



Comhairle Chontae Liatroma
Leitrim County Council

Annual Report 2024



www.leitrim.ie



Contents

Introduction from An Cathaoirleach and Deputy Chief Executive	3
Elected Members of Leitrim County Council	4
Leitrim County Council Strategic Policy Committee's 2024 - 2029	5
Leitrim County Council Strategic Objectives and Supporting Strategies from the Corporate Plan 2024 - 2029	6
Delivering for Our People	7
Housing	7
Forward Planning and Development Management	11
Fire Services	14
Water Services	15
Delivering for Our Places	17
Environment and Climate Action	17
Community Development	21
Library Services	25
Arts and Creativity	27
Sports Partnership	29
Delivering for Our Economy	31
Economic Development Unit	31
Local Enterprise Office	36
Tourism Promotion and Development	38
Capital Projects Office	40
Roads Transportation & Safety	43
Our Organisation	47
Corporate Services	47
Facilities, Energy & Assets	53
ICT	53
Human Resources	54
Health and Safety	56
Finance	57
Appendix 1 – Statement of Internal Financial Control for the Financial Year 2024	60
Appendix 1 - Leitrim County Council Governance Statement	66
Appendix 2 – Details Of Conferences/ Seminars Attended By The Elected Members	68
Appendix 3 – Details Of Training Events Attended By The Elected Members	69
Appendix 4 – Corporate Plan Annual Progress Report 2024	70
Appendix 5 – National Performance Indicators 2023	87
Appendix 6 – Local Performance Indicators 2023	95



Vision

Our vision is to build an ambitious, thriving, vibrant, sustainable and connected Leitrim with opportunity for everyone.

Mission Statement

To lead with ambition and deliver dynamic, innovative, sustainable and responsive solutions for all our people and communities, making Leitrim the best place to live, work, do business, and visit.

Introduction from An Cathaoirleach and Chief Executive

We are delighted to present the publication of the 2024 Annual Report which outlines details of the quality of services, the many activities and accomplishments undertaken and delivered by Leitrim County Council during the year. It is with great pride that we report on the Council’s successes throughout the year in its delivery of a quality, innovative and professional service to its customers and the communities that it serves.

We wish to express our utmost gratitude to the Elected Members, the Corporate Policy Group; Chairpersons and Members of the Strategic Policy Committees and Municipal District Committees; the Senior Leadership Team and staff of Leitrim County Council for their commitment and dedication throughout 2024. We also wish to extend our most sincere thanks to the many voluntary and community organisations with whom the Council interacts for their on-going enthusiasm and co-operation. This collaborative approach is absolutely vital to enabling the Council to deliver on its strategic vision to have **“an ambitious, thriving, vibrant, sustainable and connected Leitrim with opportunity for everyone.”**

The achievements outlined in this Annual Report have significantly benefited the people of Leitrim in terms of economic progress and social, cultural and community development. They could not have been attained without your collective effort, creativity and initiative. The contribution of each and every one of you is immensely valued and greatly appreciated.



Elected Cathaoirleach
Councillor Paddy O'Rourke



Chief Executive
Joseph Gilhooly



Our Council Members



Manorhamilton Municipal District



Ballinamore Municipal District



Carrick On Shannon Municipal District



Manorhamilton Municipal District



Councillor
Mary Bohan
Fianna Fáil



Councillor
Padraig Fallon
Sinn Féin



Councillor
James Gilmartin
Non Party



Councillor
Felim Gurn
Non Party



Councillor
Eddie Mitchell
Non Party



Councillor
Justin Warnock
Fianna Fáil

Ballinamore Municipal District



Councillor
Brendan Barry
Sinn Féin



Councillor
Róisín Kenny
Sinn Féin



Councillor
Enda McGloin
Fine Gael



Councillor
Paddy O'Rourke
Fianna Fáil



Councillor
Gary Prior
Fianna Fáil



Councillor Ita
Reynolds Flynn
Fine Gael

Carrick On Shannon Municipal District



Councillor
Paddy Farrell
Fianna Fáil



Councillor
Cormac Flynn
Sinn Féin



Councillor
Des Guckian
Non Party



Councillor
Sean McGowan
Fianna Fáil



Councillor
Maeve Reynolds
Fine Gael



Councillor
Enda Stenson
Non Party



Leitrim County Council Strategic Policy Committee's 2024-2029

*New Strategic Policy Committees were set up following the Local Elections in June 2024

Economic and Enterprise Development SPC

Committee Members

Councillors

Gary Prior (Chairperson)
Ita Reynolds Flynn
Felim Gurn
Cormac Flynn
Sean McGowan
Enda McGloin

Sectoral Nominations

Colm McGrath - Business Commercial Sector
Gavin Sammon - Construction Development Sector
Gerry Creamer - Community Voluntary Sector
Ciaran Sheridan - Trade Union Sector

Meetings 2024

The first meeting of this SPC was held in December 2024. In this meeting a work programme was completed relating to the following:

- Economic Development
- Tourism
- Broadband/Digital
- Enterprise
- Town Regeneration
- Planning
- Casual Trading

Physical Development SPC

Committee Members

Councillors

Eddie Mitchell (Chairperson)
James Gilmartin
Mary Bohan
Roisin Kenny
Enda Stenson
Ita Reynolds Flynn

Sectoral Nominations

James Gallagher - Agriculture Sector (IFA)
Trevor Seery - Environment Conservation Sector (PPN)
Madeline Kelly - Community Voluntary Sector (PPN)
Brian Smyth - Community/Voluntary Sector (PPN)

Meetings 2024

The first meeting of this SPC was held in December 2024. In this meeting a work programme was completed relating to the following:

- Roads/Active Travel
- Climate Action/Heritage/Biodiversity
- Environment/Rural Water/Water Quality
- Emergency Services
- Waste Management

Social Development SPC

Committee Members

Councillors

Enda McGloin (Chairperson)
Padraig Fallon
Paddy O'Rourke
Enda Stenson
Sean McGowan
Maeve Reynolds

Sectoral Nominations

Bernie Mulligan Dolan - Community Voluntary Sector (PPN)
Patrick McGreevy - Community Voluntary Sector (PPN)
Seamus McLoughlin - Social Inclusion (PPN)
Geraldine Meehan - Social Inclusion (PPN)

Meetings 2024

The first meeting of this SPC was held in December 2024. In this meeting a work programme was completed relating to the following:

- Quality Housing
- Community Engagement
- Arts
- Library Service
- Sports

Local Development SPC

Committee Members

Councillors

Justin Warnock (Chairperson)
Paddy Farrell
Maeve Reynolds
Brendan Barry
Padraig Fallon
James Gilmartin

Sectoral Nominations

Michael McManus - Agriculture Sector
Padraig McManus - Construction Development Sector
Mairin Martin - Community Voluntary Sector (PPN)
Claire McGirl - Social Inclusion (PPN)

Meetings 2024

The first meeting of this SPC was held in December 2024. In this meeting a work programme was completed relating to the following:

- Placemaking - Towns & Villages
- Community Development
- Social Enterprise
- Agriculture
- Creative Sector
- Local Transport



Our Strategic Goals





Delivering for our People

HOMES

COMMUNITIES

SERVICES

HOUSING

Housing Applications

The most recent Statutory Assessment of Housing Need completed in November 2024 indicated that there were 243 households on the Leitrim Housing List excluding applications from existing tenants to transfer to alternative accommodation and those in receipt of social housing support.

A total of 141 new housing applications for social housing support were processed in 2024 of which 119 were approved for inclusion on the Social Housing Waiting List. This equates to an approval rate of 84% of all social housing applications received deemed eligible for and qualified for social housing support.

Housing Allocations & Choice Based Lettings

In 2024 - a total of 54 offers of accommodation were issued to housing applicants of which 43 were accepted which is a 79.6% acceptance rate. Choice Based Letting continued for all properties not designated as specialist housing and located outside of Carrick on Shannon in 2024. A total of 33 properties were advertised under the Choice Based Lettings Scheme and 348 expressions of interest received for the properties. Once again, the success of Choice Based letting is highlighted by there being just 4 refusals of accommodation which is just 12%. In addition, 17 offers of social housing support issued by direct allocation. A total of 9 allocations of accommodation (LA Housing/RAS/SHLI/AHB/TIS) to applicants on NTQ/Risk of Homelessness. While these clients were not deemed as being 'officially homeless' i.e. in Temporary Emergency Accommodation they were at risk of becoming had accommodation not being secured for them.

New Tenancies Created

A total of 44 new Local Authority tenancies were created in 2024 for standard LA accommodation and 13 new tenancies were created in leased units. A total of 46 new Housing Assistance Payment (HAP Tenancies) were also created. Overall, this is a total delivery of 103 tenancies delivered in 2024 across a number of social housing options for individuals or households unable to provide accommodation from their own personal resources.

Pre-Tenancy Training

All newly appointed tenants are obliged to complete mandatory pre-tenancy training to familiarise themselves with their obligations under the Tenancy Agreement, the Tenant Handbook and the Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Policy.

Tenancy Sustainment Services

Housing First

Housing First provides a comprehensive and holistic approach to addressing homelessness for people experiencing mental health, physical health, substance misuse, social, behavioural, and other challenges. The Housing Department continued to support Housing First Tenancies in partnership with the other agencies. Leitrim continued to support the implementation of the Housing First Programme in 2024. In 2024, an additional two tenants were signed up to the Housing First Programme and a total of 5 active tenancies are now in place in Leitrim.

Sophia Housing

As part of the Housing Strategy for Disabled People the National Council for Housing and Disability 2022-2027, funding was allocated for the provision of a Mental Health Tenancy Support Officer in each county. The Tenancy Support Worker worked in partnership with the Council, Community Mental Health Services and other community supports to support individuals and families to sustain their tenancies.

Focus Ireland

Leitrim County Council procured the services of Focus Ireland in 2023 to strengthen its Resettlement and Tenancy Support role. The Support Worker worked with a number of tenants in 2024 to support them in sustaining and managing their tenancies.

Homelessness & Housing Action Team

Leitrim County Council provided information, support, and advice to individuals and families deemed at risk of or experiencing homelessness in the County. A number of individuals and families were provided with Temporary Emergency Accommodation pending the sourcing of a more long-term accommodation solution. Exit plans were also progressed to move individuals and families out of their TEA Accommodation to dwellings allocated to them under the Rental Accommodation Scheme, Leasing, Standard LA accommodation or accommodation provided by an Approved Housing Body. A number of individuals and families remained in TEA at 31st December, 2024 and the Housing Department will continue to progress an accommodation solution to meet their long-term accommodation needs.

North-West Regional Homeless Consultative Forum

Leitrim County Council continued to be a key member of both the Northwest Joint Homeless Consultative Forum & Management Groups in 2024 liaising with all the key stakeholders in the region to improve the delivery of homeless services within the county.

Traveller Accommodation Programme (TAP) 2025-2029

The new Traveller Accommodation Programme 2025-2029 was adopted by the Elected Members at their meeting in September 2024 and came into effect on 1st January 2025. The targets for delivery under the former Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024 were exceeded. A new Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee (LTACC) was established following the Local Elections in May 2024 with representation from the Elected Members, Traveller Representatives and Staff from the Housing Department.

The LTACC is a statutory committee that will monitor the implementation of the new Traveller Accommodation Programme 2025-2029.

Housing Grant Scheme

There was significant activity in 2024 under the Mobility Aids Grant Scheme, the Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme and the Housing Aid for Older People Grant Scheme. Grant Payments were processed for a total of 148 private house grants in 2024 under the three schemes as follows:

Grant Name	Qty	Amount
Mobility Aid Grant	22	€92,816
Housing Aid for Older People	81	€407,889
Housing Adaptation Grant (Disability)	45	€359,378
Total	148	€860,084

Revised regulations on the Housing Grant Scheme came into effect on **1st December, 2024** and all applications received after this date are being processed under the new regulations.

Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)

A total of 238 Active HAP tenancies were in place in Co. Leitrim and supported by the HAP Team at the end of 2024.

Social Housing Leasing Initiative (SHLI)/Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)

The Housing Department continued to support households accommodated under the Rental Accommodation Scheme. Three new units of accommodation were delivered under the 'Repair and Lease' Scheme at Castle Street, Mohill. The Housing Team continue to source additional supply under RAS and the Leasing Scheme to meet the housing need in the county.

Mortgage to Rent

The Mortgage to Rent (MTR) scheme aims to help private homeowners that are at risk of losing their homes due to their mortgage arrears transfer from the home ownership pathway to social housing tenancy whilst maintaining occupancy of the same property with the long-term option of buying back the property as their financial situation improves. At the end of 2024 a total of eighteen MTR applications were active in Co. Leitrim.

Housing Stock

At the end of 2024 Leitrim County Council had 1,115 dwelling houses in its ownership, excluding demountable dwellings, traveller specific group scheme accommodation and community houses to meet the social housing need in the county.

Housing Maintenance and Improvement of Stock

Voids & Energy Efficiency Programme 2024

Leitrim County Council undertook an ambitious Energy Efficiency/Retrofitting programme for 2024. We targeted **30** social houses within the county for Energy Efficiency/Retrofitting, with 16 of these homes located within the Decarbonising Zone of Carrick on Shannon. Of the 30 units, 16 were vacant units and the remaining 14 units were tenanted LA Dwellings in the Autumn View Estate Carrick-on-Shannon. The homes received a post-works BER rating of between A3 & B1, a significant increase in the energy efficiency of the properties. The project in the occupied dwellings was a pilot project for tenanted dwellings.

Energy Efficient Programme 2024	Qty	Amount
Vacant Dwellings	16	€807,357
Tenanted Dwellings	14	€645,744

Planned Maintenance Programme

A total of **€117,209** was expended on the Planned Maintenance Programme to provide upgrades to existing social housing units with **25** properties benefitting from the scheme.

Stock Condition Surveys

Work commenced on the completion of Stock Condition Survey's on existing Social Housing Stock. A total of **192** surveys were completed in 2024 and this information will inform future planned maintenance programmes for the stock.

Housing Maintenance/Repairs Social Housing Stock

The Housing Maintenance Team continued to respond to Housing Maintenance Requests from tenants including responding to emergency out of hours calls out on occasions.

Incremental Tenant Purchase Scheme

Leitrim County Council sold **6** houses under the Incremental Tenant Purchase Scheme in 2024. This scheme supports Local Authority tenants to achieve home ownership by purchasing their former rented properties at a significant discount.

Housing & Disability Strategy

The Leitrim Housing & Disability Steering Group continued to meet in 2024. In partnership with the Community Team the Housing Team attended an Age Friendly 'Greener and Wiser Event' held in the Landmark Hotel on 11th April, 2024. An Information Stand on the Housing Grant's Scheme was provided to promote awareness and uptake of the Housing Grant Schemes in particular the Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme for Disabled People and the Mobility Aids Grant Scheme.



Disabled Persons Grant (LA Social Housing Stock)

The Housing Department completed 18 grants at a total cost of €82,047 for disability type works to existing Social Housing Units to render the accommodation more suitable to meet the needs of a member of the household with a disability. Works were also progressed to provide 2 extensions to LA Dwellings to meet the disability needs of the individual household and these works will proceed to construction in 2025.

Private Rented Inspection Programme

Leitrim County Council continued to perform its role in the assessment and enforcement of standards in relation to private rented accommodation. The total number of inspections carried out in 2024 was **309**.

Housing Capital Delivery Programme – ‘Housing for All’ – 2024 Social Housing Delivery

The Housing Department continued to plan for and deliver their annual targets under the ‘Housing for All’ Programme from 2022 to 2026. Housing for All is the Government’s plan to increase the overall supply of housing over the next decade. The delivery of 23 new units of accommodation was achieved at year end. Work is ongoing on progressing the pipe-line delivery to meet the annual targets under ‘Housing for All’ for 2025-2026.

Location	No of units	Delivery Mechanism
Oakgrove, Kinlough	6	Turnkey
Castle Street, Mohill	3	Repair & Lease
Main Street, Drumsna	4	Direct Build
Priors Point, Carrick-on-Shannon	4	Part V
Cannonboe, Ballinamore,	3	Part V
Cannonboe, Ballinamore	3	Turnkey
Total No. of Units to be delivered	23	

Capital Assistance Schemes (CAS)

The Housing Capital Team continues to explore delivery mechanisms for a Group Housing Scheme in Manorhamilton to meet the needs of young people in Manorhamilton with a disability.

Social Housing Acquisition Programme

To increase the supply of social housing and as part of the Government response to addressing the housing crisis, the Housing Department also delivered 7 new units of accommodation via the Housing Purchase Acquisition Programme in various locations throughout the county. A number of these dwellings were purchased to address specific housing needs e.g. disability and **five** of the properties were in response to the Tenant in Situ Scheme where the households were at risk of homelessness.

Official Opening of Housing Schemes in Leitrim

The Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage Mr. Darragh O’Brien visited Leitrim on Monday 20th May, 2024 to perform the official opening of two social housing schemes in the county.

Minister O’Brien travelled to the Lahard Estate, Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim to perform the official opening of 10 new social housing homes delivered in 2023 under the Housing for All targets. The Minister later travelled to the Carraig Breac Estate, Drumshanbo, Co. Leitrim to perform the official opening of 18 new social housing homes delivered under a number of phases by turn-key arrangement in what was once an unfinished estate.



Partnership with Approved Housing Bodies (AHB)

Leitrim County Council continued to participate in the Housing Forum with the key Approved Housing Bodies that are active in County Leitrim with several meetings held in 2024. The purpose of the Forum is to share knowledge and best practice and to provide solutions to some of the issues that impact on the AHB Sector being actively involved in the provision of housing supply in the respective counties.

FORWARD PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

Forward Planning

The draft of the joint Local Area Plan for Carrick-on-Shannon to include the village of Cortober, Co. Roscommon was published on 14th August 2024. A Local Transport Plan formed part of the joint Local Area Plan. A new dedicated website www.carrickjointplan.ie provided updates of the process. When finalised in April 2025, this will complete the full set of statutory land use plans required for the county.

The Planning Authority published draft maps identifying the lands considered within scope of the Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT) on February 1st. A total of 12 no. submissions were received objecting to their lands being considered within scope. 4 no. appeals were lodged against the determinations by the Planning Authority with one appeal successful in overturning our decision. The final map showing lands that will be liable to the RZLT will be published on 31st January 2025.

Work commenced in late 2024 with respect to the preparation of the 2 Year Progress Report on implementing the objectives of the County Development Plan (CDP) 2023-2029. In addition, the annual Core Strategy review was completed as required as part of the monitoring regime of the CDP. Work is also underway with respect to identifying the potential of service sites for small scale housing schemes with tier 4 urban centres.



Workshop with Carrick-on-Shannon and Boyle Municipal District Members – Preparation of Joint draft Carrick-on-Shannon Local Area Plan 2025-2031

Heritage & Biodiversity

Considerable progress was made in 2024 in implementing various actions and objectives contained in the Leitrim Heritage Plan 2020-2025. The Heritage Officer was approved funding for 2 projects through the Heritage Council funding programme – O'Rourke's of Leitrim Heritage Audit and Interpretation Plan and the Leitrim Heritage Outreach Project. A Creative Ireland funded, O'Rourke's of Leitrim Memory Map Project, has been developed to complement the O'Rourke's of Leitrim Heritage Audit Five episodes of a new Connecting Through Heritage Podcast Series were recorded. In addition, four new videos have been produced telling the story of Killmakerrill Graveyard in Glenfarne, Glenview Folk Museum and Seán MacDiamadia and his homestead in Kiltyclogher. Four interpretation displays for Áras an Chontae have been installed to convey the history of the historic site to visitors. The Shared Island Killahurk Ringfort, Co. Leitrim and Tullaghoge Fort, Co. Tyrone project has been completed. This provided an Access, Environmental and Archaeological Assessment of Killahurk Ringfort near Carrigallen.

Heritage Week took place from 17th to 25th August with 33 no. events having taken place across Co. Leitrim. Several events were commissioned by the Heritage Officer including the Leitrim Larks Song Tour of Leitrim; Glenview Folk Museum Open Day; The O'Rourke's of Leitrim Webinar; The Mummerys Join Meitheal and Harvest Dance; Prehistoric Pottery Workshop for families; Willow Weaving Workshop; and A Woman's History of Mohill Guided Walk. Biodiversity events arranged by the Biodiversity Officer included online webinars & public walks and talks in Carrick on Shannon, Manorhamilton & Carrigallen.



Heritage Week – Weaving Demonstration

5 no. biodiversity projects which were all completed in 2024 through the Local Biodiversity Action Fund which included The Hare's Corner, The Leitrim Wetland Survey Phase III and Biodiversity enhancement and actions for pollinators at Áras an Chontae. The Hare's Corner project offered landowners, community groups and schools support to carry out simple but impactful actions for biodiversity. By December 2024, the Hare's Corner project has supported the creation of 149 biodiversity actions: 42 woodlands, 53 orchards, 13 ponds for wildlife, 21 Plans for Water and 20 Plans for Nature which is a wonderful investment in the natural infrastructure of the county.



ESKER box launch in Mohill Library (May 2024): The ESKER box contains a range of field equipment that can be borrowed by adult members of the library. The box has been given to Leitrim Libraries by The Heritage Council Biodiversity Officer programme to support local communities who wish to participate in ecological surveys through what is called "Citizen Science".

Funding was approved by the Heritage Council for financial assistance for the development of the Co. Leitrim Biodiversity Action Plan 2025-2030. In September, the Biodiversity Officer had published a Discussion Paper for Biodiversity Action Plan and launched the pre-draft public consultation phase of the project. A Biodiversity Working Group was established, convened for the first time in June and has met three times in 2024 to develop the Biodiversity Action Plan.



Ballinamore Library (Oct 2024): Pre-draft public consultation event as part of the development of the Local Authority Biodiversity Action Plan 2025 - 2030

Successful applications were also assisted through the Built Heritage Investment Scheme, the Historic Structures Fund and Community Monuments Fund.

Development Management

Leitrim County Council received 217 no. valid planning applications in 2024 (213 no. applications in 2023) with 53 no. applications received seeking retention of planning permission. There has been a considerable increase in the number of applications seeking to refurbish vacant and derelict dwellings including providing wastewater treatment systems to same as a result of the Croí Cónaithe Scheme. The invalidation rate of planning applications was recorded at 24.2% which is similar to the corresponding rates in 2023 (24.5%) and 2022 (25.6%).

Planning permission was granted with respect to 203 no. applications received (55 no. seeking retention of planning permission), with permission refused in the case of 10 no. applications (2 no. applications seeking retention of planning permission). Planning permission was granted for 65 no. houses – 25 no. units comprising of small schemes greater than 1 no. dwelling (2 no. Mohill, 4 no. Kinlough, 5 no. Carrick-on-Shannon and Drumshanbo and 9 no. Ballinamore), 22 no. one off houses in the countryside served by individual wastewater treatment systems, 9 no. individual dwellings served by piped water services within or adjoining settlements, 8 no. replacement houses and a community dwelling house in Carrick-on-Shannon. A housing scheme extension in Dromahair providing 34 no. dwellings was granted planning permission but has been appealed to An Bord Pleanála. In addition, Part 8 approvals were obtained for 20 no. social housing units by Leitrim County Council in 5 different settlements across the county.

Leitrim County Council went live for E-Planning on 11th April 2023 whereby planning applications can now be submitted in electronic form. Over 95% of all applications received in 2024 were submitted in this manner.

An Bord Pleanála decided on 5 no. individual appeals against decisions made by Leitrim County Council during 2024 with all of the decisions of the Local Authority having been upheld. In addition, the Board also granted consent for the construction of a new fire station at Manorhamilton which required the preparation of a Natura Impact Statement.

A total of 46 no. applications for determination on exempted development / non-exempted development status of a proposed development (Section 5 declarations) were received during 2024 significantly higher than the number submitted in 2023 (34 no.) and in 2022 (16 no.).

The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine referred 77 no. applications for licenses for tree felling and 12 no. applications for tree planting to the Planning Authority during the year. A further 33 no. applications for Forest Access Roads were referred to us for comment prior to the Department deciding in respect of same.

36 no. enforcement cases were opened in 2024 by the Planning Authority. At the year end, there remained a total of 88 no. live enforcement cases at various stages of investigation, resolution and proceeding to prosecution. A total of 13 no. cases were closed off during the year.

Work continued to be undertaken in the review of our Derelict Sites Register with a project beginning to scan historic files also underway.

Part 8 Public Consultation on Local Authority Own Development Proposals

The Planning Department managed the Part 8 public consultation process for 11 no. Local Authority own developments during 2024. These included social housing developments in Manorhamilton, Mohill, Newtowngore, Ballinamore and Kiltyclogher, active travel projects in Dromod / Roosky, Ballinamore, Manorhamilton and Dromahair and a Flood Relief Scheme in Leitrim Village. In addition, the consent application was submitted to An Bord Pleanála for the Rossinver Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Taking in Charge

Progress continued to be made during 2024 by the Planning Department in conjunction with the Capital Projects Office in resolving incomplete housing developments. The objective is to bring such developments to the required standard to allow them to be taken in charge. The undertaking of remedial works within such estates was managed by the Capital Projects Office. The Council continues to work with Uisce Éireann to transfer responsibility for the maintenance of the piped water services in these estates to the utility company after they have been taken in charge.

Pre Planning

The Planning Authority had formal pre planning consultations on 88 no. proposed developments during 2024 which is similar to the previous year. Every effort was made to accommodate pre-planning meetings through phone-calls /e-mail or virtual meetings. The average waiting time of 19 days is slightly above the target of 15 days, but this can be attributed to the impact of competing demands of staff resources in meeting all statutory deadlines along with the required information not having been submitted along with the original request for pre planning consultations.

Cost per capita of the Planning Service

The cost per capita of the Planning Service has increased to €48.20 in 2024 from €44.66 in 2023. This is below the target of €49.06 set in the budget for the year. This cost is largely dependent on the fees receipted for the year and expenditure costs incurred. The staffing levels in the Planning Department continued to increase during 2024 along with the additional costs involved in preparing the Carrick-on-Shannon Joint Local Area Plan 2025-2031.

Enforcement

The Planning Authority investigated or instigated 36 new enforcement cases during 2024 with 65 cases carried forward from previous years. A total of 13 no. enforcement cases were closed off during the year resulting in a total of 88 no. live enforcement cases at various stages of investigation, resolution and proceeding to prosecution at year end. Of the new cases opened in 2024, 3 no. cases had been resolved by the year end. Our target of 60% of all cases instigated being resolved by year end was not reached. Every effort was made in dealing with the cases on hand, but certain cases can be complex and slow to resolve. This included 5 cases which are before the courts, only 1 of which was heard and determined by the District Court.

Appeals

3 no. planning appeals were submitted to An Bord Pleanála with respect to decisions made by the Planning Authority during 2024. 3 no. of these appeals had been determined in 2024 with the Board upholding the decision of the Planning Authority in each instance. In addition, 4 no. appeals were submitted by landowners with respect to lands being included for Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT) purposes. The Board upheld the decision of the Planning Authority in 3 no. of the 4 no. appeals with respect to RZLT.

FIRE SERVICES

Manorhamilton New Fire Station

On 9TH February 2024, An Bord Pleanála approved the Construction of a 2-bay fire station with ancillary accommodation, drill yard and drill tower and all associated works at Cloneen, Manorhamilton, Co. Leitrim. On 21st October 2024, The National Directorate for Fire & Emergency Management confirmed that the Council may now proceed to progress to full design and cost plan stage and preparation of appropriate tender documents at a total building cost, inclusive of VAT at €2,779,058



Proposed new fire station for Manorhamilton as approved by An Bord Pleanála on 9TH February 2024

Pre-owned Service Vehicle

Leitrim County Fire Service took delivery of a pre-owned fire appliance on the 30th August 2024. This vehicle was purchased from Angloco and underwent a refit before delivery. The vehicle will be used as an additional service vehicle to cover routine maintenance and breakdowns.

Implementation of WRC Agreement, 2023

In accordance with the WRC Agreement of September 2023, Leitrim County Fire has continued to increase the number of firefighters in the county. Eight new firefighters were recruited and trained during 2024

Community Fire Safety

A full program of activities were organised for Fire Safety Week in Leitrim including visits to Primary Schools and talks to various community groups. In addition, Firefighters undertook additional work in the area of Community Fire Safety under the WRC Agreement, 2023. These additional duties included open days, leaflet drops and attendance at PPN events.



Children from Scoil Chlann Naofa, Ballinamore, learning all about home fire safety

Fire Service Staffing

At full compliment, Leitrim County Council employs four Senior Officers and one Assistant Staff Officer to run the service for the county from headquarters in Carrick-on-Shannon. Leitrim County Fire service has five fire stations in Carrick-on-Shannon, Mohill, Drumshanbo, Ballinamore and Manorhamilton. The service nationally faces challenges with recruitment and restructuring and Leitrim is no exception. Despite this we have maintained a professional and resilient service for the communities we serve.

The following number of firefighters were employed as of 31/12/2024 - a total of 55 firefighters.

Fire Station	No. of Firefighters
Carrick on Shannon	11
Mohill	11
Drumshanbo	11
Ballinamore	11
Manorhamilton	11
Total	55

New Senior Fire Officers

Two new staff joined the Fire Service Management Team in October 2024.Noel O'Reilly took up the post of Chief Fire Officer, while Martin Bond joined as Senior Assistant Chief Fire Officer.

Leitrim Emergency Incidents in 2024

While the statistics for 2024 show an overall increase of 25% in activities, the reduction in RTC's is welcomed.

Type of Incident	2024	2023
Chimney	20	19
Other fires	23	36
Road Traffic Collisions	49	57
Vehicle fires	7	11
Bog / Forest /Gorse/Grass	4	7
Storm damage / flooding	1	2
False alarms (good intent)	15	4
False alarms (malicious)	0	1
Miscellaneous	93	73
Total	263	210

Performance Indicators

Leitrim County Fire service continues to comply with the expected mobilizing time of 5 mins required for retained brigades in the country. All our brigade units are mobilized in a time of just under 5 minutes.

Attendance at fires – within 10 minutes = 28%,

After 10 minutes but within 20 minutes = 55%,

Greater than 20 minutes = 18%.



Firefighters from Manorhamilton demonstrate their RTC Skills during an Open Day on 14th December 2024



Figure 2: pre owned service vehicle

WATER SERVICES

Multi Annual Rural Water Programme 2024-2026

The new Multi Annual Rural Water Programme (MARWP) 2024-2026 was launched by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in January 2024 with applications being accepted for funding across 9 Measures in this new Programme. Applications from Local Authorities for consideration for funding for group schemes/projects were to be submitted to the Department by the 12th of April 2024.

Leitrim County Council (Rural Water Department) submitted an application to the Department for a total of 31 applications for schemes/projects with a total estimated cost of €4,140,460 and the total amount of funding sought from the Department for these was €2,707,481.

As well as this funding for 31 no. projects, the Rural Water Department also sought to retain the funding for existing commitments from the 2019-2021 MARWP for a number of projects in the sum of €282,884 which is also been sought. This brings the total funding request to the Department to €2,990,365.

In November, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage advised Leitrim County Council that a decision had been made on the funding for capital projects under the Multi Annual Rural Water Programme 2024-2026 for 5 out of the 8 measures. The Expert Panel are continuing its evaluation of the applications received under the other 3 remaining measures.

Leitrim County Council had applied for funding under 6 of these measures. Under the measures that funding has been approved to date by the Department, Leitrim County Council were successful in securing funding for 13 projects with the total funding awarded to date for these projects of €1,073,152.

Leitrim Civil Defence commenced 2023 with the recruitment of new volunteers, existing volunteers were delighted to start the year on a positive note and welcome new faces to the unit.

Operations

- Volunteers assisted LAWPRO with water samples in Lough Rynn
- We assisted gardai with a missing person search and recovery on the Ballinamore Ballyconnell canal.
- Also assisted the environment section with water sampling across the county for EPA.

- Volunteers assisted at Lough Rynn and Carrick on Shannon regattas.
- Volunteers Assisted Local Authority in Leitrim Village (Tornado)
- Volunteers at the request of Irish Coastguard assist vessels in distress on the River Shannon.
- Volunteers assisted Irish Dragon Boat races in Lough Rynn.
- Volunteers assisted the environment section with monitoring water quality at Leitrim Village in the aftermath of tornado.
- Throughout the year Volunteers remained on standby to respond to requests for assistance from the Principle Response Agencies in accordance with the Major Emergency Framework.

Taking in Charge of Group Schemes:

In 2024 Uisce Eireann took 4 no. group water schemes in charge. These schemes were Kiltogher, Cleen, Tarmon and Faughill Group Water Schemes and Uisce Eireann and the Rural Water Department of Leitrim County Council continued to work together in 2024 to progress a number of other group water schemes through the taking in charge process so that a further 3 no. group schemes could be taken in charge in early 2025.

Grants for Individual Water Supplies (Well Grants):

In 2024 a total of €26,645 was paid out by Leitrim County Council to 6 households for grants to upgrade/install a new well and/or treatment of water.

Group Water Scheme Subsidies:

A total of €330,975 was paid out by Leitrim County Council to 18 no. group schemes in 2024 for subsidy towards the annual maintenance costs of a group scheme.

Grants for Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems (Septic Tanks):

In 2024 a total of 12 no. grants were paid out for domestic wastewater treatment systems with the total amount paid out by Leitrim County Council in the sum of €130,668.



Delivering for our Places

TOWNS & VILLAGES

ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE

HERITAGE & CULTURE

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE ACTION

Climate Action

Leitrim County Council adopted a 5-year Climate Action Plan (2024 – 2029) at a full plenary meeting of Elected Members on 19 February 2024. The Plan is a roadmap for the Council to reduce its emissions and meet sustainability targets within the organisation and support the transition of County Leitrim to a climate resilient, biodiversity rich, environmentally sustainable and climate neutral economy. The Plan also makes provision for a Decarbonising Zone (DZ) around Carrick-on-Shannon to lead a place-based approach for what is possible through climate action at local and community levels.

Leitrim County Council have registered a Sustainable Energy Community to support the objectives of the Decarbonising Zone called Carrick-on-Shannon Climate Action for development with groups in the town.

A communication information evening was held for households in Carrick-on-Shannon Decarbonising Zone to avail of home upgrades under the Local Energy Agencies for Peripheral Regions (LEAP) EU LIFE funded initiative (November 2024) with a view to getting assessments carried out and home upgrades for interested households in association with ATU and Sligo Leitrim Energy Agency.

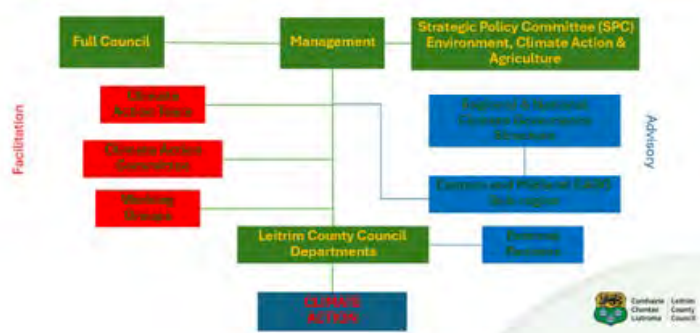
The Climate Action Section of Leitrim County Council administer a Community Climate Action Programme on behalf of the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications to support and build low carbon communities in Co. Leitrim. There are two Strands to the Programme; Strand 1 funded by the Climate Action Fund with €300,000 available for community projects in Co. Leitrim and Strand 1a funded by the Sharn Island Fund with a national pot of €3,000,000 for partnered projects in Co. Leitrim and with another community project in Northern Ireland. The first phase of the Programme allowed for expressions of interest under themes of energy, travel, food & waste, shopping & recycling and local climate & environmental action. Leitrim County Council were successful in awarding the full allocation available under Strand 1 and achieved well above the national average in securing funding for groups under Strand 1a and their respective partners in Northern Ireland.



Launch of Climate Action Plan 2024-2029

#ClimateActionLeitrim

Leitrim County Council Climate Action Organogram



Leitrim County Council are working with successful groups awarded funding to progress their projects to delivery.



The Council is required to reduce its emissions by 51% by 2030 from the baseline period (2016 – 2018). The Council are engaged in a Pathfinder project for deep retrofit of selected buildings, PLEEP Scheme for retrofitting of public lighting and has begun a Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) trial on Council Fleet. Beyond those projects, emission reductions are to be achieved through behavioural change. The Climate Action section are working to put in place a framework Energy Management System (EnMS) to integrate the responsibility of reducing emissions and improving efficiency across the organization.



Anti-Dumping Initiative 2024

As part of the 2024 Anti-Dumping Initiative, funding was made available through the Connaught/Ulster Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authority to Leitrim County Council to carry out a number of projects, aimed at reducing illegal dumping activities. Each project undertaken by Leitrim County Council was based on how it could best tackle the issue of illegal dumping through **Education, Enforcement, Abatement and Prevention**.

A brief synopsis of each project is provided on the table below.

Key Measures	Project	Project Synopsis
Prevention	Bulky goods and Mattress collection days	Provision of a household bulky waste collection at 2 locations in County Leitrim - whereby for a small nominal charge, the people in Leitrim can bring the bulky waste to either of the locations to ensure correct disposal of same
Abatement	Community Initiative - support	Community Support During National Spring Clean - Provide necessary support to communities as they collaborate with their local authority in the fight against illegal dumping. Particularly during the National Spring Clean Campaign, which traditionally has taken place throughout the month of April.
Education	Other	Rubbish Film Festival - Support Schools to participate in development of Film promoting Circular Economy and Waste Reduction. A specially designed workshop of 12 students per school based in Transition year. 2 Day workshop per school developing 1 min video.
Abatement	Smart Enforcement Tools	Geopal Solutions Support - Annual Licence. GeoPal is a mobile workforce management solution for fieldworkers. It is currently being actively used by waste enforcement staff for generation of reports and follow up procedure on all waste complaints and investigations.
Education	Other	Media, Advertising - paper, billboards and radio. Participate in national media campaigns and promote locally via Leitrim County Council social media.
Abatement	Other	Clean up of larger illegal dumping sites at various locations in the county
Education	Community Initiative	Upcycling Workshops - Promoted through the secondary schools in Co. Leitrim. On-line learning and guidance on textile upcycling.
Education	Community Initiative	Litter workshop with community groups and schools. Education on the effects of material use on the environment.

National Spring Clean 2024

The Annual National Spring Clean started in March 2024. The campaign was promoted nationally through social media and was advertised with press release and radio advertising.

The National Spring Clean is a very important annual event. Leitrim’s Tidy Towns Groups, Community Groups, Adopt a Road Groups, sporting organisations took to the roads, towns and villages of the county where they undertook clean-up operations. Leitrim continues to have a hugely successful National Spring Clean Campaign, nearly 50 groups with over 800 individuals registered with An Taisce and many more participated in the cleanup. Leitrim County Council provided litter picking packs for many of the groups. The quantity of litter collected across the county was approximately 9.5 tonnes. Leitrim County Council facilitated collection of bags of litter from the groups participating.

Bulky Waste collections were day long events in Lough Rynn Amenity Centre and Manorhamilton Civic Amenity Site. These were held in August and September of 2024.

A total of 91,780 tonne bulky waste was taken from residents of Co. Leitrim and disposed of correctly, along with 589 mattresses. Removing this waste prevents illegal dumping in our county.



Food Waste Segregation – Awareness Campaign.

From 1st January 2024

- All households with bin collection are entitled to brown bins.
- Contact your waste collector and request a brown bin service in 2024

What happens to the food and garden waste from a brown bin? It is sent for composting or anaerobic digestion (AD).

Ó Eanáir 2024
Beidh gach teaghlach in Éirinn i dteideal seirbhís bailithe araidí donna, beag beann ar an áit a bhfuil siad suite.



Awareness Campaign – Food Waste

A food waste campaign was run on local media in June 2024. Consumers and Businesses were urged to use a Brown Bin, as part of the National Food Waste Recycling Week. Two thirds (67%) of householders in Ireland have a brown bin. New legislation introduced in January means everyone, everywhere in Ireland is now entitled by law to a brown bin service. The message is to Recycle food waste and reduce their carbon footprint.

In Ireland, we waste about 750,000 tonnes of food every year.

**Wasting resources;
Land, Water, Energy and Fertiliser**

**Food Waste Costs households;
€60 per month / €700 per year
Annual national cost €1.29 billion.**

Over 66% of household organic waste continues to be placed in the residual (black) or recycling bins.

Properly recycled food waste is diverting this valuable resource from landfill, it can be used to

What FOOD WASTE CAN I recycle?

 Raw & cooked food	 Eggshells	 Fruit & veg
 Dairy Products	 Bread	 Coffee grounds and tea bags
 Kitchen roll/tissue	 Meat & fish	

What CANNOT BE PLACED in your food waste recycling bin?

 No Plastic packaging	 No Glass packaging
 No Metal packaging	

For more information, visit Ireland's Official Guide to Waste Management
www.mywaste.ie

mywaste

Connaught/Ulster Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authority

Leitrim County Council continue to lead the shared service of the Connacht Ulster Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authority (CU WERLA) to co-ordinate the waste enforcement efforts of local authorities. CU WERLA continues to support and assist local authorities across the region in fulfilling their statutory waste enforcement obligations.

Following the signing of the Service Level Agreements (SLA) between the CU WERLA and its constituent local authorities, the WERLA underwent an enhancement to include the enforcement of household waste collection permits as well as dealing with illegal waste activities and sites/operators of concern which includes taking on particular waste enforcement cases of regional or national significance in conjunction with local authorities. The Department of Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) allocated more than €3 million in funding, along with the employment of additional technical and administrative personnel to manage enforcement responsibilities. Recruitment efforts to fill positions under the enhanced WERLA are ongoing.

The WERLA was relaunched on March 27, 2024 at the CHQ Building Custom House Key in Dublin. This event showcased an enhanced WERLA program featuring discussions on Multi-Agency Activities, the Anti-Dumping Initiative (ADI), and the Codes of Practice for CCTV & Mobile Recording Devices (MRDs). A variety of external stakeholders attended the relaunch, which received coverage in mainstream media.

The WERLAs, working in partnership with Local Authorities and other stakeholders, will be using all available technology to deal with illegal waste activities to ensure compliance with waste legislation. The recent approval of the Codes of Practices for CCTV and Mobile Recording Devices (MRDs) will further strengthen the enforcement tools available to local authorities in the investigation, detection, and prosecution of offence under the Waste and Litter Acts.

In 2024, the WERLAs continued their coordination of the Anti-Dumping Initiative (ADI), with CU WERLA allocated a budget of €1 million. This initiative focuses on collaborating with local authorities and community organisations to identify high-risk or problematic areas, formulate suitable enforcement strategies, and execute clean-up operations. Within the CU WERLA region, a total of 82 projects were successfully completed, resulting in the removal of 1,076 tonnes of waste and 3,155 mattresses through bulky waste collections. The full range of projects can be viewed on the ADI annual report which is available through the WERLA website www.werla.ie.

The WERLAs report directly to the WERLA Management Group and continue to engage with their Regional Steering Groups and Regional Operations Group on a quarterly basis. Additionally, the CU WERLA meet their Waste Enforcement Officer Group on a quarterly basis.

The WERLAs publish an annual report outlining the waste enforcement activities undertaken by the WERLAs in the preceding year and looks at their achievements under the National Waste Enforcement Priorities. These reports can be viewed on the WERLAs website www.werla.ie.



Images illustrating the condition of a site before and after intervention at one of the illegal dumping areas in the CU WERLA region, where financial support was allocated through the ADI funding program.



Relaunch of WERLA in March 2024

COMMUNITY

Age Friendly Programme

The Age Friendly Programme four Age Friendly Alliance meetings throughout 2024. Under the Chairperson of Hazel Humphreys, The Older People's Council met four times. Age Friendly walkability audits were conducted in Manorhamilton, Ballinamore and at Carrick on Shannon train station.

Work continues with Age Friendly Ireland, Irish Rail and Roscommon County Council to carry out upgrades and improvements to Carrick on Shannon train station with the aim of securing Age Friendly status for the facility. Additional Age Friendly parking was installed throughout the county, improving access to essential services for Older Persons in our communities.



Pride Of Place

Leitrim County Council nominated two Community Groups for Pride of Place in 2024 in the following categories:

- Leitrim Calling – 'Community Wellbeing Initiative'
- The Leitrim Sustainable Agriculture Group & Ulster Wildlife Farmers Group Fermanagh – 'Creative Communities on a Shared Island'.

The awards were held in Monaghan on Saturday 2nd November, representatives from both groups together with the Cathaoirleach Councillor Paddy O'Rourke, Councillor Justin Warnock and the Chief Executive Mr. Joseph Gilhooly attended the Awards Ceremony.

Each entry received a Certificate of Participation recognising their contribution to their local communities. The Leitrim Sustainable Agriculture Group & Ulster Wildlife Farmers Group Fermanagh won a Special Category award, the group were presented with a trophy on stage and a monetary prize of €1,000.



Leitrim PEACEPLUS Partnership approved €3.3m in funding under the PEACEPLUS Programme.

The Special EU Programmes Body announced a funding award of €3,334,009 for Leitrim County Council through the PEACEPLUS Programme Thematic Area 1.1.

The Leitrim PEACEPLUS Action Plan was developed after extensive consultation using a co-design process to address needs within the Leitrim Council area and in particular how PEACEPLUS can address a lack of historic investment due to conflict and enhance peace and reconciliation in the county.

The Action Plan has 16 projects across three themes: Local Community Regeneration and Transformation; Thriving and Peaceful Communities; and Celebrating Cultural Diversity. This includes five Shared Space capital projects under local community regeneration.



Cathaoirleach Cllr Paddy O'Rourke & Chair of Fermanagh & Omagh District PEACEPLUS Partnership at official launch of Leitrim's Action Plan

Leitrim PEACEPLUS Action Plan

Theme 1: Local Community Regeneration and Transformation (Capital projects)

There are five capital projects to be delivered, with a capital budget allocation of €836,987.

- Multi Use Games Area in Ballinamore
- Community Meeting Space Carrick-on-Shannon
- Power Supply in Kinlough Eco Park
- Play & Art Therapy Facility Drumkeerin
- Cross Community Space, Lurganboy

Representatives from the Dept of Rural & Community Development, Dept of Communities NI, funders Special EU Programmes Body, local sporting groups, SRC committee, elected members & staff of Leitrim County Council attend official launch of the Shannonside Peace Arena PEACEPLUS project

Theme 2: Thriving & Peaceful Communities

Seven projects will be delivered to 3,151 Participants, with an overall budget of €893,435.

- Community Capacity Building & Volunteer Support Programme
- Environmental Awareness & Biodiversity Programme
- Celebrate & Acknowledge our Culture, Heritage & Faith
- Voice of Women in Rural Ireland
- Engaging and Understanding for Young People in the Digital World
- Support Programme for those most isolated
- Shared Space Animation Projects

Theme 3: Building Respect for all Cultural Identities

Four projects will be delivered to 755 Participants, with an overall budget of €504,913

- Active Citizenship and Orientation Programme
- Traveller Community Programme
- Ex political Prisoners their Families and Displaced Persons
- Promoting Diversity through the Arts

PEACEPLUS PROGRAMME Investment Area 1.4:

Re-Imaging Communities

Funding up to €15,342,366 was awarded by the Special EU Programmes Body for Leitrim County Council and the Shannonside Recreational Campus (SRC) through the PEACEPLUS Programme theme Re-Imaging Communities. The funding is for the development of the Shannonside Peace Arena (SPA), a facility that will comprise of a double height multi-functional sports hall, high performance gym, changing rooms, meeting rooms, physio rooms, reception, canteen & activities room.



Comhairle na nÓg

Comhairle na nÓg serves as a local council for children and young people aged 12–17 and a platform to influence the development of local policies and services. The Comhairle na nÓg programme in Leitrim is hosted by the North Connaught Youth and Community Services. The chosen topic for 2024 was youth mental health. 87 young people from the seven post primary schools attended the Annual Youth Conference hosted by Leitrim County Council, with coordination from Youth Work Ireland, NCYCS and members of Leitrim Comhairle na nÓg.

Community Recognition Fund

Funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development, €2,212,974 under the Community Recognition Fund was administered by Leitrim County Council.

Love Where You Live Awards 2024

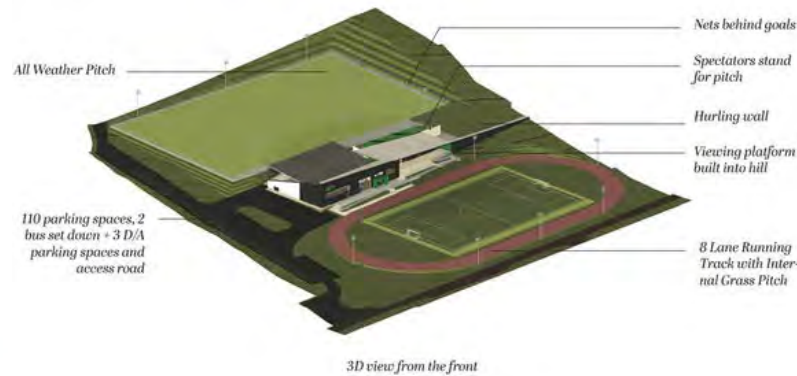
The Love Where You Live Awards were hosted by Leitrim County Council and Leitrim PPN on the 10th October in Lough Rynn Castle. The awards recognise the contribution made by community groups, schools, residents' associations and individuals in making Leitrim a better place to live, work and visit. Awards are given in each Municipal District, in six categories. The judges in 2024 were award winning garden designer and interior architect Leonie Cornelius and Roscommon PPN Resource Workers. The National Schools competition was judged by Rebecca Cogan, Biodiversity Officer in Leitrim County Council. Nine national schools participated in the competition, submitting projects based on 'Actions for Pollinators' theme.

Local Enhancement Programme

The Local Enhancement Programme, funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development was rolled out by Leitrim County Council in 2024. A total grant aid of €116,313.83 was allocated to the county, with €16,274.52 ringfenced for Women's groups. 90 Community Groups across the county were supported under the fund.

Large Scale Sports Infrastructure Fund (LSSIF)

Leitrim County Council in partnership with the Shannonside Recreational Campus (SRC) were successful in securing €3.3m in funding from the Large Scale Sports Infrastructure Fund (LSSIF) for an 8 lane 400m athletics track and internal grass pitch and the completion of a full size 4g pitch with floodlights and dressing rooms.



Award Categories	Winners	Runners Up
Schools Award	Hunt National School St. Joseph's National School, Aughavas Largy National School	St. Joseph's National School, Leitrim Village Fatima National School
Green Community of the Year	Manorhamilton Tidy Towns Ballinamore Tidy Towns Carrick on Shannon Tidy Towns	Greenshoots Playground Drumshanbo Tidy Towns Mohill Community Network
Community Achievement	Mohill and District Heritage Society Tullaghan Development Association Keshcarrigan Development Association	Leitrim International Community Group The Bee Park Resource Centre Drumreilly Active Age
Estate of the Year	Radharc an tSeipeal Townspark Residents Association Barleyfield Residents Association	Drumlease Residents Association Glas na hAbhainn Church Manor
Social Inclusion	Extra Special Parent and Toddler Group New Ballagh Centre Choir of Ages Fenagh Development Association	Annaduff/Drumsna Golden Age Killennummery Women's Group Carrigallen Tidy Towns
Special Recognition Award	Leitrim Volunteer Centre	

Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT)

In the first quarter of 2024 the Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT) was established which comprises of Integration Support Coordinator, Integration Support Worker, and administrative support.

The LAIT coordinated the expansion of the multiagency Ukrainian Community Response Forum to Community Integration Forum (CIF) to ensure the inclusion of International Protection applicants (IPA's).

The LAIT held clinics and events to promote integration and inclusion in the County of Leitrim for BOTP's (Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection) and IPA's (International Protection Applicant) and the wider communities.

The Team worked in collaboration with two International Protection Accommodation Services (IPAS) one located in Ballinamore which cater for 90 IPA's and Dromahair which cater for 139 IPA's. The team also worked with 15 Commercial Centres accommodating circa 292 BOTP's.

The LAIT managed the overall administration of the Offer A Home program throughout 2024 accommodating circa 560 BOTP's in 151 in properties in Leitrim. The administration of the programme involves the portfolio of offered properties and all aspects of resettlement agreements including stakeholder relations, inspections, lease agreements, codes of conduct, emergencies, complaints, move-ins and move-outs.

The LAIT lead out on the Integration Coordination of the Emergency Refurbishment Ukraine Programme (ERUP) for the provision of accommodation in Local Authority owned property for use .

The LAIT delivered a number of initiatives to promote Integration throughout 2024 and collaborated with Healthy Ireland for Men's International Day where speakers facilitated talks on Mental Health and Promoting a positive Mind set for men. The Integration Team collaborated with the Aremoja Women's Group in Sligo to facilitate parents to travel to Sligo for a networking event to meet other families and to listen/engage in a talk regarding parenting in Ireland which included what services were available to Parents in Leitrim.

A successful Integration Christmas Cultural Community event was delivered in Ballinamore in December which focused on the community in general, families from both Ballinamore and Dromahair IPAS centres and Ukrainians living in the community attended the event. There was array of activities to include drumming, arts and crafts and cultural food. A total of 120 people attended the event.

6 Community Integration Forum meetings were held in 2024 to ascertain the emerging needs of both International Protected Applicants and Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection.

Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection (BOTP's) and International Protection Applicants (IPA's) were supported through clinics and events organised to promote integration and inclusion in the County of Leitrim.

The LAIT worked in collaboration with Commercial Centres accommodating Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection.

Community Integration Christmas Event was organised by the LAIT in Ballinamore, Leitrim.

The team administrated the Offer a Home Scheme in 2024.



Africa Day 2024

LIBRARY SERVICES

Public Library Open Day

All 8 branch libraries hosted events to mark 'Public Libraries Open Day'. As it was also SDG Week a number of the events focussed on an environmental/climate theme. Events included a poetry reading by Vincent Woods accompanied by musician John Tuohy who played the Uilleann Pipes. A talk by Leitrim County Council's Biodiversity Officer, Rebeccah Cogan entitled 'Biodiversity in Your Garden' and a food waste talk by Anna Browne of Big Sky Flowers. Kiltyclogher Library hosted a talk on 'Sustainable Energy for Communities' and there was a children's story-time with Treasa Nealon in Manorbhamilton Library and a children's art & craft workshop in Carrigallen Library. There were also drop-in digital skills sessions as well as information sessions with the local studies librarian who focused on a range of useful websites relating to family history and other research. The day was an opportunity to showcase the breadth and range of services offered by the library service which include online services, literacy supports, sensory equipment and toys as well as Energy Saving Kits which can all be borrowed by library members.



The 'Leitrim Libraries Unleashed' Podcast which promotes library services was launched in May.

OurKidsCode Workshop

A number of 'OurKidsCode' Workshops took place in Mohill, Ballinamore and Manorbhamilton Libraries. These coding clubs are a family based event for families of primary school aged children which provide an opportunity for families to participate in a fun and inclusive event which aims to increase parental involvement and promote greater diversity in computer education.

The 2024 Summer Stars children's reading programme attracted a record 976 children. Almost 15,000 children's books were borrowed during the 3 month period June to August.

A launch event took place of the 'ESKER Box' at Mohill Library. The Esker (Environmental Science Kits for Ecological Recording) Box contains a range of equipment from insect collection nets to magnifying glasses and contain several National Biodiversity Data Centre species swatches to help with proper identification.

Culture Night was celebrated in a number of libraries. The 'Rakes of Music' collection was launched at an event in Ballinamore Library. 'Rakes of Music' is a collaboration between Leitrim Library Service and traditional singer and researcher, Fionnuala Maxwell, which celebrates Leitrim's music, song, dance and culture and can be accessed at <https://leitrimdoc.ie/rakes-of-music/>.

Ireland Reads

'Ireland Reads' 2024 saw staff from all branch libraries posting personal recommendations on library social media platforms and author, Nuala O'Connor, did a book reading and Q&A in Mohill Library.



Digital Skills Information Programme

AONTAS, Ireland's National Adult Learning Organisation, shortlisted the library's Digital Skills for Adults programme for an AONTAS Star Award in the category of adult initiatives that support social inclusion.

Healthy Ireland

Healthy Ireland events took place across the library branch network with presentations by a number of health professionals on a range of topics. The Irish Heart Foundation Mobile Health Unit visited Drumshanbo Library where a large number of people took the opportunity to avail of free Blood Pressure and Pulse Checks. The 'Shoulder to Shoulder' project engaged men attending Men's Sheds in County Leitrim in a programme of health and wellbeing where the focus was on the development and improvement of Health Literacy Skills.



Sensory Related Services

Demand for and use of Sensory related services such as the Sensory Room and Magic Table in Mohill Library and Cubbie in Manorhamilton Library continued to grow and items from the Sense Ability Collection were also in demand.

Dementia Inclusive Social Club

A new bi-weekly Dementia Inclusive Social Club commenced in Mohill Library. The club is a social gathering where people can access information and support, meet other people and exchange ideas and experiences.

Down Syndrome Ireland

Down Syndrome Ireland held an Employment and Training Day in Mohill Library. The day included a training session for library staff on setting up a book club for adults with Down Syndrome.

'Culture Night' was celebrated in a number of libraries. The 'Rakes of Music' collection was launched at an event in Ballinamore Library. 'Rakes of Music' is a collaboration between Leitrim Library Service and traditional singer and researcher, Fionnuala Maxwell, which celebrates Leitrim's music, song, dance and culture and can be accessed at <https://leitrimdoc.ie/rakes-of-music/>.

A new seasonal initiative entitled 'Conversations on Books' commenced in late 2024. The initiative is a collaboration between Leitrim Library Service, The Reading Room Bookshop and The Dock Arts Centre.

All branch libraries promote the Irish Language. The hit online music station, Rí Rá Radio, which broadcasts entirely 'as Gaeilge' engaged with two Transition Year Irish classes from St Clare's Comprehensive School in Manorhamilton Library. A creative and interactive workshop showed students how to record their very own voice link to add to a radio show using their smartphones. The students wrote their own scripts 'as Gaeilge' and chose their favourite chart hits to add to the show. A number of 'Ciorcal Comhrá' and Irish Language sessions for Beginners were also held in a number of libraries and Irish language items in our collection were reviewed and new material for both adults and children were purchased for each branch library. Culture Night/ Oíche Chultúir events are delivered in our libraries with funding from An tOireachtas.

Copies of the new Irish Language Newspaper 'An Páipéir' are available in Ballinamore Library.

ARTS AND CREATIVITY

In July 2024 the council adopted a new arts plan. The mission of this plan for 2024–2027 is "to contribute to the social, cultural and economic development of Leitrim by placing the arts at the centre of everything we do."

Its three core priorities are:

- Community Engagement - this is how we serve communities in Leitrim.
- Children and Young People - this is how we make sure children can make, share, and enjoy the arts.
- Professional Development - this is how we support artists.

There are also two cross-cutting priorities across all our programmes looking at:

- how we respond to climate change, and
- how we promote Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion through our work in the arts.

Community Engagement

23 projects were completed as part of Leitrim County Council's Creative Ireland Open Call programme. Among the projects this year was 'The Rambling Project' led by Edwina Guckian that sought to rekindle the tradition of visiting neighbours and sharing hospitality, music and dance. As part of the Creative Ireland Shared Island programme, Leitrim County Council worked with the Dock, Leitrim Sustainable Agriculture Group and Ulster Wildlife to develop a series of farm walks with farmers and artists in Leitrim and Fermanagh.

Festivals are vital opportunities for people to come together and experience activities and performances in their own communities. In 2024 Leitrim County Council advertised for three strands of festival funding at the same time – Arts, Tourism and Community. Adaptation Film Festival, Glen to Glen Piping Festival, Leitrim Dance Week, the John McKenna Festival and the Written Word Weekend in Drumshanbo were supported under the arts strand. New voices and migrant populations continued as central themes for the Iron Mountain Literature Festival this year.

Professional Development

In response to the adoption of a policy on Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion, the Arts Office organised a 2-day national conference in October for artists in partnership with Create, the national development agency for collaborative arts and Cork City Council focussing on equality, diversity and inclusion in the arts and featuring UK based Hope & Courage Collective and Arts & Disability Ireland among others. Throughout the year Leitrim County Council's professional development programme for artists – Creative Frame – continued to provide up-to-date information on events and opportunities in the sector for the network's membership of over 400 professional artists. Training provided included: Mentorship training, Financial and Tax Management; Child Protection Training and managing websites and social media.

SPARK Programme

The SPARK programme, in partnership with Leitrim Local Enterprise Office, fosters collaboration between artists and businesses. In addition to the culmination of the project with HABIC funded through Creative Ireland, Fionnuala Maxwell continued her residency Jinny's Bakery; while Karen Webster residency at The Old Rectory in Fenagh will culminate in the publication of a new book in early 2024.

Culture Night continues as a valuable platform for venues throughout the county to build their audience and to provide opportunities for people to try something new. Among the events this year were Film and Fiction at The Island Theatre Ballinamore and A Night of Percy French at St Georges Heritage and Visitor Centre.

Neil Jordan at the Iron Mountain Literature Festival



Children & Young People

Leitrim County Council in partnership with The Glens Centre and Carrigallen Youth Theatre continued to grow junior and senior Youth Theatre groups in Manorhamilton, Carrigallen and Leitrim village. Cruinniú na nÓg took place on the 8th of June and included 22 local events across the county ranging from eco-art youth camps, music workshops, storytelling, screen-printing, STEAM workshops, stained glass, youth theatre and much more. We continued to host Wild Words, a programme for teenagers interested in Creative Writing, in partnership with Leitrim Library Service. In 2024 we also piloted a Culture Summer Camp in Ballinamore providing young teenagers the opportunity to sample youth theatre, creative writing, song writing and performance, dance and kayaking.



Music Workshop at 2024 Leitrim Culture Camp

New Developments

In 2024 Leitrim County Council progressed its plans for the development of a new Community and Youth Arts Centre in Carrick on Shannon, which is due to commence construction later in 2025. A pilot project for early years arts in Mohill in 2024 set the foundation stone for a more ambitious project in 2025 in partnership with Healthy Ireland, while a further development of the Farm Walks project will see long-term residencies developed between farmers and artists in Fermanagh and Leitrim throughout 2025.



Leitrim County Council developed The Dock in 2005 to be a cornerstone of the county's cultural infrastructure, a beacon for visitors and a crucially positive endorsement of the rich cultural offering of Carrick on Shannon, Leitrim and the Northwest. In 2024 The Dock welcomed over 30,000 visitors to more than 300 performances, workshops and other activities.



Cllr. Paddy Farrell presenting the 2024 John McGahern Award to Shane Tivenan at the Iron Mountain Literature Festival

SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

In 2024, Leitrim Sports Partnership (LSP) continued its mission to promote sports and physical activity across the county. Supported by Sport Ireland and other funding partners, LSP focused on increasing participation, enhancing local sports infrastructure, and fostering community partnerships.

•Key initiatives targeted underrepresented groups, including older adults, women, people with disabilities, and disadvantaged communities. Programmes such as safeguarding training, sports leadership courses, disability-friendly sports, walking initiatives, and kayaking sessions were successfully delivered.

•Committed to an active and inclusive Leitrim, LSP will continue creating opportunities and strengthening resources to ensure lasting community impact.

•Disability programmes, including yoga, boccia, watersports, horse-riding and multisports, engaging over 600 people with disabilities.

•Older Adult Programmes- physical activities for over 500 participants, including chair exercises, Go for Life Games, cycling and walking for active age groups, women's groups, and men's sheds.

•Under the Disadvantaged Communities Programme, over 20 inclusive sports initiatives reached more than 400 individuals from Ukraine and those in Direct Provision.

•As part of the Women in Sport (WIS) funding, the LSP ran multiple programmes, including teenage basketball, Couch to 5k, fitness classes, and kayaking sessions, engaging 199 women in Carrick-on-Shannon, Ballinamore, Mohill, and Drumshanbo.

•The Leitrim Sports Star Awards took place on February 10th at Lough Rynn Castle, with 179 guests in attendance and 12 awards presented.

Outdoor Recreation Fund

The Keeldra project is currently in the process of applying for planning permission to install lighting along the outdoor lakeside walking trail. This initiative aims to enhance the accessibility and safety of the trail for users, especially during the darker months. As part of the planning process, an ecologist and senior planner from Leitrim County Council are working closely with the group to conduct a thorough review of the potential effects on local ecology and biodiversity. This review will ensure that the development of the lighting infrastructure aligns with environmental sustainability practices, preserving the natural habitat surrounding the trail while improving the recreational experience for the community.



Figure 1: TY Paddles Up Kayaking Programme

• Leitrim Sports Partnership engaged 13,664 participants through 1,237 sessions across 355 events and programmes.

• Leitrim Sports Partnership (LSP) secured over €486,000 from multiple funders, including Sport Ireland, HSE, the Department of Transport, the Department of Agriculture, and TUSLA. This includes:

- €128,000 Dormant Accounts Funding - Disability Sports Hub in Leitrim, Lough Rinn and Drumshanbo Sports Hubs.
- €190,000 in Capital Funding for improvements works – Keeldra, Gulladoo Lake (changing facilities, signage, seating) disability swings at Drumshanbo and Manorhamilton amenities.
- €12,179.83 was awarded to 24 clubs and organisations under the Club Development Grant.
- €6,520.51 was awarded to 12 clubs and organisations under the Volunteer Supports Grant.
- **National Bike Week 2024:** €22,000 funding was secured for Bike Week 2024 which contributed 46 events across the county, attracting 2,090 participants.
- **Education & Training:** 17 Safeguarding (183 participants), and 4 Sports First Aid courses (41 participants).



Figure 2: Balance Bike Programme

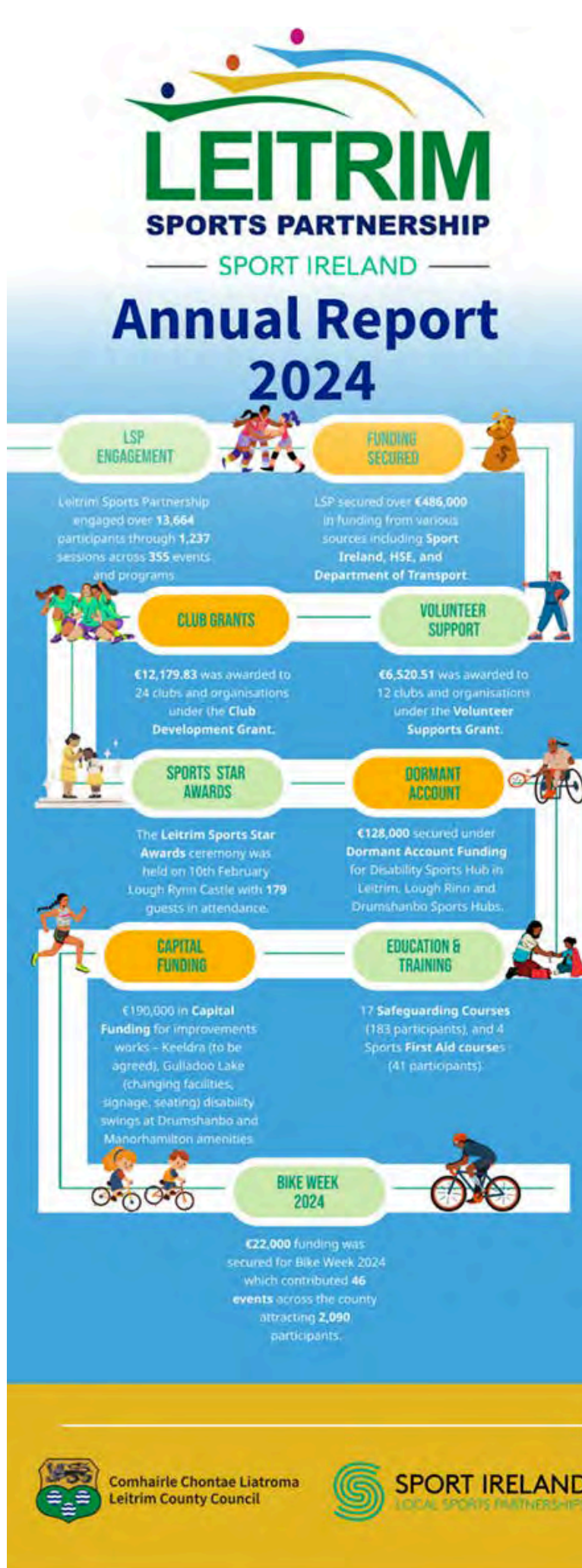
Outdoor Swimming Infrastructure Fund

Under the Outdoor Swimming Infrastructure Fund, the project at Gulladoo Lake is set to improve the facilities for outdoor swimmers and visitors. This will include the addition of much-needed changing facilities, clear signage for guidance, and outdoor pod seating to provide comfort for users. Groundworks will also be undertaken to create wheelchair-accessible concrete pads, allowing for greater inclusivity. The use of recycled plastic outdoor seating will further enhance the sustainability of the project, ensuring that the upgrades are both eco-friendly and accessible to all members of the community.

Participation Nation Funding

The Participation Nation Funding will support the installation of disability swings at the Drumshanbo and Manorhamilton amenities. These swings will provide a more inclusive recreational space, allowing children and adults with disabilities to enjoy outdoor play in an accessible environment. Additionally, the project will integrate elements of biodiversity, ensuring that the surroundings are environmentally friendly and promote local wildlife. This initiative reflects a commitment to enhancing accessibility in public spaces while promoting environmental awareness and sustainability.

The Leitrim Sports Partnership celebrated an incredible year of fostering health, wellness, and participation throughout the county, offering a diverse array of physical activity initiatives tailored for individuals of all ages and abilities. We were delighted to facilitate the engagement of 13,664 participants in LSP programs in 2024, each contributing to a vibrant culture of active living and wellbeing in our community. While our initial target stood at 12,000 participants, our accomplishments stand as a testament to the significant impact we've made in promoting active engagement and participation in sport and recreational activities.





Delivering for Our Economy

- INFRASTRUCTURE
- ENTERPRISE
- TOURISM

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Leitrim Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

Monthly LCDC meetings were held in 2024 which dealt with the general operation of the LCDC and the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) as well as programmes which the LCDC is responsible for oversight of including LEADER Programme 2023 to 2027, Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP), Peace Plus Programme, Healthy Ireland Fund, and Community Enhancement Programme.

Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP)

The LECP is a six-year plan which sets out 6 High Level Goals and 44 distinct actions needed to promote and support economic and community development in Co. Leitrim.

The Leitrim LECP2023 - 2029 was adopted in November 2023 and was officially launched on 31st January 2024. The development of the plan has been made possible through the dedication, collaboration and input provided by the community, businesses and other stakeholders through a number of consultation events, surveys and workshops.

2024 marked the first year of the Leitrim LECP 2023-2029. Leitrim County Council holds overall responsibility for monitoring and evaluating the plan, ensuring its effective implementation. Throughout the year, Leitrim County Council have engaged regularly with key stakeholders and enabling agencies involved in delivering the plan's actions.

LEADER

LEADER is a community led approach to local development delivering EU funding into rural businesses and communities. It promotes social inclusion, poverty reduction and the economic development of rural areas. The LCDC is the Local Action Group (LAG) with ultimate responsibility for the delivery and implementation of the LEADER programme. The Leitrim Development Company is the Lead Implementing Partner with responsibility for implementing actions on behalf of the LAG.

In April 2024, the new LEADER Programme 2023 – 2027 opened for applications. A total of €6.3 m has been allocated to Leitrim for the 2023 – 2027 Programme.

SICAP

SICAP provides funding to tackle poverty and social exclusion at a local level through local engagement and partnerships between disadvantaged individuals, community organisations and public sector agencies. Leitrim Development Company was awarded the contract as the Programme Implementer (PI) for the SICAP 2024 -2028 Programme. The contract with the PI for the 12-month period up to December 2024 was €817,271.07. This includes €623,851.00 to support SICAP actions and €193,420.07 to support New Arrivals.

Launch of Leitrim Local Economic and Community Plan



Funding Information Briefings

Three funding information briefings were scheduled across the three MDs in April 2024 to outline the various funding schemes available. Over 90 people attended across the three evenings.

In 2024 Leitrim County Council was successful in securing funding under the following schemes:

RRDF Category 1 Call 5

Leitrim County Council was successful in securing funding under both applications submitted to the 5th call of RRDF back in February 2024. On May 13th the Minister announced a total of €7,884,834 for Leitrim on two projects, Drumshanbo EXCHANGE €5,555,148 and Glenfarne Wood €2,329,686.

Clár 2024

On October 7th 2024 the Minister announced the successful projects under Clár 2024. Leitrim were successful in securing funding for 14 of the 15 projects submitted to the Clár 2024 scheme. The Clár letter of offer for €615,232 for County Leitrim supporting a total of 14 projects was received from the department in October.

Once off Christmas Support

Alan Dillon, T.D., Minister of State for Planning and Local Government announced a once-off allocation to support Christmas markets and Christmas lights in smaller rural towns, particularly those towns with a population of 5,000 or less along the Western Seaboard of Ireland. A total of 19 projects were awarded funding under the Scheme, sharing the €50,000 allocated by the Department.

Town and Village Project Development Measure.

Leitrim County Council were successful in securing funding for the 3 projects submitted to the Town and Village Project Development Measure Scheme earlier this year. A total of €148,165 for 3 towns/villages, Carrick on Shannon, Leitrim Village and Dromahair.



Leitrim Economic Promotion event London

County Promotion

In March 2024 Leitrim County Council hosted a County Promotion event in the Irish Cultural Centre in Hammersmith where Leitrim diaspora with a business interest were invited to attend to learn about recent enhancements and developments in the County in recent years with a view to promoting the County as a place to live, work and invest.

In May 2024, the CE and members of the Economic Development Team attended a virtual meeting of the Irish Business Association in New York to share recent developments in County Leitrim. In June 2024 the Economic Development Team worked with Carrick Campus and WDC to host a delegation of business people at Carrick Business Campus, showcasing the office space and facilities there with a view to developing potential business leads.

Work commenced in late 2024 on planning for the EmpowHER event at Carrick Campus with the Economic Development Team working with Norah Casey and Caoimhe Mc Loughlin members of the Campus Advisory Group to plan same.

Diaspora

Work continued on the implementation of the Diaspora Strategy during 2024, including meetings of the internal Working Group and external Steering Committee who work towards the delivery of key actions contained in the Strategy. Of note, during the year, work commenced in earnest on the Leitrim Gathering, which will run from 23rd to 25th May 2025.

The event was launched to coincide with St. Patrick's weekend 2024. Communication was initiated with event organisers across the county and a call for funding applications was made to those planning events.

In addition, the council began its promotional efforts in relation to the Leitrim Gathering by engaging marketing and social media expertise. The event was also promoted by council representatives at the Leitrim London Association Dinner Dance in February 2024 and in March 2024 at the County Leitrim Society of New York Dinner dance.

National Broadband Plan

In 2024, while assisting with the implementation of the National Broadband Plan, Leitrim County Council continued to engage with the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD), the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment (DECC), and other key stakeholders.

Broadband Connection Points (BCPs) have been established throughout Leitrim County at publicly accessible areas where inadequate broadband services existed. During 2024, significant progress has been made with supporting the BCPs to roll out workshops for children in these rural communities, providing STEM sessions with 'Our Kids Code' through DRCD and Trinity College, VEX Robotics sessions through the AIM Centre in Sligo and 'Dreamspace' workshops with Microsoft. Through all of these programmes, approximately 200 young people were supported to advance their learning experiences through STEM.

Over the course of the year, National Broadband Ireland (NBI) continued to actively survey and complete build works in various intervention areas throughout Leitrim and progress installation around the County.

Additionally, Leitrim County Council approved planning/licensing applications to build on current communications infrastructure for north and south Leitrim which will facilitate the delivery of high-speed internet connectivity in these areas where inadequate broadband services currently exist.

SIRO- Fibre to the Home

During 2024, SIRO completed build works in Carrick on Shannon to deliver Fibre to the Home/Business for approximately 1,800 premises in Carrick on Shannon. As part of this project, Carrick Business Campus was approved to take part in their Gigabit Hub programme.

Leitrim Digital Strategy

Plans commenced for the preparation and issuing of an RFT for a new Digital Strategy for County Leitrim 2025-2029. This will be issued in early 2025 and advanced during the year.

Visit from a delegation of the Irish Australian Chamber, in collaboration with the Western Development Commission

WiFi4EU Project

Since the installation of the WiFi4EU 2021, Leitrim County Council work closely with Sord Data Systems Ltd to maintain the free public WiFi network throughout Leitrim County. Leitrim County Council is maintaining the ongoing running costs for this service.

There are 52 WiFi access points at various locations between Manorhamilton, Ballinamore, Drumshanbo, Mohill and Carrick-On-Shannon. The WiFi4EU Network continues to see a growing number of unique client connections.

Carrick Campus

In 2024, WERLA took occupation of an office suite at Carrick Business Campus. A Marketing and Development Manager was appointed to actively promote the Carrick Business Campus to prospective companies, positioning it as a premier location for office space and business growth in County Leitrim. Additionally, a Campus Advisory Board was established to guide strategic growth and development. DHB Architects were appointed to design the refurbishment of Phase 2 of the building. A new website was launched, and a dedicated show office was created to attract prospective tenants. A five year Strategy for the Business campus was also prepared.

The Campus secured €32,400 in funding from Enterprise Ireland through the Smart Regions Enterprise Innovation Scheme to support the development of a Feasibility Study for the potential of a Smart Technology and Innovation Centre within the Campus Atrium.

Notable events hosted at the Campus included a visit from a delegation of the Irish Australian Chamber, in collaboration with the Western Development Commission, as well as visits from the IDA and Emerald Partners.



Other Highlights

- Leitrim County Council was shortlisted for the Excellence in Local Government Awards under 'Promoting Economic Development' category for the acquisition and development of Carrick Business Campus.
- Two submissions were made to the LAMA awards namely Tullaghan Access to the Sea and The Junction, Ballinamore.
- Carrick on Shannon hosted the first ever National Trail Conference on 31st August to 3rd September 2024. Attendees heard from keynote speakers, visited exhibitions, attended trail building workshops and learned about new trail development techniques and connected with like-minded individuals.
- Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys officially opened The Junction Hub, Ballinamore in February 2024. This represented an investment of €2.47 million under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund.
- The Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys officially opened the 'Tullaghan Access to the Sea Project' in June 2024. This project provides public access to Leitrim's only piece of coastline and represents an investment under the ORIS scheme of €200,000.
- Following an application process in October 2024, Carrick on Shannon was successful with its full renewal application and the Town continues to retain its Purple Flag standard for its evening and night-time economy.
- The ATU research project "The First and Last Green Mile" was completed in 2024. The study assessed the travel habits of people living and working in Leitrim, to identify transport models to provide sustainable solutions. Community consultation workshops took place in Mohill, Ballinamore, Manorhamilton and Carrick on Shannon as well as among staff of Leitrim County Council.
- Building on the findings of the research project, a coffee morning to promote carpooling and sustainable transport methods for staff in Leitrim County Council. In addition to this, three social cycling (on electric bikes) events took place during Sustainable Development Goals week.
- A 6 month pilot shared e-car scheme was introduced in Carrick on Shannon in May, which showed good interest and will lead to a tender seeking expressions of interest to supply a more permanent e car facility in Carrick on Shannon.

Town Regeneration

- The Vacant Homes Officer promoted the various vacancy schemes and gave presentations in the 3 municipal areas, public events at Retrofit events/ Public Participation Network (PPN) events and circulated information/ application forms at each event and replied to queries.
- The Croí Cónaithe Vacant Property Refurbishment grant (VPRG) progressed well during the year with 111 applications received. There were 41 grants paid out during 2024 totalling just under 2 million euro in grant funding.
- The Croí Cónaithe target of 80 properties to enter the programme set by the Dept of Housing, Local Government and Heritage was surpassed.



Figure 1 : Before



Figure 2 : After

- The Town Regeneration Office continued to engage with the planning Department in the identification of Derelict Sites with a view to placing them on the derelict sites register.
- Compulsory Acquisition target for 2024 was 1 property, this was commenced in December 2024.

- Funding was secured under the Town Centre First Suite of Supports 2024 – Measure 1 for three towns to support the establishment and/or development of town teams where they were not already well established and to carry out of Health Checks. Ballinamore, Kinlough and Dromahair were the towns nominated by Leitrim County Council. Health Checks were completed during 2024. The Town Regeneration Office organised and attended a significant amount of training with all three towns facilitated by a training consultant during 2024 to deal with matters such as on governance and funding applications.
- Funding was secured under the Town Centre First Suite of Supports 2024 Measure 2 for the preparation of a Town Centre First Plan for Manorhamilton. Procurement of a consultant for the preparation of a Town Centre First Plan for Manorhamilton was advertised on eTenders on 12th November 2024 and a health check was completed on Manorhamilton town during 2024.
- URDF Call 3 for Carrick on Shannon was progressed during 2024.
- Funding successfully secured under the THRIVE (Town Centre First Heritage Revival Scheme) to procure a consultant to determine a future community end use for the Town Hall, Carrick on Shannon, including bringing the project through the planning process.



LEITRIM LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE

Financial Supports (Grants)	
Number of Projects Approved*	10
Energy Efficient Grant Approved*	5
Other Supports	
Trading Online Vouchers	31
Training, Mentoring & Networking	
Number of Training Courses *	76
Number of Participants	1114
One to One Business Mentoring Supports	223
Lean for Micro	10

*Including 5 Start Your Own Business programmes with 130 participants.

Digital Start

6 Businesses received approval to participate in the programme. It is to help businesses prepare and implement a plan for the adoption of digital tools and techniques across their business.

Student Enterprise Programme

Seven secondary schools participated in the Student Enterprise Programme in 2024 - 2025. The final took place on 4th March in The Bush Hotel, Carrick-on-Shannon.

A total of 24 Primary schools engaged in Enterprise Education programmes. The winning entries were from St Hugh's, Dowra (overall winner) and Carrigallen NS (runner up).

Women in Business

A Women in Business Networking Event took place at The Landmark Hotel, Carrick-on-Shannon in May. National Women's Enterprise Day was celebrated at a joint event with Sligo in Juniper Barn, Sligo in October with nearly 100 women in attendance.

Green for Micro

18 Businesses received approval to participate in the programme. This initiative is a free programme to help prepare small businesses for the low carbon, more resource efficient economy of the future.

National Enterprise Awards

Leitrim Hill Creamery was the Leitrim County Winner and National Enterprise Awards 2024 Finalist.



Leitrim Hill Creamery Representing Leitrim at the National Ploughing Championships 2024

Taste Leitrim

LEO Leitrim partnered with Taste Leitrim on a project to update the food trail and re-launch as a Low Carbon, High Adventure Sustainable Food Trail. There is a new double sided, one page map featuring electric charging points, bike hire locations and the Local Link stops. There is also a comprehensive directory (web based), which includes over 100 food-related businesses: producers, suppliers, and hospitality locations from all over the county.



Joe Lowe, Head of LEO pictured with Ross Church, DETE, Attending the European Enterprise Promotion Awards where Creative Heartlands were named National Winner

Creative Heartlands Project

The Creative Heartlands project was established across Leitrim, Sligo and Roscommon in 2019 to strengthen economic growth and sustain existing enterprises in the film sector and in the art, craft and design sectors. Led by the Leitrim LEO & Arts office with the Leitrim Design House €371,600 was secured for a three-year project from Enterprise Ireland. The project commenced in late 2020.

Under the Enterprise Ireland Funding the following has been achieved up to the end of 2023:

- Film Project Manager employed to work across the three counties
- Design Project Manager employed to work across the three counties
- Over 300 participants have taken part in events and training workshops
- Over €75,000 invested in Film and Design equipment for the region
- Building a consortium of creative professionals to maximise future investment opportunities
- Providing locally accessible digital technology relevant to the sector across the region
- Increasing take-up in enterprise supports for creative sector



Equipment in use as part of Creative Heartlands with Stuart Lawn, Design Project Manager

TOURISM PROMOTION AND DEVELOPMENT

Marketing of County Leitrim

The Tourism Team conducted a comprehensive marketing campaign throughout 2024 to promote County Leitrim's extensive tourism offerings, targeting both domestic and international audiences.

Domestic Marketing

A nationwide domestic marketing campaign was launched in June and September, incorporating social media, public relations, influencer marketing and national radio advertising. The campaign was aired on RTÉ and Newstalk, aiming to increase awareness of Leitrim's attractions among families, couples, and active age groups.

Overseas Marketing

Leitrim Tourism participated in Irish Fest in Milwaukee, a prestigious event with an audience of over 130,000.

The festival provided an excellent platform to promote Leitrim as a holiday destination, particularly to the Leitrim diaspora and broader Irish-American community.

During the event, the Tourism Team met with Paul McDonagh, Tourism Ireland's Trade & Industry Engagement Manager USA, who shared insights into Tourism Ireland's 2024 marketing strategy.

The Gathering Promotion

As part of the Milwaukee trip, the team actively promoted The Leitrim Gathering 2025, generating significant interest. A competition offering flights and accommodation at Drumhierny was launched, drawing widespread attention.

Promotional fliers for The Gathering were distributed at the Irish Fest and through the Irish Centre Milwaukee. Additionally, the team engaged with U.S.-based tour operators selling Ireland as a travel destination, further enhancing Leitrim's international reach.

Regional Collaboration

Leitrim participated in an international trade mission organised in partnership with Ireland West Airport and Tourism Ireland. The initiative promoted air routes from Milan to Cologne, with representatives from seven partner councils and trade members from each county engaging with travel agents and tour operators.

The event proved successful, generating valuable leads and networking opportunities for Leitrim's tourism industry.

Diaspora Marketing

In collaboration with the Diaspora Working Group, the Tourism Team conducted a survey to identify where Leitrim's diaspora currently resides. The data gathered will inform future engagement strategies and enhance promotional efforts for The Leitrim Gathering 2025.

Leitrim Tourism Forum

A new Tourism Forum was established in 2024 and met twice during the year. The forum includes representatives from accommodation, activities, attractions, arts, heritage, and the nighttime economy, alongside a representative from each municipal district.

Gabriel Darcy, former Managing Director of Bord na Móna and a native of Ballinamore, was appointed Chairperson. The forum will convene quarterly, with a primary focus on implementing initiatives outlined in the Tourism Framework Document.

Tourism Industry Supports

• Induction Video for Hospitality Staff

A 15-minute training video was produced to educate hospitality and tourism staff on Leitrim's tourism offerings. The video provides essential product knowledge, ensuring front-line staff can enhance visitors' experiences.

• Regenerative Tourism Event

An online Regenerative Tourism Event was held on March 28, 2024, featuring international speakers discussing the benefits of regenerative tourism for Leitrim's tourism providers. The event attracted 26 participants and was well received.



Ireland Ambassador to USA Geraldine Byrne Nason

• Festival & Events Training

A three-week training series was conducted for festival and events committees in March. The online workshops covered:

- Finance & Governance
- Programming & Festival Delivery
- Marketing & Promotion

A total of 46 participants attended the sessions, representing various festivals and events throughout the county.

• Festival & Events Grant Scheme

Seventeen festivals and events received funding under the Festival Grant Scheme, with a total allocation of €13,000 across the three municipal districts. Additionally, €5,000 was secured through the Fáilte Ireland Regional Festival Fund, and funding from the General Municipal Allocation (GMA) supported seven St. Patrick's Day events.

Tourist Information Offices

The Tourist Information Office in Carrick-on-Shannon opened in April and had a busy season. The Council also supports the Tourist Office in Ballinamore and the Tourist Information Point at Glencar Waterfall.

Funding & Development Initiatives

LEADER Programme Success

The Tourism Team secured LEADER funding for two major projects:

1. A two-year marketing campaign promoting Leitrim, incorporating radio, digital, and TV advertising.
2. Development of a Visitor Information App, providing real-time updates on events and activities while encouraging business collaboration and cross-promotion.

Slow Adventure Initiative

A review of the Slow Adventure experience led to the development of five new experiences, which were added to the website, supported by new imagery, videos, and printed promotional materials. Social media campaigns were also launched to promote these experiences.

EU Project – Green Health Interreg

Leitrim's Tourism Officer presented on Slow Adventure at the Green Health EU Interreg Project, which focuses on biodiversity protection and human well-being.

Over 30 participants from eight partner countries attended. Leitrim's involvement centers on Kinlough and surrounding areas.

Tullaghan Coastal Park

Minister Heather Humphreys, Minister for Social Protection, Rural Affairs & Community, officially opened Tullaghan Coastal Park. She commended Leitrim County Council and the local community for their efforts, made possible through funding from the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS).

Acres Lake Water Sports Facility

Minister Catherine Martin broke ground on the €1.2 million Water Sports Facility at Acres Lake, Drumshanbo.

This Fáilte Ireland and Leitrim County Council partnership will provide:

- Hot showers, changing rooms, toilets, and secure storage
- Induction spaces and equipment washdown areas
- Full wheelchair accessibility & solar heating panels
- Leitrim's first 'Changing Places' facility

This investment will extend Leitrim's outdoor tourism season and enhance visitor experiences.

Minister Catherine Martin turns sod at Acres Lake



National Trails Conference

Leitrim hosted the first-ever National Trails Conference, attended by over 200 participants. The event, organised with the support of the Rural Recreation Officer, received national and regional media coverage.

CAPITAL PROJECTS OFFICE

Urban Regeneration Development Fund

Carrick on Shannon Public Realm Improvement Scheme

The completion of the Carrick on Shannon Public Realm Improvement Scheme took place in 2024 with the lighting of the Arches of the Carrick on Shannon masonry bridge, improved lighting of the pedestrian bridge on the N4 and new lighting for the Linear Park Boardwalk. In all €8.2m of funding was received for the scheme from the Department of the Housing, Local Government and Heritage which included significant enhancement of the quality and extent of the public realm to core town areas, construction of a 105-car park providing off-street parking close to the town centre and a 330m floating boardwalk with better links to the river edge and town centre.

Rural Regeneration Development Fund Manorhamilton Public Realm Scheme

The public realm improvement element of this scheme was completed in 2024. Detailed Design and Tendering of proposed road realignment improvements in the Enterprise lands off Park Road, were completed in 2024 with a Contractor expected to commence this works in Q2 2025 subject to approval of the necessary funding.

Junction Project in Ballinamore

The Junction Project in Ballinamore was completed in 2024, the project restored two protected buildings and a derelict site at the former Station House, Ballinamore. This project preserves local heritage assets for future generations to enjoy, improves the Public Realm Space in Ballinamore and supports the regeneration of the town and surrounding areas. It now provides opportunities for employment, digital technology, arts, culture and youth services. The Scheme was Officially opened by Minister Humphreys in Q1 2024.



The Junction , Ballinamore

Mohill Public Realm Scheme

The Kerrigan Group were appointed as contractor and work commenced on the Mohill Public Realm Improvement Scheme which includes the enhancement of the existing streetscapes on the Main Street, creating more accessible, open public realm space for the town. It is expected that the scheme will be completed in Q2 2025.

Drumshanbo Exchange

McCabe Architects were appointed in 2023 to progress detailed design works for the project which involves the conversion of two properties on Main Street into the Exchange Smart Working Hub, including the expansion of town centre public parking. Also, pedestrian access to riverside walk and a newly enhanced People's Park and pedestrian access from the town centre to The Food Hub and The Shed Distillery Visitor Centre. Planning consent was secured for the project, and an application was made to the Department of Rural and Community Development for funding of €5.5m to construct the scheme. Approval of funding was received, and McCabe Architects are preparing detailed and tender design documentation for the proposed scheme.



Drumshanbo Exchange

Carrick Business Campus

DHB Architects were appointed as the Design Consultants for the design and upgrade of Phase 2 of the Carrick Campus building. Detailed Design works and Tender documents have progressed with plans to advertise the tender early in Q1 2025 subject to Department of Rural and Community Development approval.

Drumshanbo Food Innovation & Knowledge Hub

Funding of €3.05m was approved by the DRCD for this scheme. Collins Boyd Consultant Engineers have been appointed as the Design Team and have commenced detailed design work on the scheme.

Flood Relief Schemes

Carrick on Shannon Flood Relief Scheme

Public Consultation No. 3 was held in November 2024 where the preferred option was presented by the consultant Ryan Hanley with assistance from Leitrim CoCo and OPW staff. Physical Defenses around the environs of Carrick on Shannon, Cortober and Hartley have been chosen to be the most beneficial following a rigorous scheme evaluation.

Leitrim Village Flood Relief Scheme

Part 8 Planning Consent for temporary flood defence works was granted to alleviate more frequent flooding on R284 Keadue Road in Leitrim Village. This Temporary Flood Defense works commenced on Keadue Road in October 2024, which involved the construction of an earthen berm and culvert with no-return valve. The determination of the preferred option for the main flood relief scheme has progressed and it is proposed to host Public Consultation No. 2 where the preferred option will be presented in February 2025.

Mohill Flood Relief Scheme

Hydraulic and Hydrological Assessments have been completed by the Flood Relief Design Department within the OPW and a design was completed for the proposed scheme. The proposal for the scheme was presented to the Flood Projects Management Department, the scheme currently awaits funding approval to progress to planning.

Dromahair Flood Relief Scheme

Detailed design has been undertaken for the flood relief scheme and planning application produced, this is currently being reviewed by internal departments prior to submission to An Bord Pleanála for consideration.

OPW Minor Works Schemes

Funding was approved by the OPW Minor Works Department to undertake some vegetation removal for a section of the Owenbeg River in Manorhamilton. The area office has met with the Inland Fisheries following ecological assessment of the works, the scheme awaits appropriate approval to commence works.

Greenways/Recreational Trails

SLNCR Greenways

Leitrim County Council are the lead Authority on the Sligo, Leitrim, Northern Counties Railway (SLNCR) Greenway Project. Leitrim County Council, in partnership with Sligo County Council, Cavan County Council, Fermanagh & Omagh District Council, under the auspices of Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) and the Department of Infrastructure (DFI) are developing the SLNCR project. The Project is to provide a Greenway from Sligo town to Enniskillen Co. Fermanagh, passing through Ballisodare, Collooney, Ballintogher, Dromahair, Manorhamilton, Glenfarne, Blacklion, Belcoo and Letterbreen on the way. Leitrim County Council appointed Arup Consulting Engineers as design consultants to bring the project through the planning process in both the Republic and Northern Ireland.

The Project is following the TII Project Management Guideline Documents and Web Tag UK Design standards for Fermanagh in Northern Ireland. Phase 2 "Option Selection" Commenced in Quarter 3 of 2023 and a further Non-Statutory Public Consultation took place on Route Corridor Options in Quarter 4 of 2023. The purpose of Phase 2 is to examine options to determine a Preferred Option. During Stage 1 of Phase 2, all reasonable / feasible options have been examined and their costs, benefits and effects on the environment were assessed following the process set out in TII's Project Appraisal Guidelines Unit 13.0 – Appraisal of Active Modes and UK Transport Analysis Guidance (TAG). Following this assessment, an Emerging Preferred Corridor was identified. The draft Options Selection Report was Peer reviewed by TII in quarter 3 of 2024.

Phase 2 works continued in 2024 where an Emerging Preferred Corridor (EPC) was selected, and further non-statutory Public Consultation Event No 3 will take place on the Emerging Preferred Route Corridor in Quarter 2 of 2025.

Cavan Leitrim Greenway

Funding was secured from the Department of Rural and Community Development under ORIS Measure 3 to construct a 2.9km section of Greenway from Corgar towards Aghawillan which will form part of the South Leitrim Greenway. Stephen Reynolds Plant Hire was appointed as contractor to complete the construction of this scheme which is due to be completed early in 2025.

Carrick on Shannon to Battlebridge Blueway

This project is to provide a Blueway from Carrick on Shannon to Leitrim Village and onto Battlebridge to connect with the Drumshanbo Blueway. Jennings O'Donovan consulting engineers were appointed as design consultants. We are currently at Phase 3 "Detailed Design & Environmental Evaluation". Significant progress was made in Phase 3 where Irish Drilling Ltd were appointed and completed Ground and Investigation Contract both on water (River Shannon) and land-based works. Due to exceptional wet weather in 2023, outstanding Ground Investigation was completed in summer 2024 when weather conditions allowed in the low flood plain areas. Underwater Archaeological was completed and other Environmental Surveys carried out in a number of sensitive sites along the route. Ongoing consultation took place with Landowners for access for the Ground Investigation Contract and land acquisition for the project.

Significant works were completed in compiling the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and other Environmental reports for to obtain Planning consent. Phase 3 progressed and Leitrim Co Co hope to lodge a detailed application with An Bord Pleanála in quarter 2 of 2025 for Planning Consent.



Manorhamilton NCYCS Building

Tourism Projects

Acres Lake Facility Building

O'Connor Sutton Cronin were appointed as Design Team to prepare a detailed design for the Acres Lake Facility Building, in line with exemplar designs compiled by Failte Ireland. A call for tender for the construction of the Acres Lake facility building was issued, with tenders returned in March 2024.

Funding for the construction phase was approved by Failte Ireland in June 2024 with the successful contractor Sammon Developments Ltd commencing on site in Sept. The structural envelope was completed by the end of 2024. The fit-out and internal work are commencing at present as per images attached with an expected completion date of Q3 2025.

Acres Lake Facility Building



Carrick Arts and Community Centre

Funding has been approved by the Department of Rural and Community Development under their Town and Village funding measure and from the Peace plus programme for the development of an Arts and Community Centre for Carrick on Shannon. Kenny Lyons Associates Architects have been appointed to complete a detailed design for the Scheme. Publication of tender is expected to take place in Q1 2025.

Manorhamilton NCYCS Building (€250k Town & Village)

Funding has been approved by the Department of Rural and Community Development under their Town and Village funding measure for the development of a Young Centre for Manorhamilton. Davitt Plan and Design Associates have been appointed to complete a detailed design for the Scheme. Publication of the tender is expected to take place in Q4 2024.

Hartley Bridge

This project is for a new replacement bridge at Hartley over the River Shannon. Planning consent was granted by An Bord Pleanála in late 2023 for the scheme. A Detailed design has been completed by Punch Consulting Engineers for the scheme, and we await approval from the Department of Transport to proceed to Tender for the works.

ROADS TRANSPORTATION AND SAFETY

2024 was a very busy and productive year in the Roads and Transportation Department with expenditure of in excess of €24 million

Works completed in 2024 on National Roads include the following:

- **Realignment of the N16 at Munakill** – This scheme was at Phase 3 – Detailed Design and Environmental Assessment stage. It was being designed by RPS consultants and project managed by Westmeath National Road Design Office (NRDO). However, this contract was terminated in 2024 due to the fact that the cost estimate for the scheme had significantly increased due to poor ground conditions, and this presented a significant challenge to the progression of the project, as the scheme now exceeds the TII €20m threshold to qualify as a minor scheme. The Infrastructure Section of Leitrim County Council is currently working closely with the TII to examine all options in order to secure the progression of a realignment project at this location. In this regard, Leitrim County Council submitted a Project Information Summary Notice (PISN) & Estimated Total Scheme Budget Sheet to the TII for a reduced length of Scheme from Lissingroagh to Kilmakerril on the N16.

N4 Carrick on Shannon Bypass & Traffic Management Project

The N4 Carrick on Shannon ByPass & Traffic Management Project is progressing as follows:

- Phase 3 Design and Environmental Evaluation is progressing with a view to publishing the scheme in 2025.
- The Phase 3 Design TII peer review took place in November, 2024 and the Design Report was updated
- Surveys ongoing and completed in 2024 include:
 - Ground Investigation Contract
 - Hydrology Monitoring
 - Topographical Survey Contract
 - Ecology Survey Contract
- Ongoing consultations / meetings are currently taking place with all the different stakeholders.

National Road Pavement Overlay Schemes

N16 Pavement Overlay Scheme (POS) - Manorhamilton to Cornacloy Phase 2 – 1.44 KM in length – This POS was substantially completed in 2024.

N4 Pavement Overlay Scheme – Carrick on Shannon – 1.9 KM in length – Consultants for this POS worked on the design and tender documents for this Pavement Overlay Scheme. As part of this work, the 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 Funding approval.

National Road Safety Inspection Implementation Programme

During the year, Leitrim County Council progressed a number of Road Safety schemes on National Roads in consultation with the TII. These included:

- **N16 Strabrick Junction – Safety Works** at this Junction on the N16 were substantially completed in 2024.
- **N15 Tullaghan Traffic Calming** – A revised preliminary design was submitted to TII and approved by the TII in late 2024. This will be progressed in 2025
- **N16 Glenfarne Vulnerable Road Users (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.



Completed Road Safety Improvement Works at Strabrick Junction on the N16

Works completed in 2024 on Non-National Roads included the following:

- 86 km of Non-National Roads were strengthened in 2024
- 74 km of Non-National Roads were surface dressed in 2024

Drainage Grant

A total of 27 drainage schemes were completed in 2024. A further €48,000 was spent on the Drainage Districts

Bridge Rehabilitation Works

Bridge Rehabilitation Works were completed on a total of 14 Bridges throughout the county in 2024. Works on the devegetation of 11 bridges throughout the county were completed in early 2024.

Slate Bridge, South Leitrim



Safety Improvement Works

Safety Improvement works under the Low-Cost Safety Improvement Works Programme were completed at a total of 5 locations in 2024.

Speed Limit Signs and Cycle Safety Signs

Speed Limit Signs were erected in newly Taken-in Charge Housing Estates and Rural Speed Limit Signs were provided at various locations on Regional and Local Roads.

Community Involvement Schemes (CIS)

There were 5 CIS Schemes completed in 2024 with the CIS Grant Allocation of €307,350.

Climate Adaptation and Resilience Works Allocation 2024

This funding is provided to address the impact of climate change on the road network. A total of 7 schemes were completed in 2024.

County Leitrim – Rural Local Roads - Speed Limit Bye Laws Review 2024

The Speed Limits on all rural local roads in County Leitrim were reviewed in 2024. This Review arose from recent legislation (Road Traffic Act 2024) where the default speed limit for rural local roads would be reduced from 80 Km per hour to 60 Km per hour as a measure to improve road safety on our roads. Following completion of the Speed Limit Review, the speed limit on all rural local roads in County Leitrim was reduced from 80km per hour to 60km per hour and speed limit signs erected at all relevant locations. This new default speed limit for rural local roads came into effect on 7th February, 2025.

Specific Improvement Grants:

- R289 Kilcoon –Design Consultant currently being appointed. The Options Report was approved by Department. These works are due to go to tender in 2025.
- R280 Killarga – Design Consultant are appointed and Topographical survey completed. Options Report has been completed and approved by Department and it is anticipated that these works will be progressed in 2025.
- R280 Loughmurran Realignment –We advertised for Design Consultants during the year and this scheme will be progressed going forward
- R278 Junctions –Preliminary Design & Land take drawings were completed, and negotiations have commenced with affected landowners.
- R280 Erriff Realignment – Design Consultant has been appointed and currently working on Preliminary Design.

Local Improvement Scheme (LIS)

This Scheme provides funding for the upgrade of Private/Non-Public Roads that comply with certain conditions including access to a number of parcels of land. In 2024, there were 9 Local Improvement Scheme Projects completed in the county at a total cost of €700,827 and a LIS Grant of €634,212. There are now a total of 152 Applicants on the LIS Waiting List.

Hedge Cutting Grant Scheme

The Grant for hedge cutting is €75 per KM of roadside hedges cut. The uptake on this Grant Scheme has continued to increase since its introduction, with a total of 66 Hedge Cutting Grants totalling €19,377 paid under the 2023/2024 Hedge Cutting Grant Scheme. In 2024, a new additional Grant of €50 per km was introduced to encourage the cutting of dangerous overhanging tree canopies/branches.

Winter Maintenance

Treatment of Roads under the Winter Maintenance Program continued during the winter season of 2024. In total 495 km of roads were salted when required, and this included all National and Regional roads and some strategic local roads.

Machinery Yard

A new Permanent Salter was delivered to the Machinery Yard in November 2024. Also, an order for a new Tipper Truck was placed in November 2024 with expected delivery mid-2025.

Other Works

The Roads Department also undertook many other projects throughout the year with assistance from other funding streams. In some instances, projects were undertaken in conjunction with Community Groups. Examples of these included upgrades at Amenities, provision of Footpaths, pedestrian crossings, etc.

Footpath Repairs

Footpath upgrade and repairs and replacement were carried out at 13 different locations across the county with the assistance of IPB funding. This program will be progressed again in 2026.

Road Safety

- Road Safety Working Together Group (RSWTG) – The RSWTG met on 2 occasions in 2024 to review the County Leitrim Road Safety Strategy 2023 – 2030 and the Phase 1 Road Safety Action Plan 2023 – 2024.
- Road Safety Education – Leitrim County Council Road Safety Office held a Road Safety Education Event at Ballinamore Community School and Lough Allen College, Drumkeeran in November 2024 – Approx. 240 Students in total benefitted from this Road Safety Event – Presentations were given to the students by the RSA Road Safety Education Officer and An Garda Siochana Roads Policing Unit. The RSA Shuttle also attended both events.
- Cycle Right Programme 2024 – The Cycle Right Programme continues to be delivered in national schools around the county. The Road Safety Office make an annual Financial Contribution to Leitrim Sports Partnership in respect of the running of the Cycle Right Programme.
- Ballinamore National School - Leitrim County Council Road Safety Office developed a “Road Safety Code of Conduct” for this School which was distributed by the school to all parents, guardians and school staff. The aim of this “Road Safety Code of Conduct” is to raise awareness of the importance of road safety around the school and it is hoped that all will sign up to and obey this “Road Safety Code of Conduct”.

Road Safety Education Event – Ballinamore Community School



Road Safety Education Event – Lough Allen College, Drumkeeran



Active Travel

The Active Travel Department of Leitrim County Council are working to improve cycling and pedestrian infrastructure under the Active Travel Investment Programme, Safe Routes to School Programme and the Bus Stop Enhancement Programme which is funded by the National Transport Authority.

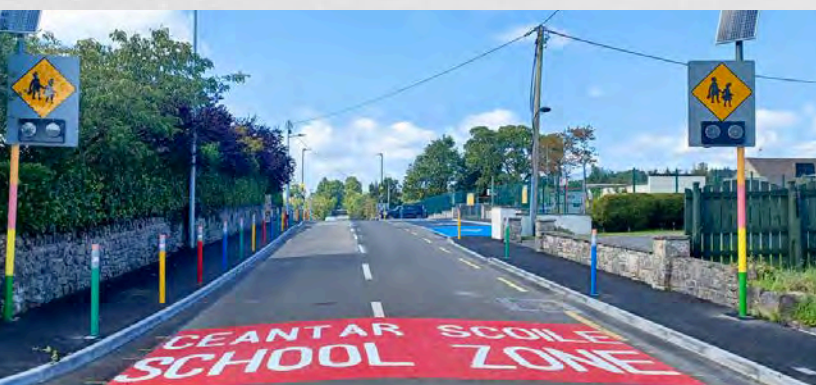
In 2024, €1,646,850 was claimed from the NTA. 6 Active Travel Schemes were completed and a further 7 schemes were progressed through the various NTA Project phases of Options Selection, Design or Construction phases.

The following schemes were completed:

1. Roosky – Linking 3 housing estates to village – A shared pedestrian/cycle facility and footway with public lighting.
2. Drumkeerin Active Travel Scheme - New footpaths, Junction tightening and a controlled pedestrian crossing to improve the link between Lough Allen College, Drumkeerin Church & Radhard Na Seipeal Housing Estate to the town centre.
3. Permeability Link – Cara Court & Glen Carrick – New footpath to create a permeability link between Cara Court Estate & Glen Carrick Estate which links to Aura Leisure Centre and the local link Bus stop at Summerhill.
4. Safe Routes to School – St. Joseph's National School –Leitrim Village- Creation of a school zone to reduce congestion and to improve active travel opportunities and safety for students attending the school.



Roosky Shared Path



STRS Leitrim Village

5. Bus Shelter Programme- installation of bus shelters at 8 no. bus stop locations in County Leitrim as follows:

- Carrick-on-Shannon, Park Lane. Northbound. Bus Stop ID N/A new stop location.
- Carrick-on-Shannon, Carrick Campus. Eastbound. Bus Stop ID N/A new stop location.
- Leitrim Village, Main Street. Southbound. Bus Stop ID 557801.
- Drumkeerin. Northbound. Bus Stop ID 559061.
- Drumkeerin. Southbound. Bus Stop ID 559371.
- Mohill, Hyde Street. Southbound. Bus Stop ID 571021.
- Dromod Train Station. Northbound. Bus Stop ID 556341.
- Glenfarne, Corner of McNeen Crescent. Eastbound. Bus Stop ID 631121.

Glenfarne Bus Shelter



6. Installation of Bike Repair stations in various locations around the county .

The following projects are ongoing & will be progressed in 2025:

- Safe Routes to Schools – St Clare's National School, Manorhamilton
- Ballinamore – Tully Heights connection to Town Environs
- Aughnasheelin Active Travel Scheme
- Dromahaire – Churchfield Active Travel Link
- Tullaghan Active travel Scheme



Our Organisation

ENHANCE LOCAL DEMOCRACY

BUILD CAPACITY

PROVIDE ASSURANCE

CORPORATE SERVICES

Meetings of Leitrim County Council

Following the Local Elections of June of 2024, the newly elected council met for the first time at the Annual Meeting on the 21st June 2024. Councillor Paddy O'Rourke was elected Cathaoirleach.

A Special Meeting was held on February 19th 2024 to consider the Leitrim County Council Climate Action Plan 2024-2029.

County Council Meetings	
Annual Meeting	1
Bi-Monthly Meetings	6
Budget Meeting	1
Special Meeting	1

Annual Meeting of Leitrim County Council

The Annual Meeting took place on Friday 21st June 2024. Councillor Paddy O'Rourke was elected Cathaoirleach. Councillor Sean McGowan was elected as Leas- Cathaoirleach.



Corporate Policy Group (CPG)

The Corporate Policy Group (CPG) consists of the Cathaoirleach and the Chairpersons of the three Strategic Policy Committees and is supported by the Chief Executive. There were 6 meetings of the Corporate Policy Group during 2024.

Municipal Districts

The Municipal Districts of Carrick-on-Shannon, Ballinamore and Manorhamilton held 11 ordinary meetings each over the course of 2024.

- Ballinamore Municipal District: Councillor Ita Reynolds Flynn
- Carrick-on-Shannon Municipal District: Councillor Paddy Farrell
- Manorhamilton Municipal District: Councillor Mary Bohan

The number of meetings of each Municipal District is set out in the table below:

Municipal District	Meetings	Annual Meetings
Ballinamore	12*	1
Carrick-on-Shannon	11	1
Manorhamilton	11	1

*Ballinamore MD held 11 meetings and 1 special meeting

Audit Committee

The role of the Audit Committee is to advise the Council on financial reporting processes, internal control, risk management and audit matters. The committee comprises 2 (two) elected members and 3 (three) external members. The elected members appointed to the Committee at the Annual meeting in June 2024 are Cllr Enda McGloin and Cllr Mary Bohan. A total of 4 meetings were held in 2024.

Strategic Policy Committees

New Strategic Policy Committees were set up following the Local Elections in June 2024. They are as follows:

- Economic & Enterprise Development,
- Physical Development,
- Local Development
- Social Development.

The first meeting of each SPC took place in December 2024 where a Work Programme for 2025 was decided and brought for consideration to the January 2025 Plenary Council Meeting.

Local Elections 2024

The Local Elections were held in June 2024, with polling taking place on Friday June 7th and the count being conducted over the weekend of 8th/9th June in The Landmark Hotel, Carrick-on- Shannon. Six outgoing councillors - Finola Armstrong- McGuire, Frank Dolan, Gerry Dolan, Caillian Ellis, Sean McDermott, Thomas Mulligan - did not contest the Local Elections.

Twelve of the out-going councillors were successfully returned to the council for the 2024-2029 term. Councillors Cormac Flynn, James Gilmartin, Roisin Kenny, Eddie Mitchell, Gary Prior and Maeve Reynolds were elected for the first time.

Payments to Members of Leitrim County Council 2024	
Cathaoirleachs' Allowance	€20,000 (n line with National Regulations)
Leas Cathaoirleachs' Allowance	€4,000 (n line with National Regulations)
Strategic Policy Committee Chairpersons' Allowance	€18,000 (n line with National Regulations)
Municipal District Chairpersons' Allowance	€18,000 (n line with National Regulations)
Members' Representational Payments	€535,667.04
Members' Annual Allowance	€59,375.00
Members' Local Representational Allowance	€19,184.74
Total	€674,226.78



New Chief Executive

In July, Leitrim County Council confirmed the selection of Mr. Joseph Gilhooly as its new Chief Executive. Joseph was appointed following an independent recruitment process carried out by the Public Appointments Service. Previously, Joseph was the Council's interim Chief Executive since the departure of the previous Chief Executive, Lar Power, in September 2023.

Joseph brings a wealth of experience and knowledge of the County to the position of Chief Executive, having worked for over 30 years with Leitrim County Council with some prior private sector work experience. He has worked for over 20 years at senior management level in the Local Authority, in the areas of Planning, Economic and Tourism Development and Regeneration, Community and Cultural services, Infrastructure provision, Environmental Management and has led the initiation, development and delivery of a variety of capital investments.

Joseph is a native of the County, and has the distinction of being the first Leitrim person to be appointed to the position of Chief Executive with Leitrim County Council.



A new Corporate Plan for a new Council term

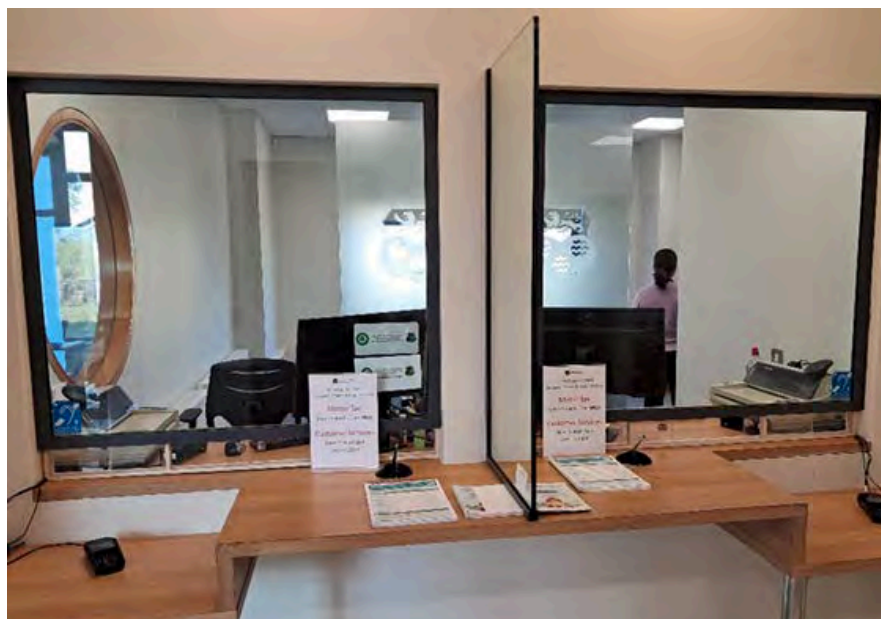
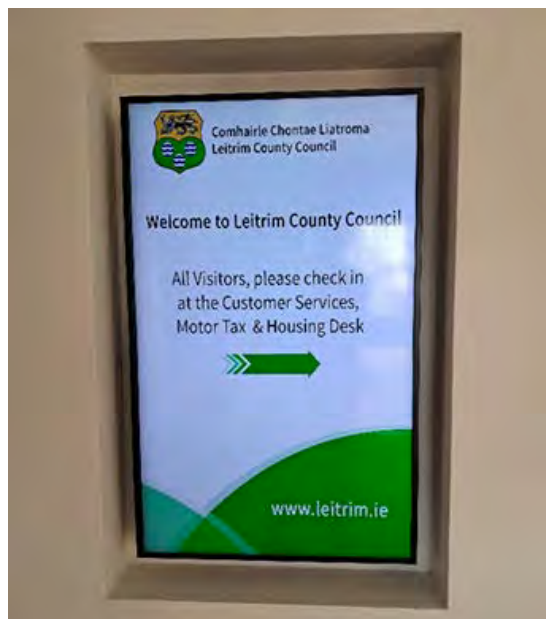
With the election of a new Council in June 2024, a new Corporate Plan outlining Leitrim County Council's vision for the next five-year period (the term of the council) was prepared and adopted by the elected members in November 2024. The ambitious goals and objectives outlined in the Corporate Plan were developed following a consultation process that included input and feedback from the public, the Public Participation Network, Elected Members, the Corporate Policy Group, and staff across the organisation.

The Corporate Plan outlines Leitrim County Council's responsibilities to promote equality, prevent discrimination and protect human rights, and also our commitment to meeting our service delivery obligations in relation to digital services and the Irish language. The Plan further commits that the Climate Action agenda and Sustainable Development Goals will also underpin our work.

The plan will play a key role in shaping the sustainable growth of County Leitrim for the benefit of all citizens, businesses and visitors.

Customer Services Hub

In 2024, Leitrim County Council completed the refurbishment of the Customer Services facilities in Áras an Chontae, and opened an accessible, bright, inviting and attractive Customer Services space. The refurbishment included a number of private consultation rooms where customers can discuss their needs in a comfortable and private setting.



Website

The Leitrim County Council also refreshed and rebranded our website in 2024. The website, accessible at www.leitrim.ie, serves as a comprehensive portal for information and easy access to services related to living, visiting, and investing in Leitrim. It shows Leitrim's tourism attractions, providing detailed information on places to visit, events, and activities happening within the county. The new website is designed to be user-friendly, ensuring that citizens can quickly find the information they need. By promoting local events and services, the website fosters a sense of community and encourages engagement with residents and community groups. In addition, a new sports website has also been created showcasing The Leitrim Sports Partnership. This site promotes physical activity and community engagement through various programs, training, and education opportunities. It supports sports clubs with funding information and ensures inclusivity with initiatives like the Sports Inclusion Disability Officer (SIDO). Overall, it offers valuable resources to enhance the health and wellness of the people of Leitrim. The website address is <https://www.leitrimsports.ie/>.

Brand Refresh

In 2024, Leitrim County Council refreshed its corporate logo and crest and introduced a standardized suite of branded template documents across the organisation that deliver a strong visual that demonstrates the vibrancy and activity of the organisation. The new brand elements dovetail with other brand identities such as Leitrim Tourism, Leitrim LEO, Leitrim Sports Partnership and other entities under the auspices of Leitrim County Council. The new branding elements provide a clear and distinct brand recognition with external stakeholders.

Register of Electors

With a referendum on Family and Care Issues on 8th March, Local Elections on 7th June and a General Election on 29th November, 2024 was an exceptionally busy year on the Register of Electors. In addition to the electoral events, a data cleansing exercise aimed at improving the accuracy and integrity of the Register, began with over 5,000 letters issued to electors in the Carrick-on-Shannon MD, aimed at gathering missing elector details such as Eircode, PPSN or Date of Birth.

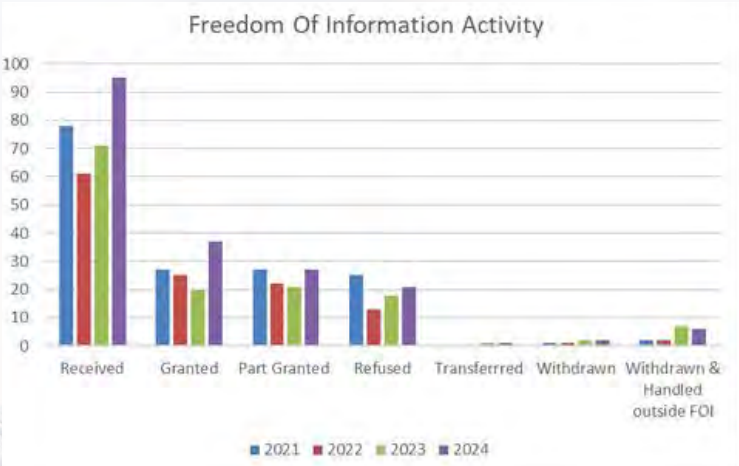
As a result of the three electoral events and the data cleansing exercise, over 12,000 unique transactions were processed on the register of electors throughout 2024. The data cleansing exercise will continue in 2025, with electors in Manorhamilton and Ballinamore being contacted where data is incomplete.

The Leitrim Register of Electors had the following voter numbers at year end:

Local Electoral Areas	Local Government Electors
Ballinamore	10,172
Carrick-on-Shannon	9,277
Manorhamilton	9,718
Total	29,167

Freedom of Information

A total of 95 FOI requests received in 2024. This level of activity represents a marked increase on recent years and 35% increase on 2023. The graph below sets out the FOI activity in the last 4 years.



Data Protection Subject Access Requests

Leitrim County Council continues to implement the provision of GDPR and The Data Protection Act 2018. Data Protection awareness training was delivered through online training modules in 2024 to all office based staff.

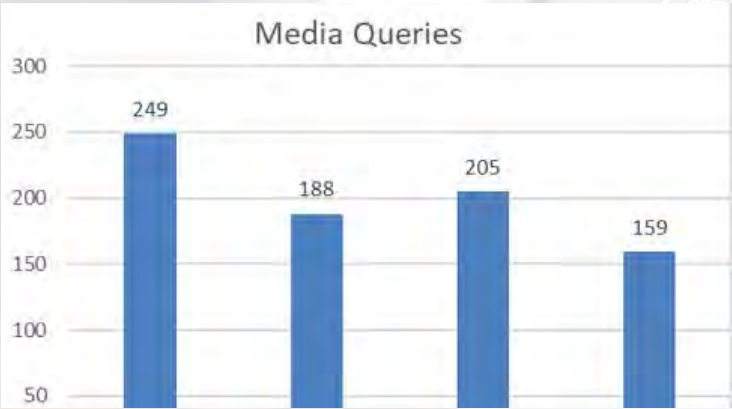
In total, 44 Data Access requests were received in the year with 39 of these being from An Garda Síochána for access to CCTV footage extracts from the Carrick-on-Shannon CCTV Scheme. The level of requests received from An Garda Síochána has been increasing gradually year on year as the graph below demonstrates.



Communications Office

Our social media following across Facebook, Instagram, X and LinkedIn continued to show growth in 2024, with our total social media following increasing by 10.94% in the year. Facebook continues to be the main platform through which the public engage with us. Through our LinkedIn account we targeted postings around recruitment an economic development and our following on this platform has grown significantly in 2024, albeit from a low base. Social media continues to be an important platform through which we promote our services and activities.

Engagement with Local and national media remained consistent with previous years with local media organisations accounting for 55.5% of all engagement. Through our sponsorship of Ocean FM’s live coverage of the Local Election Count, Leitrim County Council achieved widespread brand recognition used sponsorship as a marketing platform to promote Leitrim Tourism, The Gathering and Carrick Campus.



Oifig na Gaeilge

Cuireann Comhairle Contae Liatroma an Ghaeilge chun cinn trí chlár a sheachadann ár gcuid feidhmeanna Leabharlanna agus Ealaíon go príomha. Cuireann an Chomhairle ár seirbhísí agus ár ngníomhaíochtaí chun cinn trí Ghaeilge, ar ardáin na meán sóisialta agus ar bhealaí fógraíochta eile.

Glacann Comhairle Contae Liatroma, tríd an tSeirbhís Leabharlainne go háirithe, cur chuige comhsheasmhach i leith chur chun cinn na Gaeilge agus déanann cinnte de go gcuirtear ábhair Ghaeilge ar fáil go leanúnach agus go gcuirtear ar a súile d'úsáideoirí leabharlainne go gníomhach iad.

Bíonn ranganna comhrá Gaeilge agus Ciorcail Chomhrá ar siúl i rith na bliana. Bhí sraith Ciorcail Chomhrá ar siúl i Leabharlann Bhéal an Átha Móir ar feadh 10 seachtaine ar na mallaibh agus tá ranganna comhrá Gaeilge ar siúl faoi láthair i Leabharlann Dhroim Dhá Thiar (gach maidin Shathairn) agus i Leabharlann Mhaothla (gach maidin Déardaoin). Ina theannta sin, tá Leabharlann Dhroim Dhá Thiar ag déanamh éascaíocht faoi láthair ar chlár seachtainiúil atá á reáchtáil ag Céad Míle Fáilte le tús eolais ar an nGaeilge a thabhairt do phobail nua.

Gach bliain reáchtálann leabharlanna brainse timpeall an chontae imeachtaí i gcomhair Sheachtain na Gaeilge.

Tríd an tionscnamh bliantúil 'Little Library Book Bag', arb aidhm leis cultúr náisiúnta léitheoireachta teaghlaigh a spreagadh, cuirtear roinnt pictiúrleabhair Ghaeilge ar fáil. Níos fearr fós, beidh gluais fhorlíontach i ngach ceann de na leabhair sin in 2025. Tá teidil ardchaighdeán Ghaeilge ar ghearrliosta Ghradaim Leabhair Pháistí Éireann (le tacaíocht ó KPMG) i mbliana freisin agus cuirfear cóipeanna de na teidil sin ar fáil sna 8 leabharlann bhraínse go léir.

Ar dhá ócáid eile ag a ndéantar ár gcultúr Gaelach a cheiliúradh tá Seachtain na hOidhreacht agus an Oíche Chultúir, agus tugann Comhairle Contae Liatroma tacaíocht d'imeachtaí agus gníomhaíochtaí i gcomhair na n-ócáidí sin inár leabharlanna agus inár suíomhanna pobail.

Public Sector Equality & Human Right Duty

Leitrim County Council demonstrated its commitment to public sector equality & human right duties throughout 2024. Some examples of how we demonstrated this include the following:

- In preparing a Corporate Plan for the period 2024-2029, through public consultation, the views of the public were sought on how we deliver Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duties.
- Our Library Service delivered programmes, such as Digital Skills for Adults, a bi-weekly Dementia Inclusive Social Club and an employment and training day aimed at recognising the skills of people with Down Syndrome and the value they can contribute to potential employers.
- In November, as part of the Healthy Leitrim Strategic Plan and the Age Friendly Leitrim Strategy, and in conjunction with other state agencies and bodies, a community engagement event targeted at over 55's and carers entitled "Healthy & Safe in Your Own Home for Longer" was held in the Bee Park Resource Centre in Manorhamilton.
- The Housing Department continues to work closely with Travellers, their representatives, the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee, and other relevant agencies to identify and access potential funding opportunities to progress initiatives in relation to Traveller Accommodation, Tenancy Sustainment, Support and Integration.
- In August, Leitrim County Council demonstrated its desire to be inclusive of the many diversities of those who choose to live and work within County Leitrim. By flying the rainbow flag outside of Áras an Chontae, an awareness and consideration of LGBTI+ members of our community was promoted.



FACILITIES, ENERGY & ASSETS

Facilities - Refurbishment works

Áras an Chontae

In May 2024, the Central Customer Services Unit refurbishment project in the Áras an Chontae Building was substantially complete and fully open to staff and the public. Approximately 700m² of public area and office space was refurbished to a high standard. The objectives of the Central Customer Services Unit project were to rearrange the ground floor of the Áras an Chontae Building so as to provide a secure Central Customer Services Unit, private consultation rooms for visitors and officials, and provide an enhanced overall reception and concourse area.

Energy Management- Border Region Energy Unit

In collaboration with SEAI, and the Border Region Energy Unit, Leitrim County Council have entered into the Local Authority Energy Retrofit Pathfinder Programme.

The main objective of this Programme is to implement a range of retrofit measures and renewable heating solutions, incorporate energy efficient design principles and develop a replicable scalable retrofit model for the building stock to help deliver on the sectors' energy and decarbonisation targets. The intent is to optimize improvements concerning building fabric in protected structures as well as newer building stock, improve efficiency of lighting and deliver space heating by means of renewable heat.

Having completed the tender process for design consultancy services in 2023, Leitrim County Council appointed MosArt as the lead Architect in early 2024 for energy improvement works as part SEAI's Local Authority Energy Pathfinder Programme. The project involves significant energy improvement works to the IT Lodge, the Infirmary Building and the Main Aras an Chontae building including Governor house and the old Gaol. As part of the project refurbishment works are to be carried out to the first floor of the main Aras building. In collaboration with the Border Region Energy Unit, Leitrim County Council continue to engage with SEAI, Monaghan and Cavan County Councils to pool resources and maximise funding opportunities to meet our Climate Action targets by 2030 and improve overall energy management within the organisation.

ICT

The Leitrim County Council ICT team has successfully implemented a strategic plan to enhance the cyber resilience of the organization.

The following initiatives were introduced including:

- the deployment of new IT software which significantly improves the security of all devices connected to the Leitrim County Council network.
- installation of a new firewall to bolster security measures and a VPN solution to facilitate secure remote working for all eligible staff.
- introduced a new online training and awareness platform to educate staff about various cyber threats, including phishing, smishing, vishing, malware, ransomware, and social engineering attacks. This proactive approach ensures that Leitrim County Council remains vigilant and prepared to defend against evolving cyber threats.

Leitrim County Council cybersecurity practices align with internationally recognised standards, including the National Cyber Security Framework standards and the NIS2 directive, thereby safeguarding its operations and protecting against potential cyber threat.

The ICT Team at Leitrim County Council has significantly improved communication and collaboration by implementing Teams Telephony across the organisation. This initiative has replaced physical phones with a centralised communication tool, aligning with the clear desk policy and reducing electricity consumption by eliminating over 250 physical phone devices.

This system allows for better management of call flows, ensuring that queries are addressed promptly and effectively, enhancing internal communication and also significantly improving the council's ability to serve the public

HUMAN RESOURCES

Recruitment and Workforce Planning

In terms of workforce planning, 2024 was another very busy year with significant staff movement. Our overall Staffing Number at 31st December 2024 was 352, with an additional 54 Part Time Retained Fire Fighters. A total of 39 Recruitment Competitions were completed in 2024 with a further 9 competitions live at year end. Interviews were conducted through a combination of in-person and online interviews. PAS also undertook 6 competitions on our behalf in 2024, for senior level posts, with a further 2 competitions in train at year end. Leitrim County Council also participated in the national Local Authority Graduate Recruitment Programme in 2024, with 2 of 3 proposed Graduate placements secured.

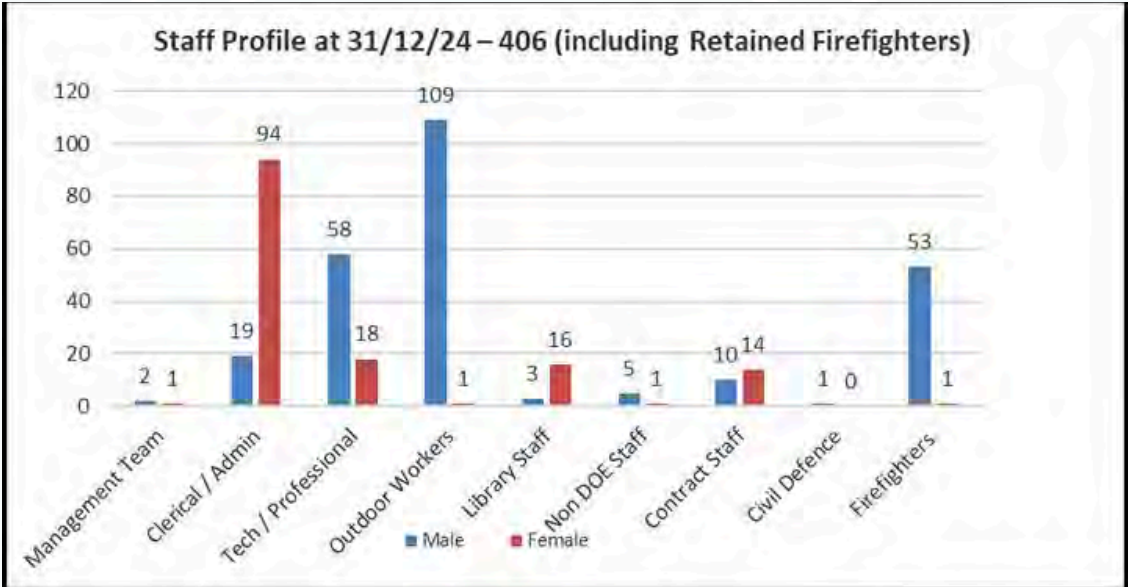
51 new staff commenced work with Leitrim County Council during the year, on a mix of permanent and temporary contracts, with a further 16 existing staff having secured promotion.

21 Staff left Leitrim County Council employment during the year to take up alternative employment opportunities, or due to contracts ending etc. There were also 9 Staff Retirements during 2024.

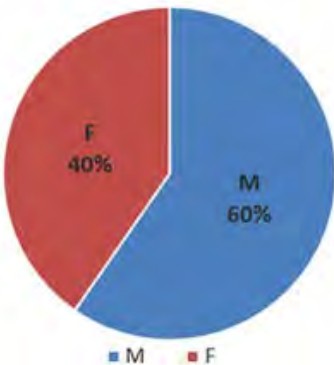
Work had commenced at year end on the development of a Strategic Workforce Plan, aligned to our new Corporate Plan. Each Local Authority is required to develop their plan, following a consultation process, which will then be submitted to the Department in Q1/Q2 2025.

Industrial Relations

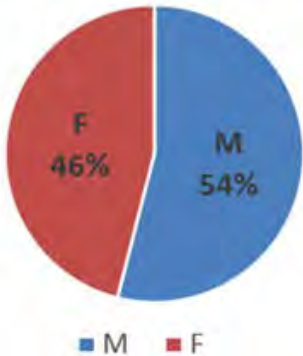
National Industrial Relations issues continued to impact all Local Authorities during 2024 in relation to Water Services and the transition to Uisce Éireann and also in relation to terms and conditions for the Retained Fire Service. Agreements negotiated at national level in relation to both areas in 2023 continued to be implemented across 2024.

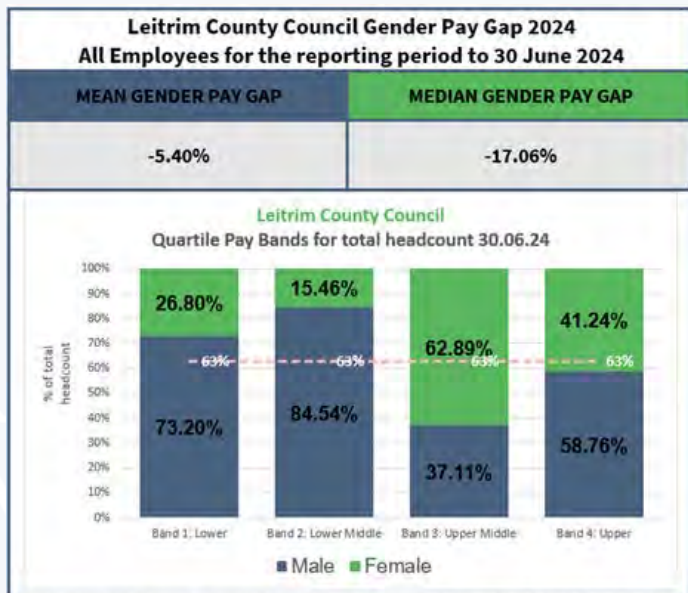


Gender Breakdown of Interview Boards 2024



Breakdown of Interview Attendees 2024





Note: 63%/37% is the gender breakdown of all employees on 30 June 2024. This is shown in the dotted line above



Gender Pay Gap

Leitrim County Council published its third Gender Pay Gap Report in December 2024 under the provisions of the Gender Pay Gap Information Act 2021. The gender pay gap is the difference in the average hourly wage of men and women across a workforce. Employers with more than 150 employees in Ireland are required to publish their gender pay gap data.

The Gender Pay Gap is not the same as equal pay – all male and female employees in Leitrim County Council, and in the local government sector generally, are paid equally for work that is the same or similar or for work of equal value, in line with Employment Equality legislation. The Gender Pay Gap, in contrast, is the difference in the average hourly pay of men and women across the organisation and it compares the pay of all working men and women, not just those in similar jobs, with similar working patterns or with similar competencies, qualifications or experience.

The 2024 report for the snapshot date – 30th June 2024 – shows a Mean Gender Pay Gap of -5.4% meaning that, on average, females are paid 5.4% more than males. The Median Gender Pay Gap shows that the median rate of pay for females is 17.06% higher than the median rate of pay for males.

This doesn't mean that males are paid less than females for doing the same job, but it does indicate that, on average, females occupy somewhat higher paid roles than males.

Publishing the gender pay gap data helps to reinforce our focus on supporting an open and inclusive workplace. Leitrim County Council is a place where all employees have the same opportunities for recognition and career development and are treated fairly and equitably at work. We continue to be committed to addressing workplace barriers to equality and creating an open and inclusive workplace community. Many equality, diversity and inclusion initiatives and supports are already in place, and we will continue to work in this area.

The Council's Gender Pay Gap report can be viewed on our website at www.leitrim.ie

Blended Working

Our Blended Working Policy & Procedure continued to be implemented in 2024, with a total of 155 Staff approved for a blended working arrangement across 2024. Blended working focuses, at its fundamental starting point, on our organizational needs and is being implemented while maintaining our commitment to the delivery of the highest standard of public services directly to citizens and local communities. Formal blended working arrangements are also the subject of ongoing monitoring and review.

Learning and Development

A significant Learning and Development Programme was delivered across 2024, with an ongoing focus on online training initiatives where practicable. A significant Line Management training programme was rolled out in 2024 and Leadership Development training was also provided to a number of senior staff. The Staff Education Scheme was also rolled out providing support to staff members pursuing further education opportunities. The Performance Management and Development System (PMDS) continued to be linked to the Annual Service Delivery Plan and the associated Departmental Team Plans in 2024.

HR Management System

The Council's HR Management System – CORE HRM – provides an end-to-end modular IT solution with modules including People Management, Superannuation, Training, Payroll, Time & Attendance, Recruitment and Insight Reporting. Employees can access their individual employment records, pension calculator, online payslips, training details and submit leave requests etc. with significant automation, while the manager dashboard supports approvals, automated reminders and team analytics. The system is constantly evolving with ongoing significant changes and upgrades being implemented locally as part of a wider national optimization project. A national Data Analytics reporting solution – Makodata – is also in place, facilitating enhanced reporting and analytical capacity.

The Service Level Agreement with the Local Authority Shared Payroll & Superannuation Centre in Portlaoise – MyPay – continued to operate successfully during 2024.

Staff Support

Staff, Elected Members and their immediate families continued to be supported through our Employee Assistance Service which provides free and confidential counselling service and advice. The HSA Work Positive Initiative was also rolled out across the organisation in 2024, which will inform the development of a Wellbeing Action Plan in 2025.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Prioritising Staff Wellbeing

The cornerstone of our 2024 health and safety achievements was the successful implementation of the "Work Positive programme" utilising the award-winning analytical tool developed by the Health & Safety Authority. Securing funding through the National LGMA Wellbeing initiative, we partnered with specialised consultants to establish comprehensive baseline measurements of staff wellbeing across all departments. This collaborative approach—combining staff workshops with data-driven insights—has provided the foundation for our forthcoming Wellbeing Strategy.

Safety Enhancements

A comprehensive review of all Roads Depots & Council Buildings conducted during Q3 delivered significant safety improvements through:

- Updated Site-Specific Safety Statements
- Revised risk assessments
- Enhanced emergency response procedures
- Redesigned traffic management systems optimised for safety

The dynamic storm patterns of 2024 demanded exceptional adaptability in our emergency response frameworks. Through continuous assessment and refinement of our Emergency Call-Out protocols, we equipped supervisory field staff with enhanced decision-making tools, enabling confident risk management even in rapidly evolving emergency situations.

Effective Oversight of Uisce Éireann Transition Process

The Health & Safety Section continues to play a pivotal role in the Uisce Éireann transition, with representation on the UE Local Governance committee. This strategic positioning has ensured consistent safety standards for all water services personnel throughout the transition process, regardless of reporting structures.

Measuring Success: 2024 Safety Performance

Our commitment to workplace safety yielded impressive results:

- Only one lost-time accident recorded throughout the entire year
- Comprehensive inspection regimes conducted across all operational areas
- Strong safety leadership demonstrated at all organisational levels
- Tailored health and safety training programs delivered organisation-wide
- Successful employee health check initiatives for both indoor and outdoor staff

FINANCE

The Finance Department is responsible for the following:

- Financial Management and Oversight
- Accounts Receivable
- Accounts Payable and Agresso Support
- Procurement
- Internal Audit
- Production and Publication of Financial Information including the Annual Budget and the Annual Financial Statement

Actual Expenditure 2024 (Unaudited)	
Housing and Building	€9,947,893
Road Transport and Safety	€22,838,904
Water Services	€3,478,715
Development Management	€10,288,418
Environment Services	€5,693,566
Recreation and Amenity	€3,889,366
Agri, Education, Health & Welfare	€582,630
Miscellaneous Services	€4,453,883
Total	€61,173,374

Revenue Collection

In 2024, a total of 1,130 commercial rates customers received their rates demands to the value of €7 million. The table below summaries revenue collection performance since 2020:

Revenue Income % Collection 2020-2024			
Years	Rates	Rents	Housing Loans
2020	72%	91%	70%
2021	74%	95%	75%
2022	80%	97%	81%
2023	77%	98%	84%
2024	79%	99%	88%

The collection for commercial rates was a 79% collection figure of commercial rates was achieved in 2024. The Revenue Team engaged with customers on an ongoing basis to maximise income collection from commercial rates and will continue to work with ratepayers to discharge their annual rates liabilities.

In 2024, a 99% collection figure was achieved for housing rents which represents a 1% increase in the collection achieved in 2023 at 98%. The Finance Team engages with rent customers in arrears to ensure that the customers put a Payment Plan in place to address rent arrears. Recourse to legal proceedings is always a last resort, however, the council initiated legal proceedings against a number of tenants for breaches of their tenancy agreement by non-payment of rent. Similarly, housing loan collection increased in 2024 by 4% overall from 84% to 88%.

Increased Cost of Business Grant and Power Up Grant 2024

As part of Budget 2024, the Government signed off on a package of €257m for the Increased Cost of Business (ICOB) Grant as a vital measure for small and medium businesses.

The Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment (DETE) was responsible for the oversight of the Increased Cost of Business (ICOB) Grant and local authorities were responsible for paying the grant to qualifying businesses.

The Grant was available to qualifying businesses as a contribution towards rising costs faced by business in recent years. In May 2024, the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment announced a second ICOB grant payment to the retail and hospitality sector.

Leitrim County Council paid out €1,148,574 out to 852 qualifying LAIDs as part of ICOB Payment 1 and Payment 2.

As part of Budget 2025, the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment (DETE) has introduced the Power Up Grant to support commercially rateable premises in the retail and hospitality sectors with a flat grant of €4,000. This initiative was to distribute €170 million to these businesses by the end of 2024.

Leitrim County Council paid out €1,292,000 out to 302 qualifying LAIDs as part of Power Up Grant Payments.

Procurement

The primary procurement objective for Leitrim County Council is to get optimum value for money in the procurement of goods, services and works, while complying with all EU Directives, National Legislation, Public Procurement Policy, Circulars and Guidelines. The key procurement principles incorporate fairness, openness, transparency, mutual recognition, non-discrimination and proportionality. The Council's procurement of goods, services and works facilitates the development of critical infrastructure, community services and improved environmental quality.

Leitrim County Council is committed to green public procurement, ensuring environmental considerations are integrated into purchasing decisions in support of our sustainability goals.

The Procurement Unit, within the Finance Department of the Leitrim County Council, will continue to collaborate with the Office of Government Procurement and the Local Government Operational Procurement Centre to maximise the use of national frameworks.

Procurement within Leitrim County Council is decentralised with buyers in all areas of the organisation, and much of the high value procurement being conducted using the two electronic portals, www.etenders.gov.ie and www.SupplyGov.ie.

In May 2024 Leitrim County Council submitted its Quality Assurance Report for 2023, to the National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC), as required under the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER) Public Spending Code. Details of Leitrim County Council Purchase Orders, for sums in excess of €20,000 are published on a quarterly basis on the Council’s website.

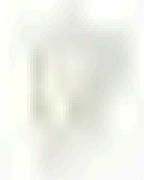
Motor Taxation

The Motor Tax Service continued to be delivered in 2024 via the Customer Services Unit in Aras an Chontae.

In 2024, a total of 7,076 vehicle license transactions were processed by staff in the Customer Services Unit with applications submitted with customers attending in person or alternatively submitting postal applications.

Motor Tax applications processed in the Motor Tax Office/Customer Services Unit	7,076
Motor Tax applications processed online	32,213
Total	39,289

The online motor tax service allows customers to renew their Motor Tax 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, through the website www.motortax.ie. In 2024, a total of 81.99% of Motor Tax Transactions were conducted online for Co. Leitrim motorists.



Leitrim County Council

STATEMENT OF INTERNAL FINANCIAL CONTROL (SIFC)

Introduction

I, Joseph Giihooly, Chief Executive (CE) of Leitrim County Council am responsible for the annual financial statement (AFS), prepared by the Head of Finance, in accordance with the accounting code of practice issued by the Minister under section 107 of the Local Government Act, 2001.

I certify that the unaudited financial statements of Leitrim County Council for the year ended 31 December 2024, are in agreement with the books of account and have been prepared in accordance with the accounting requirements of the Minister of Housing Local Government and Heritage.

The AFS is subject to external audit, by an auditor of the Local Government Audit Service, whose purpose is to form an independent opinion of the accounts and state whether the annual financial statement presents *fairly the financial position* of the local authority and of its income and expenditure for the period in question, and whether the transactions of the audited body conform with the statutory or other authorisation under which they purport to have been carried out.

The AFS reports on the day-to-day activity of Leitrim County Council in the form of the Statement of Comprehensive Income & Expenditure, summarised by Division. The Statement of Financial Position outlines the Leitrim County Council overall financial position as of the 31st of December 2024.

The *Statement of Comprehensive Income* represents expenditure and income on the day-to-day running of the Leitrim County Council.

The key sources of income for Leitrim County Council are as follows:

	Current Year	Previous Year
	€	€
Goods & Services	9,442,493	10,200,018
Grants & Subsidies	32,495,992	28,040,643
Other Contributions (as appropriate)	689,439	408,733
Rates	7,090,950	6,817,665
Local Property Tax	10,738,091	9,222,888

Activity on the Income and Expenditure account for 2024 is as follows:

	Current Year	Previous Year
	€	€
Income	60,458,364	54,689,947
Expenditure	61,173,374	54,242,820
Transfers to Capital	1,285,778	1,059,302
Exceptional Item	-	-
Surplus (Deficit) for	(1,401)	(1,385)
Prior Year Adjustment	-	-
Opening Revenue Reserve	(251,985)	(250,581)
Closing Revenue Reserve	(253,386)	(251,965)

Leitrim County Council has continued to implement a programme of monitoring and review of expenditure to ensure that budgetary limits are not exceeded. The effect of such tight budgetary management and control has resulted in a deficit of €1,401 in 2024, thereby increasing the cumulative revenue deficit to €253,366.

The *Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet)* represents the closing financial position of the council at year-end together with comparative year figures as appropriate.

The statement includes assets and liabilities as follows:

- Assets both recently constructed/purchased and historical assets
- Work in progress and preliminary schemes- mainly roads and housing
- Long Term Debtors – housing loans
- Current Assets- including Stock, Debtors, Cash at bank
- Current and long term liabilities- mortgage and non-mortgage loan borrowings
- Various Reserves/Balances

The Net Assets Leitrim County Council at the end of 2024 total €9,407,48m and are as follows:

	Current Year	Previous Year
	€	€
Fixed Assets	909,102,867	997,782,228
Works in Progress	35,728,448	18,134,196
Long Term Debtors	6,347,630	6,152,128
Current Assets	21,011,732	18,208,795
Current Liabilities	6,257,205	4,880,431
Net Current Assets / (Liabilities)	14,754,527	13,328,365
Creditors (Amounts greater than 1 year)	25,183,027	20,285,494
Net Assets/(Liabilities)	940,748,448	913,111,420

A Statement of Funds Flow was introduced as part of AFS 2011. While the guidance of International Accounting Standard 7 Statement of Cash Flows has been followed, the business of local authorities is substantially different to most private sector organisations and therefore some minor changes to the format have been agreed to ensure the data displayed is meaningful and useful within the local government sector.

System of Internal Financial Controls

As Chief Executive of Leitrim County Council, I acknowledge my responsibility for ensuring that an effective system of internal financial control is maintained and operated by the Leitrim County Council. This responsibility is exercised in the context of the resources available to Leitrim County Council. Also, any system of internal financial control can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions authorised and properly recorded, and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or would be detected in a timely manner. Maintaining the system of internal financial controls is a continuous process and the system and its effectiveness are kept under ongoing review.

Financial control environment

As Chief Executive of Leitrim County Council, I confirm that a financial control environment containing the following elements is in place:

- Financial responsibilities have been assigned at management level with corresponding accountability.
- Reporting arrangements have been established at all levels where responsibility for financial management has been assigned.
- Formal procedures have been established for reporting significant control failures and ensuring appropriate corrective action.
- There is an Audit Committee which as part of its work programme regularly review the internal financial control system.
- Procedures for all key business processes have been documented.
- There are systems in place to safeguard the assets.

Administrative Controls and Management Reporting

As Chief Executive of Leitrim County Council, I confirm that a framework of administrative procedures and regular management reporting is in place including segregation of duties and a system of delegation and accountability and, in particular, that:

- procedures for key business processes have been documented
- there are systems aimed at ensuring the security of the ICT systems
- there are systems in place to safeguard the assets of the local authority and
- there are appropriate capital investment control guidelines and formal project management disciplines in operation.

Procurement compliance

Leitrim County Council ensures that there is an appropriate and ongoing focus on good practice in tendering and purchasing and that procedures are in place to ensure compliance with all relevant procurement guidelines.

Internal audit and Audit Committee

As Chief Executive, I can confirm that Leitrim County Council has an outsourced internal audit function with appropriately trained personnel, which operates in accordance with a written charter. Its work is informed by analysis of the financial risks to which Leitrim County Council is exposed and its annual internal audit plans are based on this analysis. I am satisfied that there are procedures in place to ensure that the reports of the internal audit function are followed up.

I can confirm that Leitrim County Council has an effective audit committee which carries out an annual effectiveness review of their activities. I can also confirm that an Audit

Committee is in place in accordance with the requirements of Section 122 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended).

The statutory functions of audit committees as set out in section 59 and 60 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 are as follows:

- i. to review financial and budgetary reporting practices and procedures within the local authority that has established it;
- ii. to foster the development of best practice in the performance by the local authority of its internal audit function;
- iii. to review any audited financial statement, auditor's report or auditor's special report in relation to the local authority and assess any actions taken within that authority by its chief executive in response to such a statement or report and to report to that authority on its findings;
- iv. to assess and promote efficiency and value for money with respect to the local authority's performance of its functions; and
- v. to review systems that are operated by the local authority for the management of risks.

I recognise that the audit committee plays a crucial role in the governance framework of local authorities, particularly in the context of increased public sector accountability. They have an independent role in advising the Council on financial reporting processes, internal control, risk management and audit matters as part of the systematic review of the control environment and governance procedures of the local authority.

I acknowledge the Audit Committee's role in the risk management process and in the continuing review of the control environment and governance procedures in Leitrim County Council.

Risk and control framework

Leitrim County Council has implemented a risk management system which identifies and reports key risks and the management actions being taken to address and, to the extent possible, mitigate those risks.

A corporate risk register is in place which identifies the key risks and evaluates and grades them according to their significance. The register is reviewed and updated by the Management Team on a regular basis. There is also a risk register in place for each service division and these are also reviewed and updated on a regular basis.

The outcome of these assessments is used to plan and allocate resources to ensure risks are managed to an acceptable level. The risk registers which detail the controls and

actions needed to mitigate risks and responsibilities for the operation of controls are assigned to specific staff.

As Chief Executive, I confirm that key risks and related controls have been identified and processes have been put in place to monitor the operation of those key controls and report any identified deficiencies.

The Statement of Internal Financial Control will be included in the draft Annual Report submitted to Council members each year and thereafter included in the published Annual Report prepared and adopted by the Council by 30 June 2025 each year.

Signed by: _____
Chief Executive

Dated: _____

Appendix 1 - Leitrim County Council Governance Statement

Leitrim County Council Governance Statement

Purpose

The purpose of this governance statement is to provide relevant information on the governance structures and governance arrangements within the local authority including on council, committees, senior management and related areas. It demonstrates our commitment to effective governance, recognises key legislative and good governance requirements and affirms the Council's compliance with the Local Government Code of Governance obligations.

Good Governance

Fundamentally, good governance in the local government sector and wider public sector is about delivering priorities, achieving objectives, behaving with integrity and acting in the public interest, in ways that are consistent with legal, regulatory and government policy obligations. Governance refers to the framework of rules, relationships, systems and processes by which the local authority is directed, controlled and held to account and whereby authority within an organisation is exercised and maintained. It encompasses authority, accountability, stewardship and leadership, direction and control.

Good Governance Principles

CORE PRINCIPLE 1 - Good governance means focusing on the purpose of the authority, on outcomes that deliver sustainable economic, community and wider societal benefits and on implementing a vision for the local authority.

CORE PRINCIPLE 2 - Good governance means promoting and demonstrating public service values through upholding high standards of conduct and behaviour.

CORE PRINCIPLE 3 - Good governance means members and officials working together to achieve a common purpose within a framework of clearly defined functions and roles.

CORE PRINCIPLE 4 - Good governance means developing the organisational capacity and the leadership capability and competencies of members and officials to operate effectively and fulfil the purpose of the organization.

CORE PRINCIPLE 5 - Good governance means taking well-informed and transparent decisions and managing risks and performance.

CORE PRINCIPLE 6 - Good governance means engaging openly and comprehensively with local people, citizens and other stakeholders to ensure robust public accountability.

CORE PRINCIPLE 7 - Good governance means actively contributing to the furtherance and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by delivering on the priorities and actions within the Climate Action Plan and the provisions of the Climate Act.

Appendix 1 - Leitrim County Council Governance Statement

Our Commitment to Good Governance

As the Cathaoirleach and Chief Executive of the council, and on behalf of the elected members, management and staff we confirm that;

1. We recognise the governance principles as the fundamental bedrock and philosophy on how we operate as a governing body and as an executive.
2. We recognise the Local Government Code of Governance as the centrepiece of the governance framework for local authorities.
3. The Statement of Internal Financial Control will be submitted by the Chief Executive to the Elected Members and to the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee reviews the SIFC and provides an assurance on an annual basis to the Elected Members. Mechanisms are available to the Audit Committee to notify the Elected Members of any issues that arise outside of the normal annual reporting.
4. Compliance with legal and regulatory obligations are acknowledged and adhered to.
5. There is clarity of roles and responsibilities based on the reserved and executive functions and based on committee terms of reference.
6. Codes of Conduct and ethics declarations for members and employees are in place.
7. Procedures are in place for the making of protected disclosures in accordance with section 21(1) of the Protected Disclosures Act 2014 and confirmation that the annual report required under section 22(1) of the Act has been published.
8. The Council and Committees review their own performance on a periodic basis.
9. We have instituted appropriate governance oversight arrangements in respect of subsidiary, associated and related companies.
10. As part of our commitment to effective oversight and accountability, we have developed and continue to enhance our overall assurance framework utilising external and internal assurance sources to ensure good performance as part of our governance culture.

Cathaoirleach

Date: _____

Chief Executive

Date: _____

Appendix 2 - Conference/Seminar Events Attended by The Elected Members

Below is the confernece and seminar events attended by Elected Members during 2024.

Month	Details of the Conference/Seminar	Location	# Members Attended
February	“The Irish Housing Crisis - A Sustainable Option” - Celtic Conferences	Cork	4
March	Suck Valley Way Training Conference 2024	Roscommon	1
June	“Ireland’s Place in a World Crisis” - Sean MacDiarmada Summer School	Leitrim	8
August	McGill Summer School	Donegal	1
December	"The Irish Social Welfare System” - Celtic Conferences	Cork	4

Appendix 3 - Training Attended By the Elected Members

In Person training returned in 2024 and the table below sets out training events that elected members attended:

Month	Details of Training Events	Location	# Members Attended
January	Association of Irish Local Government Annual - Elected Members Annual Briefing	Donegal	11
		Limerick	4
February	Regions in Focus - Irish Regions Building Capacity	Limerick	6
	Association of Irish Local Government - Annual Training Conference	Arklow	10
March	Association of Irish Local Government - Local Election 2024 Preparation	Westmeath	1
July	Association of Irish Local Government – Elected Member Induction Training	Westmeath	2
September	Association of Irish Local Government - Autumn Training Seminar	Monaghan	4
	Local Authority Members Association - Overview of the Planning System	Offaly	4
October	Local Authority Members Association - Autumn Seminar	Sligo	1
	Association of Irish Local Government - Local Authority Finance		

Appendix 4 - Corporate Plan Progress Report 2024



COMHAIRLE CHONTAE LIATROMA
Leitrim County Council



Áras an Chontae,
Cora Droma Ruisc,
13th January 2025

RE: Corporate Plan-Annual Progress Report 2024

This report is being presented to the Council in accordance with the requirements of Section 134 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended. The report sets out in summary fashion progress made in relation to commitments set down in the Council’s Corporate Plan for the period 2019-2024.

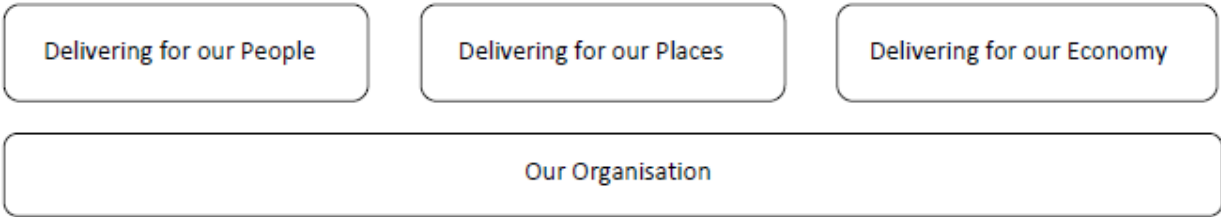
The Council’s Corporate Plan 2019-2024 sets out the vision and operational framework for Leitrim County Council for the five year period and together with the Capital Investment Programme 2024 – 29, provides the platform for the continued and progressive development of the County over the specified time period.

In reporting on the progress in 2024 it is recognised that there is a relationship and an inter dependency across the Strategic Objectives as set out within the Corporate Plan 2019 -2024, and services delivered in one functional area may achieve the requirements of one or more of the Strategic Objectives.

The Strategic Objectives as defined within the Corporate Plan 2019-2024 are identified as follows:

- Delivering for our People
- Delivering for our Places
- Delivering for our Economy
- Our Organisation

The following pages set out key achievements of 2024 and of the wider period of the Corporate Plan 2019-2024.



Delivering for our People

Social Housing Delivery Programme under Housing for All -2024 Programme

The Housing Department continued to plan for and deliver their annual targets under the ‘Housing for All’ Programme from 2022 to 2026. Housing for All is the Government’s plan to increase the overall supply of housing over the next decade. The following social housing projects were advanced in 2024:

Location	Number of Units	Delivery Mechanism
Oakgrove, Kinlough	6	Turnkey
Castle Street, Mohill	3	Repair & Lease
Main Street, Drumsna	4	Direct Build
Priors Point, Carrick-on-Shannon	4	Part V
Cannonboe, Ballinamore,	3	Part V
Cannonboe, Ballinamore	3	Turnkey
Total No. of Units to be delivered	23	

Social Housing Pipeline Delivery 2025-2029

The Housing Capital Team also progressed a number of other social housing project to deliver the annual targets for 2025 and 2026 as detailed in the table below:

Location	Number of Units	Delivery Mechanism
Drumkeerin	9	Turnkey
Kilboderry, Carrick-on-Shannon	18	Direct Build
Drumshanbo	4	Turnkey
Drumshanbo	1	Part V
Keshcarrigan	4	Direct Build
Newtowngore	7	Direct Build
Manorhamilton (Sraid Sean MacDiarmaida) (Buy & Renew)	4	Direct Build
Ballinamore – Main Street (Buy & Renew)	4	Direct Build
Kiltyclogher, Co. Leitrim (Buy & Renew)	2	Direct Build
Castle Street, Mohill (Buy and Renew)	3	Direct Build
Dromod,	2	Turnkey
Total No. of Units to be delivered.	58	

The Housing Department continue to actively seek opportunities to acquire additional lands and or units under the Housing for All Programme to deliver the total number of outputs over the life of the programme.

Purchase/Acquisition Programme 2024 - In 2024, a total of 10 properties went sale agreed under the Purchase/Acquisition Programme. Five of the properties were purchased under the ‘Tenant in Situ’ Scheme where the households were at risk of homelessness.

Voluntary Housing - The Housing Capital Team continued to engage in the Approved Housing Forum to encourage Approved Housing Bodies to progress social housing schemes in the county. The Team continue to explore delivery mechanisms for a Group Housing Scheme in Manorhamilton to meet the needs of young people in Manorhamilton with a disability.

Housing Maintenance and Improvement of Stock

Voids & Energy Efficiency Programme 2024

Leitrim County Council undertook an ambitious Energy Efficiency/Retrofitting programme for 2024. We targeted 30 social houses within the county for Energy Efficiency/Retrofitting, with 16 of these homes located within the Decarbonising Zone of Carrick on Shannon. Of the 30 units, 16 were vacant units and the remaining 14 units were tenanted LA Dwellings in the Autumn View Estate Carrick-on-Shannon. The homes received a post-works BER rating of between A3 & B1, a significant increase in the energy efficiency of the properties. The project in the occupied dwellings was a pilot project for tenanted dwellings.

Energy Efficiency Programme 2024	Vacant Dwellings	Tenanted Dwellings
Number	16	14
Cost	€807,357	€645,744

Planned Maintenance Programme - A total of €117,209 was expended on the Planned Maintenance Programme to provide upgrades to existing social housing units with **25** properties benefitting from the scheme.

Stock Condition Surveys - Work commenced on the completion of Stock Condition Survey's on existing Social Housing Stock. A total of **192** surveys were completed in 2024 and this information will inform future planned maintenance programmes for the stock.

Housing Grants (Private Houses) - There was significant activity in 2024 under the Mobility Aids Grant Scheme, the Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme and the Housing Aid for Older People Grant Scheme in 2024. Grant Payments were processed on the for a total of 148 private house grants in 2024 under the three schemes as follows:

- 45 Housing Adaptation Grants for People with a Disability
- 81 Housing Aid Grants for Older People
- 22 Mobility Aid Grants

Total: 148 grants paid at a cost of €860,083.75

(80% funding is provided from Exchequer Funding and the remaining 20% has to be provided by the Local Authority own contribution).

Revised regulations on the Housing Grant Scheme came into effect on 1st December, 2024 and all applications received after this date will be processed under the new regulations.

Housing Grants (LA Social Housing Stock) - The Housing Department completed **18** grants at a total cost of **€82,047** for disability type works to existing Social Housing Units to render the accommodation more suitable to meet the needs of a member of the household with a disability. Works were also progressed to provide 2 extensions to LA Dwellings to meet the disability needs of the individual household and these works will proceed to construction in 2025.

Private Rental Inspections - The Housing Department delivered the target for delivery under the Annual Private Rented Inspection Programme. A total of **309** properties were inspected in 2024.

Homelessness - Leitrim County Council provided information, support, advice to individuals and families deemed at risk of or experiencing homelessness in the county. A number of individuals and families were provided with Temporary Emergency Accommodation pending the sourcing of a more long-term accommodation solution. Exit plans were also progressed to move individuals and families out of their TEA Accommodation to dwellings allocated to them under the Rental Accommodation Scheme, Leasing, Standard LA accommodation or accommodation provided by an Approved Housing Body. A number of individuals and families remain in TEA at 31st December, 2024 and the Housing Department will continue to progress an accommodation solution to meet their long-term accommodation needs.

Tenancy Support Programmes - The Housing First Programme continued to support the existing three tenants in the programme and an additional two new tenants were allocated LA accommodation and accepted onto the Housing First Programme. A Tenancy Support Service is also in place with Focus Ireland the Sophia Housing Association to provide additional tenancy support to a number of LA Tenants to sustain and manage their tenancies, Support to Residents Associations

The Council continue to support the voluntary work of Residents Associations in LA Estates in Leitrim under the Annual Estate Management Grant Scheme.

A total of €11,000 in funding was provided in 2024 to support the voluntary work of the active Resident's Associations in the LA Estates in Leitrim.

Support to Residents Associations - The Council continue to support the voluntary work of Residents Associations in LA Estates in Leitrim under the Annual Estate Management Grant Scheme.

A total of €11,000 in funding was provided in 2024 to support the voluntary work of the active Resident's Associations in the LA Estates in Leitrim.

Traveller Accommodation - The new Traveller Accommodation Programme 2025-2029 was adopted by the Elected Members at their meeting in September 2024 and comes into effect on 1st January 2025. The targets for delivery under the former Traveller Accommodation Programme 20019-2024 were exceeded. A new Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee (LTACC) was established following the Local Elections in May, 2024 with representation from the Elected Members, Traveller Representatives and Staff from the Housing Department. The LTACC is a statutory committee that will monitor the implementation of the new Traveller Accommodation Programme 2025-2029.

Rural Water Programme

Measure 5 of the Multi Annual Rural Water Programme 2019-2021: In 2024 Uisce Éireann took 4 no. group water schemes in charge under this measure - the schemes taken in charge in 2024 were Cleen, Kiltogher, Faughill and Tarmon Group

Leitrim County Council continues to work with and support a number of group water schemes to progress through taking in charge by Uisce Éireann.

Measure 2: In 2024 emergency funding was provided under Measure 2 by Leitrim County Council to a Group Scheme (Aughagrania Upper GWS) to help resolve a water quality issue.

Group Scheme Subsidy: Subsidy payments continue to be made to eligible group schemes with a total of 18 Group Schemes receiving subsidy payments totalling €337,917 in 2024 (annual and/or advance).

Individual Well Grants: Individual well grants were also paid to eligible applicants with a total of 6 grants paid by Leitrim County Council totalling €26,645 in 2024

Multi Annual Rural Water Programme 2024-2026: In 2024 the Rural Water Multi Annual Programme 2024-2026 commenced. Councils were asked to submit applications for funding in consultation with and on behalf of Group Schemes, to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage before the 12th of April 2024 for funding across 8 measures.

Leitrim County Council submitted an application to the Department for 31 no. projects across 6 measures, with an estimated cost of €4.2 million and the total funding sought was €2.8m. In November 2024, the Department advised that a decision had been made on funding under 5 of the 8 Measures under the new Programme. Consideration and evaluation of the applications received under the other 3 measures is ongoing. Under the funding measures granted to date, Leitrim County Council secured funding for 13 projects in the sum of €1.073m.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

- Leitrim County Council has received approval to progress Manorhamilton Fire Station to Stage 2C: Detailed Design. Fortnightly meetings are scheduled between the Fire Service and the Design team to advance this. It is envisaged that this process will be completed by Q2 2025.

- Leitrim fire service's new water tanker is now operational out of Ballinamore Fire Station.
- Capital funding was secured to procure a new Class B vehicle for Leitrim. The chassis for the new fire appliance is ordered and the first design meeting with the manufacturer's is scheduled for Q1 2025.
- Implementation of the WRC agreement relating to firefighters has commenced. All stations have increased their number of firefighters to eleven and plans are ongoing to increase this to twelve. Meetings between Fire Service Management and SIPTU Fire are held on a regular basis to discuss proposals relating to the introduction of Structured Time Off and the transition to fortnightly pay.
- The Building Control function continues to be expanded around Market Surveillance.
- Leitrim Fire Service continues to contribute to further cross border cooperation in the area of emergency management as part of the Cross Border Emergency Management Group.
- Leitrim Fire Service worked as a project partner in the Erasmus+ EduFire Toolkit project which is developing a new wildfire education programme for post primary students. A pilot programme was delivered to Transition Year Students in 2024.

CIVIL DEFENCE

- Leitrim Civil Defence participated in a number of search and recovery activities during 2024, in collaboration with other state agencies.
- Leitrim Civil Defence continued to support the Environmental Section in lake water sampling in conjunction with the EPA.

LIBRARY

The Library Service continued to transform over the 2019-2024 period with new and innovative means of delivering the services :

- Delivery of Refurbished Kiltyclogher Library, Extension of Mohill Library and new Dromahair Library as well as My Open Library services at Drumshanbo Library and move of Carrick-on-Shannon Library to a town-centre location.
- Expansion of Sensory related services at Mohill Library with dedicated Sensory Room and introduction of Magic Table', introduction of Cubbie at Manorhamilton Library and development of the 'Sense-Ability' collection of sensory equipment which is available for loan.
- Enhanced lending collection now includes materials such as Reading Pens and Literacy Software to assist with learning difficulties
- Increased online accessibility to the local studies collection through digitisation programmes/online exhibitions and promotion of user access to cultural heritage, local history and other materials.

LEITRIM SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

Leitrim Sports Partnership have secured over €1,400,000.00 in sports and physical activity investment in Leitrim through our main funding partner, Sport Ireland over the period 2019-2024.

- **Dormant Account Funding** - €900,00.00 in funding was secured, towards the first Disability Sports Hub for the County, along with funding for the Lough Rinn Sports Hub and the Drumshanbo Sports Hub.
- **Sport Capital Funding:** €239,915 has been allocated over the five-year period for equipment and capital works throughout the county including enhancement works at at Keeldra lake and Gulladoo Lake as well as inclusive play equipment at Drumshanbo, Manorhamilton and Tullaghan amenities.
- **Club Development and Covid 19 Grants** – €210, 000 in club grants has been allocated to 148 sports clubs and community groups as part of club development and active participation.

Education and Training: 48 Safeguarding courses and 28 First Aid Courses have been ran with over 1200 attending this mandatory training.

Social Inclusion Programme: An extensive and exciting variety of disability programmes including Yoga, Pilates, Boccia, Kayaking, Cycling, Dance, swimming, surfing, horse-riding, Multisports and Sensory Activities have been delivered in partnership with our disability partners to over 3500 people with disabilities. A range of programming including Scooch, Go for Life Games, Cycling workshops, Activator Poles, Social Walking and Boccia was rolled out to active age groups, women's groups and men's sheds with over 3000 people participating. The LSP have also delivered inclusive programmes to over 700 people from Ukraine and people living in Direct Provision

Community Sports Programming: The women in sport programme such as Teen Basketball & Kayaking, Couch to 5k, Fitness, Women on the Water was delivered to over 460 women and girl across the county.

Bike Week: As part of National Bike Week 2019-2024, 118 events took place around the County with 5,378 people participating on many different cycling events and activities.

Leitrim Sports Star Awards: celebrates sporting participation and achievement has grown year on year with approx. 900 guests in attendance over the five-year period and 12 awards allocated on the night.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION

PEACEPLUS Programme: The Leitrim PEACEPLUS Action Plan was approved in 2024 with a budget of €3,334,009 to deliver 16 projects. Leitrim County Council as the Lead Partner, in partnership with the Shannonside Recreation Campus committee have been awarded €15,342,366 to develop the Shannonside Peace Arena (SPA). The SPA will include a state-of-the-art multi sports hub building and a high performance gym and form part of the larger Shannonside Recreational Campus project.

Large Scale Sports Infrastructure Fund (LSSIF): The Council have also been successful under the LSSIF in securing funding of € 3.3 million to complete a 4G pitch and provide a 400m 8-lane running track as part of the Shannonside Recreational Campus

Towns & Villages: The Council secured funding of € 745 K for Manorhamilton Youth Hub and Colemans Community and Arts Hub, Carrick on Shannon under the T&V Renewal Scheme.

Healthy Ireland Round 4: Funding of € 198 K was allocated to two outcomes, 'We're Breastfeeding Friendly Leitrim' and 'Live Longer at Home' under the 3-year strategy. Sixty Breastfeeding Friendly locations have been established and Healthy Leitrim have supported over 1000 older people, with health and digital literacy in partnership with Leitrim Libraries.

Public Participation Network (PPN): Leitrim PPN works with community, voluntary, social inclusion and environmental organisations throughout the county with over 400 groups registered with the organisation.

Comhairle na Nóg Liatroma: enjoy the support of all second level schools and youth clubs in Leitrim supporting young people carrying out research and alleviating issues such as developing a 'Discreet Approach to Supporting Families Affected by Addiction' and 'Addressing mental health services for young people in the rural population'.

Leitrim Volunteer Centre: The Leitrim Volunteer Centre continues to expand its reach with 120 organisations and 820 volunteers registered with the organisation.

Digital Strategy: “Digital Leitrim”, is the title of the Leitrim Digital Strategy, adopted in September 2022. A Digital The Leitrim Age Friendly Alliance and Older Persons Council’s continued with regular meetings of both groups held. As part of the Strategy, walkability studies were completed in Manorhamilton and Ballinamore in 2024 and the rollout of Age Friendly parking is progressing throughout the county.

Small Scale Community Grants – Small scale community grants across various schemes of over € 1 million were allocated supporting 693 projects across the County.

Playgrounds – Over €200,000 Funding was secured through Clár, DCEDIY (Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration & Youth) for the upgrade of playgrounds in Carrick on Shannon, Carrigallen, Manorhamilton, Mohill Glenfarne and Tullaghan

Love where you Live Awards - Between 2019-2024, over 200 community and voluntary organizations and 37 primary schools entered in the ‘Love Where You Live’ competition.

Pride of Place – Leitrim has been very successful over the 2019-2024 period in this competition with The Leitrim Sustainable Agriculture Group & Ulster Wildlife Farmers' Group Fermanagh, Tullaghan Development Association, Fenagh Visitor Centre and Townspark Housing Estate, Carrick on Shannon Tidy towns bringing home success.

Integration - A newly formed LAIT (Local Authority Integration Team) was established in 2024. LAIT, with many agencies and community groups provides a range of supports to IPA’s (International Protection Applicants) and BOTP’s (Beneficiary of Temporary Protection) living in the county and specifically work with new arrivals. The Council administers and chairs an expanded Community Integration Forum (CIF) comprising of agencies, community, and voluntary organisations addressing accommodation, health, education, employment, and integration issues primarily focusing on IPA’s BOTP’s.

Delivering for our Economy

Tourism, Economic Development and Regeneration

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- During the period of the 2019 – 2024 Corporate Plan, in excess of €37m grant funding was accessed via the Economic Development Department for infrastructural, recreation and Tourism projects throughout the County. This figure includes funding from schemes such as Clár, Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS), Town and Village and the Rural Regeneration Development Fund (RRDF). It also includes Fáilte Ireland’s schemes such as Destination Towns, Platforms for Growth, Ireland’s Hidden Heartlands Marketing Fund and Regional Festival’s Fund.
- The acquisition of Carrick on Shannon Business Campus was a significant project funded in 2022 under the RRDF. The Business Campus is a prestigious, turnkey office accommodation centre of 112,000sq. ft. just off the N4. The Campus is ideally located with excellent access to national roads and rail links. Increasing occupancy of Phase 1 of the Campus as well as planning the refurbishment and deep energy retrofit of Phase 2 has been a key focus since its acquisition. Currently five client companies have made the Campus their home and we look forward to building on this over the period 2024 to 2029.
- Ongoing promotion of County Leitrim as a dynamic place to live, work and invest took place through the facilitation of Business Networking events in New York, Dublin and London. The theme of the events was ‘Take a Fresh Look at Leitrim’ in which the many recently developed economic and infrastructural projects throughout the County were showcased.
- The Tullaghan Access to the Sea project, which saw the development of a trail to ensure safe access to Leitrim’s 4km coastline, providing a recreation asset for Tullaghan’s community, visitors, and water-based users (surfers and paddleboarders) completed in 2023. This was undertaken through funding approved under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructural Scheme. This significant project has created a new destination point along the Wild Atlantic Way. It is anticipated that the development of this access point will considerably increase visitor numbers to the area.

- Over the period 2022 to 2023, the Local Economic and Community Plan 2023 – 2029 was developed for Leitrim. This high-level overarching plan complements and is consistent with the County Development Plan 2023-2029 and the Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy 2020-2032. It is also aligned with other key policies at local, regional and national level as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and is cognisant of our Public Sector Equality and Human Rights. The plan includes an ambition for the County, developed from views put forward during the consultation process, based around sustainability, wellbeing and prosperity. Similarly, the goals, objectives and actions are focused on key areas identified during the consultation and analysis process including education and skills, economy and employment, inclusion and wellbeing, climate and the environment, and tourism and heritage. The Implementation Plan which forms part of the LECP contains 44 actions which are to be progressed over the lifetime of the initial 2 year Implementation Plan.
- Following the very successful delivery of the LEADER programme 2014 – 2022, the Local Development Strategy for Leitrim, prepared as part of the LEADER programme 2023 – 2027, was approved in 2023. This will see €6.3million in LEADER RDP funding available for Co Leitrim from 2023 to 2027. This funding will be allocated in accordance with the priorities and needs as identified in the Local Development Strategy over the 4 year period

TOURISM

Leitrim County Council continued to invest in the promotion of County Leitrim as a tourism destination during 2024 in collaboration with key partners such as Waterways Ireland, Fáilte Ireland, and Inland Fisheries Ireland. The Council supported a Leitrim Tourism marketing campaign in partnership with the tourism trade. The following initiatives were implemented to maximise grant aid and promote the County:

- Collaboration with the Tourism Trade to promote County Leitrim as a Staycation location of choice in 2024
- Delivery of an extensive marketing campaign to promote Leitrim to the domestic and GB market, including radio, social media, digital marketing, media trips, video on demand and cinema advertising.
- Supported the operation of the Carrick on Shannon Tourist Office in conjunction with Fáilte Ireland.
- Leitrim County Council continued to support the development of the Hidden Heartlands brand proposition, which overlaps collaboratively with the Wild Atlantic brand proposition.

Tourism Strategy: The Council has conducted a review and analysis of the tourism sector in the County, taking into account the outgoing Tourism Strategy and, in particular, the impact of the last two years on the Tourism sector and the unprecedented operating environment. The resulting Framework which has now been developed will assist in guiding Leitrim County Council in its role in the development of the County's Tourism sector over the next five years.

Slow Adventure: Leitrim County Council continues the development and promotion of Slow Adventure Experiences.

The Leitrim Gathering: In 2024 as part of our Diaspora Strategy is, an exiting new festival entitled The Leitrim Gathering was developed. The Leitrim Gathering will take place from 23-25 May 2025 and aims to attract the Leitrim Diaspora to the county to experience and enjoy all that Leitrim has to offer. A wide range of events and activities that will form part of The Leitrim Gathering festival has been developed and promoted throughout 2024. The Local Authority has also provided support to community groups that have events planned for this event.

Regeneration Office: The Town Regeneration Office was established within Leitrim County Council in 2023 to address the decline in the health of towns across the County and support measures to regenerate and revitalize them.

The following initiatives have been undertaken by the Town Regeneration Office in 2024:

- Under the Croí Conaithe scheme, 230 applications were received since scheme inception. A total of 111 applications have been received since January 2024, 41 grants have been processed for payment between January & December 2024 to the value of just under 2 million euro.
- The Vacant Homes Officer continues to engage with the owners of specific properties that have potential to be brought back into productive use:

Events attended to promote initiatives to combat vacancy:

- LCC Regeneration Team had a stand at the LDC Retrofit events held in Drumshanbo in February 2024.
- LCC Regeneration Team attended a Leitrim PPN meeting in Mohill in May 2024 where a presentation of vacancy incentives was explained and Q&A.
- Presentations on funding schemes for vacant buildings was given in conjunction with the Economic Development team funding awareness campaign in 3 locations in April/May 2024 i.e. Carrick on Shannon, Manorhamilton and Ballinamore.
- Repair & Lease: 1 property containing 3 units was completed under the Repair and Lease incentive.
- One Compulsory Acquisition Order has commenced on a derelict property in Dromahair in December 2024.
- Manorhamilton Town Team awarded funding of €30,000 to prepare the second Town Centre First plan for the County in March 2024. A competition was launched via eTenders to procure a consultant to develop a Town Centre First Plan for Manorhamilton with a closing date of 10/01/2025. A Health Check was also carried out on Manorhamilton by Queens University Belfast in May 2024 in preparation for the Town Centre First Plan.
- €130,540 was successfully secured under the THRIVE (Town Centre First Heritage Revival Scheme) to procure a consultant to determine a future end use for the Town Hall, Carrick on Shannon and to bring the project through the planning process. The project is currently ongoing.
- In 2024, the Town Regeneration Unit was successful in an application under the Town & Village Suite of Supports Fund and was awarded €10,000 per town, for Ballinamore, Dromahair and Kinlough towns. The funding was used to carry out Health Checks by Queens University on all three towns in August 2024. During the month of December training was provided for Kinlough & Ballinamore Town Teams and the formation of the Town Teams are now at an advanced stage. It is hoped that a public meeting to set up a Dromahair Town Team will be advertised early in 2025.

Funding of €0.5 million was secured under Building Acquisition Measure 2023, Town and Village funding, to purchase 3 derelict buildings to be used as community facilities for the County. The buildings are located in Leitrim Village, Manorhamilton and Kinlough. During 2024 the following progress was made on repurposing these derelict buildings:

- The property in Leitrim Village is currently going through detailed design to develop a Blueway Hub for the County.
- Capital works are being progressed on the former Higgins Accountants building in Manorhamilton to bring the building back into productive use as a youth hub.
- Funding opportunities are being explored for the redevelopment of a derelict building in Kinlough town centre.

ROADS, TRANSPORTATION & SAFETY

Over the course of the 2019-2024 Corporate plan a significant programme of works has been delivered through our Roads, Transportation and Safety functional area. Highlight achievements and significant events over the past 5 years include:

Overall Roadworks Program - Over the period from 2019 to present the investment in the roads infrastructure in county Leitrim has increased significantly **from an annual budget of €16.7million in the start of 2019 to an annual spend of €26.1 million in 2023** or an annual increase of **56%** over that period.

Carrick – Dromod Scheme - While many road improvement schemes were completed on National roads over the period such as pavement renewal schemes, realignment schemes and safety schemes, one of the main achievements in Roads Department since 2019 was getting the Carrick Dromod Project **(with a bypass of Carrick on Shannon) approved by the TII and commenced**. This scheme is now at detailed design stage with a view to having it submitted to An Bord Pleanála for approval in early 2025. This project will be the largest investment ever in the county and will bring many benefits to the town of Carrick on Shannon and indeed the whole northwest region of the country.

Active Travel - The Active Travel program commenced in 2020 with an average budget of €2 million per annum investment in the county every year since then. This program has delivered many worthwhile projects including footpaths, cycleways, road crossings, and permeability links, and safety works, etc. in towns right across the county. In total, approximately 100 different schemes have been advanced across the county with the majority completed.

Bridge Rehabilitation Program - Investment in Bridge Rehabilitation greatly increased over the 5 year period with an overall investment of €3.2million which funded rehabilitation on over 60 bridges.

Winter Maintenance Program - The Winter maintenance program was greatly expanded with an additional 34% of roads now being treated, (490km now as opposed to 366km in 2019). This has been achieved by the acquisition of additional plant and the introduction of an additional route. All National and all Regional roads are now being treated in addition to a number of strategic local roads.

Local Improvement Schemes - In early 2019, there was 216 schemes on the LIS waiting list and the program was closed to new entrants for many years. All eligible schemes on that list are now completed and the LIS Program was re-opened to new applications in November 2022, and since then a further 13 schemes were completed off the new list. The allocation for the current year has not yet been notified but it is anticipated that a further 25 - 30 schemes will be completed. A new policy was approved by members to deal with the new list.

Footpath Renewals - The members agreed that local funding would be invested in maintenance and renewal of footpaths across the county and a program for this has commenced with an investment of €1.5million.

Climate Adaptation & Resilience Works - Over the last four years, 30 different schemes were completed under a new initiative for Climate Adaptation and resilience works which amounted to a total investment of €2.7million. These projects dealt with remedial works for areas affected by climate change such as flooded areas and drainage enhancing drainage schemes to help protect our road network.

Other Policies - A new hedge cutting policy was agreed by the members and introduced which made the scheme more attractive to applicants. This had the effect of the number of applications being approved per year greatly increased from **9 number in the 2018/19 season to 59 number in the 2022/23 season**. A further policy to deal with Tree canopies has recently been introduced which will allow for an increase in grant aid for the cutting of overhanging trees. An enhanced budget has also been provided which includes for an emergency fund for the council dealing with overgrown hedges when an owner cannot be identified.

Road Safety Strategy - The new Road Safety Strategy 2023 to 2030 and Phase 1 Road Safety Action Plan 2023- 2024 was completed and adopted in 2023.

Unprecedented Events - Unprecedented emergency events occurred including a landslide at Shass Mountain and a tornado at Leitrim Village in the last electoral period. These were dealt with effectively and efficiently by Leitrim County Council. At Shass Mountain, a new bridge was constructed and all roads opened to traffic, and some drainage works on affected land were completed in a short period of 6 weeks, while the response by the council at Leitrim village after the Tornado ensured that a major clean-up was completed, the area, including damaged buildings were made safe and the main road opened to traffic within 2 days.

Outdoor Staff Restructuring & Recruitment - The outdoor staff structure in the council was reorganised to ensure more efficiency because of the increased workload and this resulted with additional staff being appointed.

Local Budgets Increase - The elected members approved an increase in many budgets under the remit of the Roads Department, over the last five years including Local Roads, Amenities, Hedge Cutting, River Drainage, etc.

Capital Projects Office

The Capital Office achieved delivery of a number of projects over the term of the Corporate Plan, most notably:

- €11.2m invested in an Urban Regeneration Scheme in Carrick on Shannon.

- Over €20m investment ongoing in Rural Regeneration schemes in the towns of Carrick on Shannon, Ballinamore, Manorhamilton, Mohill & Drumshanbo
- Progression of the SLNCR Greenway (Sligo to Enniskillen) to Option Selection stage
- Detailed design and Environmental evaluation are underway on the preferred route for the Carrick on Shannon to Battlebridge Blueway
- €1.2m Water Sports Facility Centre at Acres Lake currently at Construction Stage
- Planning approval received for Hartley Bridge Replacement, project advanced to detailed design and tender preparation stage.

Design Teams have been appointed for the Carrick on Shannon and Leitrim Village Flood relief Schemes. Preferred solutions have been identified and the development of these Scheme are progressing.

- >€1m invested in Minor Flood Relief Schemes through the County
- €1.5m invested in completing unfinished Housing Developments
- Over €5m invested in our Trail Infrastructure through the Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure Scheme

Delivering for our Places

Forward Planning and Development Management

The **draft of the joint Local Area Plan for Carrick-on-Shannon** to include the village of Cortober was published on 14th August 2024. A Local Transport Plan forms part of the joint Local Area Plan. A new dedicated website www.carrickjointplan.ie provided updates of the process. When finalised in Q2 2025, this will complete the full set of statutory land use plans required for the county.

The Planning Authority published draft maps identifying the lands considered within scope of the **Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT)** on February 1st. The final map showing lands that will be liable to the RZLT will be published on 31st January 2025.

Leitrim County Council went live for **E-Planning** on 11th April 2023 whereby planning applications can now be submitted in electronic form. Over 95% of all applications received in 2024 were submitted in this manner.

In 2024, the Planning Department has received 86 no. formal requests for **pre planning advice**, which is a slight increase on the previous year.

Leitrim County Council received 217 no. valid **planning applications** in 2024 (213 no. applications in 2023). There has been a considerable increase in the number of applications seeking to refurbish vacant and derelict dwellings including providing wastewater treatment systems to same as a result of the Croí Cónaithe Scheme.

Planning permission has been granted with respect to 203 no. **applications received** (55 no. seeking retention of planning permission), with permission refused in the case of 10 no. applications (2 no. applications seeking retention of planning permission). Planning permission was granted for 65 no. houses – 25 no. units comprising of small schemes greater than 1 no. dwelling (2 no. Mohill, 4 no. Kinlough, 5 no. Carrick-on-Shannon and Drumshanbo and 9 no. Ballinamore), 22 no. one off houses in the countryside served by individual wastewater treatment systems, 9 no. individual dwellings served by piped water services within or adjoining settlements, 8 no. replacement houses and a community dwelling house in Carrick-on-Shannon. A housing scheme extension in Dromahair providing 34 no. dwellings was granted planning permission but has been appealed to An Bord Pleanála. In addition, Part 8 approval was obtained for 20 no. social housing units by Leitrim County Council in 5 different settlements across the county.

6 no. decisions on planning applications have been appealed to **An Bord Pleanála** in 2024 whilst the Board has decided on 5 no. appeals decisions from Co. Leitrim to date this year along with 4 no. appeals relating to the inclusion of lands for Residential Zoned Land Tax.

The Planning Department have completed 11 no. **Part 8 Public Consultations** over the course of 2024 which included social housing schemes in Manorhamilton, Mohill, Ballinamore and Killyclogher, active travel schemes in Dromahair, Ballinamore and Manorhamilton and flood defence works in Leitrim Village.

With regard to **Enforcement**, the Planning Authority has opened 36 no. new enforcement cases in 2024 (28 no. opened in 2023) with a significant no. of active older cases still live at year end.

Heritage & Biodiversity

Work continues to realise actions contained in the County Leitrim Heritage Plan 2020-2025. The Heritage Officer was approved funding for 2 projects through the Heritage Council funding programme – O'Rourke's of Leitrim Heritage Audit and Interpretation Plan and the Leitrim Heritage Outreach Project. A Creative Ireland funded, O'Rourke's of Leitrim Memory Map Project, has been developed to complement the O'Rourke's of Leitrim Heritage Audit. Five episodes of a new Connecting Through Heritage Podcast Series were recorded. In addition, four new videos have been produced telling the story of Killmakerrill Graveyard in Glenfarne, Glenview Folk Museum and Seán MacDiamáda and his homestead in Killyclogher. Four interpretation displays for Áras an Chontae have been installed to convey the history of the historic site to visitors. The Shared Island Killahurk Ringfort, Co. Leitrim and Tullaghoge Fort, Co. Tyrone project has been completed. This provided an Access, Environmental and Archaeological Assessment of Killahurk Ringfort near Carrigallen.

5 no. biodiversity projects which were all completed in 2024 through the Local Biodiversity Action Fund which included The Hare's Corner, The Leitrim Wetland Survey Phase III and Biodiversity enhancement and actions for pollinators at Áras an Chontae. The Hare's Corner project offered landowners, community groups and schools support to carry out simple but impactful actions for biodiversity. By December 2024, the Hare's Corner project has supported the creation of 149 biodiversity actions: 42 woodlands, 53 orchards, 13 ponds for wildlife, 21 Plans for Water and 20 Plans for Nature which is a wonderful investment in the natural infrastructure of the County.

Funding was approved by the Heritage Council for financial assistance for the development of the Co. Leitrim Biodiversity Action Plan 2025-2030. In September, the Biodiversity Officer had published a Discussion Paper for Biodiversity Action Plan and launched the pre-draft public consultation phase of the project. In-person public consultation events were held in public libraries in Ballinamore, Carrick on Shannon and Manorhamilton during the month of October. A Biodiversity Working Group was established, convened for the first time in June and has met three times in 2024 to develop the Biodiversity Action Plan.

Heritage Week took place from 17th to 25th August with 33 no. events having taken place across Co. Leitrim. Several events were commissioned by the Heritage Officer including the Leitrim Larks Song Tour of Leitrim; Glenview Folk Museum Open Day; The O'Rourke's of Leitrim Webinar; The Mummerys Join Meitheal and Harvest Dance; Prehistoric Pottery Workshop for families; Willow Weaving Workshop; and A Woman's History of Mohill Guided Walk. Biodiversity events arranged by the Biodiversity Officer included online webinars & public walks and talks in Carrick on Shannon, Manorhamilton & Carrigallen.

Successful applications were also assisted through the Built Heritage Investment Scheme, the Historic Structures Fund and Community Monuments Fund.

CLIMATE ACTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

- The **Leitrim Climate Action Plan 2024-2029** was adopted in February 2024 and work has commenced on delivering the actions contained within the plan.
- Under the Community Climate Action Programme (CCAP) a total of €299,964.83 has been allocated to 12 no. community groups across County Leitrim to deliver local climate action projects under Strand 1 of the CCAP.
- A further €618,403.67 has been allocated to 8 no. community groups across Co. Leitrim and their respective partner organisations in Northern Ireland under Strand 1a of the CCAP. The funding awarded to Leitrim represented more than 20% of the total national funding available under Strand 1a of the CCAP.

- **RMCEI Plan:** The Environment Department submitted the 2024 RMCEI Report together with the 2024 RMCEI Planned Target Environmental inspections to the EPA. The RMCEI programme is proceeding on target.
- **National Inspection Program (DWTS):** Leitrim County Council have completed 15 verification inspections, 6 full inspections and 12 follow up inspections under the 2023 programme to date.
- A number of **Environment Awareness and Anti-Litter Campaigns** were delivered throughout 2024. Illegal dumping clean-ups supported as necessary.
- Recycling initiatives such as Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment, Household Bulky Goods, , Christmas Tree recycling were promoted and supported throughout the year.
- In 2024, Leitrim as the **Connacht Ulster Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authority** (WERLA) delivered priority actions in line with Government Policy surrounding waste enforcement.

ARTS AND CREATIVITY

Leitrim County Council's Arts Service underwent significant change over the period of 2019 – 2024. In 2019 within a few short months following the adoption of the previous arts plan, the world changed radically and remained in flux for the following two years. Within the arts, venues and galleries were closed overnight, with loss to the livelihoods of those who work in the arts and to the communities they serve. The services we provide pivoted in response to the crisis and expanded to meet the needs of the sector and the community while our professional development programme, Creative Frame, moved quickly to develop training for artists in the skillsets required to present workshops online and to make and share work in new ways.

The most notable development in this period was the significant increase in the need for arts projects that focussed on community engagement, particularly isolated and vulnerable communities. As our lives returned to normal the impact on wellbeing that participation in creative activities has on people had become much more appreciated by members of the public and by the public bodies that fund them. In 2019 the funding received by Leitrim County Council from Creative Ireland was €115,744. By 2021 it had risen to €193,893 and in 2022 Leitrim County Council received €327,515 to manage a much wider range of community engagement projects including the national award winning “Sweeter the Tune” featuring older artists working with older peoples’ groups and “The Coiffured” Creative Economy project.

Structurally, the Arts Service staff evolved to meet the changing landscape and increased demand. With the support of the Arts Council, we created two new part-time roles specialising in Children & Youth Arts and Professional Development and with the support of Creative Ireland we appointed a Creative Communities Engagement Officer. With these roles now in place the Council's Arts Service has the right expertise to address the council's three principal priorities: Community Engagement - this is how we serve communities in Leitrim; Children and Young People - this is how we make sure children can make, share, and enjoy the arts; and Professional Development - this is how we support the 400+ members of our professional artists network. In addition to these three core priorities, there are also two cross-cutting priorities across all our programmes looking at how we respond to climate change, and how we promote Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion through our work in the arts.

The programmes now managed through the arts service include –

- Creative Frame training, support and networking programme
- Artist bursary, intern and mentoring programmes
- Creative Heartlands Film & Design Development Programme
- Leitrim Youth Theatre
- Wild Words Young Writers Group
- Culture Night
- Festivals Support Programme (including Iron Mountain Literature Festival and Leitrim Dance Festival)
- Supporting Venues
- Spark Residency Programme
- Cruinniú na nÓg
- Creative Communities Programme
- Creative Economy Programme
- Public Art Programme

New Developments: In 2024 Leitrim County Council progressed its plans for the development a new Community and Youth Arts Centre in Carrick on Shannon, which is due for construction in 2025. New projects engaging with an expanding range of communities continue to be developed while existing projects are supported to further grow such as the continued development of the Farm Walks project to include long-term residencies developed between farmers and artists in Fermanagh and Leitrim throughout 2025.

In July 2024 the council adopted a new arts plan. The mission of this plan for 2024–2027 is "to contribute to the social, cultural and economic development of Leitrim by placing the arts at the centre of everything we do." This mission statement endorses the idea that while the creative sector plays a central function in the cultural wellbeing of the county, it also has vast implications socially and economically, the three strands of which are inherently intertwined.

Our Organisation

As an organisation Leitrim County Council continues to adapt and respond to the needs of the communities and people of Leitrim and the challenges that arose throughout 2024 and in this regard, we have continued to deliver our services to the highest possible standards.

Notable achievements delivered through the Facilities, Energy & Assets, Finance, Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Human Resources and Corporate Services functional areas in 2024 include:

FACILITIES, ENERGY AND ASSETS

The Facilities, Energy & Assets Department continue to manage the organisations portfolio of facilities and assets and to respond to the national 2030 and 2050 energy targets as set out in the Climate Action Plan 2021.

Key achievements for 2024 include:

Refurbishment works, Aras an Chontae: The Central Customers Services Unit refurbishment project was substantially complete in 2024 with minor snagging works remaining in 2025.

SEAI Pathfinder Programme: As part of the SEAI Pathfinder Programme a number of council buildings were selected for Energy Upgrade works and the project has progressed to detailed design stage. Mosart Architects were appointed design consultants, and the project is due to go out to Tender in early 2025.

Having completed the ground floor Customer Services Unit works, the first floor of the Aras building is now progressing through the design phase for refurbishment upgrade works. This scope of works is included within the overall SEAI Pathfinder Programme works.

Border Region Energy Unit: As part of the Border Region Energy Unit, Leitrim County Council continue to collaborate with SEAI, Monaghan and Cavan County Councils to pool resources and maximise funding opportunities to reduce energy usage and emissions by 50% by 2030 and improve energy management within the organisation.

FINANCE

- Enhancement of systems and procedures to ensure continued compliance with the Revenue Commissioners
- Introduction of Sales Orders for Income for all Departments of Leitrim County Council
- AFS 2023 prepared, submitted to the Department and the audit completed by the Local Government Auditor in late 2024.
- Budget 2025 was prepared and adopted.
- Revenue collection across the income streams of Commercial Rates, Rents and Housing Loans maintained and improved.
- Continued compliance with Procurement regulations and delivery of a procurement support service to the organisation.

CORPORATE SERVICES

Supporting the Elected Member

- The three Municipal Districts of Ballinamore, Carrick-on-Shannon and Manorhamilton continued to operate in 2024.
- Local Elections were held on Friday 7th June 2024, with the new Council meeting for the first time on Friday 21st June 2024. Some members of the 2019–2024 council retired in advance of the local elections. Six new members were elected for the first time at the June elections. Induction Training was delivered for these new members.
- A new Strategic Policy Committee Scheme was adopted following the Local Elections, with the 4 SPC being established and configured as follows; Social Development SPC, Local Development SPC, Physical Environment SPC, Economic and Enterprise SPC. Nominations were sought and received from elected members and sectoral interests for representatives on the various SPC. Induction training was delivered in November 2024 and all four SPC held their first meeting in December 2024.
- Following consultation and engagement with the public, elected members and staff, a new Corporate Plan for the period 2024 – 2029 was adopted by the members in November 2024. The plan will cover the term of the newly elected council. The Vision statement for Leitrim as set out in the Corporate Plan 2024-2029 is: **“An ambitious, thriving, vibrant, sustainable and connected Leitrim with opportunity for everyone”** The Mission Statement for Leitrim County Council is **“To lead with ambition and deliver dynamic, innovative, sustainable and responsive solutions for all our people and communities, making Leitrim the best place to live, work, do business, and visit”**
- Engagement with the public and promotion of our activities and services continues to grow year on year with the council social media following growing by 11% in 2024 to almost 21,500 followers across Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Linked. Over the 5 term of the Corporate Plan 2019-2024 there has been an 84% growth in social media followers.
- Following extensive refurbishment, a new, bright and inviting Customer Services area and public counter was opened to the public in May. The refurbishment included the provision of customer meeting rooms where customer issues can be discussed in a discreet and private manner away from the public counter.
- Leitrim County Council’s brand image was refreshed through the development and design of a suite of branded template documents, social media templates and logos, which were for deployment across entire organisation in early 2024.
- Leitrim County Council website was rebranded as www.leitrim.ie to incorporate full range of services delivered by Leitrim County Council, with the content on services refreshed and organised in a manner that is consistent with the Live, Invest and Visit themes of the Corporate Plan vision statement.
- A significant volume of works was carried out on the Leitrim Register of Electors in 2024. With three electoral events in the year March : referendum, June: Local Election, November: General Election. As result of these electoral events there were there were 4270 new electors added to the Register, 7734 amendments to existing voters’ details, and 1729 deletions from the register.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

- Implementation of Government 2030 “cloud first” policy which will see the movement of services to more secure, modern and cost-effective cloud based computing. Leitrim County Council ICT are close to selecting a winner for a CRM solution in January 2025. The CRM solution will provide tools and features to enhance efficiency, improve citizen engagement and streamline internal processes.
- Leitrim County Council have improved their Cyber Security posture in 2024. The focus on improving Leitrim County Councils Cyber security posture aligns to the NIS2 directive released in October 2024 as well as the National Cyber Security Framework standards and the National Cyber Security Bill. All Leitrim County Council devices, laptops and phones have been secured using Defender ant virus software.
- MFA Multi Factor Authentication has been rolled out to all devices on the Leitrim County Council Domain.
- A UEM Unified Endpoint Management System has been implemented in Leitrim County Council to manage devices, application security and deployment and policy enforcement across the Leitrim County Council Network.
- A Privileged Access Management System has been procured to handle third party access to Leitrim County Council’s infrastructure.

- Cisco Umbrella has been procured as a cloud security solution to protect the organisation against threats such as malware, phishing, and ransomware. Cisco Umbrella DNS filtering has been introduced as more comprehensive threat detection platform to replace the outdated proxy filtering system within Leitrim County Council.
- Leitrim County Council have upgraded the firewall infrastructure in February 2024 as well as providing a more secure remote working VPN solution Global Protect to facilitate blended working for Leitrim County Council staff.
- A co-funded project managed by the LGMA to introduce SOC/SIEM platform has been completed in 2024. An additional platform SOAR is currently being implemented by Leitrim County Council. SOC is a security Operations Centre has been created to facilitate the monitoring, detection and analysis of cybersecurity threats and incidents 24/7/365. SIEM Security Information and Event Management platform has been implemented to aggregate and analyse security data across the organisations network. This provides central visibility and real time monitoring and advanced analytics to identify and respond to Cyber Threats.
- SOAR Security Orchestration and Automated Response platform is currently being implemented to enable complement the existing SOC/SIEM solution to enable Leitrim County Council to improve security operations by automating repetitive tasks and proved robust automated incident response capabilities.
- Cyber Security Training and Awareness platform – Leitrim County Council have completed one year of Cyber security Training and Awareness for all staff as well as Phishing simulations throughout 2024. Training will continue on this platform in 2025. This platform is also being used to disseminate HR Policies as well as providing GDPR training from our DPO.
- DMARC – Domain Based Message Authentication is currently being implemented in Q1 2025. This is an email authentication protocol designed to protect organisations from email spoofing, Phishing attacks and other malicious email based activities.
- Security Scorecard – Leitrim County Council have aligned to an LGMA lead initiative for all Local Authorities to measure their cyber security posture and that of our third party vendors. It evaluates security performance based on multiple criteria and assigns a score, similar to a credit rating, which helps organisations understand and mitigate risk. Currently Leitrim County Council have a rating of 99 out of 100 giving us an extremely high rating based on the above implementations. This is the highest mark out of all 31 Local Authorities.
- Web site upgrade – Leitrim County Council have published a new website which is the culmination of over years' work with all areas of the organisation involved. <https://www.leitrim.ie/>
- Development of Disaster Recovery & Incident Response Plans, as part of the overall review of the cyber security of our ICT infrastructure. This is ongoing in 2025. As a result of the above improvements not just to Cyber Security but to operational effectiveness, Leitrim County Council have attained IPB Cyber Insurance and will endeavour to attain additional Cyber extortion insurance in 2025 by implementing an immutable backup solution in 2025. These aspects will feed into the organisations Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity Plans.
- SD-WAN – Leitrim County Council have implemented a pilot SD WAN ‘ Software Defined – Wide Area Network’ solution for the Aras an Chontae and Carrick on Shannon Libraries. This successful implementation and cost savings incurred will see the ICT team in Leitrim County Council push this solution to all the organisations sites, Libraries, fire stations, area offices in 2025. This will replace the MPLS ‘Multi Protocol Label Switching’ WAN solution which is dated and not cost efficient.
- A teams telephony solution with associated call queues is now in place
- Open library – Dromahair and Drumshanbo have been furnished with technology to facilitate the concept of an open library where the citizens will have the ability to avail of advanced library services over a broader time range.
- WIFI- The townhall building is also utilising the new WIFI solution using Meraki devices.
- Collaboration Tools -Leitrim County Council is continuing its work in moving to newer collaborative tools for day to day meetings and work activities. Sharepoint, One Drive and Teams training is being provided by the ICT teams where required. This increases the collaboration and know how amongst the staff.

HUMAN RESOURCES

- Uisce Eireann – The ICT team in Leitrim County Council have built a new WIFI network in order help Water Service Leitrim County Council staff transition over to Uisce Eireann. The ICT team have facilitated the secure transfer of Water Services data to UE networks and continue to support Water Services and UE in the transition.
- Blended Working Policy implemented with a total of 155 Staff approved for blended working arrangements across 2024.

- Significant training programme delivered including roll out of Line Management Training and Leadership Training.
- 39 Recruitment Competitions completed in 2024, with a further 9 Competitions live at year end.
- PAS also undertook 6 competitions for senior level posts on our behalf during 2024, with a further 2 competitions being progressed at year end.
- The Council also participated in the national Local Authority Graduate Recruitment Programme in 2024, with 2 of 3 proposed Graduate placements secured.
- A total of 52 new staff recruited to various positions across the organization during 2024, with an additional 14 staff promotions.
- A total of 28 staff left the organization to take up alternative opportunities during 2024, with an additional 8 staff retirements.
- Stable Industrial Relations were maintained during 2024.
- The HSA Work Positive Initiative was rolled out across the organisation in 2024 which will inform the development of a Wellbeing Action Plan.
- Continued engagement with the Employee Assistance Service to provide free and confidential counselling service and supports to staff and their immediate families.

Leitrim County Council has advanced as an organisation in 2024 and continues to transform and develop a customer focused, and creative culture within the organisation. Changing work practises, technological, legislative and compliance change continue to be embraced by both the elected members and staff alike. Throughout 2024 and indeed over the term of the Corporate Plan, Leitrim County Council as an organisation has grown and developed to remain fit for purpose to deliver services for the People, the Places and the Economy of County Leitrim.

Conclusion

The foregoing achievements were made possible through the combined efforts of the Elected Members and staff of this Local Authority and, in collaboration with the numerous voluntary and community organisations with whom the Council interacts. I wish to express my appreciation for their commitment and dedication to the continued delivery of our mission, vision, and goals in 2024. I wish to thank the elected members that retired from the Council in 2024 for their many years of service and commitment to the county. Similarly, I warmly welcome the six members that were newly elected in June 2024. I and the executive look forward to working with all members over the term of this council, and other stakeholders, as we work towards the continued sustainable growth of this county through the delivery of high quality services and working to make Leitrim an ambitious, thriving, vibrant, sustainable and connected place with opportunity for everyone.

Yours sincerely,



Chief Executive

Joseph Gilhooly
Chief Executive

Appendix 5 - National Performance Indicators 2023

H HOUSING		
H1	Social Housing Stock	
H1	A. No. Of Dwellings in the owership of LA at 1st January	1059
H1	B. Number of dwellings constructed (B1) or purchased (B2) during year	40
H1	C. No. of LA dwellings sold in year	5
H1	D. No. of LA dwellings demolished in year	0
H1	E. No. of dwellings in the owership of LA at 31st December	1094
H1	F. No. Of LA owned dwellings planned for demolition under Dept. HPLG approved scheme	0
H2	Housing Voids	
H2	A. Percentage of the total number of LA owned dwellings that were vacant at year end	2.38%
H2	B. The number of dwellings within the overall stock that were not tenanted at year-end.	26
H3	Average Re-letting Time and Cost	
H3	A. Time taken from the date of vacation of dwelling to the date in year when the dwelling is re-tenanted, averaged across all dwellings re-let in year	25.11wk
H3	B. The cost expended on getting the dwellings re-tenanted in year ready for re-letting, averaged across all dwellings re-let in year	€22,426.03
H3	C. The number of dwellings that were re-tenanted on any date in year (but excluding all those that had been vacant due to an estate-wide refurbishment scheme). Date of re-tenanting is the date the keys have been issued to the tenant.	31
H3	D. The number of weeks from the date of vacation to the date the dwelling is re-tenanted. (Date of vacation is the date the keys are handed back)	778.4wk
H3	E. Total expenditure on works necessary to enable re-letting of the dwelling using direct cost calculations (see explanatory notes)	€695,207.08
H4	Housing Maintenance Cost	
H4	A. Expenditure during year on the maintenance of LA Housing from 1 January to 31 Dec, divided by the no. of dwellings in the LA stock at 31st December /12. i.e. Indicator H1E minus Indicator H1F	€1678.73
H4	Expenditure on maintenance of local authority stock compiled from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023, including planned maintenance and expenditure that qualified for grants, such as Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) grants for energy efficient retro-fitting works but excluding expenditure on vacant properties and expenditure under approved major refurbishment schemes (i.e. approved Regeneration or under the Remedial Works Schemes).	€1,836,533.75
H5	Private Rented Sector Inspections	
H5	A. Total number of registered tenancies in the LA area at the end of June 2023	1172
H5	B. Number of rented dwellings inspected in 2023	377
H5	C. % of inspected dwellings in the year that were found not to be compliant with the Standards Regulations	90.71%
H5	D. No. of non-compliant dwellings that became compliant during the year	94
H5	E. The number of inspections (including re-inspections) undertaken by local authorities in the year.	411
H6	Long Term Homeless Adults	
H6	A. Number of adult individuals in emergency accommodation that are long-term (i.e. 6 months or more within the previous year) homeless as a percentage of the total number of homeless adult individuals in emergency accommodation at the end of 2023	46.15%
H6	The number of adult individuals classified as homeless and in emergency accommodation on the night of 31 December 2023 as recorded on the PASS system	13
H6	The number out of those individuals who, on 31/12/2023, had been in emergency accommodation for 6 months continuously, or for 6 months cumulatively within the previous 12 months	6
H7	Housing Retrofit Programme	
H7	A. (1) Total number of houses retrofitted between 01/01/2023 and 31/12/2023 under the Social Housing Retrofit Programme	20
H7	A. (2) Number of houses that achieved a BER rating of B2 or above between 01/01/2023 and 31/12/2023 under the Social Housing Retrofit Programme	19
H7	A. (3) Number of heat pumps installed in those houses between 01/01/2023 and 31/12/2023 under the Social Housing Retrofit Programme	20
H7	B. Total annual energy savings in MWh from houses retrofitted between 01/01/2023 and 31/12/2023 under the Social Housing Retrofit Programme	231.2MWh
H7	C. Total carbon emission reduction tCo2 from houses retrofitted between 01/01/2023 and 31/12/2023 under the Social Housing Retrofit Programme	75.3

Appendix 5 - National Performance Indicators 2023

R ROADS		
R1	Ratings in Pavement Surface Condition Index PSCI (No target set in Annual Service Delivery Plan)	
R1	A. (a) The percentage of Regional roads that received a PSCI rating in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	95.93 %
R1	A. (b) The percentage of Local Primary roads that received a PSCI rating in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	97.62 %
R1	A. (c) The percentage of Local Secondary roads that received a PSCI rating in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	97.50 %
R1	A. (d) The percentage of Local Tertiary roads that received a PSCI rating in the 60 month period prior to 31/12/2023	96.06 %
R1	B. (a.1) The percentage length of Regional roads that received a PSCI rating of 1-4 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	0.21%
R1	B. (a.2) The percentage length of Regional roads that received a PSCI rating of 5-6 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	10.14%
R1	B. (a.3) The percentage length of Regional roads that received a PSCI rating of 7-8 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	33.44%
R1	B. (a.4) The percentage length of Regional roads that received a PSCI rating of 9-10 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	52.14%
R1	B. (b.1) The percentage length of Local Primary roads that received a PSCI rating of 1-4 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	0.25%
R1	B. (b.2) The percentage length of Local Primary roads that received a PSCI rating of 5-6 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	13.58%
R1	B. (b.3) The percentage length of Local Primary roads that received a PSCI rating of 7-8 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	45.00%
R1	B. (b.4) The percentage length of Local Primary roads that received a PSCI rating of 9-10 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	38.79%
R1	B. (c.1) The percentage length of Local Secondary roads that received a PSCI rating of 1-4 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	0.91%
R1	B. (c.2) The percentage length of Local Secondary roads that received a PSCI rating of 5-6 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	24.09%
R1	B. (c.3) The percentage length of Local Secondary roads that received a PSCI rating of 7-8 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	37.54%
R1	B. (c.4) The percentage length of Local Secondary roads that received a PSCI rating of 9-10 in the 24 month period prior to 31/12/2023	34.97%
R1	B. (d.1) The percentage length of Local Tertiary roads that received a PSCI rating of 1-4 in the 60 month period prior to 31/12/2023	11.74%
	B. (d.2) The percentage length of Local Tertiary roads that received a PSCI rating of 5-6 in the 60 month period prior to 31/12/2023	34.43%
R1	B. (d.3) The percentage length of Local Tertiary roads that received a PSCI rating of 7-8 in the 60 month period prior to 31/12/2023	27.04%
R1	B. (d.4) The percentage length of Local Tertiary roads that received a PSCI rating of 9-10 in the 60 month period prior to 31/12/2023	22.84%
R2	Regional Roads Grants Works	
R2	A.1 Kilometres of regional road strengthened during 2023	16.1km
R2	A.2 The amount expended on regional roads strengthening work during 2023	€2242293.00
R2	A.3 The average unit cost of regional road strengthening works per square metre (€/m ²)	€20.65
R2	B.1 Kilometres of regional road resealed during 2023	6.5 km
R2	B.2 The amount expended on regional road resealing work during 2023	€280638.00
R2	B.3 The average unit cost of regional road resealing works per square metre (€/m ²)	€6.52
R2	C.1 Kilometres of local road strengthened during 2023	81.1 km
R2	C.2 The amount expended on local road strengthening work during 2023	€5710621.00
R2	C.3 The average unit cost of local road strengthening works per square metre (€/m ²)	€22.47
R2	D.1 Kilometres of local road resealed during 2023	71.8 km

Appendix 5 - National Performance Indicators 2023

R2	D.2 The amount expended on local road resealing work during 2023	€1398603.00
R2	D.3 The average unit cost of local road resealing works per square metre (€/m2)	€6.39
R3	% of Motor Tax transactions conducted online	
R3	A. The percentage of motor tax transactions which were dealt with online (i.e. transaction is processed and the tax disc is issued) in 2023	80.99 %
W WATER SERVICES		
W1	% of Private Drinking water Schemes in compliance with statutory requirements	
W1	Percentage of drinking water in private schemes in compliance with statutory requirements	97.76 %
W2	% of registered group schemes audited	
W2	The number of registered schemes monitored by each local authority as a percentage of total schemes registered	100 %
W2	How many local authority registered schemes were monitored in 2023	5
W2	Total number of registered schemes in 2023	5
E ENVIRONMENT		
E1	Number of households in an area covered by a licenced operator providing bin service	
E1	A. The number of households which availed of a 3-bin service offered by a licensed operator at 31/12/2023	8870
E1	B. The percentage of households within the local authority that the number at A represents (based on agglomerations of more than 500)	96.58 %
E2	Total number of pollution complaint cases	
E2	A. Total number of pollution cases in respect of which a complaint was made during 2023	289
E2	A. Number of pollution cases closed from 1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023	255
E2	A. Total number of pollution cases on hands at 31/12/2023	63
E2	The opening number of pollution cases carried forward from the year end 2022	29
E3	Litter Pollution	
E3	A1. The percentage of the area within the local authority that when surveyed in 2023 was unpolluted or litter free	2 %
E3	A2. The percentage of the area within the local authority that when surveyed in 2023 was slightly polluted	90 %
E3	A3. The percentage of the area within the local authority that when surveyed in 2023 was moderately polluted	8 %
E3	A4. The percentage of the area within the local authority that when surveyed in 2023 was significantly polluted	0 %
E3	A5. The percentage of the area within the local authority that when surveyed in 2023 was grossly polluted	0 %
E4	% of schools that currently hold and have renewed their green flag status	
E4	A. The percentage of schools that have been awarded/renewed green flag status in the two years to 31 December 2023	20.45 %
E4	Schools which attained a Green Flag for the first time in 2023	0
E4	Schools which renewed their Green Flag in 2023	2
E4	Schools which held a Green Flag from 2022 and therefore do not require renewal until 2024	7
E5	The cumulative % of energy savings achieved by Year End relative to baseline year 2009	
E5	A. The cumulative percentage of energy savings achieved by 31/12/2023 relative to baseline year (2009)	-6.10 %
E6	Public Lighting	
E6	A. Total annual consumption of the public lighting system	1660.30 MWh
E6	B. Average wattage of each public light	88.48 W
E6	C. Percentage of the total system that LED lights represent	52.61 %
E6	Number of LED lights in the public lighting system	2495
E6	Number of non-LED lights in the public lighting system	2247
E7	Climate Change	
E7	1a) Does the local authority have a designated (FTE) Climate Action Coordinator?	Yes
E7	1b) Does the local authority have a designated (FTE) Climate Action Officer?	Yes
E7	2. Does the local authority have a climate action team?	No
P PLANNING		
P1	New Buildings Inspected	
P1	A. Buildings inspected as a percentage of new buildings notified to the local authority	27.13 %
P1	Total number of new buildings notified to the local authority i.e. buildings where a valid Commencement Notice was served in the period 1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023 by a builder or developer on the local authority	129

Appendix 5 - National Performance Indicators 2023

P1	Number of new buildings notified to the local authority in 2023 that were the subject of at least one on-site inspection during 2023 undertaken by the local authority	35
P2	Number of Planning decisions confirmed by An Bord Pleanála	
P2	A. Number of local authority planning decisions which were the subject of an appeal to An Bord Pleanála that were determined by the Board on any date in 2023	6
P2	B. Percentage of the determinations at A which confirmed (either with or without variation of the plan) the decision made by the local authority	33.33 %
P2	Number of determinations confirming the local authority's decision (either with or without variation)	2
P3	% of Planning Enforcement cases closed as resolved	
P3	A. Total number of planning cases referred to or initiated by the local authority in the period 1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023 that were investigated	28
P3	Total number of investigated cases that were closed during 2023	18
P3	Percentage of cases at B that were dismissed as trivial, minor or without foundation or were closed because statute barred or an exempted development	50.0%
P3	Percentage of the cases at B that were resolved to the local authority's satisfaction through negotiations	0%
P3	Percentage of the cases at B that were closed due to enforcement proceedings	50.0%
P3	Total number of planning cases being investigated as at 31/12/23	65
P3	Number of cases at B that were dismissed as trivial, minor or without foundation or were closed because statute barred or an exempted development	9
P3	Number of cases at B that were resolved to the local authority's satisfaction through negotiations	0
P3	Number of cases at B that were closed due to enforcement proceedings	9
P4	Cost per Capita of the Planning Service	
P4	A. The 2023 Annual Financial Statement (AFS) Programme D data divided by the population of the local authority area per the 2022 Census	€44.66
P4	AFS Programme D data consisting of D01 - Forward Planning, D02 - Development Management, D03 - Enforcement (inclusive of the relevant Programme D proportion of the central management charge) for 2023	€157,2004
P5	% of Fire Safety Certificates processed	
P5	A. The percentage of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2023 that were decided (granted or refused) within two months of their receipt	33.33%
P5	B. The percentage of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2023 that were decided (granted or refused) within an extended period agreed with applicant	60.0%
P5	The total number of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2023 that were not withdrawn by the applicant	30
P5	The number of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2023 that were decided (granted or refused) within two months of the date of receipt of the application	10
P5	The number of applications for fire safety certificates received in 2023 that were decided (granted or refused) within an agreed extended time period	18
F FIRE SERVICES		
F1	Cost per Capita of the Fire Service	
F1	A. The Annual Financial Statement (AFS) Programme E expenditure data for 2023 divided by the population of the local authority area per the 2022 Census figures for the population served by the fire authority as per the Risk Based Approach Phase One reports	€73.31
F1	AFS Programme E expenditure data consisting of E11 - Operation of Fire Service and E12 - Fire Prevention for 2023	€2,580,411
F2	Service Mobilisation	
F2	A. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of fire	N/A
F2	B. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of fire	4.58 min
F2	C. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of all other (non-fire) emergency incidents	N/A
F2	D. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of all other (non-fire) emergency incidents	4.52 min
F3	Percentage of Attendances at Scenes	
F3	A. % of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance at the scene is within 10 minutes	27.27%
F3	B. % of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	54.55 %
F3	C. % of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes	18.18 %
F3	D. % of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance at the scene is within 10 minutes	42.06 %
F3	E. % of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	50.79 %
F3	F. % of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes	7.14 %
F3	Total number of call-outs in respect of fires from 1st Jan to 31st Dec inclusive	66

Appendix 5 - National Performance Indicators 2023

F3	Number of these fire cases where first fire tender attendance at the scene is within 10 minutes	18
F3	Number of these fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	36
F3	Number of these fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes	12
F3	Total number of call-outs in respect of all other emergency incidents (i.e. not including fire) from 1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023	126
F3	Number of these non-fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is within 10 minutes	53
F3	Number of these non-fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	64
F3	Number of these non-fire cases in which first fire tender attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes	9
L LIBRARY		
L1	Library Visits and issues	
L1	A. Number of visits to libraries per head of population for the local authority area per the 2022 Census	3.48
L1	B. Number of items issued to library borrowers in the year	103260
L1	C. Library active members per head of population	0.20
L1	Number of registered library members in the year	6908
L1	Number of visits to its libraries from 1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023 per automatic counters if used	122347
L2	Cost of operating a Library service	
L2	A. The Annual Financial Statement (AFS) Programme F data for 2023 divided by the population of the local authority area per the 2022 Census	€49.78
L2	B. The annual per capita expenditure on collections over the period 1/01/2023 to 31/12/2023	€2.05
L2	A. AFS Programme F data consisting of F02 - Operation of Library and Archival Service (inclusive of the relevant proportion of the central management charge for Programme F) for 2023	€1,752,174
L2	B. The annual expenditure on new stock acquired by library in the year	€72,179.34
Y YOUTH AND COMMUNITY		
Y1	Participation in Comhairle na nÓg Scheme	
Y1	A. Percentage of local schools and youth groups involved in the local Youth Council/Comhairle na nÓg scheme	85.71%
Y1	Total number of second level schools in the local authority area at 31/12/2023	7
Y1	Number of second level schools in the LA area from which representatives attended the local Comhairle na nÓg AGM held in 2021	6
Y2	Groups associated with the Public Participation Network	
Y2	A. The number of organisations included in the County Register at 31/12/2023 and the proportion of those organisations that opted to be part of the Social Inclusion College within the PPN	21.34
Y2	Total number of organisations included in the County Register (maintained in accordance with section 128 of the Local Government Act 2001) for the local authority area as at 31/12/2023	389
Y2	Total number of those organisations that registered for the first time in 2023	49
Y2	Number of organisations that opted to join the Social Inclusion Electoral College on whatever date they registered for the PPN	83
C CORPORATE SERVICES		
C1	Total Number of WTEs	
C1	A. The wholetime equivalent staffing number as at 31 December 2023	329.81
C2	Working Days lost to Sickness	
C2	A. Percentage of paid working days lost to sickness absence through medically certified leave in 2023	4.24%
C2	B. Percentage of paid working days lost to sickness absence through self-certified leave in 2023	0.28%
C2	Total number of working days lost to sickness absence through medically certified leave in 2023	3172.16 day
C2	Total number of working days lost to sickness absence through self-certified leave in 2023	208.07 day
C2	Number of unpaid working days lost to sickness absence included within the total of self-certified sick leave days in 2023	0 day

Appendix 5 - National Performance Indicators 2023

C2	Number of unpaid working days lost to sickness absence included within the total of medically certified sick leave days in 2023	0 day
C2	If any staff are on long-term sick leave (i.e. a continuous period of more than 4 weeks), include a text note of the number of staff on long-term sick leave *16 Indoor & 18 outdoor staff had more than 20 day continuous sick leave during the year. The continuous sick leave for these 34 staff totalled 1,911.95 and if these days were not included the percentage sick leave figure would be 1.68%	
C3	Total page views of the LA website	
C3	A. The per capita total page views of the local authority's websites in 2023	1.92
C3	B. The per capita total number of followers at end 2023 of the local authority's social media accounts (if any)	0.55
C3	The cumulative total page views of all websites operated by the local authority for the period from 1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023 obtained from a page tagging on-site web analytics service or equivalent	67600
C3	The total number of social media users who, at 31/12/2023, were following the local authority on any social media sites	19310
C3	The number of social media accounts operated by the local authority	4
C3	Indicate if there was a change to the cookie policies on the local authority sites and the date this came into effect *Change to cookie Policy in October 2022. The figure of 1.92 is correct but down from 2022, due to the manner in which LCC record website views now that we have amended our cookie policy. Policy changed in Oct 2022. The figure for 2022 was driven largely by activity prior to Oct 2022.	
C4	Overall cost of ICT provision per WTE	
C4	A. All ICT expenditure in the period from 1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023, divided by the WTE no.	€3,947.33
C4	Total ICT expenditure in 2023	€1,301,868
C5	Overall Cost of ICT	
C5	A. All ICT expenditure calculated in C4 as a proportion of Revenue expenditure	2.40
C5	Total Revenue expenditure from 1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023 before transfers to or from reserves	54242820
J ENTERPRISE		
J1	Number of Jobs created	
J1	A. The number of jobs created with assistance from the Local Enterprise Office during the period 1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023 per 100,000 of population	73.87
J1	The number of jobs created with assistance from the Local Enterprise Office during the period 1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023 per 100,000 of population	26.0
J2	Trading Online Vouchers	
J2	A. The number of trading online voucher applications approved by the Local Enterprise Office in 2023 per 100,000 of population	34.09
J2	B. The number of trading online vouchers that were drawn down in 2023 per 100,000 of population	14.20
J2	The number of trading online voucher applications approved by the Local Enterprise Office in 2023	12
J2	The number of those trading online vouchers that were drawn down in 2023	5
J3	No of mentoring receipts	
J3	A. The number of participants who received mentoring during the period 1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023 per 100,000 of population	863.66
J3	The number of participants who received mentoring during the period 1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023	304
J4	Tourism	
J4	A. Does the local authority have a current tourism strategy?	Yes
J4	B. Does the local authority have a designated Tourism Officer?	Yes
J5	Economic Development Spend per Capita	
J5	The spend on local economic development by the local authority in 2023 per head of population	€218.99
J5	The spend on local economic development by the local authority in 2023	€7,708,219

Appendix 5 - National Performance Indicators 2023

M FINANCE		
M1	5 Year Summary of Revenue Account Balance	
M1	A. Cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2019 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€-259115
M1	B. Cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2020 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€-256122
M1	C. Cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2021 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€-254609
M1	D. Cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2022 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€-250581
M1	E. Cumulative surplus/deficit balance at 31/12/2023 in the Revenue Account from the Income & Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€-251966
M1	F. Cumulative surplus or deficit at 31/12/2023 as a percentage of Total Income in 2023 from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	-0.46 %
M1	G. Revenue expenditure per capita in 2023	€1541.03
M1	H. Revenue expenditure per capita in 2023 excluding significant out of county/shared service expenditure	
M1	The 2023 Total Income figure from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€54689947
M1	The 2023 Total Expenditure figure from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the AFS	€54242820
M1	The 2023 Revenue expenditure excluding county/shared service expenditure for the service providers of HAP, MyPay, DRHE and Dublin Fire Services and is only applicable to Dublin City, Laois and Limerick	
M2	5 Year Summary of % collection levels for major revenue success	
M2	A. (a) Collection level of Rates in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2019	83.0%
M2	A. (b) Collection level of Rent & Annuities in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2019	90.0%
M2	A. (c) Collection level of Housing Loans in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2019	65.0%
M2	B. (a) Collection level of Rates in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2020	72.0%
M2	B. (b) Collection level of Rent & Annuities in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2020	91.0%
M2	B. c) Collection level of Housing Loans in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2020	70.0%
M2	C. a) Collection level of Rates in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2021	72.0%
M2	C. b) Collection level of Rent & Annuities in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2021	95.0%
M2	C. c) Collection level of Housing Loans in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2021	75.0%
M2	D. a) Collection level of Rates in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2022	79.0%
M2	D. b) Collection level of Rent & Annuities in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2022	97.0%
M2	D. c) Collection level of Housing Loans in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2022	81.0%
M2	E. a) Collection level of Rates in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2023	77%
M2	E. b) Collection level of Rent & Annuities in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2023	98%
M2	E. c) Collection level of Housing Loans in Appendix 7 of the AFS for 2023	84%
M2	E. d) Collection level of HAP SCC for 2023	
M3	Public Liability	
M3	A. Per capita total cost of settled claims for 2023	€5.69
M3	IPB Insurance: Number of notified claims for 2023	16
M3	IPB Insurance: Number of settled claims for 2023	11
M3	IPB Insurance: Total cost of settled claims for 2023	€200347.50
M3	Total cost of claims settled under excess for 2023	€0

Appendix 5 - National Performance Indicators 2023

M3	Self-insured: Number of notified claims for 2023	0
M3	Self-insured: Number of settled claims for 2023	0
M3	Self-insured: Total cost of settled claims for 2023	€0
M4	Overheads	
M4	A. Overall central management charge as a percentage of total expenditure on revenue account	15.75%
M4	B. Total payroll costs as a percentage of revenue expenditure	42.28%
M4	Overall central management charge from the Local Authority FMS and defined in the Annual Budget	€8542449
M4	Total payroll costs from Appendix 1 of the AFS for 2023 (including Salaries, Wages and Pensions)	€22934399

Appendix 6 - Local Performance Indicators 2023

	HOUSING & BUILDING	
LOC 1	Number of units upgraded under Improvement Works Programme	
LOC 1	No. of units upgraded under improvement works	94
LOC 2	New tenancies created from 1st January to 31st December	
LOC 2	New LA tenancies created from 1st January to 31st December	77
LOC 2	New Leasing tenancies created from 1 st Jan to 31 st December (all lease types)	5
LOC 2	New HAP tenancies created from 1 st January to 31 st December	35
LOC 3	Number of private Housing Adaptation Grants Paid	
LOC 3	Number of private Housing Grants Paid	120
LOC 3	Turnaround time from receiving approval to issuing approval	19
LOC 3	Turnaround time from paying grant to submitting recoupment claim	4 weeks
LOC 3	Number of Disabled Persons Grants (DPG) delivered	24
LOC 4	% achievement Traveller Accommodation Programme targets	
LOC 4	% Achievement on TAP 2019-2024	36 no units/144%
LOC 5	Social Housing Supports	
LOC 8	A. No. of social housing support applications received	226
	B. Turnaround time from receiving a valid application to issuing assessment decision	12 weeks
LOC 6	Homeless Presentations	
LOC 6	A. Total no. of presentations made to Leitrim County Council	43
LOC 6	B. No. of homeless presentation supported by temp accommodation	17
LOC 6	C. No. of homeless presentations supported to source alternative	14
	PLANNING	
LOC 7	No. of formal pre planning enquiries and average waiting time	90 enquiries, 20 days average
	ENVIRONMENT	
LOC 8	% of schools participating in environmental campaigns(Green Schools)	
	% of schools participating in Green Schools	
	YOUTH & RECREATION	
LOC 9	Participation in sport (Leitrim Sports Partnership Events/Activities)	
LOC 9	Participation in sport (Leitrim Sports Partnership Events/Activities)	11,158
LOC 10	Usage of School Infrastructure	
LOC 10	No. of visitors to local authority facilitated leisure facilities per 1,000 population directly provided by the LA	202,044
LOC 10	No of children's playgrounds per 1,000 population directly provided by the LA	0.63
LOC 11	Number participating in Arts Activities	
LOC 11	No. participating in Arts Activities	12,743
	FINANCE	
LOC 12	% Suppliers paid within 15 days	
LOC 12	% Suppliers paid withing 15 days	90.47%
	ENTERPRISE	
LOC 13	Number of start-ups through LEO/local services	
LOC 13A	Number of start-ups through LEO/local services	2
LOC 13B	Number of grants approved (LEO)	8
LOC 14	Number of participants on Start your Own Business Courses	
LOC 14	Number of participants on Start your Own Business Courses	116
LOC 15	Business Vacancy Rate	
LOC 15	Business Vacancy Rate	16.90%

Appendix 6 - Local Performance Indicators 2023

	TOURISM	
LOC 16	Number of page visits to Tourism Website	
LOC 16	Number of page visits to Tourism Website	381,326
LOC 16	No. of facebook likes	19,045
LOC 16	No. of Twitter likes	4322
LOC 17	Number of visitors at specific points	
LOC 17	Glencar Waterfall	70,288
LOC 17	Costello Chapel	15,026
LOC 17	Lime Kiln	1,119
LOC 17	St. Mary's Church Carrick-on-Shannon (Bridge St. Carrick-on-Shannon)	150,778
LOC 17	AIB Main St. Manorhamilton	57,000
LOC 17	Tullaghan Coastal Park	15,667
LOC 17	Fowley's Fall	1,151
LOC 17	Leitrim Way Tullyshehenry	845
LOC 17	SNLCR Trail Dromahaire	14,556
LOC 17	Lough Rinn Amenity	14,214
LOC 17	Carrick on Shannon to Main Street from town centre	129,272
LOC 17	Derrycarne Woods	9,234
LOC 17	Mohill, Beilz Cafe, Lower Main Street	57,440
LOC 17	Ballinamore Greenway	5,974
LOC 17	Glenade Lake (vehicle counter)	5,707



Comhairle Chontae Liatroma Leitrim County Council



An tUdarás Náisiúnta
Forbartha Turasóireachta
National Tourism
Development Authority

Ireland's Hidden
HEARTLANDS