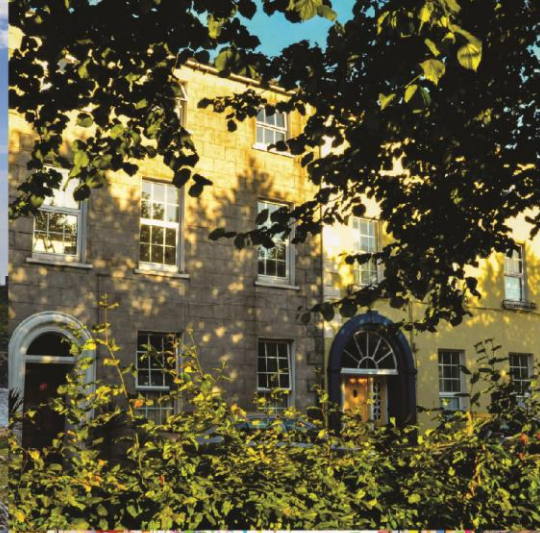
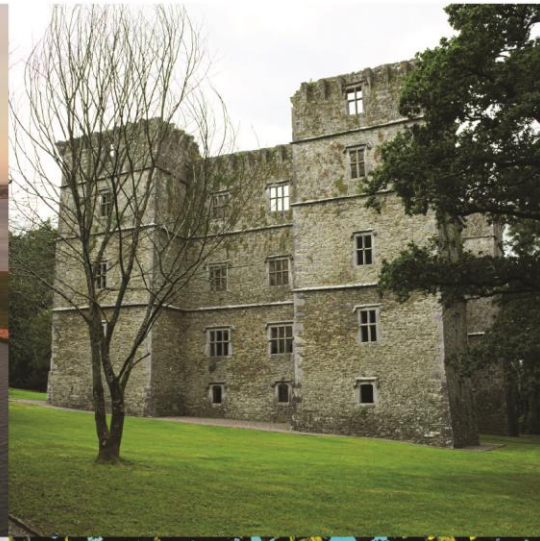


Cork County Council  
Annual Report 2019



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# 1. Message from Cllr. Ian Doyle, Mayor of the County of Cork & Tim Lucey, Chief Executive of Cork County Council



Mayor of the County of Cork  
Cllr. Ian Doyle



Chief Executive of Cork County Council  
Mr. Tim Lucey

We are pleased to present herein Cork County Council's Annual Report 2019, which outlines the vast range of policies, programmes, services and activities undertaken by the Council throughout the year. As a Council, we continue to work with the public to further develop the economic, social, physical, environmental and cultural landscape of Cork County. Our citizens, communities and businesses are at the very core of our organisation. Supporting and providing assistance to these vital stakeholders is, and always will be, our priority. We aim to be the leading authority, across all political, executive and collaborative engagements with stakeholders.

Cork's Boundary Change was one of the most significant tasks that faced Cork County Council in 2019. This change in local governance in Cork represented an historic and pivotal juncture for the entire County of Cork. As a Council, our priority was to ensure a smooth and seamless transfer of services for Cork's citizens, businesses and communities within the transition area. This was achieved thanks to the co-operation of all parties and the wider public. Our focus is now on a new Cork County Council with new opportunities for rural development and economic growth. The further development of our Municipal District structures is a key element of our operational arrangements and is also a particular focus from a local service delivery perspective.

Our commitment to investment is evident in the number of contract signings that took place during 2019. We continued to progress our housing construction programme by completing the Part 8 process in respect of 62 units, all of which will go to construction in 2020. There were 67 units delivered through the Council's own-build programme in 2019.

Cork County Council's two Local Enterprise Offices delivered €1.49m of grant assistance to the county's micro-business sector, resulting in 237 jobs in LEO supported enterprises.

The Regional Enterprise Development Funding (REDF) was awarded to two projects based in Cork County. SynBioHub DAC (trading as CorkBioHub) received funding of €3,063,000 to become a 'one-stop-shop' for attracting and retaining early stage life science companies in the South West region and Seirbhísi Forbartha Gnó (SFG) DAC received funding of €2,700,000 to build a new digital hub in Ballyvourney.

Tourism continues to thrive in Cork County and we, as a Council, work closely with Fáilte Ireland in maximising our opportunities as part of the Wild Atlantic Way and Ireland's Ancient East. The Cork County Business and Tourism Awards were a major highlight of 2019. There were 324 entries across the County, from 240 individual businesses. Through these awards, and many other initiatives, Cork County Council continues to support the strong cohort of enterprises trading across all sectors in Cork, by focusing in particular on strengths in the small business and tourism sectors.

Cork County Council had seven nominations and two winning entries at the 2019 Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards, Cork County Council has again proven itself as an excellent service provider for



individuals, businesses and communities within its remit. The Council's "Bridge to MassChallenge Cork" Accelerator Programme took home the award for "Promoting Economic Development" and the Council's collaboration with the Blackwater Valley Makers group saw their pop-up shop "Blackwater and Creativity in County Cork" receive the overall award for 'Supporting Active Communities'.

The Climate Adaptation Strategy for Cork County was adopted by Cork County Council in September. The strategy draws on the data issued by both national and international forums in addition to those from regional and local sources. It establishes an extreme weather event baseline and predicts the challenges and risks that climate change will pose for the County in the future. Furthermore, the strategy proposes a series of actions to adapt to those climatic changes which are already taking place. We are committed to mainstreaming Climate Change in the delivery of our services and affecting change in terms of climate adaptation.

The ICT Strategy 2019-2022 was approved by the Senior Management Team in June 2019. The drivers for this strategy are focused on the delivery of efficient, effective IT services; use of technology to automate operational routine, rules based processes; better use of information across the Council and providing additional channels for easier communication and collaboration.

The 2019 Local Elections saw many longstanding members return to office, but we also welcomed 21 new Elected Members to the Chamber. The new members bring with them fresh enthusiasm. All 55 Members are committed to representing the needs of the citizens of County Cork while ensuring a focus on our key services. Our hard working and dedicated staff are key to our ability to deliver these services so successfully. As an organisation, we are fortunate to have staff that care about what we do, what we deliver and who we serve. In 2019, we continued our staff training and development in order to evolve and up-skill our team to meet organisational requirements while supporting career development.

The Corporate Plan for 2019-2024 has been prepared, it contains the themes and objectives which will inform and guide the Council's activities for the lifetime of the current council. During the second half of 2019 an innovative service design approach was taken to the preparation of the plan to define the core values and objectives of the Plan. Extensive engagement was carried out across a range of stakeholders including Elected Members, staff, citizens and other external participants. The Plan will underpin the Council's activities for the next five years and will guide the Council's annual budgets, capital works programmes and is the foundation for the Annual Service Delivery Plans.

We take great pride in serving the people of Cork County and providing local services where they are needed most. We also strive to create an environment which affords opportunities for all.



## 2. Public Representatives

### Public Representatives January to May 2019

#### Carrigaline Electoral Area

Cllr. Derry Canty	Cllr. John A. Collins	Cllr. Marcia D'Alton	Cllr. Mary Rose Desmond
Cllr. Deirdre Forde	Cllr. Joe Harris	Cllr. Eoghan Jeffers	Cllr. Séamus McGrath
Cllr. Michael Murphy	Cllr. Daithí Ó Donnabháin		

#### Bandon/Kinsale Electoral Area

Cllr. Alan Coleman	Cllr. Gillian Coughlan	Cllr. Aidan Lombard	Cllr. Rachel McCarthy
Cllr. Kevin Murphy	Cllr. James O'Donovan		

#### Cobh Electoral Area

Cllr. Anthony Barry	Cllr. Ger Keohane	Cllr. Kieran McCarthy	Cllr. Diarmaid Ó Cadhla
Cllr. Pdraig O'Sullivan	Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen	Cllr. Sinead Sheppard	

#### East Cork Electoral Area

Cllr. Michael Ahern	Cllr. Noel Collins	Cllr. Michael Hegarty	Cllr. Mary Linehan Foley
Cllr. Susan McCarthy	Cllr. Danielle Twomey		

#### Fermoy Electoral Area

Cllr. Kay Dawson	Cllr. Ian Doyle	Cllr. Noel McCarthy	Cllr. June Murphy
Cllr. Deirdre O'Brien	Cllr. Frank O'Flynn		

#### Kanturk/Mallow Electoral Area

Cllr. Timmy Collins	Cllr. Bernard Moynihan	Cllr. Melissa Mullane	Cllr. Gearóid Murphy
Cllr. Gerard Murphy	Cllr. John Paul O'Shea		

#### Macroom Electoral Area

Cllr. Kevin Conway	Cllr. Michael Creed	Cllr. Ted Lucey	Cllr. Gobnait Moynihan
Cllr. Des O'Grady	Cllr. Bob Ryan		

#### West Cork Electoral Area

Cllr. Joe Carroll	Cllr. Danny Collins	Cllr. Paul Hayes	Cllr. Mary Hegarty
Cllr. Declan Hurley	Cllr. Patrick Gerard Murphy	Cllr. Christopher O'Sullivan	Cllr. John O'Sullivan



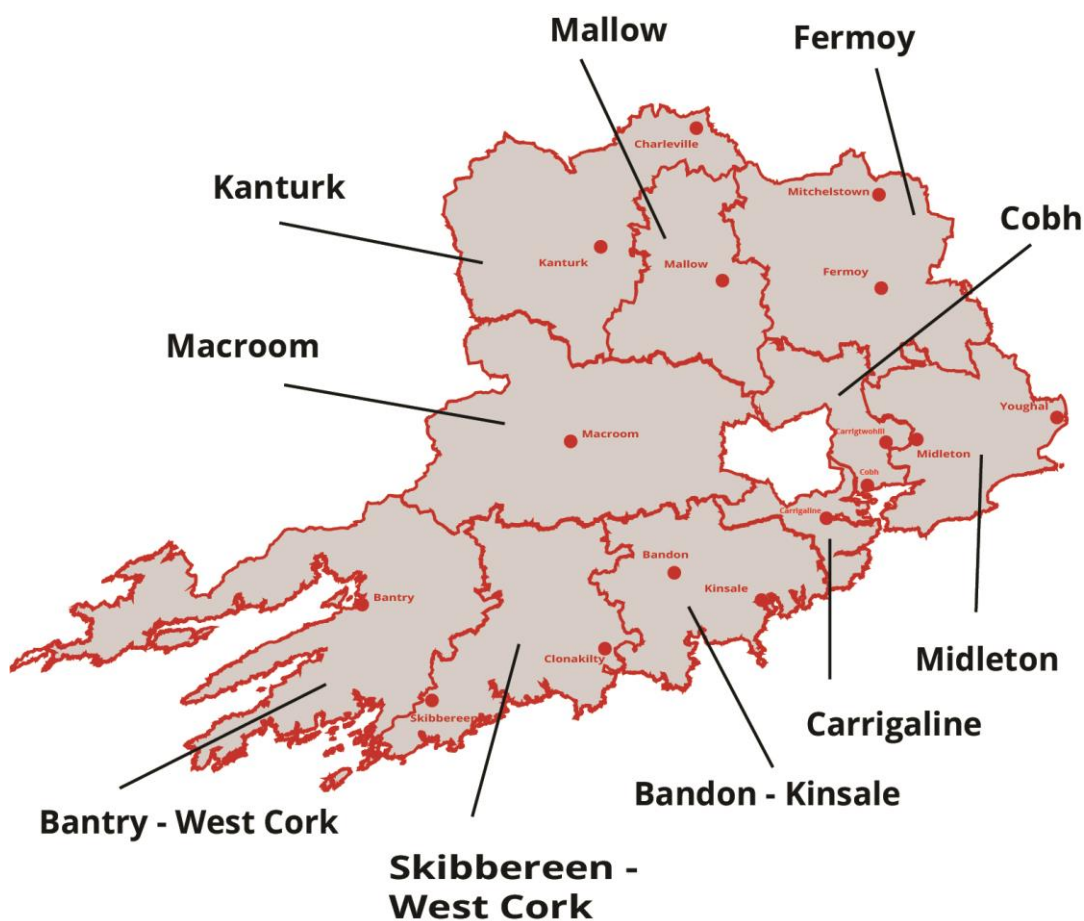
## Local Elections 2019

As per Local Government legislation, local elections are held every five years. In 2019, the Local Elections were held on Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2019.

These were the first elections to be held on the revised boundary area. The number of local electoral areas in Cork County increased from 8 to 10. The number of Municipal Districts remained unchanged at 8 but the Kanturk/Mallow and West Cork MDs each contain two local electoral areas. The number of elected representatives remained at 55.

A total of 107 candidates contested the elections for the 55 seats.

### Local Electoral Areas Map 2019



## Public Representatives June to December 2019

### Bandon/Kinsale Electoral Area

#### Cllr. Alan Coleman



Independent  
3 The Spires, Innishannon,  
Co. Cork.  
087 2341022  
[Alan.Coleman@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Alan.Coleman@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

#### Cllr. Gillian Coughlan



Fianna Fáil  
Dunmanway Road, Bandon,  
Co. Cork.  
086 8814196  
[Gillian.Coughlan@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Gillian.Coughlan@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

#### Cllr. Kevin Murphy



Fine Gael  
"Winstmills", Killaney,  
Kinsale, Co. Cork.  
087 2417843  
[Kevin.Murphy@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Kevin.Murphy@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

#### Cllr. Sean O'Donovan



Fianna Fáil  
Kinalmeaky House,  
Roughgrove, Bandon, Co.  
Cork.  
086 2351013  
[Sean.ODonovan@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Sean.ODonovan@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

#### Cllr. John O'Sullivan



Fine Gael  
Lislee Court,  
Courtmacsherry, Co. Cork.  
086 2620165  
[John.OSullivan@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:John.OSullivan@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

#### Cllr. Marie O'Sullivan



Fine Gael  
7 Pearse Street, Kinsale,  
Co. Cork.  
086 3344703  
[Marie.OSullivan@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Marie.OSullivan@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### Bantry – West Cork Electoral Area

#### Cllr. Danny Collins



Independent  
Boston Bar, 1 William Street,  
Bantry, Co. Cork.  
087 2956225  
[Danny.Collins@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Danny.Collins@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

#### Cllr. Holly Cairns



Social Democrats  
Ardagh, Church Cross,  
Skibbereen, Co. Cork.  
086 3615830  
[Holly.Cairns@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Holly.Cairns@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

#### Cllr. Katie Murphy



Fine Gael  
Meenvane, Schull,  
Co. Cork.  
085 2165344  
[Katie.Murphy@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Katie.Murphy@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

#### Cllr. Patrick Gerard Murphy



Fianna Fáil  
Bramble Cottage, Ballylickey,  
Bantry, Co. Cork.  
086 2527058  
[PatrickGerard.Murphy@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:PatrickGerard.Murphy@cllr.corkcoco.ie)



## Carrigaline Electoral Area

### Cllr. Audrey Buckley



Fianna Fáil  
Ashbrook, Church Bay,  
Crosshaven, Co. Cork  
086 1257512  
[Audrey.Buckley@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Audrey.Buckley@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### Cllr. Marcia D'Alton



Independent  
22 Hillcrest, Pembroke Wood,  
Passage West, Co. Cork.  
085 7333852  
[Marcia.Dalton@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Marcia.Dalton@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### Cllr. Ben Dalton O'Sullivan



Independent  
29 Gleann Alainn, Ballygarvan,  
Co. Cork.  
089 4690352  
[Ben.DaltonOSullivan@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Ben.DaltonOSullivan@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### Cllr. Aidan Lombard



Fine Gael  
Ballinluig, Minane Bridge,  
Co. Cork.  
086 3620047  
[Aidan.Lombard@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Aidan.Lombard@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### Cllr. Séamus McGrath



Fianna Fáil  
21 The Pines, Bridgemount,  
Carrigaline, Co. Cork.  
086 3916328  
[Seamus.McGrath@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Seamus.McGrath@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### Cllr. Liam O'Connor



Fine Gael  
Stonehill House,  
Knocknalurgan, Carrigaline,  
Co. Cork.  
087 7817857  
[Liam.OConnor@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Liam.OConnor@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

## Cobh Electoral Area

### Cllr. Anthony Barry



Fine Gael  
Ballinabointra, Midleton,  
Co. Cork.  
086 0740394  
[Anthony.Barry@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Anthony.Barry@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### Cllr. Alan O'Connor



Green Party  
The Bog Road, Terrysland,  
Carrigtwohill, Co. Cork.  
087 1332696  
[Alan.OConnor@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Alan.OConnor@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### Cllr. Sean O'Connor



Independent  
'Oakdene', Carrignafoy,  
Cobh, Co. Cork.  
086 3924687  
[Sean.OConnor@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Sean.OConnor@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### Cllr. Pdraig O'Sullivan



Fianna Fáil  
8 The Courtyard, Woodville,  
Dunkettle, Glanmire, Co. Cork.  
087 7859314  
[Pdraig.OSullivan@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Pdraig.OSullivan@cllr.corkcoco.ie)





### **Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen**



Labour

Rosemount, West End Terrace,  
Cobh, Co. Cork.

086 8878421

[Cathal.Rasmussen@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Cathal.Rasmussen@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### **Cllr. Sinead Sheppard**



Fine Gael

1 The Park, Cobh,  
Co. Cork.

087 2602091

[Sinead.Sheppard@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Sinead.Sheppard@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

## **Fermoy Electoral Area**

### **Cllr. Kay Dawson**



Fine Gael

Demesne, Mitchelstown,  
Co. Cork.

087 8305649

[Kay.Dawson@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Kay.Dawson@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### **Cllr. Noel McCarthy**



Fine Gael

3 The Meadows, Duntaheen  
Relief Road, Fermoy, Co. Cork.

086 3751736

[Noel.Mccarthy@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Noel.Mccarthy@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### **Cllr. Deirdre O'Brien**



Fianna Fáil

Killicane, Mitchelstown,  
Co. Cork.

087 6823514

[Deirdre.OBrien@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Deirdre.OBrien@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### **Cllr. Frank O'Flynn**



Fianna Fáil

Johnstown, Glanworth,  
Co. Cork.

086 8520793

[Frank.OFlynn@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Frank.OFlynn@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### **Cllr. William O'Leary**



Fianna Fáil

Ballybrowney, Rathcormac,  
Co. Cork.

087 2558373

[William.OLeary@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:William.OLeary@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### **Cllr. Frank Roche**



Independent

Ballyaden, Castletownroche,  
Mallow, Co. Cork.

086 6610599

[Frank.Roche@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Frank.Roche@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

## **Kanturk Electoral Area**

### **Cllr. Ian Doyle**



Fianna Fáil

Clonmore, Newtown,  
Charleville, Co. Cork.

087 6644654

[Ian.Doyle@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Ian.Doyle@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### **Cllr. Bernard Moynihan**



Fianna Fáil

Dromscarra, Kiskeam, Mallow,  
Co. Cork.

087 7722828

[Bernard.Moynihan@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Bernard.Moynihan@cllr.corkcoco.ie)



### **Cllr. Gerard Murphy**



Fine Gael  
New Street, Newmarket,  
Co. Cork.  
086 8530836  
[Gerard.Murphy@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Gerard.Murphy@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### **Cllr. John Paul O'Shea**



Fine Gael  
Laharn, Lombardstown,  
Mallow, Co. Cork.  
086 8903154  
[JohnPaul.OShea@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:JohnPaul.OShea@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

## **Macroom Electoral Area**

### **Cllr. Martin Coughlan**



Independent  
38 St. Colman's Park,  
Macroom, Co. Cork.  
087 6437952  
[Martin.Coughlan@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Martin.Coughlan@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### **Cllr. Michael Creed**



Fine Gael  
Carrigaphooca, Macroom,  
Co. Cork.  
086 8052792  
[Michael.Creed@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Michael.Creed@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### **Cllr. Michael Looney**



Fianna Fáil  
South Berrings, Berrings,  
Co. Cork.  
087 2100393  
[Michael.Looney@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Michael.Looney@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### **Cllr. Ted Lucey**



Fine Gael  
14 Ard na Gréine, Kilnagurteen,  
Macroom, Co. Cork.  
086 8703812  
[Ted.Lucey@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Ted.Lucey@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### **Cllr. Eileen Lynch**



Fine Gael  
Knockroure, Aghabullogue,  
Co. Cork.  
087 2481418  
[Eileen.Lynch@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Eileen.Lynch@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### **Cllr. Gobnait Moynihan**



Fianna Fáil  
Coolea, Macroom,  
Co. Cork.  
086 8685094  
[Gobnait.Moynihan@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Gobnait.Moynihan@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

## **Mallow Electoral Area**

### **Cllr. Pat Hayes**



Fianna Fáil  
Baltydaniel East, Mallow,  
Co. Cork.  
087 2511869  
[Pat.Hayes@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Pat.Hayes@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### **Cllr. James Kennedy**



Labour  
St. Josephs Road, Mallow,  
Co. Cork.  
086 3535916  
[James.Kennedy@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:James.Kennedy@cllr.corkcoco.ie)



### **Cllr. Liam Madden**



Fine Gael

Clogheen, Mourneabbey,  
Mallow, Co. Cork.

087 6771306

[Liam.Madden@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Liam.Madden@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### **Cllr. Gearóid Murphy**



Fianna Fáil

139 Bank Place, Mallow,  
Co. Cork.

087 6602868

[Gearoid.Murphy@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Gearoid.Murphy@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### **Cllr. Tony O'Shea**



Fine Gael

Laharn Cross, Lombardstown,  
Mallow, Co. Cork.

087 8372492

[Tony.OShea@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Tony.OShea@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

## **Midleton Electoral Area**

### **Cllr. Noel Collins**



Independent

'St. Judes', Midleton,  
Co. Cork.

### **Cllr. Michael Hegarty**



Fine Gael

Moanroe, Ladysbridge,  
Co. Cork.

086 8115150

[Michael.Hegarty@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Michael.Hegarty@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### **Cllr. Mary Linehan Foley**



Independent

'St. Martins', Kilcoran Road,  
Youghal, Co. Cork.

086 8237905

[Mary.LinehanFoley@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Mary.LinehanFoley@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### **Cllr. Susan McCarthy**



Fine Gael

43 Main Street, Midleton,  
Co. Cork.

087 2240377

[Susan.McCarthy@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Susan.McCarthy@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### **Cllr. James O'Connor**



Fianna Fáil

Knockmonlea,  
Youghal, Co. Cork.

085 8765844

[James.OConnor@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:James.OConnor@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### **Cllr. Liam Quaide**



Green Party

21 Blossom Hill, Broomfield  
East, Midleton, Co. Cork.

087 7720367

[Liam.Quaide@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Liam.Quaide@cllr.corkcoco.ie)



## **Cllr. Danielle Twomey**



**Sinn Féin**

**28 Willowbank, Midleton,  
Co. Cork.**

**083 1654606**

[Danielle.Twomey@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Danielle.Twomey@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

## **Skibbereen – West Cork Electoral Area**

### **Cllr. Joe Carroll**



**Fianna Fáil**

**The Arches, Coronea,  
Skibbereen, Co. Cork.**

**086 3631212**

[Joe.Carroll@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Joe.Carroll@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### **Cllr. Karen Coakley**



**Fine Gael**

**10 The Hawthorns,  
Gortnaclohy Road,  
Skibbereen,  
Co. Cork.**

**087 2360323**

[Karen.Coakley@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Karen.Coakley@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### **Cllr. Paul Hayes**



**Sinn Féin**

**Ballincurragh, Courtmacsherry,  
Co. Cork.**

**086 8589019**

[Paul.Hayes@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Paul.Hayes@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### **Cllr. Declan Hurley**



**Independent**

**Hillgrove House, Nedineagh  
East, Dunmanway, Co. Cork.**

**086 3634592**

[Declan.Hurley@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Declan.Hurley@cllr.corkcoco.ie)

### **Cllr. Christopher O'Sullivan**



**Fianna Fáil**

**'Hillside', Tawnies, Clonakilty,  
Co. Cork.**

**087 9016534**

[Christopher.OSullivan@cllr.corkcoco.ie](mailto:Christopher.OSullivan@cllr.corkcoco.ie)





### 3. Municipal District Details

#### Bandon/Kinsale MD

Municipal District Officer: Enda O'Halloran  
Cathaoirleach: Cllr. Alan Coleman

#### Carrigaline MD

Municipal District Officer: Noelle Desmond  
Cathaoirleach: Cllr. Séamus McGrath

#### Cobh MD

Municipal District Officer: Paraig Lynch  
Cathaoirleach: Cllr. Anthony Barry

#### East Cork MD

Municipal District Officer: Joe McCarthy  
Cathaoirleach: Cllr. Mary Linehan Foley

#### Fermoy MD

Municipal District Officer: Pauline Moriarty  
Cathaoirleach: Cllr. Frank O'Flynn

#### Kanturk/Mallow MD

Municipal District Officer: Liz Donovan  
Cathaoirleach: Cllr. Bernard Moynihan

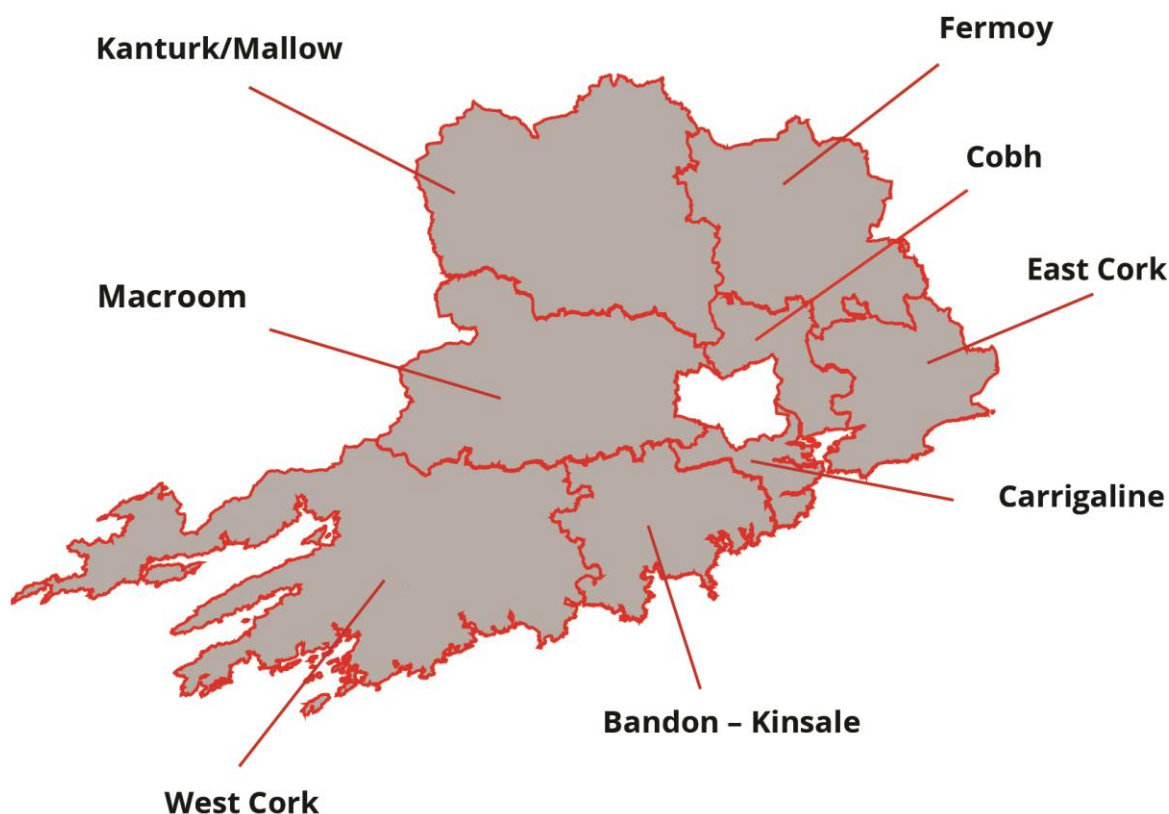
#### Macroom MD

Municipal District Officer: Marie O'Leary  
Cathaoirleach: Cllr. Michael Looney

#### West Cork MD

Municipal District Officer: Justin England  
Cathaoirleach: Cllr. Joe Carroll

### Municipal Districts Map 2019



## 4. Committee & Subsidiary Body Membership

### Northern Committee

Cllr. Kay Dawson	Cllr. Ian Doyle	Cllr. Pat Hayes	Cllr. James Kennedy
Cllr. Liam Madden	Cllr. Noel McCarthy	Cllr. Bernard Moynihan	Cllr. Gearóid Murphy
Cllr. Gerard Murphy	Cllr. Deirdre O'Brien	Cllr. Frank O'Flynn	Cllr. William O'Leary
Cllr. John Paul O'Shea	Cllr. Tony O'Shea	Cllr. Frank Roche	

### Southern Committee

Cllr. Anthony Barry	Cllr. Audrey Buckley	Cllr. Noel Collins	Cllr. Martin Coughlan
Cllr. Michael Creed	Cllr. Marcia D'Alton	Cllr. Ben Dalton O'Sullivan	Cllr. Michael Hegarty
Cllr. Mary Linehan Foley	Cllr. Aidan Lombard	Cllr. Michael Looney	Cllr. Ted Lucey
Cllr. Eileen Lynch	Cllr. Susan McCarthy	Cllr. Seamus McGrath	Cllr. Gobnait Moynihan
Cllr. Alan O'Connor	Cllr. James O'Connor	Cllr. Liam O'Connor	Cllr. Seán O'Connor
Cllr. Pdraig O'Sullivan	Cllr. Liam Quaide	Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen	Cllr. Sinéad Sheppard
Cllr. Danielle Twomey			

### Western Committee

Cllr. Holly Cairns	Cllr. Joe Carroll	Cllr. Karen Coakley	Cllr. Alan Coleman
Cllr. Danny Collins	Cllr. Gillian Coughlan	Cllr. Paul Hayes	Cllr. Declan Hurley
Cllr. Katie Murphy	Cllr. Kevin Murphy	Cllr. Patrick Gerard Murphy	Cllr. Seán O'Donovan
Cllr. Christopher O'Sullivan	Cllr. John O'Sullivan	Cllr. Marie O'Sullivan	

### Corporate Policy Group (CPG)

Cllr. Anthony Barry	Cllr. Alan Coleman	Cllr. Michael Hegarty	Cllr. Declan Hurley
Cllr. Seamus McGrath	Cllr. Gobnait Moynihan	Cllr. Patrick Gerard Murphy	Cllr. Frank O'Flynn
Cllr. John Paul O'Shea	Cllr. Christopher O'Sullivan		

### SPC No. 1 – Planning & Strategic Development

Cllr. Joe Carroll	Cllr. Alan Coleman	Cllr. Noel Collins	Cllr. Michael Hegarty
Cllr. James Kennedy	Cllr. Aidan Lombard	Cllr. Ted Lucey	Cllr. Liam Madden
Cllr. Séamus McGrath	Cllr. Bernard Moynihan	Cllr. Frank O'Flynn	Cllr. Tony O'Shea
Cllr. Pdraig O'Sullivan	Cllr. Frank Roche		

#### Non-Elected Representatives

Prof. Donagh Berry	Billy Cotter	Michael O'Flynn	Aiden O'Neill
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### SPC No. 2 – Environment, Climate Action & Biodiversity

Cllr. Anthony Barry	Cllr. Audrey Buckley	Cllr. Holly Cairns	Cllr. Marcia D'Alton
Cllr. Michael Looney	Cllr. Gerard Murphy	Cllr. Kevin Murphy	Cllr. Deirdre O'Brien
Cllr. Alan O'Connor	Cllr. Liam O'Connor	Cllr. Seán O'Donovan	Cllr. Christopher O'Sullivan
Cllr. Liam Quaide	Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen		

#### Non-Elected Representatives

Chris Hayes	Cian Murphy	Madeleine Murray	Barry O'Dwyer
Michael O'Shea			

### SPC No. 3 – Economic Development & Enterprise

Cllr. Martin Coughlan	Cllr. Kay Dawson	Cllr. Pat Hayes	Cllr. Paul Hayes
Cllr. Michael Hegarty	Cllr. James Kennedy	Cllr. Noel McCarthy	Cllr. Susan McCarthy
Cllr. Gearóid Murphy	Cllr. Gerard Murphy	Cllr. James O'Connor	Cllr. Frank O'Flynn
Cllr. John Paul O'Shea	Cllr. John O'Sullivan		

#### Non-Elected Representatives

Michael Delargey	Jimmy Hosford	Aidan Mangan	Bryan O'Donnell
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## SPC No. 4 – Tourism

Cllr. Joe Carroll	Cllr. Karen Coakley	Cllr. Alan Coleman	Cllr. Danny Collins
Cllr. Pat Hayes	Cllr. Paul Hayes	Cllr. Declan Hurley	Cllr. Mary Linehan Foley
Cllr. Susan McCarthy	Cllr. Seán O'Connor	Cllr. Seán O'Donovan	Cllr. Christopher O'Sullivan
Cllr. John O'Sullivan	Cllr. Marie O'Sullivan		

### Non-Elected Representatives

Derry Cronin	Clayton Love	Aaron Mansworth	Valerie Murphy
Josephine O'Driscoll	Eileen O'Shea		

## SPC No. 5 – Housing

Cllr. Anthony Barry	Cllr. Danny Collins	Cllr. Noel Collins	Cllr. Gillian Coughlan
Cllr. Ben Dalton O'Sullivan	Cllr. Mary Linehan Foley	Cllr. Liam Madden	Cllr. Noel McCarthy
Cllr. Séamus McGrath	Cllr. Patrick Gerard Murphy	Cllr. Seán O'Connor	Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen
Cllr. Sinead Sheppard	Cllr. Danielle Twomey		

### Non-Elected Representatives

Colm J. Cronin	Susan R. Cullen	Stephen McCarthy	
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## SPC No. 6 – Roads & Transport

Cllr. Gillian Coughlan	Cllr. Michael Creed	Cllr. Ben Dalton O'Sullivan	Cllr. Declan Hurley
Cllr. Aidan Lombard	Cllr. Michael Looney	Cllr. Ted Lucey	Cllr. Eileen Lynch
Cllr. Kevin Murphy	Cllr. Deirdre O'Brien	Cllr. James O'Connor	Cllr. William O'Leary
Cllr. Tony O'Shea	Cllr. Frank Roche		

### Non-Elected Representatives

John Bowen	Seán Carrigy	Supt. Pat Lehane	Seán Twohig
Martin Walsh			

## SPC No. 7 – Social Inclusion, Community & Rural Development

Cllr. Audrey Buckley	Cllr. Michael Creed	Cllr. Marcia D'Alton	Cllr. Kay Dawson
Cllr. Ian Doyle	Cllr. Eileen Lynch	Cllr. Bernard Moynihan	Cllr. Gobnait Moynihan
Cllr. Katie Murphy	Cllr. John Paul O'Shea	Cllr. Marie O'Sullivan	Cllr. Liam Quaide
Cllr. Danielle Twomey			

### Non-Elected Representatives

Eddie Mullins

## SPC No. 8 – Arts, Culture & Language

Cllr. Holly Cairns	Cllr. Karen Coakley	Cllr. Martin Coughlan	Cllr. Ian Doyle
Cllr. Gobnait Moynihan	Cllr. Gearóid Murphy	Cllr. Katie Murphy	Cllr. Patrick Gerard Murphy
Cllr. Alan O'Connor	Cllr. Liam O'Connor	Cllr. William O'Leary	Cllr. Padraig O'Sullivan
Cllr. Sinead Sheppard			

### Non-Elected Representatives

Kenneth Buckley	Ann Davoren	Geoff Gould	Mary Hegarty
Eamon Lankford			

## LCDC North

Cllr. Pat Hayes	Cllr. Bernard Moynihan	Cllr. Gearóid Murphy	Cllr. Gerard Murphy
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## LCDC South

Cllr. Marcia D'Alton	Cllr. Michael Hegarty	Cllr. Séamus McGrath	Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen
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## LCDC West

Cllr. Alan Coleman	Cllr. Declan Hurley	Cllr. Patrick Gerard Murphy	Cllr. John O'Sullivan
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## Audit Committee

Cllr. Declan Hurley      Cllr. James Kennedy      Cllr. John O'Sullivan

### Non-Elected Representatives

Dr. Philip Byrne      Dr. Michelle Carr      Edel Clancy      Eileen O'Shea

## Coastal Management Committee

Cllr. Audrey Buckley      Cllr. Holly Cairns      Cllr. Joe Carroll      Cllr. Karen Coakley  
Cllr. Danny Collins      Cllr. Marcia D'Alton      Cllr. Michael Hegarty      Cllr. Mary Linehan Foley  
Cllr. Kevin Murphy      Cllr. James O'Connor      Cllr. Liam O'Connor      Cllr. Christopher O'Sullivan  
Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen      Cllr. Sinead Sheppard

## County Library Committee

Cllr. Anthony Barry      Cllr. Noel Collins      Cllr. Martin Coughlan      Cllr. Marcia D'Alton  
Cllr. Ian Doyle      Cllr. Noel McCarthy      Cllr. James O'Connor      Cllr. Seán O'Donovan

## International & European Affairs Committee

Cllr. Audrey Buckley      Cllr. Joe Carroll      Cllr. Alan Coleman      Cllr. Ben Dalton O'Sullivan  
Cllr. Kay Dawson      Cllr. Ian Doyle      Cllr. Eileen Lynch      Cllr. Susan McCarthy  
Cllr. Gerard Murphy      Cllr. Deirdre O'Brien      Cllr. Alan O'Connor      Cllr. Frank O'Flynn  
Cllr. William O'Leary

## National Monuments Committee

Cllr. Audrey Buckley      Cllr. Danny Collins      Cllr. Michael Looney      Cllr. Liam Madden  
Cllr. Susan McCarthy      Cllr. Kevin Murphy      Cllr. Deirdre O'Brien      Cllr. Alan O'Connor

## Commemorations Committee

Cllr. Anthony Barry      Cllr. Alan Coleman      Cllr. Ian Doyle      Cllr. Paul Hayes  
Cllr. Declan Hurley      Cllr. Eileen Lynch      Cllr. Noel McCarthy      Cllr. Susan McCarthy  
Cllr. Gobnait Moynihan      Cllr. Deirdre O'Brien      Cllr. Frank O'Flynn

## Rural Water Monitoring Committee

Cllr. Anthony Barry      Cllr. Ben Dalton O'Sullivan      Cllr. Kay Dawson      Cllr. Ian Doyle  
Cllr. Paul Hayes      Cllr. Eileen Lynch      Cllr. James O'Connor      Cllr. John O'Sullivan

## Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee

Cllr. Gillian Coughlan      Cllr. Ian Doyle      Cllr. Paul Hayes      Cllr. Michael Hegarty  
Cllr. Ted Lucey      Cllr. Séamus McGrath      Cllr. Frank O'Flynn      Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen

## Joint Policing Committee

Cllr. Joe Carroll      Cllr. Karen Coakley      Cllr. Ben Dalton O'Sullivan      Cllr. Kay Dawson  
Cllr. Ian Doyle      Cllr. Aidan Lombard      Cllr. Michael Looney      Cllr. Ted Lucey  
Cllr. Gearóid Murphy      Cllr. Kevin Murphy      Cllr. Deirdre O'Brien      Cllr. Seán O'Donovan  
Cllr. Cathal Rasmussen      Cllr. Frank Roche      Cllr. Danielle Twomey

## CASP Policy Committee

Cllr. Marcia D'Alton      Cllr. Pat Hayes      Cllr. Liam Madden      Cllr. Noel McCarthy  
Cllr. Susan McCarthy      Cllr. Séamus McGrath      Cllr. Gearóid Murphy      Cllr. James O'Connor  
Cllr. Pádraig O'Sullivan      Cllr. Liam Quaide

## Southern Regional Drug & Alcohol Task Force

Cllr. Gobnait Moynihan





## **Cork County Sports Partnership**

Cllr. Kay Dawson

Cllr. Declan Hurley

Cllr. Gobnait Moynihan

## **Irish Public Bodies**

Cllr. James Kennedy

## **Cobh Heritage Trust CLG**

Cllr. Seán O'Connor

## **Cork Education & Training Board**

Cllr. Karen Coakley

Cllr. Martin Coughlan

Cllr. Ben Dalton O'Sullivan

Cllr. Kay Dawson

Cllr. James Kennedy

Cllr. Noel McCarthy

Cllr. Patrick Gerard

Cllr. James O'Connor

Murphy

## **Regional Assembly**

Cllr. Joe Carroll

Cllr. Gerard Murphy

Cllr. Deirdre O'Brien

Cllr. Seán O'Connor

Cllr. Pdraig O'Sullivan

## **Regional Health Forum**

Cllr. Audrey Buckley

Cllr. Danny Collins

Cllr. Pat Hayes

Cllr. Mary Linehan Foley

Cllr. Eileen Lynch

Cllr. Susan McCarthy

Cllr. Gearóid Murphy

Cllr. Katie Murphy

Cllr. Seán O'Donovan

## **LAMA**

Cllr. Bernard Moynihan

## **AILG**

Cllr. James O'Connor

Gobnait Moynihan

Kevin Murphy

## **Údarás na Gaeltachta**

Cllr. Gobnait Moynihan

## **Bottlehill Liaison Committee**

Cllr. Pat Hayes

Cllr. Noel McCarthy

Cllr. Pdraig O'Sullivan

## **Board of Cork Opera House**

Cllr. Gearóid Murphy

## **Board of Visit Cork**

Cllr. Alan Coleman

## **Board of Leisure World**

Cllr. Audrey Buckley



## 5. Boundary Alteration

It is widely recognised that the boundary alteration process in Cork and the associated realignment of local political structures represented an unprecedented challenge for local government in Cork during 2019. It was, in effect, the largest local government boundary alteration in the State in recent decades, involving a population transfer of some 85,000 citizens from County to City. Indeed, it was the largest local government boundary alteration since the abolition of the former Dublin County Council circa 30 years previously.

The Minister for Housing, Planning & Local Government, Mr Eoghan Murphy TD, commenced the Local Government Act 2019 on 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2019 which kick started the alteration process. The entire boundary transition process was overseen by a statutory Implementation Oversight Committee appointed by the Minister; this Committee managed and oversaw the process locally between both local authorities through an Implementation Plan and Strategy.

All public services for the relevant area (with the exception of the collection of commercial rates) transferred from Cork County Council to Cork City Council on Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2019 (that being the “Transfer Day” as set out in the legislation). Commercial rates transferred from County to City on 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2020 as per the legislation.

A Staff Transfer Plan was agreed, which saw a total of 203 no. posts transferred from County to City; 199 no. with effect from 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2019 and a further 4 no. with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2020. An ongoing financial contribution payable by the City to the County for a 10 year period will commence on 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2020 ending on 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2029, or such longer periods as may be prescribed by the Minister. Discussions in relation to the nature and extent of the financial contribution were continuing as at end December 2019.

From 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2019, Cork County Council serves a population of 335,000 citizens and continues to be the second largest local authority in the state.



## 6. Safety Health & Welfare at Work

The Safety Section facilitated the continual improvement of the Safety Management System (SMS) and the maturing of the SMS is on-going, with the challenge for 2020 of transitioning to the newly published standard ISO 45001.

The Physical Activity and Wellbeing section continues to expand and is now included in new contracts, in the induction for new employees and during the various safety briefings. There were 64 Physical Activity and Wellbeing Bulletins issued in 2019. The challenge for this section in 2020 will be to prepare for and achieve certification to the KeepWell Mark standard.

The Water Safety Promotion Section continues to expand and this year the main initiative was the introduction of the first Beach Guard Academy in the country, which should produce more Beach Guards and promote continual improvement in the Beach Guard Service. Also the Countywide Ringbuoy audit was completed.

The Road Safety Promotion Section introduced the concept of Virtual Reality Road Safety Education for Secondary Schools & Community Groups. It has proved to be a resounding success. The Road Safety Officer secured funding from Aviva Driving School to purchase the equipment and the concept has now gone nationwide. It is bound to save a life and it is great that the concept began here in Cork.

The Safety Training Section continues to roll out the annual safety training programme to ensure the ongoing competence of employees. The Safety Section maintained the certification to OHSAS 18001 in 2019 and also won a Higher Distinction in the All Ireland Safety Awards run by the National Irish Safety Organisation.

### Ballincollig Regional Training Centre

Ballincollig Regional Training Centre continued to provide support to the affiliated local authorities, Cork County, Kerry County and Cork City Councils in 2019 recording over 7500 staff training days.

Stress and Wellbeing Training was delivered to 990 staff while another 540 staff were provided with Driver Awareness Training including 260 that attended the Grey Fleet Programme.

The Centre co-hosted a National Training Officers Workshop with the LGMA and provided administrative support to LASNTG with 2 National Conferences in 2019. The Road Reinstatement Programme was developed nationally with Ballincollig RTC pivotal in the successful implementation of the rollout. The New Chapter 8 legislation saw a high number of trainees attending refresher training organised to provide awareness training to existing CSCS Cardholders.

A total of 54 Water Services staff successfully completed the QQI Water and Wastewater Programmes while 23 attended and were successful in the QQI Six-Day Site Suitability Programme. In association with IT Carlow 27 Trainees attended the 5 Module Certified Building Control Course which was in addition to the successful Certified Road Management Programme that was rolled out in 2018.

2019 also saw the introduction of the QQI Firefighters course with 16 new Firefighters undertaking the three-week programme in Bandon and another 10 attended the 10-day BA Course in Clonmel. Health and Safety played a key part in the successful outcome for 2019 with a large number attending refresher training and 250 successfully completed the New Entrant CSCS Programme.

The Centre was successful in achieving City and Guilds Accreditation in 2019 which allows the Centre to Self - Certify Confined Space Training using Internal Resources. The Centre was also successful in its application to Solas as an Approved Training Organisation and was successful in renewing the certification for the four approved CPC Training Venues for a further 5 years.



## 7. Roads, Transportation & Safety

### National Roads

The overall Transport Infrastructure Ireland allocation to Cork County Council for improvement and maintenance work in 2019 was **€36.94m**. The following are some of the schemes which are listed in the Government's National Development Plan 2018-2027 and were progressed as follows:

**M8/N40 Dunkettle Interchange Upgrade Scheme:** The Main Construction Contract was re-advertised as a Design & Build Contract in December 2019. Advance Works Contracts including Utility Diversions, Slip Roads etc. were progressed.

**N22 Baile Bhuirne - Macroom Scheme:** The Main Construction Contractor was appointed in November 2019. Site Offices were substantially completed. Site clearance commenced. Land acquisition is ongoing.

**The Cork – Ringaskiddy Motorway Project:** Judicial Review Proceedings continued in the High Court in 2019. The Project was approved by An Bord Pleanála on 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2018.

**Cork – Limerick Motorway Scheme:** Barry Transportation, SWECO & WSP were appointed as Technical Advisors in February 2019. The preferred Scenario, in the vicinity of the N20, was presented to the Councillors from counties Cork, Limerick and Tipperary. Route Options will be considered in the vicinity of the N20.

**Mallow Northern Relief Road:** Barry Transportation was appointed as Technical Advisor in December 2019. The Project Appraisal Plan was approved by DTTaS in September 2018.

**N25 Carrigtohill – Middleton Upgrade Scheme:** SWECO UK Ltd was appointed as Technical Advisor in December 2019. The Project Appraisal Plan was approved by DTTaS in November 2018.

Multiple other smaller projects and **pavement and minor improvement works** were advanced during 2019.

### Regional & Local Roads

The overall road grant allocation for 2019 from DTTaS was approximately **€50.5m**. This allowed for:

- 201 km of Regional and Local Roads were strengthened under this programme in 208 locations, both by direct construction by Council outdoor staff and fleet and through resurfacing contracts.
- 323 km of Regional and Local Roads were surface dressed in 235 locations by Council outdoor staff and fleet. 12 km of roads were improved/strengthened under this programme in 25 locations.
- 20 no. Road Safety Improvement Schemes were either fully or partially completed in 2019.
- A total of 23 structures (bridges, retaining walls or embankments) were repaired or replaced in 2019.
- A significant bridge survey programme was initiated in accordance with DTTaS circular RW09 of 2019, which led to the survey of circa 350 bridges.
- A number of Strategic Road Improvement Schemes were advanced in 2019. Some are outlined below:
  - **Carrigaline Western Relief Road.** The road will alleviate traffic congestion in Main Street, and will provide the infrastructure to facilitate the redevelopment of the town centre. 75% funding was confirmed through the Urban Regeneration & Development Fund in Q1' 19. Tender process commenced in Q4' 19.
  - **Ferney Road Improvement Scheme, Carrigaline.** The Improvement Scheme will provide enhanced pedestrian facilities. The main works tender was advertised in Q3' 19. The contractor was appointed and works commenced in Q4' 19.
  - **R624 Cobh Road Upgrade.** It is proposed to upgrade the R624 from its interchange with the N25 at Tullagreen to Marino Point and on to Cobh. The upgrade will provide a second bridge crossing to Great Island and Cobh. The improved infrastructure will support the ongoing development of Cobh, particularly in the residential development of the town, as well as supporting commercial development at Marino Point. A project appraisal plan was submitted to DTTaS in Q4' 19.
  - **Middleton Northern Relief Road Phase 3.** This is the third and final phase of a relief road designed to reduce traffic in the town centre and to promote the commercial development of the town. The preliminary design of the scheme was developed in 2019.





- **Kanturk Relief Road.** The road will relieve traffic congestion and allow the ongoing development of Kanturk. An application for Rural Regeneration & Development Fund grant assistance was resubmitted in Q3' 19. A project appraisal plan was submitted to DTTaS in Q3' 19.

## Public Lighting

A total of 201 new public lights were erected and 30 were upgraded under the 2019 Public Lighting Programme at a cost of approximately €400,000.

## Road Safety

The Cork Road Safety Plan 2016-2020 which was launched in 2016, following preparation by the Road Safety Together Working Group, comprising Cork County and City Councils, the Gardaí, Fire Service, TII, RSA and HSE, was reviewed in 2019, in relation to the targets set by the Plan.

There were a total of 14 fatalities on Cork County's Road network in 2019 as against a total of 11 in 2018.

## Speed limits

Speed Limit Bye-Laws were adopted in 2019 for the introduction of 30kph speed limits in 27 further housing estates, bringing to 117 the total no. of housing estates governed by a 30kph speed limit.

## Fleet Management

There are 648 items of fleet operating in Cork County Council. During 2019, as part of its fleet replacement programme, the Council took delivery of 2 32-tonne tar tanks, 1 26-tonne tipper, a road sweeper, a road grader, 3 mini-sweepers, a hook truck and a number of small and medium sized vans, purchased via Office of Government Procurement (OGP) national frameworks, for use within the various Directorates.

## Fleet Operations

The Council took delivery of 2 32-tonne tar tanks to enhance road operations. They will be based in the Council Machinery Yard at Newberry, Mallow serving the north and east of the county and in the Council Yard at Skibbereen serving the west of the county.



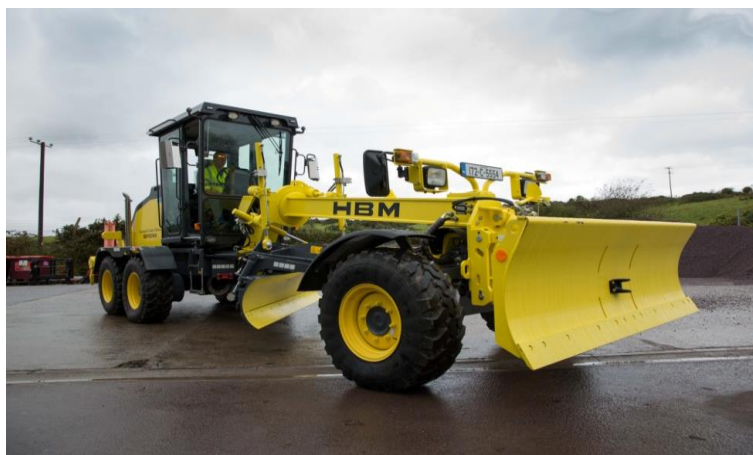
32 Tonne Tar Tank

## Climate Change

The Council intends to continue to substantially invest in its fleet, with newer technologies to achieve efficiencies – Euro 6 energy efficient engines & also with lightweight bodies, where possible, for fuel efficiency purposes.



Fleet represents 26% of the energy consumed by the Council. An energy audit of the fleet was carried out in 2019 and in 2020 the Council will embark on a Fleet Replacement Programme to upgrade the fleet in order to meet its 2030 climate change targets.



Road Grader

## Emergency Response and Winter Maintenance

Significant fleet investment also allows the Council to fast-track strategic fleet requirements for responding to severe weather events: flooding, storms, snow and ice. The Council has commenced planned upgrades to increase the capacity of its existing Salt Gritter and Snow Plough Fleet used across the County. In addition, in 2019 Cork County Council installed a brine plant to trial the solution for Winter Maintenance. This involves pre-wetting the roads with a brine solution to improve the effectiveness of winter maintenance operation.

## Fuel Usage

- The average fuel consumption per item of fleet is 16.03 litres per 100km
- The Council's fleet travelled approximately 7,000,000 km in 2019.
- On average in 2019, the fleet travelled 630,000 km per month.

## Statistics for 2019

No. of applications received:  
Temporary Road Closures - 244  
Road Opening Licences - 3,095  
Abnormal Load Permits - 402



## 8. Water Services & County Engineer's Department

The Water Services Directorate & County Engineer's Department covers a range of functions including Drinking Water & Waste Water Operations, Water Capital Projects and Rural Water. It also includes Coastal Management & Flood Projects and the recent formation of the Capital Programme Implementation Unit.

### Drinking Water & Waste Water Operations

The Drinking Water & Waste Water Sections are the engine room of the Water Services Directorate which manages delivery of public water and wastewater services under an SLA with Irish Water. They serve 350,000 people across the county ensuring the provision of high quality drinking water (producing in excess of 187 million litres per day) and also the safe and efficient treatment of waste water through more than 250 Waste Water infrastructure assets. Our Wastewater operations team produce 73 annual environment reports for EPA licensed agglomerations through its functional area.

The priority given to water conservation has resulted in the saving of 8 million litres per day through reduced leakage. The 34km Mains Replacement in areas including Newtownshandrum (10km), Union Hall (4km), Kanturk (3km), Castletownbere (3km), Baltimore (3km) etc and progress in the Find & Fix Programme contributed most to bringing the Unaccounted For Water in Cork County down to 45%.

The consistently high scorings achieved in areas such as Health & Safety and compliance are a testament to the level of service being provided.

### Water Capital Projects Office

The Capital Projects Office is a key player in ensuring the continued improvement of the water infrastructure across the County of Cork. It provides full life cycle Project Management Services to facilitate the execution of the Irish Water Capital Investment Programme for the years 2017-2021, a programme which features some 47 major infrastructure projects for the Cork County Area. These projects along with a large list of Network improvement projects and a host of Capital Programmes are being managed by the office. The projects are in both the Water and Wastewater sectors.

### Rural Water

The Rural Water Section provides significant assistance to Group Water Schemes which serve 10,000 households across the county. These include managing the Rural Water Programme and providing administrative and engineering assistance. They also manage the provision of well grants which resulted in over €975,000 being distributed to households in 2019.

### Coastal Management and Flood Projects

#### a) Flood Projects:

The Flood Projects team continued their ongoing work on a number of major & minor flood relief schemes in 2019, in conjunction with Office of Public Works (OPW). Major flood schemes progressed include Skibbereen (reached Substantial Completion Stage in June 2019), Midleton, Bantry & Crookstown. The Client role for major schemes at Douglas & Glashaboy was transferred to Cork City Council, following the boundary change in 2019, with Cork County Council retaining the project management role. The construction stage at Douglas commenced in 2019. Major schemes at Bandon, Clonakilty (both at advanced construction stage) and the Lower Lee, were progressed, with OPW in the Client role. Regarding the OPW Minor Works Programme, confirmation of funding is awaited on a number of current applications; Part 8 Planning was prepared for a minor flood scheme at Ballintubber.

#### b) Coastal Projects:

i) Coastal infrastructure projects undertaken in 2019 included new smart card electricity facilities at Kinsale, Baltimore, Union Hall & Ballycotton Harbours & new waste oil facilities at Kinsale & Baltimore; safety related & signage works were completed at a number of piers, including



- slipway improvement works at Snave (Ballylickey) & Crookhaven. All above projects were co-funded by Department of Agriculture, Food, Marine & Cork County Council.
- ii) The Coastal team continued to progress dredging projects at Ballycotton Harbour & bundle project for Courtmacsherry/Glengarriff/Reen.
  - iii) The Coastal projects team continued its roles related to technical maintenance of Dursey Cable Car & Oil spill contingency planning & response.

## Capital Programme Implementation Unit

The Capital Programme Implementation Unit is responsible for the co-ordination of the development and implementation of Cork County Council's (CCC) Social Sustainability Investment Programme (SSIP) throughout the County of Cork. The team works closely with other capital delivery arms within the Council and liaises with the Divisions and Municipal Districts in terms of identification and prioritisation of schemes.

The objective of the CCC SSIP is to enhance key towns across the County with the aim of ensuring the continued economic and social sustainability of these towns. The CCC SSIP is funded by a combination of proposed loan funding from European Banks, Central Government funding under Project 2040 Urban Regional Regeneration Funds (URDF) and Rural Regeneration Development Funds (RRDF) and Cork County Council reserves. Categories of projects include climate change initiatives, town centre traffic alleviation measures, open space and amenities, town centre enhancements, refurbishment of national monuments/culture centres, energy efficiency projects and tourism related infrastructure.





## 9. Housing

### Housing Rent Collection

The income from housing rent in 2019 amounted to €19.6 million with a further €1.5 million collected in respect of RAS properties. The collection rate for the county was 95%.

### Housing Allocations

A total of 493 units were allocated to successful applicants in 2019. This figure includes allocations to units provided by the Approved Housing Bodies, to NARPS properties and to the Council's own Social Housing stock.

### Vacant Houses

A total of 146 vacant properties were refurbished in 2019 and of these, 106 council properties were repaired through the continuation of a funding stream made available by the DHPLG to facilitate the return of vacant properties to productive use.

### Disabled Persons Grants

In 2019, works to assist disabled persons were carried out on a total of 138 local authority houses. These included 128 minor works projects and 10 extensions. The total cost of these works was €2,659,921, 90% of which was recouped from the DHPLG. The remaining 10% was provided from the Council's own resources.

### Energy Efficiency Scheme

Under the DHPLG's energy efficiency scheme and in tandem with the SEAI's energy strand scheme, the Housing Department carried out energy efficiency improvement works to 38 local authority houses at a cost of €1.2million. These works involved deep energy retrofitting of older Council houses to bring them to a B Energy rating and reduce the impacts of fuel poverty. The measures include; upgraded windows and doors, installation of externally wrapped thermal insulation and loft insulation, upgraded heating systems through the provision of Air to Water heat pumps and space heating stoves, heating control systems and ventilation.

### Leasing

A total of 143 new units were delivered through leasing schemes in 2019 increasing the total number of leased properties to 473.

### Capital Assistance Scheme

In 2019, 13 new units were delivered; 9 in Rosscarbery in partnership with Rosscarbery Housing Association AHB and 4 in Charleville in partnership with Charleville Care Project AHB.

In 2019 also, Bandon Geriatric and Community Council won the Irish Council for Social Housing National Award for housing for older people at the ICSH national conference.

The Community Council attached to St Michael's, in partnership with Cork County Council Housing Directorate completed 9 new houses housing in 2018 for older people within the heart of Bandon town through the Capital Assistance Scheme. The Accommodation provides independent living for older people with on-site visiting support services in place.





Cllr. Christopher O' Sullivan and Minister of State for Mental Health and Older People, Jim Daly, T.D launched the newly constructed housing development at Star Garden, Ceim Hill in the centre of the historic town Rosscarbery on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

## HAP

Administration of the HAP Scheme continued countrywide during 2019 with 919 tenants transferred to HAP. The total number of active tenancies at the 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2019 was 3431. A total of 1410 property inspections were carried out in the county during 2019.

## Homelessness

Cork County Council continues to work closely with both Cork City Council, via its Accommodation Placement Unit, and Kerry County Council, to deal with homelessness on a regional basis through the Strategic Management Group on Homelessness and the Regional Homeless Forum. The transfer of the administration of homeless payments from the DEASP to Cork County took place in 2019. A Placefinders Officer continues to assist Homeless Persons in securing HAP accommodation. This is a targeted support for Homeless Households to source HAP tenancies and the Placefinder Officer is working with both Landlords and Homeless Persons to source suitable accommodation.

## Tenant (Incremental) Purchase Scheme

The Tenant (Incremental) Purchase Scheme continued successfully into 2019. The Council has now processed 244 full applications having received of 783 Expressions of Interest, 51 properties have been sold to date.

## Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan

Cork County has received 379 applications for Rebuilding Ireland Home Loans to date. In 2019, 78 loans were advanced/part advanced with a total loan value of over €12m.

## Grants

During 2019, the Council received 932 applications and paid out a total of €5,176,456 in grants under the Housing Adaptation, Mobility Aid and Aid for Older Persons Grant Schemes.

## Estate Management

The Estate Management Unit continued to work with the Residents Associations to maintain and improve their estates during 2019. Funding is allocated to active Residents Associations to assist with costs incurred.

## Travellers

In accordance with the Housing (Traveller Accommodation) Act, 1998, Cork County Council adopted a Traveller Accommodation Programme for the period 2019-2024 at a meeting of Council held on 23rd September, 2019. This programme sets out how the Council intends to meet the existing and projected needs of travellers in its functional area over the 5 year period.

## Housing Acquisitions

Cork County Council acquired 61 standard units, 24 Buy and Renew units and 6 repossessed units for Social Housing in 2019.



## Construction Programme

Cork County Council continued to progress its construction programme during 2019. The Part 8 process was completed in respect of 62 units in 2019, all of which will go to construction in 2020. The Council's own-build programme delivered 67 units in 2019; 189 units were delivered through the turnkey model and 52 units through the Part V process. A number of SHIP, Turnkey, Public Private Partnership and Single Stage construction projects are currently onsite and will deliver 570 units. A further 177 dwellings are at various stages of the approvals process.

## Elected Members' Representations

There were 2,587 representations received, processed and responded to during 2019. The dedicated online Representations Portal continues to streamline the issuing of Responses.

## Choice Based Letting

Cork County Council's Choice Based Letting system continues to be a very successful method of advertising and allocating vacant Cork County Council and Approved Housing Body properties that are ready for letting. 982 properties have been offered through the Choice Based Letting system to-date, of which 973 were accepted.



Kilnagleary Housing Scheme, Phase 1 completed April 2019.

## 10. Environment

### Air

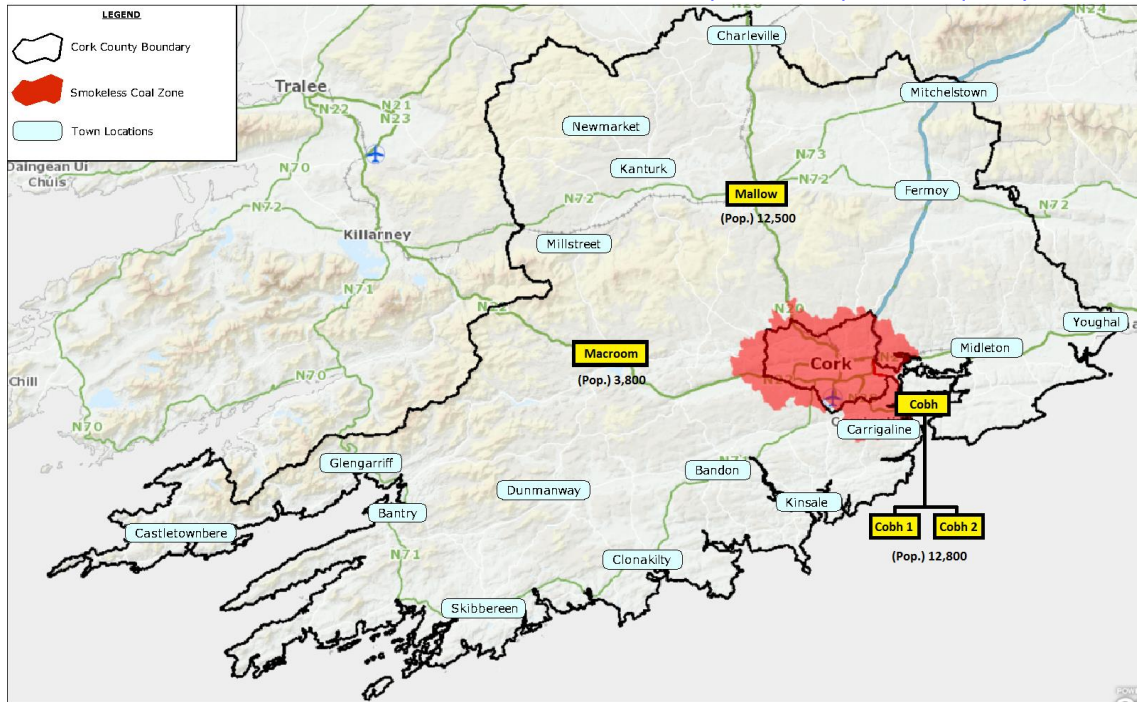
As part of our annual scheduled work programme a wide range of operators and activities licensable under the Air Pollution Acts, were regulated and monitored, including:

- 14 Industries
- 31 Dry Cleaners
- 44 Spray Painters
- 58 Petrol Stations
- 237 Solid Fuel Outlet Inspections

A total of 148 air and noise related complaints were also responded to.

Building on our close working relationship with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) the council facilitated the installation of further Real Time Air Quality Monitoring Stations in Macroom and Carrig House, Cobh. These sites build on the earlier installation at Carrignafoy in Cobh. Work was also advanced on an installation in Mallow which it is hoped will be in place in early 2020.

Real time data for all the current sites in Cork can be viewed at <http://www.epa.ie/air/quality/data/>

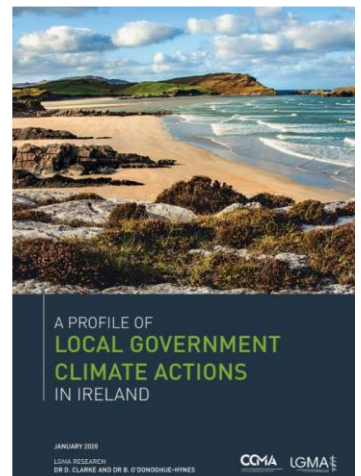


1-Planned Air Quality Monitoring Stations

### Climate Action

The Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment published the **Climate Action Plan** in June 2019 with the stated objective of enabling Ireland to meet its EU targets in reducing carbon emissions and lay the foundations for achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050. The Plan will impact hugely Local Authorities and work commenced in 2019 on developing strategies and plans to meet the challenging targets set out.

In October 2019, a [Climate Action Charter for Local Authorities](#) was signed by the Minister all 31 local authorities.



Annual Report 2019





This commits Local Authorities to playing a key leadership role locally and nationally in delivering effective climate action. Among the commitments entered into were:

- To put in place a process for carbon proofing major decisions, programmes and projects on a systematic basis, including investments in transport and energy infrastructure
- Delivering a 50% improvement in energy efficiency by 2030
- Ensuring all suppliers provide information on their carbon footprint and steps they plan to reduce its impact
- Build local citizen engagement
- Partner and collaborate on climate action initiatives with local community groups, local enterprise and local schools and higher-level institutions
- Monitor, evaluate and report annually on the implementation of activities under the Charter.

As lead authority for the **Climate Action Regional Office (CARO)** for the Atlantic Seaboard South Region, the council continued to coordinate the Local Authority response to climate change in the Region, which consists of the administrative areas of Clare County Council, Cork City Council, Cork County Council, Kerry County Council and Limerick City & County Council.

This included advising constituent Local Authorities on the development and implementation of their individual Local Plans.



## Environmental Awareness Programmes

The council continued to promote and support a wide variety of environmental awareness and research initiatives in 2019 including:

- **An Taisce Green Schools Program**
- **Muintir na Tíre Schools Garden Competition**
- **National Spring Clean**
- **Biodiversity Events and Initiatives**
- **Waste Reduction & Recycling Workshops**
- **DUMP - Dispose of Unused Medicines Properly Campaign**
- **Refill.ie campaign**
- **Annual Litter Challenge**
- **Green Workplace Initiative**



In October of 2019 the council also hosted its third annual **Reuse Republic** event in the County Hall.

Reuse Republic" is a showcase of successful upcyclers, eco-businesses and reuse initiatives brought organised by the council's Environmental Awareness Team as part of National Reuse Month

Now in its third year, the event gave the opportunity to meet people involved in various reuse themes including furniture, food, clothing, paint etc. As well as the exhibition hall, there was a series of talks, demonstrations and a clothing swap shop taking place throughout the event.





Donna Conway and Helen Enright, Cork County Council Environment Directorate, promoting refill.ie at ReUse event held in Co Hall in November 2019.



Under the **Community Environment Action Fund** (formerly Local Agenda 21), which is part funded by the DCCA, a total of 60 projects were supported in 2019 by funding totalling over €67,900.

## Waste & Recycling

### 2019 in numbers;

At our 11 Civic Amenity Sites we had **71,683** visitors and collected a total of;

- **14,467 tonnes of Recyclables**
- **11,931 Tonnes of Waste**

At our **138 Bring Sites** across the county we collected a further;

- **6,622 Tonnes of Recyclables**

## Anti-Dumping Initiative 2019

Again, DCCA made funds available, through the Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authorities (WERLAS) to support the 2019 Anti-Dumping Initiative (ADI).

Again, in the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of this nationally co-ordinated Anti-Dumping Initiative (ADI), Cork County was approved for a maximum allowable grant i.e. **€106,073**.

Project applications were assessed by an evaluation committee before being submitted to the Minister.

In all 20 projects across the county were approved for including;

- Oilean Chleire Clean Up Initiative
- Sherkin & Heir Islands Clean Up Initiatives
- Cobh MDC Dumping Blackspots
- Not in our nature - North Cork Dumping Initiatives
- Not in our nature - Provision of tools & equipments to community groups
- Not in our nature - Fermoy & East Cork CCTV
- Community Service Environmental Project - West Cork Beach Enhancement @ Long Strand, Owenahincha & The Warren on the Wild Atlantic Route
- Not in our nature - East Cork CCTV
- Not in our nature - Blarney & Macroom Rural Blackspots
- Ballincollig Tidy Towns Assistance
- Not in our nature - Castlelyons says no to Roadside Dumping
- Not in our nature - West Cork CCTV



- Not in our nature - Carrigaline, Monkstown & Shanbally
- Not in our nature - Gortnagraiga Community Initiative
- Aghern Scenic Area & Sports Ground Conna
- Bantry Bay Shoreline Clean up of Marine Debris
- Knocknagree Litter & Dumping Awareness Board
- Man in the Van Awareness Campaign
- Mallow Community Good Friday Spring Clean - Get Fitter Pick Litter
- Not in our nature - Awareness Campaign Cork County

## Anti Litter Challenge Awards 2019

A hugely enjoyable annual anti litter awards event was held in the county hall in September to honour the over 100 towns and villages across the county who took part.



**Coolagown in North Cork** – Winner of the Villages County Final pictured with Mayor Cllr. Christopher O'Sullivan at the award ceremony

## Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authority (WERLA)

Since 2015 Cork County Council has been the Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authority (WERLA) for the Southern Waste Management Region comprising the 10 local authority areas of Carlow, Clare, Cork County, Cork City, Limerick City & County, Kerry, Kilkenny, Tipperary, Waterford City & County and Wexford.

WERLA's 2019 work programme set out priorities feeding into a programme of coordinated work for local authorities as follows;

### Illegal Activity and Unaccounted for Waste



Tackling significant illegal waste activity i.e. operators or sites engaging in a significant level of illegal activity, the enforcement of which requires a multi-agency response. Potential operators of concern to be identified and prioritised for a concerted enforcement approach. Illegal dumping and unauthorised movements of waste to also be targeted under this priority.

## Construction and Demolition Activity & Capacity Challenges

Enforcement activity that can assist in addressing the current capacity challenge. This to include Brown Bin roll-out, enforcement of Construction and Demolition Waste activities, misclassification of waste and monitoring of waste movements



## Dealing with sites containing illegally deposited waste



Sites identified by local authorities which contain waste that has been deposited without authorization should be identified by local authorities and appropriate enforcement actions initiated. The Department indicated its willingness to provide assistance both in terms of legal costs and site solutions to local authorities who work with the WERLAs in identifying and addressing such sites in 2019.

## Water Quality

The significant work programmes delivered by the councils' water quality teams in 2019 included;

- **978 samples** taken from **172 public drinking water supplies-20,468 parameters analysed.**
- **228 samples** taken from **3,348 private group water schemes and other small private water supplies-5295 parameters analysed**
- **2,489 samples** taken from **149 public waste water treatment systems**
- **203 inspections** of **industrial/trade waste water treatment plants**
- **1,018 Farm Inspections** undertaken
- **206 bathing water samples** taken at 30 beaches
- **60 residential septic tank** inspected

**Seven** beaches attained **Blue flag** status for 2019, while **fourteen** achieved **Green Coast awards**. The beaches in question were;

**Blue Flag:** Barleycove, Garretstown, Garrylucas, Inchadoney, Owenahincha, Redbarn & Tragumna

**Green Coast:** Ballyrisode , Cadogens, Fountainstown , Garinish, Galleycove, Inch, Inchydoney (East beach) , Oysterhaven, Redstrand, Ring, Shanagarry (Ardnahinch), Sherkin and Sheeps head (Dooneen)

## Veterinary & Food Safety

The Veterinary Dept of the council again delivered a wide ranging work programme in 2019 including;

- Administration of over **36,900 dog licenses**.
- **2,984** dog license enforcement notifications issued
- Monitoring of **38 registered dog breeding establishments**
- Delivery of inspection programs across **75 registered food premises**.
- Ongoing monitoring, including **laboratory analysis**, under contract for **Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI)**
- Collection of **75 stray horses**

The launch of a 5 year study into the health of Dairy Herds in the Cork Harbour Region took place December 12<sup>th</sup> at Cork County Hall.

The study report entitled "Animal Health Surveillance of Dairy Herds in the Vicinity of a Large Chemical Industrial Complex in the Cork Harbour Region" was prepared for the Environmental Protection Agency by the



Veterinary Department of Cork County Council. The report can be accessed on the EPA website <http://www.epa.ie/pubs/reports/surveillanceofanimalhealth/>



The study and report are dedicated to the memory of our late colleague Dan Crowley, Chief Veterinary Officer, Cork County Council, pictured here to the rear on the far right, with the Mayor Cllr. Christopher O’Sullivan and other attendees at the launch event in December last.



## 11. Planning

### Development Management

The number of planning applications received by Cork County Council in 2019 was **3,933**. Of this figure **823** were received by the West Cork Office, located in Skibbereen with the remaining **3,110** being received in County Hall.

The number of valid planning applications received was **3,154**.

Invalid represented circa **22%** of the total applications received

The number of Planning Applications granted planning permission in 2019 was **2,597**.

The number of planning applications refused was **257**.

The number of Planning Applications received by Cork County Council with an EIAR (Environmental Impact Assessment Report) was **9**.

### Section 5s

- Number of Section 5s received in 2018 (Jan 1<sup>st</sup> – Dec 31<sup>st</sup>) **153**
- Further information requested under Section 5s **36**
- With regard to Section 5 applications received in 2018 **144** applications closed and **9** applications remain open (awaiting FI response).

### Pre-Planning

Total number of pre-planning meetings held in 2019 was 836, with 600 held by the Planning Department, County Hall and 236 held by the West Planning Office Skibbereen. Pre-planning meetings deal with residential small (one of dwellings/extensions), policy, site selection, zoning, house design and in some cases Further Information Requests. Any information submitted at pre-planning is linked to the application and made available publicly online and at the Planning Authority Office as part of the planning file when a planning application is made.

### Strategic Housing Developments (SHD)

An Bord Pleanála granted permission in respect of **1** SHD applications in 2018 which will yield **251** residential units. A further 2 applications were refused by the Board. There were **4** No Section 247 Consultations held in respect of proposed Strategic Housing Developments and a further **5** Tripartite Meetings chaired by An Bord Pleanála were held in County Hall in respect of proposed schemes in County Cork including 1 in the transition area.

### Enforcement

It is the policy of Cork County Council to secure compliance with Planning Permission and to prevent Unauthorised Development in accordance with the statutory requirements as set out in the Planning and Development Act and the Planning and Development Regulations. Cork County Council continues to provide an enforcement service in the Transition Area for files that were already open on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019 when the Cork City Boundary Extension became effective.

Total No. of Cases Closed	475
No. of Procedures taken through Warning Letters	373
No. of Procedures taken through Enforcement Notices	9
No. of Prosecutions	4
Total No. of Cases Investigated	284





## Estates

Total No. of Estates Taken in Charge	2
No. Estates awaiting at final Legal sign off	7
Total No. of new Taking in Charge Applications	22

## Local Housing Infrastructure Activation Fund

HIIT, Planning Directorate, has delivered:

- Completion of the Preliminary Design and Part 8 Planning for both LIHAF and Additional Infrastructural Development at WaterRock Urban Expansion Area (UEA). New Railway Stop was included. LIHAF funding is €5.5m (€4.13m via LIHAF Grant from DHPLG and remainder from CCC). Project is currently at Detail Design Stage. Currently ground investigation works ongoing along with additional topographical survey work (completion expected March 2020).
- Transfer of Glanmire LIHAF Initiative project to the Cork City Council successfully completed on 31<sup>st</sup> May. Part 8 Planning process was secured in August 2018 and the Detail Design (including the Site Investigation) was substantially completed. Glanmire (Ballinglanna) LIHAF funding is €5.9m (€4.43m via LIHAF Grant through DHLPG and remainder from CCC). Construction of 22 housing units had been substantially completed at transfer with a total expected delivery of 608 housing units.
- Shannonpark Roundabout Upgrade funded under LIHAF has secured the delivery of a total of 151 housing units to date. Roundabout upgrade procured by Cork NRO, is now completed. Ballincollig Urban Expansion Area; 28 housing units were completed prior to transfer to City Council.

## Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF)

The Planning Policy Unit prepared 18 applications on behalf of respective project teams in 2018, including 8 Category As and 10 Category Bs. The 18 applications covered a total of at least 40 individual projects. 8 Projects were approved for funding including 3 Category A's and 5 Category B's.

The Housing Infrastructure Implementation Team (HIIT), Planning and Development Directorate, has appointed Atkins Consulting Engineers (Jan 2020) to progress the planning and design of the Carrigwohill URDF Initiative.

HIIT has completed the tender process for appointment of a Consulting Engineer to the WaterRock Linear Park (Midleton URDF related) (MD-O-08) in order to design the park infrastructure in greater detail and to move forward to planning approval. Tenders were invited and assessed in April 2020.

Project Name	Project Team	Description	Total potential for housing long-term
Carrigwohill URDF Initiative Grant Amount (€750k)	HIIT	Design and planning phase of a combination of existing Public Realm and Urban Expansion Area related infrastructural development proposals	UEA (c.2,500 housing unit yield)
Midleton URDF (Linear Park)	HIIT	(subproject) Design and planning phase for a Linear Park infrastructure at WaterRock UEA	To complement the housing yield at Water Rock UEA c.2,500)

The overall table of URDF projects for Cork County Council that have approval is listed in the table below.

Category	URDF Ref	Scheme reference
B	URDF_014	Cobh Public Realm
B	URDF_014	Cobh Diaspora centre
B	URDF_023	Carrigaline Public Realm
B	URDF_008B	Midleton Permeability



	subproject	Waterrock Linear Park
B	URDF_024	Carrigtwohill
A	URDF_008A	Midleton Public Realm
A	URDF_105	Mallow town centre regeneration Regional Assembly
A	URDF_004	Carrigaline Western relief road

## Heritage

2019 saw a number of heritage projects undertaken in the County and Cork County Council's Heritage Unit received direct funding from the Heritage Council for two County Heritage Plan projects - a publication on the Industrial Heritage of County Cork and Volume One of a Colouring Book depicting County Cork's heritage and culture – both publications have been very well received. 2019 was a busy year and saw much preliminary work on the upcoming new National Heritage Plan (Heritage Ireland 2030), with the holding of an information session in County Hall and the making of Cork County Council's submission. The Council's Heritage Officer also spoke at the National Heritage Ireland 2030 Conference in Dublin on 28 May, 2019.

Investment in the County's heritage remained strong over the course of 2019 and a range of different projects and national initiatives were also supported, from National Tree Week in April to National Biodiversity Week in May. Cork County Council also worked with the Irish Walled Town Network in relation to a variety of projects (Cork's member towns being Bandon, Buttevant and Youghal) and the Council's Architectural Conservation Officer, supported by team members in the Heritage Unit, oversaw the operation of the Built Heritage Investment Scheme and Historic Structures Fund in the County.

The County Archaeologist led a project resulting in Heritage Maps for a number of historic towns within the County and the Heritage Unit continued its work on the County Cork School Garden's Competition with Muintir na Tíre; continued the promotion and sales of the Heritage of County Cork Publication Series and continued its support of the National Tidy Towns Pollinator Award. The Council's Heritage Unit has supported this award since inception and in April 2019, with Cork City Council, hosted the Annual All-Ireland Pollinator Conference, which was a great success.

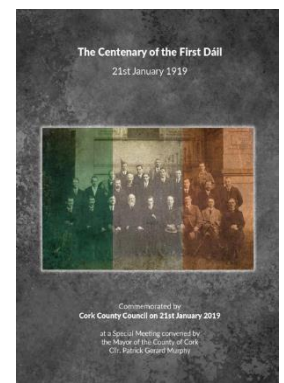
In relation to heritage events, 2019 saw CCC's Heritage Unit promote over 300 events, which included 162 Heritage Week events in over 50 locations throughout the County. Events are promoted via an annual Heritage Week Leaflet and all other events are promoted online (with said website updated regularly) and via a regular mailing list update with over 1,700 recipients. Further promotion of heritage in the County was by way of participation in the Celebrating Cork Past Exhibition in the City Hall on September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

2019 also saw the continued involvement of the Heritage Unit with numerous sections of Cork County Council including Economic Development, Corporate Services, Tourism, Architects, Roads and Engineering and the Heritage Unit also had staff feature on TG4 and Raidió na Gaeltachta, promoting widely the heritage of County Cork. The Heritage Unit also plays a strong role at community level and works closely with a range of key stakeholders to ensure that heritage is being protected, promoted and enhanced on the ground at the local level.

With regard to the Heritage Officer Programme, 2019 was a landmark year, when 20 years of the role was recognised by Uachtarán Michael D. Higgins at Áras an Uachtaráin in September 2019, a wonderful day which also had the Chief Executive and staff of the Heritage Council present, together with colleagues from the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and Heritage Officers from across the country.

## Commemorations

Commemorations in the County of Cork were recognised on the National Level in 2018 with the winning of Best Community Initiative at the 2018 LAMA & IPB Community and Council Awards. 2019 Commemorations maintained a high standard, in particular due to



the hard-work of the Council's Commemorations Committee. Throughout the year over 20 different projects and initiatives were undertaken and supported including Cork County Council's first official meeting in Irish marking the Centenary of the First Dáil, and a national exhibition 'Dáil - Céad Bhliain', hosted in County Hall in summer 2019.

### Historic Monuments Advisory Committee

Cork County Council's Historic Monuments Advisory Committee had a busy 2019 with the holding of excellent workshops to advise groups and practitioners on good practice with regard to the cleaning of monuments. In addition, directional signage and a number of information boards were undertaken for a variety of historic sites in Cork County Council's ownership. An extensive work programme has been developed for 2020 and it is a year to look forward to.

### Creative Ireland

The Creative Ireland Initiative has been positively received in County Cork since its inception in 2017 and 2019 saw the further growth of the Initiative, one example being a 57% increase in the number of applications received under the Creative Ireland County Cork Grant Scheme, compared with 2018 levels. The Grant Scheme saw 62 different projects supported and further endeavours were supported through the Creative Ireland County Cork Pop-up Shop Scheme – a Scheme which won best initiative in the 'Supporting Active Communities' Category at the Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards - using the excellent work of the Blackwater Valley Makers in Fermoy as the case in point.

As well as continued roll-out of actions contained in the County's Culture and Creativity Strategy and the hosting of the third Creative Ireland County Cork Conference (October 17<sup>th</sup> in Mallow) many further initiatives were developed such as commencement of work on a database of Cultural Sites and Organisations/Groups in the County (a project being developed in the main with thanks to Service Republic and the Arts Office).

Such cross-collaborative work is a hallmark of Creative Ireland and the Council's Culture Team, with the particular support of the County Library and Arts Service, also organised a most successful Cruinniú na nÓg on June 15<sup>th</sup> 2019, seeing an increase in the number of events by 44% on 2018 levels, engaging with over 800 children on the day, from Bere Island to Newmarket. The Culture Team, together with the Council's Age Friendly Officer and the HSE and Muintir na Tíre, also supported the development of a Cultural Companions Programme to encourage and facilitate cultural participation and enjoyment by all ages. For 2020, given the growth of the Creative Ireland Programme within the County, it is anticipated that Creative Irelands projects in County Cork will continue to receive a high level of support - important to meet with the ever growing interest and *meas* in the Creative Ireland Programme.

### Traffic and Transport

The following tasks were undertaken by the Traffic and Transportation Section in 2019:

- Project Management of National Transport Authority funded schemes including:
  - Bus shelter upgrade and installation programme;
  - Bus Stop installation Kinsale Car Park
  - South Douglas Rd to Tramore Valley Park Ped/Cycle path
  - Strategic Cycle Corridors (Bury's Bridge to Carrigtwohill; Ballinacurra – Midleton; Carrigaline to Ringaskiddy)
  - Multiple localised pedestrian enhancement schemes and junction interventions
- Pedestrian enhancement works on Donnybrook Hill.
- Part 8 approval for Bóthar Guidel Upgrade and Junction Improvements
- Management and coordination of Bike Week 2018 for school, club and community events across the county
- Completion of vehicular capacity improvements on Little Island bridge.
- Reporting on large scale planning applications and subsequent post-planning engagement including Mobility Management Planning and compliance issues



- Installation of Traffic Signals at Inniscarra Bridge.
- Waterrock to Midleton pedestrian and cycle connectivity (URDF funded).
- Procurement of Consultants for Carrigaline TPREP
- Procurement of Consultants for public transport and pedestrian/cycle interventions on Little Island.

## Planning Policy Unit (PPU)

The Planning Policy Unit is responsible for the preparation of strategic land use planning policies across County Cork and supporting their subsequent implementation. The staff of the Planning Policy Unit is involved in undertaking research and data analysis on a range of planning and socioeconomic issues to inform the preparation of the Cork County Development Plan, Municipal District Local Area Plans, and in response to new national and regional policy initiatives and guidelines. The PPU also provides data for use by other sections of the Planning Department and the Council.

## National and Regional Policy

The PPU contributed to the preparation of National and Regional Statutory Planning documents including; **The National Planning Framework** sets out the strategic planning and land use vision for Ireland to 2040. The Planning Policy Unit prepared submissions on behalf of the Council to ensure that the NPF recognised the importance of County Cork and these submissions were successful in terms of ensuring a positive outcome for the County.

The **Southern Regional Assembly's Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES)** including the Cork Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan (MASP) is expected to be adopted in January 2020. The PPU contributed to a series of workshops and continue to influence the preparation of the Strategy through the preparation of submissions on behalf of Cork County Council to the process.

## Review of the Cork County Development Plan

The County Development Plan 2014 sets out the Council's overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of County Cork to 2020.

Preparatory work on the Review of the Development Plan commenced in late 2017. In 2019 the PPU continued to work on the preparation of a CDP Review Public Consultation Document and series of significant background documents/studies relating to the County Development Plan (CDP) Review including:

- Approach to County development Plan Review.
- Population and Housing.
- Rural Housing.
- Settlements and Placemaking.
- Urban Capacity Study.
- Economy and Employment.
- Water Services.
- Transport and Mobility.
- Energy.
- Built Heritage.
- SEA Scoping Report

## Variation No.2 to the Cork County Development Plan, 2014 (Retail Outlet Centres)

The Council prepared a Proposed Variation of the County Development Plan to include strategic policy support for the consideration of retail outlet centres proposals in the East Cork Corridor. Work included the delivery of a Retail Outlet Centre Study prepared by consultants which was used as a background supporting document to the proposed Variation.

The proposed Variation No.2 was published for 4 weeks public consultation and 44 submissions were received. A Section 13 CE Report was prepared summarising the key issues raised in the submissions and the report was presented to elected members for their consideration on the 20<sup>th</sup> of December 2019.



## Active Land Management

The PPU continued to carry out Active Land Management on our residentially zoned land supply through a number of initiatives including:

- Vacant Sites Register- Continued to maintain register and carry out background work with a view to adding additional entry's in 2020. Sent out request
- Background Statistical and Other Analysis
- Finalised Draft Housing Land Availability Study in August 2019. This provides a detailed analysis of all residentially zoned sites in the County identified in the MD LAPs 2017 and 9 former Town Council Town Development Plans. HLAS includes all infrastructure data available for each site.
- Under ALM continued work to identify all landowners of residentially zoned land in the County.

## Ecological/Environmental Matters

The Ecology Office continued to provide ecological support to all the many departments of the County Council. Staff are involved in the assessment of live planning applications, provision of pre-planning advice, reviewing compliance submissions and advising/reporting on enforcement cases for the Development Management section of the Planning Department. They provide ecological reporting services, and ecological advice for the planning policy section, and advise on ecological issues and environmental legislation for other sections of the organisation, including in particular advising on Local Authority projects/developments such as the greenways, flood relief works and coastal protection projects. The Planning Policy Unit continued to assess the data emerging from the commissioning of Habitat Mapping for all the Main Towns in County Cork in 2018. The Habitat Mapping will support the preparation of the new County Development Plan as well as other plans.

## Harper's Island

The Harper's Island Wetland Centre is a Cork County Council owned island in Cork Harbour which is being managed for nature conservation and as an educational resource and recreational amenity. Funding was awarded via the National Biodiversity Action Plan for a number of projects on Harpers Island in 2019. The funding has facilitated the carrying out habitat enhancement works, and the preparation of a Hydrological Study and a Conservation Management plan for the island. A nature trail has been developed along with the provision of further nature education facilities on the island. Harpers Island is managed via a Steering Group comprising of representatives from Cork County Council, BirdWatch Ireland (Cork Branch), Glounthaune Tidy Towns, Glounthaune Men's Shed, Glounthaune Community Association, and the National Parks and Wildlife Service. The Ecology Office of the PPU provides ongoing support to the Steering Group for Harpers Island.

## Draft Cork Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy (Draft CMATS)

The Planning Policy Unit worked closely with other Stakeholders such as the Councils Transportation Section, National Transport Authority, Transport Infrastructure Ireland, and Cork City Council to help finalise the Draft CMATS to ensure that it will provide sustainable transport solution for the planned development of Metropolitan Cork up to 2040.





## 12. Fire & Building Control

On the 31<sup>st</sup> May both operational and administration staff from the Fire and Building Control Section of Cork County Council transferred to Cork City Council under the terms of the extension to the boundary of Cork City. Ballincollig Fire Station and its crew transferred to Cork City as well as some administration staff from Fire Service Headquarters.

The County continues to be served by 20 Fire Stations – Mallow, Millstreet, Kanturk, Charleville, Fermoy, Mitchelstown, Midleton, Cobh, Youghal, Bandon, Macroom, Kinsale, Carrigaline, Crosshaven, Bantry, Castletownbere, Schull, Skibbereen, Dunmanway and Clonakilty.

### Fire Service Operations



2 New Water Carriers delivered in June 2019 to be based in Bantry and Bandon Fire Stations

<b>Total number of turnouts to Fires in 2019</b>	<b>1053</b>
Average of turnout times	04:54
Average of response times	13:24
% of calls with a response time of less than 10 minutes	40.83%
% of calls with a response time of between 10 and 20 minutes	45.71%
% of calls with a response time greater than 20 minutes	13.46%

<b>Total number of turnouts to Non-Fire Emergencies in 2019</b>	<b>804</b>
Average of turnout times	05:06
Average of response times	13:50
% of calls with a response time of less than 10 minutes	33.47%
% of calls with a response time of between 10 and 20 minutes	53.91%
% of calls with a response time greater than 20 minutes	12.62%

A comprehensive training programme is undertaken by the Fire Department each year. The following is a summary of training courses organised in 2019:

- QQI Recruit Fire Fighter Skills
- Breathing Apparatus Wearers
- Water Awareness
- Flood First Responder Training
- Fall Arrest Training
- Hazardous Materials



- Pump Operator
- Pump Maintenance
- Breathing Apparatus Equipment Maintenance
- Occupational First Aid
- Medical First Responder
- Road Traffic Collisions
- Heavy Goods Vehicle Rescue Techniques
- Hiab Crane
- Emergency Services Driving
- Sub-Officer course
- Station-Officer course
- Fire Services Instructor
- Tetra Communications training
- Abrasive Wheels Course
- Officer Command Development Courses
- Incident Commander Certificate of Professional Competency (CPC) Course
- CPC Wearers Course
- CAFS Training

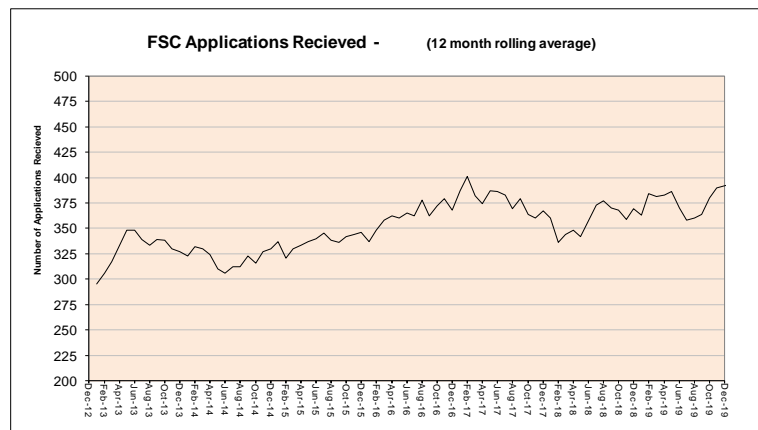
In 2019, we completed our first QQI Recruit Fire Fighting Skills Course and Using Breathing Apparatus (Initial Wearers) Course; these are the first 2 modules of a 5 module QQI Level 6 qualification. The Recruit Fire Fighting Skills Course took place in Bandon Fire Station and the Using Breathing Apparatus (Initial Wearers) Course took place in Clonmel Fire Station.

In July, contracts were signed for the construction of a new fire station in Kanturk, with Cork based company HG Construction (Irl) Ltd. At a cost of €1.5 million the build will be funded by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government. This new fire station will be built on a fit-for-purpose, 1.4 acre, council-owned site at Percival Street and will provide significantly improved access and facilities for Kanturk fire services. Construction has commenced and the works are expected to take 12 months to complete.

## Fire Prevention

The following table shows the number of Fire Safety Certificate (FSC) applications received and granted in 2019:

Month	FSC Recieved	FSC Decided
Jan-19	21	27
Feb-19	44	31
Mar-19	30	29
Apr-19	29	28
May-19	42	35
Jun-19	27	27
Jul-19	33	26
Aug-19	30	28
Sep-19	32	30
Oct-19	36	19
Nov-19	33	26
Dec-19	35	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>328</b>

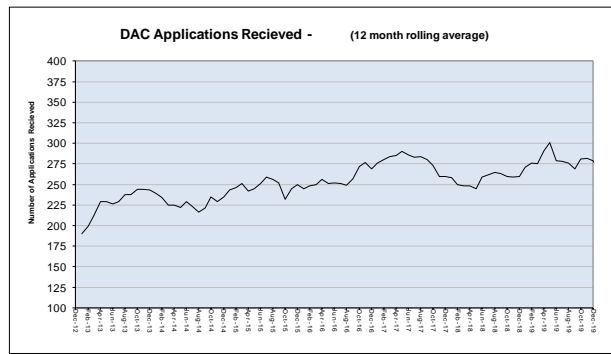


## Disability Access Certificates

The following table shows the number of Disability Access Certificate (DAC) applications received and granted in 2019:



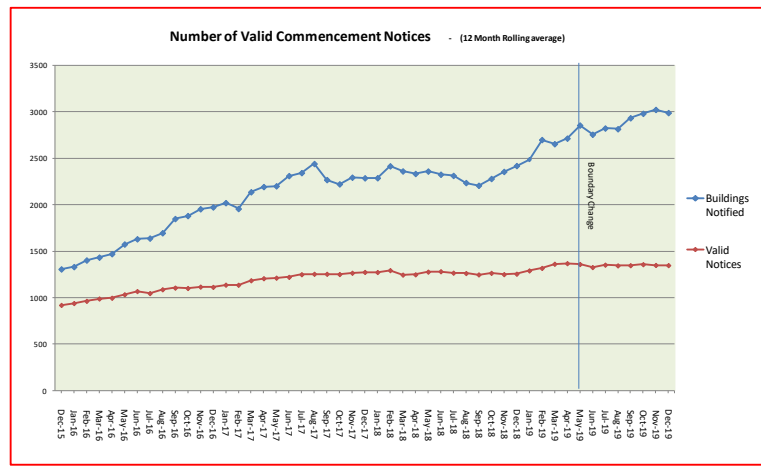
Month	DAC Recieved	DAC Decided
Mar-19	20	22
Apr-19	38	15
May-19	34	33
Jun-19	15	30
Jul-19	25	21
Aug-19	20	17
Sep-19	13	28
Oct-19	27	22
Nov-19	18	13
Dec-19	17	7
Total	279	243



## Building Control

The following table shows the number of valid commencement notice and 7 day notice submissions received in 2019:

Month	Notices Made Valid
January	128
February	137
March	133
April	126
May	137
June	101
July	138
August	104
Sept	93
October	123
November	73
December	55
Total	1,348



## Community Fire Safety

Fire Safety Week was from 7<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> October 2019, the theme of Fire Safety Week was 'Safer Together'. Each of the 20 Stations in the county carried out 2 days of fire safety activities during the week.

In 2019, we continued with the Community Smoke Alarm Scheme with the support of the National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management we purchased 1,054 smoke alarms. These were distributed to elderly and vulnerable residents in the county with the support of community groups and organisations.

In conjunction with the Housing Directorate, the Council's Community Fire Safety Officers undertook a programme of revisiting Traveller Halting Sites in 2019.

During 2019, Cork County Fire Service again delivered a Primary Schools and a Secondary Schools Fire Safety Program, this program involves visits and demonstrations to schools. The visits are very successful as they allow the Fire Department to convey the fire safety in the home message through the children into the home environment.

The Mayor of Cork County Council was on hand to launch the 'Buddy Bear' initiative with members of Cork County Fire Service in Millstreet Fire Station in December 2019. These teddy bears, Buddy Bears, are to help children that are involved in or are witness to traumatic emergency situations. The purpose of the bears is primarily to reduce the suffering of children at incidents and to help children cope with the stresses that they feel from their involvement in a traumatic event. All frontline appliances in Cork County will carry the Buddy Bears.





The Fire Department again increased the number of followers on its Facebook site in 2019. This will again be further developed in 2019 and social media will continue to be used to deliver the fire safety message.

The following is a summary of Community Fire Safety activities which were undertaken in 2019:

- Fire Safety Talks to Community Alert Groups and other Community Groups
- Fire Safety Talks to Primary School students and Community Groups
- Fire Safety Talks to Second Level Students
- Road Traffic Collision demonstrations for transition year classes
- Fire Safety Awareness stands at various community shows, agricultural shows, regattas and festivals
- Fire Safety Awareness stand at the Cork Summer Show
- Chip Pan Fire demonstrations
- Presentation to visitors of Day Care Centres
- Inspection of Halting Sites

## Major Emergency Management

The Councils Major Emergency Management Committee (MEMC) met quarterly throughout 2019 revising and updating our Major Emergency Plan and associated Sub-Plans.

### Severe Weather Assessment Team (SWAT)

The SWAT held regular teleconferences in relation to all Met Éireann Weather Warnings including Storm Sebastian and Storm Atiyah.



## Major Emergency Plan & Sub-Plans

The Major Emergency Plan was revised and re-issued in December 2019 with updates to the following Sub-Plans:

- The Severe Weather Plan
- The Flood Emergency Response Plan





## SEVESO Programme 2019

External Emergency Plans were issued for public consultation, revised and updated and exercises held for the following establishments:

- IDL Midleton - April 2019
- Flogas Tivoli - April 2019
- Novartis Ringaskiddy - June 2019
- Pfizer Ringaskiddy - October 2019



Novartis Exercise  
June 2019

## Civil Defence

The primary role of Civil Defence is to provide 2<sup>nd</sup> line emergency response to the Principal Response Agencies (PRAs) in the areas of severe weather and flood response, missing person search, communications and voluntary emergency ambulance capability. Volunteers are professionally trained in a wide variety of skills. Training exercises are regularly undertaken with the PRAs and other Voluntary Emergency Services to maintain a high level of readiness and to streamline procedures.



Cork County Civil Defence Units were tasked with a number of missing persons searches in 2019. These searches were co-ordinated by the Gardaí and heavily supported by the civil defence expertise in Drone and high level mapping.

Throughout 2019 Civil Defence also provided a range of supports such as Ambulance and First Aid cover and Safety Boat duties to various sporting and charitable organisations. This capability provides a vital service to local communities in County Cork.





## 13. Economic Development, Enterprise & Tourism

### Community

The following programmes were overseen and approved by the 3 No. Cork County Council LCDs (North/South/West Cork) during 2019:

#### (a) Rural Development Programme 2014 – 2020:

Operated by 3 LCDs /LAG Committees in co-operation with 6 Local Development Companies:

- Avondhu/Blackwater Partnership, IRD Duhallow, SECAD Partnership, Ballyhoura Development, Comhar na nOileán and Udarás na Gaeltachta.
- Total of 159 No. Approved Projects, value €7.5M.
- Claims Drawn down, 44 No. Projects, value €1,626,160
- Under LEADER Food Initiative (separate national allocation of €5M), total of 14 projects approved, value €726,944 with potential job creation of up to 45 new employment opportunities.
- Under Transnational/Co-operation Programme, (separate national allocation of €10M), total of 10 projects approved, value €395,256k
- Three LEADER websites available to view: [www.leadernorthcork.com](http://www.leadernorthcork.com); [www.leadersouthcork.com](http://www.leadersouthcork.com); [www.leaderwestcork.com](http://www.leaderwestcork.com).

#### (b) SICAP Programme 2018 – 2022:

Operated by 3 LCDs.

- Value of current programme €11,538,864, tenders awarded to 6 companies, Avondhu Blackwater Partnership; IRD Duhallow; SECAD Partnership; Ballyhoura Development; West Cork Development Partnership; Comhar na nOileán.
- Mid Term and End of Year Reviews carried out and approved by 3 LCDs including approval of Annual Plans at start of 2019.

#### (c) Grant Schemes:

- Community Enhancement Programme, total of 127 grants issued throughout the County, value €160,762, plus an allocation €1,600 to each of 17 Affiliated Men's Sheds and 1 No. Women's Shed, total value €28,796.
- Community Development Initiative, total of 420 applications received with a total of 187 projects approved, Value €1.5M
- National Community Weekend 'The Big Hello', took place over May Bank Holiday Weekend, total fund €10k, in conjunction with the GAA Healthy Clubs initiative, total of €2,500 given to 4 No. successful Clubs.
- Healthy Ireland Fund, applied for under three LCDs, grant allocation of €222,650 received under Round 2 up to June 2019, eight countywide actions identified. One of the highlights under the Programme in 2018 was the 'Teen Talk' event which consisted of a Health & Wellbeing Workshop for over 1,200 Transition Year students over three events.  
Round 3 allocation consists of €422,050k which covers a two year period, July 2019 – June 2021, eight countywide actions under nine designated themes identified and approved by the three LCD committees in September, 2019 with final approval from Pobal received in December, 2019.

#### (d) Local Economic Community Plan (LECP):

This is a statutory Plan that takes into account national & regional plans and sets out high level goals, objectives and actions required to promote and support local economic & community development within Cork County. There are 30 key social and economic assets identified in the Plan which were identified via consultation with a wide range of stakeholders through consultation with residents through the Cork County Quality of Life Survey and via a review of national policies. A report on the internal review of the Plan was presented to the three LCDs in 2018 which outlined the progress to date. The LECP will be revised as national and regional policies change and are updated. Due to the delay in the drafting of the Southern Regional Spatial Strategy the Department of Rural & Community Development advised local authorities to halt any reviews until further guidance would issue from the Dept. As a result of this delay, there was no major expenditure incurred during 2019.



## Comhairle Na nÓg

- 13 No. meetings held throughout the year including two regional meetings. Annual AGM held in November 2019 with 21 secondary schools in attendance and 55 members enrolling.
- 2 No. Steering Group meetings held in 2019 with an expanded membership.
- The Comhairle was represented at 4 National and Regional Coordinators meetings and 8 National Executive meetings
- The Comhairle's theme for 2019 and 2020 is Building Resilience around Stress and Pressure in Young People. They also worked on the national theme of Taking Action for Climate Justice and participated in specially arranged events, facilitated by Department of Foreign Affairs that included Ireland's Mission to the UN.
- 13 members attended Dáil na nÓg in November
- The work of the Comhairle was presented at three LCDC meetings in February and the Creative Ireland Conference in October 2019, the Comhairle also had an information stand at the Cork Summer Show.

## PPN

- New Secretariat formed in November 2019.
- Newsletters circulated to PPN members plus additional information circulated on an ongoing basis.
- On-going networking and collaborating with other agencies, e.g. HSE on the Connecting for Life/Suicide Prevention Strategy, Volunteer Cork, Cork County Smoke Alarm, initiative between Fire Dept & PPN, had a stand at Cork Summer Show in June.
- Participated in Mayor's Awards 2019.
- National PPN Conference held in Carlow in October.

## Enterprise Development Infrastructure

Cork County Council provides a range of property options, including land, sites, units and hot desking, across the County to support economic development initiatives for existing and emerging enterprises. 2019 saw a further increase in interest in these options following the economic crisis of the previous 7-10 years with a number of sales completed and construction completed. Units for rent have also seen close to full occupancy.

The food incubation kitchens in Carrigaline, CIK, where fully equipped food grade commercial kitchen space can be rented by the hour continue to provide a cheap and state of the art facility for food enterprises wishing to expand. They have increasingly been used for training, R&D, filming and demonstrations adding significantly to the enterprise infrastructure of the County. The spin out food enterprises from CIK in 2018, a good indicator of success, largely continue to flourish. The tender process for the ongoing management of CIK was completed during 2018 with the new contract in place from January 2019 continuing the excellent management and support structures for the users of the facility throughout the year.

Cork County Council provides Hot Desking facilities, own door offices and training/meeting rooms in our E-Centres throughout the County. The Council supports the E Centre project both through direct provision in Bantry, Fermoy Youghal and Macroom and in conjunction with community organisations and the private sector in other centres across the County.

## Cork County Council Local Enterprise Offices: North, West & South Cork

### Outputs 2019

Cork County Council's two Local Enterprise Offices produced another year of significant support to the micro-business community in County Cork.

The year delivered €1.49m of grant assistance to the County's micro-business sector across 76 projects. This resulted in an employment increase of 237 jobs in LEO supported enterprises in County Cork.



Over 150 Training Programmes gave new skills to 2,376 participants and a further 1,279 individuals and enterprises received some form of mentoring assistance. To encourage the use of on-line trading and e-commerce 77 businesses benefited from financial assistance in the form of website grants.



## Agri-Tech

Agriculture and Agri-Tech are significant sectors for County Cork and ones in which this region enjoys significant competitive advantages.

During 2019 Cork County Council, through its Local Enterprise Offices was involved in a number of initiatives:

1. In March 2019 the first of what will be an annual series of Agri-Tech conferences and events was hosted as part of Local Enterprise Week. Over 140 attended this opening seminar, held at the Fota Island Resort, on the theme of “AgTech – The future of Sustainable Agricultural Business”.
2. Engagement has commenced with a number of stakeholders including Teagasc, the Tyndall Institute and Vista Milk to explore and leverage opportunities in Agri-Tech research and applications.
3. In November 2019, a number of Co. Cork Agri-Tech enterprises were offered the opportunity to visit the Agri-Technica Expo in Germany to learn about the emerging trends in Agriculture and Agri-Tech and to explore sales opportunities for Cork-made technology on the world stage.

## Client Portfolio Programme Business Specialist Initiative

Over a planned 18-week period between September and December 2019, 1,200 hours of face-to-face meetings involving 11 mentors, 67 clients and 18 hours per client, led us to having one of the most comprehensive diagnostics of Measure 1 clients ever undertaken by any LEO. In addition, an estimated 500 hours were invested in the administration and coordination of the project by Consultants and LEO staff.

The objective of the programme was to identify the main challenges that these businesses are facing both in the current Brexit climate and in the wider economic and competitive environment, and provide solutions to implement over a short window and also identify longer term options to help these clients grow their business.

Programme Aim:

- Minimise the impact of BREXIT, examine client readiness, and give guidance to BREXIT supports
- To enthusiastically engage LEO clients with the prospect of bringing real gain and benefit to their business
- To proactively identify the key challenges/constraints facing client businesses
- To provide solutions/options for LEO clients to grow their business in the short and medium term
- To effectively manage the implementation of solutions for each client, customised to their individual needs



- To deliver a meaningful impact on each client's business growth under the course of the programme
- To put in place a base for future growth for each client, after the programme finishes
- To have effective and sustained engagement with their respective LEO for each client as a result of their participation on the programme

## Tourism Capital Projects

These clients generate approximately €19 million in Republic of Ireland sales, plus €1 million to Northern Ireland/UK plus over €5 million to the rest of the world. These account for 362 jobs.

- **Dursey Island Cable Car & Visitor Centre Development**
  - Completed & signed off Options Report & advanced project to planning stage, including completion of all necessary habitat/ecology surveys.
  - Submitted Planning Application, including EIAR & NIS, to An Bord Pleanála on 12/09/2019. Decision due on 27/04/2020.
  - Submitted Foreshore Application to DHPLG on 11/10/2019.
  - Submitted CPO Application to An Bord Pleanála on 22/10/2019.
  - On-dialogue with Fáilte Ireland with respect to design concepts and future application for grant funding.
- **Platforms for Growth - Fáilte Ireland Grant Scheme**
  - Submitted five projects on the 07/08/2019 for consideration under the Platforms for Growth programme. Camden Fort Meagher was successful in progressing to Stage 3 of the Application process and works are currently on-going to complete this application by June 2020.
- **Destination Towns - Fáilte Ireland Grant Scheme**
  - Submitted two towns on the 19/09/2019 for consideration under the Destination Town initiative. Bantry was successful in obtaining funding of €500,000 from Fáilte Ireland.

## Tourism

### Growing Tourism in Cork – A Collective Strategy - Visit Cork

Further to the establishment of the Local Authorities Tourism Strategy Steering Group and subsequent launch of 'Growing Tourism in Cork – A Collective Strategy (2016)', the Tourism Section have continued to lead Cork County Council's role in supporting the operation of Visit Cork in conjunction with Cork City Council in the promotion of the Cork proposition.

### Fáilte Ireland

**Wild Atlantic Way:** Currently working with Fáilte Ireland in the development of the Three Heads & West Cork Maritime Coast Visitor Experience Development Plans (VEDPs). Updates include:

- Final draft prepared of **Three Heads VEDP** and Implementation Group has been established, with Environmental Impact Assessment to follow
- Initial draft of **West Cork Maritime Coast VEDP** (covering the area from Kinsale-Ballydehob) is expected in Q1, 2020, with Cork County Council to lead a number of actions

**Ireland's Ancient East:** Continued to work with the Ireland's Ancient East team, as required.

**St. Mary's Collegiate Church, Youghal:** YSEDG & East Cork Municipal District continue to work with Fáilte Ireland to deliver the 'Voices of St. Marys' Project by Q4, 2020.

### Fáilte Ireland Capital Grants Scheme for Large Scale Tourism Projects

**Dursey Island:** Design consultants Roughan & O'Donovan were appointed as lead consultants in August, 2019 to bring the project to completion of design stage with financial assistance from Fáilte Ireland. The proposed development will consist of two independently operated cable cars, support pylons, a mainland-side drive station building and an island-side return station building, shelter & toilet facilities on the island, a visitor centre and toilet block on the mainland and improved parking facilities for 100 cars. A decision on the planning and CPO application (submitted October 2019) is expected in Q2 2020 and following approval, detailed design and preparation of the construction tender package will be completed. A second grant application, to advance the



project to Project Delivery Phase will be submitted to Fáilte Ireland on receipt of all necessary statutory consents.

**Fáilte Ireland Platforms for Growth Investment Programme:** 5 Projects were submitted for consideration as follows under the Fáilte Ireland Platforms for Growth Immersive Heritage & Culture programme as follows:

1. Spike Island
2. Camden Fort Meagher
3. Mallow Castle
4. Maritime Museum Youghal
5. Former Roycroft Building, Skibbereen – Further development of the Famine Story

The Camden Fort Meagher application has been successful in progressing to the next stage 3 of 5 with funding not guaranteed at this stage.

**Fáilte Ireland Tourism Destination Towns Funding Programme:** Submissions were made for 2 towns under the Fáilte Ireland Destination Towns funding initiative in September, 2019 as follows:

- Youghal
- Bantry

It was announced in December 2019 that the Bantry application was successful. The funding will facilitate the delivery of new public realm works to provide improved way-finding to Wolfe Tone Square and Bantry Tourist Office, along with improved story-telling signage, up-lighting and seating around and leading to the main square.

## Tourism Infrastructure Update

**Beara Bridle Way Trail:** Phases 1 and 2 have been completed with REDZ funding in the sum of €102,500.

**Michael Collins Trail:** Developed by Cork County Council & supported by West Cork, Bandon/Kinsale & Macroom MDs, Consultants RPS have completed all design works. Drafting of Tender Documents has commenced and it is expected that works will be undertaken during Q2, 2020 and completed by Q3.

**Kinsale Museum -** Necessary remedial works to the windows of the Kinsale Museum were completed this year. The downstairs exhibits were also upgraded and a new audiovisual display for the Battle of Kinsale installed. In total €80,000 was invested in 2019.

**Skibbereen Heritage Centre:** The CCC owned and managed attraction was awarded ‘Best Tourism Experience’ in the West Cork Business and Tourism Awards in November, 2019.

**Sam Maguire Trail/Passport Initiative:** The Sam Maguire Trail and Passport initiative was completed and launched in Q3, 2019 by Dunmanway Tourism Group, with support from Cork County Council.

**North Cork Heritage Trails:** Development of a Heritage Trail in North Cork is currently in the early stages of development in conjunction with the Municipal District, Heritage Unit, County Archaeologist and Fáilte Ireland.

**Mallow Castle:** Cork County Council has procured consultants to prepare an overall scheme design for Mallow Castle Demesne, Mallow Town Park and Spa House. The works will be designed and delivered in a phased manner. One of the major components of the plan is to improve access between Mallow Town Centre, Mallow Castle, Spa House and Mallow Town Park. The contracts include a full detailed design Part VIII application together with part initial early delivery and construction commencing in Q3/Q4 2020.

**North Cork Blueway Feasibility Study:** Cork County Council engaged the services of an expert in the area of Blueway development to undertake a feasibility assessment for the delivery of a Blueway on the Blackwater. This is now complete and has provided confirmation regarding the suitability of the Blackwater for such development.

**Spike Island:** A new ferry “Spike Island” began operating in April, 2019 which has a 126 seat capacity. They will also run the previous 80 seat vessel during the period June - August to ensure demand is met. A new wheelchair accessible Pontoon is also now in full operation, allowing wheelchair and buggy users roll on access to the Spike Island vessels. Spike Island was named ‘Best Attraction’ at the International Travel and Tourism Awards in London in November 2019.

**Camden Fort Meagher:** It is the ambition of Cork County Council to develop Camden Fort Meagher into a heritage, leisure, tourism and business destination. Camden Fort Meagher has progressed to stage 3 of the





Fáilte Ireland 'Platforms for Growth' funding stream, with the final application due end of Q2, 2020.

**Cork Harbour Greenway:** Preparation of Tender documents commenced with a view to seeking tenders from consultants for route option assessment. The project will be progressed further in 2020 in conjunction with the National Transport Authority

**Midleton to Youghal Greenway:** €8 million in funding was secured from the Dept. of Transport, Tourism & Sport. Cork County Council have committed to funding the balance of the cost of construction. It is anticipated the build will be completed by Q2, 2021.

**Youghal to 2020:** Youghal to 2020 has been updated to reflect the progression of significant projects. Its title has been amended to reflect longer term goals. 'Youghal – A heritage-led vision to the next decade' is a clear statement of intention to re-invigorate the Town of Youghal, restore its vibrancy, promote and protect our heritage and safeguard its future for generations to come.

**Youghal Lighthouse:** A successful application was submitted under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme for funding to develop the lighthouse as a visitor attraction. Subsequently a project was undertaken to open up the Lighthouse courtyard to visitors, develop a viewing area and tell the story of its past. This project is now completed.

**Youghal Clock Gate Tower:** A new premises for admin staff and sales staff has been acquired in prominent location on Main Street Youghal to increase visibility of attraction and ticket sales. This is expected to be finalised in Q3 2020.

## Marketing Supports

**Cruise Tourism in West Cork:** The services of a Tourism Consultant continue to be engaged to work on our behalf to encourage additional cruise liners to visit West Cork. There were 12 Cruise Calls in West Cork in 2019, with a passenger capacity of 5,500.

**Munster Vales:** Munster Vales is a vibrant tourism destination linking the counties of Cork, Waterford, Tipperary & Limerick and incorporating the Comeraghs, Knockmealdowns, Galtees, Ballyhouras and Nagles mountain ranges. Cork County Council continues to provide financial support to market this brand and in 2019 assisted with the development of the brand's new website and tourism brochure.

**Ironman:** Youghal has been secured as a venue for the world-famous Ironman triathlon from 2019 - 2021 bringing an opportunity to showcase Youghal to a large international audience. The Inaugural Ironman Ireland-Cork tournament took place in June and welcomed 1,067 domestic and 1,603 international athletes, representing an estimated economic value of €7.95 million for area.

**Holiday World Show:** Cork County Council supported the inaugural Pure Cork stand at the Holiday World Show in the RDS in January, 2019. .

**Irish Adventure Association Tourism Conference:** The Irish Adventure Association Tourism Conference took place in Charleville Park Hotel in November. Cork County Council was the Official Event Partner and main sponsor of the conference, in conjunction with Munster Vales and Ballyhoura Development. This event involved delegates attending a familiarisation trip organised by staff of the CCC Tourism Section on Day 1 of the conference to Doneraile Café Townhouse, Doneraile Court & Wildlife Park, Ballyhoura Mountain Bike Trail, Ballyhass Lakes and Longueville House.

**Cork County Council has also provided marketing support to:** Cork Summer Show, Network Ireland Businesswoman of the Year Awards & National Conference, Cork Harbour Islands Brand, Ring of Cork, Youghal Clock Gate Tower, Clonakilty Chamber of Commerce, West Cork Garden Trail, West Cork Islands, Dunmanway Tourism Group, The Lions Club Annual Holiday, Lusitania Museum & Old Head Signal Tower, Doing Business in Kinsale publication, Wild Atlantic Mizen Cycle, and support to a number of Tourist Offices.

## Festivals/Events

The Tourism Section of the Economic Development, Enterprise & Tourism Directorate managed the applications received under the following funding streams which supported in excess of 35 festivals/events to the value of €215,000.

**Economic Development Fund:** 6 large scale festivals/events amounting to a total of €150,000.

**Local Festival Fund** (former Fáilte Ireland Regional Festival Fund): 29 festivals were approved funding amounting to a total of €65,000. A specific online application form & funding criteria was developed for the fund.



**Economic Value of CCC Supported Festivals:** The economic value yielded by Cork County Council supported festivals in 2019 exceeded **€41 million**.

## International Relationships

**USA Partnership Agreements:** Cork County Council continues to cultivate economic development opportunities for Cork in the United States.

**China Partnership Agreements:** Cork County Council continues to develop partnerships with China. There were two FAM visits to the province of Jiangsu and city of Nanjing in February and June 2019. A delegation from Nanjing was welcomed in July 2019 where a Memorandum of Co-operation was signed and the Tourism Section prepared a full day itinerary in Clonakilty for the delegation.

**Tourism Ireland Greening Event in Paris:** Attended by Cork County Council and Visit Cork in March 2019.

**Destination SME EU Interreg Project:** The aim of the project is to improve SME competitiveness in the tourism sector by supporting the implementation of destination management policies. The other partners involved in this initiative are Latvia, France, Finland, Slovenia, Italy and Malta. The lifespan of the project is April 2016 to March 2021. Following identification of the need to host an awareness event in the Destination SMEs Action plan, a **'Tourism Supports – Let's Talk Business'** event aimed at Tourism SMEs was hosted in the Radisson Blu Hotel in Little Island in December, 2019.

## South-West Regional Enterprise Plan

The South-West Regional Enterprise Plan (SWREP) was launched in the Ludgate Hub, Skibbereen on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019. The SWREP was a result of a refresh and refocus of the South-West Regional Action Plan for Jobs which ran from 2015 to the end of 2017.

The SWREP aims to build on the strong progress achieved under the RAPJ initiative towards enhancing the enterprise environment in the South-West. This will be primarily achieved through enhanced and increased collaboration between regional stakeholders resulting in the delivery of more measurable actions.

A new Programme Manager for the SWREP was appointed in September 2019 – funded by the three Local Authorities in the South-West: Cork County Council, Cork City Council and Kerry County Council.

The SWREP contains six high-level Strategic Objectives with specific actions in each of these. The Strategic Objectives aim to bring additionality through collaborative working and co-operation that will complement and add value to the core work of the Local Authorities, the enterprise agencies and other bodies. The Plan is therefore deliberately selective and 'bottom-up' in terms of its strategic objectives and is closely aligned with the core national policies namely Project Ireland 2040, the RSEs, Future Jobs Ireland and Enterprise 2025 renewed.

The six Strategic Objectives are: enterprise resilience and capability; developing digital and enterprise hubs; clustering and internationalisation; the marine and maritime; tourism; and skills and talent.

Notable areas of progress in 2019 include:

- Cluster workshop event run in conjunction with CIT.
- Enterprise Week event on "smart" technology in the region.
- Development of a hubs manager learning network in the region.
- Commissioning of research into underemployment in the tourism sector.
- Commission of research into the impact and potential of new industries with the marine and maritime sector.

Under Call 3 the Regional Enterprise Development Fund (REDF), two projects based in Cork County were successful in their applications:

1. SynBioHub DAC (trading as CorkBioHub) received funding of €3,063,000 to become a 'one-stop-shop' for attracting and retaining early stage life science companies in the South West region.



2. Seirbhísí Forbartha Gnó (SFG) DAC received funding of €2,700,000 to build a new digital hub in the old Colaiste Iosagain site in Ballyvourney.



## 14. Finance

The Finance Department is responsible for the overall financial management of the Council's resources. Its duties include the making of all payments including creditors, payroll, loan repayments, and insurance premiums; income management oversight including the recoupment of government grants and subsidies. It is responsible for the levying and collection of commercial rates, insurance, housing loans debt management, and procurement oversight.

The Department's duties include;

- Work on the preparation and presentation of the Annual Budget (€344m, 2019),
- Three Year Capital Programme (€723m, 2018-2020)
- The Annual Financial Statement
- Maintaining financial records
- Ensuring compliance with statutory financial reports and returns.

In the course of its work, the Finance Department interacts with Members and liaises with other Directorates and Offices on a regular basis. It develops and implements financial policies and structures for Cork County Council and provides support services to the organisation. The main units within Finance include:

- Housing Loans
- Payroll
- Payments
- Insurance
- Procurement
- Financial Accounting
- Management Accounting
- Motor Tax
- NPPR
- Rates & Collection
- Treasury Management

### Commercial Rates

A total of €123.8m was collected in Commercial Rates in 2019 in respect of the circa 15,000 hereditaments in Cork County. Of this sum, €1.3m was ring-fenced for use in the Council's Economic Development Fund. Separately, €1m was ring-fenced for the Council's Town Development Fund, which is designed to facilitate the Municipal Districts in supporting local town development.

Cork County Council is responsible for levying and collecting rates in the former administrative areas of the Town Councils of Clonakilty, Cobh, Fermoy, Kinsale, Macroom, Mallow, Midleton, Skibbereen and Youghal, following their dissolution under the Local Government Reform Act 2014. In accordance with the provisions of the Act, the process of harmonising the Annual Rates on Valuation (ARVs) commenced in 2016 with former Town Council ratepayers transitioning to the overall county ARV of 74.75 on a graduated basis. The final incremental increases will be applied in 2020 and the ARVs will be fully aligned thereafter.

2019 marked the fifth year of a Rate Grant Scheme, which is applicable to all ratepayers (in county areas only) who are tax compliant or have improving accounts and is principally designed to assist SMEs. The grant for eligible accounts was 1% of the 2019 rate charge, subject to a maximum bill of €3,000. The overall cost of the scheme in 2019 was €0.14m.

2019 also marked the year that the Cork City boundary was extended. While the transition of services in the affected area generally occurred mid-year, Cork County Council retained responsibility for the levying and collection of rates, as rating authority, until year end. On foot of the extension circa 3,000 commercial hereditaments were transferred to Cork City Council at 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2019. This equated to circa 20% of the Council's rate base.

### Motor Tax

The Council's Motor Tax section continued to provide both counter and postal services for Cork County and City. In 2019, €23.1m was collected in Motor Tax fees and this income was transferred to central government.



There were 135,270 fiscal transactions completed during 2019 by the Motor Tax Office and a total of 114,661 tax discs were issued. In addition to motor tax renewals, the Motor Tax Office also dealt with related motor taxation issues that cannot currently be transacted online, including trade plates, refunds, exempt vehicles, Garda and Solicitor's enquiries, and trailer registrations.

## Insurance

The Insurance Section maintains and manages the various insurance policies that are in place to ensure that there is sufficient cover for risks arising from the Council's wide range of operations. There are also policies in place for the protection of the assets of Cork County Council.

This section also receives all Public Liability and Employers' Liability claims and works with the Council's insurer, Irish Public Bodies, in dealing with these claims.

## Housing Loans

The Housing Loans Collection Unit (HLCU) oversees the collection of housing loan payments on a range of loan types and works with borrowers who are in difficulty with their mortgage repayments, to bring down their arrears, through the Mortgage Arrears Resolution Process (MARF).

A number of long term resolutions to unsustainable mortgages were delivered during 2019. A total of 24 Shared Ownership loans were restructured, allowing existing borrowers in difficulty to pursue 100% ownership of their homes, acquiring the Rental Equity on their property and setting up repayments at affordable levels. 2019 also saw the first Mortgage to Rent (MTR) cases being finalised, whereby 3 home owners in significant financial difficulties were enabled to stay in their homes by voluntarily transferring ownership to the Local Authority and becoming social housing tenants.

## Procurement

A dedicated Procurement Section, re-established in March 2017, is well advanced in assisting all buyers to develop their procurement skills and provide tools to deliver best value in an increasingly complex and challenging area. Since the re-establishment the team has delivered a comprehensive repository of standard template and guidance documents that meets compliance needs and assists buyers in delivering optimal value through best practice procurement. The procurement governance structure was further developed in 2019 with the establishment of the Procurement Working Group, which includes staff knowledgeable in service delivery and procurement practices, and which will focus on developing strategic initiatives within the procurement strategy.

Throughout 2019, the Procurement Section, in conjunction with the Council's Training Section and Bid Services, successfully delivered Procurement Awareness Training Seminars across the organisation. The Procurement Policy was also updated in 2019, and development commenced on a new 4 year Corporate Procurement Plan 2020-2024 to reflect the growing needs of procurement within the organisation. The Procurement Section will continue to develop corporate procurement governance and carry on delivering training programmes in 2020 that will reinforce and further develop best practice procurement at all levels of the Council.





## Extract from AFS 2019

<b>Extract of Draft AFS 2019:</b>		
<b>Revenue Account</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
Total Expenditure	318,759,099	309,771,946
Total Income	340,395,803	336,403,868
<b>Surplus of year before Transfers</b>	<b>21,636,704</b>	<b>26,631,921</b>
Transfer to Reserves	-21,573,162	-26,586,873
<b>Overall surplus/(deficit) for the YEAR</b>	<b>63,542</b>	<b>45,048</b>
Opening Reserve @ 1 January 2019	7,388,625	7,343,576
Closing Reserve @ 31 December 2019	7,452,166	7,388,624
<b>Statement of Financial Position</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
Fixed Assets	7,290,573,420	8,183,070,649
Work in Progress an Preliminary Expenses	154,559,556	112,648,487
Long-term Debtors	153,552,999	148,592,427
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Stock	558,825	599,167
Trade Debtors and Prepayments	90,705,097	75,055,956
Bank Investments	185,876,481	182,628,887
Cash at Bank	7,756,846	6,701,074
Cash in transit	38,660	52,672
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>284,935,909</b>	<b>265,037,756</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Bank Overdraft	0 -	-
Creditors and Accruals	131,806,004	121,870,459
<b>Net Current Assets</b>	<b>153,129,905</b>	<b>143,167,297</b>
<b>Creditors (Amounts falling due after more than one year)</b>		
Loans Payable	301,747,226	356,563,177
Refundable Deposits	17,444,892	18,516,954
Other	22,453,987	11,304,574
	<b>341,646,105</b>	<b>386,384,705</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>7,410,169,774</b>	<b>8,201,094,155</b>



**Revenue Collection 2019 (per Appendix 7 Unaudited AFS 2019):**

	<b>Commercial Rates</b>	<b>Housing Rents &amp; Annuities</b>	<b>Housing Loans</b>
Total Amount Due	132,871,944	20,183,196	9,222,833
Total Collected	123,284,692	19,661,925	5,956,352
% Collection	93%	97%	65%



## 15. Municipal District Operations & Rural Development

### Municipal Districts

The Municipal District Operations and Rural Development Directorate, was established in 2014 in order to reinforce the role that Municipal Districts would play in serving the citizens of Cork County. The Municipal Districts provide a wide variety of services which include the provision of School Wardens, operation of town parking, litter control, street cleaning, burial ground and playground maintenance. The Municipal Districts are also responsible for the delivery of projects funded through national funding schemes which include the Town and Village Renewal Scheme, Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme and CLÁR. In 2019, the General Municipal Allocation (GMA) fund allowed the continued support of nearly 600 groups which saw the many projects supported categorised under Amenity Grants, Capital Grants and Community Contract Schemes. The directorate is also made up of the Architects Department, Library Service and Arts Service.

#### GMA= €1.7m

Bandon Kinsale	€153,500	Fermoy	€195,500
Carrigaline	€257,500	Kanturk/Mallow	€235,000
Cobh	€208,000	Macroom	€218,735
East Cork	€241,300	West Cork	€200,100

### Capital Fund Scheme

46 Organisations involved

€604,000 spent

Projects included development of playgrounds and development of community facilities.

### Amenity Fund Scheme

379 Groups across all 8 Municipal Districts

€577,935 spent

Projects included the purchase of equipment for clubs/groups and upgrade of community facilities.

### Community Contracts

The Council entered into Community Contract with 138 groups - mainly Tidy Towns

€527,700 spent

These contracts allowed Tidy Towns and community groups to undertake works and small scale projects which enhanced many areas.

### Cork Age Friendly County Programme

The Cork Age Friendly County Programme is led and managed by Cork County Council. Under their guidance, the Cork County Age Friendly Alliance brings together senior leaders from the Gardaí, HSE, transport providers, voluntary organisations, third level institutions, individual leaders and members of Cork County Older People's Council. All of these stakeholders share the vision of improving the quality of life for older people in County Cork.

In partnership with the Age Friendly Alliance, Cork County Older People's Council, chaired by Liz Maddox along with Vice-Chair Liz Downes and PRO Christy Roche, oversee the implementation of the Cork Age Friendly County Strategy and determine the annual programme of age friendly initiatives in the County.

In 2019, a number of Age-Friendly initiatives were successfully progressed, and key age-friendly advocacy events organised. Below is a summary of some of these events:

- Pop up parklets in Cobh, Clonakilty, Fermoy and Mitchelstown
- Participation in Positive Ageing Week
- Mitchelstown Age Friendly Alarms for older people – Pilot Project



- Commencement of Cultural Companions Campaign
- Older People’s Council Celebration held in June in the Walter Raleigh Hotel, Youghal
- Ongoing support to 4 Age Friendly Towns in County Cork - Bandon, Cobh, Mitchelstown and Kinsale
- Ongoing development of Age Friendly Business Programme
- 4 Age Friendly Alliance Meetings
- 4 Older People’s Council Meetings
- Completion of Age Friendly Parking Space Policy and design
- Ongoing promotion of Age Friendly Libraries & Library Activities
- Ongoing promotion of Cork County Council Mobile Library Service
- Presentation of World Health Organisation Age Friendly Certification by An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar
- Participation in Cork Winter Ready Publicity Campaign



L-R: Christy Roche, Older People’s Council PRO;  
Liz Maddox, Older People’s Council Chairperson and  
Liz Downes, Older People’s Council Vice-Chair.



Cork County Age Friendly Housing Design Competition declared the winner in its category at the National Age Friendly Ireland Recognition & Achievement Awards 2019.

## Macroom Municipal District

Following the local elections in June 2019 the boundary for Macroom Municipal District changed with Blarney being removed and the area being expanded to now include Millstreet. Areas such as Kilmichael, Tarelton, Inchigeelagh and Ballinora now come under Macroom MD.

## 2019 Village Enhancement Fund

The 2019 Fund was allocated to Killumney/Ovens and it was agreed to undertake works to clear away an area that has become overgrown and to enhance this area with walkway, planting, benches etc.



## 2019 Paint Scheme

This year the Scheme was offered in Macroom (Railway View, Main Street, The Square and Castle Street) and also in Ballingeary with huge interest in the Scheme. A total of 29 applications have been approved (24 for Macroom + 5 for Ballingeary) with €21,447.38 committed to the Scheme. The approved applications were given 4 months to complete the works.

## 2019 Community Fund

Macroom MD Members allocated €188,000 of funding to various local groups and organizations through the 2019 Community Fund.

## 2019 Town Development Fund

Macroom Municipal District allocated €100,000 to various initiatives in the District. Each year assistance is provided to the Lee Valley Enterprise Board who erect the Christmas lights, run the St. Patrick's Day Parade and organise the annual September Food Festival. Together with these events, assistance was also provided to enhance the Castle Demesne walks, together with the walk in Waterloo Blarney.

## Sports Capital Programme

On 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2019 Minister Ross announced regional allocations under the 2019 Sports Capital Programme. Muskerry Athletic Club was allocated €225,000 for the provision of an indoor sports hall.

## Workshop for Promotion of Tourism Assets of Macroom & Mid-Cork Region

The first of a series of workshops aimed at generating ideas and suggestions for promoting the tourism assets of the Macroom and Mid-Cork Region was held in the Macroom E-Centre in December 2019. Séamus Heaney PureCork participated in this event. Due to its success a number of further workshops are being planned for 2020.

## 2019 Macroom Market Days



Macroom has market trading each Tuesday throughout the year. Also in 2019, the Municipal District hosted the ever popular Christmas Market.

## 'Free Market' Exhibition & Event in Macroom

'Free Market', an architecture exhibition and ongoing research project that explores the importance and possible future of small market towns in Ireland was first launched in Venice in 2018. The Free Market visited four towns throughout Ireland in 2019 with Macroom being one of the chosen towns.

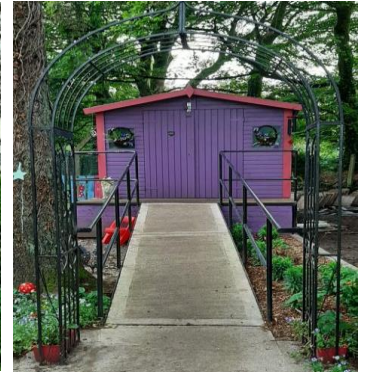
The vital role that marketplaces play in the life of rural communities was celebrated and explored with local communities. Curated by a team of architects and designers, Free Market aimed to reassert the declining rural market square as a public place of social, political and cultural exchange, central to community cohesion. Once the economic and social hubs of rural Ireland, many market squares in towns have seen their functions as a place for exchange and congregation diminished. The aim of the exhibition was to provoke conversation and ideas about the future of towns and to listen and collect information, thoughts, and ideas for towns as they toured.





## Macroom Fairy Garden

Macroom Tidy Towns, assisted by Macroom MD, opened up their Fairy Garden to the public in 2018. Significant works were undertaken to the Fairy Garden during 2019 to enhance the experience for all. A beautiful garden shed was added to the garden which forms a very attractive focal feature, while being an important storage area. The fairy garden has lots of interesting fascinating features that make this a kids' paradise. It has become a very popular picnic area for families and amenity for all ages.

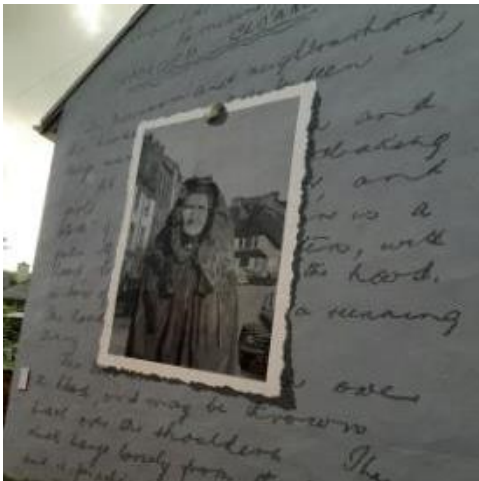


## Murals in Macroom

Cork County Council's Creative Communities Scheme approved a mural project for Macroom. The project concerned two properties in Macroom town, the first at 70 New Street and the second at the entrance to the town park as part of the greater project dealing with historical moments of interest in the life of the town.

The subject matter for the site at New St., is Macroom Castle, a dominant element of the community's history. The source material

is a photograph from the National Library's Lawrence Collection, the completed mural shows Robert French's photograph in an ornate gilded frame on a richly wallpapered background.



The second project is centred around the Hooded Cloak which was widely worn by women in the 19<sup>th</sup> century - black cloth with a hood lined with satin or silk and made in Macroom. The background is a handwritten text from a 1930s' school copybook sourced from the Duchas archive schools collection that describes the cloak in simple terms, written by Sean Ua Conchubhar from Masseytown.

## Carrigaline Municipal District

Following the local elections in May 2019 the boundary for Carrigaline MD changed with Ballincollig being removed and the area being expanded to now include Crosshaven. Areas such as Ballinhassig, Ballygarvan and Minane Bridge now come under Carrigaline MD.

## Carrigaline Exercise Zone

Under the Cork Harbour Greenway capital funding for signage and street furniture, as other items were acquired for under budget, Cork County Council had the opportunity to spend the surplus on the installation of Calisthenics equipment, installed at the start of the Carrigaline to Crosshaven walkway. The funding was allocated in 2018, with works completed in early 2019, at a cost of €29,500.





## Town & Village Renewal

Passage West benefitted from the town and village renewal scheme in 2019, with one of the initiatives being the provision of a pontoon and public toilet and shower facilities, at a cost of approximately €85,000. The new pontoon has made the area accessible to a range of vessels including canoes and kayaks and being directly accessible from the village provides a valuable resource to both residents and visitors to Passage West. Weather conditions towards the end of 2019 hampered efforts to complete the final infrastructural works to the pontoon, which are expected to be completed shortly.

## Town Development Fund

The 2019 Town Development Fund was allocated to a number of projects including St. Patrick's Day supports, Streetscape Paint Scheme, Festival Lights, Public Lighting, footpath works, supports to community and sports groups, and minor town development works. The budget for the fund was €141,000 and allocated as follows:

Category	Amount	Note
St. Patrick's Day Festivals	€14,982.42	
Streetscape Paint Scheme	€10,152.25	
Footpath Works	€34,708.30	Ardcarrig
Lights Ballincollig	€18,185.55	
Festival Lights	€12,347.24	Carrigaline, Douglas, Passage West & Togher
Passage West Creates	€2,500.00	
Equipment	€199.95	Old Cemetery Passage West
Signage	€49.20	Plaque Bealach na hAbhann River Walk
Passage West Maritime Museum	€1,407.58	Maintenance budget in place for 2020
IT	€282.90	Security System SIM Passage West Marina
Kings Island Visit	€185.36	
Public Lighting	€20,000.00	
Area Office	€25,999.25	
	<b>€141,000.00</b>	

## 2019 Village Enhancement Scheme

Approximately €40,000 worth of works were carried out in Ringaskiddy as part of the 2019 Village Enhancement Scheme. The main works carried out as part of this were the improvement of the footpath at Priests Avenue, improvements to the footpath connection between Yarra and Gobby Beach and gateway signage and flashing school warning signs near Ringaskiddy National School.



## Town and Village Renewal Scheme

**Ringaskiddy:** Under the 2019 Town and Village Renewal Scheme €100,000 was allocated to Ringaskiddy. Cork County Council is also working with the Ringaskiddy Residents Association to examine the possibility of leveraging additional funding from SEAI grants via the Energy Hub Cork to supplement this. The allocation will be used to renovate and refurbish the Ringaskiddy Community Centre including works to:

- Improve energy efficiency
- Replace windows
- Improve accessibility
- Upgrade flooring and kitchen facilities

**Crosshaven:** A funding agreement was reached with the Department of Rural and Community Development for the sum of €40,000 to be provided to Cork County Council in respect of an assessment report on the feasibility of the Crosshaven project proposals put forward under the 2019 Town and Village Renewal Scheme. This funding will cover up to 80% of the environmental assessment/feasibility study, and the final product is intended to act as a demonstrator or pilot project towards a universal approach to environmental assessments/feasibility studies carried out under these funding schemes. This report is to be completed by year end 2020.

## Village Renewal Works

**Ringaskiddy:** In 2019 a number of meetings took place to progress plans for further Cork County Council funded village renewal works in Ringaskiddy and plans for the €1m Community Gain Fund arising out of the Port of Cork Planning Permission. Technical surveys have been carried out and MD staff are liaising with Council architects for progress enhancement plans, with further meetings and action planned for 2020.

**Halfway:** On 25<sup>th</sup> October, 2019, Council Officials met with Halfway residents on site to walk through proposed public realm enhancements. The proposed works are to provide for pedestrian connectivity from An Bruach Housing Estate, along the L231 adjoining the Garda Station, the Ramble Inn, Gleann Buí Housing Estate and will finish at the entrance to Casán Dóire Housing Estate.

## Streetscape/Paint Scheme

In 2019, the Paint Scheme was offered in areas of Passage West, Ringaskiddy, and Carrigaline (with transition areas that have since transferred to the Cork City Council - Ballincollig, and Douglas - eligible to apply up until late May 2019). Tenants or owners of buildings were able to avail of grants of up to 50% of the cost of painting street facades, and tenants/owners of buildings in town centres could apply for up to 50% of the cost of replacing signage with 'Heritage Type Signs'. Approved applications were given four months to complete the works to claim payments. 18 applications were approved, with €10,152.25 committed to the scheme.





## Carrigaline to Crosshaven Walkway

Earlier in 2019 public lighting on the Carrigaline to Crosshaven walkway was vandalised and rendered useless. In September 2019 it was agreed by members to reinstate lighting along a section of the walkway. This installation was completed free gratis by a lighting contractor in 2019.

## Carrigaline Community Park Running Track

As of year-end 2019, tender documents for the Carrigaline Running Track project had been published on the e-tender platform. A contractor was subsequently appointed to the project, however ground temperatures of above 12 degrees Celsius are required to install the material of the running track. This has resulted in a delay to the completion of the running track, as the contractor is reliant on improved weather conditions.

## Ballincollig Regional Park

Prior to its transition to Cork City Council in June 2019, Cork County Council worked to complete an extension of Ballincollig Regional Park, incorporating more of the old Gunpowder Mills structures and extending the path on the Eastern end of the park as far as Fionn Laoi estate, connecting the park to nearly 20 acres of planted amenity lands.

## 2019 Capital Fund Scheme

In 2019, there was a total of €102,000 allocated to projects under the capital funds scheme. The scheme, which is available for community groups, sporting and local organisations, is awarded for the purposes of undertaking infrastructural works that will improve the range or quality of facilities within the area.

In 2019, the following allocations were made in respect of this fund:

- €25,000 was allocated to Passage West GAA Club for the purposes of developing an Astro Pitch, with associated fencing and lighting.
- Enable Ireland was awarded €20,000 for the purposes of tiling their pool.
- Monkstown Lawn and Tennis Club was awarded €11,000 for the provision of floodlights for the club.

Prior to the June 2019 boundary change, Cork County Council also awarded funds under this scheme in respect to the following projects:

- Cork Harlequins Hockey and Cricket Club were awarded €14,000 for the renovation of the pitch surface.
- Douglas GAA Club received €14,000 to enable them to carry out works on a walkway and necessary dugouts.
- Douglas Community Association were awarded €18,000 to facilitate the installation of a lift.

## Community Contract Scheme

The Cork County Council Community Contract Scheme is designated for Tidy Towns groups who work with Cork County Council on local works and projects that are designed to enhance the areas where the group is active. Works are generally of the recurring type such as the maintenance of open spaces, litter picking and environmental improvements, but the fund also considers one-off projects that could not be undertaken without additional funding.

In 2019, €83,500 was allocated to Tidy Towns groups across the Ballincollig-Carrigaline/Carrigaline MD. The allocations were made as follows:

- Ballinora/Waterfall Tidy Towns were awarded €7,000, which was put towards works to plant pollinator friendly plants (conforming to the All Ireland Pollinator Plan 2015-2020) and the removal and replacement of trees, addressing safety issues and replacing them with pollinator friendly trees.
- Carrigaline Tidy Towns group was awarded €18,000 in 2019, aimed at facilitating the enhancement of public areas. The proposed works included the installation of signage (a plaque for 1916 garden and directional signage at the community park), enhancement of otter area at Owenabue Bridge, planting of shrubbery beds in People's Park, planting of raised edible and garden beds at Community Complex,



as well as funds for litter picking and general maintenance. Funds were also used to complete a Biodiversity Report with SECAD.



- Passage West Tidy Towns received €9,500 for their group activities.

Prior to the June 2019 boundary change, Cork County Council also awarded funds under this scheme in respect to the following Tidy Towns Groups:

- Ballincollig Tidy Towns: €18,000 for the completion of a number of works.
- Douglas Tidy Towns: €17,000 for works including tree planting, the purchase of a storage shed, renewal of plants and planters, and general landscaping works.
- Togher Community Association Tidy Towns Committee: €14,000 granted to add to existing works done to give the area a more uniform look.

## Amenity Grant Scheme 2019

- Carrigaline Musical Society were awarded €1,500 to go towards covering the costs of costumes and medals.
- Ballinora and District Community Association received €3,400 towards signs and artwork for the community.
- Ballinora GAA club received €6,000 to fund the replacement of goal posts and mouths.
- Broadale Residents Association were awarded €1,500 for landscaping.
- Carrigaline Community Association were granted €8,500 for the installation of a floodgate and bathroom flooring.
- Carrigaline Community First Responders were awarded €3,000 for works and items including a telephone, kiosk, cabinet etc.
- Carrigaline Men's Shed received €6,700 for the decoration of a new steel 'superstructure'.
- Carrigaline Tidy Towns also received funding under the Amenity Grant Scheme to install picnic benches, display units and signage.
- Herons Wood Residents Association (Carrigaline) received €1,500 for plants and shrubs to improve landscaping.
- Passage West and Monkstown Responder Group were granted €2,600 for the purchase of defibrillators, pads and batteries.

Prior to the June 2019 boundary change, Cork County Council also awarded funds under this scheme in respect to the following groups:

- 74<sup>th</sup> Frankfield-Grange Scout Group: €1,000 for scout equipment.
- Ballincollig AFC: €2,700 for roof works.
- Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind: €6,700 for the development of a new training walk.
- Ballincollig camera club: €400 for the purchase of equipment.





- Ballincollig Hurling and Football Club: €5,000 for renovation works.
- Ballincollig Tidy Towns: €800 for the purchase of a generator, pump and lawnmower.
- Citadel Music Group: €500 for musical instruments.
- Douglas-Frankfield Men's Shed: €2,900 for security cameras and lighting.
- Garryduff Sports Centre: €4,800 for a digital scoreboard.
- Manor Hill Residents Association: €800 for landscaping.
- Palmbury Orchard Residents Association: €300 for a leafblower.
- Thornbury Heights Residents Association: €3,700 for landscaping.
- Westgate Foundation: €3,000 for Bowling Carpets.

### Passage West/King Island

The Passage West Maritime Museum marked an important moment over the summer, with the signing of the King Island friendship agreement. There is a historic connection between King Island and Cork, when the Neva sank off the coast of the island, carrying Irish convicts and passengers in 1835. A single remaining fragment of the ship is displayed in Kings Island Museum.



The visitors from King Island presented the Maritime Museum in Passage West with a sculpture by Tasmanian artist Catherine Stringer. The piece made with marine macro-algae, harvested near the site of the Neva wrecking, honours the women and children aboard the doomed 'Neva' and a copy of historical documents concerning the Neva from the King Island Museum's collection. Chairman of the MD, Cllr. Séamus McGrath signed the agreement. The aim of the agreement is to foster and develop mutual understanding and to develop a cultural bond of respect and friendship between the people of Tasmania and the people of Cork for all time.

### Cobh Municipal District

The boundary of the Cobh Municipal District changed following the local elections in May 2019, areas such as the Cork City North Environs (i.e. Barnavarra and the New Line), Glanmire, Kerry Pike, Clogheen, Whites Cross, Rathcooney and Killard became part of Cork City. Glenville was moved into the Fermoy Municipal District; however Watergrasshill was moved into the Cobh Municipal District.

### Village Enhancement Fund

In 2019 the Village Enhancement Fund was awarded to Glounthaune, the Community Association undertook the following works: new planters and seating, the installation of a mural and various maps, as well as repairing several stone walls and the installation of a path at Craig's Field.

### Paint Scheme

A total of 10 applications were received from businesses in Cobh and Carrigtwohill for this year's Paint Scheme, of which 8 were proceeded with. A total of €10,650 was allocated to the scheme.



## 2019 Community Fund and Town Development Fund

A total of €208,000 was allocated under the 2019 Community Fund, while the Town Development Fund provided €135,000. The various funds provide assistance to a broad range of local, sporting, cultural and arts groups throughout the Municipal District. The fund assists local community and sports groups to upgrade and improve their facilities through large capital grants totalling €50,000 for 5 projects and community contracts totalling €54,000 for an additional 8 projects in 2019. Over 35 Residents associations received funding totalling €14,950 to improve and maintain housing estates throughout the Municipal District. Amenity Fund grants totalling €89,000 provided support for the erection of Christmas lights in Cobh Carrigtwohill and Glanmire and the St. Patrick's Day Parades in Carrigtwohill and Glanmire. The Municipal District were delighted to support a number of festivals in Cobh which included Cobh Summer Swing; Vitality Cobh event; Cobh People's Regatta; Cobh Carillion Recital Season; Cobh Ukulele Festival; Cobh Sea Fest; Cobh Polish-Irish Festival; Barrack Hill Ball Roll; Cobh Readers and Writers Festival. The Municipal District also supported Rushbrooke Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club who celebrated 150 years in 2019; and supported the setting up of a Junior Park Run event in Cobh.

The Municipal District supports several Tidy Towns Groups: Cobh (Gold Medal winner for 5<sup>th</sup> successive year); Carrigtwohill; Glounthaune; Knockraha; Glanmire; Upper Glanmire; Little Island; Whitechurch & Waterloo.

## Harper's Island Wetland Centre

The works covered by the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme Grant have been completed with the installation of a new Nature Trail, and the erection of a second Bird Hide on the island. The island now contains a 2km long circular walking trail. A total of €166,000 has been spent in 2019 on this project. In addition, volunteers from Glounthaune Men's Shed and Birdwatch Ireland have provided over 2,250 hours of work on the island.

## Heritage Town Trail Signs

An allocation of €10,000 was provided in the Town Development Fund for the repair of the existing Heritage Town Trail signs in Cobh. These signs, which were part funded by Fáilte Ireland, were originally erected over 10 years ago. Members also agreed to provide funding for a sign at West View at the request of the Cobh 1916 Commemoration Committee.

## Markets & Fairs

The Municipal District facilitates the local Farmers Market and several Summer Markets and Fairs by providing use of John F. Kennedy Park under licence. In 2019 the following licences were issued:

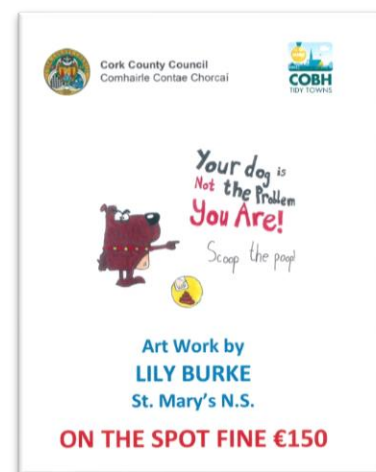
Casual Trading	5	Park Use	9	Funfair	2	Table & Chairs	2
Farmer's Market	1	Mobile Trading	1	Tea & Coffee (Promenade)	1		

## Campervan Facility

The campervan parking facility is proving to be a very popular attraction, with a continual stream of visitors both foreign and domestic. A total of 30 parking spaces have been provided within the Five Foot Way car park, with views overlooking Cork Harbour.

## School Art Competition 2019

The elected members of the Cobh MD agreed to provide funding for a School Art Competition on the theme of discouraging dog fouling. A total of 375 primary school children from Cobh took part in the competition. 5 shortlisted entries were chosen to be used as part of an awareness programme, with signs containing the artwork from each of the 5 erected around the town. The overall winner was Lily Burke from St. Mary's NS in Cobh.



## Kanturk/Mallow Municipal District

Following the local elections in May 2019, the boundary for Kanturk/Mallow MD changed, encompassing the Electoral Areas of both Mallow and Kanturk. Millstreet town transferred to Macroom Municipal District and our area has expanded to now include Charleville town and surrounding areas, Grenagh and Rathduff.

### 2019 Village Enhancement Fund

The 2019 Fund was allocated to Ballydesmond for public realm streetscape works which refurbished the town and greatly enhanced both the safety and amenity of the area that were upgraded.



### 2019 Paint Scheme

This year Newmarket was the targeted town under the Streetscape, painting, signage, and improvement scheme. The scheme was also continued in other towns, with over 40 applications being granted.



### 2019 Community Fund

The Members of Kanturk/Mallow MD allocated €235,000 to various local groups and organisations through the 2019 Community Fund. This fund assists local voluntary groups in providing and improving facilities they offer.

Capital Fund Scheme 1 no. application totalling €10,000

Amenity Fund Scheme 57 no. of applications totalling €57,100

Community Contracts 24 no. applications totalling €167,900

### 2019 Town Development Fund

Kanturk/Mallow MD allocated €131,000 to various initiatives and events in our towns in 2019; public realm work was also progressed in Charleville which was allocated funding earlier in the year by Fermoy MD. Examples include, Easter Festival and Mallow Castle Events throughout the year, Christmas lights and signage. An outdoor classroom was funded in Newmarket, public realm works were completed in Buttevant and Kanturk and a playground in Charleville. The popular "Communities in Bloom" competition which recognises community effort in enhancing and maintaining public spaces also took place.

Kanturk/Mallow MDs, in conjunction with the Architects Department, developed new approach road signage totems for the West End and for the N72 Navigation Road.





## Charleville Playground

Charleville Playground was upgraded at the cost of €129,980.43 including VAT. Works at the playground, which is located in Charleville Town Park, involved the following:

- Combination of the junior and senior play grounds into one play area
- Supply & install new play equipment
- Refurbishment and cleaning of existing play equipment
- Improve play surface by laying new soft pour
- Install new fencing about the perimeter of the playground
- Install new seating in the play area
- Improve walking access from town park car park to the playground



## Funding to Kanturk Mallow Municipal District

Kanturk/Mallow MD has been the recipient of various funding allocations from Central Government which have been supplemented with Cork County Council funds. The following projects are enabled as a result of such assistance.

## Town and Village Renewal National Grants

Kanturk/Mallow MD following much work with the communities, Architects and Roads directorates in achieving part 8 planning were successful in securing funding for two public realm enhancement schemes. The scheme in Dromahane secured €142,500 while the Ballydesmond scheme secured €150,000 which will much improve safety and enhance the public realm for communities in both areas.

## National Outdoor Recreation Grant

Kanturk/Mallow MD is currently developing framework plans for an integrated park network, landmark amenity and tourist destination for Mallow Castle Park, Mallow Town Park and the Spa House Park. This includes for the potential development of the existing gardens and historic landscape at Mallow Castle together with the main Mallow Town Park and the Spa House Park.

Kanturk/Mallow MD was successful in receiving a grant of €200,000 from the Department of Rural & Community Development's '2018 Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Fund'. The remaining funding balance was provided from Cork County Council funding to deliver this key project for Mallow Town Park.

## Sports Capital

Kanturk/Mallow MD received a sports capital grant for the re-surfacing of the MUGA, installation of new outdoor gym equipment, new fencing and planting of native hedging about the site.

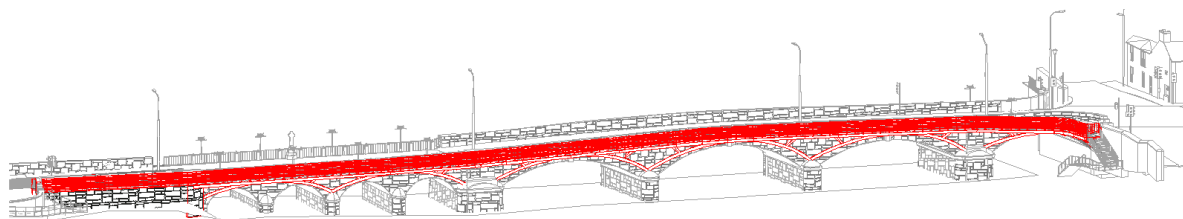


## Other Projects

**(A) Mallow Castle Grounds:** Recently the Part VIII Planning Application was approved development of the walled gardens to the north of Mallow Castle House, improving public access to the Castle Grounds & providing a natural themed, inclusive children's playground amenity, with associated site works & landscaping.

**(B) Kanturk Relief Road:** Kanturk/Mallow MD was successful in Rural Regeneration Funding Kanturk Relief Road Application for the amount of €619,500, with a total project cost of €996,000.

**(C) Mallow Boardwalk:** Construction commenced on the Mallow Boardwalk at Mallow Bridge over the Blackwater. The boardwalk will allow for a shared space for cyclists and pedestrians, separate from the road carriageway. The completed Boardwalk will reinforce the link between the residential southern area of Mallow to the commercial Town Centre and Parks.



**(D) Spa House Upgrade:** Kanturk/Mallow MD commenced works on renovating and repairing the Spa House in Mallow. Works being undertaken include:

- The installation of new casement timber windows and doors
- The re-pointing of the external stone work
- Repairs to the roof slates and lead valleys
- The installation of new rainwater goods
- Contract will include for fitting of radon barrier
- Contract will include for upgrade of electrical wiring and fittings
- Contract will include for internal and external painting

**(E) St Marys Graveyard Boundary Wall:** Kanturk/Mallow MD in conjunction with Mallow Tidy Towns and Roman Catholic Parish of Mallow arranged for and completed the repairs to the listed boundary wall at St Mary's on St James Avenue, Mallow.

**(F) Boherbue Walkway:** Boherbue Walkway project was highly commended at Pride of Place awards 2020

**(G) Mallow Neighbourhood Scheme:** The Mallow Neighbourhood Scheme was shortlisted as a finalist in the All Ireland Community & Council Awards under the "Best Environmental/Ecological Project Initiative" category.

In 2019, Kanturk Mallow Municipal District managed:

- 46 Cemeteries,
- 27 playgrounds,
- worked on 38 Derelict sites,
- maintained open spaces and parks in our main towns and villages and
- managed Parking Regulations and bye laws,

We also operated Mallow Swimming Pool which increased footfall from just over 97,000 in 2018 to over 142,000 visitors in 2019.

We worked with numerous communities to help deliver common goals in 2019 in conjunction with our Elected Members and will continue to do so in 2020 in both of our Local Electoral Areas of Kanturk and Mallow.





## West Cork Municipal District

Following the local elections of 2019 the boundary for the Municipal District of West Cork was altered and the principal changes were the moving of the villages of Timoleague and Courtmacsherry and their environs to the Municipal District of Bandon/Kinsale.

### 2019 Village Enhancement Fund

The 2019 Village Enhancement Fund for the West Cork MD was allocated as follows:

- Footpath replacement in Durrus Village which were completed by the end of 2019 and forms part of a larger public realm project for Durrus Village which received funding through the Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2019.
- Development of a historical trail for the villages of Ballineen & Enniskeane.

### 2019 Community Fund Scheme

A total of 85 community groups and organisations were funded under the 2019 Community Funding Scheme with in excess of €200,000 allocated to support community initiatives and projects.

Within the overall allocation 23 local Tidy Towns Committees were supported through the Community Contract Funding Stream for various projects and enhancement of local areas.

### 2019 Community Hedgecutting Fund

Grants were awarded to 38 community groups and organisations to facilitate the cutting back of hedgerows and grass verges. During the course of the season, the Municipal District facilitated 585 km of roadside verges under the scheme.

### 2019 West Cork Islands Community Fund Scheme

2019 saw the establishment of the West Cork Islands Community Fund Scheme which provided a €50,000 funding stream to assist and facilitate projects on the West Cork Islands. Twelve projects were funded under this funding stream in 2019 and projects were completed on Bere, Sherkin, Cape Clear, Long and Whiddy Islands in addition to funding for the work of the Islands Community Council.

### 2019 Town Development Fund

Municipal District of West Cork allocated €135,000 towards various projects including repairs and replacement of the railings at St. Peter's Church, Castletownbere, public realm works in Schull and the development of a skate park in Skibbereen.

### 2019 General Municipal Allocation

In addition to funds allocated to the 2019 Community Fund Scheme, funding was also allocated from the GMA to purchase two lifeguard stations which were located at Tragumna and The Warren beaches.

### Gullane Walkway & Cycling Route

Gullane Walkway and Cycling route, Gullane Lake, Clonakilty was officially opened to the public by the Mayor of the County of Cork, Cllr Christopher O'Sullivan in November 2019. The walkway was jointly funded by the Municipal District and the Town & Village Renewal Scheme.

### Public Realm, Main Street, Bantry

Redevelopment of Main Street, Bantry was completed having acquired funding to complete the project under the Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2018 and was officially opened in December 2019.





### Public Realm, Skibbereen

Works commenced in September 2019, on a new public realm plan for Skibbereen. Further works are scheduled to take place during 2020. This project was designed and is being managed in-house by the Municipal District and Roads Department and the project is being fully funded by Cork County Council.



### Refurbishment of Car Park, Dunmanway

Under the Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2018 funding was provided for the resurfacing and relining of the main car park in Dunmanway. These works were completed in December 2019.

### Gymnasium at Dunmanway Swimming Pool

December 2019 saw the opening of the Gymnasium at Dunmanway Swimming Pool. Funding was provided by Cork County Council in addition to funding awarded under the Sports Capital Programme.

### Refurbish of Public Convenience, Dunmanway

The external facade and roof of the public toilet in Dunmanway was completed in 2019 and funded by the Municipal District.



## Midleton Municipal District

### 2019 Community Fund

The Members of the East Cork MD allocated over €230,000 of funding to various local groups and organisations through the 2019 Community Fund. Grants to local voluntary groups assisted them in providing and improving facilities and amenities in their areas and helped many sporting clubs in improving existing facilities and developing new facilities on their grounds and pitches. Tidy Towns and other community groups were awarded grants to continue with their excellent community amenity and enhancement works in their towns and villages across the Municipal District. Capital grants were approved for some of the bigger projects in the communities such as Community Centres, playgrounds and walkways.

The total fund is allocated under three types of grants for Amenity, Capital and Community Contract projects. Notable projects were New Christmas Lights Scheme in Midleton (with Reindeer decorated by the local school children), the East Cork Biodiversity Programme, the Long Acre Wildflower Meadow, Ladysbridge.

### Town Development Fund

The Town Development Fund allocations for 2019, total fund of €120,000, were assigned to projects in the main towns of Midleton and Youghal such as a Painting and Signage Scheme to address dereliction in and improve the attractiveness of town centres, the provision of playgrounds, landscaping, tourism and heritage projects and festivals. The fund was divided almost 50/50 with €61,000 going to Youghal and €59,000 to Midleton.

### Town & Village Renewal Scheme

The Town and Village Renewal Scheme is part of a package of national and local support measures to rejuvenate rural towns and villages.

#### **The Litton Fountain and Public Realm Enhancement Project, Cloyne.**

Work was progressed on this project in 2019. The project was proposed by the proactive Cloyne District Community Council, this initiative being one of 19 enhancement projects set out in a Cloyne Enhancement Plan prepared by them in 2013. A grant of €50,000 was provided by the Department of Rural and Community Development and funding of €12,500 was contributed by Cloyne District Community Council.



### 2019 Village Enhancement Fund

The Village Enhancement Fund provided €62,500 for each Municipal District for projects in Key Villages. In 2019 the Members of the East Cork MD approved allocation of this fund to contribute towards the cost of developing a public car park in Killeagh. The Municipal District also brought the project through the Part 8 planning procedure. The project is a partnership project between Cork County Council, Killeagh (Ardagh and Dangan) Parish and Killeagh Community Car Park Committee which will provide 34 parking spaces.

### East Cork Municipal District - Midleton Pollinator Plan

It is intended that the approach and actions taken in 2019 as our response based on the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan to supporting pollinators and biodiversity as described in this plan will be replicated and expanded, not only in Midleton but throughout the East Cork Municipal District, into the future. Engagement and actions throughout the East Cork Municipal District will be encouraged and supported through community groups, existing environmental groups (e.g. East Cork Biodiversity Networking Programme) and schools (e.g. St. Colman's Community Midleton Pollinator Plan College and Gaelscoil Mhainistir na Corann).

The Wildflower Meadow developed in the grounds of Midleton Lodge in 2019 surpassed our expectations in how quickly and strongly the area recovered and growth from the existing seed bank flourished, including the rare Bee Orchid. There was a significant increase in pollinators and bird life and visitors to the park. The pollinator and biodiversity supporting flower beds created at the The Rock and in the Coolbawn with their





variety of perennial plants of different type, colour and form received many favourable and appreciative comments from natives and visitors alike. We look forward to developing similar pollinator and biodiversity supporting projects throughout the East Cork Municipal District into the future to reflect and incorporate the strategies and recommendations in the All Ireland Pollinator Plan.

### Ironman - Youghal 2019

'Ironman' is the ultimate in endurance racing for the ever-increasing number of triathletes across and the world. With over 200 events globally, 250,000 athletes participating annually and 6 million spectators globally, Cork County Council recognised the unique economic and tourism opportunity hosting such a prestigious event could be for Cork County. The Council came on board as main sponsor of the event signing a 3-year deal to bring the event to the Youghal and East Cork area, beginning in 2019.

Consisting of a 2.4 mile swim in Youghal's Claycastle Beach, followed by a 112 mile bike route around picturesque East Cork, the race was set to culminate in a 26.2 mile run or 4 laps of Youghal Heritage Town, on 23rd June 2019. East Cork, and Youghal in particular, was identified by Ironman as the ideal location to host the event; chosen because of its relatively warm water temperatures, ease of access for international visitor, but most importantly the 'idyllic' running route around historic Youghal.

Cork County Council funded the upgrade of public spaces, making a subsidised painting scheme available to commercial properties along with the provision of extra hanging baskets/planting etc.



The inaugural Ironman Ireland Cork on 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2019 was an enormous success. Attracting 2,500 international athletes from 62 countries around the world, the economic impact on the region has been calculated at €7.9M. The event left an indelible (positive) mark on the region. All of this despite a cancelled 'swim' on the day, due to adverse weather conditions!

The event itself reached across a wide range of media platforms, with Ironman broadcasting the race on 'Facebook live' to an estimated audience of 5.5 million.

### St. Mary's Collegiate Church – Youghal

**The Voices of St. Mary's – Interpretive Works to St. Mary's Collegiate Church, Youghal:** In November 2019, Cork County Council sought interested consultants to create and deliver a new, high quality, bespoke interpretative experience within St. Mary's Collegiate Church, for the medieval town of Youghal. The project was awarded funding by Fáilte Ireland under the Ireland's Ancient East Capital Grants scheme and match funded by Cork County Council. The aim of the project is to improve the visitor experience of St. Mary's through a successfully conceived and executed interpretation strategy.

Interpretive Consultants, Scroope Design based in Courtmacsherry, Co. Cork were contracted by Cork County Council to create this interpretive experience for St. Mary's. The project has an expected completion date of August 2020. Scroope Design will present the visitor with an interpretation of St. Mary's Collegiate Church through a character driven storyline. It will be based on the people of the place and how its origin, development, history and relevance as a major community focal point from medieval times to today, can be viewed through their eyes, their stories and their experiences.



Cork County Council will work with Scroope Design to ensure the delivery of a new, high quality, universally accessible, bespoke visitor experience. The new experience will drive visitor numbers, and have a lifespan of 10-15 years. The projected exponential visitor number increase for Year 5 of operations is 50,000 plus, with close to 50% non-ROI visitors.

### Medieval Festival Youghal 2019

Cork County Council's Youghal Medieval Festival delivers one of the largest free events of its nature each August. The event 'brings heritage to life' through medieval re-enactments, a 'medieval village', artisan food and crafts, kids traditional arts and crafts and more, all located in Youghal's Medieval Walled Gardens. The 2019 event took place over the course of the August Bank Holiday weekend, the 13<sup>th</sup> annual event of its kind, attracting over 6,000 people.

The weekend long series of activities are appropriately themed so as to promote an understanding and appreciation of Youghal's unique heritage & history. This event aims to 'conserve local built heritage', focusing this on the town walls as a wonderful asset, attracting local, regional and overseas visitors, thereby boosting the tourism industry in the region and maximizing the asset as an economic generator for the local economy.

In 2019, the event created an induced economic impact of €384,435. These figures were based on the analysis of surveys undertaken by Cork County Council and the Irish Walled Towns Network at the event. Surveys indicated 2,800 overseas bed nights, with 700 domestic bed nights generated by the festival.



### Bandon/Kinsale Municipal District

Following the local elections in May 2019 the boundary of the Bandon/Kinsale Municipal District changed with Crosshaven, Ballinhassig and Ballygarvan moving to the Carrigaline Municipal District. Areas of both Blarney/Macroom Municipal and West Cork Municipal Districts now come under Bandon/Kinsale Municipal District. Villages such as Courtmacsherry, Timoleague, Barryroe, Newcestown and Crossbarry are new to the Municipal District.

### 2019 Village Enhancement Scheme

The 2019 Village Enhancement Scheme was allocated to the Halfway Village. Due to the boundary changes this village moved into the Carrigaline Municipal District. The project is due to be completed in early 2020.

### 2019 Paint Scheme

The 2019 Paint Scheme was offered to both Bandon and Kinsale towns with preference given to town centre applications. 8 applications were approved and €5,621 was given out in grants under this scheme in 2019.

### 2019 Community Fund

The members of the Bandon/Kinsale MD allocated €153,500 in funding to various local groups and organisations through the 2019 Community Fund. This fund assists local voluntary groups in providing or improving facilities and services that they offer. Local sporting and community facilities gain assistance through this fund which enables them to provide additional, new and improved facilities and services.





## 2019 Town Development Fund

In 2019, Bandon/Kinsale MD allocated €113,000 to various initiatives in the Municipal District. These included funding preliminary works on the new library in Kinsale and various business supports including Santa's Outpost in Bandon which was a major success bringing many visitors into Bandon Town Centre.

## Central Government Funding to Bandon Kinsale Municipal District

Bandon/Kinsale Municipal District has been the recipient of various funding allocations from central government which have been supplemented with Cork County Council funds. The following projects were enabled as a result of such assistance:

### Town and Village Renewal

Under the 2017 Town and Village Renewal Scheme Bandon Kinsale Municipal District was awarded €80,000 from the Department of Rural and Community Development towards works to Kinsale Museum. This was supplemented by €20,000 from Cork County Council.

The works were completed in 2019, with restoration of historic windows, an interactive Battle of Kinsale audio visual display and new and improved exhibits on the ground floor display of this historic 1600s building.

### New Bus Stop and Upgraded Public Realm, Kinsale

In 2019, a new bus stop was developed in Kinsale town which made it much safer for busses and passengers alike, and the public realm in the area was much enhanced.

### CLÁR and Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme

In 2019 Bandon/Kinsale MD was successful in gaining a CLÁR grant for safety works around Ahiohill National School. The District was also successful in gaining two Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme grants; one for a biodiversity walk at Harbour View Beach and the other for a walkway from Ballinascarty to Timoleague. These works are ongoing in early 2020.

### Kinsale Harbour

Bandon/Kinsale MD continues to support hugely successful festivals like the Regatta Festival, which is celebrating 223 years since it started. This is the oldest Regatta in Ireland set in one of Ireland's most spectacular harbours and the Regatta is a fun packed week, with many land-based events in addition to the traditional water activities. This range from ocean yachts to mixed dingy racing, a long-distance swim around Sandycove Island, and children's sailing.

### Cruise Liners to Kinsale Harbour

2019 saw the return of luxury cruise liners to Kinsale Harbour. In September 2019 the Durmont D'Urville visited Kinsale on its maiden voyage bringing many new visitors to Kinsale Town.



## Fermoy Municipal District

Following the local elections in May 2019 the boundary for Fermoy Municipal District changed with Charleville, Watergrasshill, Ballyhea & Newtownshandrum being transferred to the Kanturk/Mallow Municipal District and the new Fermoy Municipal District area being expanded to now include Glenville.

### 2019 Village Enhancement Fund

Fermoy Municipal District, following much work with the Architects and Roads Directorates in achieving Planning, obtained consent for public realm & for two public realm enhancement schemes one for Kilworth & Rathcormac as follows:

**Kilworth:** €31,250 to upgrade the village square

**Rathcormac:** Positive engagement received regarding works in Rathcormac which will include enhancement of the public realm, new street furniture & planters improve walkways & street planting. These works are subject to obtaining planning in 2020 & further detail design analysis.

The village enhancement works have provided improved safety and enhanced Public Realm in both villages. Works have been completed in Kilworth.

### 2019 Paint Scheme

This year the scheme was offered in the three principle towns of Charleville, Fermoy & Mitchelstown along with the villages of Doneraile, Kilworth & Newtownshandrum. A total of 33 applications were approved for grant aid in respect of the streetscape, painting, signage and improvement scheme 2019 totalling €34,491.

### Playground Maintenance

Kilworth playground has undergone significant refurbishment works to the value of €27,500, these included a new multi gym area.



### 2019 Community Fund

The Members of Fermoy Municipal District allocated €211,000 of funding to various local groups and organisations through the 2019 Community Fund.

Summary of the allocations for the Fermoy Municipal District is set out hereunder:

- A total of €15,500 was provided for St. Patrick's Day Parade, town twinning associations & running costs of Christmas Lights for the towns of Fermoy Municipal District.
- In 2019 under the Capital Fund Scheme a total of 11 no. applications totalling €110,000.
- Amenity Fund Scheme 28 no. of applications totalling €46,100.
- Community Contracts 30 no. applications totalling €39,400.







### Funding to Fermoy Municipal District

Fermoy Municipal District has been the recipient of various funding allocations from Central Government which have been supplemented with Cork County Council funds. The following projects are enabled as a result of such assistance.

### Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2018

**Charleville Playground:** The new facility, which has been in use since July, has undergone significant improvement works as part of the Town and Village Renewal Scheme with €100,000 allocated to it through Cork County Council in 2018. An additional €30,000 was provided by Cork County Council.



Before

After



**Mitchelstown:** Almost €165,000 has been allocated to Mitchelstown for the development of age friendly features under the Government's Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2018. Funding for this project has been





allocated to the Fermoy Municipal District who will deliver the project in tandem with the local communities, these will include footpaths, new planters and age friendly seats as part of the allocation.

### Community Development Initiative

Funded by Cork County Council in association with their Local Community Development Committees (LCDCs) and in co-operation with Local Development Companies. Two of our main towns within the MD were successful in securing funding under this scheme with Fermoy Tidy Towns receiving €32,000 and Charleville receiving €30,000 to develop the Public Realm.

### Supporting Development of Events & Festivals

**Pop up green space in the heart of Fermoy Town Centre:** The Fermoy Municipal District led the way in developing a pilot pop up green space in the heart of the Town Centre. This shared space is integral in promoting the concepts of placemaking, liveability and in show casing our unique Town environments. These spaces promote additional footfall in our town centres which in turn enhances the overall social ,economic and the environmental well being and viability of our towns.

**Parking Day:** Parking Day was held in both Mitchelstown and Fermoy and turned out to be a wonderful success with ideas and plans already being mentioned for next year’s event by participants. Parking Day is a global event designed to activate car parking spaces, invigorate local business and reclaim the streets back to the community through the provision of a space for social interaction that was not there before.



**Doneraile Court Opening:** Cork County Council took the party to the street to celebrate the opening of the newly revitalised Doneraile Court. The refurbishment project is expected to further boost Doneraile Wildlife Park’s position as one of Ireland’s best performing attractions. The Council’s ‘Re-Imagine Doneraile’ festivities, took place on the street and in Fishpond Lane, it featured family friendly attractions and fun entertainment.





**Taste of Fermoy:** Now in its second year the high quality event saw the numbers growing from 120 in 2018 to over 200 people dining on Fermoy's Historic Kent Street. A community- based event the Taste of Fermoy highlights the quality of local suppliers and producers, while celebrating the diversity of the town and the surrounding area.

**Blackwater Makers Fermoy:** Cork County Council has been mobilising communities in undertaking projects of a cultural and creative nature, that make their localities better places within which to live and work – one such project is the Blackwater Makers' Pop-up Shop in Pearse Square, Fermoy, run by a collective of Craftspeople from the Blackwater River area of North-Cork, known as the Blackwater Makers.

Through the mechanism of various funding schemes administered by Cork County Council and the support of key personnel from the Council, the local Leader company, Avondhu Blackwater and a town business partnership group (Fermoy Forum); they have transformed a disused building at one of the most prominent locations in Fermoy, into a hive of activity and a most integral part of the town's culture and community





## Contract Signed for Design Work on Collapsed Fermoy Weir



Contracts worth almost €350,000 have been signed with consulting engineers TJ O'Connor & Associates to develop designs for the repair of the weir and construction of the new fish pass. TJ O'Connor & Associates will complete designs for remediation works to the existing weir and the construction of a new permanent fish bypass on the northern bank of the River Blackwater. The contract engineering firm will also be responsible for the preparation of contract documents for the procurement of a work's contractor to construct the entire project, which it is estimated, will cost over €3 million.

Fermoy Municipal District manages 44 no. Cemeteries, 14 playgrounds, worked on 37 no. Derelict sites, maintained open spaces and parks in our main towns and villages, managed Parking Regulations and bye laws, operated Fermoy Swimming Pool which had footfall of 48,500 visitors in 2019 and introduced an autism friendly hour along with increasing water wellness hours for our elderly group. We worked with numerous communities to help deliver common goals in 2019 in conjunction with our Elected Members and will continue to do so in 2020 in the Local Electoral Area of Fermoy.

## Library Service

In 2019, Cork County Council Library Service continued to develop, grow and broaden its service range. This growth is due to public demand and changing needs and is enabled by a skilled Library staff, the support of Cork County Council and the Dept. of Rural & Community Development. The implementation of the Workforce Plan for Library Services and managing the changes to service due to the Boundary Transition, saw a substantial organisational review for Cork County Council Library and Arts Service.

## Library Usage

2019 was a very successful year for the library service in Cork County. Membership was up on 2018 to 55,243. This was a rise as a percentage of population from 15% in 2018 to 17.78% in 2019. A total of 1,551,822 items were borrowed, again an increase on 2018. Thanks to an extensive staff and public training and awareness campaign, e-book and e-audiobook issues have more than doubled.

There were 1,393,050 visits to Cork County Council Library Services. Approx. 15% of these are to the Mobile Libraries. The public availed of 70,027 free PC internet sessions and 39,904 free wifi sessions. 75,650 people attended one or more of the 4,523 events across the County in 2019. *Note: figures are accounting for 3 libraries transitioned to Cork City in May 2019.*

## Library Development

Cork County Council Library Service pursued options for enhanced facilities at certain branch libraries in 2019:

- Kanturk Library (meanwhile the library operates from the mobile library van 5 days per week 7 hours each day)
- Kinsale Library
- Youghal Library



- Midleton Library
- Bandon Library
- Macroom Library

### Upgrades and Maintenance

- Charleville Library: Internal painting works and external paving and lighting works.
- Millstreet: Internal painting completed during the summer months.
- Mallow Library: The bathrooms in Mallow Library have recently been updated to include baby changing facilities and to make them completely disability friendly
- Fermoy: Work commenced on the providing a fully accessible public toilet this summer. Also, was successful in securing My Open Library funding for Fermoy which included funds to install an internal ramp to replace the lift and new automatic doors.
- Bantry Library: Heating upgrade investigation.
- Carrigaline Works : New office and repairs to lighting and upgrade of wiring, installation of self- service suite.
- Clonakilty: Internal staff office commenced and a new boiler is ordered.
- Mobiles: repairs carried out on North, East and South Mobiles. Funding to replace these 3 old mobiles in 2020 has been secured, tenders were prepared with Fleet Management by the end of 2019.
- Minor maintenance works in Cobh Library, Skibbereen and Schull and Midleton libraries were also carried out over this period.

## Library Programmes

### STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths)

**Pop-up CoderDojo and Coolest Projects Showcase at Cobh Library:** Cobh Library worked in partnership with CoderDojo Ireland’s National Coordinator, who facilitated this event at the Library, and arranged for teen mentors from her own CoderDojo group to assist the beginner Coding ‘Ninjas’ as they learned the basics. The Library supplied space and equipment (including Lego robotics kits), purchased from the recent ICT grant from the Department of Rural and Community Development and promoted the event to local community groups, youth centres, after school clubs and all Cobh primary and second level schools.

The pop-up Dojo was run over 2 days, during which more than 60 children of all ages learned how to create blocks of code that could run computer games and design simple animations. The skills learned developed their literacy levels – reading and digital literacy – and encouraged them to engage with problem solving, creativity, team work and communication.

### Right to Read

**Spring into Storytime:** This is our 3<sup>rd</sup> year taking part in the national Spring into Storytime initiative. The event is part of a national drive to promote the telling and reading of stories in libraries across Ireland. Storytimes have taken place across the County in most branches. This is the first step on the road to literacy for many Children.



**Baby Bears:** Our Baby Bear initiative is spreading across the County and is a huge success with parents of tiny babies who find it a great opportunity to get out meet other parents and let their little ones enjoy the music, finger rhymes and play session. So far, Cobh, Carrigaline and Fermoy Libraries have hosted this activity! Meanwhile regular Totstimes continue in a variety of locations including Passage West, Mallow and Bandon.

**Summer Stars:** 5,276 children participated and 3,379 children attended one of the 155 events across Cork during the summer months



**Summer Arts:** Cork County Library's Creative Ireland Programme 2019 also allowed for a variety of other projects/workshops to take place. Highlights included **Bugs and Blooms Creative Book Art** with artist Jane Hayes. These workshops for children were held in Mallow, Macroom and Carrigaline libraries in April. An array of fabulous flowers and beautiful bugs were created using various paper art techniques. All of the paper used in the workshops came from upcycling withdrawn library book stock. Two 8-week **Photoshop Workshops** with Viv Buckley, photographer and artist, were held in Cobh Library and Mallow Library with full attendance at both workshop locations.

**Art Competition Library Calendar 2020:** This competition was open to children aged twelve and under, to submit a picture themed "I love my Library." Twelve winning pictures were selected to feature in the 2020 library calendar, one for each month. There were three age categories, aged 6 and under, 7-9 years and 10-12 years with four winning pictures from each category. There was a wonderful response with hundreds of entries.

## Books & Writing

**West Cork Literary Festival:** WCLF 2019 events in Bantry Library were attended by 1,183 people.

**Writer in Residence:** We were delighted that author Denyse Woods was our writer in residence for 2019. Denyse worked with writer groups around the County, encouraging people to develop their skills, advising on publishing, improving language skills and honing their craft. Our writers in residence programme has enabled the establishment and development of 15 writers' groups and each year the number grows.

## Culture & Heritage

### Heritage Week and Culture Night

A total of 16 events ran across 15 Libraries for Heritage Week including the 'Fairs and Market towns' exhibition, developed by the Local Studies Section of Cork County Council Library Service.

### A Sound Initiative

Cork County Council Library's free instrument loan scheme was launched in early 2017. The original collection of instruments comprised of 30 donations from the public. Over the next two years grants from Creative Ireland grew the collection to 70 and, following the recent Creative Ireland conference Cork County Library received extra funding from the Department of Culture, Heritage & the Gaeltacht, allowing the addition of 60 instruments including a harp, an iconic instrument that will be used for workshops and recitals in libraries. This brings the total number of instruments to 130.



There is a waiting lists for many instruments and the loan period was restricted to three weeks as a result. The additional instruments have allowed Cork County Library to largely eliminate waiting lists and we plan to provide block loans to schools, the first of which have just received a set of ukuleles in time to perform at their Christmas concert. Loans to date issues have been over 300. 'A Sound Initiative' has been nominated for Best Library Service at the upcoming Excellence in Local Government awards.

### Age Friendly Library

Fermoy Library is the designated Pilot Library for Age Friendly status in County Cork. We are currently implementing a number of improvements in the branch, and have held some very well received Age Friendly events not only in Fermoy but all over the County. The Library and Arts Office commissioned well known playwright Katie Holly to write a special library based play focusing on the older person. This was played in 10 venues during the last week of May.



## Cork County Library Book Clubs

Bookclubs help us encourage a love of reading, developing local reading champions, advocates and challenges our readings into trying new genres, authors and literary style. This is very important in complementing our work with the Writer in Residence programme, good writers read!

- 42 book clubs countywide.
- 28 clubs meet in a library.
- 4,900 books are circulated each year, from a stock of over 200 titles.
- Both Oileáin Cléire and Sherkin Island have book clubs
- West Cork Mobile run a book club in the Celtic Ross Hotel.
- We provide books to a bookclub from the Kanturk Mobile.
- A number of our clubs were set up for Bealtaine, the festival that celebrates creativity in older people, filling the County Council's remit re Positive Ageing.
- We provide books for a book club, with members coping with Mental Health challenges.
- In 2019, we have added Large Print and CD versions of book club titles to our collection, to facilitate some members with cataracts.
- More recently, we have added LGBTQ+ books to our book club stock and are in the process of starting an LGBTQ+ book club in one of our libraries, working closely with the LGBTQ+ community and therefore helping to break down barriers.
- Social Media - Since July 2019 we have featured A 'Book club of the Month' on Twitter and Facebook. Plans for 2020 include linking in with the West Cork Literary Festival and looking at the area of Podcasts.



## Dormant Account Funding – Marginalised Fund

Cork County Council Library Service successfully applied for and received €13,834. This fund is specifically to target marginalised groups in Cork County. As a result a programme based in libraries to support refugees in Direct Provision and otherwise in Cork County has been developed and will be rolled out in Q4. Programming includes: literacy supports, translations, cookery workshops, music workshops, creative writing, crafts and employment supports. This is done in partnership with HSE and ETB.

## Arts Service

Cork County Council's Arts Services aim to support and strengthen the practice and enjoyment of the arts in local communities in an inclusive and accessible manner and to promote and support artists and makers to create innovative work of the highest artistic standard. Our developmental work in arts and culture falls into three main areas, 1) provision and administration of funding for the arts, 2) provision of arts services and 3) supporting Council arts and culture strategic planning and policy development.

## Arts Funding

Cork County Council provides arts funding to various locally based arts organisations under two principal strands the **Arts Grants Scheme** and the **Municipal Districts Arts Development Fund**. The Arts Grants Scheme contains several subsidiary funding programmes designed to target funding in specific ways. These are: General Arts Funding, Artist Bursaries, International Touring and Exhibition, Artists in Schools and Arts using the Irish Language.

Council funding supports the work of numerous voluntary arts groups, theatre groups, choirs, writers groups, festivals, youth organisations, disability and equality organisations, individual artists and arts venues. A total of 248 applications for Arts Funding were received in 2019, making this the largest number of arts related applications ever received by Council.

- The budget for the Arts Grant Scheme was €160,000.
- The budget for the MD Arts Development Fund was €18,750 per MD providing a total of €150,000.





- An additional budget of €2,000 for Arts using the Irish Language was made available through the Oifigeach Gaelach.

A condition of funding requires all grant recipients to report on the outcomes of projects activities for which financial support is allocated. This reporting process provides the Arts Service with data that tracks the impact of Council investments and includes details of (a) Levels of participation in arts activity, (b) Audience for the Arts (c) Work opportunities for artists (d) Overall spend by organisations (e) Estimate of economic impact (festivals only), etc. Statistics from the 2019 Arts Grants and MD Arts Development Fund Schemes:

- Cork County Council allocated a total of €312,000 through the Arts Grants Scheme and the MD Arts Development Fund.
- Grant funding supported activities by 164 arts organisations and artists.
- Funded groups reported the involvement of 2,322 volunteers in the activities that were funded.
- CCC funded projects enabled over 23,383 people actively participate in the creative arts, including the elderly, young people and those with special needs.
- Funded projects enabled organisations and artists to reach an audience of at least 226,104. This includes both local audiences and visitors to the County.
- Provided 1,920 work opportunities for artists.
- Council Arts funding of €312,000 supported a reported overall expenditure of over €2,203,314 by the organisations we funded. This equates to a multiplier of c.€7 for every Euro invested by Council.
- The festivals that we funded had a combined budget expenditure of €1,417,000 almost all of which was spent in the local economy.
- The economic impact of the group of Arts Festivals that were funded estimated the economic benefit of their activities to be in excess of €4,929,529.

## Arts Services: Summary of Activity 2019

The Arts Office engages with all sections of the community across the County and delivers programmes and services across various modes:

### Visual Art:

Macroom Visual at Macroom Town Hall

- **Free Market** was the Irish National entry at the 16<sup>th</sup> International Architecture Exhibition La Biennale di Venezia where it won widespread acclaim for its exploration of the unique identity of Irish rural towns. Free Market involved architects, Miriam Delaney, Jo Anne Butler, Laurence Lord, Tara Kennedy, Orla Murphy, and Jeffrey Bolhuis who looked at ten Irish market towns including Macroom and Bantry as part of their project. Free Market also featured an engagement between local development groups and students of the Cork Centre for Architecture who had spent the academic year undertaking a study of living patterns in the town.
- **'Making and mending my way through'** an exhibition by Belgian artist Ann Mechelink also at Macroom Town Hall dealt with her artistic journey into and out of depression.
- **Leamlara Art Trail** was funded through the East Cork Municipal District Arts Development Fund and aimed to take contemporary visual arts out of its urban comfort zone, and reflect on the meanings of rural life today. The majority of artworks were temporary and made specifically for this exhibition. With perspectives from both Irish as well as international artists, these works share a thoughtful approach that allowed the viewer to see familiar surroundings in new and interesting ways. Curated by Siobhan Tattan, Leamlara Art Trail featured works by Harald den Breejen, Ciara Finnegan, Domhnall Na Gréine, Billy Kent, Tom Kok, Chloë Louise Lawrence, Sjoerd van Leeuwen, Lorraine Neeson, James Parkin and Siobhán Tattan.
- **The LHQ Gallery:** This space is a shared facility operated by the Arts Office and the Co. Library Service. The 2019 exhibition programme included solo shows by Muireann Kelleher (recipient of the Council's first Cork County Council CIT Graduate Student Exhibition Award), Ciara Rogers (Monuments of Abandoned Futures) and Gillian Cussen. Works from the Ballinglen Foundation were shown in a curated programme assembled by Sarah Kelleher in December.





## Arts in Education:

Initiatives in 2019 included:

- **The Classroom Museum Project:** A collaborative project with UCC's Glucksman Gallery that enables children to participate in a programme of imaginative learning with artists whose works are in the UCC collection.
- **Composer in the Classroom:** A second level music education and performance project in association with Cork International Choral Festival. Songwriters Paul Linehan (Frank and Walters), Fergal O'Connor and composer Sam Barker each worked with senior cycle students on a creative composition programme in four secondary schools in Carrigtwohill, Ballincollig Midleton and Kanturk.
- **Tuning up:** The Council's Music in Schools programme which fosters music appreciation and understanding by bringing live music experiences into the classroom. The ensembles involved in 2019 included the Irish Guitar Quartet, Artemis Brass, the Doolan Quartet and Alex Petcu and Catriona Frost.

## Performing Arts – Theatre:

- **Blackwater Fit-up Theatre Festival:** Rural touring theatre programme which aims to bring outstanding professional productions to audiences in the North Cork/Blackwater valley areas of the County. The programme is curated by Geoff Gould who worked with seven rural theatre and community venues to deliver a total of twenty-four performances during January and February. Productions included:
  - Pat Kinevan: *Silent and Forgotten*
  - Seamus O'Rourke: *From Under The Bed*
  - Little John Nee: *Small Halls and Potholes*
  - Noni Stapleton: *Charolais*
  - Venues included Mitchelstown, Ballynoe, Glenville, Buttevant, Fermoy, Meelin and Watergrasshill
- **West Cork fit-ups** celebrated its 11<sup>th</sup> year by staging the largest number of productions ever staged during the festival and achieving capacity audiences for all thirty-three performances. Locations included five of the County's inhabited Islands Heir Island, Bere Island, Sherkin Island, Cape Clear, Whiddy Island, Kilcrohane, Glengarriff, Timoleague, Glandore and Ballydehob. The project was nominated for a Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Award 2019
  - *Before* July 16-19
  - *Spliced* July 17-21
  - *Crowman* July 23-28
  - *The Cat's Mother* July 29- August 4th
  - *Sandpark/the Man from Moogaga* Aug 5-11.
  - *The Man in the Woman's Shoes / I hear you and rejoice* Aug 13-18
- British theatre rep company Heartbreak Productions performed their adaptation of David Walliam's *The Gangsta Granny* to a hugely appreciative audience at the Bowling Green in Kinsale in July.
- Writer Emma Decent's recent play "*I don't know what I'm supposed to be doing*" about her relationship with her mother and her worsening Alzheimer's condition was performed in four Library settings in October.
- The Arts Office worked with writer/actor Tim Creed to bring a schools' touring version of his new play "*Spliced*" to post primary schools in the county area Spring 2019.

## Commissions:

The Council's Arts Office commissions artists from time to time to create new work for public events.

- In 2019 a new one act play "*Crossword*" by Charleville playwright Katie Holly was commissioned by the Arts Office and had a successful first run in 10 branch libraries in during the Bealtaine Festival. The play will continue a second run in libraries in autumn 2019 featuring Cork actors Tadhg Hickey and Danny Buckley.



- **Macroon Murals:** Two new murals dealing with aspects of the history of Macroon were commissioned by the Arts Office from artists Denis O'Reardon and Cormac Sheil with funding from the Macroon Municipal District Arts Development Fund.

#### **Music:**

- In 2019, the Arts Office partnered with the National String Quartet Foundation to deliver two seasons of String Quartet recitals in various venues in County Cork. The Arts Office is committed to this work on several levels. It supports the career development of young Irish musicians, many of whom are based in Cork. This programme is important to help sustain and develop local arts through its connection to rural performance venues and festivals. It also provides a solution to the lack of high quality touring classical performance by having expertly curated programmes and professionally mentored ensembles available to perform in county locations. The ensembles featured included;
  - Lir Quartet at Bantry
  - The Vanbrugh at Youghal
  - Danu Quartet at Tracton
  - Vanir Quartet at Mitchelstown
  - Ophelia Quartet at Mallow
- Dutch world music ensemble the Zetadam Trio were supported to do a series of concerts along the Cork section of the Wild Atlantic Way during September 2019 in association with West Cork based Ethnic music promoter Feile Africa.

#### **Dance:**

- The Arts Office is, with the Arts Council, a funding-partner of the West Cork Dance Residency. The residency is located at the new dance facility at Uilinn in West Cork Arts Centre. The Dance Artist in Residence in 2019 was Mairead Vaughan having succeeded Helga Deasy. In addition to developing her own practice as a dance artist Mairead is working actively to grow audience for Dance in the region.
- The Arts Office has also supported the successful application to the Arts Council for a residency programme based in the Muskerry Gaeltacht with dance artist Siobhan Ni Dhuinin. The programme has both a professional development strand and a community engagement strand; both aspects were delivered on over the course of the programme in 2019.

#### **Youth Arts:**

- Youth Film is the main focus of our current engagement in Youth Arts. As a medium involving many disciplines, from script to production, it provides arguably to most open access to engagement of young people in the arts. The main area of development in our youth arts programme in 2019 has been to continue to extend the reach of our Cork Young Filmmakers programme which during the year has delivered successful projects in Mallow, Ballincollig, Macroon, Mitchelstown and Midleton. The overall programme is organised with Cork Film Centre who manage day to day operations through a service agreement with Arts Office. Recruitment of additional film professionals was undertaken in support of this expansion.
- The Arts Office and East Cork Municipal District continued its support of First Cut Youth Film Festival through funding and other in-kind support. The Festival recorded its best year ever in 2019 with an expanded programme and guest speakers including Lorraine Lordan, Technical Director of Cartoon Saloon. The Music Video programme curated by filmmaking team Feel Good Lost, Brendan Canty and David Lester yielded six excellent new music videos. The festival continues to promote film for youth audiences and recorded its highest attendance level to date.
- In the area of youth theatre Cork County Council is currently working with the West Cork Arts Centre to expand Youth Theatre access for young people in West Cork.
- The Arts Office has maintained its support of Mallow based Lightbulb Youth Theatre and Rusty Frog Youth Theatre based in Skibbereen.



### **Library Arts:**

- The Arts Office supports the development and delivery of the Arts Programme in all branch Libraries in the county. The programme operates on a year-round basis with ongoing workshop and performance activities for people of all ages and abilities. We focus particular attention on three activity periods; the Bealtaine Festival in May, Summer Arts in June & July, Children's Book Festival in October.
- Writer in Residence in Libraries: Writer Denyse Woods took over as Cork County Council's writer in residence in Libraries in January. Her brief was to work with six library areas to develop library-based writing programmes and to develop a number of public events at local and county level over the duration of the residency.
- Youth Literacy and Engagement: In 2019 the Arts Office continued work on delivery through selected branch libraries the READ ON programme an EU funded project with which we support the delivery of four programmes. My Life in Strips, a graphic novel programme led to the production of a series of graphic short stories by young people in the Carrigaline area. FLIC an illustration programme for European Illustrators Network took place in Kinsale in October; Children's Novelist ER Murray and comic writer Colin O'Mahony worked with two library-based groups producing work for the READ ON Anthology 2019
- 2019 saw the launch of the 15th edition of the Council Library and Arts Service annual short story publication. That collection An Ultimate Resolution features twenty previously unpublished stories selected by Billy O'Callaghan, Eimear Ryan and Claire Kilroy.

### **Sliabh Luachra Music Project:**

This project is a partnership with the Arts Services of Kerry County Council and Limerick City and County Council's. A core part of programme has been the creation of a Musician in Residence position to support the delivery of the programmes main objectives as listed below. Eoin O'Sullivan was the 2019 musician in residence

- Objectives
  - To support performance, education and public awareness of the musical heritage of Sliabh Luachra.
  - To actively work with locally based musicians, festivals and cultural interest groups
  - To develop and support opportunities for young people to learn and participate in the musical heritage and practices of the region.
  - To help celebrate, preserve and promote Sliabh Luachra music and cultural heritage through a planned programme of activity
  - To support and mentor local festivals and events
  - To identify and develop new opportunities to grow public engagement and participation in the region's music traditions

### **Early Years Arts:**

- BEAG is an early years arts research project based in Cork City and County and is a partnership project developed in association with Cork City Council, Graffiti theatre and HSE South. Phase 6 of the programme was delivered up to June 2019. Beag has built a strong level of professional practice in Early Years arts. The Beag programme was successfully delivered to approximately ten early childhood centres in the County area including work in two of the Dept of Justice Emigrant reception centres in Clonakilty and Carrigtwohill, respectively. In 2019 a three-year strategic plan was drawn up Quality Matters consultancy

### **Arts in Health:**

- In 2019 Council maintained involvement with the West Cork Arts for Health, programme in partnership with West Cork Arts Centre, Cork ETB and HSE South. The programme takes place in eleven geographically widespread rural locations and includes the five Community Hospitals, Bantry Hospital and five Day Care Centres in West Cork and is facilitated by an interdisciplinary team of artists coordinated by the West Cork Arts Centre.



- Artist Tom Weld completed work on the "SEA" project with respite service users at Marymount Hospice and Deerpark Nursing Home in Bantry
- Visual Artist Colin Crotty began work on a residency project with public health nurses based at public health centres in the Mallow/Kanturk MD. This work was part funded through the Kanturk/Mallow MD Arts Development Fund and is supported by the Arts Office, Glucksman Gallery and HSE South
- A Creative Enquiry is a partnership project with Cork City Council, HSE South, Cork Midsummer Festival, Music Alive and Sirius Arts Centre that has as its aims to research and develop forms of creative engagement with older people in the Cobh and Mallow areas of the County.

#### **Artist Professional Development:**

An important part of the Council's work in the arts is to support artist professional development by providing training and new work opportunities.

- In 2019 council provided five bursaries to professional artists based in County Cork to undertake, research or develop new creative projects. We also made provision for four busaries to enable artists to spend time at the Tyrone Guthrie Centre and the Ballinglen Foundation.
- In partnership with South Cork Local Enterprise Office and Benchspace the Dearcan bursary was initiated in 2019 with the intention of supporting an artist maker or designer working principally in wood work in a mentored environment at Benchspace for a period of up to one year. Joseph Bishop was the recipient of the first Bursary

#### **Public Participation in the Arts:**

- The Arts Office co-ordinates the Cork County programme for Culture Night. This involves liaison with a wide range of locally based voluntary arts organisations, arts centres and artists. A programme of over 140 events was delivered, taking place in some eighty venues around the County.
- Film Engagement SOS (See Our Shorts) is a short film screening project developed in association with Indie Cork Short Film Festival. This was piloted successfully in 2018 and continued in 2019. Its purpose is to create opportunity for regular cinema audience to experience short film production by offering a curated programme of the best short films submitted to the Indie Cork Film Festival to audiences in six locations in County Cork. The project involved the support of cinemas in Mallow, Bantry, Midleton and Youghal, Sirius Arts Centre, and the Town Hall in Skibbereen. The film programme which is free to the public includes introductory talks by the festival Director Mick Hannigan.
- Creative Ireland. The Arts Office supports the Creative Ireland programme. Work in 2019 included the delivery of all Library events for Cruinniú na nÓg in June,

## **Architects Department**

This Architects Department play a pivotal role in the promotion of good design and architectural awareness within Cork County. They continued to provide invaluable input into the design of many projects in 2019. Services carried out by the department included:

- Consultation/Brief Preparation
- Building, Interior Design & Urban Design, from initial concept, through the various stages of planning, tendering and administrating the building contract until the project's completion
- Libraries & Other Civic Buildings

The following is an outline of some of the key projects that the County Architects were involved in:





## Kinsale Library

The Architects Dept. have completed a comprehensive detailed design package to convert the existing 19th century Old Mill building at Church Square into a new public library. A two stage tender process is under way with works scheduled to commence on site in early 2020.



## Public Toilets & Lifeguard Station, Front Strand, Youghal



The Architects Dept. secured Part VIII statutory approval for a new public toilet and lifeguard facility at Front Strand in Youghal. This new facility will compliment the proposed Midleton to Youghal Greenway. Detailed design has been completed and the project will be tendered in early 2020.

## Mallow Theatre

The Architects Dept. have procured and are leading a team of consultants to assist with the design of a complete refurbishment of the Mallow Town Hall to provide for a 200 seat theatre, tourist office, gallery spaces, community meeting rooms etc. With preliminary design work well progressed, it is intended to publish the new proposal for Part VIII in Q1 2020.



## The Briery Gap Theatre and Library



The Briery Gap Cultural Centre is located in Macroom in the former Palace Cinema building, which is shared with the Macroom branch of Cork County Library. Following a fire in 2016, a full refurbishment project is underway. The project aims to reinstate and enhance the existing facilities for both building users and the community.

The project was in the detailed design phase in 2019 and will be at tender stage by the end of Q1 2020. Construction is planned to commence by the end of 2020.



## Spike Island Ticket Kiosk & Brochure



The Architects Department designed and procured the proposed ticket kiosk at Kennedy Pier for Spike Island. Also included in the 2019's works was the production of a tourist trail brochure showing places of interest and walking trails on Spike Island.

## New Fire Stations in Kanturk, Macroom and Clonakilty

Architect Department Led Design Team have been tasked with providing new retained Fire Stations throughout the County. The projects will provide much needed upgrades to Fire Services within the areas.

### Kanturk Fire Station

Contractor appointed and construction began in 2019. Works to be completed in Q3 2020.



### Macroom Fire Station

Detailed design completed, a series of value-engineering rounds to meet budget and tender documents prepared. Tender Date set for Q1 2020.

### Clonakilty Fire Station

Design team appointed, Part VIII attained, site investigations underway with a Tender Date expected in 2020.

## 16. Information & Communications Technology

ICT is an enabler for the effective and efficient operation of the organisation's internal and external business processes. This section outlines the ICT initiatives and projects implemented during 2019, in addition to the projects below IT handled over 14,000 calls logged to the IT Service Desk.

### ICT Strategy

The ICT Strategy 2019-2022 was approved by the SMT in June 2019. The drivers for this strategy are focused on the delivery of efficient, effective IT services; use of technology to automate operational routine, rules based processes; better use of information across the Council and providing additional channels for easier communication and collaboration. The strategy is focused on how IT can better support the work of the Council, using the latest technology to transition to a modern workplace. The three key strategic objectives defined in the strategy are:

1. Improving how we deliver and manage IT Services.
2. Exploiting technology to automate and optimise our operational processes.
3. Providing access to our information resources and improving our collaboration channels.

The strategy includes an Implementation Roadmap that is the basis for the development of the IT ASDPs for the lifetime of the strategy.

### Boundary Transition

The Boundary Implementation project was a critical project for ICT in 2019. ICT tasks included implementing changes to our technical and communications infrastructure, site connectivity, hardware transfer and disposal, Active Directory updates to reflect staff movement, application changes to correspond with the new organisational structure and most significantly transfer of information and records for all services moving from the County Council.

The list below highlights the work undertaken in supporting the boundary implementation.

- New User Acceptance Testing (UAT) and Development environments were setup to test and validate all data transferring to the City. To ensure security of the data during the initial test phases all transfers were initially anonymised. In addition, a secure protocol was developed to transfer data using the FileCloud platform and AX Crypt encryption.
- The first transfer of data was for the Register of Elector. The relevant records were transferred to Cork City Council and the Cork County Council Register was amended on schedule in early February.
- We worked with each directorate to define the business rules for data extraction and with a number of third parties and the LGMA to develop and test the extraction scripts required to extract the relevant records from all our local and national systems.
- Work on spatial analysis via digitised data and Eircodes was key in identifying the data to transfer to the City across many systems.
- A scalable temporary, transition data repository was setup to facilitate the secure, encrypted and logged transfer of all non-system information to the city. A Data Transfer Guide for business users was developed to ensure consistency of naming, folder structures etc.
- The full final extract of all transferring iHouse data as determined by the Business Requirement document was sent to Cork City on May 27th.
- An extract of 10,040 Closed Planning Applications and 109,724 documents as determined by the Business Requirement document transferred to Cork City on the 11th May 2019. Incremental extracts are continuing until all relevant closed applications are transferred.
- Fire inspection and certification data including the transfer of 3,260 premises, 20,000 plus documents and 4,162 fire certificates transferred to Cork City council on May 23rd. A subsequent incremental transfer was completed in mid July.
- Extracts of Rents arrears and Supplier data were sent to Cork City as per agreed deadlines.



- An email was sent to 1,910 account holders on Cork County Alerts that had registered as living or working within the boundary transition area on April 30th, a subsequent reminder e-mail was sent in late May and the system updated to use the new county boundaries and associated information such as Municipal Districts.
- Updates to County, electoral and municipal districts were implemented to reflect new boundaries, 279 layers were reviewed to identify those that needed to be amended.
- 10 new GIS viewers were created to support the Boundary change. 5 of these were for the public. Boundary data was also shared publically so that it could be easily shared with other organisations so that they could analyse the impact of the boundary on them, e.g. Health and Educational sectors.
- Fifteen council sites transferred to the city requiring changes to the WAN and removal of equipment.

## Business Support Services

IT regularly meet with other directorates to ensure we are meeting and responding to their requirements, a number of new services were made available during 2019 including

- New central Information GIS portal released and expansion of GIS applications to include Waste Permits, Mobile Library locations, Trails Digitiser, Housing, WiFi locations and Ring Buoy viewers.
- Release of new Vacant housing survey app and Internal Rental Housing Stock viewer.
- Setup and provided support for monthly Central Credit returns.
- Development of a new Housing Loans module that has made it to User Acceptance Testing (UAT).
- Upgrade of the corporate Managed Print Service and extension to include additional sites.
- Introduction of a secure file transfer solution for large file transfers.
- Roll out of a new Extranet project collaboration platform.
- Created a Fileshare User Guide and worked with a number of directorates to reorganise their Fileshare structure and contents.
- Provided support for a number of email discoveries for both FOI and Court Proceedings.
- Assisted with new Council requirements.
- Assisted with Wifi4EU successful application.

## Improving our Information & Communications Technology

IT systems and hardware need to be refreshed to maintain application and system software that is fully supported and maintained by the supplier. Failure to maintain IT systems creates a business risk where support could be limited or withdrawn in the event of an incident or problem impacting the reliability, performance and availability of our systems.

Technology refresh projects that were completed in 2019 include

- Replacement of over 150 XP Machines.
- Upgrade of private and public WiFi across the County Hall campus.
- Floodworks System upgrade and redeployment to IAAS in CIX.
- Cisco VPN Upgrade to AnyConnect.
- Motor Tax (DTTAS) software, machines and printer upgrade.
- Critical server upgrades.
- Upgrade of iHouse application to version 3.4.
- Replacement of MapGuide WebGIS.
- Planning enquiry mapping solution in development.
- Emergency Response Vehicle upgrade.
- GCN upgrade at Annabella and Inniscarra.
- New wireless connections or upgrades for a number of sites.
- Cabinet and comms room updates at external sites – Annabella House & Lab, Mallow Tourist Office, Motor Tax – MBP, Middleton AEO, Skibbreen Town Hall, Cobh Town Hall.
- Improvements to high site infrastructure; moved an important site from IAA on Mt Gabriel to a local WISP and decommissioned the Blarney RTE High Site.





- Upgraded radio links on the network with higher speed and higher specification radio links improving network availability
- Installed new Peplink system for Rafeen Civic Amenity to improve connectivity.

## ICT Security

Maintaining the security of all ICT systems and infrastructure is of paramount importance. During 2019 an Information Security Committee was established comprising representatives from a number of directorates to oversee and collaborate on Information Security controls and policies.

The security projects undertaken in 2019 include:

- New Security Incident Response Plan in place incorporating a 24/7 SOC-Security Operations Centre
- McAfee Antivirus Upgrade
- New Firewall Upgrade
- ManageEngine SIEM – Security Information and Event Management Log 360 rollout
- New Patch Management solution and process implementation
- Network Access Control rollout (phase 1) – quarantine of all PCs and laptops where users are not on current domain i.e. non corporate devices or those returning from long term leave/career breaks, etc.
- In 2019 the ICT Security Team addressed **25** new IT Security Threats
  - Mitigation actions taken included:
    - Applying patches and vendor updates
    - Blocking of emails
    - Blacklisting of specified email domains and websites
    - Updating of firewall rules to block traffic to identified Indicators of Compromise (IOCs)
- **16** IT Security Communications Email alerts have been issued to all Staff
  - Alerts highlighted the following:
    - Phishing emails
    - Spam emails
    - Credential harvesting attempts
    - Phone scams
- Staff Security Awareness training programme consisted of **8** video training courses and **3** Phishing exercises. All users that succumbed to the phishing exercise were redirected to additional training. The percentage of overall users opening phishing emails dropped from 15% to 5% over the course of the three exercises.
- **3** Penetration tests carried out in 2019 with a major drop in most severity issues.



## 17. Corporate Services

### County Mayor

Cllr. Patrick Gerard Murphy's Mayoral term of office ran from June 2018 to June 2019. Cllr. Christopher O'Sullivan was elected Mayor of the County of Cork in June 2019.

### Mayoral Reception

Ból Chumann na hEireann the NGB for the sport of Road Bowling in Ireland celebrated 50 years of International Championship in 2019. In recognition of this a reception was hosted for them in the Council Chamber, County Hall on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019. Cllr. Joe Carroll, deputised for the Mayor at the event which was attended by Road Bowlers from Ireland, Germany and the Netherlands including the President of the International Association Alloys Timmerhuis.

### Mayor's Community Awards

The Mayor's Community Awards Scheme was developed by Social and Community SPC to acknowledge people working voluntarily to help others and the work of volunteers. The scheme also recognises communities that work together to improve their surroundings and the environment.

There were 50 nominations for the 2019 Awards. The Awards Ceremony and dinner was held in the Foyer of County Hall on Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> April. The Mayor presented 11 Awards on the night, 9 Divisional awards, 3 for each of the three Divisions (North, South and West) and also one overall individual award and one overall group award. The overall awards went to Paul Kavanagh and Clean Coasts Ballynamona.



### Meetings of Elected Members

The Corporate Services Section is responsible for the administration of the meetings of Cork County Council. In 2019 there were 20 full Council Meetings, 9 meetings of the Development Committee and two Special



Meetings of the Development Committee, 10 meetings of the Corporate Policy Group and 1 Special Meeting of Corporate Policy Group.

The Annual Meeting was held on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

In addition to this there were also a special meeting of Full Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019 to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the first Dáil.

A total of 119 Notices of Motions were put before Full Council.

## Local Elections 2019

The Local Elections were held on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2019 to select the 55 Elected Members to represent Cork County from 2019 to 2024.

Of the 55 Elected Members, 34 were re-elected to their seats and 21 were newly elected members of Cork County Council.

Party Breakdown:

Party Name	Number of Elected Members
Fine Gael	20
Fianna Fáil	18
Independent	10
Green Party	2
Labour	2
Sinn Féin	2
Social Democrats	1
Total	55

## Corporate Plan

The 2015 to 2019 Corporate Plan was reviewed and a draft Corporate Plan for 2019-2024 was prepared that contains the aims and actions which will inform and guide the Council's activities for the lifetime of the current council.

During the second half of 2019 an innovative service design approach was taken to the preparation of the plan and to define the core values, mission and strategic objectives of the plan. Extensive engagement was carried out across a range of stakeholders including Elected Members, staff, citizens and other external participants.

The Plan will underpin the Council's activities for the next five years and will guide the Council's annual budgets, capital works programmes and is the foundation for the Annual Service Delivery Plans.

## Customer Complaints 2019

There were 24 formal complaints received in 2019. A response was issued to all of these complaints within the timeframe required by the Customer Charter, which is 15 working days of receipt.

11 requests for Internal Review were received in 2019.

## Freedom of Information

214 Freedom of Information requests were received in 2019. Of these:

- 76 FOI requests were granted
- 61 requests were part-granted



- 62 FOI requests were refused (reasons for refusal include personal information of third parties, records already in public domain, legally privileged, commercially sensitive, records not held or do not exist )
- 15 FOI requests were withdrawn, 5 of which were answered outside FOI.

3 FOI decisions were referred to the OIC (Office of Information Commissioner) during 2019.

## Data Protection

There were 28 Data Subject Access requests in 2019. 28 of these requests have been closed at year end.

## Ombudsman

27 Ombudsman cases were received in 2019.

## Oifig na Gaeilge

The role of Oifig na Gaeilge is to ensure that Cork County Council is a local authority which is welcoming and supportive of the rights of the public to correspond with it through the medium of Irish and to ensure its compliance with the Official Languages Act 2003 while promoting the Irish Language through the Council's day to day operations.

- In 2019 Oifig na Gaeilge organised events for Seachtain na Gaeilge, for both staff and the public alike. The Council were also pleased to help fund and support events organised by the Library Services and Arts Office for Seachtain na Gaeilge throughout the County.
- Oifig na Gaeilge provided funding through its Ciste Tacaíochta for groups and organisations requiring assistance in holding Irish language events or activities around the County.
- During 2019 Oifig na Gaeilge continued to work with the Cork County Arts Office by once again funding the Irish language in Arts Category of the Cork County Council Arts Grant Scheme. The Irish Office was greatly encouraged by the interest shown in the grant and will continue to work with the Arts Office in the promotion of this Scheme.
- The Irish Officer, as part of the Cork County Council Culture Team, took part in the 3rd Annual Cork County Creative Ireland Conference in October held in Mallow town. The conference concentrated on the theme of Arts and Creativity for young people.
- Oifig na Gaeilge made funding available for a number of staff to undertake Irish Courses at various levels and continues to encourage staff engagement in the Irish language.
- The Cork County Council's website was modified and updated to include a section dedicated to the Irish Language and Oifig na Gaeilge. Furthermore all static content on the Council's website is now available in both English and Irish, as well as items of news and public notices.
- Cork County Council has increased the amount of press releases and social media posts released through the medium of Irish, or bilingually, to the media communications and the public and will continue this positive trend going forward.
- In 2019 Cork County Council continued to liaise with Oifig an Choimisinéara Teanga in relation to compliance with the Official Languages Act and other associated legislation.
- Cork County Council's Oifig na Gaeilge also engages with various local and National Irish language interest organisations.

## Audit Committee & Internal Audit

A new Audit Committee comprising of 7 members was formed on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2019. The outgoing committee met on 3 occasions and the new committee met on two occasions during 2019.

Internal Audit collated responses from directorates in relation to compliance with the Public Spending Code and compiled the report for the National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC) annual return. As part of the Committee's work programme, Internal Audit has a programme of audits that are completed throughout the year and presented to the Committee during the ongoing meetings throughout the year.





## Risk Management Activities

Directorate and the Corporate risk registers continue to be maintained and managed in CalQRisk. This has been supported by directorate risk register reviews at each Risk Oversight Committee meeting. Since the end of 2019, the following risk registers have been reviewed –

- Economic Development, Enterprise and Tourism
- MDs
- Housing
- Environment
- Roads

The Corporate Risk Register is also reviewed on an ongoing schedule and currently contains 29 risks across 13 different portfolio categories.

Membership of the Risk Oversight Committee has been extended to all directorates.

Since the beginning of 2020, Risk Oversight Committee meeting frequency has been increased from every quarter to every 2 months.

## Governance Review

The Institute of Public Administration (IPA) worked on an independent Review of Governance Arrangements in Cork County Council during 2019 with a view to issuing a report on findings in 2020.

The benchmark for the assessment was the Governance Principles & Governance Framework for the Local Government Sector (2015), supplemented by a number of relevant aspects of provisions of other state and public governance codes including the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016), and which are relevant and appropriate to the local government sector.

The findings and recommendations of the Report are categorised according to the six governance principles outlined in the Governance Principles & Governance Framework for the Local Government Sector:

1. Purpose, Planning and Performance
2. Leadership Roles and Relationships
3. Values, Ethics and Behaviour
4. Decision-making, Risk and Control
5. Evaluation and Capacity Development
6. Stakeholders and Public Accountability

Following conclusion of the Review, the IPA will make recommendations to further improve governance arrangements within the Council.

## Bye Laws

Meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2019 – Adoption of Cork County Council Waste Presentation Bye Laws 2019 were adopted at the Full Council meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2019.

## Links with Other Local Authority Areas

In 2019, Cork County Council continued to foster connections and links with other local authority areas. These links are of significant value in developing economic, social and cultural linkages with overseas countries, thereby promoting Cork County as an attractive place in which to live, invest and visit. The Mayor welcomed a number of delegations and Ambassadors to County Hall on Courtesy Visits during the year, including the following:

- Australian Ambassador Andrews
- H.E. Mr. He Xiangdong, Chinese Ambassador
- Suzanne Drisdelle, Chargée d’Affaires, Canadian Embassy Visit to County Hall

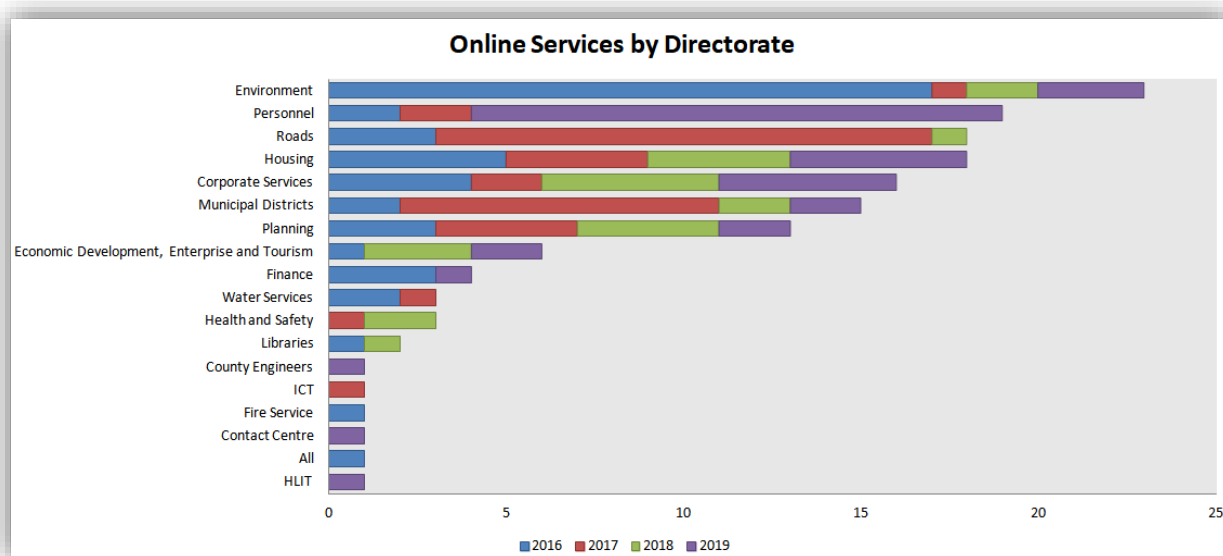


- Portuguese Ambassador, Mr. Miguel de Almeida e Sousa, accompanied by the recently appointed Economic and Trade Counsellor, Dr. Luís Reis and Mr. George Barter, Honorary Consul to Portugal
- Delegation Visit from the Netherlands
- Nanjing Delegation

## Service rePublic Highlights for 2019

The Service rePublic team in Corporate Services continues to deliver a program of service design, online services and business intelligence and reporting services. The team manages the Cork County Council online customer experience portal – [www.yourcouncil.ie](http://www.yourcouncil.ie) – and the internal Dash portal for online services for staff.

Up to the end of 2019, 146 online services had been developed across almost all directorates in Cork County Council.



Some Online Services Highlights in 2019 include -

- Housing Repairs Service - This service includes SMS messages to tenants notifying them of the repair request status and visits by the contractor. It also allows the contractor to receive details of the job to their mobile phone and allows them to record the finished work and sign off by the tenant, all online on their mobile devices.
- Online Job Applications – Cork County Council has provided a fully online process for job applications through [www.yourcouncil.ie](http://www.yourcouncil.ie) including the shortlisting and interviewing of candidates. The application form is never printed and everything can be done electronically.
- Online Parking Fine Appeals.
- Online Submissions - Numerous additional online submissions including one for variations to the County Development Plan.
- Private Rented and Social Housing Inspections.
- Online Consultation for the Corporate Plan.



## Property Section

1st January 2019  
to 31st December 2019

		NORTH	SOUTH	WEST
<b>Total Number of DOS Orders: -</b>	<b>643</b>			
<b>Total Number of Transactions: -</b>	<b>647</b>			
<b>Land Acquisition Including TII Schemes</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Wayleaves/ROW</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Leases/Licence</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Disposals</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Acq. of Houses including Part V</b>	<b>494</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>135</b>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>

1 no. Vesting Order

1 no. Acquisition of old bakery building

1 no. Acquisition of waste water treatment plant

1 no. Agreed Legal costs

1 no. Letting of lands

1 no. Settlement of Compliance

643 no DOS Orders -

This includes 128 no DOS Orders that were rescinded but these were already included in previous report figures

4 no DOS Orders have more than 1 transaction

## Communications Office

The Communications Office supports Cork County Council's corporate communications, media relations and marketing activity across traditional and new media. Our aim is to promote clearly, honestly and openly the Council's services, activities, aspirations and decisions to citizens and businesses.

In 2019, 248 press releases issued featuring events and projects in which the Council participated in, with a success rate of over 90%, while 494 media queries were directly responded to, with corporate governance and reputation management considerations to the fore. Special editorial content and supplements such as the Irish Examiner's Cork County on the Rise supplement were coordinated through the Communications Office. This is made possible by working closely with staff across the organisation to ensure that all published content is well-informed and approved in a timely manner.

Supporting the Office of the Mayor is a key priority with 104 speeches prepared and photography arranged at a variety of events in order to promote the Office and continue to create strong public awareness. A Mayor's column features fortnightly in the Irish Examiner and Cork Independent.

Collaboration across a number of Directorates in organising publicity campaigns and policy launches is a key function of the Office with events such as IRONMAN, the Dutch Royal Visit of King Willem-Alexander and Queen Maxima, the contract signing between European Investment Bank, the N22 Macroom By-Pass Contract signing and the inaugural Cork County Council Business and Tourism Awards. The 2019 Local Elections were also covered with real time updates on candidates deemed elected posted on the Council's Website and Social Media accounts.



www.CorkCoCo.ie acts as a portal for members of the public to find information about the many services Cork County Council provides. In 2019, this website welcomed 493,770 users and 2.49 million page views, accessed on mobile devices in 50% of cases. Improvements to the website include the redesign of a number of sections, including Housing and Library Services, while significant advances were made in ensuring full Irish translation.

Corporate social media accounts ensure a strong profile and channel of communication with the media, customers, and the wider public are maintained. Continued growth was seen across all social media platforms, which averaged over 500,000 impressions per month, demonstrating the level of interest and success in terms of public messaging.



The Communications Office plays a strong role in supporting the messaging of Cork County Council's Severe Weather Assessment Team. The Office also undertakes a media liaison role with the Inter Agency Emergency Management Office Region South for Upper Tier establishments in relation to the Chemicals Act as well as supporting the Office of Emergency Management in their messaging such as the Winter Ready Campaign.





## 18. Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs)

### SPC No. 1 – Planning & Strategic Development

The Planning & Strategic Development SPC met on three occasions in 2019, including the inaugural meeting of the new SPC Committee following the Local Elections. A number of planning policy issues were discussed including:

- Housing for Older Persons
- Retrofitting Vehicular Parking in Older Housing Estates
- Interim Recreation and Amenity Policy
- Office of the Planning Regulator
- County Development Plan, Public Consultation Document

### SPC No. 2 – Environment, Climate Action & Biodiversity

Due to local elections and an unavoidable delay in constituting the new committee, the Environment, Climate Action & Biodiversity SPC met just once in March 2019, at which meeting it considered the following policy issues:

- Waste Enforcement Priorities 2019
- Draft Climate Change Adaptation Strategy
- Policy on Glyphosate use
- Single use Plastics - Green Government Initiative
- Removal of a local bring bank.

### SPC No. 3 – Economic Development & Enterprise

This report covers the Economic Development and Enterprise SPCs formed following the Local Elections in 2014 and in 2019. The Chairman of the Economic Development and Enterprise SPC is Cllr. Frank O'Flynn.

Due to the Local Elections and time consumed in finalising the appointments of Sectoral and Other Members to the ED&E SPC; only three quarterly meetings were held during 2019. Those meetings were held on the following dates:

- Quarter 1:** Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> January 2019  
Presentation: **Water Systems and Services Innovation Centre:** K Fitzgibbon, Coordinator.
- Quarter 2:** Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> April 2019  
Presentation: **Energy Cork:** K Lettice, Co-ordinator.
- Quarter 3:** No Meeting
- Quarter 4:** Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Induction for New Members/Presentations:

- **Overview of the role of the Directorate:** S Corcoran
- **Enterprise – Cork South, Cork North & West Local Enterprise Offices:** K Curran/S O'Sullivan
- **Economic Development Fund & Projects:** J Lalor.
- **South West Regional Enterprise Plan:** R Church.
- **Economic Development – Infrastructure:** P Sutton.
- **Community Development:** K Keegan.

Issues covered during these meetings included:

- Summary of Yearly EDF allocations to date.
- Progress on implementing the 2019 Work Programme of the ED Infrastructure team.
- Progress in realising the relevant objectives contained in the South West Regional Enterprise Plan.
- Progress on implementing the Work Programme of the Local Enterprise Offices.
- Progress on other Economic Development initiatives, EU and other Co-Funded Projects.
- Progress on implementing the Work Programme of the Local Community Development team.



## SPC No. 4 – Tourism

The Tourism SPC met on 2 occasions in 2019 and discussed a number of matters such as the following:

- Launch of updated Festival/Events Guidelines & Policies and Workshop for Cork County
- Update on progress of Dursey Cable Car and Visitor Centre
- SECAD – Ring of Cork, discussion around linking further to Pure Cork brand
- Cork County Council Tourism Activity

The SPC received presentations from the following in 2019:

- **Association of Irish Festivals and Events (AOIFE)** - Colm Croffy, Executive Director, AOIFE
- **Update on the activities of Visit Cork** – Seamus Heaney, Head of Visit Cork
- **Ironman 2019** - Sean O’Callaghan, Senior Executive Officer, Municipal District Operations & Rural Development
- **Update from Fáilte Ireland Activities Team** - Brian Quinn, Programme Manager, Fáilte Ireland

## SPC No. 5 – Housing

The Housing SPC met 3 times during 2019. Among the issues considered were the Housing Needs Assessment 2019, Housing Delivery Programme, Affordable Housing, Estate Management, Homeless Services, Choice Based Letting and the introduction of a new system for the management of Housing Maintenance Services.

The SPC received an update and presentation on the New Housing Frameworks. Home for Life Ltd gave a presentation on the Mortgage to Rent Scheme. The Committee were consulted on Private House Grants to develop alternative mechanisms to spend/broaden the scope of housing adaptation grants.

The SPC assisted in the preparation of the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024 and recommended it to Full Council for adoption in September 2019.

## SPC No. 6 – Roads & Transport

The Roads & Transportation SPC held 2 meetings in 2019, one in March, and one in December following the May Local Elections and setting up of new SPCs.

- A policy was developed on Traffic Calming in Towns & Villages & recommended to Full Council for approval, subject to some minor additions.
- Presentations were made on Road Grant Allocations 2019, Age Friendly Parking Spaces and on Cork County Council led Public Lighting LED Retrofit Project.

## SPC No. 7 – Social Inclusion, Community & Rural Development

- Two meetings convened by the Community Section – responsibility for the SPC transferred to MDs in September 2019.
- Draft Interim Recreation & Amenity Policy agreed by SPC in April.
- Ongoing updates from the LCDCs and the Municipal Districts provided.
- New 3 year funding proposal for Foróige summer schemes approved in April. Annual funding administered in Sept. 2019 for 13 summer recreational schemes supporting over a 1000 young people.
- Ongoing support provided to the Cork LGBT Interagency Awareness Week. Three County Cork events developed to support the emerging LGBT Networks in the County. Recognition Award received from the Interagency Group for our support.

## SPC No. 8 – Arts, Culture & Language

The Arts Office is responsible for the administration of the Arts Culture and Languages SPC. The SPC met twice prior to the local elections in May 2019.



<b>Policy Area</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Adopted by SPC</b>
Languages	Irish Language promotion advisory note to organisations in receipt of funding from Council	April 2019
Placenames	Council Placenames policy reviewed and approved without change	Feb 2019
Public Art	Public Art Policy framework	Feb 2019

A new Arts Culture and Languages SPC was constituted following the local elections and met in November. Chair Cllr. Patrick Gerard Murphy. At this meeting Standing Orders were agreed and the following overview of cultural services was provided for information for new members.



## 19. Appendices

### Appendix 1 – Members' Expenses 2019

Type	Amount
Representational Payments	€942,100.23
Monthly Allowance	€511,825.05
Municipal District Chair Allowance	€52,151.76
SPC Chair Allowance	€48,161.22
Municipal District Allowance	€54,213.21
Mayor and Deputy Chair Allowance	€62,538.12
Travel, Training & Conferences	€133,081.62
<b>Total</b>	<b>€1,804,071.21</b>





## Appendix 2 - Conference Attendance 2019

Date	Conferences	Location	No. of Attendees
January	The Finance Act 2018	Louth	6
	Retirement Entitlements & Taxation Benefits for Councillors	Cork	1
	E. U Cohesion Policy 2014 -2020	Louth	1
April	Tourism Conference	Cork	1
July	From Ballot Box to Council Chamber	Wexford	1
September	Douglas Hyde Conference	Roscommon	1
October	Environment Ireland	Dublin	1
	ICSH National Social Housing Conference	Waterford	1
November	Entitlements to Health Services	Cork	4
	Ireland's Association of Adventure Tourism	Cork	2
December	First Time Buyers Incentives	Louth	4
	Environmental Pillar Climate & Biodiversity Workshop	Dublin	3
	Tourism Supports	Cork	2



## Appendix 3 - Training Conference Attendance 2019

Date	Conference	Location	No. of Attendees
January	Association of Irish Local Government Module 1	Mullingar	11
	Association of Irish Local Government Module 1	Tipperary	9
February	Association of Irish Local Government Autumn Conference	Longford	24
	Innovative Housing Design Conference	Dublin	3
March	Association of Irish Local Government Module 2	Arklow	8
	LAMA Spring Seminar	Leitrim	21
	Association of Irish Local Government Module 2	Dungarvan	4
June	Inductions Presentations	Cork	33
July	Induction Training for Elected Members	Tipperary	30
September	Association of Irish Local Government Autumn Seminar	Monaghan	28
October	Association of Irish local Government Module 4	Limerick	7
	Association of Irish Local Government Module 4	Dundalk	16
	LAMA Autumn Seminar	Clare	29
	Autumn Planning Seminar	Dublin	16
	Tripartite Conference & Workshop	Dublin	1
	Creating Economic & Business Opportunities from Climate Change		1
November	Association of Irish Local Government Module 5	Cork	14
	Let's Talk Tourism	Killarney	1



## Appendix 4: Other Travel 2019

Date	Event	Location	No. of Attendees
<b>March</b>	County Cork B.P & P Association of New York Partnership	New York	1
	St. Patricks' Day Trade Delegation	USA	5
	Energy & Climate Change	Barcelona	10
<b>June</b>	Nanjing Tech Summit	Hong Kong & China	1
<b>October</b>	Annual Meeting of the JPC & Local Authorities	Dublin	1
<b>November</b>	Pride of Place Awards	Kilkenny	4
	Engineers Ireland Excellence	Dublin	1
	Trade Mission	China	3
	Study visit to Brussels	Brussels	12
	Asia Matters	Dublin	1
	Excellence in Local Government Awards	Dublin	5
	National LCDC Networking Event	Tullamore	1



## Appendix 5: Annual Service Delivery Plan (ASDP)

Item	Directorate	Principal Service	ASDP Objective	Performance Standard	Performance Standard Completion	Notes	Performance Indicator	PI Ranking 2018	PI Ranking 2017
1	Boundary Transition Programme	Staff Transfer Plan	In conjunction with Personnel Department, to agree a staff transfer plan with Cork City Council and the Implementation Oversight Committee relating to the transfer of staff under the boundary transition programme	Plan agreed by 01/03/2019	Achieved		N/A		
2	Boundary Transition Programme	Key Operational Assets	Identify key operational assets required by CCC post transfer date and submit business cases for their retention to both Cork City Council and the Implementation Oversight Committee.	Assets identified by 01/03/2019	Achieved		N/A		
3	Boundary Transition Programme	Service delivery in the Transition area	Identify all services transitioning to Cork City Council as part of the Boundary Transition Programme and agree how and when these services will transition.	Services identified by 01/03/2019	Achieved		N/A		
4	Boundary Transition Programme	Annual Financial Compensation	In conjunction with Finance Department, engage in negotiations with the Implementation Oversight Committee and Cork City Council to agree the Annual Financial Compensation payable by Cork City Council to Cork County Council.	Compensation agreed by 31/12/2019	Achieved		N/A		
5	Boundary Transition Programme	Financial Settlement	In conjunction with Finance Department, engage in negotiations with Implementation Oversight Committee and Cork City Council to agree the Financial Settlement.	Financial Settlement agreed by 01/08/2019	Partially Achieved	Negotiations ongoing.	N/A		
6	Boundary Transition Programme	Compliance Reports to IOC and LA members	Issue the required Implementation Oversight Committee Reports/Compliance with LG Act 2019 Reports as set out in legislation.	Completed by 31/12/2019	Achieved		N/A		
7	Boundary Transition Programme	Boundary Transition Programme - Communications Plan	In conjunction with Corporate Services Department and Cork City Council, to develop a joint boundary communications plan relating to the services transition programme.	Plan developed by 01/04/2019	Achieved		N/A		





Item	Directorate	Principal Service	ASDP Objective	Performance Standard	Performance Standard Completion	Notes	Performance Indicator	PI Ranking 2018	PI Ranking 2017
8	Corporate Services	Customer Services	Implement Firmstep CRM SERVICE to all service areas in the Centre and ongoing monitoring of new CRM	100% implementation by Q3 2019	Achieved				
9	Corporate Services	Customer Services	Review and extend the range of services provided by the Customer Contact Centre in conjunction with Service rePublic Team (i.e. MD's, Roads & Environment)	New service areas identified and reviewed by Q3 2019. Quarterly report prepared for DoS	Partially Achieved	Have extended the services by taking on Facilities emails through the Firmstep platform.			
10	Corporate Services	Customer Services	Installation of a new Cisco phone system in Centre, through the awarding and implementation of the IPT Contract by ICT Dept., with adequate training for all users	New system installed and users adequately trained by Q4 2019	Not Achieved	IPT contract will be in place by Q2 2020 and Contact Centre's current Cisco phone system will be worked by Q3 2020			
11	Corporate Services	Internal Audit	Prepare and Implement the annual Internal Audit Plan.	Complete by Q4	Partially Achieved	Staff Resources			
12	Corporate Services	FOIs	Process FOI requests, Ombudsman & Customer Charter Complaints in accordance with statutory requirements and Customer Charter	Responses issued by statutory and other required deadlines	Achieved				
13	Corporate Services	Property Procurement, Sale & Leasing Agent	Support & assist the Housing Directorate in achieving the Departmental targets for social housing	Departmental targets achieved December 2019	Achieved		H1(a) overall no. of dwellings	3	4
14	Corporate Services	Service Transformation Team	Support the boundary transition process and the restructuring of Council services as a result	Deliver a customer and staff engagement process for redesigning services by Q3 2019					
15	Corporate Services	Service Transformation Team	Develop joined-up, organisation-wide service design opportunities across departments	Consolidation of Grants process across the Council by Q4 2019 Single Part 8 service for all departments by end Q4 2019 Redesign Ask A Question process to provide back office stage across all services by end Q4 2019	Achieved				



Item	Directorate	Principal Service	ASDP Objective	Performance Standard	Performance Standard Completion	Notes	Performance Indicator	PI Ranking 2018	PI Ranking 2017
16	Corporate Services	Service Transformation Team	Work with Communications to review and design Cork County Council's digital services platforms - website, intranet, yourcouncil.ie, twitter and instagram	Digital services platform design review carried out with Communications by end of Q4 2019	Achieved				
17	Corporate Services	Service Transformation Team	Embed the process of service design in Cork County Council and the Corporate Plan, and become a partner of choice for departments and sections in the design of internal services	Develop and start the implementation of a digital strategy for Cork County Council with the support of the IT department by Q2 2019 Internal communication strategy for service transformation developed and implemented by Q2 2019 Engagement process for the team developed and communicated by Q1 2019 15 new internal services published on Dash by Q4 2019	Achieved				
18	Corporate Services	Corporate Risk Management	Implement the Council's Corporate Risk Management Policy through the Risk Oversight Committee.	Corporate Services Risk Register reviewed and integrated into CalQRisk by end of Q3 2019  Four quarterly meetings held by Risk Oversight Committee in 2019	Achieved				
19	Corporate Services	Corporate Plan	Review Corporate Plan and new plan in place	New Corporate Plan in place December 2019	Partially Achieved	Council approval was given to extend timeline for completion until end Feb 2020			
20	Corporate Services	Governance Review	Draft review finalised and plan put in place	June 2019					
21	Corporate Services	Audit Committee	Facilitate & Support Audit Committee Meetings	Facilitate five Audit Committee Meetings and any training events and have Annual Report and Work Programme approved by Council	Achieved				



Item	Directorate	Principal Service	ASDP Objective	Performance Standard	Performance Standard Completion	Notes	Performance Indicator	PI Ranking 2018	PI Ranking 2017
22	Corporate Services	Annual Service Delivery Plan Co-ordination	Review the previous years ASDP and issue report on same to Council	Report issued to Council by end of Q2	Achieved				
23	Corporate Services	Performance Indicators	Compile Key Performance Indicator data and submit same to NOAC	Data submitted to NOAC by required deadline	Achieved				
24	Corporate Services	PR/Publicity	Actively promote CCC as an excellent, innovative and progressive Local Authority and provider of high-quality local services by identifying positive news stories about the Council and to ensure same are promoted on all platforms to spread the message.	Increase website and social media traffic.			C3 (A) No. of page visits to LA website in 201X.	6	7
25	Corporate Services	Awareness	Increase the profile of the Mayor and new Council, embed the Municipal Districts and increase awareness of Boundary Transition.	Supply of good quality speeches and continue Mayoral column in newspapers. Promotion of all significant MD activities. Increase awareness of Boundary through website, social media, newsletter, newspaper and radio campaign.	Achieved				
26	Corporate Services	Internal Communications	Improve and create effective and systematic channels of internal communication. Increase information from Communication Liaison Officers (CLOs)	Development of Intranet. Liaise with CLOs and MDs to develop to develop and submit "good news stories"	Achieved				
27	Corporate Services	Major Emergency/Severe Weather	Provide the public, Councillors and staff with accurate and up to date information in relation to emergencies and severe weather situations	Systems in place to provide information on Emergencies and Severe Weather situations using website, email, social media, map alerter channels and text alert. Finalise Interagency Communication Plan.	Achieved				
28	Corporate Services	Democratic Representation	Develop & Support the democratic role of the Elected Members (new elected council elected Q2)	Induction presentations Q2. Consult with AILG re training of new elected members Q2, provision of training and media training Q3.	Partially Achieved	Induction training completed. AILG consultation and media training outstanding.			
29	Corporate Services	Electoral Register	Processing of Franchise and Electoral Register transactions in a timely manner	Franchise and Electoral Register maintained and up to date Q2	Achieved				



Item	Directorate	Principal Service	ASDP Objective	Performance Standard	Performance Standard Completion	Notes	Performance Indicator	PI Ranking 2018	PI Ranking 2017
30	Corporate Services	Data Protection	Lead and Support Directorates in the implementation of Council's GDPR Policies and Procedures	Maximum compliance with GDPR December 2019 and ongoing	Achieved				
31	Corporate Services/ Seirbhísí Corparáideacha	Irish Office/Oifig na Gaeilge	Promote greater awareness of Irish and the role of the Irish Officer. Feasacht ar an Ghaeilge agus ról an t-oifigeach Gaeilge a chur chun cinn.	Assist in ensuring Council compliance with the Official Languages Act, and facilitate Irish language initiatives. Cabhraigh leis an Comhairle comhlíonadh le Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla 2003, ag éascú tionscnaimh trí Ghaeilge	Achieved				
32	Corporate Services/Seirbhísí Corparáideacha	Irish Office/Oifig na Gaeilge	Assist with the re-development of the Website to provide an Irish Language version of the static content, and to implement a maintenance plan for the satisfactory upkeep of the Irish language version of the website. Cúnamh a thabhairt chun an suíomh gréasáin a ath-fhorbairt ag sholáthar leagan Gaeilge den abhar statach, agus plean a chuir i bhfeidhm ag cinntiú an cothabháil sásúil den leagan Gaeilge den suíomh gréasáin	The updated website and the associated maintenance plan to be completed by the end of September 2019. Ba chóir go mbeidh an obair ar an suíomh agus ar an bPlean Cothabháil críochnaithe faoi dheireadh Meán Fomhair.	Achieved				
37	Economic Development, Enterprise & Tourism	Economic Development	Provide, manage & market county economic infrastructure to support the growth of Start-up/SME sector and increase employment	80% annual average occupancy of Business Growth Units	Achieved				
38	Economic Development, Enterprise & Tourism	Enterprise Supports	Provide financial & soft supports to grow the start-up and SME economy	Meet KPIs outlined in the Local Enterprise Strategy up to 2020	Achieved		J1: No. of jobs created with assistance from Local Enterprise Office during 2019	5	3
39	Economic Development, Enterprise & Tourism	Economic Development	Provide targeted financial support towards strategic economic initiatives	Cork economy grows national and international profile	Achieved				





Item	Directorate	Principal Service	ASDP Objective	Performance Standard	Performance Standard Completion	Notes	Performance Indicator	PI Ranking 2018	PI Ranking 2017
40	Economic Development, Enterprise & Tourism	Tourism	Maximise return to the Cork economy through the promotion of tourism related economic activity	Maximise the share of annual visitor numbers to Ireland for Cork	Achieved		J4: Tourism Strategy & Tourism Officer	Yes	Yes
41	Economic Development, Enterprise & Tourism	Economic Development	Stimulate rural economic activity in Cork	Attract maximum potential funding into rural economy	Achieved				
42	Economic Development, Enterprise & Tourism	Economic Development	Develop best practice in economic policy in Cork region	Sustainable international economic partnerships	Achieved				
43	Economic Development, Enterprise & Tourism	Economic Development	Develop and promote economic policies which will catalyse the growth of Cork County Economy	Increased economic output in the Cork County Economy	Partially Achieved	Awaiting publication of RSES which will inform County policy			
44	Environment/Climate Change/Broadband/Emergency Services	Agriculture Inspection Program	Meet the targets specified in the Annual (RMCEI) Inspection Plan 2019	Inspection Plan targets as individually listed in section team plan fully met.	Achieved				
45	Environment/Climate Change/Broadband/Emergency Services	Air Quality Licence Testing, Monitoring and Enforcement	Meet the targets specified in the Annual (RMCEI) Inspection Plan 2019	Inspection Plan targets as individually listed in section team plan fully met.	Achieved		E2: % of environmental pollution complaints closed	11	7
46	Environment/Climate Change/Broadband/Emergency Services	Energy Awareness Service (Council) monitoring, information and advice and awareness	Retain ISO 50001	Accreditation Retained	Achieved				
47	Environment/Climate Change/Broadband/Emergency Services	Climate Change Adaptation Strategies	Develop Climate Change Adaptation Strategy in accordance with statutory obligations and national guidance document	National targets and timelines as listed in section team plan met	Achieved				



Item	Directorate	Principal Service	ASDP Objective	Performance Standard	Performance Standard Completion	Notes	Performance Indicator	PI Ranking 2018	PI Ranking 2017
48	Environment/Climate Change/Broadband/Emergency Services	Climate Change Adaptation Strategies	Delivery of 2019 CARO Work Programme which has been agreed with the Department of Communication, Climate Action and the Environment	Achievement of 2019 Work Programme target	Achieved				
49	Environment/Climate Change/Broadband/Emergency Services	Environmental education information and advice and awareness (general public)	Implementation of Environmental Awareness Strategy	Review existing strategy, consult with stakeholders, bring draft strategy to SPC	Partially Achieved	Stakeholder consultation undertaken, included on SPC work programme. Decision pending whether separate awareness plan will be required in future	E4: % of schools that have been awarded green flag status	7	n/a in 2017
50	Environment/Climate Change/Broadband/Emergency Services	Haulbowline Island Remediation Project	Complete East Tip remediation programme, establish aftercare programme in accordance with licence requirements and MOU program.	Programme complete by end of Q2	Partially Achieved	Achieved East Tip remediation programme in Q4 2019. Delay due to installation of transformer by ESB. Aftercare Programme established.			
51	Environment/Climate Change/Broadband/Emergency Services	Veterinary Food Safety "Official Control" operations	Carry out all "Official Controls" in accordance with agreed SOP's as set down by the Food Safety Authority of Ireland.	SLA targets as individually listed in section team plan fully met.	Achieved				
52	Environment/Climate Change/Broadband/Emergency Services	Veterinary Food Safety Laboratory operations	Implement Service Level Agreement with FSAI.	SLA targets as individually listed in section team plan fully met.	Achieved				
53	Environment/Climate Change/Broadband/Emergency Services	Veterinary operations pertaining to dogs, horses, and the environment.	Assess and investigate issues pertaining to statutory compliance with relevant legislation.	SLA targets as individually listed in section team plan fully met.	Achieved				



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54	Environment/Climate Change/Broadband/Emergency Services	Waste Enforcement monitoring and enforcement	Meet the targets specified in the Annual (RMCEI) Inspection Plan 2019	Inspection Plan targets for 2019 as individually listed in section team plan, fully met.	Achieved				
55	Environment/Climate Change/Broadband/Emergency Services	Waste Enforcement monitoring and enforcement	Implement Business Plan adopted by Public Services Review Oversight Group	Business Plan targets for 2019 as individually listed in section team plan, fully met.	Achieved				
56	Environment/Climate Change/Broadband/Emergency Services	Waste Regulations application permit processing and report	Meet Statutory Timelines for permit applications	Number of Permit Applications processed within statutory timelines as a % of total permit applications received	Achieved				
57	Environment/Climate Change/Broadband/Emergency Services	Protection & improvement of Water Quality	Meet the targets specified in the Annual (RMCEI) Inspection Plan 2019	Inspection Plan targets as individually listed in section team plan fully met.	Achieved		E2: % of environmental pollution complaints closed	11	7
58	Environment/Climate Change/Broadband/Emergency Services	Protection & improvement of Water Quality	Complete review of laboratory structures to meet objectives of national shared service laboratory strategy	Core/non core lab processes identified - Q1 Structural review complete and revised model proposed -Q3 Revised structures Implementation Plan in place-Q4	Achieved		E2: % of environmental pollution complaints closed	11	7
59	Environment/Climate Change/Broadband/Emergency Services	Waste Water licenced facility Inspection testing and Monitoring	Meet the requirements of Annual Sampling Plan Agreed with Irish Water for 2019	Sampling Plan targets as individually listed in section team plan fully met.	Achieved				
60	Environment/Climate Change/Broadband/Emergency Services	Fire Service Operations	Review fire cover arrangements in light of City Boundary Extension and RBA II Report	Completed Q4 2019	Not Achieved	It was agreed to continue with existing fire cover arrangements for a period post boundary extension.	F1: Cost per Capita of the Fire Service	7	7



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61	Environment/Climate Change/Broadband/Emergency Services	Building Control Enforcement	Enforce Building Control Regulations	Achieve a county-wide target of 12% to 15% of new buildings inspected	Not Achieved	Increase in number of new builds. Inspections were carried out on a risk basis with several follow-up inspections leading to better outcomes from existing resources.	P1: New Buildings Inspected	29	26
62	Environment/Climate Change/Broadband/Emergency Services	Fire Safety Advice	Develop Community Fire Safety Initiatives, with particular reference to a 2 day event within each Station Ground Area during Fire Safety Week.	Completed Q3 2019	Achieved				
63	Environment/Climate Change/Broadband/Emergency Services	Fire Safety Enforcement	Continue with the implementation of a programme to inspect nursing homes and other residential care premises.	Inspection rate as per Fire Prevention Programme 2019 for each Division.	Achieved				
64	Environment/Climate Change/Broadband/Emergency Services	Building Control Applications and Submissions	Achieve early "first contact" times for all applications / meet statutory deadlines	As per Building Control Programme 2019 for each Division	Achieved				
65	Environment/Climate Change/Broadband/Emergency Services	Civil Defence	Support the Principal Response Agencies in responding to emergencies and to provide first aid and other support at local community events.	To meet standards identified in Civil Defence Development Plans 2017 – 2019 as prepared in accordance with the requirements of Section 12 of the Civil Defence Act.	Achieved				



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66	Environment/Climate Change/Broadband/Emergency Services	Major Emergency Management	Review, update, exercise and test Cork County Council's Major Emergency Plan in accordance with the Framework for Major Emergency Management. Review, update, exercise and test Inter-Agency (Local Authority, HSE, An Garda Síochána) site specific External Emergency Plans for Upper-tier establishments in Cork County in accordance with SI No 74 of 2006.	Completed by Q4 2019 as per CCC's Major Emergency Management Committee Work Programme 2019	Achieved				
67	Finance	Corporate Financial Governance	Establish optimal corporate financial governance structures which meet industry standard best practice, including statutory requirements.	Full governance review in 2019	Partially Achieved	Governance Review commenced in 2019 to be completed 2020	n/a		
68	Finance	Finance Operational	Manage the boundary transition process to achieve the optimal outcome for Cork County Council.	Achieve optimal financial settlement to secure future operations	Partially Achieved	Capital account, assets & liabilities elements of financial settlement still in progress; significant impact of boundary project on resources & other business critical areas;	n/a		
69	Finance	Corporate Insurances	Manage insurance policies and claims in a cost efficient and timely manner.	1. No and value of claims 2. Cost of insurance cover	Achieved		n/a		
70	Finance	House loan collection	Maximize collection levels for housing loans & continue to reduce to arrears.	Reduce arrears value and reduce number of accounts in arrears.	Achieved		M2(C) % Housing Loan Collection.	22	30
71	Finance	Motor Tax	Provide an efficient Counter and Postal Motor Tax service		Achieved		R3 % of motor tax transactions conducted online	3	4
72	Finance	Procurement	Develop procurement compliance within the Council.	Provide training for 60% staff by end 2019	Partially Achieved	Fully achieved by 8th March 2020	n/a		





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73	Finance	Procurement	Promote and embed a value delivery culture in all operational areas.	Full governance structure in place by end 2019	Achieved		n/a		
74	Finance	Rate Collection	Maximize Collection Levels	Maintain 2018 performance	Achieved		M2(A) % Commercial Rate Collection.	3	6
75	Finance	Payments	Provide an effective accounts payable service to creditors & in compliance with relevant legislation	Meet statutory prompt payment obligations	Achieved				
76	Finance	Corporate Financial Governance	Commission fully integrated Enterprise Resource (ERP) Systems to adequately support business processes, activities and obligations.	1. Produce plan 2. Select ERP 3. Resource project team	Not Achieved	Due to Boundary Alteration.	n/a		
77	Finance	Rates	Maximise Effective Rateable Valuation Base	Improve on 2018 performance	Achieved		n/a		
78	Finance	Payroll	Provide an effective payroll service to all staff and align with national shared services policy	Meet statutory payroll obligations and Implement Core Pay	Achieved		n/a		
79	Housing	Housing Capital & Finance	Progress delivery of social housing supports, in accordance with the objectives of the Rebuilding Ireland, using the full range of delivery mechanisms available and working with Approved Housing Bodies to maximise delivery options	Capital Programme of 670 units in 2019 together with a HAP target of 1100 in 2019	Partially Achieved	Delays on construction due to utility issues. HAP Targets were revised due to boundary change.	H1 (a) Overall # no of Dwellings provided in the Period	3	4
80	Housing	Housing Capital & Finance	Progress the delivery of the Council's Housing Capital Programme	Deliver 351 Units in 2019	Partially Achieved	Delays on construction due to utility issues	H1 (b1). No. of Dwellings Constructed by the LA in the Period	5	2
81	Housing	Housing Architectural Support	Continue to provide a range of Architectural and Quantity Surveying Services on a County wide basis including project administration and management of the Architect -led framework for projects exceeding €5m.	In-house Architect designed. 45 units to be delivered in 2019 as part of the overall capital programme of 670 units.	Partially Achieved	36 Units achieved.			



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82	Housing	Housing Capital & Finance	Progress Social Housing Acquisitions	30 Social Housing Acquisitions in 2019	Achieved		H1 (a) Overall # no of Dwellings provided in the Period	3	4
83	Housing	Housing Capital & Finance	Complete South Cork Rent Review.	Implement updated rents in South Cork from September.	Not Achieved		M2 (b) Collection Levels Rents and Annuities	5	6
84	Housing	Housing Capital & Finance	Proceed with the implementation of the impact of the review and the collection of rent	Collect 100% of the budgeted income.	Achieved		M2 (b) Collection Levels Rents and Annuities	5	6
85	Housing	Housing Policy & Coordination	Develop an Internal & External Communications Policy, Practice and Procedures throughout the Housing Directorate	Internal Information Bulletins circulated annually, and minimum of 4 media releases per month.	Achieved				
86	Housing	Housing Options	Progress the delivery of Social Leasing Programme including AHB Delivery, Private Leasing/Long Term Leasing	Deliver 112 Units in 2019	Achieved		H1 (a) Overall # no of Dwellings provided in the Period	3	4
87	Housing	Housing Options	Progress the delivery of approved Developments under previous CAS calls	Deliver 13 Units in 2019 and progress a further 28 units that have received CAS 1 approval	Achieved		H1 (a) Overall # no of Dwellings provided in the Period	3	4
88	Housing	Housing Options	Continue the implementation of the Housing Assistance Programme and achieve the DHPCLG Housing Assistance Payment annual target	22 HAP sign ups per week	Partially Achieved	Revised target as a result of boundary change.	H1 (d) # of Units provided under HAP Scheme in Period	<b>2019 onward s only</b>	<b>2019 onward s only</b>
89	Housing	Housing Options	Increase the number of Private Minimum Rental Standards Inspections	Target of 2865 inspections in 2019	Partially Achieved	Revised staffing structure not in place for the full year.			
90	Housing	Housing Options	Continue to provide grants to private houses subject to departmental approval	Process all applications in a timely manner	Achieved				



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91	Housing	Housing Options	Continue Implementation of the Cork County Vacant Homes Action Plan	Target of 50 Buy & Renew acquisitions and 10 Repair & Lease properties	Partially Achieved	Poor uptake of Repair and Lease Scheme.	H2 % of the #Dwellings at H1(G) that were vacant at end of Period.	10	12
92	Housing	Energy Efficiency Projects management	Continue energy efficiency retro-fitting works programme Local Authority owned properties	Commence Phase 2 of the Energy Efficiency programme and recoupment claims to be submitted on an ongoing basis	Achieved		H4 (a) Expenditure During 201X on Repair and Maintenance of Housing Bought or Built by the LA divided by the # of directly provided dwellings in the LA stock at end of period (H1G)	22	28
93	Housing	Housing Maintenance monitoring	Implement a planned maintenance Programme	Prepare Plan for DoS approval by end mid Q1 Procure and implement plan by year end.	Achieved	.	H4 (a) Expenditure During 201X on Repair and Maintenance of Housing Bought or Built by the LA divided by the # of directly provided dwellings in the LA stock at end of period (H1G)	22	28



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94	Housing	Refurbishment of Vacant houses	Implement a voids re-letting Programme and a derelict voids reletting program.	Complete refurbishment of 66 voids and 26 derelict voids, submit recoupment claims by Q4 2019. Ensure the quick and efficient return of vacant units to productive use throughout the year by implementing the new vacant house classification procedure	Achieved		H3 (a) The time taken from the date of vacation of a dwelling to the date in 201X (Weeks)	21	27
95	Housing	Remedial Work Schemes	Implement & Complete a Better Energy Community Scheme in Harbour View Cobh	Complete Scheme and submit Recoupment Claim by end Q4 2019.	Achieved		H4 (a) Expenditure During 201X on Repair and Maintenance of Housing Bought or Built by the LA divided by the # of directly provided dwellings in the LA stock at end of period (H1G)	22	28
96	Housing	Housing Maintenance monitoring	Commence implementation of Stock Survey Planned Maintenance Program	Stock Survey ongoing. Initial Planned Maintenance programs identified by end Q2. Procurement of Initial Planned Maintenance programs Q3.	Partially Achieved	Stock survey commenced.			
97	Housing	Housing Maintenance monitoring	Review the new Housing Response maintenance system and the rollout of firm step to housing operations. Rollout final Firm step module to contractors	New Procedures and protocols to be reviewed in Q3. New procedures relating to recording on Firmstep to be introduced by end Q2 dependant on Firm step Roll out program.	Partially Achieved		H4 (a) Expenditure During 201X on Repair and Maintenance of Housing Bought or Built by the LA divided by the # of directly provided	22	28



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							dwelling in the LA stock at end of period (H1G)		
98	Housing	Social/Leasing/Voluntary/Part V	Ensure that all Part V planning applications are assessed and all properties, subject to Part V agreements are satisfactorily snagged, with boundaries & Title confirmed prior to being conveyed.	All reports are to be uploaded to odyssey within target times All snagging inspections to be undertaken within 5 days of notification by developer - All Properties to be advertised on CBL once snags are complete	Achieved		H1 (a) Overall # no of Dwellings provided in the Period	3	4
99	Housing	Procurement	Put in place new frameworks for Engineer-lead design teams, Occupational Therapists, Quantity Surveyors, Oil Servicing Technicians and Gas Servicing Technicians and maintain existing stock of housing frameworks.	Framework documents to be finalised by end Q1 Tenders to be advertised on E-Tenders by mid of Q3.	Partially Achieved		H4 (a) Expenditure During 201X on Repair and Maintenance of Housing Bought or Built by the LA divided by the # of directly provided dwellings in the LA stock at end of period (H1G)	22	28
100	Housing	Housing property Allocation	Implement suite of Management Reports through CBL to facilitate future Housing Supply and identify non registered CBL Applicants	All reports to be set up on CBL by end of Q4 2019. All unregistered CBL applicants to be written to by end Q2	Partially Achieved		H3 (a) The time taken from the date of vacation of a dwelling to the date in 201X (Weeks)	21	27
101	Housing	Housing Applications and Transfers Administration	Undertake an Annual Housing Needs Assessment	To be completed in accordance with deadline set by the DHPLG	Achieved				





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102	Housing	Housing Adaption Grant for people with a disability application processing and report	Continue programme of Housing Grants, Adaptations and Extensions for Local Authority Dwellings	Consultants to be appointed for approved extensions by end January 2019. All projects to be procured and on site by end of April 2019 & Complete by End Q4. Claim for recoupment of DPG Extensions and Minor DPGs by Q4 2019	Achieved		H4 (a) Expenditure During 201X on Repair and Maintenance of Housing Bought or Built by the LA divided by the # of directly provided dwellings in the LA stock at end of period (H1G)	22	28
103	Housing	Travellers Strategy	Prepare Traveller Accommodation Programme	Traveller Accommodation Programme put in place by 1st July, 2019	Achieved				
104	Housing	Homelessness	Work with different stakeholders to minimise homelessness	50 HAP Units to be sourced in 2019 by Place Finder Officer and Tenancy Sustainment Officer to be put in place in South Cork	Partially Achieved		H6 (a) # of adult individuals in emergency accommodation that are long term (>6 months) homeless as a % of the total # of homeless adult individuals in emergency acc. at end of 201X	14	5
105	Housing	Housing Capital/Operations	Examine the Potential for Social Housing Hubs in County Cork	Identification of suitable properties for use as Family Hubs & Report in Q3	Not Achieved		H1 (a) Overall # no of Dwellings provided in the Period	3	4



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106	Housing	Housing Capital & Finance	Manage Housing Capital Finances including claiming for expenditure incurred, reconciliation of account balances and identifying funding for future projects.	Process over €100m in claims; reduce the number of active capital codes; funding sourced/agreed for future projects.	Achieved				
107	Housing	Housing Capital & Finance	Manage CCC input into PPP Bundle 2 project, including co-ordinating inter-authority agreement, tender evaluation and site start at CCC sites.	IAA in place, Construction commenced.	Achieved		H1 (a) Overall # no of Dwellings provided in the Period	3	4
108	Housing	Housing Options	Progress Implementation of an Affordable Housing Scheme as directed by DHPLG	Suitable sites identified	Achieved		H1 (a) Overall # no of Dwellings provided in the Period	3	4
109	Housing	Housing Capital & Finance	Identify suitable sites for future development of Social and Affordable Housing in areas of high demand	Suitable sites identified	Achieved		H1 (a) Overall # no of Dwellings provided in the Period	3	4
110	ICT	Support the Boundary Implementation	Assist with the selection, extraction, archive & transfer of relevant data from line of business systems	All relevant data transferred to the City via a secure process	Achieved				
111	ICT	Support the continuing implementation of digital services	Work closely with the Service Transformation Team to support the digital service transformation program	Continue to support the technological platform	Achieved				
112	ICT	Support line of business applications and systems	Support ICT solutions for line of business systems Reduce exposure to EOL & EOS OS, software applications and DBs	Business system support calls answered in a timely fashion At least 80% of systems on supported platforms	Partially achieved	Technology refresh plans in place to upgrade a number of systems in 2020			
113	ICT	Deliver secure/resilient IT services	Ensure all IT services are being delivered in a way that maximises information security and complies with GDPR	All security incidents and new threats managed effectively	Achieved				



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114	ICT	Provide efficient, cost effective service delivery	Deliver high quality, cost effective services	Develop best practices for Service Management including Helpdesk, IT Service Catalogue, Risk Management, Contract Management etc.	Achieved		C4 Overall cost of ICT provision per WTE	12	9
33	County Solicitors	Legal Services	Provision of legal advice & legal services to Directors of Service and Municipal Districts	Ensure advice is of a high quality and given in a timely manner.	Achieved				
34	County Solicitors	High Court, Circuit Court and District Court Litigation	Provide effective high litigation services on behalf of the Council as and when required	Provision of an effective service in defending the Council against claims and prosecuting infringements.	Achieved				
35	County Solicitors	Services provided to Irish Water under the SLA.	Provide legal services to Irish Water under the SLA.	Provision of effective and timely advisory, conveyancing, and litigation services to Irish Water in accordance with the SLA.	Achieved				
36	County Solicitors	Maintenance of a Litigation Risk Register	Provide information to assist in the assessment of the Council's liabilities arising in connection with litigation.	Provision of an estimate in the case of probable and quantifiable exposure of the Council in respect of costs, damages and compensation.	Achieved				
115	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Architects	Continue maintenance of all the relevant infrastructure on Spike Island. Provide a safe environment for workers and visitors.	Bi-Monthly Meetings with SIDC representatives.	Achieved				
116	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Architects	Continue the preservation of existing medieval ruins in graveyards throughout Cork County focusing mainly on North Cork, advising Area Engineers and local interest groups.	Preservation carried out as required	Partially Achieved				
117	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Architects	Design Fire Station at Kanturk & Macroom	Appoint Contractor for Kanturk by end of Q2 and Submit for Tender for Macroom by end of Q2.	Partially Achieved				



Item	Directorate	Principal Service	ASDP Objective	Performance Standard	Performance Standard Completion	Notes	Performance Indicator	PI Ranking 2018	PI Ranking 2017
118	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Architects	Design Fire Station at Clonakilty.	Appoint Consultants by end of Q2.	Achieved				
119	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Architects	Design new Library in Kinsale.	Submit for Tender by end of Q2.	Partially Achieved				
120	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Architects	Assist the Municipal District Office with the implementation of Streetscape enhancements and Public Realm works.	Provide design support as required. Submit Midleton P.R. by end of Q1.	Achieved				
121	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Architects	Theatre upgrades at Briery Gap and Mallow.	Submit for tender by end of Q2 & Q4 respectively.	Partially Achieved				
122	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Architects	Youghal Lifeguard Station.	Obtain Part VIII in Q1 and submit for Tender in Q1/Q2.	Partially Achieved				
123	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Architects	Mallow Castle.	Appoint Consultants by end of Q2.	Partially Achieved				
124	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Maintain and improve the physical infrastructure of libraries through which Cork County Library's services are delivered.	Progress plans to develop new libraries at Kinsale, Kanturk, Youghal, Sherkin and Bandon to refurbish the first floor of Midleton Library, and refurbish library Macroom and to replace the North Cork Mobile Library, subject to resources.	Plans progressed to next phase in all cases. Kinsale to mid construction Kanturk to open; Youghal to secure rear of site and progress preparation for redevelopment. Sherkin to new improved premises stage; Midleton plans drawn up; approval for North Cork Mobile funding. Bandon : progress.	Partially achieved	Still in negotiations with potential sites in Kanturk. Exploring using decommissioned mobile in Sherkin.			



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125	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Maintain and develop online library services and the IT infrastructure in branch and mobile libraries.	Continue roll out of RFID self-service machines in at least two more branch libraries.	RFID self-service operational in two more branches by Q3.	Achieved				
126	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Continue to manage the delivery of library services in accordance with best practice in library standards, Health and Safety, staff development, staff relations and value for money.	Secure appointments as per workforce plan once agreed by DOE. Retrain and update training for staff in different roles.	Plan passed and implemented	Achieved				
127	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Promote the library as a centre of culture and community, through the library's collections, publications and events programmes, with a focus on literature and reading.	Deliver a range of cultural and community programmes in conjunction with the following: Your Good Self, Cruiniú na nÓg Creative Ireland, Heritage Week, Children's Book Festival, Bealtaine, Seachtain na Gaeilge, National Poetry Day, Age Friendly Writer in Residence Scheme.	Community awareness of and engagement with library services enhanced.	Achieved				





Item	Directorate	Principal Service	ASDP Objective	Performance Standard	Performance Standard Completion	Notes	Performance Indicator	PI Ranking 2018	PI Ranking 2017
128	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Promote the library as a centre of information and learning.	Develop programmes and partnerships to raise awareness of library information and literacy services in conjunction with Right to Read, Work Matters and Age Friendly County and Healthy Ireland. Enhance the learning programme by promoting the library as a digital hub and offering a variety of digital learning experiences	Community awareness of and engagement with library services enhanced. New technology promoted and well used.	Achieved				
129	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Promote arts and culture in the community.	Complete Year 1 of the Sliabh Luachra Residency, evaluate programme with local and local authority stakeholders. Manage Writer in Residence in Libraries	Programme delivered by Q4	Achieved				
130	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Promote arts and culture in the community.	Develop online reporting process for Arts Grant programme using the firmstep platform	New process in place by Q2	Achieved				
131	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Continue to manage the delivery of library services in accordance with best practice in library standards, Health and Safety, staff development, staff relations and value for money.	Conduct/implement STOIs, safety meetings, OSHAS requirements management and budget meetings, Team Plans, PMDS, Return to Work conversations, staff training and monitoring of time and attendance in accordance with public sector reform initiatives.	All completed as required.	Achieved				
132	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Car Parking	Maintain effective management of Pay Parking Controls	Maintain, as far as possible, income at 2018 Levels	Achieved				



Item	Directorate	Principal Service	ASDP Objective	Performance Standard	Performance Standard Completion	Notes	Performance Indicator	PI Ranking 2018	PI Ranking 2017
133	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Capital Projects	Develop Public Realm Projects identified in Capital Programme	Complete Public Realm Projects identified in Capital Programme	Partially Achieved	Unavoidable delays experienced in limited specific cases			
134	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Operation & Maintenance of Public Conveniences	Maintain Public Conveniences in a Safe & Hygienic Manner	Standards maintained at 2018 levels	Achieved				
135	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Environmental Services - Litter Management	Maintain Litter Management Standards at 2018 Levels	Standards maintained at 2018 levels	Achieved				
136	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Environmental Services - Street Cleaning	Maintain Street Cleaning Standards at 2018 Levels	Standards maintained at 2018 levels	Achieved				
137	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Environmental Services - Burial Grounds	Manage Burial Grounds & Control of Sale of Burial Plots	Standards maintained at 2018 levels	Achieved				
138	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Derelict Sites	Monitor derelict sites and ensure compliance with requirements of Derelict Sites Acts	Enforce Derelict Sites Legislation	Achieved				
139	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Beach Management	Maintain existing Blue Flag & Green Coast Beaches	Attain Blue Flag & Green Coast Status for Beaches	Achieved				
140	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Leisure Facilities Operation	Maintain Local Authority owned or managed Leisure Centres	Standards maintained at 2018 levels	Achieved				



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141	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Outdoor Leisure Areas Operation	Maintain playgrounds, outdoor adult gyms and multi use games areas to appropriate standard	Standards maintained at 2018 levels	Achieved				
142	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Outdoor Leisure Areas Operation	Develop New Playgrounds in line with Capital Programme	Complete new Playgrounds outlined in Capital Programme	Achieved				
143	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Capital Projects	Develop Major Amenity Projects in Line with Capital Programme	Comply with Requirements of Capital Programme	Partially Achieved	Unavoidable delays experienced in limited specific cases			
144	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Casual Trading	Introduce & Implement County Wide Casual Trading Bye Laws	Bring byelaws to Full Council for approval	Not achieved	Court challenge - awaiting outcome of JR case			
145	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Community Development	Administer Community Fund Scheme 2019	Ensure all claimed Grants are drawn down and paid by 31 December 2019	Achieved				
146	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Community Development	Complete 2018 Projects and Develop Projects for 2019	Draw Down Department Grants in Full for 2018 Scheme. Prepare list of 2019 in line with Department deadlines	Achieved				
147	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Community Development	Ensure Delivery of Town Development Fund & Village Enhancement Projects across MDs (Specific Projects to be agreed by each MD)	Complete Projects agreed by Elected Members by end of Q4	Achieved				
148	Municipal District Operations & Rural Development	Co-Ordination of Municipal District Functions	Facilitate Centralisation and Co-Ordination of Municipal District Functions	Ensure Full Co-ordination of Municipal District Functions by 31 December, 2019	Partially achieved	Await completion of boundary review process			



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149	Personnel	Safety	Adhere to H&S/welfare best practice through staff consultation/communication/proactive checking. Continuously improve Safety Management System (SMS), adhere to safety legislation	Q2 2019	Achieved				
150	Personnel	Staff Relations	Reduce absenteeism through continued monitoring and effective management of Sick Leave	Improve on 2018 stats	Partially achieved	Awaiting final 2019 statistics	C2 (a) - % working days lost to medically certified illness C2 (b) - % working days lost to self-certified illness	14 12 12	12
151	Personnel	Equality	Comply with relevant Child Protection and Garda Vetting Legislation to include staff training & staff vetting	Compliance and training completed as necessary	Partially achieved				
152	Personnel	HR Projects	Plan and deliver all modules of Core	Q4 2019	Partially achieved	National Issues with Core and MyPay			
153	Personnel	Staff Training	Review & progress learning & developmental needs of staff in line with the strategic development of the organisation and the performance management development system PMDS	Learning & developmental needs met Q4 2019	Achieved				
154	Planning	Development Management	Provide an accessible and efficient Development Management Service which proactively supports economic growth in the county	Compliance with statutory timelines	Achieved		P2 A: Number of LA planning decisions which were the subject of an appeal to An Bord Pleanála that were determined by the Board on any date in		



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							2018 P2 B: % of the determination at A which confirmed (either with or without variation) the decision made by the LA P4 A: Cost per Capita of the Planning Service in 2018		
155	Planning	Development Management - DoE school site agent	Work with the Department of Education on the selection and delivery of school sites throughout the County	Complete all service requests as per specified time frame.	Achieved				
156	Planning	Development Contributions - Application of Schemes under Section 48 and 49, scheduling and administration	Collect Development Contributions levied with Planning Permission and arrange schedule of payments. Provide reports in relation to Planning Refund requests.	Assessment of all applications under the Development Contribution Schemes, the pursuit of all outstanding accounts and ensure compliance of Bond conditions.	Partially Achieved				
157	Planning	Planning Enforcement	Deliver timely and responsive Planning Enforcement service	Compliance with statutory timelines	Partially achieved	Internal review of process and resource requirements underway.	P3 B: Total number of investigated cases that were closed during 2018	9	13
158	Planning	ePlanning	Preparation for the introduction of ePlanning service portal (National Planning Application Database)	Compliance with Departmental timelines	Partially Achieved	Delays in progression of system nationally			





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159	Planning	Archaeology, Heritage and Conservation Services	Manage and provide expert advice on the provision of Archaeology, Heritage and Conservation services across the organisation including the Planning Control Function, administering the National Architectural Conservation grants and delivering special architectural conservation projects.	Compliance with legislative requirements and all funding opportunities availed of	Achieved				
160	Planning	Planning Policy	Provide Strategic Planning Guidance through the preparation of statutory County development Plan and Local Area Plans.	Preparation of CDP Review Issues Paper	Achieved				
161	Planning	Planning Policy	Carry out an Environmental and Infrastructure Audit to support the preparation of the CDP and the Strategic Environmental Assessment of the CDP	Finalise the preparation of Environmental and Infrastructure Audit to support the preparation of the CDP and the Strategic Environmental Assessment of the CDP	Achieved				
162	Planning	Planning Policy	Active Land Management initiatives through the Vacant Sites Register, Housing Land Availability Studies and Strategic Land reserve.	Implement Active Land Management initiatives through the Vacant Sites Register, Housing Land Availability Studies and Strategic Land reserve.	Partially Achieved	Draft HLAS completed. Vacant Sites Register background work ongoing. Strategic Land Reserve work feeding into CDP Review process.			
163	Planning	Traffic and Transport	Support Development Management and associated stakeholders, at all stages of the planning process in providing an accessible and efficient Development Management Service which proactively supports economic growth in the county, within specified timelines.	Comply with Development Management requirements	Achieved				
164	Planning	Traffic and Transport	Promote all modes of transport including public transport, walking and cycling to improve the movement of people within and beyond the County	Deliver NTA funded public transport/cycle/walking schemes across the county	Achieved				



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165	Planning	Housing Infrastructure Implementation Team	Support the implementation of Urban Expansion Areas (UEAs) within Cork County Council's jurisdiction.	Progress documented in relation to implementation of UEAs.	Partially achieved	Project work ongoing and achieving performance standard is subject to funding and resources.			
166	Planning	Housing Infrastructure Implementation Team	Support the implementation of Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund Initiatives (connected to UEAs).	Completion of LIHAF project stages as per specified timeframe; Number of key stakeholder meetings facilitated; Delivery of state leveraged infrastructure; Delivery of housing units.	Partially achieved.	LIHAF Projects remain ongoing and achieving performance standard subject to funding and resources and project risk outcomes.			
167	Planning	Housing Infrastructure Implementation Team	Support the implementation of the Urban Regeneration Development Fund (URDF) Projects (connected to UEAs).	Completion of URDF project stages once finalised; Number of key stakeholder meetings facilitated	Partially achieved	URDF Projects ongoing and achieving performance standard subject to funding and resources and project risk outcomes.			
168	Planning	Housing Estates	Manage the resolution of Unfinished Housing Developments. Increased number of housing estates taken in charge.	Increase number of developments brought to acceptable standards with developers and increase number of Bonds drawn down and works executed	Partially Achieved	IW MoU; Funding; Procurement			
169	Roads & Transportation	Roads Operations	Review Winter Service Plan and salting routes post city boundary extension	Complete by Q4/2019	Achieved				
170	Roads & Transportation	Roads Operations	Deliver the 2019 approved RI, RM, Drainage, CIS, LIS & Safety Improvement Schemes across the county	Complete by Q4/2019	Achieved		R2 % of kilometres of regional road strengthened during 2019		



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171	Roads & Transportation	Roads Operations	Deliver approved programme of verge maintenance and town approaches improvements as provided for in the Council's Budget	Complete by Q3/2019	Achieved				
172	Roads & Transportation	Roads Operations	Review Engineering Area boundaries so that they align as much as possible with the Local Electoral Areas for implementation on 1st January 2020	Complete by Q4/2019	Partially Achieved				
173	Roads & Transportation	Fleet Management	Complete the approved Fleet Replacement Programme 2019	Complete by Q4/2019	Achieved				
174	Roads & Transportation	Fleet Management	Implement a Brine trial as part of the revised Winter Maintenance Programme following the city extension	Complete by Q4/2019	Partially Achieved	Issues with installed equipment has delayed trial starting on routes			
175	Roads & Transportation	Fleet Management	Continue collaboration with the Energy and Climate Change Department in striving to achieve reduced energy usage targets and maintaining ISO:50001 accreditation	Ongoing	Achieved				
176	Roads & Transportation	Fleet Management	Continue roll-out of new Firmstep Insurance System for recording all insured vehicles	Complete by Q4/2019	Achieved				
177	Roads & Transportation	Fleet Management	Review and update of Vehicle Safety Policy for Cork County Council	Complete by Q4/2019	Partially Achieved	Should be completed for Q1 2020			
178	Roads & Transportation	Finance & Administration	Decide on licence/permit applications e.g. road openings, temporary road closures, abnormal load permits	In compliance with statutory procedure / timely manner	Achieved				
179	Roads & Transportation	National Road Design	Issue Notices to treat and appoint Consultants for remaining phases of M28 Cork to Ringaskiddy (subject to Judicial Review Outcome)	Complete by Q4/2019	Not Achieved	Judicial Review Outcome in High Court not complete			
180	Roads & Transportation	National Road Design	Appoint Consultants for Phases 1 to 4 of the N72 Mallow Northern Relief Road and advance scheme to Phase 3 (Design)	Complete by Q4/2019	Achieved				



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181	Roads & Transportation	National Road Design	Appoint Contractor for Main Construction Contract on the N22 Macroom - Baile Bhuirne Macroom Scheme	Complete by Q4/2019	Achieved				
182	Roads & Transportation	National Road Design	Deliver the Pavement & Minor Works Schemes funded by Transport Infrastructure Ireland	Complete by Q4/2019	Achieved				
183	Roads & Transportation	National Road Design	Complete Design and Tender Documentation for N73 Waterdyke to Clogher Cross Scheme	Complete by Q2/2019	Achieved				
184	Roads & Transportation	National Road Design	Complete Project Appraisal Plan for N71 Bandon Bypass	Complete by Q2/2019	Achieved				
185	Roads & Transportation	National Road Design	Complete Project Appraisal Plan for N71 Newmills/Owenahinca	Complete by Q2/2019	Achieved				
186	Roads & Transportation	Regional & Local Road Design, Roads Management & Development	Complete the Low Cost Accident Schemes funded by the Dept. of Transport Tourism and Sport	Carry out 20 No. Low Cost Safety Schemes or adjusted No. to utilise the full grant allocation	Achieved				
187	Roads & Transportation	Roads Management & Development - Public Lighting	Substantially complete the annual New Public Lighting programme	Complete by Q4/2019	Partially achieved	Contractor's difficulty in employing Civil Contractors at tight tendered rates from 2018 Contract			
188	Roads & Transportation	Roads Management & Development - Public Lighting	Substantially complete the 2018/2019 LED Public Lighting conversion programme	Complete by Q4/2019	Partially achieved	Workload for PL Staff & Contractor and the delay in commencing RMO LEDR Project meant that there will be time to complete in 2020			
189	Roads & Transportation	Roads Management & Development - Public Lighting	Maintain Cork Co. Co. Public lighting stock.	At least 98.5% of lights working at all times.	Achieved				



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190	Roads & Transportation	Roads Management & Development - Public Lighting	Co-operate with RMO Public Lighting Energy Efficiency project with the objective of appointing a Contractor to carry out the works	Complete by end Q4 2019	Achieved				
191	Roads & Transportation	Roads Management & Development - Road Safety	Investigate all fatal accident sites for possible road contributory factors/hazards identification. Participate in RSTWG.	Within two months of accident	Achieved				
192	Roads & Transportation	Roads Management & Development - 30kph speed limit in estate, addendum to county speed limit bye laws	Complete the introduction of 30 kph speed limit bye laws in further nominated housing estates, in 2019.	Complete by end Q4	Achieved				
193	Roads & Transportation	Regional & Local Road Design	Award five major resurfacing contracts for Restoration Improvement projects	Q1/Q2/2019	Achieved				
194	Roads & Transportation	Regional & Local Road Design	Complete rehabilitation/replacement of bridges & other roads structures on Regional & Local Roads	Complete rehabilitation/replacement of at least 33 bridges & other roads structures by Q4/2019	Achieved				
195	Roads & Transportation	Regional & Local Road Design	Advance strategic Regional & Local Roads projects across the County	Compliance with agreed programme	Achieved				
196	Roads & Transportation	Regional & Local Road Design	Advance other Regional & Local Roads projects across the County	Compliance with agreed programme	Achieved				
197	Roads & Transportation	Regional & Local Road Design	Preparation of strategic & specific improvement grant applications for regional & local roads projects	Applications for agreed projects to be submitted by Q4/2019	Partially achieved	A number of application submission were deferred following discussions with DTTaS.			





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198	Roads & Transportation	Roads Operations, Roads Management & Development	Resurface Regional & Local Road funded by the Restoration Improvement Grant and update pavement management system.	185km resurfaced by end November 2019	Achieved				
199	Roads & Transportation	Roads Operations, Roads Management & Development	Surface Dressing Regional & Local Roads funded by the Restoration Maintenance Grant and update pavement management system.	320km resurfaced by end October 2019	Achieved				
200	Roads & Transportation	Roads Operations, Roads Management & Development	Make application for and complete any Community Involvement Schemes approved by the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport and update pavement management system.	Complete by Q4/2019	Achieved				
201	Roads & Transportation	Roads Operations, Roads Management & Development	Deliver Local Improvement Scheme programme agreed with Department of Rural Development and claim drawdown subsequently.	Complete by Q4/2019	Achieved				
202	Roads & Transportation	Regional & Local Road Design, Roads Management & Development	Complete the surveying required by the Dept. of Transport Tourism and Sport on Regional & Local roads including visual condition rating	Complete by Q4/2019	Achieved		R1 % of (a) Regional, (b) Local Primary and (c) Local Secondary roads that received a PSCI condition rating in the 2- month period prior to 31/12/2019	30	30
203	Water Services / Coastal / Flood Management	Coastal Management & Flood Projects Design & Implementation	Flood Projects - progress OPW funded major & minor flood schemes	Major projects - 100% recoupment by year end, minimum standard - 1 recoupment per year. Major Projects - 1 project detail design (95% completion), 1 project options (75% completion), 1 project construction (10% completion). Minor Projects - 100% recoupment by end of year,	Achieved				



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				minimum standard - 1 recoupment per year. Minor Projects - develop and maintain tracking system					
204	Water Services / Coastal / Flood Management	Coastal Management & Flood Projects Design & Implementation	Coastal Projects - management & completion of capital schemes funded by DAFM, OPW & other Gov. Agencies	Assess Proposals, generate viable scheme list and submit within deadlines. 100% recoupment by year end, minimum standard 1 recoupment per year.	Achieved				
205	Water Services / Coastal / Flood Management	Coastal Management & Flood Projects Design & Implementation	Completion of programmed works as agreed with Coastal Management Committee	Foreshore lease applications prepared for submission. Construction Tender Packs initiated to programme	Partially Achieved	Ballycotton lease application delayed by increased site investigation requirements			
206	Water Services / Coastal / Flood Management	Coastal Management & Flood Projects Design & Implementation	Dursey Cable Car: Technical maintenance & inspection, including scheduled monthly CCC inspections and proposed modification works	Maintain regulatory compliance	Achieved				
207	Water Services / Coastal / Flood Management	Drinking Water Production Operations	Comply with the Service Level Agreement, protocols and Annual Service Plan agreed with Irish Water to ensure availability of drinking water in compliance with Drinking Water Regulations	Maintain overall rating for water quality under the Irish Water Annual Service Plan as achieved in 2018	Achieved		W1 - % drinking water in private schemes in compliance with statutory requirements		26
208	Water Services / Coastal / Flood Management	Drinking Water Production Operations	Implement Find & Fix Programme in accordance with Agreement with Irish Water	Achieve reductions in UFW in line with Find & Fix Agreement targets	Achieved		W1 - % drinking water in private schemes in compliance with statutory requirements		26



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209	Water Services / Coastal / Flood Management	Small private schemes Water Quality Supervision monitoring	Update of small private schemes database and adoption of a suitable risk approach to ongoing maintenance	Update register in co-operation with the Environment Dept	Partially Achieved				
210	Water Services / Coastal / Flood Management	Group Schemes Funding Grants	Continue to support Group Scheme development in the county and ensure timely application for grant support to individual group schemes and payment of subsidies	Equal or exceed grant support achieved in 2018. Compile listing of Group Water Schemes which have the potential to meet the requirements of taking in charge	Achieved				
211	Water Services / Coastal / Flood Management	Well Grant Applications	Provide timely assessment and processing of well grant applications	Process 80% of all applications within 6 weeks	Achieved				
212	Water Services / Coastal / Flood Management	Drinking Water Distribution Operations/Wastewater Networks Operation & Maintenance	Provide timely reports on water connection applications	Process 90% of all applications within 4 weeks	Partially Achieved	70% processed within 4 weeks. A number of protracted vacancies in both engineering and admin during 2019.			
213	Water Services / Coastal / Flood Management	Wastewater Treatment Plants and Pumping stations Operation & Maintenance	Comply with the Service Level Agreement, Protocols and Annual Service Plan agreed with Irish Water to provide effective wastewater treatment	Maintain overall rating for delivery of Irish Water Annual Service Plan as achieved in 2018	Achieved				
214	Water Services / Coastal / Flood Management	Wastewater Networks Operation & Maintenance	Comply with the Service level Agreement, Protocols and Annual Service Plan agreed with Irish Water to maintain a safe and effective wastewater collection system	Maintain overall rating for delivery of the Irish Water Annual Service Plan as achieved in 2018	Achieved				
215	Water Services / Coastal / Flood Management	EPA Water reports and point of contact	Ensure all results, notifications and reporting are uploaded to EPA EDEN website in the agreed timeframe	Report 100% of incidents and notifications with corrective actions within 4 weeks of the sample date	Achieved				



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216	Water Services / Coastal / Flood Management	Capital Projects Office - Water Infrastructure Design	Comply with Service Level Agreement, Annual Service Plan and Irish Water Protocols, agreed with Irish Water for the efficient delivery of cost-effective Water Service Capital Projects	Maintain overall rating for delivery of the Irish Water Annual Service Plan as achieved in 1018	Achieved				

