bryan Cannon, Richard Gibson, Patsy Lafferty, Garry Martin;
 Seated: Liam Ward, John G. McLaughlin, Michael McGarvey

Operating Environment



Operating Environment

Staff

- Donegal County Council employs 1,240 staff of which 71% are Male and 29% Female. This is made up of 83% full-time and 17% part-time staff, employed across the county.
- The attraction, retention and development of talent is critical to the delivery of services.

Finance

- Continue to ensure a sustainable income funding level to enable the planned development of the county.
- The adopted Revenue Budget 2024 is €185m; with a Capital Budget of €248m.

Collaboration and Engagement

- Continue to build strong local, cross-border, regional, national and international collaborations and connections.
- Leverage the importance and primacy of the North-West City Region.

Human Rights & Equality

- Ensure that equality and human rights considerations are factored into the day-to-day operations of Donegal County Council.

Political Environment

- Donegal has a unique geopolitical position sharing 90% of our land border with Northern Ireland
- The North-West City Region is the fourth largest urban agglomeration on the island of Ireland.

Economic Environment

- 33.6% of residents are under 24 years.
- Donegal is renowned for its unique culture that engenders a deep sense of place.
- Donegal has the largest Gaeltacht in Ireland incorporating 31% of the county.

Governance and Accountability

- Ensure continued transparency and accountability in the operation and delivery of services.
- Continued monitoring and reporting of national performance indicators as a measure to benchmark, relative to other local authorities.

Technology

- 75% of Donegal households have access to high-speed broadband, with plans under the National Broadband Plan to have full coverage by 2027.
- Continue to accelerate the digitisation of Council services and the adoption of new and emerging technologies.
- Need to be alert and responsive to increasing cyber security threats.

Climate and Environment

- Ensure policies, regulations, and decisions regarding the environment are made with sustainability in mind as well as balancing the needs of our citizens.
- Donegal County Council's inaugural Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 was adopted in February 2024. The Plan sets out our vision "to be a climate resilient, biodiversity rich, environmentally sustainable and carbon neutral Donegal by no later than the end of 2030". It builds on and augments our Climate Adaptation Strategy of 2019, by including measures aimed at reducing GHG emissions to prevent further climate change, as well as measures to increase our resilience to the climate risks we are already experiencing.
- Advance climate action on a cross-border basis with neighbouring local authorities in Northern Ireland, including collaboration with Derry City and Strabane District Council under the North West Climate Action Framework.
- Integrate Environmental and Climate Legislation in infrastructure development in Donegal as underpinned by our Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 and forthcoming Biodiversity Action Plan.
- In our role as custodians of a unique environment, protect Donegal's offering as a place of outstanding natural beauty with superb scenic landscapes, coastal regions and a built and natural environment steeped in historical significance and tradition.

Service Level Agreements

Donegal County Council has entered into a range of agreements with other agencies and local authorities to generate significant savings and efficiencies and to impact on our capacity to deliver a more strategic and targeted service model for our local communities across the sector. A full list is available in Appendix 5.

Core Values and Guiding Principles

These core values and guiding principles underpin the strategic framework set out in this Plan. They ensure that we reflect the needs of our communities and will guide us in doing our work and delivering our services.

Public Service

We are committed to providing the highest standards of customer service to meet the needs of the people.

Inclusivity

We will promote a culture where all members of the community feel valued and supported by creating an environment where everyone feels empowered and represented.

Equality

We will actively promote equality of opportunity, eliminate discrimination, and protect the human rights of those to whom we provide services and to our staff as they carry out their daily work.

Collaboration

We will work with communities, businesses, and other organisations to make informed decisions, and to foster trust and participation in delivering for the county

Low Carbon and Climate Resilience

We are committed to supporting and proactively facilitating the transitioning to a low carbon, climate resilient society in Donegal by protecting the environment and ensuring the long-term viability of local resources.

Sustainable Development

We are committed to the Sustainable Development Goals to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all; including addressing challenges relating to poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace and justice.

Integrity and Accountability

We work to the highest standards of ethical conduct and probity and are committed to doing business in an open and fair way ensuring the public understand how services are delivered, funded and how decisions are made.

Innovation, Creativity and Continuous Improvement

We are committed to fostering an innovative and creative approach to achieve continuous improvement in the way we do business. This includes adopting new technologies, processes, and practices to enhance service delivery, increase efficiency and better meet the needs of the wider community.

Valuing Elected Members and Staff

We value our councillors and staff and are committed to creating an environment that will allow them to achieve their full potential in a culture of learning, innovation and creativity.

Culture, Heritage and Language

We are committed to protecting and promoting our unique indigenous culture, heritage and language whilst also embracing and valuing the diversity of all cultures and languages in Donegal.

Economic Development

We are committed to working in collaboration with local and national partners in maximizing sustainable job creation opportunities and supporting existing businesses to achieve long term prosperity within the County.

Strategic Framework

Our Strategic Framework is based primarily on our county's uniqueness.

We are the most northerly county in Ireland, in a border region, and have managed to retain much of our rich and unique cultural identity. How we speak, how we celebrate our traditions, and how our communities have carved out an existence in some of the most remote locations in Europe are all features of life in Donegal which are as relevant today as they were centuries ago. We acknowledge the unique challenges within our county, such as our peripherality and access issues, as well as the challenges associated with defective concrete blocks, however we strive to build a socially, economically and environmentally sustainable community for our people.

The recognition of the Northwest Region within Project Ireland 2040 (the National Planning Framework) and National Development Plan is a significant achievement for our county. Our ongoing work and close ties with Derry City and Strabane District Council have set us apart nationally and in Europe in terms of our cross-border region and collaboration.

Our landscape is distinctive, unique and synonymous with the identity of County Donegal. Our extensive coastline and seascape is an integral and constituent element, informed by a myriad of factors including its geology, landcover, natural heritage, built heritage and cultural heritage that together combine to define our character.

We are a Gaeltacht county with a strong bedded love of our Irish language with almost 15% percent of the county's population residing in An Ghaeltacht.

Our Vision

"To lead Donegal's social, economic, and physical development, fostering sustainable communities and ensuring an exceptional quality of life for all."

Mission Statement

"Honouring the uniqueness of our county, placing our communities at the heart of every decision, fostering inclusivity, sustainability, and a vibrant future for all."

Our Strategic Goals



Strategic Goals and Objectives

Enabling Growth

To enable growth by promoting economic development and by enhancing the excellent quality of life offering across Donegal

1	Progress plans for the delivery of critical infrastructure, including the Ten-T Improvement project and other key road network infrastructure, together with lobbying of other agencies to ensure key infrastructure is progressed such as water/waste water services
2	Deliver an ambitious social housing programme with a view to supporting households in Donegal having access to quality affordable housing in a good environment and, as far as possible, at a tenure of their choice
3	To support the work of Donegal 2040 DAC in its ambition to be an engine for growth in the development of a sustainable and innovative county and in its quest to release the commercial potential of investments across a range of projects in Donegal
4	Deliver Letterkenny 2040, enabling Letterkenny to achieve its potential as a designated centre for growth as set out in the National Planning Framework and as a key driver for growth and job creation in Donegal and the region
5	Support our cultural resources as an enabler for economic, social and community development and promote their use in a sustainable and responsible way
6	Deliver an ambitious programme of regeneration and development for Towns and Villages in consultation with local communities using the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF), Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF) and Town and Village Renewal Programme
7	Build on our strong cross-border working relationships to leverage critical mass and influence to support the economic, social and cultural development of the county and the North West City Region
8	Work to develop, promote and sustain the county's exceptional arts and cultural festivals and events
9	Strengthen and reinforce Donegal's cultural infrastructure and resources
10	Work with key partners, including the private sector, to maximise opportunities in high growth potential sectors including FinTech, Tourism, the Green Economy, Bioeconomy, Blue Technologies, Food and Creative industries
11	To promote and support enterprise and sustainable job creation across a range of sectors
12	To promote and further develop Donegal as an attractive and competitive location for Foreign Direct Investment and other forms of investment
13	Protect and enhance built heritage through environmental, conservation and public realm programmes, the production of design guidance and addressing vacancy and dereliction along with an ambitious programme of investment in facilities and amenities
14	To promote and develop the Digital Economy and the Digital Transition as an enabler and provider of sustainable employment in the county and support the roll-out of the National Broadband Plan
15	To engage with Donegal's global community to further develop mutually beneficial relationships
16	Support partners in the education and training sector in developing a pipeline of talent required for business growth
17	To invest in the Donegal DNA placebrand, positioning the county as a great place to live, work, study, invest and do business
18	Provide accessible, high quality local supports for small businesses through the Local Enterprise Office to promote entrepreneurship, foster business start-ups, and support the sustainable growth of existing micro and small businesses to drive job creation
19	Build on our tourism offering through investment in key strategic initiatives along with a Tourism Marketing Plan with the potential to grow visitor numbers and extend the tourist season
20	Continue to work with all stakeholders on the island to improve and develop strategic connectivity to priority urban areas including by means of road, rail and air access

Strategic Goals and Objectives

Delivering Services

To deliver accessible and efficient services and supports

1	Ensure services and supports we provide are accessible to all and are delivered in a way to cater for the diverse range of needs in our communities
2	Support the performance of functions at Municipal District level including the prioritisation and delivery of services in line with our overall policy and strategy and as required by regulation
3	Assess and address equality and human rights impacts of our work as it relates to members of the public, people who use our services, and our staff, in line with the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty
4	Continue the appropriate improvement and maintenance of the National and Non-National Road Networks to the extent of available funding, whilst always striving to capitalise on potential funding opportunities
5	Administer the Defective Concrete Blocks Grant Schemes and associated funding on behalf of the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage in an efficient manner, in line with the relevant rules and regulations
6	Ensure access to services and supports through Irish in line with the Official Languages Act 2003 (as amended 2021) and The National Plan for Irish Language Public Services 2024-2030
7	Effective delivery of national initiatives, ensuring they are implemented in a way that meets the needs of our community by maximising their value and impact at a local level
8	Continue the appropriate protection of our valued built heritage and historic structures including administering and managing publicly funded programmes and oversee and maintain our Record of Protected Structures
9	Promote and sustain the county's rich and diverse tapestry of culture and employ and promote best practice in its management and development
10	Deliver on our commitment to Public Sector Innovation by embedding a culture of innovation and continuous process improvement with a view to increasing efficiencies, improving accessibility and outsourcing if required
11	Build on our successful engagement with our citizens and diaspora through social media, GIS and online platforms, and explore the potential of emerging disruptive technologies to further improve engagement and the delivery of services to all
12	Progress the Digital Transformation agenda with a view to achieving business process improvements while meeting the emerging needs and expectations of our customers in line with the Public Service ICT Strategy and Local Government Digital & ICT Strategy 2030
13	Continue to adopt a people-centred approach in designing our online services in partnership with members of the public, communities, and businesses to ensure easy access to relevant government services online
14	Provide emergency response capabilities through the Fire Service alongside the provision of a high-quality fire prevention service across both regulatory and advisory areas
15	Continue to work with our partner Principal Response Agencies, An Garda Síochána and the HSE, to enhance inter-agency co-operation in the area of Major Emergency Management
16	Provide an effective and efficient Income Collection Service, to fund Council Services and provide sufficient resources to take advantage of partially funded opportunities
17	Provide an efficient and effective Purchase to Pay, Payroll & Treasury service to ensure all Council activities are discharged in line with statutory and legal obligations
18	Provide an effective Management Accounting function to ensure timely delivery of management and budgetary information to all Directorates
19	Continue to support the Property Management Service to ensure custody of Council Land Assets

Strategic Goals and Objectives

Empowering and Supporting Communities

To empower, support and promote sustainable, inclusive and prosperous communities

1	Facilitate, co-ordinate and support the Local Community Development Committee in the delivery of LEADER/Rural Development Programmes, Social Inclusion Activation Programme, Sláintecare Healthy Ireland and other funding programmes benefitting our communities
2	Empower and support communities in the delivery of a range of development initiatives including recreational amenities, environmental and climate action projects, enterprise initiatives, cultural, heritage and artistic activities, resident groups, and community facilities
3	Facilitate community engagement, representation and participation through the Public Participation Network and promote greater participation of women and diversity in local government
4	Support the emerging Donegal Disability Inclusion Strategy to meet our obligation under the UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disability
5	Continue to engage with the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage in support of citizens affected by the challenges of Defective Concrete Blocks
6	Support people with disabilities by ensuring accessible environments and facilities, fostering disability-friendly communities, and ensuring parking for people with disabilities is an integral part of our road network development
7	To establish a Local Community Safety Partnership that will bring all the relevant state services and community together at local authority level, which will then develop a Local Community Safety Plan for implementation building on the work undertaken by the former Joint Policing Committee
8	Continue to support youth participation and representation through the Donegal Youth Council/ Comhairle na nÓg and support the participation of young people in all aspects of community life
9	Promote volunteerism and active citizenship through a range of initiatives and activities
10	Promote positive mental health and wellbeing by working in partnership with key agencies and support organisations
11	Enhance quality of life and wellbeing through increasing diversity, engagement and active participation in culture
12	Promote safety in the community through a range of initiatives including road safety, water safety, and fire safety and prevention
13	Support the development of more sustainable digital communities and continue to actively cooperate with government departments and partner organisations on current and future projects
14	Support communities in the delivery of a range of initiatives such as Tidy Town groups, and other biodiversity related objectives
15	Work with key partner organisations and stakeholders to ensure that our services and supports contribute in a positive way to addressing poverty and social exclusion and to achieve more positive outcomes for everyone in our communities
16	Provide support to all refugees through our new Local Authority Integration Team and implementation of our Migrant Integration Strategy to support and value diversity and interculturalism and work towards integration and equality of opportunities in our communities
17	To promote and support the Community and Voluntary Sector as drivers of development, service provision, and in maintaining vibrant communities

Strategic Goals and Objectives

Mainstreaming Climate Action

Show leadership and ambition by mainstreaming climate action in the delivery of all Council services and by supporting the community to take climate action within Donegal

1	Implement the Donegal County Council Climate Action Plan 2024-2029, and monitor and report on progress through the Climate Action Regional Office and Department of Environment, Climate and Communications
2	Ensure that the Council and its staff are suitably resourced to deliver on the Climate Action Plan, driven by our cross-directorate Climate Action Team
3	Increase active travel, modal shift and reduce vehicle emissions
4	Increase resilience to climate change; reduce greenhouse gas emissions; increase the use of renewable energy and improve energy efficiency throughout Council buildings and infrastructure
5	Promote and protect our environment, and its biodiversity and water catchments as key enablers of climate adaptation and mitigation across the county
6	Build capacity and readiness within the community to motivate demand for transformative climate action
7	Support sustainable and circular economy initiatives and infrastructure within the county
8	Ensure continued robust enforcement, licensing, certification and regulation in environmental protection, planning, building control, fire safety, and public health and safety to support excellent quality of life
9	Promote and support development of Bioeconomy and Agriculture as integral parts of Donegal's Green Economy resource
10	Deliver the appropriate climate response on all Council owned assets to align with a trajectory to net zero emissions and energy efficiency targets including maintaining our ISO 50001 standard
11	Continue development of the North West Energy Agency to support homeowners, businesses and communities to implement energy efficiency improvements throughout Donegal
12	Collaborate with the community, business, and other stakeholders within the County and with neighbouring authorities to align on successful climate actions
13	Prepare and implement the first County Donegal Biodiversity Action Plan, including delivering initiatives to raise awareness, commissioning research, providing advice, supporting National Biodiversity Week and promoting best practice in relation to biodiversity
14	Align climate, energy, water and biodiversity actions within Council work programmes to maximise impact and efficiency
15	Continue the development of Flood Relief Schemes in Donegal in partnership with the Office of Public Works
16	Protect and improve water quality through Ireland's "Water Action Plan 2024: A River Basin Management Plan for Ireland" and supporting the Multi Annual Rural Water Programme

Strategic Goals and Objectives

Building Organisational Capacity

To support, develop and resource our organisational capacity to achieve our objectives

1	Support the development of a highly motivated, skilled and talented workforce dedicated to delivering the organisation's objectives by facilitating and encouraging a culture of continuous learning, training and development
2	Support our elected members to identify their training and development needs and implement a culture of active and timely engagement
3	Strengthen our capacity to undertake effective cross-directorate and intra-organisational working, leading to a more integrated approach to decision making and service delivery
4	Undertake effective workforce planning, including succession planning, to ensure staff resources are in line with the organisational requirements and service demands
5	Build on strong partnerships and collaborative working arrangements with key partners and stakeholders to achieve critical mass and influence at local, regional, cross-border, national, EU and international levels
6	Continue to resource and develop a Strategic Funding function to enable the organisation to maximise external funding opportunities, both EU and national, aligned to our key priorities and strategic objectives
7	Build on the strong organisational health and safety culture ensuring health, safety and wellbeing of our staff and supporting a safe working environment for all employees through our Dignity at Work policy
8	To support the Council's Social Club in recognition of its important role in fostering a positive workplace community and connecting staff, past and present, in a spirit of belonging and togetherness
9	Continue to invest in and resource ICT programmes, plant and equipment to support the business and operational needs of the organisation as well as improving customer service delivery
10	Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the way we work by making the most of new technologies with appropriate investment and resources
11	Ensure continued compliance with legal and statutory obligations and requirements

Sustainable Development Goals

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted by UN Member States in September 2015. Within this Agenda, there are 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These goals aim to ‘end poverty, protect the planet and improve the lives and prospects of everyone, everywhere.’ The 17 SDGs contain 169 targets to be achieved by 2030. In 2019, world leaders called for a ‘decade of action’ to achieve the Goals within this timeframe.

Sustainable Development Goals

Local authorities are recognised as one of Agenda 2030’s nine “Major Groups”, which play a crucial role in sustainable development, highlighting the role of local authorities and communities in sustainable urban development. To date, the Government of Ireland has published two SDG National Implementation Plans, reinforcing the role of national and local government. The goals and objectives of this Corporate Plan are aligned with the UN SDGs. A visual representation of how this plan meets the SDGs is shown below.





Funding Our Corporate Plan

The Strategic Objectives of the organisation as outlined in the Strategic Framework of this Plan will be a key consideration in the Annual budgetary process for both the Revenue and Capital Budgets.

There will be a clear link between the Annual Service Delivery Plan, the Annual Revenue Budget, and the Multi Annual Capital Budget for the organisation. These plans will demonstrate how the budgetary process will resource and support the delivery of activities committed to in the Annual Service Delivery Plan.

The significant “cost of living” crisis across all of Ireland and much of the world has impacted on the cost of the Council’s services and contracts, which have significantly increased across all Directorates. The Council’s spending power has contracted significantly in recent years due to cost inflation.

The Council must operate within the limits of the financial resources available to it, and the Council faces difficult challenges in operating within the existing local government funding system. Creating the circumstances to build the financial capacity of the organisation will be a key priority during the lifetime of this Plan. The development and further success of Donegal and the North West Region will also depend on the Council’s ability to co-fund major projects in the future.

Improving efficiencies and a continuous focus on value for money in the way we do business will also play an important role in resourcing the delivery of this Corporate Plan.



Implementation and Monitoring Our Corporate Plan

Implementation and monitoring progress of our Corporate Plan will be measured in a number of ways

Annual Service Delivery Plan

Our overall strategic framework will be translated into detailed actions in the Annual Service Delivery Plan. This will set out the activities to be undertaken in each Directorate to achieve the objectives of the Corporate Plan and will reflect annual deliverable outputs for each area of activity.

The Annual Service Delivery Plan will be translated into Divisional Business Plans and team and individual work programmes through the Performance Management Development System (PMDS). This process will link the strategic objectives and supporting strategies to the Business and Team Plans for each service and to the Personal Development Plan for each member of staff. This will allow each individual member of staff to clearly see how their work is contributing to the overall strategic objectives of the organisation.

Reporting on Progress

The Annual Report will report on the progress made in achieving the strategic objectives set out in the Corporate Plan and this will be referenced against the commitments and targets set out in the Annual Service Delivery Plans.

Significant progress on the achievement of the strategic objectives will also be reported through the Management Reports to Council.

Performance Measurement

The Annual Service Delivery Plan will detail the activities to be undertaken to achieve the objectives of this Corporate Plan and this will include the setting of targets and the measurement of outputs and outcomes as appropriate.

In addition, our performance will also be measured annually using the National Oversight Audit Commission (NOAC) National Performance Indicators. Appendix 2 sets out the National Performance Indicators including the 2023 baseline measurement.

NOAC also has a role in monitoring the performance of local authorities including the adequacy of their Corporate Plans and the evaluation of their implementation.

Other performance measurement/reporting on progress made include;

- Audit Committee Reports
- Local Government Auditor Reports
- Annual Financial Statement
- Implementation reviews of Local Economic and Community Plan
- Statutory review of the County Development Plan
- Report on Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty

A review procedure for the corporate plan is provided for in Section 134(8) of the Local Government Act 2001. Should the review process at any stage highlight the need to revise or re-prioritise the actions in the plan corrective action will be taken.

Appendices

Appendix 1

Policies and Strategies influencing Local Government and Our Council's Goals and Objectives

This Plan has regard for the wide range of national, regional and local strategies and policies that shape and influence its delivery including the following non exhaustive list as of the date of publishing;

Key Legislation

- Local Government Act 2001
- Local Government Reform Act 2014

National/EU

- Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Regulation (EU) 2023/1084
- A Roadmap for Social Inclusion: Ambitions, Goals and Commitments 2019-2025
- A Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy - Ireland's National Waste Policy 2020-2025
- Adult Literacy For Life – a new 10 year strategy for adult literacy, numeracy and digital literacy (2021)
- An Straitéis 20 Bliain don Ghaeilge 2010-2030
- Better Public Services – Public Service Transformation 2030 Strategy
- Bioeconomy Action Plan 2023-2025
- Building Control Acts 1990 to 2020
- Building Regulations 1997 to 2024
- Building Control Regulations 1997 to 2022
- Capital Works Management Framework (DoF)
- Clean Air for Europe (CAFE) Directive
- Climate Action Plan 2023 and Climate Action Plan 2024
- Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plan for Flood Risk Management 2019-2024
- Climate Action Sectoral Adaptation Plan for Built and Archaeological Heritage
- Climate and Low Carbon Development Amendment Act 2021
- Code of Practice for Inspecting and Certifying Buildings and Works
- Community Climate Action Fund DCCAE: National Cyber Security Strategy
- Connect Government 2030, March 2022 (A Digital and ICT Strategy for Ireland's Public Service)
- Connecting Ireland Rural Mobility Plan
- Connecting Europe Facility Regulation (EU) 2021/1153
- Construction Products Regulation (EU) no 305/2011
- Creative Europe
- Culture 2025: A National Cultural Policy Framework to 2025
- Culture and Creativity Strategies 2023-2027
- CycleConnects
- DCCAE: National Digital Strategy
- DEBI Innovation 2020
- Development Plans Guidelines for Planning Authorities 2022
- DHLGH Data Strategy
- Digital for Good: Ireland's Digital Inclusion Roadmap
- Digital Single Market
- eGovernment Strategy
- Embracing Ireland's Outdoors – National Outdoor Recreation Strategy 2023-2027
- Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (Council Directive 2010/31/EU)
- Energy Security in Ireland to 2030
- EU Biodiversity Strategy
- EU Birds Directive
- European Communities (Environmental Noise) Regulations 2018 (S.I. No. 549/2018)
- EU Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD)
- EU Floods Directive
- EU Just Transition Plan for Ireland 2021-2027
- EU Good Practice for Market Surveillance
- EU Habitats Directive
- EU (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2014/52/EU
- EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change
- E (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2022
- European Flood Awareness System (EFAS)
- European Union (Construction Products) Regulation (S.I. 223 of 2013, as amended)
- European Union (In-Building Physical Infrastructure for High-Speed Electronic Communications)
- Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy 2022 - 2025
- Flood Risk Management Plans and Maps produced under National CFRAM (Catchment Flood Risk Assessment & Management) programme (floodinfo.ie)
- General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)
- Get Ireland Active – National Physical Activity Plan for Ireland
- Groundwater Protection Response
- Guidelines for Inclusive Engagement in Local Planning and Decision making (DRCD)
- Guidelines for the Local Authority Climate Action Plans
- Guidelines for New Emergency Accommodation (DHLGH)
- Green Public Procurement Strategy 2024-2027
- Guidance on Appropriate Assessment for Planning Authorities National Parks & Wildlife Service (npws.ie)
- Guidelines on the Planning System and Flood Risk Management
- Healthy Ireland – A Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013-2025
- Heritage Ireland 2030
- Housing First National Implementation Plan 2022-2026
- Housing For All
- Housing for All Roadmap for increased adoption of MMC in public housing delivery
- Housing for All Modern Methods of Construction (MMC) Introductory Guide
- Housing for All Guidance for Design Build Housing Contracts
- Housing Action Delivery Plans
- Housing Options for our Ageing population Policy (2019)
- Infrastructure Guidelines (DPENDR) 2023
- Ireland's National Energy and Climate Plan 2021-2030
- Ireland's Road Haulage Strategy 2022-2031
- Local Economic and Community Plan Guidelines 2021 (DRCD)
- Local Enterprise Offices Policy Statement 2024 to 2030 DETE
- LULUCF Regulation (EU) 2018/841 - GHG Emissions & Removals from Land use, Land-use Change & Forestry
- Major Emergency Management Framework 2006 (MEM)
- Making Great Art Work: Arts Council Strategy 2016-2025
- Market Surveillance Regulation (EU) No. 2019/1020
- Market Surveillance of Construction Products Strategy
- Met Éireann Strategic Plan 2017-2027
- National Adaptation Framework
- National AI Strategy
- National Air Pollution Control Programme (NAPCP)
- National biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030
- National Bioeconomy Action Plan 2023-2025
- National Broadband Plan
- National Clean Air Strategy
- National Cycle Network Plan
- National landslide Database and Landslide Susceptibility Map
- National Development Plan
- National Disability Strategy
- National Energy and Climate Plan 2021-2030
- National Flood Forecasting and Warning Service
- National Heritage Plan – Heritage Ireland 2030
- National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022-2027
- National Implementation Plan for the SDGs 2022-2024
- National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland (NIFTI) 2022
- National Marine Planning Framework
- National Mitigation Plan (NMP)
- National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC) Reports
- National Organic Strategy 2024-2030
- National Planning Framework 2040
- National Policy on Architecture 2022

Appendices

National/EU (cont.)

- National Retention Policy for Local Authority Records
- National Road EV Charging Plan 2024-2030
- National Roads 2040 (NR2040)
- National Skills Strategy
- National Social Enterprise Policy for Ireland 2019-2022
- National Sports Policy 2018-2027
- National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
- National Sustainable Mobility Policy 2022-2030 and associated Action Plan 2022-2025
- National Swimming Strategy 2024-2027
- National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy 2024-2028
- National Vacant Housing Reuse Strategy
- National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy 2024 to 2030
- Nature and Biodiversity – Library (Europa.eu)
- Net Zero Industry Act
- OECD Skills Strategy Ireland: Assessment and Recommendations
- Open Data Strategy
- Our Public Service 2020
- Our Rural Future
- People, Place and Policy – Growing Tourism to 2025
- Policy on Property Acquisition and Disposal
- Policy Statement on Geothermal Energy for a Circular Economy
- Policy Statement on mineral Exploration and Mining
- Procurement Directive 2014/24/EU
- Programme for Government Our Shared Future
- Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024
- Project Ireland 2040
- Protocols on Transfer and Sharing of Property Assets
- Public Procurement Guidelines for Goods and Services
- Public Library Standards and Benchmarks
- Public Sector Energy Efficiency Strategy
- Public Service Apprenticeship Plan 2023
- Public Service Agreement 2024-2026
- Public Service Data Strategy
- Public Transport Accessibility Retrofit Programme
- Recast Energy Efficiency Directive (2023/1791)
- Regional and Local EV Charging Network Plan
- Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework
- Renewable Transport Fuel Policy 2023-2025
- Report on inter Departmental Group on National Coastal Change Management
- River basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018-2021
- Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030
- Rural Development Policy 2020
- Sharing the Vision: A Mental Health Policy for Everyone 2020-2030
- SláinteCare – Right Care, Right Place, Right Time
- Sráidainmeacha: Treoir/Streetnames: Guidelines
- Strategic Emergency Management Framework 2017 (SEM)
- Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways
- Strategy for World Heritage in Ireland 2024-2034 (public consultation ongoing)
- Sustainable, Inclusive and Empowered Communities
- The Library is the Place: Information, Recreation, Inspiration – National Public Library Strategy 2023-2027
- The National Language Strategy 2010-2030
- The National Oil Spill Contingency Plan
- The National Search and Rescue Plan

- Tourism Policy Framework
- Town Centre First
- Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) Regulation (EU) 2024/1679
- Transport Appraisal Framework (TAF) DoT (2023)
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of Person with Disabilities
- Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy (2020-2025)
- Water Services Policy Statement 2024-2030
- White Paper on Enterprise 2022-2030 DETE
- Whole of Government Circular Economy Strategy 2022-2023
- Wind Energy Development Guidelines
- Young Ireland: The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023-2028
- Youth Homelessness Strategy 2023-2025

Regional

- ERDF Operational Programmes 2021-2027
- Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy 2020-2032
- Regional and Local EV Charging Network Plan 2024 to 2030
- Regional Enterprise Plans
- North West River Basin Management Plan
- North-West Regional Homeless Action Plan 2023-2028
- North West Regional Enterprise Plan DETE
- Flood Risk Management Plans and maps (OPW)
- Derry City and Strabane District: Arts and Culture Strategy 2019-2024

Local

- Donegal Development Plan 2024-2030
- Donegal Culture and Creativity Strategy 2023-2027
- Donegal Local Economic & Community Plan 2023-2029
- LEADER Local Development Strategy 2023-2027
- Donegal County Council Energy Policy
- Donegal Age Friendly Strategy
- The Food Coast Donegal Strategy 2023-2026
- Donegal Tourism Strategy 2021-2025
- Donegal County Council Adopted Budget
- Donegal Capital Budget 2024-2026
- Donegal Civil Defence Plan 2023-2025
- Cultúr Le Chéile - Strategic Plan for Culture Division 2022-2026
- Donegal Heritage Plan 2023-2030
- Donegal County Council Irish Language Scheme
- Donegal County Council Declaration on Public Service Innovation
- Donegal County Council Scheme for the Official Languages Act
- Donegal Road Safety Plan 2022-2030
- Donegal Traveller Accommodation Programme 2025 – 2029
- Donegal Strategic Plan for Housing People with a Disability 2022-2026
- Donegal County Council Climate Action Plan 2024-2029
- Seven Strategic Towns Local Area Plan 2018-2024 (under review)
- Black and Minority Ethnic Inclusion: A Strategy for Donegal 2021-2026
- Donegal Biodiversity Action Plan 2025-2030 (under review)
- Donegal Children's and Young People's Plan 2021-2023
- Donegal Outdoor Recreation Strategy 2023-2029
- Donegal Strategic Enterprise Development Plan 2021-2030
- Donegal County Council Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

Appendices

Appendix 2

National Performance Indicators - 2023 Baselines

Corporate Plan Strategic Goals	Area	Measurement / Indicator	Baseline 2023
Delivering Services	Housing	Number of dwellings in the ownership of the local authority at 1/1/2023	5,047
		Number of dwellings added to the local authority owned stock during 2023 (whether constructed or acquired)	34
		Number of local authority owned dwellings sold in 2023	20
		Number of local authority owned dwellings demolished in 2023	0
		Number of dwellings in the ownership of the local authority at 31/12/2023	5,061
		Number of local authority owned dwellings planned for demolition under a DHLGH approved scheme at 31/12/2023	0
		The percentage of the total number of local authority owned dwellings that were vacant on 31/12/2023	2.51%
		The number of dwellings within their overall stock that were not tenanted on 31/12/2023	127
		Expenditure during 2023 on the maintenance of local authority housing compiled from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023, divided by the no. of dwellings in the local authority stock at 31/12/2023, i.e. the H1E less H1F indicator figure	€1,829.16
		Expenditure on maintenance of local authority stock compiled from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023, including planned maintenance and expenditure that qualified for grants, such as Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) grants for energy efficient retro-fitting works but excluding expenditure on vacant properties and expenditure under approved major refurbishment schemes (i.e. approved Regeneration or under the Remedial Works Schemes).	€9,257,362
		The time taken from the date of vacation of a dwelling to the date in 2023 when the dwelling is re-tenanted, averaged across all dwellings re-let during 2023	36.75 wk
		The cost expended on getting the dwellings re-tenanted in 2023, averaged across all dwellings re-let in 2023	€21,507.05
		The number of dwellings that were re-tenanted on any date in 2023 (but excluding all those that had been vacant due to an estate-wide refurbishment scheme)	134
		The number of weeks from the date of vacation to the date the dwelling is re-tenanted	49.25 wk
		Total expenditure on works necessary to enable re-letting of the dwellings	€2,881,945
		Total number of registered tenancies in the LA area at the end of June 2023	5,209
		Number of rented dwellings inspected in 2023	1,571
		Percentage of inspected dwellings in 2023 not compliant with the Standards Regulations	95.65%
		Number of dwellings deemed compliant in 2023 (including those originally deemed non-compliant)	384
		The number of inspections (including reinspections) undertaken by the local authority in 2023	1,669
		Number of adult individuals in emergency accommodation that are long-term (i.e. 6 months or more within the previous year) homeless as a percentage of the total number of homeless adult individuals in emergency accommodation at the end of 2023	36.17%

Appendices

Appendix 2

National Performance Indicators - 2023 Baselines

Corporate Plan Strategic Goals	Area	Measurement / Indicator	Baseline 2023
Delivering Services	Housing	The number of adult individuals classified as homeless and in emergency accommodation on the night of 31 December 2023 as recorded on the PASS system	47
		The number out of those individuals who, on 31/12/2023, had been in emergency accommodation for 6 months continuously, or for 6 months cumulatively within the previous 12 months	17
		Total number of houses retrofitted between 01/01/2023 and 31/12/2023 under the Social Housing Retrofit Programme	222
		Number of houses that achieved a BER rating of B2 or above between 01/01/2023 and 31/12/2023 under the Social Housing Retrofit Programme	222
		Number of heat pumps installed in those houses between 01/01/2023 and 31/12/2023 under the Social Housing Retrofit Programme	222
		Total annual energy savings in MWh from houses retrofitted between 01/01/2023 and 31/12/2023 under the Social Housing Retrofit Programme	3009.2 MWh
		Total carbon emission reduction tCo2 from houses retrofitted between 01/01/2023 and 31/12/2023 under the Social Housing Retrofit Programme	985.4
	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 2023	79.08%
	Fire Service	The Annual Financial Statement (AFS) Programme E expenditure data for 2023 divided by the population of the local authority area per the 2022 Census figures for the population served by the fire authority as per the Risk Based Approach Phase One reports	€44.60
		AFS Programme E expenditure data consisting of E11 - Operation of Fire Service and E12 - Fire Prevention for 2023	€7,452,217
		Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of fire	
		Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of fire	5.87 min
		Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of all other (non-fire) emergency incidents	
		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	5.98 min
		Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance at scene is within 10 minutes	27.92 %
		Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	54.42 %
		Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes	17.66 %
		Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance at the scene is within 10 minutes	34.65 %
		Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	46.72 %
		Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes	18.64 %

Appendices

Appendix 2

National Performance Indicators - 2023 Baselines

Corporate Plan Strategic Goals	Area	Measurement / Indicator	Baseline 2023
Delivering Services	Fire Service	Total number of call-outs in respect of fires from 1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023	351
		Number of these fire cases where first fire tender attendance at the scene is within 10 minutes	98
		Number of these fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	191
		Number of these fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes	62
		Total number of call-outs in respect of all other emergency incidents (i.e. not including fire) from 1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023	381
		Number of these non-fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is within 10 minutes	132
		Number of these non-fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	178
		Number of these non-fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes	71
	Library Service	Number of visits to libraries per head of population for the local authority area per the 2022 Census	1.66
		Number of items issued to library borrowers in the year	295,589
		Library active members per head of population	0.10
		Number of registered library members in the year	32,847
		Number of visits to its libraries from 1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023 per automatic counters if used	278,017
		The Annual Financial Statement (AFS) Programme F data for 2023 divided by the population of the local authority area per the 2022 Census	€29.56
		The annual per capita expenditure on collections over the period 1/01/2023 to 31/12/2023	€1.03
		AFS Programme F data consisting of F02 - Operation of Library and Archival Service (inclusive of the relevant proportion of the central management charge for Programme F) for 2023	€4,938,999.15
		The annual expenditure on new stock acquired by the library in the year	€171,978.81
Enabling Growth	Roads	The percentage of Regional roads that received a PSCI rating in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	99.68 %
		The percentage of Local Primary roads that received a PSCI rating in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	96.48%
		The percentage of Local Secondary roads that received a PSCI rating in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	91.20%
		The percentage of Local Tertiary roads that received a PSCI rating in the 60 month period prior to 31/12/2023	70.13%
		The percentage length of Regional roads that received a PSCI rating of 1-4 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	1.41%
		The percentage length of Regional roads that received a PSCI rating of 5-6 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	23.57%
		The percentage length of Regional roads that received a PSCI rating of 7-8 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	43.32%

Appendices

Appendix 2

National Performance Indicators - 2023 Baselines

Corporate Plan Strategic Goals	Area	Measurement / Indicator	Baseline 2023
Enabling Growth	Roads	The percentage length of Regional roads that received a PSCI rating of 9-10 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	31.38%
		The percentage length of Local Primary roads that received a PSCI rating of 1-4 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	2.33%
		The percentage length of Local Primary roads that received a PSCI rating of 5-6 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	19.45%
		The percentage length of Local Primary roads that received a PSCI rating of 7-8 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	45.33%
		The percentage length of Local Primary roads that received a PSCI rating of 9-10 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	29.36%
		The percentage length of Local Secondary roads that received a PSCI rating of 1-4 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	4.37%
		The percentage length of Local Secondary roads that received a PSCI rating of 5-6 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	21.48%
		The percentage length of Local Secondary roads that received a PSCI rating of 7-8 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	42.87%
		The percentage length of Local Secondary roads that received a PSCI rating of 9-10 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	22.47%
		The percentage length of Local Tertiary roads that received a PSCI rating of 1-4 in the 60 month period prior to 31/12/2023	13.39%
		The percentage length of Local Tertiary roads that received a PSCI rating of 5-6 in the 60 month period prior to 31/12/2023	12.30%
		The percentage length of Local Tertiary roads that received a PSCI rating of 7-8 in the 60 month period prior to 31/12/2023	24.14%
		The percentage length of Local Tertiary roads that received a PSCI rating of 9-10 in the 60 month period prior to 31/12/2023	20.31%
		Kilometres of regional road strengthened during 2023	32.2km
		The amount expended on regional roads strengthening work during 2023	€7,746,932.00
		The average unit cost of regional road strengthening works per square metre (€/m ²)	€35.37
		Kilometres of regional road resealed during 2023	25.5km
		The amount expended on regional road resealing work during 2023	€884,657.00
		The average unit cost of regional road resealing works per square metre (€/m ²)	€5,64
		Kilometres of local road strengthened during 2023	183.1km
		The amount expended on local road strengthening work during 2023	€16,149,231.00
		The average unit cost of local road strengthening works per square metre (€/m ²)	€19.59
		Kilometres of local road resealed during 2023	198.8km
		The amount expended on local road resealing work during 2023	€4,510,060.00
		The average unit cost of local road resealing works per square metre (€/m ²)	€5.43

Appendices

Appendix 2

National Performance Indicators - 2023 Baselines

Corporate Plan Strategic Goals	Area	Measurement / Indicator	Baseline 2023
Enabling Growth	Economic Development	The number of jobs created with assistance from the Local Enterprise Office during the period 1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023 per 100,000 of population	46.68
		The number of jobs created with assistance from the Local Enterprise Office during the period 1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023	780
		The number of trading online voucher applications approved by the Local Enterprise Office in 2023 per 100,000 of population	41.90
		The number of trading online vouchers that were drawn down in 2023 per 100,000 of population	17.36
		The number of trading online voucher applications approved by the Local Enterprise Office in 2023	70
		The number of those trading online vouchers that were drawn down in 2023	29
		The number of participants who received mentoring during the period 1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023 per 100,000 of population	187.93
		The number of participants who received mentoring during the period 1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023	314
		Does the local authority have a current tourism strategy?	Yes
		Does the local authority have a designated Tourism Officer?	Yes
		The spend on local economic development by the local authority in 2023 per head of population	€132.05
		The spend on local economic development by the local authority in 2023	€22,063,555
Mainstreaming Climate Action	Water	Percentage of drinking water in private schemes in compliance with statutory requirements	96.05%
		The number of registered schemes monitored by each local authority as a percentage of total schemes registered	100%
		How many local authority registered schemes were monitored in 2023	42
		Total number of registered schemes in 2023	42
	Waste	The number of households which availed of a 3-bin service offered by a licensed operator at 31/12/2023	17,668
		The percentage of households within the local authority that the number at A represents (based on agglomerations of more than 500)	95.42%
	Environmental Pollution	Total number of pollution cases in respect of which a complaint was made during 2023	1872
		Number of pollution cases closed from 1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023	1865
		Total number of pollution cases on hands at 31/12/2023	111
		The opening number of pollution cases carried forward from the year end 2022	104
	Litter Pollution	The percentage of the area within the local authority that when surveyed in 2023 was unpolluted or litter free	13%
		The percentage of the area within the local authority that when surveyed in 2023 was slightly polluted	77%
		The percentage of the area within the local authority that when surveyed in 2023 was moderately polluted	7%
		The percentage of the area within the local authority that when surveyed in 2023 was significantly polluted	2%
		The percentage of the area within the local authority that when surveyed in 2023 was grossly polluted	0%

Appendices

Appendix 2

National Performance Indicators - 2023 Baselines

Corporate Plan Strategic Goals	Area	Measurement / Indicator	Baseline 2023
Mainstreaming Climate Action	Green Flag Status	The percentage of schools that have been awarded/renewed green flag status in the two years to 31 December 2023	36.95%
		Schools which attained a Green Flag for the first time in 2023	3
		Schools which renewed their Green Flag in 2023	37
		Schools which held a Green Flag from 2022 and therefore do not require renewal until 2024	35
	Energy Efficiency	The cumulative percentage of energy savings achieved by 31/12/2023 relative to baseline year (2009)	- 36.30%
	Public Lighting	Total annual consumption of the public lighting system	4483.24 MWh
		Average wattage of each public light	56.45 W
		Percentage of the total system that LED lights represent	78.78%
		Number of LED lights in the public lighting system	15,332
		Number of non-LED lights in the public lighting system	4,131
	Climate Change	Does the local authority have a designated (FTE) Climate Action Coordinator?	Yes
		Does the local authority have a designated (FTE) Climate Action Officer?	Yes
		Does the local authority have a climate action team?	In Progress
Empowering and Supporting Communities	Planning	Buildings inspected as a percentage of new buildings notified to the local authority	13.37%
		Total number of new buildings notified to the local authority i.e. buildings where a valid Commencement Notice was served in the period 1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023 by a builder or developer on the local authority	621
		Number of new buildings notified to the local authority in 2023 that were the subject of at least one on-site inspection during 2023 undertaken by the local authority	83
		Number of local authority planning decisions which were the subject of an appeal to An Bord Pleanála that were determined by the Board on any date in 2023	44
		Percentage of the determinations at A which confirmed (either with or without variation of the plan) the decision made by the local authority	65.91%
		Number of determinations confirming the local authority's decision (either with or without variation)	29
		Total number of planning cases referred to or initiated by the local authority in the period 1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023 that were investigated	204
		Total number of investigated cases that were closed during 2023	118
		Percentage of the cases at B that were dismissed as trivial, minor or without foundation or were closed because statute barred or an exempted development	38.98%
		Percentage of the cases at B that were resolved to the local authority's satisfaction through negotiations	0%

Appendices

Appendix 2

National Performance Indicators - 2023 Baselines

Corporate Plan Strategic Goals	Area	Measurement / Indicator	Baseline 2023
Empowering and Supporting Communities	Planning	Percentage of the cases at B that were closed due to enforcement proceedings	61.02%
		Total number of planning cases being investigated as at 31/12/2023	1,304
		Number of cases at B that were dismissed as trivial, minor or without foundation or were closed because statute barred or an exempted development	46
		Number of cases at B that were resolved to the local authority's satisfaction through negotiations	0
		Number of cases at B that were closed due to enforcement proceedings	72
		The 2023 Annual Financial Statement (AFS) Programme D data divided by the population of the local authority area per the 2022 Census	€33.38
		AFS Programme D data consisting of D01 - Forward Planning, D02 - Development Management, D03 - Enforcement (inclusive of the relevant Programme D proportion of the central management charge) for 2023	€5,576,693
		The percentage of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2023 that were decided (granted or refused) within two months of their receipt	38.42 %
		The percentage of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2023 that were decided (granted or refused) within an extended period agreed with the applicant	44.21 %
		The total number of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2023 that were not withdrawn by the applicant	190
		The number of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2023 that were decided (granted or refused) within two months of the date of receipt of the application	73
		The number of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2023 that were decided (granted or refused) within an agreed extended time period	84
	Youth & Community	Percentage of local schools involved in the local Youth Council/Comhairle na nÓg scheme	77.78%
		Total number of second level schools in the local authority area at 31/12/2023	27
		Number of second level schools in the local authority area from which representatives attended the local Comhairle na nÓg AGM held in 2023	21
		The number of organisations included in the County Register at 31/12/2023 and the proportion of those organisations that opted to be part of the Social Inclusion College within the PPN	16.37
		Total number of organisations included in the County Register (maintained in accordance with section 128 of the Local Government Act 2001) for the local authority area as at 31/12/2023	678
		Total number of those organisations that registered for the first time in 2023	40
		Number of organisations that opted to join the Social Inclusion Electoral College on whatever date they registered for the PPN	111
Building Organisational Capacity	Corporate	The wholetime equivalent staffing number as at 31 December 2023	1047.72
		Percentage of paid working days lost to sickness absence through medically certified leave in 2023	5.59%

Appendices

Appendix 2

National Performance Indicators - 2023 Baselines

Corporate Plan Strategic Goals	Area	Measurement / Indicator	Baseline 2023
Building Organisational Capacity	Corporate	Percentage of paid working days lost to sickness absence through self-certified leave in 2023	0.30%
		Total number of working days lost to sickness absence through medically certified leave in 2023	13575 day
		Total number of working days lost to sickness absence through self-certified leave in 2023	716 day
		Number of unpaid working days lost to sickness absence included within the total of self-certified sick leave days in 2023	0 day
		Number of unpaid working days lost to sickness absence included within the total of medically certified sick leave days in 2023	288 day
		If any staff are on long-term sick leave (i.e. a continuous period of more than 4 weeks), include a text note of the number of staff on long-term sick leave	116 staff on long term sick leave
		All ICT expenditure in the period from 1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023, divided by the WTE no.	€3,990.33
		Total ICT expenditure in 2023	€4,180,746
		All ICT expenditure calculated in C4 as a proportion of Revenue expenditure	2.29
		Total Revenue expenditure from 1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023 before transfers to or from reserves	€182,207,493
		The per capita total page views of the local authority's websites in 2023	13.65
		The per capita total number of followers at end 2023 of the local authority's social media accounts (if any)	1.34
		The cumulative total page views of all websites operated by the local authority for the period from 1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023 obtained from a page tagging on-site web analytics service or equivalent	2,280,904
		The total number of social media users who, at 31/12/2023, were following the local authority on any social media sites	224,047
		The number of social media accounts operated by the local authority	24
		Indicate if there was a change to the cookie policies on the local authority sites and the date this came into effect	None
	Finance	Cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2019 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€-7,733,836
		Cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2020 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€-6,882,639
		Cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2021 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€-6,092,540
		Cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2022 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€-4,895,529
		Cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2023 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€-3,743,530
		Cumulative surplus or deficit at 31/12/2023 as a percentage of Total Income in 2023 from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	-1.95%
		Revenue expenditure per capita in 2023	€1,090.51
		Revenue expenditure per capita in 2023 excluding significant out of county/shared service expenditure	

Appendices

Appendix 2

National Performance Indicators - 2023 Baselines

Corporate Plan Strategic Goals	Area	Measurement / Indicator	Baseline 2023
Building Organisational Capacity	Finance	The 2023 Total Income figure from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€192,053,458
		The 2023 Total Expenditure figure from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€182,207,493
		The 2023 Revenue expenditure excluding county/shared service expenditure for the service providers of HAP, MyPay, DRHE and Dublin Fire Services and is only applicable to Dublin City, Laois and Limerick	
		Collection level of Rates in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2019	76.0 %
		Collection level of Rent & Annuities in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2019	90.0 %
		Collection level of Housing Loans in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2019	68.0 %
		Collection level of Rates in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2020	61.0 %
		Collection level of Rent & Annuities in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2020	90.0 %
		Collection level of Housing Loans in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2020	65.0 %
		Collection level of Rates in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2021	70.0 %
		Collection level of Rent & Annuities in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2021	92.0 %
		Collection level of Housing Loans in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2021	64.0 %
		Collection level of Rates in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2022	78.0 %
		Collection level of Rent & Annuities in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2022	90.0 %
		Collection level of Housing Loans in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2022	59.0 %
		Collection level of Rates in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2023	78 %
		Collection level of Rent & Annuities in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2023	88 %
		Collection level of Housing Loans in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2023	62 %
		Collection level of HAP SSC for 2023	
		Per capita total cost of settled claims for 2023	€10.38
		IPB Insurance: Number of notified claims for 2023	103
		IPB Insurance: Number of settled claims for 2023	87
		IPB Insurance: Total cost of settled claims for 2023	€1,733,947.88
		Total cost of claims settled under excess for 2023	€0
		Self-insured: Number of notified claims for 2023	
		Self-insured: Number of settled claims for 2023	
		Self-insured: Total cost of settled claims for 2023	
		Overall central management charge as a percentage of total expenditure on revenue account	11.85%
		Total payroll costs as a percentage of revenue expenditure	40.69 %
		Overall central management charge from the Local Authority FMS and defined in the Annual Budget	€21,594,562
		Total payroll costs from Appendix 1 of the AFS for 2023 (including Salaries, Wages and Pensions)	€74,142,242

Appendices

Appendix 3

Local Performance Indicators and Baseline data

The following non-exhaustive local performance indicators have been chosen for measurement during the plan period in addition to and separate from national service indicators overseen by NOAC

Corporate Plan Strategic Goals	Area	Measurement / Indicator
Enabling Growth	Roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning stage for Ten-T infrastructure • Number of broadband connections in each Municipal District • Length of new and upgraded walking/cycling paths completed
	Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of planning applications received
	Regeneration & Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number and value of regeneration and enhancement initiatives completed
	Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of new and upgraded play spaces and sports facilities
	Economic Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of Concierge supports provided • Number and value of Business Grant Applications approved by Local Enterprise Office • Economic Development Strategy in place
Delivering Services	Roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area of road resealed or resurfaced
	Corporate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of press releases issued • Number of press queries responded to
	Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of new tenancies created • Number of private house grants paid and amount spent
	Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prompt Payments - % of suppliers paid within 15 days, 15-30 days , >30 days
Mainstreaming Climate Action	Roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of Climate Adaptation schemes completed • Number of public lights converted to low energy lighting
	Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of Actions in the Donegal County Council Climate Action Plan being progressed • Number of Actions in the Donegal County Council Climate Action Plan completed
Empowering Communities	Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amount of funding allocated under the Development Fund Initiative and number of groups/projects supported • Amount of funding allocated under the Members Development fund and number of groups/projects supported
Building Organisational Capacity	Human Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • %of staff/elected members participating in training programmes • Number of recruitment competitions held annually

Appendices

Appendix 4

Human Rights and Equality Framework

The Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Act of 2014 imposes a statutory obligation on all public bodies to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity and protect the human rights of staff and our citizens.

Donegal County Council has responsibility for a broad range of functions and will meet its obligations under the “duty” and also be guided by the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission (IHREC) in the ongoing implementation of our strategic plans and work programmes.

An assessment of equality and human rights issues is central to all of our functions and in 2025 we will commence the three step approach to further assist in implementing the “duty”;

1 - Assess

- Identify and focus on individuals covered by the nine groups under equality legislation. This step helps to understand any potential issues that might arise for these groups

2 - Address

- Once issues are identified during the assessment, take action to resolve or address these equality or human rights concerns

3 - Implement

- Carry out the identified actions to improve equality and ensure compliance within the legislation

There are a number of adopted strategies and plans which demonstrate Donegal County Council's commitment to delivery for all of our citizens equally. These include:

• Donegal Public Participation Network (PPN)

Ensures the voices of marginalised groups, including youth, people with disabilities, women and ethnic minorities are represented in local decision making processes, further embedding equality and inclusion in Donegal's policies and services

• Donegal Age Friendly Strategy

Our new five-year Age Friendly Strategy is aimed at creating a more accessible environment for older people by enhancing facilities, improving housing options and ensuring that older persons have access to services that meet their needs

• Black & Minority Ethnic Inclusion Strategy

We are leading the implementation of the Strategy to address challenges faced by ethnic minorities in Donegal. The strategy focuses on improving access to services, enhancing social cohesion and promoting equality for people from minority backgrounds

• Donegal County Council Social Inclusion Week

This week involves community events, educational workshops and discussions that highlight the importance of inclusion and ensure that the voices of disadvantaged groups are heard

• Pride of Place Awards

These celebrate the achievements of local communities, particularly those that work towards creating inclusive and welcoming environments for all. The awards recognise community efforts to promote social inclusion and integration, with a focus on equality and participation

• Draft Donegal Disability Inclusion Strategy

This will deal with specific objectives for each directorate to meet our obligation under the UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disability. This will include obligations which fall under; The Disability Act 2005 (Sections 26-40), the EU Web Accessibility Directive, and, the Irish Sign Language Act

Appendices

Appendix 5

Service Level Agreements

- HR, payroll and superannuation national shared service
- Master Co-Operation Agreement with Uisce Éireann
- Shared services agreement for procurement functions with Kerry County Council
- Shared public library services
- Shared Service through Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authorities (WERLAs) with Donegal and Leitrim County Councils as lead for Ulster/Connaught region.
- Agreement with Offaly County Council on the National Waste Collection Permitting Office
- Service level agreement with the Food Safety Authority of Ireland
- Service level agreement with Enterprise Ireland in relation to the operation of the Local Enterprise Office.
- Service level agreement with the Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) with Mayo County Council as lead for the Atlantic Seaboard North Region (ASBN)
- Shared service through the Roads Management Office.
- National Shared Service on ePlanning
- National Shared Service on Building Control Management System – BCMS
- SLA with SVDP for the provision of Homeless Accommodation at the St Colmcille Hostel in Letterkenny
- SLA with Meath County Council (Regional Lead Authority) for the Healthy Age Friendly Homes Programme
- Memorandum of Understanding with TII with respect to the Donegal National Roads Office.
- Service Level Agreement between the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media and Donegal County Council under the Creative Ireland Programme
- Memorandum of Understanding with the Office of Public Works for the management and delivery of selected Flood Relief Schemes.
- Shared Service through Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authorities (WERLAs) with Donegal and Leitrim County Councils as lead for Ulster/Connaught region.
- Agreement with Offaly County Council on the National Waste Collection Permitting Office



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