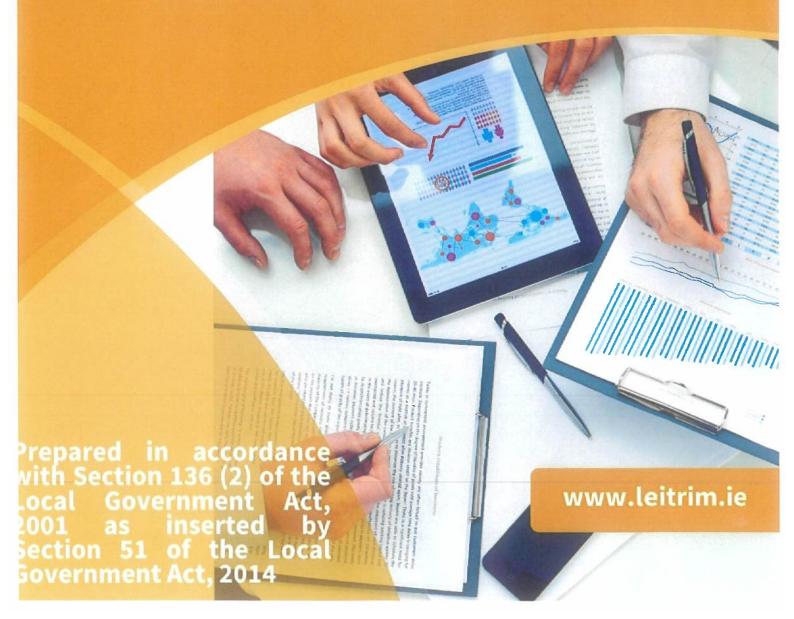


### Chief Executive Monthly Management Report

March 2025



# FINANCE, WATER SERVICES, ENVIRONMENT & EMERGENCY SERVICES

Feb 2025 - Revenue Account Income & Expenditure Summary by Service Division (PRELIMINARY February, 2026 - FIGURES)

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INCOM	Adopted Full	Lean pandler	12,147,238	42 627 EAA	10,225,01	7'977'97	3 540 497	200 4500 0	5,44,435	416,707	201 402	00,100	5,850,618	40 7AE 770	011/04/10
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EXPENDITURE	Adopted Full Year Budget	12.743.118		18,203,366	3,246,837	0.000 000	/00'000'2	6,832,982	4.554.668		487,784	4,232,110		0	
	Expenditure £	855.315		2,454,833	507.644	4 200 245	1,600,273	709,728	472,038		22,783	801,906		0	
		Housing & Building		Road Transport & Safety	Water Services		DOVERDING Management	Environmental Services	Recreation & Amenity		Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfa	Miscellaneous Services		Local Government Fund / GPG	Rates
		<	Г	9	U	0	Т	Ш	L	Г	5	×	_	2	S

Income €	Adopted Full year Budget €	Sudget Balend	Budget	Actual Overall Surplus/
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448,703	2,922,862	15%		(58 941)
592,097	3,510,597	17%	2 918 500	(706 148)
60,587	3,224,033	2%2	3.163.488	(EAG 1E4)
110,383	416,707	26%	306.324	(364 BCC)
5,687	80,183	7%	74.496	(50,094)
417,187	5,850,618	207	5,433,451	(384 739)
1,790,963	10,745,778	17%	8.954.815	1 790 062
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(17,605)

(17,605)

2025
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MAIN

- The preparation of 2024 AFS is currently ongoing.
- 2024 collection figures are not finalised and remain provisonal
  - The 2025 Rates Invoices were issued in February 2025.

### 2025 - Collection Rates

		:		
				ľ
€56,023	€593,208	€501,271	€ Feb-25	QIA.
€52,530	€371.956	€460,971	E Feb-24	
€309,577	€6,412,325	€2,913,258	FY 2024	
				1

Commercial Rates

**Housing Loans** 

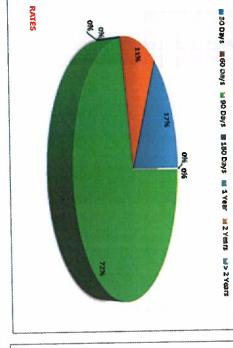
**Housing Rents** 

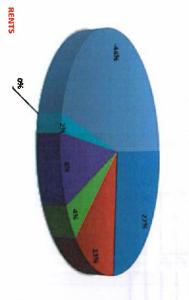
	R	×	*
<sup>®</sup> [	90%	91%	<b>%</b> 66
.v	7%	4%	80%
	60%	50%	88%

Ret Ret	
	Rates collectio

COMMENTARY
Rents collection remains consistent. 2024 accounts not yet finalised
Rates collection % ahead of Feb 2024. The 2024 accounts not yet finalised
Loans collection % ahead of Feb 2024. The 2024 accounts not yet finalised

## Feb 2025 - Aged Debt Analysis





AENTS ON 21%	#30 Days #60 Days 1490 Days #150 Days #1Year 142 Years 14>2 Years
SOANS	■30 Days ■60 Days № 90 Days ■180 Days ■1 Year ■2 Years

							LOANS
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- 3 Vaste							

### **CLIMATE ACTION**

### **Climate Action Plan**

- 1. Met with Tom O'Donovan on Clonakilty Bike Scheme (3 March 2025) as recommended by the Interreg Peer Review for Leitrim County Council, Ireland- *How to get rural communities to embrace new sustainable forms of mobility?* Scheme driven by Community.
- 2. Meeting of the whole-of-Council Climate Action Committee (5 March 2025), minutes available.
- 3. Completed evaluation of Pre-feasibility study for district heating tender (with Cavan CC & MonaghanCC). Lot (i) to develop a heat map that includes heat demand, heat sources to identify areas of opportunity and Lot (ii) to carry out a feasibility study on one of the high ranking opportunity areas to determine its suitability for a district heating network. Lot (i) will be match funded by SEAI under Pathfinder. AECOM selected as preferred Tenderer, procurement process to be progressed in April including LA opt in.
- 4. Border Climate Action Operational Team (CAOT) meeting with E&M CARO on 7 March 2025. CARO have minutes grouped for all the sub regions.
- 5. Meeting of Energy WG (10 March 2025). Agreed on Adrian Kielty as Chair and meetings to be monthly on second Monday of each month. Discussion on legal requirements (audits, DECs, impending EPBD as recast), requirement for a software package to disseminate data for assessment, EnMS and potential funding avenues. Notes were taken; work of this group critical to the 51% reduction on emissions by 2030 requirement.
- 6. CARO webinar series has commenced to build capacity in the whole-of-Council climate action team (the Committee), starting with Climate Change adaptation (21 March 2025).
- 7. Meeting with ATU on partnering for application on Knowledge for Action in Prevention Preparedness (KAPP) EU Call (24 March 2025). Aim to create resilience hubs in local communities to ensure they have the tools to act by placing communities at the heart of civil protection and refocusing from reactive to proactive emergency response and preparedness. It is a two-year project which will be implemented in Italy, Spain, Portugal, and Ireland (budget c. € 950,000). Decision required to partner by end of March.
- 8. Meeting with IKC3 (carbon, climate & community) on educational initiative for LAs (association with HEAI, TCD, MTU, HCI, government of Ireland). There will be funding for a programme in September November 2025 for enhancing awareness with community groups in Carrick-on-Shannon DZ. Leitrim CC will have to match fund €5,560.
- Mainstreaming climate action into the budget with Tipperary Energy Agency (call with other LAs, 26 March 2025)
- 10. Compilation of an Annual Progress Report for implementation of the Leitrim County Council Climate Action Plan for 2024 has been completed in March.
- 11. Decarbonising Zone awareness video funded by Climate Action Works in the final stages of drafting. To be made available of the Climate Action section of the website, useful for engaging stakeholders.

### **Community Climate Action Programme Fund**

There was a window for reclaim with DECC in March for recovery of claims made to date. There following claims made

- Glen Centre, Manorhamilton- (attic insulation) (S1)
- Killenummery and Killery Areas Development Association (solar panels) (S1)
- Mohill Community Development Association (BMS) (S1)
- Leitrim Village Development Company (solar panels) (S1)
- Beepark Resource Centre (external doors)
- The Hive (solar panels, biodioversity) & Augher GAA (LED Lights, biodiversity) (S1A)
- Belcoo OR GAA (Solar Panels) (S1A)
- the administration costs of the Community Climate Action Officer to date.

### ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES

### **Animal Control Service Activities**

Stray Dogs	8
Surrendered Dogs	2.
Seized Dogs	0
Dogs Re-Homed	10
Dogs Reclaimed	1
Dog Deaths	0
Dogs Euthanised	0
Dog Fouling Complaints	3
Barking Complaints	1
Livestock Attacks	0
Dog Control & Roaming Complaints	18
Dog Licence Inspections	30
Dogs Neutered	5
Neutering Vouchers Issued	6
Dogs Micro-Chipped	5
Fines Issued – Dogs	0
Newspaper Articles/ Radio	4
School/ Community Workshops	0
Social Media Posts	34
Dog Waste Station Service Visits	57
Dog Waste Bags Dispensed	3500
Equines Seized	0
Animal Carcasses Removed	3

### **FIRE SERVICE**

### **Capital Programme**

### **Fire Stations**

Manorhamilton FS

The Fire Safety Certificate for the proposed Fire Station was granted. A pre-qualification process for contractors is currently ongoing. The final tender documents are an advanced stage and should be available for approval next month.

**Existing Fire Stations** 

Proposals are under development to amend the facilities within the existing fire stations to accommodate the increase in the number of firefighters per station are set out in the WRC Agreement.

### Fire Appliances and Equipment

New Incident Support Vehicle

A new Incident Support Vehicle for Carrick-on-Shannon is due for delivery soon.

### **Building Control activity in February 2025**

	Received	Valid	Granted	Inspections Undertaken
Commencement Notices	5	4		
Fire Safety Certificates	2	1	4	2
Disabled Access Certificates	2	1	1	
Certificate of Compliance on Completion	0	1		
Building Control Act Inspections (Commencements, on-site, BERs, Market Surveillance etc)				15
Dangerous Substances Act Applications				1

### WRC agreement for retained firefighters.

A system for structured time for firefighters is now in operation in all fire stations in Leitrim Fortnightly pay arrangements for all firefighters in Leitrim commenced on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

### **ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

### FLOW Project - For the Love of Our Waters

PEACEPLUS funding of €5,155,995.57 has been awarded to the FLOW project which focuses on a cross-border collaborative approach to the management and improvement of water quality in Northern Ireland and the border counties of Ireland. This funding announcement on the Water Quality and Catchment Management Investment Area, through PEACEPLUS Supporting a Sustainable and Better-Connected Future theme, will contribute to enabling freshwater bodies in cross-border river basins to achieve good or high quality.

The FLOW project will pilot nature-based solutions to address and restore the declining water quality in target catchment areas attributable to agricultural pressures and wastewater discharge. It will result in a solution designed to engage communities and make an active contribution to improved water quality in four cross-border water catchments: Lough Melvin, Upper and Lower Lough MacNean, Cladagh River and the Kilroosky Lake Cluster. The project will also result in the installation of an innovative pilot wastewater treatment facility in Rossinver, County Leitrim.

The FLOW project partners include Leitrim County Council, ICBAN (Irish Central Border Area Network), Inland Fisheries, Local Authorities Water Programme, ATU Sligo, Ulster University and The Rivers Trust.

The partners will work with agricultural businesses, including farmers, to encourage nutrient reduction, which will benefit water quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and contribute to the sustainability of the agricultural sector.

PEACEPLUS is managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB) and represents a funding partnership between the European Union, the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Government of Ireland, and the Northern Ireland Executive.

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PLANNING, AND INFRASTRUCTURE

### **LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE (LEO)**

### **Training, Mentoring & Export**

The following courses were ran in March:

- Digital marketing Review Clinic
- A Layman's Guide to Income Tax & Revenue Online Services training
- Smart Operations: Real-World Lessons in Lean, Digital and Al Integration training
- Sustainable Enterprise Development for SME's Session
- LinkedIn Masterclass training
- Al Tools for Creative High-Impact Social Media Content
- Start Your Own Business Weekend training course

We hosted the Leitrim Student Enterprise County Final in The Bush Hotel on Tuesday the 4<sup>th</sup> of March where approx. 145 students from across County Leitrim attended with their teachers and we also joined up with LEO Westmeath and Longford to host a Women in Business event as part of International Women's Day on the 7th of March in the Mullingar Park Hotel.

### **Atlantic Economic Corridor Update:**

### Interreg Europe Digital Rural

Participation in the Interreg Europe Digital Rural Project continues. Leitrim County Council are a partner on the project to examine ways to improve polices for the development of smart towns and villages. The project will run until 2028.

### Northwest Regional Enterprise Plan Implementation

### Vision Development/Next REP Development

Following on from a meeting in January of the x3 Chief Executives form Leitrim/Sligo/Donegal there was widespread agreement to develop a Northwest Region Vision which will feed into the REP development in 2025. Following on from this meeting, a working group will be developed to develop a scope of work to develop this Vision.

### West/Northwest Renewable/Wind energy working group

The NWREP in conjunction with the WDC hosted representatives of the Scottish government with the intention of developing relationships between their Highlands and Islands remote are (with high levels of installed onshore and offshore wind) and our Northwest/West region. Follow up actions are coming out of it to facilitate introductions between enterprise groupings.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

### LCDC

A meeting of LCDC took place on 19th March 2025. A new Chairperson and Vice-Chair were elected. Six LEADER projects were considered and approved for funding.

### **Broadband**

All secondary schools in the County were notified about the STEM Passport for Inclusion programme linked to Maynooth University for TY students, providing a level 6 qualification for those students who successfully

complete it. Microsoft, ATU and the Dept of Education are involved in this programme, to date 3 secondary schools have expressed an interest in participated.

### **Digital Strategy**

Tenders were evaluated with one being selected for the delivery of the new Digital Strategy. Work has now commenced on the consultation etc for the new strategy.

We continue to promote the Our Kids Code programme which is funded through Google.org.

### **Leitrim Diaspora**

Regular meetings are continuing regarding the execution of the Diaspora Strategy, presently focused on "The Leitrim Gathering" scheduled to take place in May 2025. Promotion of The Leitrim Gathering continued through various means including social media channels and PPN newsletter. All events organizers' received their monthly update and steady progress was made on many project elements including sign-off on a Gathering video which is narrated by Seamus O'Rourke. It is planned to use this on social media platforms as well as cinema advertising.

### **LECP Progress Review**

Stakeholder follow-up remains ongoing to finalise updates for 2024.

### **County Promotion**

Progress has been made with the Irish Embassy in London along with representatives from several neighbouring local authorities with a view to organising an inter County promotion event later this year.

### **Funding Applications**

Two RRDF Category 2 applications (Kinlough Community Resource and Recreation Centre and Shannon side Villages) were submitted to DRCD during March.

### **DRCD Funded Schemes**

Applications were submitted under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme during March including two Project Development applications, six Measure 1 applications, two Measure 2 applications and one Measure 3 application.

The Town and Village Renewal Scheme has now opened for funding and will be promoted accordingly.

### **TOURISM**

### Ireland's Hidden Heartlands: Upper Shannon Erne & Border Area Workshop

Fáilte Ireland, in partnership with a range of local stakeholders, has developed a Destination and Experience Development Plan (DEDP) for the Upper Shannon, Shannon-Erne, and Border region. This five-year tourism development plan focuses on enhancing tourism in Cavan, Leitrim, Longford, and Roscommon as part of the ongoing development of the Ireland's Hidden Heartlands region. The plan will also complement initiatives from development strategies in neighbouring destinations. To drive the implementation of the plan, a new working group has been established. The group, co-chaired by an industry representative from each county, held its first meeting in March.

### **Tracks and Trails**

Filming took place for the popular Tracks and Trails program, which promotes walking trails across Ireland. Featured locations include Parke's Castle, Mass Rock Sliabh an Iarainn, and Bóthar na Naomh in Cloone. The series is set to air in late April.

### Irish Boat Rent Association (IBRA) 50th AGM & Round Table Discussion

The IBRA reintroduced its traditional round table discussion, a key feature of its AGMs for the past 50 years, with a focus on the Future of Tourism on the River Shannon. The discussion explored the evolving tourism landscape along the River Shannon, with discussions on sustainability, emerging market opportunities, and product development. With the Shannon Tourism Master Plan and the Ireland's Hidden Heartlands brand driving new momentum, industry leaders examined strategies for a sustainable and thriving tourism industry, with a long-term vision of achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.

### **Cross-Border Collaboration**

A meeting of Tourism Officers from Northern Ireland and the border counties was held to discuss synergies and opportunities for cross-border collaboration. The focus was on enhancing the visitor experience and attracting more tourists to the region.

### **Festival and Event Grants Update**

A total of 24 grant applications for festivals and events across the county were reviewed and approved by the MDs for this year's events. Letters of offer have been issued to all event organisers.

### **TOWN REGENERATION**

### Croi Conaithe - Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant

The Croí Cónaithe scheme was introduced to help bring vacant and derelict properties back into use as family homes and rental residential units. The Vacant Homes Officer of Leitrim County Council works closely with applicants to allow suitable properties to be brought back into productive use. 22 applications have been received for the period January 2025 – March 2025. 14 grants were processed for payment in the first quarter of 2025 relating to applications received during 2023/2024.

### **Town Teams**

The Town Regeneration Officer and the Vacant Homes Officer continue to engage with town teams on general issues, town team governance and structure issues.

### Manorhamilton Town Centre First Plan

A contract has been entered into with Studio Myco for the preparation of a Town Centre First Plan for Manorhamilton. An inception meeting took place on 05<sup>th</sup> March 2025 between Studio Myco, Manorhamilton Town Team and Leitrim County Council.

### Kinlough, Dromahair & Ballinamore Town & Village Suite of Supports Funding

Minister Humphreys announced that Ballinamore, Dromahair and Kinlough were awarded €10,000 per town, under the Town Centre First, Town Team Support Fund. The funding may be used to support the establishment and/or development of town teams where they are not already well established, and to better understand the unique features of towns.

Kinlough:

Meeting held with Kinlough Town Team on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2025. A working group has been established to review the Constitution for the Town Team, and this work is ongoing. A further meeting is scheduled for early April for the working group to present the draft Constitution to the wider Town Team for approval. The Town Team have met on a few occasions to work through the constitution. The next meeting scheduled with Leitrim County Council is on Monday, 07<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

Dromahair:

Three meetings were held with Dromahair Town Team on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025, 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025 and 10<sup>th</sup> March 2025 in the new Library in Dromahair. Expressions of interest were

submitted and core officers agreed for each of the emerging themes. A working group was established to review the Constitution and this work is ongoing.

Ballinamore:

Ballinamore's Constitution has been agreed, and an AGM of the Town Team was held on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025. All standing members were re-elected to the executive committee.

Liam Scollan completed his training with the three town teams above. Claims for the drawdown of funding will be submitted in April 2025.

### THRIVE - Town Centre First Heritage Revival Scheme - Application Strand 1

The purpose of the funding stream is to reduce vacancy and dereliction by creating a sustainable and viable reuse of Heritage buildings, in line with Town Centre First Approach. Leitrim County Council successfully secured funding under this scheme to carry out a feasibility study on the Town Hall Building in Carrick on Shannon to establish an end use for the building following widespread consultation process. Part 8 planning documents have been prepared and lodged with Leitrim County Council on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2025. The planning documents are on public display until 17<sup>th</sup> April 2025 and the submission period is open until 01<sup>st</sup> May 2025.

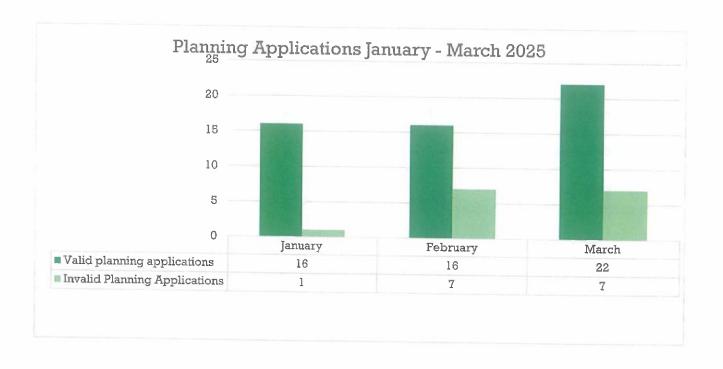
Weekly meetings continue with A2 Architects and Allies & Morrison. A further public communication exercise will be carried out on the agreed change of use will be scheduled for May, once that the Part 8 has been finalised.

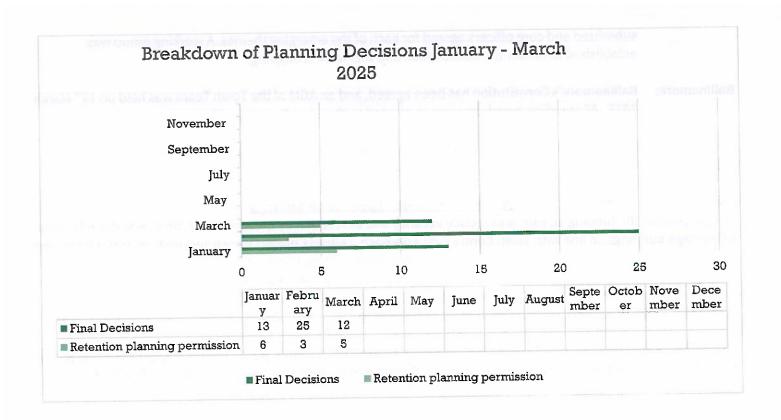
The NWRA had a progress meeting with Leitrim County Council on Friday, 07th March 2025.

### **Local Development SPC**

The first meeting of 2025 took place 04th February 2025. Presentations were delivered by Rebecca Cogan, Biodiversity Officer, Marian Mc Govern, PeacePlus Co-ordinator and Brian Smith of Leitrim Development Company.

### **DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT**





**Further Information Requests** 

	Further Information Requests Issued	Further Information Responses Received	Formal Pre-Planning Enquiries
January	12	12	9
February	10	7	4
March	9	9	4

### **Forward Planning**

Carrick-on-Shannon Joint Local Area Plan

The Executive submitted a report on behalf of the Chief Executives on 5<sup>th</sup> March summarizing the points raised in the submissions and making recommendations with regard to the making of the draft Plan with the material alterations or including modifications to same.

### Residential Zoned Land Tax

A total of 7 no. submissions have been received which the Planning Department will consider in the coming weeks.

### Heritage

- The Leitrim Heritage Forum was convened and began the process of preparing the new *Leitrim Heritage Plan* 2026 2030.
- The Leitrim Heritage Plan 2026 2030 Pre-Draft Public Consultation has been launched. This is a six-week consultation period which will inform the priority heritage actions in Leitrim to be implemented over the next five years.
- The Connecting Through Heritage Leitrim Memory Meitheal's podcast has been launched. One episode will be released each week over seven weeks.
- Heritage Council funding has been confirmed for a series of heritage plan projects and outreach activities.
- Consultants have been appointed for The O'Rourke's of Leitrim Project.

### **Biodiversity**

- National Tree Week 2025: Distributed 300 native trees from the Tree Council of Ireland and Coillte to Community groups in Co. Leitrim. A public tree walk event was hosted in Garadice Woods on Sunday 9th March.
- Biodiversity Working Group: The first meeting of 2025 was held which took place in Carrick-on-Shannon and comprised of representatives from public bodies, environmental NGOs, farming organisations and community groups. The Working Group developed objectives and actions for the Draft Biodiversity Action Plan 2025-2030 using submissions received from the pre-draft public consultation.
- Biodiversity Action Plan Scheme: Funding approved by the Heritage Council for financial assistance for the development of the Co. Leitrim Biodiversity Action Plan.

### **ROADS**

### **National Road Grant Allocations 2025**

A total Allocation of €3,720,909 has been received for 2025 from Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII), in respect of Improvement and Maintenance Works on the National Roads Network in County Leitrim in 2025. This can be broken down between Improvement and Maintenance Works as follows:-

•	Grant Allocation towards improvement Works on National Roads in County Leitrim in 2025 Grant Allocation towards Maintenance Works on National Roads in	€412,000
	County Leitrim in 2025	€308,909
•	Greenways	€1,700,000
•	Major Schemes - N4 Carrick-on-Shannon to Dromod	€1,300,000
•	Total Improvement & Maintenance Grant Allocation for National Roads	02,300,000
	In County Leitrim in 2025	€3,720,909

### N4 Carrick on Shannon Bypass & Traffic Management Project

The N4 Carrick on Shannon By-pass & Traffic Management Project is progressing as follows:

- Phase 3 Design and Environmental Evaluation is progressing.
- The Phase 3 Design TII peer review took place on the 20<sup>th</sup> of November and the Design Report is currently being updated
- The design team are currently closing out all comments raised during the peer review
- Work is ongoing to secure a suitable location for a Material Deposition/Reuse area east of the River Shannon
- Surveys ongoing in 2025 include:
  - Ground Investigation Contract
  - Hydrology Monitoring
  - Topographical Survey Contract
  - Ecology Survey Contract
  - Archaeology Surveys
- Ongoing consultations / meetings are currently taking place with different stakeholders including
  - Land and property owners
  - IFI
  - Irish Rail
  - NTA
  - Irish Water
  - TII
  - LCC/RCC Planning departments
  - ESBI and ESB

- An Garda Siochana
- Eir

### **Pavement Overlays**

- N16 Pavement Overlay Scheme (POS) Manorhamilton to Cornacloy Phase 2 This POS commenced in November 2024 and works are now substantially completed. Scheme to be closed out in 2025
- N4 Pavement Overlay Scheme Carrick on Shannon Consultants are currently working on the design and tender documents for this Pavement Overlay Scheme. Consultants are also looking at additional drainage works required due to poor condition of storm drainage. Once detailed drainage design is completed, this pavement overlay scheme will be tendered, subject to TII approval.

### Realignment of N16

N16 Lissingroagh to Kilmakerril - Leitrim County Council submitted a Project Information Summary Notice (PISN) & Estimated Total Scheme Budget Sheet to the TII for this proposed minor works scheme.

### N16 HD17 Road Safety Inspections – Works include:

- N15 Tullaghan Traffic Calming -A revised preliminary design has been submitted to TII and has been approved. Leitrim County Council to prepare documents for Part 8 Planning Approval.
- N16 Glenfarne VRU improvements Leitrim County Council to procure a consultant to complete Preliminary design report & detailed design as feasibility and options report has been approved by TII.

### Specific Improvement Grants – Works include:

- R289 Kilcoon Design Consultant appointed. Options report approved by Department. Consultant sought tenders for Ground Investigation & Topographical survey.
- R280 Killarga Design Consultant appointed, and Topographical survey completed. Options Report has been completed and approved by Department. Consultant is assessing GI Tenders, 1st Draft of Part 8 documents have been prepared.
- R280 Loughmurran Realignment Design Consultant withdrew tender therefore will have to be retendered
- R278 Junctions Proposed Land take drawings issued to Area office for agreement with landowners.
- R280 Erriff Retaining wall Rehabilitation Design Consultant has been appointed, Topographical survey completed, the De-vegetation of the Retaining wall has been completed, Bat survey completed and Consultant have sought GI Tenders.

### Community Involvement Schemes (CIS)

The CIS allocation for 2025 is €375,650. This will be divided across the three MD's. There will be five CIS's completed in the Ballinamore MD and three CIS's completed in the Carrick MD. The North Leitrim Office are finalizing their schemes.

### **Local Improvement Schemes (LIS)**

All applicants on the waiting list have received a letter letting them know their updated placing on the list.

**Roads in Charge Oueries** 

Roads in Charge Queries processed this month	YTD Roads in Charge Queries processed
44	86

All queries regarding water and wastewater services are now processed by Uisce Eireann.

Absormal Load Dormite

Abnormal Load Permits	
Abnormal Load Permits processed this month	YTD Abnormal Load Permits processed
0	8

**Hedge Cutting Grant Scheme** 

No. of Applications Received for Hedge Cutting Grant & Tree Canopy Scheme 2024/2025	No. of applications deemed Ineligible/Not Proceeded with	No. of Grants paid up to month end
88 applications, incl. 16 Tree Canopy Grant	7	38
Ballinamore MD = 29		
Carrick on Shannon MD = 22	3	a to a sale sole is a
Manorhamilton MD = 37		

### **ACTIVE TRAVEL**

Safe Routes to School – Mohill Community College - Part 8 Planning advertised 19/03/2025. Closing date for submission 30/04/2025. Due to be brought to the May MD meeting for decision by Elected Members.

### Roosky Bridge Active Travel Measures:

o Consultant to attend May Carrick MD Meeting to outline findings of the Trial to Elected Members.

### Carrick On Shannon - Leitrim Road Active Travel Scheme:

Town Regeneration are procuring a feasibility study to examine this area as a wetland ecology park.
 Active Travel to discuss Scheme with NTA and advise Consultants of next steps.

### Currently at Preliminary Design Stage in house:

- o Carrick-on-Shannon Junction tightening/Pedestrian Crossing.
- o Carrigallen Active Travel Link.

Design and Part 8 Planning are required for the following when resources allow:

- o Carrick on Shannon Glas na hAabhainn Housing Estate Link.
- o Manorhamilton Park Road Upgrade.
- Ballinamore Junction Upgrade.

Design and non-statutory public consultation required for the following:

Cycle parking infrastructure.

### Safe Route to Schools

- St. Clare's NS, Manorhamilton Detailed Design and Procurement documents being finalised by consultant.
- Awaiting Delivery Plan for the following:
  - SRTS Rd 3 Ballinamore Scoill Chlann Naofa.
  - SRTS Rd 3 Drumshanbo VS.

### HOUSING, CORPORATE SERVICES, COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE

**Housing Allocations** 

### HOUSING CAPITAL DELIVERY

### **Housing Allocations**

The Housing Team continued to meet social housing need in the county by the allocation of a social housing tenancy. At the end of Quarter 1 2025 a total of 4 offers of accommodation issued to housing applicants with 3 offers of accommodation accepted and 1 offers of accommodation were refused.

Offers issued to 31st March 2025	Offers accepted	Acceptance Rate	Offers refused	Refusal Rate	Awaiting Reply
0	0	0	0	0	0

### **New Tenancies**

**0** new tenancies were created in March 2025 in standard Local Authority accommodation. All newly appointed tenants' complete mandatory pre-tenancy training with the Tenant Liaison Officer prior to the formal handover of keys of the property.

New Tenants (1st time allocation)	Existing tenants transferred to alternative accommodation to 31st March 2025
0	0

### **Housing Grants**

The Housing Department currently have a number of housing grant applications on hand which were received prior to and after the introduction of the new Housing Grants Scheme 2024. The following table outlines the grant applications on hand for each category.

Grant	Old Housing Grants Scheme (Pre December 2024)	New Housing Grants Scheme (Post December 2024)	
Housing Adaptation Grants for People with a Disability	1 20b January 46 ngjest bolist	eG – noAlmerno 2 M , diz e'en Unite	
<b>Mobility Aid Grants</b>	18	10	
Housing Aid for Older People	64	22	
Grant			

Full details and application form for the new grant scheme is available on our website - <u>Housing Grants - Leitrim</u> <u>County Council</u>

### **Social Housing Rent Review**

Leitrim County Council are currently undertaking a rent review of all Social Housing Tenancies. Letters and Rent Review Forms were issued to 1,600 social housing tenants requesting that up-to-date details for each household regarding the household make-up and income details be submitted to the Council. Over 70% of the forms had been returned by the end of March 2025.

### **Housing Capital**

The Housing Capital Team continue to progress the delivery of the annual targets under 'Housing for All'. Progress at 31st March 2025 on the social housing (new housing construction dwellings pipelined for delivery) are as follows:

- Offer letter issued to Davitt Plan & Design Ltd. for the purchase of 9 two-storey semi-detached units at Sheena, Drumkeeran for social housing delivery by the turnkey mechanism. Units are on track for delivery by the end of Q2, 2025.
- Contracts were signed for the demolition and re-construction of the recently purchased vacant and semi
  derelict neighbouring 2-bedroom properties on Sean MacDiarmada Street, Manorhamilton into four onebedroom social housing units under the Buy & Renew Scheme.
- Tender documents were published on E-Tenders to procure a design team for the proposed construction
  of a social housing residential development at the Lisnagot Site, Carrick-On-Shannon which was acquired
  under the Housing for All Land Acquisition Fund.

In addition, works progressed on a number of other 'pipeline delivery projects' to provide additional new social housing supply in 2025 and 2026.

Location	Number of Units	Delivery Mechanism	Status at 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Expected Delivery
Drumkeeran	9	Turnkey	In the process of agreeing a price with the Developer/Construction Ongoing	June 2025
Carrick-On- Shannon	18	Direct Build	Construction Ongoing	Autumn 2025
Drumshanbo	4	Turnkey	In the process of agreeing a price with the Developer /Construction Ongoing	June 2025
Drumshanbo	1	Part V	Price agreed with the Developer/Construction Ongoing	June 2025
Dromod	2	Turnkey	In the process of agreeing a price with the Developer/Construction Ongoing	June 2025
Keshcarrigan	4	Direct Build	Construction Ongoing	Autumn 2025

### **Second Hand Social Housing Acquisitions 2025**

Government announced a capital funding allocation of €2,000,000 for Leitrim County Council under the Second-Hand Social Housing Acquisitions Programme on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025. This funding will allow for a significant programme of acquisitions in 2025 for various priority categories of need such as tenancy sustainment, tenant in situ, exits from homeless services, people with a disability and older persons requiring urgent housing responses, and Buy and Renew (B&R) acquisitions which tackle vacancy.

### **Housing Maintenance**

### **Private Rented Inspection Programme 2025**

The Housing Department has an annual target to inspect accommodation in the private rented sector. In 2025, a total of 326 properties will be inspected and a number of properties may also have to be re-inspected to monitor compliance with the standards where any issues were identified in the initial inspection. (\*The indicative target for the number of inspections in 2025 is 326 and this may be subject to change at a later date).

2025 Target for Inspection	No. of inspections completed on 31st March, 2025	% Complete on 31st March 2025 out of the overall target.	
326*	178	54.60 %	

### **Stock Condition Surveys on Local Authority Houses 2025**

The Housing Department have an annual target to inspect 20% of the Local Authority Housing Stock. In 2025, a total of 219 houses will be inspected. (\*The indicative target for the number of inspections in 2025 is 219 and this may be subject to change at a later date).

2025 Target for Surveys	No. of surveys completed on 31st March, 2025	% Complete on 31st March 2025 out of the overall target.
219*	40	18.26%

### **Estate Management Grant Scheme**

The Housing Estate Management Grant Scheme is intended to encourage and support Residents Associations in local authority housing estates to undertake works which will improve the appearance of their estate and enhance the quality of life of its residents. Residents Associations based in and undertaking works/projects in local authority housing estates in County Leitrim are eligible to apply for funding under this scheme. During the month of March, a total of 25 active Residents Associations were invited to apply to be considered for a flat-rate contribution by Leitrim County Council under the scheme. The deadline for submission of completed applications for funding is 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025. Subject of the availability of finance and compliance with the conditions of the scheme, funding will be made available to Residents Associations as follows:

Estates with up to 30 Houses €400 Estates with over 30 Houses €600

### COMMUNITY

### **Local Enhancement Programme 2025**

The LCDC Assessment Committee assessed the applications for the Local Enhancement Programme and proposals were sent to the Department of Rural and Community Development by the March 28<sup>th</sup> Deadline.

### **Age Friendly Programme**

On March 28th, 2025, more than 250 older people from Sligo, Leitrim and across the region attended the first-ever Age Friendly Health and Wellbeing Festival at ATU Sligo. The festival was organised by Age Friendly Ireland, Leitrim CoCo & Sligo CoCo in partnership with Atlantic Technological University (ATU) Sligo. 40 Exhibitors from public services, the voluntary sector, the university, and non-government organisations provided information on health, housing, community connectivity, climate change, energy sustainability, technology, financial entitlements, pensions, and fraud prevention.

### **Healthy Ireland**

20 volunteers attended training for Dementia Friendly Mohill with the HSE. The next town to become Dementia Friendly will be Carrick with a local champion identified. Healthy Ireland and Sharon Richardson from HSE will present to Carrick Town Team on Thursday  $10^{\rm th}$  to initiate the plans.

On March 11<sup>th</sup> Healthy Ireland in conjunction with Leitrim's Health is Wealth launched Bressies 'Where is my Mind' in The Landmark Hotel. Guest Speakers were RTÉ journalist and acclaimed author, Carole Coleman, Leitrim Ladies

footballer Charlene Tyrrell, Dr Catherine Dolan and current Leitrim Person of the Year Michael Feeney. There was considerable press coverage in The Independent and The Leitrim Observer, and all tickets are now sold out. The event runs on May 3<sup>rd</sup> in The Landmark Hotel. Press Coverage Irish Independent: <u>Bressie's 'Where is My Mind?' show in Leitrim will be a blend of music and compelling conversations | Irish Independent</u>

Co-design Hub consultation meetings are planned across the 4 Hub sites to establish plans for Healthy Leitrim Community funding for 2025. Events are planned as follows:

- Mohill Mohill Library 8<sup>th</sup> April 1.30-3.30pm
- Manorhamilton Bee Park 9<sup>th</sup> April 1.30-3.30pm
- Ballinamore The Den 10<sup>th</sup> April 1.30-3.30pm
- Carrick Breffni FRC 11<sup>th</sup> April 1.30-3.30pm

Healthy Ireland worked with Health & Safety to provide events for Safety, Health & Wellbeing Week for Leitrim County Council staff. This included tennis sessions, aerial yoga and presentations on stress management by Louise Dennison O'Shaughnessy.

### **Community Recognition Fund**

Successful Projects under Window 1 and 2 have been announced by the DRCD and roll out of these projects has commenced. Window 3 successful projects are yet to be announced.

### **Love Where You Live**

Leitrim County Council are inviting for the Love Where You Live Schools Competition. Deadlines for entries are 7<sup>th</sup> April with judging to take place in late May/June.

### **PEACEPLUS**

### **Tendered Programmes**

Deadlines have passed for submission of tenders for five programmes. Assessments of four tendered programmes have been ratified by the Partnership Committee. Suppliers have been contacted, and we are currently waiting for the 14 day standstill period to elapse before appointing contractors.

### **Capital Projects**

SEUPB have also given us permission to proceed with our capital projects subject to compliance with all procurement requirements. The 5 projects are:

- 1. Multi Use Games Area beside The Den in Ballinamore
- 2. Community Meeting Space, Coleman's Building, Carrick-on-Shannon
- 3. Solar Power Supply in Kinlough Eco Park supporting Men's Shed, Community Garden & N. West Canoe Club
- 4. Play & Art Therapy, NW STOP Facility Drumkeerin (Old Garda Station)
- 5. Internal refurbishment of Lurganboy Church of Ireland

### Recruitment

Positions have been advertised & shortlisting is taking place for the following roles under PEACEPLUS:

- Development Officer x 2 (1.1 Council Plan)
- Monitoring & Development Officer (1.1 Council Plan)
- Project Officer (1.4 SRC project)
- Senior executive Engineer (1.1 & 1.4)

### **Shannonside Peace Arena**

Request for tenders for design services for the Shannonside Recreational Campus have been published on eTenders. Closing date for submissions was 26<sup>th</sup> March with assessment taking place in early April.

### Local Community Safety Partnership (LCSP)

The Minister for Justice Jim O'Callaghan has announced the commencement of the landmark Garda reform legislation, the Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024, with effect from Wednesday, 2 April 2025. The Act introduces a new National Office for Community Safety who will lead the rollout of the government's new strategy for improving community safety and will work closely with the Local Community Safety Partnerships being established in each local authority.

Mairead Carney has commenced work as the Local Community Safety Partnership Coordinator.

### **Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT)**

The Integration Team conducted five clinics 3 clinics focused on Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection and one clinic was onsite in Dromahair IPAS centre. All clinics were to identifying needs of the residences/families.

The Integration Team worked in collaboration with Aremoja Women Group Sligo. In total 55 women and children attended an event for International Women's Day. The Integration Team worked in collaboration with Healthy Ireland and Breffni Family Resource Centre CLG 10 women attended a talk facilitated by Maj Cunningham on Women's Health and Wellbeing again for International Women's Day.

### LEITRIM SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

The following programmes took place in March.

### • Inclusive Multi Sports Programme

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of March we started a six-week programme on a Friday evening on the Astro pitch Dromahair for Children living in the Abbey Manor Hotel (IPA).

### Older adults' yoga/Pilates

Older adults' yoga and Pilates programme in Glencar started on the 24th of March at 7.30pm.

- School Sports Hall Indoor Athletics 2-day Track and Field events on March 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> for South Leitrim Primary School students in 3<sup>rd</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup> class at Ballinamore Sports Complex.
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> March <u>Day 1</u> 5 x SL Schools incl. Fenagh, Dowra, Aughnasheelin, Gaelscoil Liatrioma, St Manchans Mohill
  - 4<sup>th</sup> March <u>Day 2</u> 7 x SL Schools incl. St Patricks Drumshanbo, St Josephs Leitrim Village, Annaduff NS, Chlann Naofa Ballinamore, Aughavas St Josephs, Fatima NS Cloone, Scoil Mhuire Carrick

### Safeguarding 1

Day 1 - Melvin Gaels LGFA coaches - 3-hour Online child protection workshop, Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 6:30pm-9:30pm.

### Safeguarding 1

Day 2 - Melvin Gaels LGFA coaches - 3-hour Online child protection workshop, Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 6:30pm-9:30pm.

### • TY Olympic Handball

4-week programme Introduction to Olympic Handball for TY Students in Ballinamore Community school.

### Women In Sport Week 2025

March 3<sup>rd</sup> - Open Run for Fun night women only as part of WIS 2025 – Introduction to running @Carrick on Shannon.

### Women In Sport Week 2025

March 4th - Open Try Tennis night women only as part of WIS 2025 – Introduction to Tennis @Carrick on Shannon Tennis Club.

### **Drumshanbo Community Sports Hub**

### Strength and Conditioning

Raluca led a European Women In Sport Week Adult S&C sessions in the Mayflower on Monday March 3<sup>rd</sup> from 7.15pm and Saturday March 8<sup>th</sup> from 10.30am

### Active Age

Raluca led an Active Age European Women in Sport Week Fitness class in the Mayflower on Tuesday March 4<sup>th</sup> from 10.30am

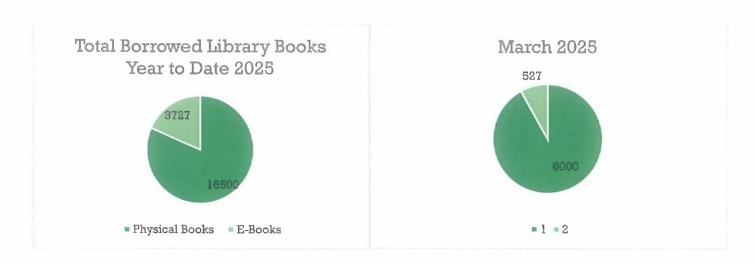
### Yoga

Denise led a Women's Yoga session as part of European Women in Sport Week on Thursday March 6h in the Mayflower

### Indoor Cycling

Tojo led a block of Indoor cycling turbo sessions on Wednesday evenings from 7pm in the Mayflower

### LIBRARY SERVICES



There was a total of 194 new library memberships recorded with Dromahair Library making up 60 of them followed by Carrick-on-Shannon library with 48 and Ballinamore at 30.

There were over 9000 visits to libraries across the county within the month of March. Over the month of March all libraries were busy with the usual events such as class visits, reading groups, English and Irish language classes, art & craft sessions, games afternoons/evenings, bridge club. The Games Night continues in Carrigallen Library and has grown in popularity. The Ciorcal Comhrá in Ballinamore library had their final night of a 20 week session come to an end in March.

World book Day 6<sup>th</sup> March witnessed many class visits to our Library branches where reading was promoted to children. 22 class visits from local schools in total took place during the month.

Branch libraries around the county ran various events for 'Seachtain na Gaeilge'. This year saw Laureate na nÓg, author Patricia Forde, deliver a very enjoyable and interactive session in Dromahair Library with children from Drumlease National School, there were two Tráth na gCeist' quiz sessions in Ballinamore Library and Carrigallen Library and a 'Tae agus Plé' session in Ballinamore Library. All libraries had book displays and fun activities like word searches and crosswords 'as gaeilge'.

The Local Studies Librarian gave an outreach presentation to 50 Transition Year History Students of Carrigallen Vocation School on 3rd March in the Cornmill Theatre as part of the very successful History on your Doorstep project. Mary gave a presentation about how to access the collection and gave hints and tips about searching for material. The event aims to promote interest in History as a subject in the school and to highlight the Local Studies Library as a resource for students and teachers alike.

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 Date:

14th March, 2024