Leitrim County Council

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACTS
2000-2015

PART XI

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001-2015

PART VIII

REGISTER REFERENCE NUMBER 15-C-02

PROPOSED BLUEWAY TRAIL FROM LOCK 16 KILLARCAN TO LOCK 9 KILCLARE
Introduction and Background to Project

Leitrim County Council in partnership with Waterways Ireland is proposing the development of a Blueway Trail from Lock 16 Killarcan (Leitrim Village) to Lock 9 Kilclare along the Leitrim – Ballinamore Canal.

Waterways Ireland is the navigation authority for the Shannon-Erne Waterway. Along the banks of the canalised river and canal sections of the Shannon-Erne Waterway, Waterways Ireland owns and maintains a 2m strip on one side and a 7m strip on the opposite side.

Lock 16 at Killarcan is 0.5Km east of Leitrim Village whilst Lock 9 Kilclare is approximately 5km east of Leitrim Village accessed off the R209 regional road to Ballinamore. Currently a walkway exists between Killarcan and Kilclare. The majority of this walkway is along the route of the old towpath and it also crosses a number of local and regional roads. The existing surface is mainly a maintained grassed surface with some short sections of unbound dust surface where poor ground conditions existed.

The proposal the subject of the current Part 8 application is to develop a 4.9km section of Blueway Trail between Lock 9 and Lock 16 which can cater for walkers and cyclists. This would involve constructing a 4m wide compacted stone unbound dust surface along most of the route and this would narrow at particular locations to suit the local environment. This proposal would also involve a number of necessary road crossing over the local and regional road network.

The multi-recreational-use path will up-grade access alongside the canal, using existing towpaths on the south side of the canal, and using existing verge on the north side of the canal when necessary. The current surfaces of the towpaths largely comprise extents of grass. The verge on the north side includes extents of stone-and-grit. The upgrade works will create a more uniform surface along the route way. The works will excavate the existing surface tracks to depths not exceeding 50mm, which will create the foundation for the new 4m-wide surface. A geotextile membrane will be laid at the base of the excavation, and a granular compacted clay will be placed on top of the membrane. A choice of two finished surfaces will be laid on top of the compacted clay, depending on the particular requirements of the location. Over much of the footpath the finished surface will be a compacted limestone dust. In places where firmer grip is required, the surface will be a 60mm sheet of macadam. The soils removed from the surface excavations will be used where possible to form a low safety bund between the path and the canal. Where required, a land drain will be sunk on the other edge of the footpath, to assist with surface run-off.

A new bridge structure would be required at Lock 12 Lisconnor to span the existing Lock to facilitate the passage of users of the recreational trail. This is the only new structure which is proposed and will comprise of a 2.5m wide prefabricated bridge manufactured from steel and clad in timber. The bridge will be positioned as close as possible to the existing masonry arch bridge.

The unbound dust surface will provide vehicular access, for Waterways Ireland approved vehicles only, to carry out various maintenance tasks, e.g. maintaining walkway, cutting grass/hedges, maintaining boundary fencing, carrying out bank repairs, providing better pedestrian access for anglers.

It is indicated in the Part 8 application documentation that local business and tourist stakeholders in the area such as Electric Bike Trails and Leitrim Village Development Ltd have sought for this walkway to be improved and extended further to enhance the overall tourist potential of the area.
Appendix 1 - 11th January 2016 Council Meeting

Killarcan to Kilclare Blueway Trail

There is no additional car parking facilities proposed to be provided. It is envisaged that the existing car parking facilities adjacent to Lock 9 Kilclare, Lock 12 Lisconnor, Lock 13 Newbrook and Lock 16 Killarcan which are in the ownership of Waterways Ireland will be sufficient.

There is no proposal to provide any additional public lighting due to the rural location of the proposed development.

It is proposed to provide a Blueway information sign off Chapel Lane, Leitrim at the start of the Blueway heading east, another at Lock 16 Killarcan, another at Crosscarwill Bridge, Newbrook Lock and the final information sign is at the end of the Blueway moving east at the existing roadside lay-by at Kilclare.

In overall terms, the canal corridor offers a flat alignment which is ideal for recreational walkers and cyclists and can be readily developed as a Blueway trail. The location and details of the project accompany the Part 8 application drawings.

Landownership
With the exception of an area east of Lock 14 Drumduff, all of the lands required to develop the project are in the control of Leitrim County Council or Waterways Ireland. Waterways Ireland have indicated that the landowner in question (Mr. and Mrs. James Gilmartin) have given their verbal agreement to the principle of the proposed development. The areas of land in separate ownership are clearly outlined in the Part 8 application (Drawing Title Right of Way Acquisition refers). Should this Part 8 application be successful, Leitrim County Council and / or Waterways Ireland Property and Legal Section will enter into negotiations with the landowners to agree the required Right of Way necessary to facilitate the development.

Public Consultation Process
The project was formally advertised for public consultation between Wednesday 30th September 2015 and Wednesday 11th November 2015. Details of the project were available for inspection during normal office hours at the office of the Planning Authority and also on the Council website. The closing date for submissions was Wednesday 25th November 2015.

Planning Policy Context

National Policy
Smarter Travel, A Sustainable Transport Future, (2009) is the transport policy for Ireland for the period 2009-2020. It recognises the vital importance of continued investment in transport to ensure an efficient economy and continued social development, but also promotes more sustainable transport modes such as walking, cycling and public transport.

The National Cycle Policy Framework (as part of Smarter Travel – A Sustainable Transport Future 2009) sets out a national policy for cycling, in order to create a stronger cycling culture, a friendlier environment for cycling and improved quality of life. The vision is that all cities, towns and rural areas will be bicycle friendly. The policy document sets a target of 10% of all trips by bicycle by 2020 and places emphasis on promoting and integrating cycle networks.

Leitrim County Development Plan 2015 – 2021
Leitrim County Council has a number of policies and objectives set out in our County Development Plan which supports the proposed development. Policy 1 states that it is the policy of the Council to deliver a County Tourism Strategy which will, inter alia, forge strategic and operational partnerships
in tourism planning, marketing and promotion with surrounding Counties in the North West and Northern Ireland. One of the stated projects is the Shannon Blueway.

Section 3.6.1 of the County Development Plan deals with Sustainable Transportation. The policies and objectives contained therein are guided by the national policy document "Smarter Travel, A Sustainable Transport Future, (2009)" which is referred to above. The promotion of initiatives that can reduce congestion, improve local environments and encourage healthier and safer lifestyles are key features of sustainable transportation. Leitrim County Council seeks to influence people’s travel behaviour towards more sustainable options and seeks to do so by working closely with relevant organisations in improving public transport facilities and promoting opportunities for alternative transportation such as walking and cycling.

Leitrim County Council recognises the importance of walking to the well being and quality of life of residents. It will support and encourage the continued development of walking as a sustainable form of transportation and will work with organisations and groups in the promotion of safe walking throughout the county, including heritage walks and the protection of public rights of way, which are an important amenity and tourism resource.

**Policy 44**

It is the policy of the Council to support the National Policy document "Smarter Travel, A Sustainable Transport Future, (2009)" and implement, where feasible, guidance provided within the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets or any updated version of the document issued within the lifetime of the Plan.

In accordance with the principles of sustainable development, the basis of the Council’s transportation policies will include the encouragement of walking and cycling as a recreational activity and a healthy exercise.

Section 3.6.3 of the County Development Plan deals specifically with Walking and Cycling. A number of long distance walking and cycling tourist routes have been laid out and signposted throughout the County. The Council will facilitate the maintenance of existing routes and further expansion of these networks in co-operation with local community groups and the Regional Tourism Authority. These routes will be appropriately signposted so as to facilitate tourists and warn motorists.

**Objective 29**

It is an objective of the Council to seek opportunities for the development of suitable walking routes, cycle tracks and bridle paths along redundant railway lines and other suitable locations such as; along waterways and historical access routes.

Section 3.10.2 of the County Development Plan deals with the Provision for Recreation and Amenity. The Council is aware that the tourism potential of its amenities has not yet been fully developed and will facilitate, and where necessary become directly involved in, the promotion and development of amenities. One of the stated examples is the work of Waterways Ireland in extending and promoting the Shannon Navigation, Lough Allen and the Shannon-Erne waterway.

Section 3.10.4 of the County Development Plan deals with Inland Waterways. The Plan acknowledges that waterways represent one of the most important and defining characteristics of the southern part of County Leitrim and are considered to be of international importance in terms of their heritage, recreational, economic and environmental value. In the interests of the people of Leitrim, this Council will continue to co-operate with Waterways Ireland and other relevant agencies in developing a range of tourism and commercial facilities associated with the Waterways.
It is also envisaged that the development of the Waterways will be integrated with the development of the towns and villages in the vicinity. Improved connectivity is considered vital to spreading and fully harnessing the economic and social benefits of the waterways. Integrated development linking ‘Blueways’, ‘Greenways’, ‘Cycleways’, ‘Walkways’ and ‘Bridleways’ will be supported in conjunction with other agencies, as resources allow. It is acknowledged that the development and maintenance of fishing infrastructure along Leitrim’s waterways is considered a vital component in attracting tourists to the area. Opportunities to enhance the existing waterways infrastructure in order to facilitate recreational and tourist offerings will be facilitated where appropriate and where gaps exist. The Council will operate strict planning control measures along waterway corridors (through the development management regime) in order to protect the amenities of the Waterways and avoid inappropriate development, which might detrimentally restrict the continued and future development of this vital and major resource.

**Submissions**

**Prescribed Bodies**
The application was referred to the following

1. The Arts Council / An Chomhairle Ealaíon;
2. An Taisce;
3. FÁilte Ireland;
4. The Heritage Council;
5. Development Applications unit – Referred to both the National Archaeological Service and to the Architectural Heritage Service, and;

**Submission from Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht**
Despite not being referred specifically to the National Parks and Wildlife Service, a very detailed submission has been received in relation to the proposed development.

In summary, the principal points raised relate to the following:

The canal corridor, including their wetlands, drains and ditches are noted for EU Annexes species, otter and kingfisher. The corridor habitats are host to many breeding birds in the breeding season where the vegetative cover provides both nesting sites and foraging grounds for food sources. Further, the wetland corridor east of Leitrim village is the location for a scarce species of moth, Marsh Pug, *Eupithecia pygmaea* which is of conservation importance. The moth requires suitable habitat which hosts its food plant (mouse ear) which is recorded along the route corridor. Frequent mowing, trampling, tidying up, ‘manicuring’, over or mismanagement, backfilling of sites with waste or grass mowing, eutrophication or enrichment along with spraying / herbicide usage, etc. would be detrimental to habitat, moth and its larva, both in the breeding and overwintering stages.

Also found in the general Leitrim village area where suitable habitat occurs is the scarce moth species, narrow-bordered Five-spot Burnet, *Zygaena lonicerae spp insularis*. It is indicated that at least 2 sites are recorded near Leitrim Village and suitable habitat for small populations may occur along the proposed Blueway corridor.

It is indicated that loss of habitat for either moth arising from the proposed development would not be desirable. It is further recommended that deposition of soil, waste or construction materials along, in or on the linear habitats should be prevented, restricted and highlighted to working crews. In-filling to shore up or construct pathways should avoid Marsh Pug and the Burnet moth habitats or be restricted in extent.
In relation to disturbance to fauna during the construction stage, the submission indicates that any displacement of birds should not occur during the breeding season as birds would have taken up and be defending their suitable habitats at this time.

It is noted that the design of the Blueway may go some way to restrict or deter trampling and disturbance although dogs running loose can lead to further wildlife disturbance. Littering has also the effect of attracting in corvids (the crow family of birds) and scavengers to the route where additional impacts on breeding wildlife can occur.

The submission notes the lack of reference to management of the corridor post construction. There are concerns stated in relation to herbicide usage along with frequent mowing and inappropriate management has the potential to damage or destroy unimproved, undisturbed habitats along the route. There is also the potential arising from the development to increase focus and attention adjoining the Blueway corridor for improvement and development, whether requiring planning permission or not. 2 incidences of this occurring are noted including one which was / is known for the Marsh Pug moth.

The submission concludes by stating that there “are no objections to the proposed Blueway from a nature conservation perspective but recommendations for protection and safeguards for the above species and habitats are highly desirable”.

Response
The detailed submission from the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht is welcomed and both partners to this project are committed to ensure that the construction, operation and maintenance of the Blueway trail will not adversely impact upon the receiving environment and habitats. The general support towards the development is noted. It is considered that the inclusion of appropriate conditions can adequately deal with the relevant concerns raised in this submission.

The submission received was forwarded to Waterway Ireland’s Environmental Officer (Mr. Cormac McCarthy). A discussion has taken place between the National Parks and Wildlife Ranger who compiled the submission and Waterway Ireland’s Environmental Officer. It would appear many of the sites of conservation concern mentioned in the submission are outside of the property owned by Waterway’s Ireland and not therefore affected by the proposed development. Both parties did agree to incorporate the suggested environmental requirements section into the tender pack (if outsourced) outlining key issues such as vegetation clearance timeframes, biosecurity protocols and protection of water quality.

Internal Submissions
The application was referred to the following:

1. South Leitrim District Engineer;
2. Road Design, and;
3. Access Officer.

Report from Access Officer
The Access Officer has no stated objections to the proposed development. All works should be carried out so as to cater for the needs of all persons and should comply with the guidance contained in Building for Everyone – Book 1 as published by the National Disability Authority. Details as to seating, signage and gates should be submitted to the Planning Authority for agreement prior to works commencing.
Response
The report of the Access Officer is noted.

Submissions from the General Public
No submission was received during the stated consultation period.

Appropriate Assessment
NATURA 2000 sites are protected habitats for flora and fauna of European importance. They comprise Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), designated under the Habitats Directive and Special Protection Areas (SPAs), designated under the Birds Directive. The National Parks and Wildlife Service database was reviewed to determine if the route could have any impact on Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas, Natural Heritage Sites or proposed Natural Heritage Areas. The nearest NATURA 2000 site is Cuilcagh – Anerin Uplands SAC (Site Code 00584) located 7.8km distant.

An Appropriate Assessment Screening Report has been prepared by Waterways Ireland Environment Section and reviews this site in more detail. The Planning Authority is satisfied that the Appropriate Assessment Screening Report is comprehensive and robust in its assessment.

The Appropriate Assessment Screening Report concludes that the project will have no significant effect on any Natura 2000 sites. The project does not require to be progressed through to Stage II Appropriate Assessment under the Habitats Directive.

Ecological Impact Assessment
An Ecological Survey and Habitat Mapping of the proposed Blueway trail have also been prepared by McCarthy Keville O’Sullivan Planning & Environmental Consultants.

Whilst the canal corridor is highly modified, it has naturalised to a large degree allowing the development of semi natural habitats. Some of these habitats are of higher ecological value than others and in need of greater protection. The habitat example of Dry Calcareous and neutral grassland, located to the west of Lock 13 containing Common Spotted orchid was classified as an Ecologically Sensitive Area owing to its uniqueness along the canal corridor. An area of Wet Willow alder ash Woodland is located within the assumed working corridor and is similarly classified as an Ecologically Sensitive Area owing to its uniqueness along the canal corridor. There is an existing paved footpath surrounding the woodland and construction works will be limited to this area and there shall be no disturbance to the woodland.

The potential impacts arising from the construction and operation of the project (construction phase, hydrocarbon usage, disturbance to fauna during the works stage, pollution of watercourses, spread of invasive species and operational phase) are outlined in detail followed by best practice and mitigation measures. Overall recommendations during constructions works are also provided.

Guided by the submission from the department of the Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, I am satisfied that the proposed development will not adversely impact upon the receiving environment subject to compliance with the suggested mitigation measures outlined in the submitted Ecological Survey and Habitat Mapping report.

Archaeological Assessment
An archaeological assessment of the proposed development has been carried out by The Archaeological Diving Company Ltd. The assessment consisted of field inspection along the full
Appendix 1 - 11th January 2016 Council Meeting

Killarcan to Kilclare Blueway Trail

Part VIII Planning Report

length of the proposed Blueway upgrade and confirmed the presence of known architectural features but did not identify any previously undetected features. The assessment indicates that there will be impacts at 4 known sites of architectural / industrial heritage interest. These comprise of three towpaths and one bridge. The impacts arising from the proposed development are direct but considered small in scale. There is one location where the proposed works will run close to the remnant of a former watermill at Kilclare. The proposed works will avoid any direct impact on the mill structure by establishing an exclusion zone of 5 metres from the standing remains. The erection of fencing during construction will ensure that the mill structure is protected against any and all impacts arising from the constructional stage of the proposed development.

Road Crossings

A number of road crossings are proposed as part of the proposed Blueway development.

Road Crossing No. 1 – Lock 15 Tirmactierann – the trail joins a local county road (L3901) for a distance of approximately 50 metres before continuing the existing avenue adjoining the lock.

Road Crossing No. 2 – Crossycarwill Bridge - the trail crosses a local road (would not appear to be a public road) and continues of the opposite side of the canal.

Road Crossing No. 3 - Lock 14 Drumduff – the trail crosses a local road (would not appear to be a public road) and continues of the opposite side of the canal.

Road Crossing No. 4 – Lock 13 Newbrook - the trail crosses the R209 regional road from an existing car park entrance on the southern side to an existing rural laneway opposite.

Road Crossing No. 5 – Lock 12 Lisconnor – A clear span bridge 2.5 metres wide will span from one side of the lock to the other adjoining the existing road bridge and the trail will then cross the R209 regional road.

Road Crossing No. 6 – Lock 10 Kilclare Middle – the trail will cross over the bridge (would not appear to be a public road) requiring a section of the existing stone wall to be removed.

No Road Safety Audit has been undertaken and accompanies the Part 8 application. The purpose of a Road Safety Audit is to assess the associated works in relation to the provision of the Blueway trail and in particular the road crossings in the extent of the works for the proposed scheme.

Detail is provided for each of the stated road crossings in terms of signage for motorists on the road and users of the trail, provision of barriers on approach (as per Figure 7.11 of the NRA TD 300-14), provision of bonded material and regarding where necessary on the approach to road junctions from either side and where the cycle / pedestrian path shares road space, the pathway is to be clearly defined by contrasting colour treatment. Where the pathway crosses an existing road, cyclists must dismount.

As the proposed development seeks primarily the upgrading of an existing trail to include for cyclist use and making the trail more weather independent, no new road crossings are being proposed. However, the proposed upgrade will result in increased usage of the facility and by another mode, namely cyclists. I consider that all stages of a Road Safety Audit should be undertaken as part of this development and that an appropriate condition be included.

Planning Assessment

This report has outlined the principal relevant provisions of the County Development Plan 2015-2021 as applicable to the consideration of this application. The conclusion of this assessment is that...
the County Development Plan fully supports the development of the Blueway Trail as provided for in Policy No.1 contained therein. Furthermore, the proposed development seeks to upgrade an existing trail which has already been upgraded along certain sections to provide for cyclist use. Leitrim County Council therefore supports the principle of the proposed development which accords with the stated policy framework contained in the County Development Plan.

The conclusion of the Appropriate Assessment Screening Report (Habitats Directive) is that the proposed development of the Blueway Trail will have no significant adverse impacts upon the qualifying interests of any NATURA 2000 site. As such the project can be screened out under the Habitats Directive as not requiring a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment.

A detailed and comprehensive Ecological Impact Assessment has been prepared. The stated potential impacts arising from the construction and operation stages of the project have been outlined and a series of mitigation measures have been proposed to minimise the potential of such impacts. The residual impacts which are likely to occur are also outlined. It is not considered on balance that the proposed development, subject to strict compliance with the proposed mitigation measures included in the Ecological Survey and Habitat Mapping report and with the necessary mitigation measures outlined in the submission from the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht being adhered to and implemented, the development will result in an adverse impact on the receiving environment.

Similarly, a detailed archaeological impact assessment of the proposed development has been undertaken which indicates that the proposed development will not impact upon the considerable built industrial heritage or archaeology of the canal system.

From a residential amenity viewpoint, there is only 1 existing residence which has an interface with the proposed Blueway trail. This property fronts onto the R209 and has been provided with a pedestrian access onto the proposed Blueway trail. It is not considered that any loss of private amenity will occur arising from the development as the proposal seeks the upgrading of an existing trail which has effectively been provided at this location.

It is considered that the detailed design of the trail adjoining existing locks shall be submitted for the written agreement of the Planning Authority. Whilst accepting that the existing trail is operational, I would voice some concern of the potential for falling into the deep locks along the trail including falls from cyclists. It is unclear from the detail submitted what safety measures will be proposed in this regard. A condition requiring the submission of a detailed design of the Blueway trail adjoining the locks to deal with this issue shall be recommended. It is further considered that the inclusion of safety barriers along the lock walls would be an unwelcomed intervention.

A visual impression of the proposed 2.5 metre wide bridge affixed to the existing structure would have been welcomed. Nonetheless, it is considered that the addition of the bridge will not detract from the structure itself noting that it is not a Protected Structure or included in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage. There is only 1 Protected Structure included within the Part 8 consultation boundary – Canal Lock 16 Killarcan (ref. 30902709). The proposed development will not impact on the existing lock.

It is noted that there is extensive flooding at present at the beginning of the proposed Blueway trail at Killarcan as far as the approach to Lock 15 Tirmactiernan. I was unable to inspect this element of the trail (approximately 750 metres) due to the flooding conditions which have prevailed for the past month. The existing access road and car park facility will remain unchanged arising from the proposed development. It is considered that the development of a Blueway trail is a water
compatible development whilst acknowledging that the facility will not be available for use during flood conditions.

It is considered that the proposed development has been robustly assessed in terms of its design and its potential impact on the receiving environment. The Planning Authority are of the opinion that the proposed development will benefit residents and visitors alike in this locality in terms of the provision of a safe and segregated pedestrian and cyclist facility. The proposed development has the potential to become a significant attraction in its own right and will provide a further boost to the tourism offer in the South Leitrim area of the County.

**Conclusion and Recommendation**

The Planning Department are satisfied that the principle of the proposed development adheres to the provisions of the statutory County Development Plan 2015-2021. The Planning Authority is equally satisfied that the proposed works will not adversely impact upon the local receiving environment or on the integrity or character of the predominantly rural area through which the development will pass. The Planning Department is therefore satisfied that the development would accord with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

It is considered that the level of detail shown on this application is adequate for planning consent purposes. Subject to this Part 8 application having being approved, the project will move to the next stage, namely the detailed design stage which must take cognisance of the findings and recommendations of the Ecological Survey and Habitat Mapping Assessment, archaeological assessment and recommendations of the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. Other matters such as the carrying out of the required stages of a Road Safety Audit, restriction of use of the facility to pedal cycles and pedestrians and the possible restriction of animals such as dogs using the facility can be considered in due course.

Section 179(3) of the Planning and Development Acts, 2000-2015, requires the preparation of a report by the Chief Executive of the Local Authority following the placing of the proposed Part VIII application on public display. This report shall culminate in a recommendation “whether or not the proposed development should be proceeded with as proposed, or as varied or modified as recommended in the report or should not be proceeded with, as the case may be”. 
It is recommended that the proposed development be proceeded with as proposed subject to the inclusion of the attached recommended conditions.

1. The development shall be executed in accordance with plans, particulars, details and specifications lodged as part of the Part 8 Consultation documentation, save, as is herein under otherwise required.

2. All excavated / demolition material shall be disposed of in a proper and environmentally friendly manner. Where appropriate, i.e. if works are being undertaken by an outside contractor, licenses for these works shall be obtained prior to commencement. Details of and locations of landfill or sites to be utilised for the disposition of demolition debris and/or excavated material, shall be submitted to and agreed in writing, with the Planning Department, following consultation with the Environment Department of Leitrim County Council.

3. The proposed development shall be subject to the carrying out of all stages of a Road Safety Audit in accordance with the requirements of the NRA document Design Manual for Roads and Bridges. All stages of the Road Safety Audit shall be submitted to the Planning Authority and the recommendations contained therein implemented in full.

4. The development shall comply with the requirements of the South Leitrim District Engineer and the Road Design Engineer as may arise on site, and in particular in relation to the following:
   a. all haul roads used for construction (plant and materials), shall be agreed with the South Leitrim District Engineers office;
   b. A programme of financial provision for the repair of any damage caused to the road network, by the haulage of plant or materials, should be set out in advance of any works occurring;
   c. A programme for appropriate road signage and any reduced speed limits shall be worked through with the District Engineers Office.

5. The mitigation measures outlined in the "Ecological Survey & Habitat Mapping: Shannon Erne Waterway Ecological Assessment Proposed Blueway Lock 16 Kilarcan to Kicare" which accompanied the Part 8 Consultation documentation shall be implemented in full. An environmental requirements section shall be included in any tender pack (if outsourced) outlining issues raised in the submission from the Department of Arts, Heritage & the Gaeltacht such as vegetation clearance timeframes, biosecurity protocols and protections of water quality. Prior to the commencement of development, a Method Statement outlining compliance with the requirements of this condition shall be submitted to the Planning Authority and the written agreement of the Planning Authority received to the contents of same. In the event that the overall project is developed in phases, the Method Statement applicable to each phase shall be submitted in advance of works on each phase occurring and the requirements of this condition satisfied.

6. A detailed design of the trail adjoining existing locks shall be submitted for the written agreement of the Planning Authority and the written agreement of the Planning Authority received to the contents of same in advance of works commencing. The detailed design shall provide safety measures in relation to reducing the risk of users falling into the deep locks along the trail. The inclusion of safety barriers along the lock walls would be considered an
unwelcomed intervention which would interfere with the considerable built heritage of the canal system.

7. All works shall be carried out so as to cater for the needs of all persons and should comply with the guidance contained in *Building for Everyone – Book 1* as published by the National Disability Authority.

8. Details of all seating, signage and gates shall be submitted to the Planning Authority for their written agreement prior to such works commencing.

Bernard Greene  
Senior Planner

Joseph Gilhooly  
Director of Services,  
Planning, Community and Economic Development

Frank Curran  
Chief Executive
Appendix I Photographs of Proposed Blueway Trail
Figure 1: Typical condition of existing walkway adjoining Lock 10 Kilclare Middle

Figure 2: Typical condition of existing walkway between Lock 11 Kilclare Lower and Lock 12 Lisconnor

Figure 3: Existing Car park adjoining Lock 13 Newbrook
Figure 4: Approaching Lock 13 Newbrook from Lock 12 Lisconnor

Figure 5: Typical section of existing pathway west of Crossycarwill Bridge

Figure 6: Flooding evident at entrance to Lock 16 Killarcan, Leitrim Village
Figure 7: Existing pedestrian bridge at Lock 15 Tirmactiernan

Figure 8: Typical section of existing walkway – east of Lock 15 Tirmactiernan

Figure 9: Existing signage of Canal Bank Walk and warning sign of road crossing
Figure 10: Existing boundary fencing with pedestrian entrance from adjoining dwelling

Figure 11: Example of amenity of existing walkway – sluice adjoining Lock 14 Drumduff
Figure 12: Typical example of existing surface to trail south of lock 12 Lisconnor
6th January 2016

To: Cathaoirleach
& Each Member of Leitrim County Council

Re: Making of Integrated Local Economic and Community Plan 2016 – 2022

Dear Member,

The Local Government Reform Act 2014 requires each Local Authority to put in place a Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP). The Community Element of the Plan was prepared by the LCDC while the preparation of the Economic Element was the responsibility of the Economic SPC. To assist in ensuring consistency between both elements, thereby delivering an integrated LECP, an advisory group was established drawn primarily from both Committees.

A thorough public consultation process was undertaken at the outset of the preparation of the plan and in accordance with the requirements of the legislation each Municipal District was consulted on the draft plan and each District adopted a statement confirming that the plan as drafted was consistent with the core strategy and objectives of the Leitrim County Development Plan 2015 – 2021. The Plan has also been reviewed by the Northern and Western Regional Assembly who have also confirmed that the plan is consistent with the Regional Planning Guidelines.

The Plan is for six year duration and is set in the context of a growing, well located, asset-rich County with good community and entrepreneurial spirit but of small scale and dispersed population. The Plan contains a strategic theme of ‘Leading Leitrim’ through a clearly understood positive identity and aiming to achieve balanced population growth and securing national and regional development advice and supports.

In regard to Economic Development, the plan sets out six sustainable Economic Objectives each supported by actions / targets. The Objectives focus on themes of
Leitrim and its Region, Job Creation and Business Growth, Infrastructure, Towns and Villages and Sectoral Economic Development across Energy Supply and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food, Services, Manufacturing and ICT, Creative, Arts and Culture, Tourism and a theme that focuses specifically on Women in Business

The Community Elements of the Plan is based on a Life Cycle approach and encompasses themes of Living and Well Being, Learning and Training, Working and Growing, Inclusion and Welcoming. Within the themes, sustainable community objectives have been developed in regard to safe, healthy and attractive place for all to live, adaption to climate change, sustaining and developing the robust community activity, lifelong learning, up-skilling and social enterprises and improving the capacity and opportunities for target groups.

In order to assist with the implementation process, the ‘Leitrim Dashboard’ was developed consisting of strategic indicators and targets. The Plan also contains proofing mechanisms across five key areas and an identified series of implementers/enablers to work with the Council in implementing the Plan. A number of actions have already been put in place contributing to the implementation of the Plan in areas such as Promotion of the County through website www.leitrim.ie and DVD’s/Short Films, sectoral area activity through the Upper Shannon Erne, Into Economy Program, securing projects through REDZ funding and Rates Incentivised Scheme.

In conclusion, having completed the statutory steps for the LECP, I recommend its adoption by the Council.

Signed: 

Frank Curran,
Chief Executive
& Chair LCDC
Final Draft Local Economic and Community Plan
Images of Leitrim Economic and Community

Leitrim, A Vibrant County with Big Ambition ... where our communities are safe and healthy, our resources and heritage are sustained and our economy is thriving
Contents

1. Introduction

2. The Plan’s Contexts and Processes

   • Introduction
   • Local Government Reform and Local Community Development Committees (LCDCs)
   • Local Economic and Community Plans (LECPs)
     o Economic Elements of the Plan
     o Community Elements of the Plan
   • The Planning Process
   • The Economic Element: Reflecting the Local Government reform Act, 2014
     o Steps in Preparing the Economic Elements of the Plan
   • Steps in Preparing the Community Elements of the Plan
     o The Community Elements Consultation Process
   • Presenting the LECP
   • Explaining the Terminology
   • Consistency with Other Plans and Strategies
   • Regional Planning Guidelines 2010-2022
   • Bringing Life to Europe 2020
   • Reflecting the Leitrim County Development Plan 2015-2021
   • Signing Off the LECP

3. County Profile and Analyses

   • The Leitrim County Profile
   • Review of Plans, Strategies and Analyses
   • Leitrim’s Cross-Border Dimensions
   • The Leitrim PESTLE Analysis
   • The Leitrim SWOT Analysis

4. The Format of the Leitrim LECP

   • Introduction
   • Core Working Principles
   • LECP Themes
     o Leading Leitrim
     o Economic Themes
     o Community Themes
   • LECP Goals
     o Strategic Goal
     o Economic Goals
     o Community Goals
• LECP Objectives
  o Strategic Objectives (SOs)
  o Sustainable Economic Development Objectives (SEDOs)
  o Sustainable Community Objectives (SCO)
• The Leitrim LECP Logical Model
• Key Implementers/Enablers

5. Leading Leitrim

• Leading Leitrim: A Strategic, Overarching Theme
  o Strategic Theme 1: Leading Leitrim

6. The Economic Element of the LECP

• Introduction
• The Economic Development Role of Leitrim County Council
• The Economic Elements of the Leitrim LECP
  o Economic Theme 1: Leitrim and its Region
  o Economic Theme 2: Job Creation and Business Growth
  o Economic Theme 3: Infrastructure
  o Economic Theme 4: Towns and Villages
  o Economic Theme 5: Sectoral Economic Development
    ▪ A: Energy Supply and the Green Economy
    ▪ B: Agriculture and Food
    ▪ C: Services, Manufacturing and ICT
    ▪ D: Creative, Arts and Culture
    ▪ E: Tourism
  o Economic Theme 6: Women in Business

7. The Community Element of the LECP

• Background and Rationale
• A Life Cycle Approach
• Key Implementers/Enablers
• The Community Goals Set for Leitrim
• The Community Elements of the Leitrim LECP
  o Community Theme 1: Living and Well-Being
  o Community Theme 2: Learning and Training
  o Community Theme 3: Working and Growing
  o Community Theme 4: Inclusive and Welcoming

8. Strategic and Implementation Issues

• The ‘Leitrim Dash-Board’: Strategic Indicators and Targets
• An Integrated Approach to Implementation
• Implementing the Themes
• Implementing the Plan
• The LECP Target Groups
• Proofing

Appendices

I: The Contributions of Key Implementers/Enablers
II: Sample of Local Authority Partnership Projects
III: Statement of Consistency with the Objectives and Core Strategy of the Leitrim County Development Plan 2015-2021
1. Introduction

We are pleased to introduce you to Leitrim’s first Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP).

The Plan is part of recent and ongoing reforms of Local Government that have been happening both in Leitrim and across Ireland. The LECP process is about joining up our approaches to Economic and Community development at the local level. It’s equally about making sure that we draw up strong, evidence-based assessments of our local Economic and Community needs and aspirations and that we then put in place tangible actions that will address those needs and realise those aspirations.

For more than a year now many people across Leitrim have made major contributions to our LECP. Several hundred people have been involved in the consultation and planning processes whilst others in the County Council and the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) have worked tirelessly to make sure we have a Plan that’s worthy of our County and the people and communities in it. We are indebted to everybody who has helped with this important process.

Whilst a Plan is something, implementation is everything and we now move on to that vital stage. All our work will ultimately be judged on the basis of what we all jointly achieve for Leitrim.

Both the Council and the LCDC are ready for the journey ahead. We hope you will travel with us on that journey to a better Leitrim.

In the meantime we commend this Leitrim LECP to you.

Chairpersons LCDC and Leitrim County Council

Cllr. John McCartin
Cathaoirleach
Leitrim County Council

Frank Curran
Chairperson
Leitrim LCDC
2. The Plan’s Contexts and Processes

Introduction

This Section sets out the legislative and policy contexts for the Plan and the planning processes adopted in Leitrim.

Local Government Reform and Local Community Development Committees (LCDCs)

The Local Government Reform Act 2014 requires each Local Authority to put in place a Local Community Development Committee (LCDC). LCDCs are made up of members of the Local Authority, Local Authority staff and representatives of public bodies delivering services locally as well as local community interests and local development bodies. The majority of an LCDC’s members must be from the non-statutory sector.

The LCDC’s main function is to prepare, implement and monitor the Community elements of a six-year Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) for its Local Authority area. Whilst it does not have a role in deciding on the Economic elements of the LECP, the LCDC must also consider those elements so that they can be better coordinated with the Community elements and the LECP can, as a result, stand as an integrated whole.

The LCDC also has a general role in seeking to ensure effectiveness, consistency, co-ordination and avoidance of duplication between the various elements of Local Authority activities in the community.

Leitrim was chosen by the Government in 2013 as one of ten national ‘Frontrunners’ (or pilots) for the establishment of an LCDC.

Local Economic and Community Plans (LECPs)

Local Economic and Community Plans (LECPs) will help achieve a number of Government priorities over their six-year time period by:

- Building on Councils’ existing economic and community development work
- Improving local coordination and joint-working and linking clearly with other local, regional, national and EU priorities, policies and strategies
- Enhancing local involvement and inputs and being clear, succinct, evidence-based and action-focused

The Plans’ two strands, the Economic and Community, are brought together in an integrated way because many development issues straddle the Economic and
Community perspectives. The Council’s Economic Development and Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) prepares the Economic elements of the LECP whilst the LCDC, as set out above, prepares the Community elements.

LECPs must be consistent with the local Development Plans made by the elected members and also with the regional spatial and economic strategies. The LECP must also be considered by the Municipal District members and be approved by the Council.

The Economic Elements of the Plan

Government Guidance (Source: DECLG Guidelines, January 2015) sets out that the Economic part of the LECP is likely to include a focus via a number of Sustainable Economic Development Objectives (SEDOs) on:

- Attracting substantial investment and new enterprise whilst sustaining/expanding existing enterprise and improving the quality and diversity of employment
- Economic transformation/regeneration of urban centres and strengthening the economic fabric of smaller towns/villages and their capacity to advance rural economic regeneration
- Community/local development programmes and micro-enterprise support
- Aspects of relevant national, regional, sub-regional and city/county level plans and strategies.

The Community Elements of the Plan

The Community elements of the LECP should simultaneously be built around a number of Sustainable Community Objectives (SCOs) aimed at enhancing the quality of life and well-being of communities in a manner consistent with the overall regional and local planning frameworks. Underpinning Actions here are likely to address:

- Education, training and skills development and the creation of sustainable employment and self-employment opportunities
- Developing social, economic and physical infrastructure to tackle social exclusion, poverty and disadvantage and enhancing the capacity of communities to improve their well-being
- Developing synergies between supports for children and young people
- Promoting the general welfare of communities and supporting active citizenship

The Planning Process

Government’s Guidelines (Source: DECLG Guidelines, January 2015) suggest the following generic planning process:
The planning process should include:

- The development of a strong evidence base to underpin all aspects of the Plan
- Appraisal of existing plans and strategies at the local, regional, national and EU levels, ranging across the spatial, social and economic spheres
- Robust assessment feeding into SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) and PESTLE (Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Legal and Environmental) analyses

That process should identify the key strategic issues facing the area and from these derive a series of Goals, Objectives and Priorities/Actions. The Priorities/Actions should in turn:

- Address specific issues/target groups/areas
- Identify the results/outcomes they aim to achieve
- Deliver value for money and avoid duplication

The Economic and Community Elements of the Leitrim LECP were prepared in tandem but initially involved different consultation processes.

The Economic Element: Reflecting the Local Government Reform Act, 2014

The Local Government Act, 2014 sets out the areas to be covered in broad terms under the Economic and Community elements of the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP). These are useful in setting the scene but then need to be tailored to individual Council areas. The legislation sets out that the promotion of economic development includes but is not limited to:

- Creating and sustaining jobs
- Promoting the interests of the community
- Identifying local attributes essential to enhancing local economic performance
- Supporting enhancement of local innovation capacity, investment in R&D, technology transfer, up-skilling and re-skilling
- Identifying, for existing and prospective businesses, opportunities to engage with local government regarding setting up and managing their businesses and to ensure speedy and coordinated access and response
• Identifying ways of maintaining and augmenting local strengths and opportunities, and ways of addressing or rectifying weaknesses and deficiencies relevant to economic performance
• Identifying economic potential and the requirements to realise it.

The Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government (DECLG) set out six action areas where it sees Local Authorities contributing to economic development. Those six areas are:

1. Formulating the LECP (and advising on the Economic components of its Community elements)
2. Promoting economic development through general Local Authority powers and functions
3. Operating Local Enterprise Offices (LEOs), which have replaced the former County Enterprise Boards
4. Carrying out certain economic components of the community/local development plan
5. Action Plan for Jobs and Labour Market Activation
6. Specific action to promote increased economic activity in line with regional priorities, including:
   • Business stakeholder engagement
   • Working closely with other economic development agencies
   • Identifying local factors which can contribute to economic development
   • Working in tandem with wider economic initiatives
   • Promoting integrated urban development
   • Engaging with education and research institutes

The DECLG issued Guidance in January 2015 on the preparation of the Economic elements of the LECP and outlined the following likely economic objectives and actions:

1. Attracting substantial investment and new enterprise
2. Sustaining/expanding existing enterprise
3. Improving the quality and diversity of employment
4. Strengthening the economic fabric of smaller towns/villages
5. Community/local development programmes and micro-enterprise support
6. Aspects of relevant national, regional, sub-regional and city/county level plans and strategies

Plan Actions meanwhile are likely to include:

• Promotion of competitiveness and a favourable business environment, including regulation and efficient public services
• Development of strong ‘place-related’ economic activities
• Enhancement of the area’s physical, social, environmental, or cultural character and quality
• Using “mainstream” local authority functions to help underpin economic activity generally
• Measures, including those emerging from the report of the Commission for the Economic Development of Rural Areas (CEDRA), to address rural issues
• Measures to attract national and EU investment in the delivery of the strategy
• Support for shifts towards low-carbon and climate resilient economic activity
Steps in Preparing the Economic Elements of the Plan

The Economic element of the Leitrim Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) was prepared as follows:

- The process was publically advertised and submissions sought from individuals, groups and sectors
- Based on desk research and work carried out under the Upper Shannon Erne Future Economy Initiative (USEFE – see the LECP’s accompanying Review of Relevant Plans and Strategies), a series of focus groups ranging across the various key were carried out as follows:
  - Renewable Energy
  - Agriculture and Food
  - Services and Manufacturing
  - Town Centre Development
  - Creative Sector
  - Female Entrepreneurship
  - Training and Education
- The findings of the recently-completed strategy for tourism development in the County (which also took cognizance of the recently-produced Recreational Strategy for the County) were used to formulate the tourism sector section
- A High Level Framework Plan was developed internally based on the initial focus groups and follow-up focus groups were then facilitated in Autumn 2014
- Preparation of a broadly-based County Profile and the mapping of existing services: this was a shared exercise with the Community element of the LECP
- Proofing of drafts/content against the County Development Plan and with relevant regional policies and plans
- The High Level Framework Plan was presented for discussion to a High Level Advisory Group, comprising Leitrim people now working elsewhere as well as people with significant business interests in Leitrim
- The high level objectives and actions were then presented to the LCDC in February 2015 for comment and comments were taken on board in completing the draft plan
- The detailed plan including Sustainable Economic Development Objectives (SEDOs), Goals, Targets, Actions, Enablers and a timeframe was approved by the County Council’s Economic and Enterprise SPC in May 2015.

Steps in Preparing the Community Elements of the Plan

Meanwhile the Community elements were progressed as follows:
• Identification and development of themes with the LCDC and an LCDC Advisory Group formed to oversee further development of the Community elements of the LECP and provide role in combining both elements as the elements were progressed
• Preparation of a broadly-based County Profile and the mapping of existing services: this was a shared exercise with the Economic element of the LECP
• Review of a series of relevant local, regional and national plans and strategies
• Publically-advertised consultations at Municipal District levels and further consultations/discussions/workshops held with key stakeholders
• High Level Framework Objectives developed with the LCDC and expanded into the draft Community element of the LECP
• Draft then proofed against the County Development Plan and with relevant regional agencies

The Community Elements Consultation Process

The Leitrim LECP planning process was supported by a wide-ranging consultation process. The key elements of this process were as follows:

• The process publically advertised and submissions sought from individuals, groups and sectors
• LCDC/LECP Advisory Group workshops were held on 2 April, 16 June, 21 July, 11 August and 11 December 2014 and on 7 January, 12 February, 15 May, 24 June and 16 September 2015
• Facilitated discussions at public consultation workshops held on 10 (Carrick-on-Shannon), 14 (Manorhamilton) and 16 April 2014 (Ballinamore)
• Focus group/stakeholder meetings held in Aras an Chontae on 15 May, 10 June, and 21 and 24 July 2014
• Three stakeholder consultation events held on 16 (Community), 17 (Health and Well-Being) and 24 (Training/Education, Employment, Tourism and Agriculture) September 2014
• A number of individual and one-to-one consultations were held with a range of organisations
• Presentations to the Interagency Traveller Support Group (15 July 2015), the Joint Policing Committee, the Council’s Housing, Social and Cultural SPC (1 September 2015) and the Public Participation Network/PPN (21 September) in the Summer/Autumn of 2015

A screening process was carried out concurrently with the plan preparation and a preliminary Appropriate Assessment Screening Report and a preliminary Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Report were prepared and issued to the Statutory Authorities for comments or observations. was also sent to the relevant consultation with the relevant Statutory Bodies. The Memorandum on the submissions received is attached as an appendix to the LECP.
Taking the LECP Community Elements Planning Process Forward in Leitrim

Section 6 below sets out the Economic elements of the Leitrim LECP whilst Section 7 sets out the Community elements.

Presenting the Integrated LECP

During the Summer/Autumn of 2015 the full final draft LECP was presented for further comment as follows:

- A copy was placed on the Council website during the month of August and public comments sought. Hard copies were made available in libraries throughout the county.
- Presentations were made to the Council (14 September) and to the Council’s three Municipal Districts, Carrick-on-Shannon (14 September), Manorhamilton (21 September) and Ballinamore (29 September).

Explaining the Terminology

As a result of the processes set out above, the LECP set out further details of the high level issues which emerged and the Sustainable Economic Development Objectives (SEDOs), Sustainable Community Objectives (SCOs), Goals, Targets, Actions, Enablers which were identified to address them.
Explaining the Terminology

Consistency with Other Plans and Strategies

LECPs are not stand-alone documents but have to be consistent with other relevant existing plans, strategies, policies and guidelines. These include:

- The relevant Regional Planning Guidelines 2010-2022
- The Local Authority County Development Plan
- Relevant local, regional and national sectoral plans and strategies
- Current Government economic development policy
- EU plans and policies (and particularly Europe 2020)

The analyses of these documents are presented in a separate stand-alone document which accompanies the Leitrim LECP. They are also summarised in
Section 3 below. Above all they inform the content of the LECP, providing a robust evidence base for it.

Regional Planning Guidelines 2010-2022

The Regional Planning Guidelines aim to help provide sustainable communities for citizens in Regions across Ireland (in this instance Leitrim, Cavan, Donegal, Louth, Monaghan and Sligo). The key Leitrim-relevant components of the Guidelines are:

- Carrick-on-Shannon is seen as a key strategic urban centre whilst small rural settlements with less than 1,500 persons are to be protected and supported as local neighbourhood service centres. This balanced development model will lead to a 2022 County Leitrim population of 35,700.
- ‘Home grown’ businesses and farming underpin the economy whilst education and employment-driven emigration are a long-standing feature. Areas of growth potential include Agri-Food, Internationally Traded Services, Renewable Energy and Environmental Products and Services, Life Sciences and Tourism. Other significantly important sectors are seen to be Natural Resource sector, Creative sector, Caring sector and Retail Sector. Quality of life is seen as a key influencer.
- Areas of focus re infrastructure include sustainable transport, water services, energy, telecommunications and waste management
- Environment and amenity issues involve looking at increased flood risk, natural heritage, landscape, water, built heritage, amenities and recreation and coastal management
- A balanced sustainable environment catering for growth will include the most necessary social infrastructure of health care, education and training, community development, leisure facilities and cultural facilities.

The LECP objectives and actions complement the content of the Guidelines.

Bringing Life to Europe 2020

Europe 2020 is the EU’s growth strategy for the coming decade and is built around the three reinforcing priorities of becoming a smart, inclusive and sustainable economy. The strategy’s five key objectives focus on:

- Employment
- Innovation
- Climate/Energy
- Education
- Social inclusion

Key targets have been set for Ireland for each objective (Source: National Reform Programme, Ireland April 2014) as follows (further detail re their implications for Leitrim are set out in Appendix I):

- Target 1: 69% of the population aged 20-64 should be employed
- Target 2: 2% of combined public and private GDP should be invested in R&D
• Target 3: Reduce emissions by 20%, increase the share of renewables in final energy consumption to 16% and move towards a 20% increase in energy efficiency
• Target 4: Reduce to 8% the 18-24 year olds not progressing beyond lower secondary education and increase to at least 60% the 30-34 year-olds with Third Level education
• Target 5: Reduce to 4% by 2016 and to 2% by 2020 the numbers experiencing consistent poverty

The core thrusts of Europe 2020 are factored into the Leitrim LECP in the following sections. The Table below summarises how the various LECP themes help take forward the Europe 2020 targets:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Europe 2020 Target</th>
<th>LECP Themes:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Economic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. 69% of 20-64 year-olds employed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. 2% of GDP invested in R&amp;D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Emissions/renewables/energy consumption</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Educational performance improved</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Reduction in consistent poverty</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

E1: Leitrim and its Region  
E2: Job Creation and Business Growth  
E3: Towns and Villages  
E4: Sectoral Development  
E5: Women in Business  
C1: Living and Well-Being  
C2: Learning and Training  
C3: Working and Growing  
C4: Inclusion

Reflecting the Leitrim County Development Plan 2015-2021

Departmental LECP Guidelines emphasise the need to reflect the context set by the Local Authority County Development Plan. The strategic development framework put forward in the Leitrim County Development Plan 2015-2021 (adopted by the Council on 12 January 2015) can be summarised as follows:

• Encourage the further development of the County’s designated Tier 1 (Carrick-on-Shannon), Tier 2A (Manorhamilton and Ballinamore) and Tier 2B (Dromahair, Drumshanbo, Mohill and Kinlough) settlements
• Reinforce the commercial viability and attractiveness of the County’s other towns and villages
• Provide for rural accommodation
• Protect important wildlife habitats
• Enhance the distinctive character of Leitrim’s landscapes and protect Leitrim’s archaeological and architectural heritages
• Improve national, regional and local roads
• Secure community benefits through planning agreements and development charges
• Promote Public Private Partnerships
• Support Community-based development initiatives
• Support Cross-Border projects

The County Development Plan makes it clear (page 217) that in individual area plans, land will be identified for employment purposes and in particular will be safeguarded for the establishment of quality sites for high technology, manufacturing, research and/or prestige offices.

The LECP Themes below and their underpinning objectives and actions all complement the core thrusts of the County Development Plan. If a review of the County Development Plan is carried out at any time during the lifetime of the LECP, then the LECP will in turn be reviewed to ensure its ongoing complementarity with the County Development Plan.

Signing Off the LECP

The LECP has been signed off by Leitrim County Council as being consistent with the objectives and core strategy of the Leitrim County Development Plan 2015-2021. It has also been signed off by the Council’s Economic and Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee (in terms of the Community Elements being consistent with the Economic Elements) and by the LCDC (in terms of the Economic Elements being consistent with the Community Elements). The various statements involved are attached as Appendix III.
3. County Profile and Analyses

The Leitrim County Profile

A separate County Profile was prepared to inform and provide an evidence base for the development of both the Economic and the Community elements of the Plan. Because of its size and scale it sits as a stand-alone document which accompanies the LECP. Its key findings (the sources of which are all referenced in the Profile document) are summarised below.

Leitrim: The ‘Lie of the Land’
Leitrim: The Place and Its Story

- Leitrim is Ireland’s seventh smallest County by area and enjoys a strategic geographic location within Ireland, bordered by Counties Sligo, Roscommon, Longford and Cavan and sharing a 29km land border with Fermanagh in NI
- It has significant areas of marginal land
- North Leitrim is largely upland and has large areas of public forests
- South Leitrim is more low-lying
- High quality water, trees/forests and uplands provide the County with outstanding natural assets
- The County enjoys a strategic geographic location within Ireland, including its 29km land border with NI
- Leitrim is a place of established history, culture and tradition which continue to make a rich contribution to daily living in the County
- The County also enjoys a strong industrial archaeology
- Crucially, Leitrim is now a place of growing population after a decline set in place by the Great Famine: it fell from 155,297 in 1841 to 25,799 in 2002 but has since risen dramatically to 31,798 in 2011.

Leitrim: The People

- Leitrim’s population is growing, and on a consistent basis across the County: it increased by almost 10% to 31,798 between 2006 and 2011 and is projected to grow by a further 8% by 2022
- Leitrim is a rural County with very low population densities but rural population growth has contributed to the County’s overall growth
- Most 2006-2011 growth has been urban-based, ie Dromod (+106%), Leitrim Village (+88%), Dromahair (+49%), Kinlough (+47%), Drumshanbo (+29%), Carrick on Shannon (+28%), Carrigallen (+27%), Manorhamilton (+15%) and Ballinamore (+10%).
- The County’s population is healthy demographically with 23% of its total population aged Under 15 compared with the national average of 21%
- It also has significant numbers of older people – and particularly of older rural men - living alone: older, retired people can have higher disposable incomes
- Leitrim’s 15-64 age group, the ‘economically productive’ age group, is however proportionately small
- High numbers of people go into Third Level education but have to leave the County to do so
- Significant in-migration has been experienced, particularly from the UK and Poland
- Women are increasingly economically active in Leitrim
- The County has a significant Traveller population who face many social and economic difficulties.

Leitrim: What People Do

- Leitrim has a strong private sector economy which is dominated by micro-businesses but which also includes a number of major employers
- Entrepreneurship is strong with Leitrim’s self-employed income per head being higher than the rest of the country, even during the 2007-2011 crisis years
- Levels of home working are low and 70% of jobs are in Carrick on Shannon, Manorhamilton, Ballinamore, Mohill, Dromahair and Kinlough
In 2011 of Leitrim’s 8,042 (fixed location) jobs, 5,548 (69%) were held by people living in Leitrim and 2,494 (31%) by people commuting into Leitrim. Meanwhile 40% of Leitrim people in work (3,771) commuted out of the County: 70% of these people live in rural Leitrim. Sligo, Longford, Cavan, Roscommon and Donegal dominate Leitrim’s inward and outward commuting. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is important, accounting for 11.5% of jobs in 2011 compared with just under 8% in the State. The Leitrim figure has subsequently dropped sharply whilst the State has started to recover. More of Leitrim’s outbound commuters are aged 20-44 and have higher levels of educational attainment than the State averages. In 2011 disposable incomes per household in Leitrim were 5-10% below the State average. In 2011, 48% of over 15s in Leitrim were at work, compared with 50% for the State overall. Other returns included (State figures in brackets) 12.2% (11.7%) were unemployed or looking for first job, 9.2% (11.3%) were students, 9.4% (9.4%) were looking after home/family, 15.7% (12.7%) were retired and 4.9% (4.4%) were unable to work due to permanent sickness or disability.

Some 6,650 people are engaged in farming, almost all on their own family farm. The past decade has seen a very dramatic increase in public sector jobs, which provide a vital anchor to the local economy. Health and social care is now the County’s biggest sectoral employer and therefore makes a very significant contribution to the local economy. Construction businesses remain significant numerically but many construction people are now out of work. Long-term unemployment is a growing issue.

Leitrim: Education and Training

Leitrim is ‘joint top’ within Ireland in terms of the numbers of students attending Third Level in 2012/2013. However Third Level educational attainment overall is relatively low in Leitrim due to (a) many members of its older population never having progressed beyond Primary and (b) many of those people who had to leave Leitrim for Third Level education not subsequently returning. In 2011, the low educational attainment level in Leitrim was 24% compared to just under 21% for the State. Leitrim has significantly lower numbers of people in the Higher Professional category at 5.5% compared to the State at 18.6%. The proportion in the Employers and Managers category meanwhile is significantly higher in Leitrim at 26.2% compared to the State average of 15.4%. Leitrim also has a higher proportion of people in the Semi-Skilled and Skilled socio-economic categories than the State overall while numbers in the Manual Skilled and Unskilled categories were broadly similar to the State averages.

Leitrim: The Community and Its Services

Leitrim is a County of housing owner-occupiers, half of whom are mortgage-free. One-house-in-three is vacant. Culture, arts and sports are important parts of local life. Nearly nine people out of every ten believe their health status is Good/Very Good. The County experiences significant mental health-related issues. Recorded crime rates in Leitrim are well below the national averages. Significant numbers of people provide unpaid care to others in Leitrim.
The County’s educational performance is close to the national average but significant numbers of people did not go beyond Primary education (though this is increasingly, but not solely, a ‘legacy issue’)
A structured hierarchy of settlements is in place.

Leitrim: Retailing Trends

Sales in retail have fallen sharply, declining by 30% since their peak in 2008: the largest declines have been in in furniture and lighting (-55%), motor trades (-50%), hardware (-39%) and electrical goods (-38%)
Online retailing is becoming more popular and is creating significant challenges for local retailers: meanwhile niche, alternative or indigenous products unique to the Irish market can also prove desirable on the global market
Farmers markets, like those in Carrick-on-Shannon and Manorhamilton offer high quality local products as alternatives to those on the supermarket shelf
With rising vacancy rates, there has been an increase in ‘Pop-up’ shops
Households in Leitrim spend an estimated €9.04m per week on retail commodities: this does not include what they spend outside Leitrim nor what visitors to Leitrim spend in the County
The estimated expenditure breakdown re major commodities in 2010 was: Transport 31%, Housing 18%, Food 16% and Miscellaneous Goods 14%
Planning Applications for retail overall have fallen and most retail development proposals relate to change of use of existing retail premises to retail-related services such as restaurants, cafes and betting shops and to residential uses
Most retail-related Planning Applications are submitted for Carrick-on-Shannon, Manorhamilton, Mohill and Ballinamore.

Leitrim: The Infrastructure

Leitrim is traversed by three main arterial routes, the N4 (Dublin/Sligo), N16 (Sligo/Enniskillen) and N15 (Sligo/Donegal) and has 56km of National Primary Routes and 336km of regional and local roads.
Upgrades to the N4 (Carrick-on-Shannon to Dromod, including the Carrick-on-Shannon by-pass) and N16 (Glenfarne to Manorhamilton, including the Manorhamilton by-pass) routes have been identified within the County Development Plan 2015-2021
The Plan also prioritises the R280, running along the back-bone of the County and connecting the N4 and N16 routes, for upgrading to National Secondary Route standard
The railway line from Dublin to Sligo runs along the Southwest boundary of the County: stations at Carrick-on-Shannon and Dromod provide 72 connections per week
Three airports serve the majority of Leitrim business, Knock/Ireland West (50 minutes distant), Dublin (2 hours) and Belfast (3 hours)
The Shannon-Erne waterway runs from the North East of the County to the South West, with Carrick-on-Shannon its ‘navigational capital’
There is limited public transport and community transport is now carried out through the Regional Transport Units
Community transport (delivered by Local Link Sligo/Leitrim/Roscommon) connects 36 different locations within and beyond Leitrim via 80 weekly services carrying some 30,000 passengers pa
Broadband is available for high speed heavy use industry through the Metropolitan Area Networks (MANS) in Carrick-on-Shannon and Manorhamilton:
whilst Broadband is available in most parts of the County there are major issues in terms of its type, speed and quality

- There is a Water and Waste Water Management infrastructure capacity to meet the needs of significant new investment into the main centres in the County
- Investment via the North and South Leitrim Regional Water Supply Schemes, Water Conservation Stages 1, 2 and 3, the Kinlough/Tullaghan Water Supply Scheme and the waste water treatment plants for Carrick-on-Shannon, Ballinamore, Carrigallen, Dromod, Drumshanbo, Leitrim Village, Manorhamilton and Mohill have been identified within the County Development Plan 2015-2021
- Leitrim’s housing stock increased by nearly 19% between 2006 and 2011 to 18,128 units. The percentage increase was broadly in line with the Border Region (nearly 17%) but significantly above the State average of nearly 13%.

Review of Plans, Strategies and Analyses

Reflecting the Departmental guidance, some 50 related plans, strategies and analyses at the national, regional and Leitrim levels were reviewed to also inform the planning process. The findings of these reviews are summarised below:

**National**

- Leitrim is grouped within the Weak and Remote areas of Ireland as defined by the National Spatial Strategy but is also recognised for its natural resources
- National economic recovery is progressing and remains the over-riding national policy agenda item
- The current local development reform process offers significant opportunities to improve local development performance
- Local authorities have had and will increasingly have major roles and remits in taking forward economic recovery and growth
- Ireland faces significant opportunities in terms of Foreign Direct Investment, the development of its ‘green-based’ economy and its agri/fisheries sectors
- Ireland’s current development agenda has to meet the needs of the present but without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs
- Significant investment is planned in social housing building (35,000 new homes by 2020) and rental supports
- Major investment is also required in Ireland’s water and waste treatment infrastructure
- Significant improvements in broadband quality and coverage are essential for Ireland’s economic and social development
- Rural Ireland requires its own dedicated policy focus if it is to work to best effect
- Social inclusion is most effectively achieved by involving and working with target groups/communities and by improving service integration and joined-up working between agencies and sectors
- Health and well-being are issues across all stages of the life cycle and need to be looked at and responded to in holistic ways
- Children and young people will shape the country’s future and their issues should be addressed as early as possible in the life-cycle and by involving children and young people and by improving service integration and joined-up working between agencies and across the sector
- Further education and training are to be more accessible, more related to needs, more effective and better-integrated
- Corporate Social Responsibility is a key driver of effective business performance
• Issues to be addressed for Travellers and Roma include Education, Accommodation, Health Care, Employment, Participation, Conflict Management, Media and Access and Accessibility
• Government aims to achieve significant increases in the use of spoken Irish.

Regional

• Leitrim is frequently appraised and planned for on a regional basis
• However not all those regions are co-terminous
• Depopulation, peripherality, an ageing population and low/diminishing local services are seen to be generic regional as well as Leitrim issues
• A Leitrim County population of 35,700 by 2022 is being targeted
• Urban growth and prosperity are seen as central to the region’s future
• There are very significant daily flows of people across County boundaries within the region, for both economic and social purposes.

Leitrim-Specific

• Leitrim is ‘well planned-for’ across a series of sectors and activities but many planned activities rely on external funding
• The County has a good track record of programme delivery
• Depopulation, peripherality, an ageing population and low/diminishing local services are seen to be generic Leitrim issues (but also shared across the region)
• The County’s natural heritage is universally seen as a key asset, with its man-made heritage perhaps less so
• Job creation, tourism (where the aim is to double its volume and value by 2021), rural development, community development and the energising of Carrick-on-Shannon tend to underpin the development strategies proposed for the County and its people
• The County’s urban and village infrastructure will remain central to its growth and development and to its retailing performance
• The County enjoys a good social and community infrastructure.

Leitrim’s Cross-Border Dimensions

The County Profile which accompanies the LECP highlights Leitrim’s strategic position within the island of Ireland and the fact that it shares an 18 mile/29 km border with NI (the Fermanagh and Omagh Council area). Leitrim’s neighbouring Counties, Cavan and Donegal, equally share substantial borders with NI. The N16 route, which links Sligo and the west of Ireland with Belfast (via the A4 and M1 in NI) also runs across north Leitrim.

Leitrim enjoys significant economic, social and cultural connections with NI. Many of these are historic and traditional but others are more recent, reflecting modern opportunities for joint-working, sharing and achieving economies of scale. Consistent EU support over more than four decades has created and sustained many of these connections and this has been accelerated by the new dynamics created by the end of the NI conflict and the 1998 ‘Good Friday’ Agreement. Ongoing opportunities for cross-border collaboration and development exist in the areas of agriculture, business, education, energy, health and care, infrastructure, leisure, regeneration, regional planning, telecommunications, tourism, transportation and utilities.
The Leitrim PESTLE Analysis

Departmental Guidance requires LECPs to include a PESTLE (Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Legal and Environmental) Analysis. The Leitrim PESTLE is compiled from the findings of the County Profile, the review of other plans and strategies and the consultation, focus-group and workshop feedback obtained through the various LECP planning processes. It is set out as follows:

Political

- National policies, e.g. the overarching priorities emerging from the Action Plan for Jobs and the need to reflect the thrust and content of the plans and strategies reviewed as part of the LECP planning process
- Expanded role of Local Government/Regional Assembly in economic and spatial planning
- EU policies across the economic, environmental and social sectors
- Growing regulation generally
- External ‘austerity influences’ on Ireland
- New expanded developmental role of local government
- Role and impact of Municipal Districts
- General Election by spring 2016
- Geo-politics, e.g. the impact of events in Russia and the Middle East on the availability and cost of fossil fuels.

Economic

- Global economic trends, e.g. commodity prices’ impact on Leitrim farm produce
- Rising costs of energy, transport and education
- Significance of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) within Leitrim
- ‘Austerity budgets’ within Ireland
- Likely reductions in EU grant aid
- Below-state-average incomes in Leitrim
- Levels of personal debt
- Limited availability of credit
- Importance of supports such as LEADER
- Importance of government support, purchasing of services and/or subventions for most social enterprises
- The potential of social enterprises
- Growing significance of the internet in business ... subject to its local availability
- Decline in home-based retailing in Leitrim
- Out-migration/loss of Leitrim graduates.

Social

- Growing population
- Growing diversity of Ireland and Leitrim and resultant variety in languages, cultures and beliefs
- Weakening of traditional social/kinship structures, patterns, norms and beliefs
- An increasingly well-educated population in the County
- Increasing interest in personal and community well-being
- Increasing awareness of the impact of lifestyle
• Ageing population with more people living longer
• Leitrim people’s habit of ‘going away’ (for education and work) on both daily and more long term basis
• People and communities ‘damaged’ by the economic collapse
• Growing personal and community interest in environmental issues
• Leitrim remaining largely rural yet increasingly urbanised County.

Technological
• Huge capacity of Broadband/ICT to tackle the ‘tyranny of distance’
• Historic and current restricted Broadband and mobile telephony coverage across Leitrim now being addressed via new technologies and Government initiatives
• Emerging E-business opportunities on foot of high speed broadband provision
• Growing capacity to harvest ‘green energies’
• Increasing sophistication of health care leading to more centralised delivery.

Legal
• Increasing legislative burdens on business, groups and activities
• Growing ‘rights-based’ approaches
• Changing ‘ownership’ of personal debt within the County.

Environmental
• Leitrim’s rich legacy of natural and heritage assets
• Growing use of those, e.g. via The Blueway and the SLNCR Greenway
• Climate change and its economic, social, community and political implications
• Specific climate-related flood risk
• Moves towards alternative energy sources/diminishing fossil fuels
• Fracking issue.

The Leitrim SWOT Analysis

Departmental Guidance similarly requires LECPs to include a SWOT Analysis. The Leitrim SWOT is compiled on this basis:
The County’s SWOT grid developed from the PESTLE analysis, the findings of the County Profile, the review of other plans and strategies and the consultation, focus-group and workshop feedback is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strengths: things/issues internal to Leitrim and which can be managed or at least influenced from within the County</th>
<th>Weaknesses: things/issues internal to Leitrim and which can be managed or at least influenced from within the County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities: things/issues external to Leitrim and which cannot be managed/influenced from within the County but which the County must respond to</td>
<td>Threats: things/issues external to Leitrim and which cannot be managed/influenced from within the County but which the County must respond to</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

'Helpful' | 'Harmful'
The Leitrim SWOT Grid

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strengths</th>
<th>Weaknesses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Growing and diverse population</td>
<td>Small ‘critical mass’ of population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robust child/youth population:</td>
<td>Lower-than-average 15-64 cohort (the economically productive age groups)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>large cohort of Under 16s</td>
<td>Ongoing emigration (especially youth) and out-bound commuting (especially from rural Leitrim)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strong birth rates and strong immigration</td>
<td>Poorer roads/transport within the County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strong entrepreneurial spirit and culture of self-employment</td>
<td>Low density populations making service delivery difficult</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central, strategic location in the North-West of Ireland</td>
<td>Large proportions of people living alone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strong intra-regional flows of people and business</td>
<td>Some Town and village centres struggling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network of attractive towns and villages</td>
<td>Poor quality land</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community transport/social car schemes</td>
<td>Low manufacturing/industry base</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relatively new housing stock</td>
<td>Below national average economic output</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strong community groups/structures</td>
<td>High dependency ratios (% of Under 15s and Over 65s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low levels of crime</td>
<td>No Third Level education facility in the County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strong attachment-to-place</td>
<td>High rates of mental illness and high suicide/self-harm rates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strong sports presence</td>
<td>Unemployment/underemployment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural beauty and outstanding environment</td>
<td>Ageing farm-owning population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘Broad and deep’ archaeology</td>
<td>Significant housing vacancy rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Links into national road and rail networks/links</td>
<td>Lack of supported housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strong presence of public sector jobs</td>
<td>Poor Broadband and mobile coverage in many areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strong music/art/creative/cultural sector</td>
<td>High proportion of Over 65 year-olds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family farms providing a strong underpinning for rural areas and communities</td>
<td>High levels of commuting out of rural Leitrim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presence of large private businesses</td>
<td>Below-average disposable incomes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shannon/Erne link</td>
<td>Local retailing in decline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above-average flows into Third Level</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above-average FDI (Foreign Direct Investment) jobs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initiatives/projects such as the Food Hub, Organic Centre, the Dock Arts Centre etc</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities</td>
<td>Threats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Central strategic location in North-West of Ireland</td>
<td>• Ongoing public service retraction (e.g. Post Offices, Garda)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Promotion of Leitrim within its regional context</td>
<td>• Ongoing reductions in public spending and investment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Tourism especially Eco-tourism</td>
<td>• Declining rural transport provision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• County’s significant water, forest and hill/mountain resources</td>
<td>• Leitrim/its people a low priority for central government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Existing community infrastructure</td>
<td>• Groups overburdened by bureaucracy/red-tape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Renewable energy possibilities</td>
<td>• Global economic factors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• New opportunities to enhance Broadband coverage</td>
<td>• Loss of major employer(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Strong creative industries base</td>
<td>• Reliance on ‘seasonal-and-low-wage’ tourism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Rich cultural heritage</td>
<td>• Reducing EU rural development and ‘small farm’ support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Attractive place for in-migrants</td>
<td>• Growing scarcity/cost of fossil fuels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Capitalise on forest assets</td>
<td>• Growing cost of Third level education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• More joined-up working within and beyond the County, including cross-border working</td>
<td>• Third Level education elsewhere draining Leitrim of young people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Potential new uses for empty buildings</td>
<td>• Failure to meet Broadband and mobile coverage deficits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Higher percentages of retired people with disposable incomes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Home-working</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• E-learning and Third Level outreach</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Leitrim Diaspora</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Ireland West Airport</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• EU funding possibilities such as Interreg, LIFE, Peace IV, Northern Periphery and Atlantic Programme</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Links with Higher Education Institutes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. The Format of the Leitrim LECP

Introduction

The format of the Leitrim LECP reflects the underpinning legislation as well as DECLG Guidance. The Plan has been drawn together and will be taken forward as an integrated whole but with strong internal Economic and Community elements. A common approach has therefore been taken in terms of the layout of those Economic and Community elements. That approach is summarised below.

Core Working Principles

A number of core principles underpinned the development of the LECP and will equally apply to its implementation. Those principles are:

- **Equality**: people, groups and communities will be treated equally regardless of background and spatial equity for and within Leitrim will be sought
- **Evidence-based**: using good analysis and well-founded consultation to inform all decisions and following this up with robust monitoring of activities and results
- **Openness**: the LECP planning, decision-making and implementation process will be clear, transparent and open to/inclusive of all
- **Outcomes**: the persistent focus will be on the achievement of good outcomes/results for Leitrim and its people
- **Sharing**: participants in the LECP process will work in partnership with the process and with each other, sharing and communicating knowledge, experience, learning and resources as appropriate
- **Sustainability**: decisions taken now will be guided by the need to avoid compromising the future social, economic and/or environmental well-being of Leitrim in the future

LECP Themes

A number of strategic Themes have emerged as follows:

**Leading Leitrim**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Which is About ...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leading Leitrim</td>
<td>- Creating and working to a vision for the County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- ‘Making the Leitrim case’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Improving the County’s visibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Securing implementation of the locational or place-specific aspects of relevant national, regional and county level planning frameworks and strategies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Improving the level and quality of community identity, solidarity and civic participation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Economic Themes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Which is About …</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| E1: Leitrim and its Region                | • Building a strong regional focus  
• Capitalising on existing links and flows between Counties  
• Creating critical masses  
• Collaborative working  
• Addressing common, shared problems |
| E2: Job Creation and Business Growth      | • Providing the necessary sites and spaces  
• Developing infrastructure  
• Attracting investment  
• Stimulating local, indigenous success  
• Marketing Leitrim  
• Identifying and meeting training needs  
• Building on local, indigenous success  
• Focusing on growth sectors and industries  
• Developing Leitrim’s evening and night time economy  
• Focusing on ‘new economy’ and ‘knowledge-based’ industries |
| E3: Towns and Villages                    | • Improving town and village centre footfall  
• Addressing dereliction and vacant premises  
• Responding to declining retailing  
• Creating town and village centre variety  
• Improving public realm to stimulate place-related activities |
| E4: Sectoral Economic Development         | • Developing renewable energies and energy efficiencies  
• Improving ‘value-added’ within agri-food  
• Improving marketing, promotion and selling  
• Developing specialist, skilled staff  
• Improving access to and within Leitrim  
• Making best use of the Leitrim Diaspora  
• Rolling forward Leitrim’s creative sector  
• Building and marketing the tourism product |
| E5: Women in Business                     | • Supporting women in business  
• Supporting women to enter business |
Community Themes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Which is About …</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| C1: Living and Well-Be
| Taking a broad view of well-being  
| Improving and sustaining physical and mental health  
| Being innovative re service delivery  
| Making and keeping Leitrim a safe place  
| Maintaining and building community infrastructure  
| The County’s precious physical environment: protecting and enhancing it, through resource-efficiency measures and applying the principles of sustainable development  
| Human and cultural heritage  
| Mobility and accessibility, especially in/of rural areas |
| C2: Learning and Training | Effective development and use of the local workforce, including improved skills and educational opportunities  
| Life-long learning  
| Primary, Secondary and Third Level education  
| Training for people of all abilities and backgrounds |
| C3: Working and Growing | Maximising economic activity, performance and opportunity  
| Improving community prosperity and quality of life  
| Increased levels and quality of income and employment  
| Job creation and maintenance  
| Social enterprises  
| Public services  
| Pluri-activity |
| C4: Inclusion | Maximising the attractiveness of key locations as places to live, visit, work or transact business  
| Communities and their development  
| Anti-poverty  
| Peace-building  
| Community cohesion  
| Reducing social exclusion and disadvantage in the community |

Each Theme is presented along with a Context/Rationale summarising the key issues involved there.
LECP Goals

The Themes are then followed by a series of Goals, again under the Theme headings:

Strategic Goal

• Leitrim, a County that's recognised, admired and sustainable

Economic Goals

• A County maximizing opportunities to promote economic development and build on its indigenous spirit of entrepreneurship
• A County that’s an attractive, innovative location for growth in and investment from different sectors
• A County where the travel, transport, utilities, communications and ICT infrastructure meet current and future needs
• A County of vibrant town and village centers which are attractive to visit and shop in
• An exemplar County for addressing and responding to climate change
• A vibrant rural economy driven by value-added agriculture and food
• A County building on the positivity of existing companies to sell itself as a prime business location
• A County with a vibrant creative sector driven by practitioners, activities and opportunities of the highest calibre
• A County renowned as an authentic, friendly tourist destination.
• A County with a vibrant women in business sector which encourages more women to consider business as a career option

Community Goals

• A sustainable, clean and attractive County which values and harnesses its heritage, environment and people
• A County with a strong, mixed and sustainable economy based on its strengths, entrepreneurial spirit and well-trained, well-educated and well-skilled people who are ready and fit for work and social involvement
• A County that’s welcoming and comfortable as a place to live in, to work in and to visit

LECP Objectives

As set out in the Departmental Guidance, a series of Objectives have been identified, again under the Strategic, Economic and Social headings:

Strategic Objectives (SOs)

SO 1: Have a clearly-understood, standout and positive identity for County Leitrim
SO 2: Achieve an ongoing, balanced population growth across the County

SO 3: Avail of EU, national and regional development advice and supports

Sustainable Economic Development Objectives (SEDOs)

SEDO 1: Leitrim will be a visionary leader in a region which is innovative and competitive, with a high quality environment, first class infrastructure and a quality of life that is among the highest in the world

SEDO 2: Facilitate and encourage existing and new businesses to sustain and grow their business so that new sustainable jobs are created across a variety of sectors within the County and region, thereby increasing the availability of quality and diverse employment for residents and inbound commuters

SEDO 3: Support and facilitate the development and maintenance of an infrastructure across Leitrim which will meet current and projected economic, social, community and sustainability needs

SEDO 4: Strengthen the fabric of our towns and villages by developing strong ‘place-related’ economic activities and support for community development initiatives, all building on an area’s particular strengths

SEDO 5: Enhance the potential for economic development in individual sectors based on the Leitrim’s physical, social, environmental and cultural character and quality

SEDO 5A: Enhance the potential for economic development in the Energy and Green Economy sector so that Leitrim will be an exemplar county for addressing Climate Change

SEDO 5B: Enhance the potential for economic development in the Agriculture and Food sector by developing a vibrant rural economy driven by value-added agriculture and small food business

SEDO 5C: Enhance the potential for economic development in the Services, Manufacturing and ICT Sectors by building on the positivity of existing companies to sell Leitrim as a prime business location

SEDO 5D: Enhance the potential for economic development in the Creative, Arts and Culture Sector by raising awareness of the culturally rich and artistically vibrant offering and services in Leitrim
SEDO 5E:  
Enhance the potential for economic development in the Tourism Sector by ensuring a united cohesive approach by the tourism trade and agencies in the county

SEDO 6:  
Enhance the role played by Leitrim Business Women in the economic development of the County

Sustainable Community Objectives (SCOs)

SCO1:  
Maintain Leitrim as a safe and attractive place to live in, work in and to visit

SCO2:  
Support initiatives to tackle climate change

SCO3:  
Sustain and develop the County’s robust 'community activity-related' infrastructure, experience, knowledge and know-how, including improving transport and mobility options for people and communities

SCO4:  
Create a culture of lifelong learning and continue to improve the County’s educational performance levels

SCO 5:  
Improve the job prospects of target groups by upskilling people to meet the needs of existing and growth sectors and by sustaining and developing social enterprises in these roles

SCO6:  
Improve the opportunities for and capacity of target groups and communities to take part in economic and civic society, including progressing peace-building in Leitrim

The Leitrim LECP Logical Model

Finally, the LECP’s Goals, Objectives, Targets and Results/Actions are set out according to this logical model:
Key Implementers/Enablers

One or more key ‘implementers/enablers’ is identified for each Result/Action. These are neither prescriptive nor comprehensive at this stage but are included to give a sense of the organisations and programmes which the LCDC will need to harness to implement the Plan. The abbreviations used for these are:

- BNaM: Bord na Mona
- CCC: County Childcare Committee
- COC: Chamber of Commerce
- CFRAM: Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management
- C&YPSC: Children and Young People Services Committee
- DAFM: Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
- DCENR: Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources
- DES: Department of Education and Skills
- DECLG: Department of Environment, Community and Local Government
- DJE: Department of Justice and Equality
- DJEI: Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation
- DSP: Department for Social Protection
- DoT: Department of the Taoiseach
- EI: Enterprise Ireland
- ETB: Education and Training Board
- Failte: Failte Ireland
- GEBs: Green Economy Businesses
- HAS: Housing Associations
- HEIs/ITs: Institutes of Technology (in Leitrim’s case primarily Sligo, Athlone, Galway/Mayo and Dundalk)
- HSE: Health Service Executive
- ICBAN: Irish Central Border Area Network
- IDA: Industrial Development Agency
• IFI: International Fund for Ireland
• IG: INTERREG
• IW/UE: Irish Water/Uisce Éireann
• JPC: Joint Policing Committee
• LAFA: Leitrim Age Friendly Alliance
• LCC: Leitrim County Council
• LCCC: Leitrim County Childcare Committee
• LCDP: Leitrim County Development Plan
• LDC: Leitrim Development Company
• LDH: Leitrim Design House
• LEO: Local Enterprise Office
• LPP: Leitrim Peace Partnership
• LRF: Leitrim Recreation Forum
• LREG: Leitrim Renewable Energy Group
• LSP: Leitrim Sports Partnership
• LTGA: Leitrim Tourism Growth Alliance
• NLAs: Neighbouring Local Authorities
• NLN: National Learning Network
• NLWG: North Leitrim Women’s Group
• NRA: National Roads Authority
• NWRA: Northern and Western Regional Assembly
• PEACE: PEACE Programme
• PPN: Public Participation Network
• RDP: Rural Development Programme
• REDZ: Rural Economic Development Zone
• RSA: Road Safety Authority
• SCP: Sports Capital Programme (Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport)
• SEAI: Sustainable Energy Authority Ireland
• SICAP: Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme
• TBGs: Town business groups
• TII: Transport Infrastructure Ireland
• TLIs: Third Level Institutions (largely Athlone IT, NUIG, Sligo IT and SW College)
• TCU: Transport Coordination Unit
• TUSLA: The Child and Family Agency
• USEFE: Upper Shannon Erne Future Economy group (bringing together Leitrim, Cavan, Longford and Leitrim)
• WDC: Western Development Commission
• WIBL: Women in Business in Leitrim
• WI: Waterways Ireland

Appendix II gives a sense of how a number of these key implementers/enablers already contribute to the well-being and development of Leitrim.

Finally, in line with Government Guidance (Source: Draft DELG Guidelines, November 2014), each proposed Action is time-bound as follows:

• Ongoing: Actions that should be implemented throughout the duration of the Plan
• Short: Years 1-2 of the LECP
• Medium: Years 3-4 of the LECP
• Long: Years 5-6 of the LECP
5. Leading Leitrim

Leading Leitrim: A Strategic, Overarching Theme

This overarching Theme, Leading Leitrim, was identified as necessary to maintain a strategic focus and help tie the Economic and Community Elements of the LECP together. The Theme is developed below, using the same logical sequence model as will be used elsewhere in the LECP.

Strategic Theme 1: Leading Leitrim

Context/Rationale

Leitrim is currently enjoying a significant population growth that is projected to continue over the LECP plan period. It is important that the County’s growth is ‘balanced’ – in social, economic, environmental and geographic terms. Leitrim remains Ireland’s smallest County in population terms and will hold this position for the foreseeable future. As a consequence it suffers from not having the profile nor the economies of scale that a larger critical mass would bring.

Many major agencies work at levels above the County level and therefore don’t/can’t plan on a County basis. This is often very necessary to make strategic progress and to reflect the fact that there is very strong economic and social interaction between Leitrim and its surrounding Counties on a daily basis. There is nonetheless an ongoing risk that by being treated as part of larger regions, Leitrim can get subsumed and marginalised.

Leitrim’s smaller scale also means its resources are limited and it’s therefore vital that as a County it ‘punches above its weight’. Civic society in the County needs to be geared up to help with this work.

The tradition of ‘leaving Leitrim’ has created a substantial Leitrim diaspora that can now be turned to the County’s advantage.
Strategically Steering Leitrim

Goal
Leitrim, a County that's recognised, admired and sustainable

Objectives
SO 1: Have a clearly-understood, standout and positive identity for County Leitrim
SO 2: Achieve an ongoing, balanced population growth across the County
SO 3: Avail of EU, national and regional development advice and supports

Target
T1: A Leitrim brand that's recognised and understood and which promotes the County
T2: A branded identity for each Tier 1 and 2A town in the County
T3: Carrick-on-Shannon be recognised as a strategic driver of growth in the region within the National Planning Framework (replacement National Spatial Strategy) when prepared
T4: A Leitrim population of 35,000+ by 2022
T5: Increased numbers in the County's 15-44 age group
T6: Two Leitrim diaspora-related events p.a. delivered within or outside the County
T7: Successful delivery of Blueway and a Greenway project
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Enabler</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SO1: Have a clearly-understood, standout and positive identity for County Leitrim</td>
<td>T1: A Leitrim brand that's recognised and understood</td>
<td>A1: Develop and promote an all-inclusive brand for Leitrim</td>
<td>LCC RDP</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T2: A branded identity for each Tier 1 and 2A town in the County</td>
<td>A2: Assign at least one attribute of the County’s brand to each of its main towns and villages</td>
<td>LCC RDP</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T3: Carrick-on-Shannon be recognised as a strategic driver of growth in the region within the National Planning Framework (replacement National Spatial Strategy) when prepared</td>
<td>A3: Promote Ballinamore and Manorhamilton as the core urban drivers of their Municipal Districts</td>
<td>LCC RDP</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T4: Two Leitrim diaspora-related events delivered within or outside the County</td>
<td>A4: Promote Carrick-on-Shannon as a regional urban centre</td>
<td>LCC RDP SCP EI IDA</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SO2: Achieve an ongoing, balanced population growth across the County</td>
<td>T5: A Leitrim population of 35,000+ by 2022</td>
<td>All Actions in the LECP</td>
<td>NWRA All partners</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T6: Increased numbers in the County’s 15-44 age group</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SO3: Avail of EU, national and regional development advice and supports</td>
<td>T7: Successful delivery of Blueway and Greenway projects</td>
<td>A6: Work closely with the Northern and Western Regional Assembly, ICBAN and others to secure funding</td>
<td>NWRA ICBAN WI DECLG</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6. The Economic Elements of the LECP

Introduction

The preparation of a Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) is a two-pronged process with the Local Authority charged with preparing and adopting the Economic Element of the Plan. The rationale for increased involvement in economic development by local government is based on the economic impact of its functions generally, its links with enterprise, its local knowledge and leadership and the economic initiatives already undertaken by many local authorities. Added to this are the local development and enterprise functions transferred from the previous County Enterprise Boards into the new Local Enterprise Offices (LEO), the broader Economic Development Units of the Local Authority.

The economic functions advocated in Putting People First (the 2012 policy paper setting out the changing role of local government in Ireland) included:

- Regional spatial and economic strategies to which other agencies must contribute and adhere
- A stronger and more explicit direct role for local authorities in promoting economic development
- Ensuring that all Local Authorities focus their general functions and services proactively towards supporting enterprise and economic development
- Leading and mobilising economic development locally in conjunction with relevant agencies
- Drawing up local economic development plans in conjunction with the overall County Development Plan.

The Economic Development Role of Leitrim County Council

Councils have always played a key role in facilitating economic development through the provision of infrastructure for residents and businesses. This has ranged across road maintenance and improvement, streetscape improvements, water and waste management infrastructure, housing and regulatory roles in areas such as planning. The role of the Council in infrastructure provision to meet the needs of existing and potential new investment remains critically important. Whilst water services and national roads are now under the auspices of bodies such as Irish Water and the National Roads Authority, the Council remains involved in both sectors and is the key local agent in contact with these bodies.

With the establishment of the County Development Boards (CDBs) in 2000, the role of the Local Authority in economic development broadened significantly into the area of “softer” supports. The Leitrim CDB Economic Development Working
Group brought together both local and regional actors who influenced economic development in Leitrim and the region generally. This group included the Local Authority, Enterprise Ireland, IDA Ireland, Failte Ireland, Teagasc, County Enterprise Board (now the LEO), FÁS (now Solas) as well as Leitrim Development Company and, in later years, the Department of Social Welfare.

A range of initiatives impacting on economic development were organized jointly through two or more of these agencies as a means of adding value to the services provided by each on their own. A sample of the initiatives undertaken by the Local Authority in partnership with other agencies over the last six years is outlined in Appendix II under the various objectives and actions envisaged by the DECLG Guidelines for the new plan.

The Economic Elements of the Leitrim LECP

Each Sustainable Economic Development Objective (SEDO) is worked through in turn below using the Goal-Objective-Target-Result/Action sequence. Enablers are also identified and a Timescale (Short, Medium or Long) attached to each Action.

Economic Theme 1: Leitrim and its Region

Context/Rationale

Leitrim is part of a vibrant region which already benefits from collaboration and networking between both businesses and agencies. It is also a region whose citizens flow regularly and in large numbers between Counties for work, leisure and retail opportunities. At the same time it is a region whose ‘member Counties’ share many common socio-economic characteristics, both positive and negative. The region is made stronger by collaborative working and projects such as the Upper Shannon Erne Future Economy initiative and Harnessing Natural Resources show what can be achieved by a strong region working together whilst retaining its own local identities.

There are both needs and opportunities to maximise the opportunities of linking with neighbouring Counties and Northern Ireland in regional and cross-border initiatives. Many major infrastructural projects, including roads and transportation, can best be taken forward on a regional rather than a local level.
SEDO 1:
Leitrim will be a visionary leader in a region which is innovative and competitive, with a high quality environment, first class infrastructure and a quality of life that is among the highest in the world

*LECP job targets are:
- **1,500 jobs** (excluding Tourism jobs) for people living in Leitrim, these jobs located both within and beyond Leitrim
- **1,000 jobs** (excluding Tourism jobs) located within Leitrim
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEDO 1</th>
<th>Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Leitrim will be a visionary leader in a region which is innovative and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>competitive, with a high quality environment, first class infrastructure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>and a quality of life that is among the highest in the world</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T1: Increase of 1,500 jobs by 2021 in Leitrim and for Leitrim residents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>working in the region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T2: Strong regional businesses providing employment to Leitrim residents</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A1: Promote competitiveness and a favourable business environment (including reducing the cost of doing business), emphasising quality services and infrastructure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2: Ensure implementation of the Leitrim-specific aspects of the forthcoming Action Plan for Jobs for the Border Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A3: Work on regional basis to increase flights to and from Ireland West Airport to reflect the needs of business travellers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A4: Actively engage with regional initiatives such as the Upper Shannon Erne Future Economy Initiative (USEFE), which provides a networking opportunity and collaboration opportunities for business across Leitrim, Roscommon, Cavan and Longford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A5: Develop innovative ways of maintaining the link between college students and their home areas through college placements, R&amp;D placements with local business and other initiatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A6: Identify all opportunities for Leitrim and residents of Leitrim to access job creation opportunities whilst living in their chosen part of Leitrim</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enabler</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LCC, DECLG, DCENR, Interreg, USEFE, NLAs</td>
<td>Short - Long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DJEI, LCC, LEO, EI, ETB, Teagasc, LDC, HEIs</td>
<td>Short - Med</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCC, NLAs, IDA, EI</td>
<td>Short - Med</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCC, ESB, BnaM, NLAs, regional businesses</td>
<td>Short to Med</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCC, Local Colleges</td>
<td>Short - Med</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCC, USEFE</td>
<td>Short - Med</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Economic Theme 2: Job Creation and Business Growth

Context/Rationale

LECPs are a key means of rolling out government’s Action Plan for Jobs. Job creation has always been and remains a priority for Leitrim, both to prevent the traditional haemorrhaging of population and to secure the best quality of life for those living and working in the County.

A key aim of the LECP is to make best use of the Council’s traditional and new economic development powers and possibilities and integrate to best effect its own role and those of enterprise support agencies and existing businesses. There are needs to profile potential opportunities, work with potential investors and to create the right environment for investment to happen.

The LECP prioritises sustainable jobs, be they created in or by existing or new enterprises. Sustainable jobs are jobs which, variously:

- Are not just seasonal
- Reflect emerging and growing markets such as ‘green’ technologies, renewable energy, health care and the care needs of older people
- Sit within self-supporting industry clusters
- Reflect local work traditions and levels of expertise/know-how
- Go beyond ‘entry level’, ie can offer progression to those interested
- Can accommodate job holders’ other needs such as home or caring responsibilities
- Are accessible to people

Support for existing enterprises is absolutely central to the development of Leitrim’s economic potential. With a number of local businesses having expanded their operations in the last 12-18 months and with future plans in place in the ICT, Energy and Medical Device sectors in particular, support for business growth has to be, and is being, prioritized by the LECP. Other areas such as the evening and night time economy are particularly important in certain parts of the County as key drivers of the local economy and in creating new jobs. SEDO 2 here looks at the macro-level supports required whilst individual sectors are looked at in greater detail as sub-sets A, B, C, D and E of SEDO 5 below.
SED0 2: Facilitate and encourage existing and new businesses to sustain and grow their business so that new sustainable jobs are created across a variety of sectors within the County and region, thereby increasing the availability of quality and diverse employment for residents and inbound commuters.

Target
T1: Increase of 1,000 jobs* in Leitrim by 2021 across new and existing businesses

Objective
SED0 2: Facilitate and encourage existing and new businesses to sustain and grow their business so that new sustainable jobs are created across a variety of sectors within the County and region, thereby increasing the availability of quality and diverse employment for residents and inbound commuters.

Goal
A County that’s an attractive, innovative location for growth in and investment from different sectors

* LECP job targets are:
  - 1,500 jobs (excluding Tourism jobs) for people living in Leitrim, these jobs located both within and beyond Leitrim
  - 1,000 jobs (excluding Tourism jobs) located within Leitrim
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEDO 2</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Enabler</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Facilitate and encourage existing and new businesses to sustain and grow their business so that new sustainable jobs are created across a variety of sectors within the County and region, thereby increasing the availability of quality and diverse employment for residents and inbound commuters</td>
<td>T1: Increase of 1,000 jobs by 2021 across new and existing businesses</td>
<td>A1: Promote competitiveness and a favourable business environment (including reducing the cost of doing business), emphasising quality services and infrastructure</td>
<td>LCC, DECLG, DCENR, Interreg</td>
<td>Short - Long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A2: Help raise the profile of the County as a quality location for living and working in and promote existing sectors that are successfully operating in the county e.g. DVDs by sector, strong <a href="http://www.leitrim.ie">www.leitrim.ie</a> site which is innovatively marketed, social media and on-line marketing</td>
<td>LCC, TBGs, RDP, Leitrim Diaspora</td>
<td>Short - Med</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A3: Implement the Manorhamilton REDZ (Regional Economic Development Zone) project</td>
<td>LCC, DoT, DAFM, DECLG</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A4: Support initiatives which further enhance the quality of life available in Leitrim through support for the arts, sport and recreation and the heritage potential of the County</td>
<td>LCC, Dock Arts Centre, LSP, LTGA, LDC</td>
<td>Short - Long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A5: Look at ‘Third Age-related’ opportunities which harness the potential of Leitrim with its older population and its popularity and potential as a relocation area</td>
<td>LCC, LAFA, PPN Third Level Research Facilities</td>
<td>Short – Med</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A6: Examine establishing a Start-Up/Angel Investor fund for businesses locating in County Leitrim</td>
<td>LCC</td>
<td>Short - Med</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A7: Proactively engage with Third Level institutions in the region to promote opportunities for education delivery within Leitrim which will make it more attractive to live and work in the County</td>
<td>LCC, IT Sligo, AIT, NUIG, South West College</td>
<td>Short - Med</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A8: Identify the training needs of existing businesses through on-line surveys and self-employed fora events which allow training programmes to be tailored to local needs and also arrange briefings on public procurement with local businesses</td>
<td>LCC, LEO, TLIs, RDP, SICAP, Community Centres, Solas, DSP, LDC</td>
<td>Short - Med</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Economic Theme 3: Infrastructure

Context/Rationale

As a largely rural and dispersed County, Leitrim’s infrastructure – travel, transport, energy, built fabric and ICT - is crucial to its social and economic well-being. The County is linked into the national road and rail networks but these primarily affect its extreme southern and the northern areas. North/south road connectivity within Leitrim thus persists as an issue. The County is also differentiated by being traversed by the Erne/Shannon Waterway, a powerful part of Ireland’s tourism and leisure infrastructure.

The County’s water/wastewater infrastructure is good and plans are in place for upgrades/extensions as required. The electricity network is fit-for-purpose and lobbying is proceeding to bring a gas supply to the County.

Telecommunications – largely facilitated by broadband and mobile phone coverage – are now a central driver of economic, social, community and personal life. Leitrim faces ongoing deficits in these areas which impact on all aspects of life for the communities involved.

Renewable energy will become more and more important to Leitrim and the region and this is dealt with as a specific sub-sector in the LECP.
SEDO 3:
Support and facilitate the development and maintenance of an infrastructure across Leitrim which will meet current and projected economic, social, community and sustainability needs

Goal
A County where the travel, transport, utilities, communications and ICT infrastructures meet current and future needs

Objective
SEDO 3: Support and facilitate the development and maintenance of an infrastructure across Leitrim which will meet current and projected economic, social, community and sustainability needs

Target
T1: Monitor infrastructure needs and feed into regional and national policy and activities to meet the infrastructure needs of the County.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEDO 3</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Enabler</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Support and facilitate the development and maintenance of an infrastructure across Leitrim which will meet current and projected economic, social, community and sustainability needs</td>
<td>T1: Monitor infrastructure needs and feed into regional and national policy and activities to meet the infrastructure needs of the County</td>
<td>A1: Maintain and develop a range of transport options to facilitate access between the main towns in the County</td>
<td>TCU</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A2: Support and facilitate planned upgrades to the N4, N16 and R280 routes</td>
<td>LCC, TII</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A3: Support and facilitate planned investments in water and waste water schemes across the County</td>
<td>LCC, IW/UE</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A4: Support and facilitate initiatives to bring a natural gas supply to Leitrim</td>
<td>LCC, LEO</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A5: Seek to upgrade and provide high speed broadband to existing Enterprise Centres to increase the quality of workspace available for SMEs</td>
<td>LCC, LEO, RDP, Interreg</td>
<td>Medium – Long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A6: Harness the potential of the Carrick Campus facility as a top class turnkey solution for a variety of sectors</td>
<td>LCC, IDA, EI, Local Business, Leitrim Diaspora</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A7: Prepare and have ready a “sites development matrix” showing available infrastructure and services on all sites identified for economic development in the County</td>
<td>LCC, DECLG, DCENR, DJE, IDA</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A8: Ensure there is an inventory of all workspaces and properties in the County for enterprises of all types and ensure there is sufficient land zoned for economic development</td>
<td>LCC, LEO, Estate Agents, TBGs, IDA</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Economic Theme 4: Towns and Villages

Context/Rationale

It is important that opportunities are (a) identified and (b) taken to strengthen the fabric of smaller towns and villages by developing strong ‘place-related’ economic activities and supporting community development initiatives to build on an area’s particular strengths. Many of the actions here were identified directly by businesses in the different towns who are intimately aware of the needs of their towns and villages. The issues which emerged were:

- Fall-off in community activity has meant the loss of certain festivals which affects numbers coming into the town centres
- Towns are not capitalising enough on nearby attractions such as Lough Rynn Castle, Glencar Waterfall and Parkes Castle: towns need to be accessible to their surrounding catchment areas and have good local linkages between car parks, public transport stops and the various attractions in the town centre
- Shop-front dereliction is a problem in parts of the towns
- More events for children will help bring parents into the town/village centres
- Town centres tend to have too many of one type of shop whilst being lacking in others: there is a need for greater variety and/or new retailing to maintain the viability of many towns and villages
- Town/village centres need to be attractive places, ie safe, environmentally friendly with good design and distinctive identity and image: co-ordinated town centre management is a way of achieving this
- Some towns lack a business group thus reducing joined up business thinking
- Not all towns have web presence
SEDO 4:
Strengthen the fabric of our towns and villages by developing strong ‘place-related’ economic activities and support for community development initiatives, all building on an area’s particular strengths

Goal
A County of vibrant town and village centers which are attractive to visit and shop in

Objective
SEDO 4: Strengthen the fabric of our towns and villages by developing strong ‘place-related’ economic activities and supporting community development initiatives to build on an area’s particular strengths

Target
T1: Each town with an active Business Group and a regularly updated web presence
T2: Each town known for a specific theme and linked to local attractions
T3: 20 shops availing of Town Centre Incentive and/or Improvement Schemes by 2020
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEDO 4</th>
<th>Targets</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Enabler</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strengthen the fabric of our towns and villages by developing strong ‘place-related’ economic activities and supporting community development initiatives to build on an area’s particular strengths</td>
<td>T1: Each town with an active Business Group with regularly updated web presence</td>
<td>A1: Ensure there is an active Town Business Group (TBG) in each Tier 1 and Tier 2A town to engage with and develop opportunities to enhance, promote and market their towns</td>
<td>LCC, LEO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A2: Develop linkages between the town centres and attractions nearby which they are best known for and associated with in order to increase footfall and income generation</td>
<td>LCC, DTST, RDP.</td>
<td>Medium - Long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T2: Each town known for a specific theme and linked to local attractions</td>
<td>A3: Maintain and develop a range of transport options to facilitate access between the main towns in the County</td>
<td>TCU</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A4: Provide supporting infrastructure and develop the public realm e.g. structured outdoor areas/focal points in each town where events can be held which will bolster town centre and local footfall</td>
<td>LCC, RDP, TBGs</td>
<td>Short - Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A5: Identify strategic sites in town centres to enhance their development potential</td>
<td>LCC, LEO</td>
<td>Short - Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A6: Develop a project whereby artists can be based in vacant premises at nominal rent</td>
<td>LCC, TBGs, Local Business</td>
<td>Short - Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A7: Arrange tailored marketing and sales training for town centre businesses</td>
<td>LEO</td>
<td>Short - Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A8: Develop unique signage scheme for</td>
<td>LCC, TBGs,</td>
<td>Short -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A9: Facilitate the development of an app for the Tier 1 and 2A towns in the County</td>
<td>TBGs, LCC, HEIs/ITs, RDP</td>
<td>Short – Medium</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A10: Maintain the County town’s Purple Flag Status for its evening and night time economy</td>
<td>LCC, Town Businesses, Garda, COC</td>
<td>Short</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A11: Develop a Town Centre Incentive scheme to encourage new business into Leitrim’s town and village centres and to revitalise unused premises</td>
<td>LCC, RDP, LEO, LDC, TBGs</td>
<td>Short - Medium</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A12: Develop a Shop Front Scheme to promote development and regeneration in town centres</td>
<td>LCC, RDP</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A13: Ensure adequate off-street parking in main towns</td>
<td>LCC</td>
<td>Medium - Long</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Economic Theme 5: Sectoral Economic Development

Context/Rationale

A number of niche areas or sectors have been identified which merit specific, focussed attention in Leitrim. These involve a combination of building on existing/historic strengths, addressing existing/historic weaknesses and seizing new economic opportunities. The sectors include:

- Energy supply and the Green Economy
- Agriculture and food
- Services, manufacturing and ICT
- Creative, arts and culture
- Tourism

SEDO 5:
Enhance the potential for economic development in individual sectors based on the Leitrim’s physical, social, environmental and cultural character and quality

SEDO 5 is broken down by into five equally-weighted/prioritized sectors as follows:

A: Energy Supply and the Green Economy

Context/Rationale

Focus groups carried out with people in the energy and green economy sectors in the County identified the following issues and potential solutions:

- Access and transport impact on ability to carry out forestry thinning, especially in the smaller, privately-owned forests, thus impacting on final clear fell
- High regional heat tariffs (RTIs) in Northern Ireland may impact on supply in Republic of Ireland and distort cross border markets but they also offer an opportunity to export into this market, particularly for North Leitrim.
- There is a need to have exemplar projects in the County to help increase expertise and to build demand for renewable technologies
- Economies of scale impact on the testing of bio-energy crops such as willow for markets in the West and in the Midlands.
- Potential markets exist within the region for biomass, for example supplying into the nearby electricity supply station in Lanesboro
- Significant training has been carried out re installing renewable technologies
SEDO 5 (A): Enhance the potential for economic development in the Energy and Green Economy sector so that Leitrim will be an exemplar County for addressing Climate Change

**Goal**
An exemplar County for addressing and responding to climate change

**Objectives**
SEDO 5A: Enhance the potential for economic development in the Energy and Green Economy sector so that Leitrim will be an exemplar county for Climate Change

**Target**
T1: An active, innovative renewable energy group in place
T2: 3 public buildings using renewable technology for heating by 2020
T3: Energy supply/infrastructure to meet any inward investment opportunities
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEDO 5 (A)</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Enabler</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enhance the potential for economic development in the Energy and Green Economy sector so that Leitrim will be an exemplar county for addressing Climate Change</td>
<td>T1: An active, innovative renewable energy group in place</td>
<td>A1: Develop a multi-agency group to oversee the development of renewable energy in Leitrim</td>
<td>LCC, LEO, LDC, SEAI, Teagasc, PPN GEBs, HEIs/ITs, WDC, LREG</td>
<td>Short - Med</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T2: 3 public buildings using renewable technology for heating by 2020</td>
<td>A2: Convert a number of Local Authority buildings as renewable energy exemplars</td>
<td>LCC, SEAI, DECLG, LREG</td>
<td>Long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A3: Educate school children, business and community on benefits of renewable technologies</td>
<td>LEO, LDC, SEAI, Teagasc, LREG, PPN</td>
<td>Short - Long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A4: Investigate and implement new models of extraction of timber from small forest holdings</td>
<td>LEO, GEBs, LCC, LREG</td>
<td>Short - Med</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T3: Energy supply/infrastructure to meet any inward investment opportunities</td>
<td>A5: Encourage the development and diffusion of innovative energy efficiency models among public as well as private sector employers in the county</td>
<td>LCC, LEO, LDC, SEAI, Teagasc, GEBs</td>
<td>Med-Long</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A6: Support opportunities for enterprise development and expansion of innovative companies involved in developing and supporting eco-construction</td>
<td>LEO, RDP</td>
<td>Short - Med</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A7: Facilitate greater knowledge sharing on biomass potential through the USEFE initiative</td>
<td>LCC, USEFE, BNM, ESB, GEBs, LREG</td>
<td>Short - Med</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A8: Develop training programmes to meet the needs of the growth in renewable energy</td>
<td>LEO, LDC, SEAI, Teagasc, GEBs</td>
<td>Short - Med</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A9: Work closely with the Forestry Industry</td>
<td>LCC, LREG</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport Group to secure the more efficient extraction of timber</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
B: Agriculture and Food

Context/Rationale

The focus groups carried out under this heading saw the following issues and potential solutions emerge:

- Lack of co-ordinated marketing amongst food producers
- Poor broadband quality, particularly in rural areas, impacts on food business and farming which tend to be rurally based
- Delivery issues for short shelf-life products for sale to Dublin and East coast markets: these also impact on food waste
- Lack of one stop shop for food regulation
- BRC accreditation is now needed but is expensive to achieve
- Packaging and labelling is a skill in itself needed to ensure proper marketing
- Smaller, fragmented farms and ageing profile of farmers
- Low prices for primary production products e.g. hill lamb which could be seen as a niche product

SEDO 5 (B): Enhance the potential for economic development in the Agriculture and Food sector by developing a vibrant rural economy driven by value-added agriculture and small food business

Goal

A vibrant rural economy driven by value-added agriculture and food

Objective

SEDO 5B: Enhance the potential for economic development in the Agriculture and Food sector by developing a vibrant rural economy driven by value-added agriculture and small food business

Targets

T1: 10 new food businesses established by 2021
T2: 8 new alternative farm enterprises in place by 2021
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEDO 5 (B)</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Enabler</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enhance the potential for economic development in the Agriculture and Food sector by developing a vibrant rural economy driven by value-added agriculture and small food business</td>
<td>T1: 10 new food businesses established by 2021</td>
<td>A1: Build on the green image of Leitrim and the success of food sector assets which are unique to Leitrim through further expansion to meet growing needs such as the Food Hub and Organic Centre</td>
<td>RDP, Interreg, LEO, LCC, Private sector</td>
<td>Medium-Long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A2: Develop model of mentoring for food producers to assist with issues around transport, equipment, training etc impacting on small food businesses</td>
<td>USEFE, LCC, LEO, EI, An Bord Bia, Food Producers</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T2: 8 new alternative farm enterprises in place by 2021</td>
<td>A3: Develop a Leitrim/Regional food website to assist with regulations, group marketing etc.</td>
<td>USEFE, LCC, LEO, EI, An Bord Bia, Food Producers</td>
<td>Short - Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A4: Develop further food showcases, marketing and meet the buyer opportunities both within the County and at major national events</td>
<td>USEFE, LCC, LEO, EI, An Bord Bia, Food Producers</td>
<td>Short - Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A5: Maximise the potential synergies between tourism, crafts and food sector particularly along the Blueway</td>
<td>USEFE, LCC, LEO, EI, An Bord Bia, Food Producers</td>
<td>Medium - Long</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A6: Assist the restaurant trade in promoting the ‘30km Menu’ initiative which could be expanded to the USEFE County Towns</td>
<td>USEFE, LCC, LEO, EI, An Bord Bia, Food Producers, Restaurants</td>
<td>Short - Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A7. Engage with Bord Bia through the Food Academy and Boxty Initiative to assist food businesses to grow and develop</td>
<td>LEO, Food Businesses, Bord Bia</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Responsible Bodies</td>
<td>Duration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A8.</td>
<td>Promote the County as part of the EU Nourish Healthy Regions Initiative</td>
<td>Food Hub, LCC, USEFE, Food Producers, Restaurants</td>
<td>Short - Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A9.</td>
<td>Develop and promote initiatives to support agricultural businesses e.g. Farmer markets, support to meet regulatory requirements, Organic farming</td>
<td>LEO, LCC, RDP, DSW</td>
<td>Short - Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A10.</td>
<td>Highlight and support potential farm diversification initiatives e.g. added value food, energy etc</td>
<td>Teagasc, LEO, RDP</td>
<td>Medium - Long</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A11.</td>
<td>Recruit farmers for business development programmes using local farmer leaders</td>
<td>Teagasc</td>
<td>Short - Long</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A12.</td>
<td>Assist organic producers and other specialised food producers in developing and promoting organic produce and specialised food from the county e.g. hill lamb.</td>
<td>Teagasc, RDP, LEO</td>
<td>Short - Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A13.</td>
<td>Maintain role in drainage of River Basin Districts and protection of Water Courses</td>
<td>LCC</td>
<td>Short - Long</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
C: Services, Manufacturing and ICT

Context/Rationale

The issues and potential solutions for this section were developed in conjunction with a broad spectrum of local businesses in ICT, Medical Devices, Wood Industry, Financial Services and Machinery and Quarrying. The issues raised and points made included:

- Lack of certain specialised skilled staff e.g. specialised toolmakers, process engineers, experienced software programmers
- Airport access from Ireland West does not suit business meetings in UK requiring a same day return
- Rail, road and air access remain critical in attracting investment
- Problems with broadband speed outside of towns is a particular challenge for businesses doing work in different time zones
- Quality of internal road network North – South within the County, ie the R280
- Carrick-on-Shannon By-Pass could be a threat to the town’s retail sector
- Access to venture capital is more difficult outside of Dublin
- Local training e.g. in apprenticeships, sales and marketing
- Regulations
- Leitrim has a good image for quality of life and is attractive as a location to live in but it needs to increase the number of businesses setting up: this is difficult when competing with places with Gateway and Hub status
- Leitrim has a very large diaspora dispersed across the globe: many of these have left to go to college and not returned
- Businesses don’t work to County boundaries and neither do people shop or work to such boundaries: this means a regional approach can maximize potential and Leitrim’s central location in the West and North West should be used to its advantage
SEDO 5 (C): Enhance the potential for economic development in the Services, Manufacturing and ICT Sectors by building on the positivity of existing companies to sell Leitrim as a prime business location

Goal
A County building on the positivity of existing companies to sell itself as a prime business location

Objective
SEDO 5C: Enhance the potential for economic development in the Services, Manufacturing and ICT Sectors by building on the positivity of existing companies to sell Leitrim as a prime business location

Target
T1: 5 new services and manufacturing businesses employing 20 plus people established by 2021
T2: Leitrim known for specific sub-sectors e.g. Business Process Outsourcing, Knowledge Process Outsourcing and Medical Devices
T3: Quarterly contact with Diaspora Database across the Globe
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEDO 5 (C)</th>
<th>Targets</th>
<th>Actions</th>
<th>Enabler</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Enhance the potential for economic development in the Services,</td>
<td>A1: Identify priority sub-sectors within services and manufacturing most likely to move to the County or expand existing operations</td>
<td>LCC, LEO</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Manufacturing and ICT Sectors by building on the positivity of existing companies to sell Leitrim as a prime business location</td>
<td>A2: Promote the Carrick Campus facility as a top class location for investment</td>
<td>LCC, LEO</td>
<td>Short – Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T1. 5 new services and manufacturing businesses employing 20+ people by 2021</td>
<td>A3: Develop a range of property solutions such as expanded Hive Innovation Centre North Leitrim</td>
<td>LCC, LEO, EI, IDA, RDP, Interreg</td>
<td>Medium - Long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T2: Leitrim known for specific sub-sectors e.g. Business Process Outsourcing, Knowledge Process Outsourcing and Medical Devices</td>
<td>A4: Encourage ready-to-go space to facilitate potential investment</td>
<td>LCC, LEO, EI</td>
<td>Short - Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A5. Work with business community in Carrick-on-Shannon and Manorhamilton to increase numbers connected to the MAN</td>
<td>LCC, LEO, Town Business Groups</td>
<td>Short - Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A6. Promote unique &quot;Business/Agency Welcoming Team Model&quot; for new start-ups</td>
<td>LCC, High Level Advisory Group</td>
<td>Short - Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A7. Build linkages to local colleges to increase knowledge transfer and develop Leitrim as a step down incubation facility</td>
<td>LCC, LEO, AIT, IT Sligo, NUIG, South West College</td>
<td>Short – Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A8. Develop a shared sales and marketing services for manufacturing and services businesses in Leitrim</td>
<td>LEO, LCC, HIVE</td>
<td>Medium - Long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A9. Develop further the partnerships with organizations such as Connect Ireland, the GAA and other networks in order to connect with Leitrim Diaspora using <a href="http://www.leitrim.ie">www.leitrim.ie</a> in conjunction with</td>
<td>LCC, USEFE</td>
<td>Short - Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USEFE Initiative</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>T3: Quarterly contact with Diaspora Database across the Globe</strong></td>
<td><strong>A10. Build up a profile of the skills base of Leitrim Diaspora and regional diaspora</strong></td>
<td><strong>LCC, LEO, USEFE</strong></td>
<td><strong>Short – Long</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
D: Creative, Arts and Culture Sector

Context/Rationale

A number of different focus groups were held with different sub-sectors of the Creative, Arts and Culture sectors. These were held to reflect (a) the vigour of the sector within Leitrim and (b) distinctiveness within the sector. The issues and potential solutions emerging are detailed below:

- Insufficient opportunities and supports to develop new work
- Insufficient opportunities to present new work nationally and internationally
- Insufficient opportunities to engage in formal and informal Continuing Professional Development
- Reluctance on behalf of the public generally to value or pay for art/music/performance etc
- Lack of appreciation of the positive impacts of the creative sector, socially, culturally and economically.
- Insufficient opportunities to network internationally

SED0 5 (D): Enhance the potential for economic development in the Creative, Arts and Culture Sector by raising awareness of the culturally-rich and artistically-vibrant offering and services provided in/by Leitrim
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEDO 5 (D)</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Enabler</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enhance the potential for economic development in the Creative, Arts and Culture Sector by raising awareness of the culturally rich and artistically vibrant offering and services in Leitrim</td>
<td>T1: Development of one annual event of international importance</td>
<td>A1: Encourage a variety of earning opportunities for creative sector practitioners such as working with schools/community groups and developing other collaborations</td>
<td>LCC, LEO, Schools, Town Business Groups, DSP</td>
<td>Short - Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A2: Create networking opportunities and strategies for information sharing at a local, regional, national and international level</td>
<td>LCC, LEO, USEFE, WDC</td>
<td>Long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T2: 1,000 FTE people employed in the creative sector in Leitrim</td>
<td>A3: Develop a flexible ad-hoc training platform to meet the needs of a diverse community</td>
<td>LCC, LEO, DSP, SICAP, LDC</td>
<td>Medium-Long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A4: Create opportunities for international artists to work in Leitrim</td>
<td>LCC, LEO, RDP, WDC</td>
<td>Short - Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A5: Develop local, regional, national and international publicity strategies for the creative sector</td>
<td>LCC, LEO, USEFE, WDC</td>
<td>Short - Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A6: Develop a film festival in Leitrim of national/international appeal and use it as part of a platform to promote Leitrim as a destination for filming and to support filmmakers based in Leitrim</td>
<td>LCC, LEO, Film Businesses, Arts Council</td>
<td>Short - Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A7: Ensure the development and promotion of digital content arts/design/creative materials in Leitrim</td>
<td>LEO, LCC</td>
<td>Short - Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A8: Examine the possibility of developing a</td>
<td>LEO, LCC, EI</td>
<td>Short -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix 2 - 11th January  2016 - Council Meeting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| creative "hive" model in the North of the County | Long |
| A9: Build on the success of the Harnessing Creativity initiative linking businesses and artists | LEO, USEFE |
| A10: Promote the availability of investment funds to support the creative sector e.g. WDC, Leitrim Enterprise Fund, Microfinance Ireland | LEO, WDC |
| A11: Develop links and encourage the development of other rurally based Creative Sector training platforms in Europe with a view to creating a Europe-wide Creative Sector training and professional development network | LCC, LEO, Arts Council, EU |
| A12: Utilise existing vacant property and promote the availability of pop-up shops for use at festivals and events to help promote the creative sector | LCC, RDP |

| Short – Medium |
| Short - Medium |
| Medium -Long |
| Short - Medium |
E: Tourism

Context/Rationale

Tourism is one of the County’s most important sectors and currently supports in the region of 1,200 jobs. It has the potential to play a pivotal role in the economic development of the Leitrim. The LECP’s tourism section is based on “A Growth Strategy for Tourism in Leitrim 2015 – 2021, produced by the Leitrim Tourism Growth Alliance (LGTA).

SEDO 5 (E): Enhance the potential for economic development in the Tourism Sector by ensuring a united cohesive approach by the tourism trade and tourism agencies in the County

Goal

A County renowned as an authentic, friendly tourist destination.

Objective

SEDO 5E: Enhance the potential for economic development in the Tourism Sector by ensuring a united cohesive approach by the tourism trade and agencies in the County

Target

T1: Double the numbers of tourist visitors by 2021 to 296,000
T2: Increase Tourism revenue to €70m pa by 2021
T3: Double the number of jobs supported by the tourism sector in the County by 2021 to 2,400
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEDO 5 (E)</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Enabler</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enhance the potential for economic development in the Tourism Sector by ensuring a united cohesive approach by the tourism trade and agencies in the county</td>
<td>T1: Double the numbers of tourist visitors by 2021 to 296,000</td>
<td>T1: Double the numbers of tourist visitors by 2021 to 296,000</td>
<td>Leitrim Tourism, Trade, LTGA, Stakeholders etc</td>
<td>Short - Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T2: Increase Tourism revenue to €70m pa by 2021</td>
<td>T2: Increase Tourism revenue to €70m pa by 2021</td>
<td>LCC, Leitrim Tourism, LTGA, Trade, LRF, Stakeholders</td>
<td>Medium-Long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T3: Double the number of jobs supported by the tourism sector in the County by 2021 to 2,400</td>
<td>T3: Double the number of jobs supported by the tourism sector in the County by 2021 to 2,400</td>
<td>Leitrim Tourism, Trade, LTGA, LRF, Stakeholders</td>
<td>Long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(All as per the Leitrim Tourism Strategy 2015-2021)</td>
<td>A1: Develop a clear focus on market segments that have the best fit with Leitrim</td>
<td>Leitrim Tourism, Trade, LTGA, Stakeholders etc</td>
<td>Short - Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A2: Identify infrastructure requirements for key selling points, including building a strategic alliance with Ireland West airport to include signage for Leitrim at and around the airport</td>
<td>LCC, Leitrim Tourism, LTGA, Trade, LRF, Stakeholders</td>
<td>Medium-Long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A3: Develop experiences around key selling points and products with market leading potential: lakes, Blueway, Greenway, SAINT, cruising, landscape, northern glens, angling, Wild Atlantic Way, eco-tourism, land and water activities, culture, festivals and diaspora-related activities, heritage and arts, Kingfisher Trail and geo-tourism</td>
<td>Leitrim Tourism, Trade, LTGA, LRF, Stakeholders</td>
<td>Long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A4: Develop a systematic programme of communications and sharing of information</td>
<td>Leitrim Tourism, Trade, LTGA, Stakeholders etc</td>
<td>Short - Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A5: Make it easier for customers to buy through cross-platform marketing communications</td>
<td>Leitrim Tourism, Trade, LTGA, Stakeholders etc</td>
<td>Short - Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A6: Build on the tourism potential offered by the Wild Atlantic Way e.g. promoting Leitrim’s coastline, River Drowse, Fowley’s Falls, Lough Melvin etc</td>
<td>Leitrim Tourism, Trade, LTGA, Stakeholders etc</td>
<td>Short - Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A7: Carry out a feasibility study to identify strategic accommodation needs and type required to match the tourism experiences being developed</td>
<td>LCC, RDP, Leitrim Tourism</td>
<td>Short - Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Appendix 2 - 11th January 2016 - Council Meeting
| around key selling points | A8: Bring unused housing stock in rural areas back into productive use in rural areas e.g. for tourist accommodation | RDP, LCC, LDC | Short Medium |
Economic Theme 6: Women in Business

Context/Rationale

In Leitrim as elsewhere women are more likely than men to migrate away for work and, if they remain at home, are less likely to be economically active. Among the other issues identified here have been:

- No Business Women’s Network in place such as those that exist in some neighbouring counties
- Women have to be all things in their businesses as there are shared sales or marketing systems in place
- Many women have strong family or care commitments to balance with their business lives

SEDO 6:
Enhance the role played by Leitrim Business Women in the economic development of the County

Goal
A County with a vibrant women-in-business sector which encourages more women to consider business as a career option

Objective
SEDO 6: Enhance the role played by Leitrim Business Women in the economic development of the County

Target
T1: Active working Business Women's Network in Leitrim
T2: 15 new businesses headed by women established
T3: Two events organised annually at County and/or regional level for business women in Leitrim
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEDO 6</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Enabler</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Enhance the role played by Leitrim Business Women in the economic development of the County</td>
<td>T1: Active working Business Women's Network in Leitrim</td>
<td>WIBL, LCC</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>T2: 20 new businesses headed by women established</td>
<td>LCC, LEO, USEFE, WIBL, NLWG</td>
<td>Short - Med</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A2. Two events held annually for Leitrim Business Women (which may be linked into the wider region)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>T3: At least two events organised at County and/or regional level for business women in Leitrim annually</td>
<td>LCC, LEO, USEFE, WIBL, SICAP</td>
<td>Short - Med</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A3. Identify the main obstacles to women setting up their own business in Leitrim</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A4. Look at how obstacles can be removed/mitigated</td>
<td>LCC, LEO, USEFE, WIBL, SICAP</td>
<td>Short - Med</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A5. Showcase successful business women in Leitrim via <a href="http://www.leitrim.ie">www.leitrim.ie</a> and regional and national outlets</td>
<td>LCC, LEO, USEFE, WIBL</td>
<td>Short - Med</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A6. Provide specific training for the business needs of this sector</td>
<td>LEO, RDP, USEFE, SICAP</td>
<td>Short - Med</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7. The LECP Community Element

Background and Rationale

Departmental Guidance (Source: DECLG Guidelines, January 2015, Part 3) sets out how the Community elements of the LECP should focus on relevant social and economic issues which can be addressed at a community level, which can involve community engagement or participation and which address the specific needs of communities. The underpinning aims are to:

- Promote and mainstream equality (addressing a number of horizontal priorities such as Sustainability, Equality, Poverty, Rurality, Age and Disability)
- Develop and implement sustainable objectives
- Maximise returns from available resources and reduce duplication
- Ensure meaningful participation by communities in the planning process and consultation and engagement with communities generally
- Utilise community development principles in the LECP development process specifically and the work of LCDCs generally
- Set the local context for mainstream funding programmes such as local development/social inclusion programmes, community services programmes, etc.

The Plan is to put forward Actions to address identified areas of priority and have regard to:

- Equality
- Sustainability
- Maximising resources
- Meaningful participation, consultation and engagement
- Community development principles
- Setting a local context for mainstream funding programmes

The Leitrim LCDC used this Guidance to shape both its planning process and the content of the LECP’s underpinning County Profile. This has ensured:

- The Community elements of the LECP accurately reflect Government Guidance
- Local communities and key stakeholders have been consulted
- The Plan’s content is evidence-based

A Life-Cycle Approach

The idea has been to plan for Leitrim and its people on the basis of an integrated life-cycle model. The intended outcomes are that more people are born here and stay here, enjoying a lifestyle that’s positive, secure, prosperous and inclusive right throughout the life cycle.
The Plan is of necessity based on a robust assessment of Leitrim’s needs, gaps and deficits. Allied to that however is a firm appreciation of the County’s many consistent strengths and assets, including its community and social structures. The Plan stakeholders bring a total commitment to the County, strong track records to date in achievement/delivery and a firm belief that more can and will be done to secure a strong and positive future.

The Community Elements of the Leitrim LECP

Each Sustainable Community Objective (SCO) is also worked through in turn below using the Goal-Objective-Target-Result/Action sequence. Enablers are also identified and a Timescale (Short, Medium or Long) attached to each Action.

Community Theme 1: Living and Well-Being

Context/Rationale

Leitrim’s rurality and largely-dispersed population are seen as ‘positives’ rather than ‘negatives’ in that they sustain a particular community spirit, preserve a number of cultural traditions and provide a stewardship for many of Leitrim’s assets. They do however present particular challenges in terms of service delivery. With personal lifestyle now accepted as a major determinant of health and well-being, the isolation, loneliness and marginalisation experienced by the County’s significant numbers of people living alone in turn underpin a number of mental health issues. These include suicide and self-harm.

The growing acceptance that health and well-being are shaped by a number of determinants means that increasingly the focus is shifting from ‘cure’ to ‘prevention.’ The model which the LCEP subscribes to is the now-standard one set out below:
Many of Leitrim’s current groups, organisations and activities play major roles here and have the potential to contribute much more.

The County’s reported crime figures are low but there is a growing fear of crime locally, accentuated by the closure of Garda stations.

The ageing population will generate growing care needs, regardless of whether they live independently or in supported provision. Although health and social care is now the County’s largest employment sector, Leitrim has no ‘in-County’ acute hospital/tertiary care provision and patients/users have to travel significant distances elsewhere. Childcare provision across the County is also under increasing pressure.

Leitrim enjoys very strong heritage asserts, both natural – water, forests and hills/mountains - and man-made. It also has well-rooted communities and a very strong attachment-to-place. Running parallel with this is a vigorous local culture-and-arts sector which is multi-focused and multi-layered. A significant critical mass now exists in the County with, for example, creative industries providing just over one job in every twenty-five in Leitrim. Sport is also important across the County with a thriving organisational infrastructure and high levels of participation but simultaneously with an under-provision of facilities.

There is a strong, committed and tried-and-tested community infrastructure (including many good buildings/facilities) in place. At the same time many of Leitrim’s smaller towns and villages are experiencing issues related to the ongoing closures/removal of Garda, Post Offices, schools and shops. The County also includes high housing vacancy rates.

Leitrim’s geography and low population densities mean that many people/communities face transport/accessibility issues. Broadband and ICT can tackle the ‘tyranny of distance’ and simultaneously help reduce the generation of
'greenhouse gases'. Modern technological options need to be taken up to address recent and current gaps in provision.

Finally, climate change will continue to have an impact on life, life-styles and well-being in Leitrim. Steps need to be taken to reduce energy use generally, to increase the supply and use of energy from renewable sources and to ensure the County’s infrastructure is fit-for-purpose (ie resilient) in the face of more extreme weather patterns and consequences such as flooding.

SCO1:
Maintain Leitrim as a safe, healthy and attractive place for all age groups to live in, work in and to visit

Goal
Leitrim, a safe, sustainable, clean and attractive County which values, respects and harnesses its heritage, environment and people

Objectives
SCO 1: Maintain Leitrim as a safe and attractive place for all age groups to live in, work in and to visit

Target
T1: Reported crime levels kept below the national averages
T2: Zero road traffic deaths
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Enabler</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| SCO 1: Maintain Leitrim as a safe and attractive place for all age groups to live in, work in and to visit | T1: Reported violent crime, burglary and criminal damage levels kept below the national averages  
T2: Zero road traffic deaths  
T3: Purple Flag status retained annually in the County Town | A1: Work to ensure ongoing personal and community safety through community alert/safety schemes  
A2: Ensure children and families are educated re Safe Care  
A3: Maintain the County town’s Purple Flag status and share its learning with other Leitrim towns and villages  
A4: Develop and implement a broadly-based Road Safety Plan for the County  
A5: Develop and support initiatives which maintain and harness Leitrim’s heritage, habitat, environmental, water and air quality, cultural and arts assets  
A6: Promote Leitrim’s unique beauty, habitats, heritage and environment so as to maximise opportunities for learning and enjoyment | Garda, Community Groups, JPC  
TUSLA, Garda, LSP, Youth Services, C&YPSC  
LCC, Garda, COC, Town Businesses  
LCC, Garda, RSA | Short  
Ongoing  
Ongoing  
Short  
Ongoing |
SCO2:
Support initiatives to tackle and adapt to climate change

Goal
Leitrim, a safe, sustainable, clean and attractive County which values, respects and harnesses its heritage, environment and people

Objectives
SCO 2: Support initiatives to tackle and adapt to climate change

Target
T1: 5 new community-led energy projects in place
T2: 3 community water-based eco-projects in place by 2021
T3: New infrastructure developments addressing/reflecting flood prevention and extreme weather issues
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Enabler</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SCO2: Support initiatives to tackle and adapt to climate change</td>
<td>T1: 5 new community-led energy projects in place</td>
<td>A1: Build on existing successful models re securing local community benefit from alternative energy projects</td>
<td>RDP, PPN, Community Groups</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T2: 3 community water-based eco-projects in place by 2021</td>
<td>A2: Roll out the learning from the ‘Mohill Green Town’ initiative across the County</td>
<td>RDP, SEAI, LCC, LEO</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A3: Ensure that proposed energy projects are benchmarked against best practice, are consistent with the County’s Tourism and Recreation Strategy, protect and respect Leitrim’s unique habitat, culture, environment and landscape as well as those communities impacted on by the projects and that ‘new’ renewables projects don’t merely displace existing renewables projects</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T3: New infrastructure developments addressing/reflecting flood prevention and extreme weather issues</td>
<td>A4: Ensure physical planning and all new infrastructure and built fabric developments reflect and respect changing weather patterns and their consequences such as storms and flooding</td>
<td>LCC, CFRAM</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SCO3:
Sustain and develop the County’s robust 'community activity-related' infrastructure, experience, knowledge and know-how, including improving the transport and mobility options for people and communities.

Goal
Leitrim, a place where good personal lifestyles underpin positive physical and mental health and well-being.

Objectives
SCO 3: Sustain and develop the County’s robust 'community activity-related' infrastructure, experience, knowledge and know-how, including improving transport and mobility options for people and communities.

Target
T1: Audit completed of community buildings available to deliver multi-level well-being and inclusion services.
T2: Increased participation in sport and physical activity.
T3: People's self-assessed health status matching national averages.
T4: Reduced anxiety and depression admissions to hospital.
T5: New regional sports and physical activity campus in place in Carrick-on-Shannon.
T6: County-wide coverage by community transport services.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Enabler</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SCO 3: Sustain and develop the County’s robust ‘community activity-related’ infrastructure, experience, knowledge and know-how, including improving transport and mobility options for people and communities</td>
<td>T1: Audit completed of community buildings available to deliver multi-level well-being and inclusion services</td>
<td>A1: Carry out the audit of community buildings</td>
<td>SICAP, RDP, LDC</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T2: Increased participation in sport, recreation and physical and social/community activities</td>
<td>A2: Identify locations requiring additional community facilities and/or increased social interaction and other service provision</td>
<td>LDC, SICAP, PPN</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T3: People's self-assessed health status matching national averages</td>
<td>A3: Progress the development of Library and arts facilities across the County</td>
<td>LCC (Library Service and Arts Office), Arts Council, Library Council of Ireland</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T4: Reduced anxiety and depression admissions to hospital</td>
<td>A4: Develop participation opportunities and support groups to develop facilities for a range of sport, physical, social and recreation opportunities</td>
<td>LSP, RDP, SCG, LDC, LRF, PPN</td>
<td>Ongoing - Long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T5: New regional sports and physical activity campus in place in Carrick-on-Shannon</td>
<td>A5: Develop housing and support models across the Municipal Districts to help vulnerable people (older people and those with disabilities and chronic health/well-being conditions) live independently and safely</td>
<td>HSE, LCC HAs</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A6: Build on existing successful models re promoting positive</td>
<td>HSE, LSP</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Responsible Bodies</td>
<td>Status</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A7</td>
<td>Promote mental health and wellbeing and work towards preventing suicide by developing a County suicide prevention plan ‘Connecting for Life Leitrim’ in line with the national strategy on suicide prevention.</td>
<td>HSE</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A8</td>
<td>Develop befriending initiatives to support carers and vulnerable groups</td>
<td>SICAP, LDC, HSE</td>
<td>Short</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A9</td>
<td>Extend outreach provision of health and well-being services</td>
<td>HSE</td>
<td>Short</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A10</td>
<td>Support the provision of affordable child care</td>
<td>LCCC, LDC, PPN</td>
<td>Short</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T6</td>
<td>County-wide coverage by community transport services</td>
<td>TCU</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A11</td>
<td>Maintain and develop a range of community transport options, eg direct provision, contracted provision, car-sharing and voluntary driver schemes</td>
<td>TCU</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A12</td>
<td>Maintain and develop linkages to national transport and car-sharing schemes to access services, particularly health services</td>
<td>TCU</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Community Theme 2: Learning and Training

Context/Rationale

Leitrim produces a well-educated population but one that is often seen as ‘educated to leave’. With no Third Level facility located within the County and limited local delivery of further education and training, people have to leave Leitrim to access these opportunities. Broadband difficulties meanwhile limit many people’s options in the areas of distance or e-learning.

In terms of educational achievement Leitrim performs very close to the national averages but literacy and numeracy issues persist and are not just limited to older age groups whose formal education had ended early.

The education sector’s physical infrastructure is an important part of the County’s fabric and is a resource that could be used in new and additional ways to help deliver life-long learning.

Economic changes – for example a major decline in the construction industry – mean many people require re-training and up-skilling. One of the EU 2020 targets (see Section 2 above of the LECP) is to have at least 40% of 30-34 year olds completing Third Level education. The Educational Attainment Thematic Report 2011 identified that people aged 25-to-64 with at best a Primary Education only have an unemployment rate of 24% whilst those of their peers with a Tertiary Education have an unemployment rate of only 7%.

The latest Skills Bulletin from the Expert Group on Future Skills Needs (July 2013), indicates shortages in a number of areas, particularly biopharma, pharma-chem scientists, professional and technical precision engineers, ICT software developers, project managers, security experts, business and finance professionals, some healthcare professionals and specialist sales and customer service staff in online and contact centres. These profiled shortages need to be met through education and training opportunities for those in the education sector and through labour activation programmes for those who are unemployed.

The work of the Regional Skills Fora, to be led by the Department of Education and Skills, will be vital in continuing to decide priorities and inform work here.
SCO 4:
Create a culture of lifelong learning and continue to improve the County's educational performance levels

Goal
Leitrim, a County of well-trained, well-educated and well-skilled people who are ready and fit for work and social involvement

Objectives
SCO 4: Create a culture of lifelong learning and continue to improve the County's educational performance levels

Target
T1: Sustainable Demand/Supply balance in place for Early Years Education and Care provision
T2: Increased 'in-County' provision of Third Level courses
T3: Second and Third Level educational performances exceeding the national averages
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Enabler</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SCO 4: Create a culture of lifelong learning and continue to improve the County's educational performance levels</td>
<td>T1: Sustainable Demand/Supply balance in place re Early Years Education and Care provision</td>
<td>A1: Sustain existing provision and meet identified gaps in Early Years Education and Care provision</td>
<td>LCCC</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T2: Increased 'in-County' provision of Third Level courses</td>
<td>A2: Support Third Level Colleges and institutions to deliver significant outreach within Leitrim through the provision of local marketing and facilities</td>
<td>ETB, LEO, LCC, The Dock, LDH, HEIs/ITs</td>
<td>Short - Medium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A3: Use existing educational provision/infrastructure to develop and deliver life-long learning</td>
<td>ETB, Teagasc, LCC (Library Service and Arts Office), Dock, LEO</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A4: Scope an integrated Leitrim Community Education Centre to support the needs of all learners from early school leavers through to Third Level</td>
<td>ETB, RDP, LEO</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T3: Second and Third Level educational performances exceeding the national averages</td>
<td>A5: Implement initiatives which encourage people of all abilities to continue their education and learning past Second Level</td>
<td>ETB, SICAP, LDC</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A6: Identify gaps in and opportunities for education and learning for people with special needs in Leitrim</td>
<td>ETB, NLN, SICAP, LDC</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A7: Support initiatives which encourage pupils of all abilities to continue their education</td>
<td>ETB, SICAP, LDC</td>
<td>Short</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Community Theme 3: Working and Growing

Context/Rationale

Leitrim is a place of economic variety with strong public, private and community sectors. Economic activity rates however lag slightly behind the national averages whilst economic output lags considerably behind. The County has a strong entrepreneurial spirit and whilst it is largely a place of micro-businesses it is also home to a number of major private sector employers.

Many people however have to leave Leitrim for work, on both a daily and more long-term basis.

The public sector has grown significantly in the past decade and health/social care is now a very significant source of jobs, particularly for women.

Farming remains important – as both an economic activity and a social/community anchor - but it is restricted by local land quality and underemployment is a growing issue in this sector. Farming however does instil an entrepreneurial culture in people and communities and can provide a business and work-readiness grounding for people interested in taking up new work and business opportunities.

Overall unemployment levels continue to fall but remain significant and the labour force participation rate is slightly below the national average.

The County is home to a vibrant and growing creative industries sector.

The various parts of the community sector generate large amounts of social, physical and economic capital, the vast majority of which is not supported by the public purse in cash terms.
SCO5: Improve the job prospects of target groups by upskilling people to meet the needs of existing and growth sectors and by sustaining and developing social enterprises in these roles.

**Objectives**

SCO5: Improve the job prospects of target groups* by upskilling people to meet the needs of existing and growth sectors and by sustaining and developing social enterprises** in these roles.

**Target**

- T1: 23 people progressing to F/T, P/T or self-employment within six months of receipt of a Goal 3 employment support
- T2: Reduced numbers on the Live Register
- T3: Increased Labour Force Participation Rate
- T4: Social enterprises created and sustained

* Key target groups are seen to include: People with disabilities, older people, women, young people, people living alone, Travellers/Roma, people with low educational attainment, people out of work or under-employed, ‘New Leitrim’ people and communities and marginalised people and communities. These target groups reflect those identified in Departmental LECP Guidance, the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) and the National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2007-16.

** A social enterprise is deemed to be a non-profit-taking, volunteer-based and driven body, working to a business model within a clear and transparent governance framework and set of rules, with a robust user involvement and which reinvests any financial surpluses in its core business activities.

The Actions required to achieve these are added in below:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Enabler</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SCO 5: Improve the job prospects of target groups by upskilling people to meet the needs of existing and growth sectors and by sustaining and developing social enterprises in these roles</td>
<td>T1: 23 people progressing to F/T, P/T or self-employment within six months of receipt of a SICAP Goal 3 employment support</td>
<td>A1: Support farm families, small-holders and others to identify and develop income generation options on and off the farm</td>
<td>RDP, LDC SICAP, Teagasc</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T2: Reduced numbers on the Live Register</td>
<td>A2: Support job activation initiatives which help ‘job-excluded’ people to return to, enter and/or stay in work</td>
<td>Gateway TUS, RSS, Social Employment</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A3: Support training and skills development for existing and growth sectors</td>
<td>LEO, RDP SICAP, LDC</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A4: Develop innovative ways of linking Second Level students with employers and cultural/sporting organisations</td>
<td>ETB, DES, SICAP, IFI</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A5: Develop supports for people with disabilities and/or mental health issues</td>
<td>NLN, SICAP, Response NW</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T3: Appropriately skilled labour pool in place</td>
<td>A6: Skills deficits identified annually via LEO Employers Audit</td>
<td>LEO</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A7: Support staged build-ups to people’s entry and/or return to work, from whatever position they are in</td>
<td>DSP, SICAP LDC</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| T4: Social enterprises created and sustained | A8: Support the development of a wide range of social enterprises to:  
- Sustain and anchor communities  
- Provide and ‘activate for’ jobs | RDP, SICAP, LDC | Short |
|---|---|---|---|
Community Theme 4: Inclusive and Welcoming

Context/Rationale

Leitrim’s geography and its deficits in terms of some core public services such as acute health care and Third Level education, as well as people’s difficulties in accessing education, work and social opportunities, all combine to heighten the risk of social exclusion. Social exclusion is about those things – usually a combination of a lack of money, barriers (both physical and attitudinal) and low levels of knowledge/information – which prevent people and communities from engaging in ‘mainstream’ life.

A particular concern in Leitrim is the large number of people living alone. The past, current and ongoing importance of locally-developed and locally-delivered social and community activities in addressing this issue cannot be over-stated.

Low incomes are another concern as are the difficulties many people have with literacy and numeracy – which are increasingly important in terms of people’s ability to participate to best advantage in modern day living.

Leitrim is also a County of social and cultural variety, whose diverse needs cannot be met by ‘one-size-fits-all’ solutions. It is important that inter-culturalism, equality and diversity are promoted in all settings across the County – work, community, schools/education/training, public services, culture/arts/leisure and in the public realm.
SCO6:
Improve the opportunities for and capacity of target groups and communities to take part in economic and civic society, including progressing peace-building in Leitrim

* Key target groups are seen to include: People with disabilities, older people, women, young people, people living alone, Travellers/Roma, people with low educational attainment, people out of work or under-employed, 'New Leitrim’ people and communities and marginalised people and communities. These target groups reflect those identified in Departmental Community Plan Guidance, the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) and the National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2007-16.

The Actions required to achieve these are set out below:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Enabler</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SCO 6: Improve the opportunities for and capacity of target groups and communities to take part in economic and civic society, including progressing peace-building in Leitrim</td>
<td>T1: Increased capacity within target groups</td>
<td>A1: Support existing structures and networks which address exclusion</td>
<td>RDP, LDC, SICAP, PPN</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A2: Support new capacity-building initiatives</td>
<td>RDP, LDC, SICAP, LCC, PPN</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A3: Improve access to supports for all target groups and particularly for children and parents</td>
<td>TUSLA, SICAP, RDP, HSE, LCC, PPN</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A4: Implement a facilitated community arts programme to address barriers faced by communities to participate in the arts</td>
<td>LCC, SICAP, LDC</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T2: Increased community participation in planning and decision-making</td>
<td>A5: Promote, through community development approaches, the participation of all in public and community planning and decision-making processes</td>
<td>LCC, SICAP, PPN, LDC</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T3: All new buildings and events, programmes and activities 'access-proofed'</td>
<td>A6: Address barriers faced by target groups/communities in accessing social, economic, educational and cultural activities</td>
<td>LCC, RDP, SICAP, LDC, PPN</td>
<td>Short</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T4: Leitrim PEACE IV programme successfully delivered</td>
<td>A7: Develop and support peace-building initiatives, for example activities within communities, schools and faiths</td>
<td>LPP</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
8. Implementation Issues

The ‘Leitrim Dash-Board’: Strategic Indicators and Targets

A number of indicators and targets have been extracted from the Plan to form a high level ‘dash-board’ which will show at-a-glance how Leitrim as a County is performing. They are set out below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Data Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>County population of 31,798 in 2011</td>
<td>A County population of over 35,000 by 2022</td>
<td>CSO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>38% of population aged 15-44 in 2011</td>
<td>42% aged 15-44 by 2021 (national average was 44% in 2011)</td>
<td>CSO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health and well-being</td>
<td>87% believed their health to be Good or Very Good in 2011</td>
<td>National average (which was 88% in 2011) reached or bettered by 2021</td>
<td>CSO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Activity</td>
<td>At least 10 community festivals in place in 2015</td>
<td>10 community festivals continuing for at least three years</td>
<td>LCC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,000 participants in LSP Women in Sport programmes 2010-14</td>
<td>1,100 participants in LSP Women in Sport programmes 2014-17</td>
<td>LSP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 Post-Primary Schools and 684 participants in the Girls Active Programme</td>
<td>6 Schools pa and 750 participants over 4 years</td>
<td>LSP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts, Culture and Creativity</td>
<td>4.4% of working population employed in the Creative Sector (619 FTE)</td>
<td>1,000 FTE employed in the Creative Sector</td>
<td>Creative Frame</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>73 arts-related professional development workshops/events</td>
<td>150 professional development workshops/events</td>
<td>LCC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No recurring international arts-related events</td>
<td>1 recurring event of international significance</td>
<td>Arts Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 international artists supported to work in Leitrim</td>
<td>10 international artists supported to work in Leitrim</td>
<td>LCC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Community safety</strong></td>
<td>16 supported Creative Sector workspaces in Leitrim</td>
<td>40 supported Creative Sector workspaces in Leitrim</td>
<td>LCC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recorded violent crime rate of 308 per 100,000 population in 2012</td>
<td>Held at 75% or below of the national rate (which was 404 per 100,000 in 2012)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Garda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recorded burglary rate of 408 per 100,000 population in 2012-13</td>
<td>Held at 65% or below of the national rate (which was 613 per 100,000 in 2012-13)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Garda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No of Public Order Offences in the County town between 11.00pm and 5.00am: 2011= 110, 2012=78, 2013=86, 2014=84</td>
<td>Ongoing reduction in numbers</td>
<td></td>
<td>Garda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zero road traffic deaths in 2012; 2 in 2013</td>
<td>Secure and maintain zero road traffic deaths</td>
<td></td>
<td>Garda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>‘Purple Flag’ status maintained for Carrick-on-Shannon</td>
<td></td>
<td>LCC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Education and training</strong></th>
<th>18% of population in 2011 had not progressed beyond Primary Education level</th>
<th>National average (which was 15% in 2011) reached or exceeded by 2021</th>
<th>CSO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20% of the Over 15 population in 2011 whose education had ceased had attained a Third Level qualification</td>
<td>National average (which was 25% in 2011) reached or exceeded by 2021</td>
<td></td>
<td>CSO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Working</strong></th>
<th>Labour Force Participation rate of 60% in 2011</th>
<th>National rate (which was 62% in 2011) equalled or bettered by 2021</th>
<th>CSO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2,989 people on the Live Register in May 2014</td>
<td>Numbers reduced</td>
<td></td>
<td>CSO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8,042 jobs in the County in 2011</td>
<td>1,500 new jobs created by 2021</td>
<td></td>
<td>CSO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>20 new businesses headed by women in place by 2021</td>
<td></td>
<td>LEO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Tourism</strong></th>
<th>144,000 visitors pa currently</th>
<th>Visitor numbers doubled to 296,000 pa by 2021</th>
<th>LTGA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| **Business Growth** | N/A | 10 new food businesses and five new service/manufacturing businesses employing >20 people in place by 2021 | LEO |

| **Towns and Villages** | N/A | 20 shops availing of Town Centre Incentive Schemes | LCC |
Climate Change  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>by 2020</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,363 homes improved via Warmer Homes scheme between 2006 and 2014</td>
<td>Energy efficiency of 150 homes improved pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three public buildings heated from renewable sources</td>
<td>Three additional public buildings heated from renewable sources by 2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Inclusion  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>by 2020</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>162 community groups/organisations registered with Leitrim Public Participation Network (PPN) in 2015</td>
<td>40% increase in the number of groups registered with the PPN</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An Integrated Approach to Implementation

Whilst the LECP is made up from Economic and Community elements it is essential that analysis, thinking, planning and, sometimes, delivery are shared across the two strands. The Table below shows the strategic connectivity between Strategic Economic Development Objectives (SEDOs) and Sustainable Community Objectives (SCOs), i.e. the shaded areas show where there is a particular commonality of purpose between SEDOs and SCOs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEDOs*</th>
<th>SCOs*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5A</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5B</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5C</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5E</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* SEDO 1: Leitrim a visionary leader in an innovative, competitive region with high quality environment, first class infrastructure and an exceptional quality of life
SEDO 2: Facilitate creation of new sustainable jobs across a variety of sectors in existing and new businesses
SEDO 3: Facilitate infrastructure improvements
SEDO 4: Strengthen the fabric of our towns and villages
SEDO 5: Enhance the potential for economic development in individual sectors
SEDO 6: Enhance the role played by Leitrim Business Women
SCO1: Maintain Leitrim as a safe and attractive place to live in, work in and to visit
SCO2: Support initiatives to tackle climate change
SCO3: Sustain and develop the County’s robust 'community activity-related' infrastructure, experience, knowledge and know-how
SCO4: Create a culture of lifelong learning
SCO5: Improve the job prospects of target groups, including through upskilling
SCO6: Improve the opportunities for and capacity of target groups and communities to take part in economic and civic society

Implementing the Themes

The key implementers by Theme are likely to be:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategic Theme</th>
<th>Key Implementers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S1: Leading Leitrim</td>
<td>LCC, RDP, SCP, EI, IDA, INTERREG, LEO, LSP, RDP, USEFE, NWRA, ICBAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Theme</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E1: Leitrim and its Region</td>
<td>LCC, DECLG, DCMNR, BNM, ESB, HEIs/ITs, LEO, ETB, Teagasc, Interreg, USEFE, NLAs, IDA, EI, local colleges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E2: Job Creation and Business Growth</td>
<td>LCC, DECLG, DCENR, Interreg, Town Business Groups, RDP, Leitrim Diaspora, DJE, Interreg, Town Business Groups, RDP, Leitrim Diaspora, DAFM, Estate Agents, DOT, DSP, Leitrim Age Friendly Alliance, Local Colleges, LEO, Third Level Institutions, SICAP, ESB, Bord na Mona, Neighbouring Local Authorities, regional businesses, Dock Arts Centre, Leitrim Sports Partnership, Leitrim Tourism, LSP, LTGA, LDC, SOLAS, RDP, LAFA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E3: Infrastructure</td>
<td>LCC, DECLG, DCENR, DJE, TBGs, Estate Agents, INTERREG, Leitrim Diaspora, TCU, TII, IW/UE, LEO, RDP, IDA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E4: Towns and Villages</td>
<td>LCC, LEO, DTST, RDP, Town Business Groups, TCU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E5: Sectoral Economic Development</td>
<td>LCC, LEO, LDC, SEAI, Teagasc, Green Economy Business, USEFE, BNM, ESB, EI, An Bord Bia, Food Producers, Food Hub, Failte, WI, Restaurants, High Level Advisory Group, the HIVE, Schools, Town Business Groups, Leitrim Tourism, Trade, LTGA, Stakeholders, HEIs/ITs, WDC, LREG, DECLG, DSP, Arts Council, IDA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Appendix 2 - 11th January 2016 - Council Meeting
E6: Women in Business

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Theme</th>
<th>Key Implementers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C1: Living and Well-Being</td>
<td>LCCC, Garda, JPC, TUSLA, C&amp;YPSC, LEO, LCC, LDC, RDP, HSE, CFRAM, SEAI, SICAP, LRF, LSP, Disability groups, NLN, North Leitrim Men’s Group, North Leitrim Women’s Group, TCU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C2: Learning and Training</td>
<td>DSP, ETB, LCC, LEO, LDC, NLN, Teagasc, LCCC, The Dock, LDH, HEIs/ITs, SICAP, RDP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C3: Working and Growing</td>
<td>LCCC, DSP, LCC, LEO, LDC, NLN, SICAP, ETB, IFI, RDP, Teagasc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C4: Inclusion</td>
<td>DSP, ETB, HSE, LCC, LSP, LDC, PEACE, RDP, SICAP, TUSLA, PPN, LPP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Implementing the Plan

The Leitrim LECP set out above is at a high level and will act as a broad framework to guide plans for economic and community development in the County from different sources and agencies as outlined in the Local Government Reform Act, 2014.

Annual Action Plans will be required to set out the detail of the LECP implementation. These will be developed by Leitrim County Council for the Economic elements and by the Leitrim LCDC for the Community elements of the Plan.

Leitrim County Council will implement, or arrange for the implementation of the Economic elements of the Plan. It will co-ordinate, manage and oversee overall implementation here as well as any projects or programmes prepared to support or advance the implementation of the LECP’s Economic elements. The Council will prepare, review and update as appropriate an annual implementation strategy. It will monitor and review this strategy on an ongoing basis, assessing performance against the Targets set against the Sustainable Economic Development Objectives (SEDOs) listed in the LECP. If the Council considers it appropriate, it will revise the Actions and underpinning strategies set to achieve the Plan’s SEDOs.

The Council will also undertake a review of the Economic elements of the Plan at least once within six calendar years from it was made or last amended.

Sectoral Groups will also be established to address various sector headings within the Economic elements of the Plan. These Groups will be drawn from the relevant businesses in each sector with an interest in progressing the actions they identified in the focus groups: they will also include relevant agency personnel who will lead...
the development of the Group and organise meetings to ensure the Annual Action Plans are developed, implemented and monitored.

The Annual Action Plans will be developed based on a project management approach using a Work Breakdown Structure which will identify:

- The High Level Deliverables to be achieved
- The Tasks required to achieve it
- The Resource responsible for completing the task
- The Timeframe for the task to be achieved

The LCDC will simultaneously monitor and review on an ongoing basis the implementation of the Community elements of the LECP. This will include looking at performance against the Targets set in the Community elements of the Plan. If the LCDC considers it appropriate, it will revise the Actions and underpinning strategies set to achieve the Plan's Sustainable Community Objectives (SCOs).

The LCDC will also co-ordinate, manage and oversee the implementation of appropriate local and community development programmes devised to implement the core thrusts of the LECP.

In line with the legislation, the LCDC will submit an annual report to Leitrim County Council. The Council in turn will include in its own Annual Report an assessment in relation to the implementation and, where appropriate, review of the LECP.

The LECP Target Groups

The Plan target groups (as identified in the County Profile and also as set out under Community Theme 3 above) are addressed by the various Economic and Community Themes as follows:

**Target Group Beneficiaries: Economic Elements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target Groups</th>
<th>Economic Themes* Addressing the Target Groups</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Migrants</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lone parents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People living alone</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed people</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under-employed people</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children and young people</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People with disabilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low educational attainment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literacy/numeracy issues</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travellers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marginalised areas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low income farm households</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Target Group Beneficiaries: Community Elements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target Groups</th>
<th>Community Themes* Addressing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Migrants</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lone parents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People living alone</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed people</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under-employed people</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children and young people</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People with disabilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People with low educational attainment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People with literacy/numeracy issues</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travellers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marginalised areas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low income farm households</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* T1: Living and Well-Being, T2: Learning and Training, T3: Working and Growing, T4: Inclusion

Proofing

Proofing of the LECP is essential in terms of ensuring it matches up with and helps deliver a number of legislative and best practice requirements. Proofing against the County Development Plan is part of the LECP process and has been signed off before the LECP was finally adopted. Proofing is about assessing the impact of something on a group, place or community. The basic proofing of the LECP to date is set out below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>‘Proofing Area’</th>
<th>How the LECP Impacts on/Addresses It</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Equality</strong></td>
<td>All LECP planning/consultation events were publically advertised and held in venues around the County that were open and accessible to all. Equality issues were assessed and, as far as possible quantified, within the County Profile which underpins the LECP. All relevant plans and strategies were also appraised as part of informing the LECP planning process. Sector and representative groups were</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Inclusion and Anti-Poverty</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In addition to its responsibilities re the ‘nine grounds’ the LCDC identified a number of key target groups, including older people, women, young people, people living alone, Travellers/Roma, people with low educational attainment, people out of work or under-employed, ‘New Leitrim’ people and communities and marginalised people and communities. These target groups reflect those identified in Departmental LECP Guidance, the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) and the National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2007-16. The LECP addresses social exclusion and poverty across a number of fronts and in a number of ways. The LCDC’s Social Inclusion and Equality Sub-Committee will ensure that inclusion and poverty-related issues are kept to the forefront as the LECP is rolled out.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sustainability</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LECP’s core task is to help make Leitrim more sustainable by strengthening communities (and the individual capacities of people within communities), building local economies and increasing people’s awareness/understanding, use and care of the County’s heritage assets, both natural and man-made.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rural</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The County Profile which underpins the LECP clearly identifies Leitrim as an essentially rural County and highlights its associated strong community structures, issues re access to/availability of services, employment difficulties and the pressures on people to move elsewhere to work and/or live. A core role of the LECP is to successfully address those issues. The draft LECP was proofed and signed off by the Council’s three Municipal Districts.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategic Fit</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The LCDC and LECP initiatives, through Leitrim County Council, are about energising the successful delivery of stated government priorities, contributing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
to ‘joined-up’ working and avoiding duplication. The appraisals of almost 50 relevant plans and strategies as part of the LECP planning process ensured a robust strategic fit as did the hosting of a series of planning focus groups involving key stakeholder agencies. The LECP has been signed off by Leitrim County Council as being consistent with the objectives and core strategy of the Leitrim County Development Plan 2015-2021 (see Appendix III).
## Appendix I

### The Contributions of Key Implementers/Enablers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Implementer/Enabler</th>
<th>Contribution to Leitrim</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| An Bord Bia         | • Promoting sales of Irish food and horticulture at home and abroad  
                     | • Certification of Irish food products |
| Arts Council        | Supporting the development of the arts in Ireland by:  
                     | • Providing financial assistance  
                     | • Offering advice and information on the arts to Government and others  
                     | • Publishing research and information as an advocate for the arts and artists  
                     | • Undertaking projects to promote and develop the arts, often in partnership with others |
| Bord na Mona        | • Waste management  
                     | • Biomass  
                     | • Property/land ownership  
                     | • Power generation and fuels |
| Breifnín Family Resource Centre | • Pre-school, crèche, after-school, Mums/Babies and community play  
                                      | • Services/supports for women, older people, lone parents, people with disabilities, residents groups, migrants and people with addictions  
                                      | • Allotment, IT/ICT, shop and composting projects  
                                      | • Youth café |
| Chamber of Commerce | • Business promotion, lobbying, services and information  
                         | • Community support |
| Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management | • Flood hazard mapping, risk assessment and management |
| Children and Young People Services Committee | • County-level joint planning and co-ordination of activity  
                                              | • Ensuring children, young people and their families receive improved and accessible services |
| Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine | • Agriculture and agri-food  
                                                  | • Animal health and welfare  
                                                  | • Farmers’ payments  
                                                  | • Food safety  
                                                  | • Forestry  
                                                  | • Rural environment |
| Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources | • Telecommunications, broadband, broadcasting, digital technologies and postal services  
<pre><code>                                                              | • Policies concerning Ireland’s oil, gas, peat, electricity and renewable energy supply |
</code></pre>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Functions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Department of Education and Skills</strong></td>
<td>• Inland fisheries, geological resources and oil and gas reserves • Education and training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Department of Justice and Equality</strong></td>
<td>• Courts policy/legal services • Crime and policing • Prisons • Equality, immigration and integration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation</strong></td>
<td>• Research and innovation • Trade and investment • Jobs, workplace and skills issues and supports • Business and sectoral issues and SME support • EU/Internal Market and Competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Department for Social Protection</strong></td>
<td>• Benefits, advice and supports for: o Jobseekers/unemployed o Employers/self-employed o Children and families o Retired and older people o People who are ill, disabled and/or bereaved • Employment and community employment services • Social inclusion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Department of the Taoiseach</strong></td>
<td>• Programme for Government • Economic, International and Northern Ireland Affairs • Social Policy and Public Service Reform • European Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Enterprise Ireland</strong></td>
<td>• Development and growth of Irish enterprises in world markets • Supporting sustainable economic growth, regional development and secure employment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education and Training Board</strong></td>
<td>• Adult education • Grants and scholarships • Second Level education • Vocational training • Youth work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Failte</strong></td>
<td>• Tourism development via marketing, training, product development and research/statistics supports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Foroige</strong></td>
<td>• Capacity building/personal development, including programmes in entrepreneurship, citizenship and leadership • Youth cafes/Clubs, diversion and mentoring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Housing Associations</strong></td>
<td>• Provision and management of social housing for rent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HEIs/ITs</strong></td>
<td>• Providing a range of Higher Education courses, training and qualifications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HSE (Health Service Executive)</strong></td>
<td>• Child, family and older people’s services • Dental services • Disability services • Community/domiciliary services • GPs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- Mental health
- Primary and secondary care and therapies
- Public health and health promotion
- Social inclusion

**ICBAN**
- Lead partner for the INTERREG IVA Programme in the Irish Central Border Region
- Strategic development and leadership in the Region

**IDA**
- Achieving Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Ireland

**IFI (International Fund for Ireland)**
- Supporting initiatives which tackle the underlying causes of sectarianism and violence and build reconciliation between people and within and between communities throughout the island of Ireland

**INTERREG**
- A financing instrument of European regional development aimed at intensifying institutional cooperation across borders between regions located on European Union's internal and external borders, and regions within transnational areas

**Irish Water/Uisce Éireann**
- National water utility responsible for providing water services throughout Ireland.

**Irish Wheelchair Association**
- Services for people with limited mobility

**Joint Policing Committee**
- Forum to discuss local crime and security issues
- Advice to Garda and County Council

**Leitrim Age-Friendly Alliance**
- Inter-agency working to promote older people’s health and well-being

**Leitrim Association of People with Disabilities**
- Enhanced home care for Over 65s
- Training Courses
- Social and support groups
- Accessible venue for meetings and events
- Personal assistant services

**Leitrim County Childcare Committee**
- Child-care
- Parent/parenting support
- Pre-school, Early Years and after-school
- Summer schemes

**Leitrim County Council**
- Arts
- Civic leadership
- Community and Economic development
- Fire/emergency
- Housing
- LEO
- PEACE programme
- Planning and building regulations
- Policing/safety
- Roads
- Sports Partnership and play provision
- Tourism
- Veterinary
- Waste management and environment
- Water

**Leitrim Design House**
- Supporting the development and success of
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>designer/makers and artists working in the creative sector</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Showcase and retail space provision</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Training, workshops and networking</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leitrim Development Company</td>
<td>• Child care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Community development and support, eg Warm Homes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Enterprise support</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Jobs Club</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Rural development (including LEADER and Social Scheme)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Traveller programmes/supports</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Unemployment programmes/supports, eg Tús</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Youth supports</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leitrim PEACE Partnership</td>
<td>• Development and delivery of EU PEACE programmes in/beyond Leitrim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leitrim Sports Partnership</td>
<td>• Inter-agency focus on increasing the numbers involved in sport and physical activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leitrim Recreation Forum</td>
<td>• Coordinating interest groups to develop a roadmap for the future development of recreation in Leitrim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leitrim Tourism Growth Alliance</td>
<td>• Leitrim tourism stakeholder networking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Oversight of Leitrim Tourism Growth Strategy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Enterprise Office (LEO)</td>
<td>• Support, advice, training, mentoring, signposting and information for micro-business (under 10 employees)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MABS (Money Advice and Budgeting Service)</td>
<td>• Personal and family financial advice, guidance and mentoring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohill Family Resource Centre</td>
<td>• Counselling service, separation/bereavement support and Art therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Parent/Toddler Groups</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Youth Club/Youth Cafe</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Spaces for voluntary/community activities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Family support</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Outreach</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Learning Network</td>
<td>• Work-related skills and training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Employer placements</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Social and personal skills development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Connaught Youth Services</td>
<td>• Exchanges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Health/well-being/personal development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Information</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Play schemes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Youth diversion and support</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• (800 Leitrim 7-18 year-olds pa)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Leitrim Men’s Group</td>
<td>• Skills development and personal/community supports to single rural men aged 35-65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Leitrim Women’s Centre</td>
<td>• Holistic provision of information, education, training, healthcare screening, well-being services and social networking for and by women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern and Western Regional assembly</td>
<td>• Coordinating regional planning across Counties Leitrim, Cavan, Donegal, Galway, Mayo Monaghan, Roscommon and Sligo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Participation</td>
<td>• Community representation and participation in</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Network** | Council’s decision-making  
| | • Proofing of policies and plans |
| **Rural Development Programme** | • Knowledge transfer  
| | • Bio-energy  
| | • Agricultural modernisation  
| | • Traditional farm buildings  
| | • Environmental enhancement  
| | • Organic farming  
| | • Innovation and collaboration |
| Under the LEADER element:  
| | • Rural Economic Development / Enterprise Development and Job Creation (Rural tourism, enterprise development and rural towns)  
| | • Community capacity-building and animation  
| | • Rural environment |
| **REDZ (Rural Economic Development Zone)** | • Rural development initiative focussing on building on the relationships between towns and their rural hinterlands |
| **Road Safety Authority** | • Increasing awareness of road safety and promoting safer driving |
| **SEAI (Sustainable Energy Authority Ireland)** | • National energy authority tasked with playing a leading role in transforming Ireland into a society based on sustainable energy structures, technologies and practices |
| **SOLAS** | • Funding, planning and co-ordinating training and further education programmes across Ireland  
| | • Provision of programmes to jobseekers and other learners to deliver integrated pathways to work |
| **St Ciaran’s, Carrick-on-Shannon** | • Day care  
| | • (Primary) Health services  
| | • Pre-school  
| | • (All for people with an intellectual disability) |
| **SICAP (Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme 2015 – 2017)** | • Support/resource disadvantaged communities/target groups to help identify and address social exclusion.  
| | • Engage/support educationally disadvantaged individuals/target groups to participate in and progress through life-long learning opportunities  
| | • Support long-term unemployed/target groups/unemployed young people to improve work readiness and access employment/self-employment/social entrepreneurship |
| **Teagasc** | Support for science-based innovation in the agri-food sector and broader bio-economy via:  
| | • Research  
| | • Advice  
<p>| | • Training and education |
| <strong>Transport Co-Ordination Unit</strong> | • Provision and coordination of rural community transport |
| <strong>Transport Infrastructure Ireland</strong> | • Development and operation of the national roads network and light rail infrastructure throughout Ireland |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TUSLA</th>
<th>TUSLA, the Child and Family Agency, the dedicated State agency responsible for improving wellbeing and outcomes for children through child protection, early intervention and family support services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| USEFE (Upper Shannon Erne Future Economy Project)                   | Joint initiative between Bord Na Mona, the ESB and Cavan, Leitrim, Longford and Roscommon County Councils to show how business-led regional development can lead to economic growth and job creation. USEFE is involved with a number of different sectors:  
  - Food  
  - Forestry & Energy  
  - Tourism  
  - Creative  
  - Manufacturing  
  - Pharma/Healthcare  
  - Diaspora |
| Western Development Commission                                      | • Promoting the strategic economic and social development of the Western Region, ie Leitrim, Donegal, Sligo, Roscommon, Mayo, Galway and Clare |
| Women in Business in Leitrim                                        | • Social Media Network is in place sharing information |
| Waterways Ireland                                                   | • One of the six North/South Implementation Bodies established under the British Irish Agreement in 1999  
  • Responsible for the management, maintenance, development and restoration of inland navigable waterways (including the Erne System, the Shannon-Erne Waterway and the Shannon Navigation) principally for recreational purposes |

Appendix II:
Sample of Local Authority Partnership Projects

Listed and described below are a number of Local Authority Partnership projects in Economic Development carried out in the past six years under the headings for likely Objectives and Actions as set out in DECLG Guidance, January 2015.

Objective 1: Attracting substantial investment and new enterprise

Action 1.1: Promotion of competitiveness and a favourable business environment, including regulation and efficient public services

Leitrim One Call to Success

The Leitrim – One call to Success initiative provides a single number, email address and website where people who wanted to know more about training, services for people who are recently unemployed or people wishing to set up a new business could see at a glance what was offered by the key providers in Leitrim. This also involved a referral service so that an agency receiving a call which was more appropriate to another agency would refer this and capture the information on a shared enquiries system. As part of this process, costs comparison on key business costs was also prepared giving outline costs on rent/purchase of business premises, hospitality and printing costs etc.

National Campaign on Commercial Rural Renewal Incentive Scheme (CRRS)

Leitrim, as the only county fully included in the CRRS which provided significant additional reliefs for businesses setting up in the County. A specific information sheet with calculations of relief for different businesses was prepared as well as a list of properties with available relief. This was followed up a national radio add campaign and national newspaper and Business and Finance magazine editorials and adds which raised the profile of business premises available.

Action 1.2: Development of strong ‘place-related’ economic activities

Leitrim – A New Life

In 2007, Leitrim County Council organized a national expo and seminar in Croke Park, Dublin under the branding of Leitrim – A New Life. This involved having 40 plus exhibitors ranging from support agencies to businesses in the County showcasing what the economic and tourism offering was in Leitrim. A strong focus of this initiative was to encourage relocation of people and business from the more heavily congested East coast back to Leitrim through highlighting the opportunities for jobs, investment and quality of life.

Coinciding with this, a national PR campaign was run which included articles in the Irish Times, Irish independent, Irish Examiner, Daily and Sunday Mirror, Metro and Business and Finance. Which showcased initiatives taking place in Leitrim,
businesses successfully operating here and people who had moved to the county for work and family life.

In 2008, 3 DVDs on Leitrim – Quality of Life, Business in Leitrim and an overall dvd on business and quality of life were compiled as well as brochures on the county as a whole and the 6 main towns under the Peace Programme.

Ambassadors’ Visit to Leitrim

A total of 14 countries were represented on the Ambassadors Itinerary of Leitrim which was a unique initiative to highlight to ambassadors from a range of countries what was on offer outside of the capital city, with many of the embassies voicing the view that this was the first time they had been invited to an area outside of Dublin. The itinerary included visits to various businesses in different sectors as well as tourist attractions leading to the building up of links between businesses and staff in the embassies to develop trade opportunities and highlight the area as a location for enterprise.

Action 1.3: Attracting substantial investment and new enterprise

Promotion of the County

The Local Authority has been very active in promoting the county through a range of initiatives including:
- National PR campaigns
- National Expo and Seminars
- Link with Leitrim Diaspora through Dublin – Based events
- DVD and brochures.

Diaspora Events

Leitrim County Council formed a partnership with Connect Ireland through the Diaspora group of the Upper Shannon Erne Future Economy Initiative. One of the key actions here was to facilitate the linkage of the four local authorities of Leitrim, cavan, Roscommon and Longford with the four GAA County Committees under the banner of Play Your Part – which involved reaching out to connections of GAA clubs across the region.

Objective 2: Sustaining/expanding existing enterprise

Action 2.1: Using “mainstream” local authority functions to help underpin economic activity generally

Training on Procurement for Local Business

Figures provided by DECLG indicate that local government accounts for €6.3 billion between capital (€1.9 billion) and current (€4.4 billion) expenditure in the economy in 2013. In order to support local business to access public contracts, two procurement seminars have been held in the last 3 years with local business including the most recent one in 2015 through the LEO.

Advice on Planning
The local authority also encourage pre-planning meetings with potential business or existing businesses considering relocation or expansion in order to ensure an efficient planning process. The planning Department has also participated in Training and Education events organized by the Local Authority in conjunction with other local agencies.

Action 2.2: Measures, including those emerging from the report of the Commission for the Economic Development of Rural Areas (CEDRA), to address rural issues

First Point of Contact

One of the recommendations of the CEDRA report is that co-ordination of enterprise support should rest with one service provider. Three years ago Leitrim County Council, in conjunction with the Economic Development Working Group, established the Leitrim – One Call to Success initiative which as detailed earlier provided one point of contact for enterprise support queries. Leitrim County Council has now established the LEO within its main offices so as to allow one central point of contact for all business enquiries from both existing and new business.

LCDC

Leitrim was one of ten pilot areas for the establishment of the Local, Community Development Committees and was one of the first counties to begin the process of public consultation with communities in the formulation of the Local, Economic and Community Plan.

Objective 3: Improving the quality and diversity of employment

Action 3.1: Co-ordinated local support for economic development agencies

Economic Development Group

The Economic Development Working Group of the County Development Board operated as a forum for ensuring strong interaction and collaboration between local economic development agencies and ensured the delivery of a range of projects e.g. the Leitrim Third Level initiative.

Leitrim Third Level

The Leitrim Third Level initiative involved the delivery of various third level courses from colleges such as Athlone IT, NUI Maynooth, IT Blanchardstown, South West College and UCC in the council offices. Support for branding and set up was provided by Enterprise Ireland and on-going marketing support came from the County Enterprise Board and Leitrim County Council. Approximately 400 people studied a range of courses through this initiative from MBA to Diploma in Food Science, Accountancy Technician and Certificate in Front Line Management as well as more leisure related courses. Surveys were carried out with local employers to
identify the type of courses required and this were accessed through collaboration with a range of colleges.

**Action 3.2: Identifying and addressing possible risks to local employment**

**Education and Training Expo**

Three Education and Training Expos were organized by Leitrim County Council in conjunction with the ETB (previously VEC) and Dept. of Social Welfare. These events involved offering people who were unemployed, part-time employed or those concerned with the need to upskill to meet with all local education providers and colleges under one roof. In addition to the Expo, seminars ran alongside it covering CV and interview skills, business start-up and motivational speakers as well as stands from support agencies.

**Self-Employed Fora**

Three Self-Employed Fora were organized to provide a support mechanism to small business who make up a significant portion of employers in Leitrim. This included speakers on relevant topics as well as ensuring the presence of various enterprise support agencies and was run with the assistance of the Economic Development Working Group.

**Action 3.3: Measures related to labour market activation**

Leitrim County council is directly involved in labour market activation programmes including Community Employment Schemes, Gateway and Jobsbridge as well as working with colleges to provide placement opportunities.

**Objective 5: Strengthening the economic fabric of smaller towns/villages**

**Action 5.1: Enhancement of the area’s physical, social, environmental, or cultural character and quality**

**Development of Tourism and Cultural Assets**

A range of tourism assets have been developed by Leitrim County Council over the last number of years including car parking and access improvements at Glencar Waterfalls, the development of a multi-purpose recreational facility in Drumshanbo, the development of Farnagh Limekiln, walking and cycling routes.

The development of the Dock Arts Centre was one of the most significant cultural projects in the county for many years and in addition to this, artists’ studios have recently been developed in Drumshanbo. Also, through the Arts section of the Local Authority, support has been given to assist in the development of a Community Art Gallery in Ballinamore as well as support for the Sculpture Centre in Manorhamilton and the Cornmill in Carrigallen – all of which add to the enhancement of the quality of life offering in the county.
The development of the boardwalk and cycling lanes in Carrick on Shannon have added to the local attributes which are of benefit both to the resident and visitor and have increased the profile of the county for people travelling on the main Dublin-Sligo Route.

**Playgrounds and Sports facilities**

Leitrim has the highest number of playgrounds per capita in Ireland as a result of the direct work of Leitrim County Council in securing funding to ensure the county is best served with such facilities for young families.

In terms of sports facilities, astro-turf pitches have been developed in Mohill and Kinlough as well as provision of lighting for the tennis courts in Carrick on Shannon. One of the most significant sports projects has been the development of Lough Rinn Rowing Centre in Mohill which will be used by rowing clubs across the island of Ireland bring additional revenue into the county.

**Action 5.2: Economic development measures within the community/local development programmes**

**Floral Pride and Entente Florale**

The Floral Pride competition was set up to provide an incentive for towns and villages to help improve the appearance of their areas and involved both workshops and prize money for villages and towns. In addition, both Dromod and Carrick on Shannon were national nominees in the prestigious European Entente Florale Competition which involved significant infrastructural works as well as support in preparing for adjudication and marketing their involvement in the competition.

**Community Grants**

Grants for festivals and events have been provided to various projects in the different towns and villages ranging from music to art to sports related events in order to stimulate local areas to promote their area and encourage tourism.

**Objective 6: Community/local development programmes and micro-enterprise support**

**Action 6.1: Measures to attract national and EU investment in the delivery of the strategy**

**EU Funding**

Leitrim County Council has been heavily involved in sourcing funding from both Interreg and Peace to build on the assets of the county to deliver a more attractive region for investment and quality of life. Many of the projects mentioned earlier have been provided with the assistance of EU funding including: the multi-purpose recreational facility, FarnaghtLimeKiln, promotional DVDs and brochures for economic development as well as artists’ studios and walking routes.
Action 6.2: Support for micro-enterprises locally

**LEO**

The LEO acts as a first point of contact in stimulating micro enterprise activity by providing information and advice, mentoring and financial support.

**Business Website**

The Leitrim portal site [www.leitrim.ie](http://www.leitrim.ie) offers an opportunity for businesses to access information on a range of supports as well as details of local amenities, schools etc. It also includes the Leitrim business directory and showcases different businesses operating in the county.

**Objective 7: Aspects of relevant national, regional, sub-regional and city/county level plans and strategies**

**Action 7.1: Support for shifts towards low-carbon and climate resilient economic activity**

Refit of local authority housing and energy awareness open days were organized in Mohill through a joint collaboration between the Environment Dept. of Leitrim County Council and the LEO.

---

Appendix III
A:

Statement of Consistency with the Objectives and Core Strategy of the Leitrim County Development Plan 2015-2021

Statement of Consistency of the LECP with the Objectives and Core Strategy of the Leitrim County Development Plan 2015 – 2021 as approved at each of 3 Municipal District Meetings.

Agenda Item
To consider the Leitrim Local Economic & Community Plan 2015-2021 in relation to consistency with the Core Strategy and objectives of the Leitrim County Development Plan 2015-2021. Following said consideration, to adopt a statement in that regard to be submitted to Leitrim County Council in accordance with the requirements of Section 66C (2)(b) and 66C (3)(b) of the Local Government Reform Act 2014.

Assessment
The Draft Local Economic and Community Plan (draft LECP) was jointly prepared by Leitrim County Council and Leitrim Local Community & Development Committee (LCDC). The draft LECP was placed on public display from June 30th 2015 until 17th August 2015.

It consists of a
It is a requirement under the provisions of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 (Section 66B refers) that the LECP is consistent with the Core Strategy and the objectives of the County Development Plan.

The purpose of the Core Strategy of a County Development Plan is to

“Articulate a medium to long term quantitatively based strategy for the spatial development of the area of the planning authority, and in so doing, to demonstrate that the development plan and its objectives are consistent with national and regional policy objectives as set out in the National Spatial Strategy and the Regional Planning Guidelines” (p. 2, DoECLG Guidance Note on Core Strategies [November 2010]).

This medium- to long-term strategy for the spatial development of County Leitrim sets out, amongst other things, the amount of land proposed to be zoned for residential and mixed-use purposes in the County Development Plan. It provides a high-level summary description of the key statistics and priorities underpinning this Development Plan. The Core Strategy section of the Plan provides the transparent evidence-based rationale, which is the basis for the Development Plan.

The function of the Core Strategy is to:

i. identify the amount, location and phasing of development for the plan period;
ii. demonstrate how future development supports public transport-existing services;
iii. ensure that needs and priorities of existing zoned/serviced land and new zonings for the area are assessed on a plan-led basis; and
iv. Provide the framework for deciding on the scale, phasing and location of new development, having regard to existing services and planned investment over the coming years.
It includes information on:

i. population targets / objectives;
ii. quantification of requirements for zoning of lands for residential and/or a mix of residential and other uses; and
iii. The existing and proposed, future distribution of population within the County plan area, within a defined settlement hierarchy.

It is considered that the Economic Goals and Community Goals are consistent with the Core Strategy and Development Objectives of the Leitrim County Development Plan 2015-2021. Similarly, it is considered that the Sustainable Economic Development Objectives (SEDOs) and Sustainable Community Objectives (SCOs) are consistent with the Core Strategy and objectives of the Leitrim County Development Plan 2015-2021.

The projected population of the county by 2021 is 35,277 persons. This population target is reflected in Target T4 of the LECP whereby a population target of 32,500+ is sought by 2022. The LECP is more specific in relation to identifying targets for employment creation whereas the County Development Plan seeks to ensure that there are sufficient lands identified in appropriate locations to facilitate the enterprise and employment needs of the County. It is considered that both strategies are mutually supportive in this regard. The targets and specific actions included for each SEDO and SCO are considered to be more detailed and specific than the majority of the development objectives contained in the County Development Plan.

Carrick on Shannon is identified in the Core Strategy as a Tier 1 town. The Regional Planning Guidelines identified Carrick on Shannon as a regionally important town. The LECP seeks to secure a regional status for the County Town with Target T3 seeking that Carrick on Shannon be designated as a ‘Hub’ (or similar) within the National Spatial Strategy (or similar). The achievement of Target T3 goes significantly further than the aspirations of the Core Strategy and the Strategic Goals of the County Development Plan such as would render it inconsistent with the Core Strategy and Objectives of the County Development Plan. It is considered that target T3 be amended to read “Carrick-on-Shannon be recognised as a strategic driver of growth in the region within the National Planning Framework (replacement National Spatial Strategy) when prepared”.

The adopted LECP shall reflect that the County Development Plan 2015-2021 was adopted 12th January 2015 and all references to the Draft Development Plan shall be corrected throughout the document.

**Conclusion**

Subject to Target T3 being amended to read “Carrick-on-Shannon be recognised as a strategic driver of growth in the region within the National Planning Framework (replacement National Spatial Strategy) when prepared”, I am satisfied that the draft Leitrim Local Economic & Community Plan 2015-2021 is consistent with the Core Strategy and objectives of the Leitrim County Development Plan 2015-2021.
Senior Planner,
Leitrim County Council.

B:

Economic and Enterprise SPC Statement on Community Element of LECP and Its Consistency with the Economic Element of the LECP

Leitrim County Council’s Economic and Enterprise SPC have reviewed and suggested amendments at various stages in the process of formulating the Local Economic and Community plan (LECP) which have been taken into account for the final draft of the Local Economic and Community Plan.

Leitrim County Council’s Economic and Enterprise SPC having received the final draft of the LECP and taken into account the economic elements of the Plan, considered the proposed community elements as prepared by the Leitrim Community Development Committee (LCDC), and are satisfied that the intent and purpose of the community objectives are consistent with the economic objectives resulting in a consistent combined LECP.

C:

LCDC Statement on Economic Element of LECP and Its Consistency with the Community Element of the LECP

Leitrim Community Development Committee (LCDC), have reviewed and suggested amendments at various stages in the process of formulating the Local Economic and Community plan (LECP) which have been taken into account for the final draft of the Local Economic and Community Plan.

The LCDC having received the final draft of the LECP and taken into account the community elements of the Plan, considered the proposed economic objectives as prepared by the Council’s Economic and Enterprise SPC, and are satisfied that the intent and purpose of the economic elements are consistent with the community objectives resulting in a consistent combined LECP.
Re: Item No 3 - Amendment of Housing Allocation Scheme to provide for the introduction of Choice Based Letting

Dear Member,

Leitrim County Council adopted its Housing Allocation Scheme in accordance with Section 22 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 2009 and in accordance with the terms of the Social Housing Regulations, 2011. The Allocation Scheme is required in order to determine the priority to be given in the allocation of dwellings to persons assessed as being qualified for social housing support, for persons transferring from one dwelling (including from a dwelling provided under the Social Housing Leasing Initiative or the Rental Accommodation Scheme) and for persons purchasing a house under the Incremental Purchase Scheme. Leitrim County Council adopted its Allocation Scheme on 13th June, 2011 in accordance with the above Provisions.

Circular Letter Housing 28/2011 in relation to the Housing Allocation Scheme provides that provision may be made in the Allocation Scheme for the Allocation of Dwellings using an approach known as Choice Based Letting (CBL). Leitrim County Council is now considering the introduction of Choice Based Letting for the allocation of certain dwellings. The introduction of Choice Based Letting requires that our Allocation Scheme provides for CBL and in this regard, I now attach the following:-

- Updated “Draft Allocation Scheme” incorporating Choice Based Letting is attached at Appendix 1 to this Report.
- A general explanation of Choice Based Letting is attached at Appendix 2 to this Report.

Requirements for making an allocation scheme
Under the 2009 Act, the making or amending of an allocation scheme is a reserved function.

The matter of amending the Allocation Scheme to provide for the introduction of Choice Based Letting was considered by the Housing & Corporate Services SPC at their meeting on the 24th November 2015. It was agreed by the SPC that the amended draft allocation scheme be submitted for consideration and approval by the full Council at the January Council meeting on Monday the 11th January, 2016.

Yours Sincerely,

Mary Quinn
Director of Services
LEITRIM COUNTY COUNCIL

DRAFT ALLOCATION SCHEME

Draft Allocation Scheme for Adoption by the Elected Members of Leitrim County Council in accordance with Section 22 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 2009
And
Social Housing Allocation Regulations 2011
(S.I No. 198 of 2011)
Table of Contents

Introduction – Purpose of the Scheme  3
Dwellings for inclusion in the Allocation Scheme  3
Order of Priority  3
Reviewing eligibility for Social Housing Supports  4
Exceptions  4
Medical Report  5
Special Category Allocations  5
Choice Based Letting  5
Emergency Allocations  6
Refusals of Offers of Accommodation by Housing Applicants  6
Refusal of Housing Authority to allocate  7
Transfers  8
Succession Tenancies  8
Review of/ Amendments to the Allocation Scheme  9
(A) Introduction – Purpose of the Scheme
The purpose of the Allocation Scheme is to provide a means of determining the order of priority to be accorded in the allocation of dwellings to:

- persons assessed as being qualified for social housing support in accordance with Section 20 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 2009 (and associated regulations);
- persons transferring from a dwelling, including from a dwelling provided under the Social Housing Leasing Initiative or the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) and, including transfers to new dwellings being purchased under the Incremental Purchase Scheme.

This allocation scheme applies to -
Dwellings provided under the Housing Acts 1966 to 2009 or Part V of the Planning and Development Act 2000 –

(i) of which the housing authority (Leitrim County Council) is the owner, or

(ii) of which the housing authority is not the owner and which are provided under a contract or lease between the housing authority and the owner concerned, including rental accommodation availability agreements, and

(a) dwellings owned and provided by Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs) to whom assistance is given under section 6 of the Housing Act 1992 for the purposes of such provision.

(B) The manner in which dwellings are allocated
The manner in which Leitrim County Council (hereinafter called the housing authority) will allocate dwellings, or different categories of dwellings, to households referred to in Section 22(3) of the Act of 2009, or to different classes of households, shall have regard to the order of priority as set out in (c) to (h) hereunder.

(C) Order of Priority
In the making of an allocation, the following priorities shall apply in order as set out hereunder:

1. Applicants living in dwellings deemed to be dangerous as defined in Section 3 of the Local Government Sanitary Services Act, 1964 or being displaced by the operation of a local authority.
2. Applicants deemed to be homeless under Section 2 of the Housing Act, 1988.
3. Applicants living in unfit conditions as defined in Section of the Housing Act, 1966
4. Applicants living in overcrowded conditions as defined in Section 63 of the Housing Act, 1966
5. Applicants in need of housing on disability, medical, compassionate or other similar grounds.
6. Elderly applicants in need of housing where elderly is defined as 60 years of age or older and where such applicants are assessed and approved for social housing supports.
7. Applicants not included in any other specific category above, who have been assessed and approved for social housing supports.

'Time on List'
Whilst allocations will be made in accordance with the above order of priority, where a number of applicants fall within the same category, regard shall be had to the length of time that has elapsed since the applicant qualified for inclusion as a qualified applicant for housing by the housing authority. All allocations shall be subject to Section I (II) hereunder.

(D) Reviewing Eligibility for Social Housing Supports
Applicants must be eligible for, and in need of, social housing support at the point of allocation of that support. Changing circumstances may result in a household becoming ineligible for social housing support. Taking into consideration the nature of the change in circumstances, the Housing Authority may undertake a full review of the assessment to determine whether the applicant household remains qualified for social housing support. Rent Supplement recipients must qualify for social housing support in the same way as other households seeking support.

(E) Exceptions
In accordance with Section 20(8) of the 2009 Act, the housing authority, in applying the terms of this scheme to a person may disregard the accommodation that a household currently occupies where the housing authority has reason to believe that a household, or any member of it, has done something, or failed to do something, that has resulted in their accommodation now being less suitable to their housing need than it would formerly have been.

Notwithstanding anything in Section C above, the housing authority may disregard the order of priority given to a household under an allocation scheme where the household is being provided with social housing support in the following circumstances:

- Persons in need of accommodation arising from specified emergency circumstances, including displacement by fire, flood or any other emergency, development, redevelopment or regeneration of any area by a housing authority, or exceptional medical or compassionate grounds.
• In a dwelling let to the household under a Chapter 4 tenancy agreement having been assessed under Section 20(3), i.e. RAS Accommodation.

In the allocation of RAS accommodation, the housing authority will have regard to the length of time a household has been in receipt of rent supplement; the length of time a household has been on the waiting list for social housing support, or a combination of both; and will be subject to Section (I) (II) hereunder.

(F) Medical Report
Where priority is claimed on Disability / Medical Grounds, the applicant shall submit a report from a Medical Practitioner detailing their disability/medical condition and how this impacts on their housing requirements. The housing authority in considering the awarding of a priority claimed on medical grounds may seek supplementary medical reports in respect of any specific accommodation requirements.

(G) Special Category Allocations
The housing authority may, from time to time, determine as they see fit to set aside for persons of such category or categories as the authority may decide, a particular number or proportion of the dwellings becoming available to the authority for letting.

The following special conditions shall apply in respect of the Allocation Scheme for the Letting of Dwellings:

• allocation to particular classes of household, e.g. older persons, persons with disabilities etc., thus affording priority in the allocation of those dwellings to approved households in the relevant category of need;
• allocation to households transferring from other forms of social housing support (e.g. RAS Units, Voluntary Housing Units) and leased units;
• for particular forms of tenure, including an Incremental Purchase dwelling;

The procedure applied by the housing authority for an Incremental Purchase Scheme will be as set out in Part 3 of the 2009 Act and the Housing (Incremental Purchase) Regulations 2010 (S.I. No. 252 of 2010). Properties are designated by Manager’s Order for use for Incremental Purchase Schemes.

(H) Choice Based Letting (CBL)
Leitrim County Council may utilise Choice Based Letting as a method of allocating properties. Where Choice Based Letting is to be used as a method of allocating Properties, the following general provisions apply:-

• Persons assessed as being qualified for social housing support in accordance with Section 20 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 2009 and associated
Regulations, may apply for Tenancies of Properties designated for allocation by Choice Based Letting

- Properties must be designated for allocation by CBL by means of a Chief Executive Order
- Where properties are to be allocated by CBL, there must be an open and transparent means for advising households of the availability of the designated properties
- Where two or more households of the same class bid for a Property, the decision as to which household will be allocated the Property will be in accordance with the priorities as set out in this Allocation Scheme
- The refusal of a Property following an reasonable offer under CBL will mean that the household concerned will not be considered for another CBL offer for a period of 12 months
- The Refusal of an offer made under CBL will not be counted as a refusal for the purposes of the general refusal policy

(I) Emergency Allocations
The housing authority, notwithstanding the order of priorities for lettings as set out in this scheme, may, where it considers necessary, make a letting to a person whose need for accommodation arises from an emergency.

(J) Refusals
Part I - Refusals of Offers of Accommodation by Housing Applicants
Households who, without a satisfactory explanation, refuse two reasonable offers will have their application deferred for a period of twelve months.
A reasonable offer is defined in Regulation 12(3) as an offer of accommodation which in the opinion of the authority would meet the needs and requirements of the household and the dwelling is situated in the area of choice specified by the household.

A household will not be offered social housing support during the suspension period and time will not be added on during this period for ‘time on list’ or any other priority determining purposes.

All offers of accommodation shall be notified to the relevant Community Welfare Officer who is responsible for enforcement of the regulations in respect to payment of rent supplement [refusal of accommodation may result in loss of rent supplement payment from the H.S.E].

In general a household at the top of the list will stay there until they either have accepted a property or refused two offers of social housing support.
The only exceptions to this is where the housing authority is offering accommodation because of specified exceptional circumstances, including displacement by fire, flood or other emergency, development, redevelopment and regeneration of an area or exceptional and compassionate grounds. In these circumstances, the housing authority does not need to offer the household accommodation in their area of choice for it to be considered a reasonable offer. Households will not be penalised for refusing an initial offer if the offer is deemed to be a reasonable refusal.

The Refusal Policy will also apply to applicants for a Transfer.

Refusal of an Offer made under Choice Based Letting (CBL)
The Refusal of an Offer made under CBL will not be counted as a refusal for the purposes of the above/general refusals policy. However, the refusal of a Property following a reasonable offer under CBL will mean that the household concerned will not be considered for another CBL offer for a period of 12 months

Part II - Refusal of Housing Authority to Allocate
Notwithstanding the provisions of the Scheme in regard to an applicant’s entitlement to be considered for accommodation, the housing authority may in exceptional circumstances refuse to allocate, or defer to allocate a dwelling where it considers any of the following apply:

- the person is or has been convicted of engaging in anti-social behaviour as defined under Government legislation,
- that a letting to that person would not be in the interest of good estate management,
- on the grounds of promoting social inclusion
- on the grounds of counteracting social segregation
- where it has been assessed that a person’s accommodation needs cannot appropriately be met, at that point in time, through independent living

The housing authority may also refuse to allocate a dwelling in cases where an applicant:
- refuses to disclose any information which is requested by the housing authority either on the application form or at subsequent interviews and which is required either for the purpose of assessing the application or for estate management purposes.
- will not authorise the provision of data/information on the applicant by other agencies where this data/information is required by the housing authority for estate management purposes, or
- provides false or misleading information at any stage in the assessment or allocation process.
(K) Transfers
Tenants of the housing authority, including tenants of dwellings provided under the Social Housing Leasing Initiative, RAS, or by AHB’s may apply for consideration for a transfer to other dwellings, under the following circumstances -

- **Down-sizing:** tenants who wish to transfer to a smaller unit of housing authority accommodation.

- **Exceptional medical/disability or compassionate grounds:** where the tenant has a serious disability /medical condition or illness for which the allocation of a transfer to an alternative housing authority dwelling would improve the tenant’s medical condition. The housing authority shall obtain and have regard to a report from an Occupational Therapist/Medical Practitioner in respect of any specific accommodation requirements.

- **Overcrowding:** where the existing accommodation is no longer suitable on the grounds of over-crowding due to an increase in the family composition since the original date of allocation of the property.

The housing authority will not consider transferring a tenant because of unsatisfactory relations with a neighbouring tenant or because of dissatisfaction in general with the estate or the neighbourhood.

Notwithstanding the above, tenants seeking a transfer must fulfil the following requirements to the satisfaction of the housing authority –

**The following conditions also apply to the approval of a transfer request:**
1. Tenants must have a clear rent account with no arrears relating to their existing tenancy
2. The tenants must have complied with all the conditions of their letting agreement
3. The tenants must not have engaged in anti-social behaviour for the previous two years
4. The tenants must have resided in their current accommodation for the previous two years
5. Subject to an inspection of the existing accommodation the property must be in a satisfactory condition
6. The date of application for a transfer will only be set after all the conditions for a transfer have been met in the opinion of the housing authority.

(L) Succession Tenancies
On the death of a tenant, the tenancy may be transferred to the tenant’s partner/spouse or to a member of the tenant’s immediate family normally resident in the dwelling at the date of the tenant’s death. In determining whether or not the
tenant's immediate family was normally resident in the dwelling on the date of the tenant's death, details included on the previous Rent Assessments will be taken into account. It is a requirement that the details in relation to all persons residing in a housing authority property are declared to the authority and that the rent account is re-assessed to reflect the additional member of the household residing in the accommodation. The entitlement to make an application for a succession of tenancy will not apply where the housing authority is satisfied that the applicant for succession deliberately took up occupancy in the dwelling for the sole purpose of obtaining tenancy in these circumstances. The housing authority will make whatever enquiries are necessary to verify any particulars furnished in support of an application for succession.

Under some circumstances where succession is being considered, the housing authority may require the family member to move to another property if it considers the property to be too large or the property has been designed or adapted for the use of someone with a disability who no longer resides in the property. No succession to the tenancy will be considered where the property has been designated as an Older Persons Dwelling (and where the person applying for succession is not an elderly person) save in exceptional circumstances.

(M) Review of /Amendments to the Allocation Scheme.
Leitrim County Council may from time to time review this allocation scheme, and revise it by way of amendments to the scheme or make a new scheme, subject to the approval of the Elected Members of the Council. Before making or amending an allocation scheme, the Council shall provide a draft of the scheme or amendment to the scheme, as the case may be, to the Minister, who may direct the Council to amend the draft scheme or draft amendment, and the Council shall comply with any such direction within such period as may be specified by the Minister. A copy of the Allocation Scheme will be available for public inspection at the offices of the housing authority during office hours and will also be available on the website at www.leitrimcoco.ie.
Choice Based Letting

Information Leaflet

In accordance with Section 22 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 2009 and the Social Housing Regulations, 2011, all Housing Authorities are required to make an “Allocation Scheme” to determine the priority to be given in the allocation of dwellings to households assessed as being qualified for social housing support. These Regulations provide Housing Authorities with the option to include Choice Based Letting (CBL) in their Allocation Scheme as a method of allocating designated Properties to qualified applicants. Where CBL is to be used as a method of allocating Properties, a provision with regard to CBL must be incorporated into the Housing Authority’s Allocation Scheme and approved by the Elected Members.

What is CBL

CBL is a method which can be incorporated into the Housing Authority’s Allocation Scheme for the allocation of Social Housing and is designed to offer more choice and involvement for Applicant Households in selecting a new home. Properties to be allocated using the CBL method are designated by the Housing Authority by means of Chief Executive Officer Order. Once designated, the Property/Properties are openly advertised for Letting and qualified Applicants on the Housing Waiting List may “Bid” for or “Register an Interest” in the designated Property/Properties. A Qualified Household is one which has applied for and which has been approved for Social Housing Support. Applicants have to act on their own initiative to respond to CBL adverts and apply for a dwelling which they would like to live in.

Introduction of CBL by Leitrim County Council

Leitrim County Council is now introducing CBL and has now incorporated CBL into our Allocation Scheme. A number of other Housing Authorities have introduced CBL as an additional option to offer more choice and involvement for applicant households in selecting a new home and also as a method to assist in the allocation of vacant properties which have proved “Difficult to Let” using the methods in the pre-existing Allocation Scheme. Some Housing Authorities both in Ireland and the U.K. have found that CBL has assisted them in the allocation of properties which had been difficult to let and/or properties which have been long term vacant.

Currently, Leitrim County Council have a number of Properties which have proved difficult to let due to a number of factors, namely, the location of the property (e.g. rural location); lack of proximity to services such as transport, medical services etc.; long term vacant properties etc. It is hoped that in introducing CBL and in advertising such vacant properties under CBL, that Applicant households who may not have previously considered certain areas may now do so following the advertisement process. In this way, Leitrim County Council hopes that the introduction of CBL will lead to a faster and more stream lined allocation of vacant properties in areas of low demand.
Operation of CBL

Once CBL is approved for introduction, Leitrim County Council will proceed to incorporate CBL into the Allocation of certain designated properties. Properties for allocation under CBL will be designated by means of Chief Executive Officer Order which will list the Properties to be advertised for allocation under CBL. Typically the designated properties will be Properties which to date have proved “Difficult” to Let and/or Long Term Vacant Properties.

Following approval of the introduction of CBL, Leitrim County Council will send details of CBL to each qualified Household on the Housing Waiting List to which the Scheme applies, including details of the following:-

- An explanation of CBL and the Terms & Conditions which apply to CBL
- An outline of how Properties will be advertised under CBL and how interested households can “Bid” for or “Register an Interest” in designated Properties
- An outline of the time limits within which an interested Household must “Bid” for or “Register an Interest” in a designated Property and an outline of the Information/Supporting Documentation required to be submitted when Bidding for or Registering an Interest in a designated Property.
- An outline of the implications of the refusal of an offer made under CBL

In addition to the designation of a Property for CBL, it will also be necessary to determine the class of Household that will be eligible to apply to be considered for the allocation of the designated Property. For Example, where a 3 Bedroom Property is designated for CBL, as part of its designation, the Housing Authority may specify the type of Households which are eligible to be considered under CBL for the allocation of the said dwelling, namely, a Household consisting of a Single Adult with two or more dependents, a Household consisting of two adults with one or more dependents or a Household consisting of three or more adults.

It is proposed to advertise available Properties in the following manner:-

- On the Leitrim County Council Website – www.leitrimcoco.ie
- On a Notice Board in the main offices of Leitrim County Council, Aras An Chontae, Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim
- Notification to each qualified Household on the Housing Waiting List who meet specific eligibility criteria
- Household will have 3 weeks from the date of publication of the advertisement to “Bid” for or “Register an Interest” in the designated property and to do so they must apply in writing and must submit any supporting documentation/information as requested in the advertisement notice

The Advertisement Notice will specify the following:-

- The full address of the Designated Property/Properties
- The Category of the property and other relevant particulars – e.g. No. Of Bedrooms, 2 Storey Property, Ground Floor Property and will generally include a Photograph of the Property
• The class or classes of Household which are eligible to “Bid” for or “Register an Interest” in the designated Properties

• That in considering the allocation of a designated dwelling to a particular Household which has bid for the Property, the Housing Authority shall review the Social Housing Assessment carried out in respect of that Household and make a fresh determination of the Household’s qualification for Social Housing Support

• The date of publication of the notice and the closing date for receipt of “Bids” for the designated property

• Contact details of the Housing Authority for the purposes of obtaining additional information about any of the designated properties and the manner of their allocation

In considering the allocation of a designated property under CBL, the Housing Authority must ensure that:-

• The Household is of a class, the accommodation needs and requirements of which, would in the opinion of the Housing Authority be met by the allocation of the said dwelling and

• The Household is a household which has applied for the allocation of the dwelling and has supplied the required information/supporting documentation to the Housing Authority

Where a Housing Authority has not restricted applications for the Allocation of a Bid Dwelling to Households that have specified the area of choice in which that dwelling is situated, the Housing Authority may, following examination of Bids duly submitted for the allocation of the dwelling, decide to confine consideration for the allocation of the bid dwelling to applicant households that have specified such area of choice. In addition, a Housing Authority, may at its discretion, at any stage prior to the allocation of a bid dwelling, decide to terminate the designation of that dwelling as a bid dwelling and not to proceed with or not to continue with CBL in respect of that dwelling.

Where two or more households of the same class apply for a property under CBL, the decision on which household should be allocated the property will be in accordance with the priorities as set out in the Council’s Adopted Allocation Scheme.

All offers of Accommodation will be subject to the existing Garda Checks and Estate Management Checks.

Refusals of Offers

Where a household refuses a reasonable offer by a housing authority under CBL, the Household will not be considered for another CBL offer for a period of 12 months from the date of the refusal. However, the Refusal of an Offer made under CBL is not counted as a Refusal for the purposes of the general refusals policy.
COMHAIRLE CHONTAE LIATROMA

Agenda Item No 4 – To approve the raising of a loan in the sum of €152,750 to be provided to the North West Simon Community for the purposes of the purchase of 2 dwellings in Carrick-on-Shannon, Co. Leitrim.

Dear Member,

The Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS) 2014 - 2016 provides housing for people with specific categories of need through Approved Housing Bodies. Under this scheme, funding of up to 100% of the approved cost of a project can be provided in cases where all prospective tenancies are taken from the local authority Housing Waiting List. Funding for projects is provided by way of a grant from this Department to the local authority who provides the funding to the relevant Approved Housing Body in the form of a 30 year mortgage. The loan charges are waived provided the terms of the scheme are complied with. This requires the AHB to enter into a legal agreement with the local authority creating a ‘mortgage charge’ on the property or properties. The AHB provides, and maintains the properties. Allocations are made by the AHB in consultation with the local authority to approve applicants on the Housing Waiting List.

The Department of Environment, Community and Local Government has approved a grant of €152,750 for the purpose of assisting the provision of housing accommodation under Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1992 by North West Simon Community with the acquisition of two family type dwellings at No. 60 and No. 61 Oaklands, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co. Leitrim.

I recommend that the Members approve the recommendation to advance a loan of €152,750 to the North West Simon Community in accordance with terms of Circular/Memorandum VHU 2/02 in respect of the project. The acquisition of these dwellings will assist the local authority to meet housing need in Carrickon-Shannon where there is considerable demand for social housing support.

Yours sincerely,

Mary Quinn,
Director of Services,
Housing, Corporate,
Cultural & Emergency Services.
Cathaoirleach agus Gach Ball of Leitrim County Council

Re: DRAFT POLLING SCHEME 2016

Dear Member

I refer to the above and wish to advise that it is proposed to review the polling scheme for County Leitrim in the context of boundary revisions in 2014.

The Electoral (Polling Schemes) Regulations, 2005, set out the procedure to be followed in the preparation of a polling scheme. Before making a scheme, the Local Authority ‘shall prepare a draft scheme and shall send a copy of the draft scheme, together with a summary of any changes proposed, to each Returning Officer, Local Authority, and member of Dáil Éireann for the constituency or constituencies to which the draft scheme relates, together with a statement that the Authority will consider any proposals for alterations in the draft scheme notified to it within 5 weeks from the day on which such copy is sent.’ There is also a requirement to give public notice of the draft scheme, again following a 5 week period for any submissions in relation to the draft scheme.

On the expiration of the 5 week periods, ‘the Authority shall consider any proposals for alterations notified to them or any representations made to them in accordance with Articles 4(1)(a) and 4(1)(b) and may then make the scheme in accordance with the draft scheme or with such amendments of the draft scheme as they consider proper.’

The polling scheme for County Leitrim has not been amended in recent years, however over the years there have been changes made such as the amalgamation of districts and smaller polling stations. The matter has been reviewed with the County Registrar and it is now proposed to publish a draft polling scheme in line with the provisions set out above. The scheme proposed incorporates various changes made over the years.

I also enclose copy of advertisement to appear in the Leitrim Observer dated 20th January and to be published on the Council website www.leitrim.ie. The matter will also be included as an item for consideration at the Municipal District meetings to be held in January.

The final date for receipt of submissions is 24th February 2016.
Yours sincerely

Mary Quinn
Director of Services, Housing and Community,
Corporate Services, Culture and Emergency Services

MQ/AL
LEITRIM COUNTY COUNCIL

ELECTORAL ACT 1992

ELECTORAL POLLING SCHEME

DAIL, EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND LOCAL ELECTIONS AND REFERENDA

REVISION 2016
### CARRICK ON SHANNON ELECTORAL AREA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Polling District</th>
<th>District Electoral Division(s) of:</th>
<th>Polling Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CA</td>
<td>ANNADUFF DED (part of) (Remainder in Drumsna)</td>
<td>Corrick, Derrybrack, Derrylaur, Derrynogher, Drumcree, Drumgila, Gortaggle and Gortinty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DROMOD DED (part of) (Remainder in Dromod)</td>
<td>Aghamore; Aghintass, Antfield, Corduff, Cuilmore, Derrycarne Demesne, Derrywillow, Doora, Drumcoora, Drumlom, Faulties, Fearnought, Fedaro, Finnalaghta, Furnace or Bleankilley, Gortineev, Killyfad, Moher, Mohereevan, Mullagh and Umera</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CB</td>
<td>BEIHY - RINN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BEIHY DED</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>RINN DED (part of) (Remainder in Mohill)</td>
<td>Aghamore, Breanross North, Breanross South, Clooncooe, Drumbad, Drumgila, Drumgrania, Drumhirk, Errew, Farnaght, Gortletteragh, Lear and Trean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CC</td>
<td>BREANDRUM</td>
<td>BREANDRUM DED (part of) (Remainder in Bunnybeg)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CD</td>
<td>BUNNYBEG</td>
<td>BREANDRUM DED (part of) (Remainder in Breandrum)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BUNNYBEG (part of) (Remainder in Drumsna)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>DRUMDOO (part of) (Remainder in Mohill)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CE</td>
<td>CARRICK ON SHANNON</td>
<td>CARRICK ON SHANNON DED (part of) (Remainder in Jamestown)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GOWEL DED (part of) (Remainder in Gowel)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CF</td>
<td>DROMOD</td>
<td>CASHEL DED (part of) (Remainder in Rooskey)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>DROMOD DED (part of) (Remainder in Annaduff)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>DRUMARD DED (part of) (Remainder in Mohill)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ROOSKEY DED (part of) (Remainder in Rooskey)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CG</td>
<td>JAMESTOWN</td>
<td>CARRICK ON SHANNON DED (part of) (Remainder in Carrick on Shannon)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Drumsna</td>
<td>Kildorragh and Lisdalkey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>--------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRUMARD DED (part of) (Remainder in Dromod)</td>
<td>MOHILL DED (part of) (Remainder in Beighy - Rinn)</td>
<td>RINN DED (part of) (Remainder in Beighy - Rinn)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polling Place</td>
<td>District Electoral Division(s) of:</td>
<td>Polling District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aghanlish</td>
<td>AGHALATEEVE DED</td>
<td>MA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AGHANISH DED</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GUBACREENY DED (part of)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Remainder in Kintailough)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ASKIL</td>
<td>MB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ballaghameehan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CARTONGIBHAB, CONRAY, COOLODONNEIL,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DERNANLIMIRK, DRUMGANE, DRUMNAGA,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GORTNAKEVE, GUBMANUS, GUBNAGEER,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>KINKILW, LISRASH, SHASMORE, TULLYDERRIH and TULLYKEHEHY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MD</td>
<td>CLOONCLARE</td>
<td>CLOONCLARE DED (part of) (Remainder in Glenfarne)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GLENBOY DED (part of) (Remainder in Manorhamilton)</td>
<td>Aghlaco, Ballaghabehy, Barr of Farrow, Briscoonagh, Moneenlom and Munnagashel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MUNAKILL DED</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ME</td>
<td>CLOONTY - TULLAGHAN</td>
<td>TULLAGHAN DED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MG</td>
<td>GLENFARNE</td>
<td>GLENFARNE DED (part of) (Remainder in CLOONCLARE)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MH</td>
<td>KILTYCLOGHER</td>
<td>BALLAGHAMEEHAN DED (part of) (Remainder in Ballaghameehan - Glenaniff)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MI</td>
<td>KINLOUGH</td>
<td>AGHAVOGHIL DED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>KINLOUGH</td>
<td>GUBACREENY DED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>KINLOUGH</td>
<td>KINLOUGH DED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MANORHAMilton</td>
<td>GLENANIFF DED (part of) (Remainder in Ballaghameehan-Glenaniff)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MANORHAMilton</td>
<td>GLENBOY DED (part of) (Remainder in Clonclare)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MANORHAMilton</td>
<td>KILTYCLOGHER DED (part of) (Remainder in Kiltyclogher)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MANORHAMilton</td>
<td>MANORHAMilton DED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ML</td>
<td>LARGY</td>
<td>GLENADE DED (part of) (Remainder in Glencar - Lurganboy)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LARGY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MM</td>
<td>GLENCAR - LURGANBOY</td>
<td>GLENCAR DED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GLENADE DED (part of) (Remainder in Largy)</td>
<td>Barracashlaun, Carrickeeny, Carrickgoohan, Drumdillure, Drummans, Drumnacross, Fenagh and Shancurragh Barr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LURGANBOY DED (part of) (Remainder in Cloonlougher and Sramore)</td>
<td>Ballyglass, Ballynaboll, Barrackpark, Castletown, Fivepoundland, Gortinar, Gotnaskeagh, Killenna Glebe, Killymeehin, Kinnara Glebe, Largantemple, Milltown, Mountainthird, Nure, Pollboy, Poundhill, Shancurragh, Shanvaus, Srabrick, Tawnymoyle, Tullynasharragh and Twigspark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sramore DED (part of) (Remainder in Sramore)</td>
<td>Conray, Gleneige and Tomrud</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MN</th>
<th>CLOONLOUGHER - KILLARGA</th>
<th>CLOONLOUGHER DED</th>
<th>Killargue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LURGANBOY DED (part of) (Remainder in Cloonlougher)</td>
<td>Cloonaquinn, Cloonlougher and Gortgarrigan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BELHAVEL DED (part of) (Remainder in Belhavel)</td>
<td>Blackgardens, Carrickoghill, Cornamarve, Corratawny, Curry, Fenagh, Gortatrest, Gornacorkoge, Killarga, Mullaghamore and Tullinloughan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>KILLARGUE DED (part of) (Remainder in Belhavel – Corry – Mahanagh - Drumkeeran)</td>
<td>Corr a Bhole</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MP</td>
<td>SRAMORE</td>
<td>LURGANBOY DED (part of) (Remainder in Glencar - Lurganboy and Cloonlougher)</td>
<td>Moreagh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SRAMORE DED (part of) (Remainder in Glencar - Lurganboy)</td>
<td>Banagher, Carricknurroo, Carrickfad, Cartron, Comalaghta, Corrycullen, Curraghan, Donnkelley, Doonmorgan, Faslowart, Fawnlion, Kilmore, Leckaun, Leean, Lugalustran, Magurk, Moneyduff, Rubbal and Sramore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MQ</td>
<td>BELHAVEL - CORRY - MAHANAGH - DRUMKEERAN</td>
<td>BELHAVEL DED (part of) (Remainder in Killargue)</td>
<td>Annagh, Belhavel, Brockagh, Cloonagh, Corderry, Corrasra, Drumany, Drumcashlagh, Drumderg, Drumduffy, Drumillon, Drumkeel, Drumlumman, Geskanagh, Gortahork, Gorteen, Greagh, Gubaderry, Leamaskally, Leonagh, Sweetwood, Treanadullah, Tullinwillin and Tullynasharragh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>KILLARGUE DED (part of) (Remainder in Cloonlougher-Killarga)</td>
<td>Altavra, Boleybrack, Derrintawny, Gowlaun, Greaghnagon, Knockacullion, Lackagh, Lsnagowan, Tawnahoney, Tawnylea, Tullinwannia, Tullynacross and Tullynamoyle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>DRUMKEERAN DED</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>MAHANAGH DED</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ARIGNA DED</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Newtownmanor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Drumkeeran</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT</td>
<td>DROMAHAIRE</td>
<td>DROMAHAIRE DED</td>
<td>Dromahaire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MV</td>
<td>GARVAGH - KILLANUMMERY</td>
<td>GARVAGH DED</td>
<td>Killanummetry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>KILLANUMMERY DED</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MY</td>
<td>ST. PATRICK'S</td>
<td>ST. PATRICKS DED (part of)</td>
<td>Tarmon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Remainder in Belhavel - Corry - Mahanagh - Drumkeeran)</td>
<td>(Remainder in St. Patrick's)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Greaghanaslieve, Liscuillwe Upper, Moneenatieve, Seltansaggart, Seltanaskeagh, Tullyveane

Aghamore, Altiquin, Ardougher, Bundiveen, Cartronbeg, Corglass, Curraghs, Derryahinch, Derryhalurgan, Drummanasooan, Drummangarvagh, Falty, Gubb, Knockatee, Largy, Lecarrow, Lugmore, Moneenreave, Mullaghfadda, Tawnycorragh, Tents, Tullycorka, Tullymurray and Unshinnagh
# BALLINAMORE ELECTORAL AREA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Polling District</th>
<th>District Electoral Division(s) of:</th>
<th>Polling Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AA</td>
<td>AGHAVAS DED</td>
<td>Aghavas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CARRIGALLEN WEST DED (part of)</td>
<td>Daffin; Drumerkeane; Drumgunny and Milton Glebe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Remainder in Carrigallen)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CORRIGA DED</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LISGILLOCK DED (part of)</td>
<td>Dromore and Lavareen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Remainder in Cloone – Corduff Sourth - Lissagarvan)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CATTAN DED (part of)</td>
<td>Clooncose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Remainder in Annaghmore)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>KEELDRA DED (part of)</td>
<td>Killyvehy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Remainder in Cloone - Corduff South - Lissagarvan)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB</td>
<td>CATTAN DED (part of)</td>
<td>Annaghmone; Annaghoney; Anskert; Cattan; Cornageeha. Drumgownagh; Drumhass; Fearglass North and Muckanagh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Remainder in Aughavas - Rossaun)</td>
<td>Cornageeha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AC</td>
<td>BALLINAMORE DED</td>
<td>Ballinamore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DRUMREILLY SOUTH DED</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AD</td>
<td>CARRIGALLEN</td>
<td>CARRIGALLEN EAST DED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CARRIGALLEN WEST DED (part of) (Remainder in Aghavas - Rossaun)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>GORTEMONE DED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AE</td>
<td>CASTLEFORE - FENAGH - ROWAN</td>
<td>CASTLEFORE DED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>FENAGH DED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ROWAN DED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AF</td>
<td>CLOONE - CORDUFF SOUTH - LISSAGARVAN</td>
<td>CLOONE DED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>KEELDRA DED (part of) (Remainder in Aghavas - Rossaun)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix 7 - 11th January 2016</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Drumlea</td>
<td>Aughnaheelin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIGILLOCK DED (part of) (Remainder in Aghavas - Rossaun)</td>
<td>Derrindroid, Lisgillock, Lissaganvan,</td>
<td>Corancreave, Cromlin, Curraghnabarla, Derrahlte, Demasmalian, Derrinkeher, Drumbad, Kilnainmaddyroe, Probagh and Unshiragh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LISGILLLOCK DED (part of) (Remainder in Aghavas - Rossaun)</td>
<td>RIVERSTOWN DED</td>
<td>Aghawillie; Boeshill; Bolganard; Clegreedargan; Clegreedargass; Crockawaddy; Cullyw; Drumarigna; Drumcullion; Drumlonan; Drumreilly; Garadice; Glebe; Glennanbeg; Glennmore; Killaphort; Kilnacreavy; Knocks and Leganamer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CORRALA DED</td>
<td>DRUMREILLY NORTH DED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>KILLYGAR</td>
<td>OUGHTERAGH DED (part of) (Remainder in Oughteragh)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GRESHGGLASS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AH</td>
<td>AJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aughawillan</td>
<td>Drumcong</td>
<td>Ballinaglera</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cormageeragh and Derrinkeeher</td>
<td>Carnulla, Cortober, Sillevenakilla and Sananganagh</td>
<td>Aughrin, Cleghran, Cornamuckla, Drumshan, Studranagh, Tullynahana and Tullyvecan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLOVERHILL DED</th>
<th>OUGHTERAGH DED (part of)</th>
<th>KESHCARRIGAN DED</th>
<th>DRUMREILLY EAST DED</th>
<th>DRUMREILLY WEST DED</th>
<th>YUGAN DED</th>
<th>BARNAIMEAGHA DED</th>
<th>DRUMSHANBO DED</th>
<th>MOHER DED (part of) (Remainder in Killubrid)</th>
<th>AGHCAHSEL DED</th>
<th>KILTUBRID DED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oughteragh</td>
<td>KESHCARRIGAN - KILCALRE</td>
<td>URBAL - YUGAN</td>
<td>DRUM</td>
<td>DRUMSHANBO</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AN</td>
<td>AQ</td>
<td>AS</td>
<td>AU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>AV</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COMHAIRLE CHONTAE LIATROMA
Áras an Chontae,
Cora Droma Ruisc.

7th January 2016

RE: Agenda Item No. 7 – Leitrim County Council Meeting Monday, 11th January 2016 - Statutory Audit report for the Year Ended 2014

Dear Member,

In accordance with Section 60 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, Leitrim County Council Audit Committee considered the Audit report at their meeting held on 6th January, 2016. Ms Anne Halion Local Government Auditor attended the meeting. A no. of queries were raised and were responded to the satisfaction of the Committee. In particular, the committee acknowledged the adjustment to staffing resources put in place to address the issue of income collection. Some of the matters raised in the report will inform the Audit Committee’s work programme for the coming year.

Yours sincerely,

Mary Quinn
Secretary to Audit Committee
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUDIT SERVICE

Statutory Audit Report

to the

Members of Leitrim County Council

for the

Year Ended 31 December 2014

Comhshaoil, Poblach Éidse, Comhan
Environment, Community and Local Government
# CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Paragraph</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Standing</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income Collection</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irish Water</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal Audit Function</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed Assets</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledgment</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LEITRIM COUNTY COUNCIL

1 Introduction

1.1 I have audited the annual financial statement of Leitrim County Council for the year ended 31 December 2014, which comprise the Statement of Accounting Policies, Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position, Funds Flow Statement and notes on and forming part of the accounts. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in its preparation is the Accounting Code of Practice for Local Authorities, as prescribed by the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government.

My main statutory responsibility, following the completion of the audit work, is to express my independent audit opinion on the annual financial statement (AFS) of the Council, as to whether it presents fairly the financial position at 31 December 2014 and its income and expenditure. My audit opinion, which is unmodified, is stated on page 6 of the AFS.

The Council is by law, responsible for the maintenance of all accounting records including the preparation of the AFS. It is my responsibility, based on my audit, to form an opinion on the statement and to report my opinion to you. I conducted my audit in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the annual financial statement. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the Council's management in the preparation of the financial statement, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Council's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

I planned and performed my audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations, which I considered necessary to provide sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statement is free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error.

1.2 This report is prepared in accordance with Section 120(1)(c) of the Local Government Act, 2001 and should be read in conjunction with the audited AFS.

2 Financial Standing

2.1 The Council recorded a surplus of €153k after making net transfers to reserves of €113K in 2014, resulting in an accumulated deficit of €1.4m at the end of the year. I note however, that gratuities amounting to €254K were charged to the capital account at the year end. The Accounting Code of Practice (ACOP) issued by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government (the Department) states that "payments in respect of pensions and gratuities are treated as current expenditure and are charged to the revenue account in the accounting period in which the payments are made". In compliance with the ACOP, this sum should be recharged to the revenue account.
2.2 The variances between the adopted budget and the actual outturn in the revenue account are shown in Note 17 to the AFS and were approved by the members in May 2015.

The net capital balance surplus at the end of the year decreased by €1.35m, and showed an overall surplus of €13.6m. Included in this sum is an amount of €1m classified as unfunded, and for which funding proposals need to be put in place to eliminate these balances in the future. The Council may be required to utilize €6.1m of this surplus for the buy-back of the Leitrim Leisure Centre in 2018, which was agreed as part of a public private partnership undertaken in 2005.

Chief Executive’s Response

During 2014, the Council experienced an unprecedented situation where half (11 members) of the then Council, either retired prior to the 2014 local elections or lost their seats in these elections. As a consequence of this the Council became liable to pay gratuities amounting to €416k to these former members, broken down as follows:
1. Retirees - €200,266
2. Lost seats - €215,484

The timing of the payments of these gratuities is dependent on the individual former members reaching 50 years of age. The following is the payment profile for these gratuity payments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2023</th>
<th>2027</th>
<th>2029</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Payable</td>
<td>€295k</td>
<td>€27k</td>
<td>€33k</td>
<td>€17k</td>
<td>€33k</td>
<td>€11k</td>
<td>€416k</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As the Council’s revenue account had taken very large charges in 2012 and 2013 as a result of employee redundancies and associated payments and gratuities, this resulted in the Council entering a cumulative deficit situation of €1.426m at the end of 2014. It was deemed unviable for the Council’s revenue account to sustain the charge of €295k in 2014, and it was decided to provide €60k per annum over the 5 year period of the new Council (2014-2019) to cover these (2014) gratuities. The Council is committed to reducing this deficit in the coming years, but deem this treatment as the most practical and prudent course of action in the circumstances. This course of action would in effect result in this sum should being recharged to the revenue account by 2018, in compliance with the ACOP. The Council will also charge the future gratuity payments listed above in the accounting period in which the payments are made.

During 2016 funding proposals will be put in place in order to address the circa. €1m unfunded capital balances as mentioned above with a view to eliminating these. A fund of over €2m has been built up in the capital account since 2006 in order to offset the €6.1m liability due to crystallise in 2018. The Council makes provision from its revenue account to this fund each year and is committed to doing so. The amount of this annual provision is wholly dependent on what can be afforded each year. The Council will examine all options open to it in order to meet this liability in 2018.
3 Income Collection

3.1 The percentage yields from the main revenue collection accounts with comparatives over the previous four years were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rates</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing Rents and Annuities</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing loans</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.2 Commercial Rates

Commercial rate arrears increased by €482k to €2.67m at 31 December 2014 on the previous year. The Council wrote off €650k in respect of rates in 2014 have included a bad debts provision of €183k (7% of arrears) for these debtors. This continuing deteriorating collection yield is unsatisfactory and the Council needs to continue to review its debt collection procedures to address this matter. The bad debts provision is also inadequate and needs to be reviewed.

Chief Executive’s Response

During 2015 the Council has committed to providing an additional €450k in respect of commercial rates write-offs for vacant premises which will bring the write-off in the year to €1.1m (a 70% increase). We have again, as part of the budgetary process, committed to providing the same amount for 2016. These additional provisions should go a long way to eliminating aged uncollectible commercial rates debt, which has proven to be the main encumbrance on the rates collection percentages.

In conjunction with these measures we have, during 2015, strengthened the accounts receivable team with the addition of an Administrative Officer and introduced a new debt collection system. A rates revaluation will commence in County Leitrim in 2016 and will take account of rental values in each local authority area. This will result in a more equitable distribution of commercial rates among ratepayers and should also assist with collections.

3.3 Housing Rents and Annuities

Rents and annuities arrears increased by €70k to €272k at the end of 2014, against which a bad debt provision of €4.5k has been provided for. The collection procedure and the adequacy of the bad debt provision needs to be reviewed.

Chief Executive’s Response

During 2015, the Council strengthened the accounts receivable team for housing rents and annuities, with the addition of an Administrative Officer and the introduction of a new debt collection system. The rents bad debt provision will be increased in 2015 if funds allow.
3.4 Housing Loans

The housing loan collection yields continued to decrease in 2014 with accumulated arrears of €121k at the year end. A bad debt provision of €4.5k has been provided for against these loans.

Chief Executive’s Response

The majority of housing loan arrears are over 2 years old and relate to high interest bearing loans granted 15-25 years ago. In 2015, the Council strengthened the accounts receivable team for housing loans with the addition of an Administrative Officer and the introduction of a new debt collection system.

4 Irish Water

The responsibility for water services functions transferred from local authorities to Irish Water (IW) in 2014. The Council continues to deliver services to IW under a service level agreement. This has had a significant impact on the 2014 accounts of the Council including the following.

4.1 Water Property, Plant & Equipment

The net book value of fixed assets removed from the accounts relating to Irish Water (IW) amounted to €157m at 31 December 2014. In accordance with Circular Fin 02/2015 issued by the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government (The Department) in February 2015, all water related infrastructure assets and other assets identified by the local authority must be removed from the Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet) in the 2014 AFS. The basis for the removal of water infrastructure from the local authority accounts as directed in the circular is:

- section 7 of the Water Services (No. 2 Act) 2013 provided for the transfer of water services functions from local authorities to IW
- section 21 provides IW with power to charge for water services
- a mutual licence between IW and each local authority exists, which allows for IW to use the water infrastructure assets (Included in Service Level Agreement) pending the ultimate statutory transfer
- the revised accounting Code of Practice, published in December 2014 stipulates that “assets are resources controlled by the authority as a result of past events and from which future economic or service potential is expected to flow to the authority. An authority shall recognise as asset in the Statement of Financial Position when it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the entity and the asset has a cost or value that can be measured reliably.”
Considering that the future economic benefits will no longer flow to local authorities, nor do the risks and rewards associated with the assets reside with the local authorities, an assessment of substance over form and generally accepted accounting principles require that the water infrastructure assets be removed from the books of the local authorities as at 31 December 2014.

The transfer of water services assets from the local authorities is being advanced over a number of phases. The financial transfer is reflected in the local authorities’ accounts for 2014 with an adjustment on their balance sheets. The statutory transfer of the assets, which is given effect by Ministerial Orders, is being advanced by the Department in consultation with the local authorities and Irish Water. Since January 2015, a number of Ministerial Orders have been made providing for the transfer of various different categories of assets to Irish Water. Considerable work is involved in preparing supporting material for the transfer of over-ground assets, to ensure that the Orders reflect the precise nature and boundary of the asset to be transferred. Further Orders required will be completed over the course of 2015, subject to taking the time necessary to ensure the assets are accurately set out.

During the course of the audit, it was noted that a number of on-going issues in relation to the transfer of assets to IW, including registration of titles and wayleaves. These matters will be kept under audit review.

4.2 Water Related Loans

Water related loans of €5m were included in loans payable in Note 8 in the AFS at the end of 2014. These loans are showing as due within one year on the basis that they will be repaid to the HFA in full and recouped from the Department in 2015.

4.3 Balancing Statement with Irish Water

In August 2015, agreement was reached between the Council and IW as part of the due diligence process which included a statement of relevant debtor and capital balances, which were removed from the Councils balance sheet in 2014.

5 Internal Audit Function

Regulation 9 of the Local Government (Financial and Audit Procedures) Regulations 2014 requires local authorities to maintain an adequate and effective system of internal audit of its accounting records and control systems.
Local authorities are also obliged to establish audit committees in accordance with section 59 of the Local Government Reform Act, 2014. A key function of the audit committee is to “foster the development of best practice in the performance by the local authority of its internal audit function.” This requires the audit committee to ensure that an internal audit function is in place that operates to professional internal audit standards. This encompasses the approval and monitoring of the annual work plan of the internal audit function and ensuring that management properly engages with internal audit, including the implementation of its recommendations.

The internal audit function of the Council was provided by an external professional firm of auditors in 2014 who completed four reports in the year. I have placed reliance on this work when performing the audit.

6 Fixed Assets

6.1 Property Interest Register

As previously reported, the work of reconciling the land property register with the Property Registration Authority is incomplete. I note that in 2014, the Council introduced a new mapping system which should facilitate this reconciliation. The Council needs to ensure that this work continues and that the register is properly maintained and reconciled with the fixed assets, when it is implemented.

6.2 Housing Stock Reconciliation

A housing stock reconciliation agreeing the number of assets as reported on the AFS to the number of houses on the Council’s housing database was not completed for 2014. This is an important control and should be prepared annually.

Chief Executive’s Response

This housing stock reconciliation will be prepared annually from 2015 onwards.

7 Acknowledgement

I wish to record my appreciation for the courtesy and co-operation extended to me and my colleague by the management and staff of the Council.

Anne Haion
Local Government Auditor
10 November 2015
Appendix 9 - 11th January 2016

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE LIATROMA

Áras an Chontae,
Cora Droma Ruisc.

5th January, 2016

Cathaoirleach agus gach Ball
COMHAIRLE CHONTAE LIATROMA

Agenda Item No. 8 of the January Council Meeting to be held on 11th January, 2016

RE: Corporate Plan-Annual Progress Report 2015

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 2014-2019. The report specifically highlights the progress made during 2015 and follows the same format as the Corporate Plan itself.

Economic Development

The Council continued to carry out an extensive range of work on promoting Leitrim as a strong location for economic development and facilitating infrastructure and other supports to encourage economic development during 2015. This was carried out through targeted infrastructure provision, proactive forward planning and active marketing and collaboration with other agencies.

The Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) which was established in 2014 continued to work on the preparation of a Local Economic Community Plan (LECP) including additional consultation, public consultation phase and workshops with members. It is now complete with approval of the Municipal Districts, the SPC and the Northern and Western Regional Assembly and will go to full council in January 2016 for approval. The LECP includes both a Community element and an Economic element both of which have undergone extensive consultation which was concluded in 2015 with consultation with the High Level Advisory Group, SPCs and a specific workshop with members as well as a public consultation process during summer 2015. The LECP was also informed by a detailed Economic Strategy prepared during the year.

A number of actions within the LECP and Economic Strategy of the Council have commenced during the year. The first of these is the marketing of the County as a positive location to do business with the launch of the Leitrim.ie site which now includes a portfolio of information on the County acting as a gateway to the Council website, Leitrim Sports, Leitrim business and Leitrim Tourism. A DVD highlighting the different business sectors operating in the County was completed and promoted in social media and on the website. In addition a further sector or support specific DVDs were developed and will be launched and promoted in 2016.

Leitrim County Council continued to facilitate the Upper-Shannon-Erne Business initiative, which has 6 key partners – local authorities of Leitrim, Longford, Cavan and Roscommon as well as Bord na Mona and ESB. The second phase of this project was launched by Minister for Enterprise Trade and Employment, Richard Bruton TD. In summary the work carried out under this initiative included the following:

- A co-ordinator was appointed for the Upper Shannon-Erne at end of April 2015
- Food Group: A number of mentoring sessions facilitated by Aurivo Co-operative were held in the areas of packaging, marketing and social media. In addition, a Regional Food Seminar was held in
Drumshanbo which focused on healthy food and producers from across the region got the opportunity to meet buyers as well as showcase their produce.

- Tourism and Creative – both groups met a number of times to form regional networking groups and as a result of ideas emerging from this an application was submitted for a Flagship Regional Economic Development Zone (REDZ). Leitrim County Council led out on an application under the, Regional Economic Development Zone (REDZ) initiative, to apply for flagship funding for the development of the Blueway in the four counties along with Waterways Ireland. A total of €209,692 in grant aid was awarded and the project which involved developing both capital and marketing supports for the Blueway was completed between October and December 2015.
- Renewable Energy: Group met to look at possibilities of progressing initiatives such as thinning of small forests – this has now become operational in one area so the Group are looking at further opportunities in relation to biomass.
- Diaspora: A number of towns across the region are piloting ways of encouraging greater engagement with the Diaspora such as through an inventory of information on each area, links to GAA clubs and a possible regional event.

In addition to the Blueway REDZ, a second REDZ application was made for the Manorhamilton area which received €40,000 in grant aid as 75% of the total project. This included support for three capital projects and the development of a REDZ Team and Enterprise and Employment Strategy. This was carried out using a novel approach of Dragon’s Den with a twist. This involved bringing in outside experts to pitch options to a group of local people but provided a great opportunity to learn from other areas and also visit other areas to learn new ways of doing things and to appreciate how much has already been achieved.

The Council established and facilitated a Renewable Energy Group comprising additional agencies such as SEAI, NWRA, LDC, UCD and businesses involved in the renewable energy sector. The Economic Development Unit participated in the development of an application to the Northern Periphery and Arctic (NPP) project to build the capacity and knowledge on renewable energy and energy efficiency along with partners from Sweden, Faroe Islands, Canada, Northern Ireland, Donegal and Norway. The Renewable Energy Group will be heavily involved in this project if the application is successful in 2016.

The Council also put in place an incentivised scheme in regard to rates to encourage the fresh use of vacant premises in town centres.

The LCDC submitted an Expression of Interest in being the Local Action Group (LAG) in summer 2015 which was accepted by the DECLG and work was carried out in conjunction with the implementing partner on the preparation of a draft Local Development Strategy. The Strategy will be completed and submitted to the Dept. Of Environment, Community and Local Government in January 2016.

The procurement process for the Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) was completed in early 2015 and the programme commenced in April 2015. A mid-term review was also completed and work has commenced on preparing the plan for 2016.

In February 2015, it was decided that Leitrim County Council would provide a co-ordinating role in a project to achieve Purple Flag Status for the County Town. Purple Flag is a standard for a vibrant, well-managed evening and night time economy. This involved establishing a Purple Flag Steering Group and a number of teams to look at different aspects of the evening and night time economy. Over 28 meetings, a strong team based approach lead to success in achieving the standard and marketing of this is now underway.
As a follow on to this achievement a Town Team Development Group was established in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce. The group has a number of sub-committees including a Marketing Group, Retail Group and Public Realm Group. The Marketing Group developed a comprehensive package of activities for the town for December 2015 while the Retail Group has commenced work on an audit of workspace and other initiatives to build the retail capacity of the town.

The High Level Advisory Group met twice in 2015 and ensures on-going support and engagement of Leitrim connected people in Dublin and elsewhere as well as key local business people. A number of projects have been prioritised with this group for 2016.

Leitrim County Council continued to play a lead role in further developing cooperation in cross border emergency management. It hosted a number of meetings of the Cross Border Emergency Management Group during the year. The Cross Border Emergency Management Group produced a three year business plan to progress some mutually beneficial cross border initiatives and hopes to attract some EU funding to implement these.

**Infrastructural Development**

2015 was another year of reduced roads budget. Our Non-National Roads Budget for 2015, at €6.1m, was down on 2014. A total of 44km of road was surface dressed and 62km of road strengthened in 2015.

In terms of our National Road network, a Contractor was appointed for the construction of Phase II of the N16 Cornacloy to Stradrine Realignment Scheme with the sod turning performed by Minister Pascal Donohue in December, 2015. This work will commence in 2016. Phase II of the Scheme comprises the realignment of a further 2km at this location. A design programme has been put in place with the Westmeath NRDO in regard to commenced of design works for a further phase of the N16 at Drummahan. In addition some safety improvement works were put in place on the N15.

The Lough Reane Overflow Pipeline contract was successfully completed during 2015 also.

The Rural Water Programme had an investment allocation of €200,000. €100,000 was spent on upgrading of Group Water Schemes at Cornabrone/Aghaslane, Cloonsarne, Lough Errill and Poolboy. A further €100,000 was made available for the construction of new Group Sewerage Schemes. Offers were made to three potential schemes. Unfortunately none were able to progress to construction in 2015.

The Council continued to support the Tidy Towns committees across the county with a workshop for all in April 2015, financial support through the GMA and assistance from the Area structures on an ongoing basis.

Works on the streetscape in both Manorhamilton and Carrick on Shannon were further progressed during the year adding significantly to the standard of public realm in both town centres.

During 2015 further investment was made in the County’s Tourism infrastructure with the completion of a new Sliabh an Iarainn drive associated with raised bogs there, the completion and official opening of the Visitors Centre in Drumshanbo and the Lime Kiln at Farnaught. A further project delivered improvement works at Glencar Waterfall amenity, carpark, service block and traffic calming. Development work was ongoing during the year in regard to proposed Greenways. Screening processes in regard to Appropriate Assessment under the Habitats Directive and Environmental Impact were progressed in regard to the SLNCR while work has been ongoing in the preparation of a 2016 application for Interreg VA funding in respect of the Manorhamilton to Enniskillen section. Consultants have been appointed by Cavan County Council supported by Leitrim County Council for the preparation of preliminary report and preliminary
route design and costing for the Dromod to Bulturbet Greenway. A new car park has been developed at Sean MacDiarmada homestead in advance of the centenary of 1916.

A County Road Safety Working Together Group was established in 2015 and work is at an advanced stage in the preparation of a new County Road Safety Strategy. In April a road safety workshop was carried out with Transition Year Pupils from the County. In addition new speed limit bylaws for Housing Estates were adopted.

To ensure the improvement of water infrastructure our Water Services Department worked with Irish Water within the Service Level Agreement during 2015. In addition to the Capital projects already approved by Irish Water there are ongoing Assets Needs Briefs submissions by Leitrim County Council highlighting deficiencies in existing networks and where priorities should be focused in order to bring the infrastructure to a world-class standard. The Capital Office in Leitrim County Council provides follow up information to support the applications. Although Irish Water determines what works are priority and how these projects are funded, Leitrim County Council continues to promote where investment is necessary - this includes investment in Water and Waste Water services.

Drinking water projects that commenced in 2015 include:

- The North Leitrim Regional Water Supply Scheme Stage 3a Water Treatment Plant Expansion and Stage 3b Pipelines/ Reservoir Rossinver and Kiltyclogher with a budget of €8.076m.
- The new extended water treatment plant at Moneyduff that will have a capacity of 5,500cum/day, an increase of 50% on its current design.
- Pipelines are also being provided under separate contract for the extension of the NLRWSS to Kiltyclogher and Rossinver. The estimated cost of these two contracts is €4.1 million.

Waste Water projects that have been commenced in 2015 include:

- The Manorhamilton and Mohill Sewerage Scheme Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrades. The full cost estimate for these critical upgrade works is approximately €1.95 million.

- Minor Capital Works with a total estimated cost of in excess of €2m such as:
  - Drumsshanbo,Leitrim Village,Ballinamore & Carrigallen WWTP Upgrades.
  - Trunk Main replacement Eslin-Mohill.
  - Dowra & Boley Hill Watermain replacement.
  - Drumsna WWTP.
  - Mains replacement at Bridge Street, Carrick-on-Shannon.

The Council put a significant focus on returning void properties of its housing stock to tenant ready units in 2015. During the course of the year the Council secured a funding allocation of €223,000 for works on nine number housing units under the Voids Programme 2015. Six of these houses are in Carrick on Shannon and one in Dromahair and 2 houses in Killargue. A further 10 houses in the Mohill and 5 in Carrick-on-Shannon were progressed under separate contracts as part of a proactive programme in Leitrim County Council to return vacant houses to useable stock.

There was also continued progress in upgrading the Council’s Housing Stock through the Energy Efficiency Improvement Scheme in 2015 with investment of €260,000. Cavity wall, attic insulation and ventilation upgrades were completed on 211 No. houses. Under the broader SEAI Better Energy Communities Scheme, Energy Retrofitting works were completed on 41 no. Council housing stock in Carrick-On-Shannon totalling €337,833 with 42% funded through SEAI grants. The housing units concerned are spread between Autumn View, Cara Court, Ath na Rí and Oak Drive estates. In total this means that 252 Local Authority Houses will have had significant energy efficiency works carried out in 2015 leading to better quality efficient houses.
across approx 85% of Leitrim County Councils housing stock. It is hoped the remaining 15% approx will be completed in 2016 under similar programmes.

Adaptation Works are carried out to Council housing stock where necessary in order to render the dwelling more suitable to the particular needs of the tenant which are disability related. The 2015 Funding was €59,130 - This constitutes 90% of the value of works, with Council funding of 10% translating to an actual allocation of €65,700 for these works in 2015. This facilitated adaptation works on 17 no. units spread across the County.

The Council also completed negotiations for the purchase of 3 additional family type houses in Carrick-On-Shannon in 2015. These units will have a suite of works including energy retrofitting completed and will be ready for occupancy in the second half of 2016. An acquisition at Oaklands Carrick-on-Shannon towards the end of 2014 had works completed and tenants in place during 2015 also.

Tourism
The Tourism Development Strategy for Leitrim was prepared after extensive consolation with the trade, agencies and key stakeholders and was launched by Minister in December 2015. The strategy is the blueprint for the Leitrim Tourism Growth Alliance who will be steering its implementation in conjunction with all relevant stakeholders. A key deliverable from the Strategy has commenced with the development of a new tourism website for marketing Leitrim as a visitor destination.

Following the successful launch of the Shannon Blueway as the first Blueway in Ireland a joint marketing initiative with Waterways Ireland was implemented which included Radio, Regional, Local and National Press, Specialist Magazines, Bus advertising, Social Media, Media Trips and Video footage. In conjunction with Waterways Ireland a very successful Familiarization Trip for a number of Tour Operators was hosted to highlight packages on offer to incoming visitors to Ireland.

Under the Northern Periphery and Arctic programme Leitrim is a partner with 6 other countries to develop the concept of Slow Adventure Tourism. The project is mainly research based with a focus on assisting relevant SME’s within the Slow adventure product area to market themselves, meet other similar providers and share ideas/experiences. The Failte Ireland Meitheal workshop was attended this year with the focus was on Leitrim as a destination and to create awareness of the newly developed Shannon Blueway and the Wild Atlantic Way.

The 2016 Centenary Committee coordinated the preparation of the County Plan for next year’s events and also managed a funding programme. The group includes representatives from each municipal district, Sean Mac Diarmada Summer School, Historical Society in Carrick on Shannon and Manorhamilton, Arts, Tourism and Heritage officers and the County Library. Particular assistance was provided to a number of key events throughout the year such as the Sean Mac Diarmada Summer School which was held in Kiltyclogher over 3 days and the Rose of Tralee tour which returned to Leitrim for a second time.

Visitor guides covering top attractions and walking were produced during the year along with a new app, web information and printed guides for two ‘Off the Beaten Track’ Trails in conjunction with Fermanagh and Omagh District Council.

High Quality Sustainable Living Environment

Planning & Sustainable Development
  - The Leitrim County Development Plan 2015-2021 was adopted on 12\textsuperscript{th} January, 2015 and came into effect on the 9\textsuperscript{th} February 2015. The Council continued to progress the resolution of unfinished
estates in 2015 with all relevant stakeholders. Work has been ongoing with Developers, Banks and Bond Companies. Works on 3 developments awarded funding under the Special Resolution Fund are approaching substantial completion. A total of 12 housing developments have been taken in charge by Leitrim County Council in 2015 with a further 5 close to being advertised.

- The Carrick on Shannon Local Area Plan was due to expire in 2016 and the Council extended it to 2019 under the appropriate legislation. This has allowed an extended period within which a Carrick on Shannon/Cortober Joint Local Area Plan can be prepared. A historical joint meeting of the Carrick on Shannon and Boyle Municipal Districts was held in April, 2015 at which both Municipal Districts welcomed the proposal to prepare a joint Local Area Plan.

- The Heritage Office Programme commenced in 2015. A very successful Heritage Week saw approximately 50 No. events held across the County with widespread promotion of information and activities. The Heritage Officer has carried out strategic, operational, promotional, co-ordination and facilitation roles including advice, Appraisal, Community Liaison and Public Relations.

- A renewed pre planning clinic process commenced in 2015. The Clinic System operates on an appointment basis with the relevant Area Planner on Wednesday mornings in Aras An Chontae, Carrick on Shannon.

- 169 planning applications have been received during 2015 (to 06/11/2015) showing a modest increase in comparison to when 137 applications was received for the full year. 29 of the applications lodged were for commercial developments. A significant commercial application seeking to construct a large extension to Vistamed Ltd. in Carrick-on-Shannon was granted planning permission in September. A further 48 applications were received during 2015 which were deemed invalid.

The Water Services (Amendment) Act, 2012 provided for the introduction of a registration and inspection system for Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems (DWWTS’s). The Environment Department completed 43 of these inspections and there was a 57% pass rate on inspections completed in 2015. Water Services continued to maintain the water and waste water plants to the highest standards within the resources available from Irish Water, ensuring that all plants were EPA compliant.

Active participation was continued with the OPW and their Consulting Engineers as part of the Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management Studies (CTRAM’s). Draft Optioneering and Flood Risk Management Maps for each of the built-up areas considered to be at risk were prepared and placed for Public Consultation in November 2015.

In 2015, the Consortium of Counties Leitrim & Donegal successfully secured the establishment of the Connacht-Ulster Waste Enforcement Office (CUWEO). It is envisaged that together it will ensure the effective implementation of Waste Enforcement Policy in the Connacht-Ulster Region through a coordinated and collaborative approach with stakeholders on a Local, Regional and National basis.

Leitrim County Council received funding in 2015 through the SEAI Better Energy Communities Scheme t to the value of €515,240.06. All Works were completed with potential for significant energy savings to the housing occupants and the community beneficiaries. This Grant focused on works around Carrick on Shannon and consisted of the following:

- 41 LCC Houses
Appendix 9 - 11th January 2016

- 3 private houses
- Carrick Fire Station
- 4 No Community projects

In April 2015, Leitrim County Council held a Food Waste Information Seminar for business and community groups in Lough Rynn Castle. The Seminar was followed by a Cookery Event which promoted the whole ethos of food waste prevention. The night was a resounding success and the proceeds from the Door went to the North West Simon Community.

The Council participated in the National Spring Clean in April, with 20 groups around the county participating in litter picks over the month. In the area of Green Schools Assessments 7 schools were assessed and progressed to receive their award under their respective theme, Carrigallen Vocational School won a special regional award sponsored by Irish Water for work done on the Green Schools Programme. The Council also administered funding applications in the areas of Anti Litter Awareness and Local Agenda 21, where 10 projects were funded.

Leitrim County Council commenced the process on the preparation of a Draft Litter Management Plan 2016 – 18, which is projected for completion in early 2016.

Emergency Services
Leitrim Fire Services continued to provide emergency fire services in the county. Leitrim Fire service engaged with CFRAMS on the flood mapping project for County Leitrim. The Fire Service continued to work with Planning Enforcement to resolve issues relating to the taking in charge of unfinished developments. Leitrim Fire Service took delivery of two new 4x4 vehicles in 2015 and received approval for capital funding to procure 1 new Class B appliance. This vehicle is to be procured as part of a joint procurement tender with four other fire authorities. A joint Halting Site Safety Inspection Programme was also jointly progressed by the Housing and Fire Services Department in relation to fire safety in Traveller Specific Halting Site Accommodation at Rosebank, Shannonside View, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co. Leitrim.

Leitrim Civil Defence has continued to develop its capacity to respond to requests to assist the Principle Response Agencies through continuous training and investment in vehicles and equipment. This is facilitated by funding provided by Leitrim County Council and the Department of Defence. Civil Defence hosted an Avian Influenza training exercise for 70 Volunteers from 7 Counties in addition to participating in a National Radiation monitoring exercise. Throughout the year Civil Defence responded to several requests for assistance during missing persons incidents and responded to a number of requests to assist Boats in difficulties on our waterways assistance was also provided at Community events.

Quality Housing
In terms of meeting housing needs the Council maintained its implementation of the Rental Accommodation Scheme in 2015. A total of 114 households currently have their long-term housing need met through RAS transfers and the Long Term Leasing Scheme. This includes the creation of 27 new RAS contracts and 4 leasing contracts in 2015. A total of 55 new local authority tenancies were also created in 2015 in addition to 6 existing tenancies being transferred to alternative accommodation. A further 8 households were assisted with deposits to secure private rented accommodation to meet emergency accommodation needs.

A new Traveller Accommodation Programme for the period 2014-2018 was adopted in January 2014 and 19 Traveller Households had their accommodation needs addressed during the year under this programme, well exceeding the 2015 target of 12 households. The Local Traveller Accommodation
Consultative Committee met 4 times in 2015 where traveller accommodation matters were examined in detail.

In meeting the housing needs of the wider community to support housing modifications under the housing grants schemes, the Council received an allocation of €338,740. This allocation was fully committed in 2015 to deliver supports under the Housing Adaptation Grants (HAS’s), Mobility Aids Grants (MAG’s) and Housing Aids for Older People (HOP’s).

In line with the National Housing Strategy for People with Disability 2011–2016 a Housing and Disability Steering Group was established in conjunction with the HSE to support and enhance current local interagency structures in order to facilitate better coordination and delivery of housing and related support services for people with disabilities.

**An Inclusive County**

The Public Participation Network has developed during the year. At the year end, there were 169 groups registered and representatives had been nominated to eight committees, six of them County Council and two external. A total of twenty places on these committees were occupied by PPN nominees. A full time support officer was appointed in November and a dedicated budget was put in place to support PPN activities.

The Leitrim Joint Policing Committee was re-established in 2015 and met on a number of occasions. The Draft 6-year Leitrim Joint Policing Strategy was prepared and will inform the Annual Service Plan for the life-time of the current.

Comhairle na nOg Liatroma continues to enjoy the support of all second level schools in the county. During the year it ran an event to highlight issues of mental health amongst young people and also participated in the Dail na nOg in Croke Park, attended by Ministers Reilly and O’Sullivan.

Play facilities for children were enhanced during 2015 with two new playgrounds, in Drumsna and Glencar, being developed and two others, in Carrick on Shannon and Drumshanbo, being refurbished. There are now 19 playgrounds in Leitrim that are operated by Leitrim County council. This is one of the highest numbers per head of population in the country.

Age Friendly Leitrim continued with delivery of the actions set out in the plan being monitored. Mohill was recognised as an Age Friendly Town and a plan for that was completed early in the year.

The Inter Agency Traveller Services Group was restructured and several new members joined. A new action plan was developed during the year.

This year, there were three entries in the national Pride of Place competition. These were Cloone (population under 300), Manorhamilton (population 1,000 to 2,000) and Mohill Pride of Place (Age Friendly Community Initiatives). Both Cloone and Manorhamilton were awarded runner up prizes in their respective categories. An excellent achievement.

Floral Pride proved to be as popular as ever with 38 entries and over 100 people attending the awards event in Carrigallen. Mohill won the overall award.

The Council’s Sports and Recreation Department continued to deliver, in conjunction with Leitrim Sports Partnership, an ever expanding range of sports and recreational activities and coaching. Work continued in over 30 primary schools and with all of the secondary schools in the County. Programmes included Sports
hall athletics, Kidz on the Run, TY Kayaking, Girls active for Post Primary Girls and many more. Leitrim Sports Partnership is also providing a programme to Transition Year Students which will see them qualify with a level A1 Award in Sports Leadership. Another new initiative introduced in 2015 was a 14 week Community Coaching programme for unemployed people to become fully qualified Athletics, Soccer and Rugby coaches. This programme included Sports Coaching Training, Coaching experience and Job Readiness Skills.

Leitrim Sports Partnership provided exercise programmes for disability groups in the County including Rehab, IWA, National Learning Network and LAPWD. Programmes were also provided for Active Age Groups including PALs Training which provided an opportunity for members of various Active Age Groups to come together and receive training in how to become physical activity leaders for their own groups. Get Fit Keep Fit, a fitness programme for women, was rolled out in five locations throughout the County and Men on the Move, a programme for men in three locations. Both programmes were so successful that they will be repeated in 2016. The annual Leitrim Sports Star Awards were again an outstanding success, this year being held in Lough Rynn Castle Hotel where Gerard O’Donnell was named Leitrim Sports Star of the Year 2015.

Many elements of Leitrim County Council’s Art Strategy 2012-2017 were progressed in 2015. One of the highlights included the successful completion of a €320,000 EU funded LOCIS project which was developed with partners in Sweden and Poland. In partnership with Leitrim Local Enterprise Office, the Arts Office developed ‘Creative Frame’—a user driven continuous professional development network for the Creative Sector designed to facilitate the ongoing training and development requirements of practitioners in the sector in Leitrim and the wider region. Also in partnership with Leitrim LEO, The SPARK Programme is currently ongoing with 2 artists and 2 local businesses having participated in 2015 and Leo Scarff recently selected to work with Mohill Enterprise Centre in 2016. In the film sector Leitrim, Roscommon and Sligo local authorities came together to develop a joint initiative in film development. Together with representatives of the film sector from the three counties, we are developing a blueprint for ongoing cooperation and collaboration.

A call out to artists as part of the Artist in Schools programme for 2015 and 2016 resulted in 32 applications from artists who will work in eight schools over the two year period. In a new initiative, a similar call out made to artists to express their interest in participating in the Artist in the Community programme resulted in 25 applications from artists from which four were selected to work with community groups across the county. Artist Kate Wilson and writer Gerry Boland took up residence in the new Artists’ Studios in Drumshanbo and have been working with schools, community groups and the library services as part of their residency there. For the Wild Words Festival 119 short stories were submitted from young people across Ireland for the Wild Words Book and Volume 3 was launched by RTE’s Ray D’Arcy as part of the Festival in August. In Youth Theatre, new junior groups were set up in Manorhamilton and Carrigallen, further extending the significant youth theatre membership in the county. 2015 saw an increased participation in Culture Night with 14 venues participating.

The Artist Bursary Scheme funded 16 applications and 9 Leitrim Festivals were also allocated funding under the Arts Festivals Support Scheme. The 4th Leitrim Equation project, involving musicians Eleanor Shanley, Dave Sheridan, Padraig McGovern and John McCartin worked with Donal Lunny, Edwina Guckian and Johnny Gogan to develop a unique concert performance celebrating Leitrim music which premiered at the Corn Mill Theatre before a tremendous performance in London attended by the Irish Ambassador. An extensive programme of professional development in musicianship and the music industry was included in the project and workshops held with musicians and students throughout the County.
In 2015 we continued our investment in The Dock to ensure that it could be sustained as a cornerstone for the arts. It’s varied and strategically planned programme throughout the year continued to encourage audiences and participants for the arts locally and regionally, and The Dock continued to be a beacon for visitors and a crucially positive endorsement of the rich culture offering of Carrick on Shannon, Leitrim and the Northwest.

While not yet in a position to expand or regain ground lost in recent years, we have maintained our level of investment in the creative sector for 2016 and hope to maintain our level of programming within existing resources. We do this because we recognise that that the creative sector is uniquely important to Leitrim, and that we reap substantial social, cultural and economic benefits from it. Particular priorities in the coming year include the Creative Frame project which focuses on maximising the potential of the sector for years to come and to usher a fresh approach to supporting the film sector for the entire northwest.

Leitrim County Library Service continued to support formal and informal learning for all ages during 2015. The Summer Reading Tree programme grew from strength to strength in 2015 with 723 children successfully completing the programme. Library Reading Groups for adults and children continued to develop in a number of our branches during 2015. An exciting and diverse calendar of events is a key feature of the Library Service, a wide range of regular ongoing events are organised for and in partnership with community groups and public agencies e.g. Foróige, Citizen’s Information, Age Action, Irish Countrywomen’s Association, and Local History Groups, with computer classes being held in a number of branch libraries. Highlights for 2015 included the 10th Birthday celebrations of Ballinamore Library, to mark the Library’s 10 year anniversary and the launch in June 2015 of Idir Mhná, the first translation into the Irish language of renowned writer John McGahern’s Amongst Women, which received local and national publicity. The addition of a dedicated Events Space in Drumshanbo Library has facilitated further programming, with ongoing art and craft activities, lectures, writing workshops, and reading group meetings.

Maximising Operational and Organisational Capacity

Supporting the Elected Member

The enactment of the Local Government Reform Act, 2014 introduced 3 new Municipal Districts coinciding with the Local Electoral Areas - Carrick on Shannon, Manorhamilton and Ballinamore in 2014. The Municipal Districts continued to operate in 2015 and held monthly meetings and they also adopted the General Municipal Allocation for Municipal District Works.

A new Strategic Policy Committee Scheme was also adopted following the Local Elections with the new SPC’s, which will be established early in 2015, reconfigured as follows: Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning SPC; Housing Policy, Social and Cultural Development SPC and Environmental, Transportation and Infrastructural Policy SPC. The respective SPC’s progressed a number of policy matters in 2015 before they were brought to the full Council for adoption.

Staff Learning & Development

The workforce planning process has continued throughout 2015 with a view to streamlining operational processes and to assist in making the best use of diminishing staff resources. There were a total of 10 (ten) staff retirements in 2015 and 1 (one) Death in Service (R.I.P.). A further 10 staff members on temporary contracts left Leitrim County Council during 2015. Recruitment activity also increased significantly however in 2015 with 28 recruitment competitions completed to fill a range of vacancies arising and a total of 20 new staff joining Leitrim County Council on either permanent or temporary contracts during the year. A detailed Business Process Review (BPR) of the Housing function was completed in 2015 to determine the most appropriate structure and identify potential areas where administrative or other efficiencies could be
achieved. Work also commenced on a BPR of the Planning and Environment functions in 2015 with further such processes planned for other functional areas in 2016.

The Performance Management and Development System (PMDS) for staff was closely linked to the new Annual Service Delivery Plan as adopted by the Members, and the associated Departmental Team Plans, in 2015. Training in relation to the new national Competency Framework, aimed at developing a competency-based approach to performance development within the local government sector, was also rolled out at senior and middle management levels in 2015, for implementation as part of the PMDS process in 2016. A comprehensive Learning and Development Plan was implemented in 2015 while the Staff Education Scheme was also re-introduced providing support to staff members pursuing further education opportunities. Leitrim County Council was awarded a two year Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Accreditation by Engineers Ireland in September 2015, following completion by the Council’s Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Committee of a comprehensive submission to Engineers Ireland and a detailed on-site audit process. The Council was benchmarked against a rigorous standard on all aspects of its CPD policies and processes and now join a network of leading organisations, in the private and public sector, which have been awarded this accreditation. The Mentoring Programme, introduced in 2014, and providing staff with the opportunity to avail of the advice, assistance and support of more senior staff in relation to aspects of their work and/or career development was significantly expanded during the year. The Council’s Service Level Agreement for the provision of an Employee Assistance Programme also continued in 2015.

Managing Risk & Resources
Leitrim County Council delivered its services within budget in 2015 and continues to implement financial and budgetary control over its available spend. Procedures for claiming grants and sources of funding were further refined to ensure that all sources of financial assistance were availed of during 2015. Internal Audit, currently provided by a third party Auditor, continued its programme of work during 2015, ensuring appropriate procedures and standards are in place. The independent Audit Committee has an advisory role in promoting good accounting practices, ensuring better and more informed decision-making and improving the focus on value for money throughout the organisation.

The Office of Government Procurement (OGP) mission is to deliver sustainable procurement savings for the tax payer by optimising value for money across the public service. Since it has commenced operations in 2014 procurement savings facilitated by the OGP in 2014 amounted to €25 million across the public sector. This has been achieved through setting up of over 120 frameworks and contracts and also active engagement with different suppliers and customers. The procurement unit in Leitrim County Council works in tandem with the OGP to achieve these savings and is committed to ensuring compliance with national/regional and local frameworks where possible, and also identifying areas of expenditure where further savings and efficiencies can be achieved.

Leitrim County Council continues to engage in a proactive approach in meeting its legal and moral obligations in the management of health and safety in the organisation. In 2015, in addition to the normal programme of work of inspections, risk assessments and consultation, the Safety Monitoring Committee, in conjunction with the Health & Safety Section, led the development and implementation of a range of Health & Safety Policies.

Quality Customer Services
In 2015, a number of initiatives to enhance our customer service delivery and quality were implemented. Services at the main Customer Services Desk in Aras-an-Chontae, Carrick-on-Shannon were augmented and staffed by two full time resources. In 2015, we also expanded our Social Media channels to engage with the public. A Draft Social Media Policy was developed and staff in number of Departments were trained on
the use of social media platforms including Facebook, Twitter, U-tube and Linkein. We are now proactively using the social media channels to communicate with our customers and promote local authority events and initiatives.

In terms of ICT Development in June, 2015 the Leitrim County Council website www.leitrim.ie was launched by Minister Richard Bruton, Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation. The website will serve as the ‘Official Gateway to Leitrim’ and is designed to meet the diverse needs of the residential population, the business community, leisure enthusiasts and visitors to the County. The website was designed with a vision to create a ‘one-stop’ modern and novel internet presence for Leitrim, within which, the expansive range of services, facilities, amenities and events across state agencies, commercial & business sectors, tourism and sporting organisations in Leitrim are consolidated into one central internet point.

Conclusion
The foregoing achievements were made possible through the combined efforts of the Elected Members and Staff of this Authority and, I wish to sincerely thank the Members and Staff for their efforts and support in achieving very considerable progress achieved in 2015 notwithstanding the extremely challenging operating environment.

While 2015 was a successful year, as reflected above, it was nonetheless another difficult and volatile year for Leitrim County Council. While to date the Council has endeavoured to maintain service levels with minimal impact on frontline services, the impact of the reduced resources available to Leitrim County Council, in terms of both human and financial resources, is impacting and will invariably continue to impact on the level of services and initiatives that can be delivered. A process of continuous improvement and efficiency gains will be fundamental to the sustainability of the Council’s operations in 2016 and in future years and this together with strict budgetary control and monitoring will continue to be a priority for the year ahead.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Curran
Chief Executive
Agenda Item No. 9 of the January Council Meeting to be held on 11th January, 2016

RE: Capital Programme for the forthcoming 3 years

In accordance with Section 135 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended the Council must, at the beginning of each financial year, receive an updated report of the planned Capital Programme for the forthcoming three years. The Programme must be prepared having regard to the resources likely to be available to the Local Authority on the basis of a realistic and prudent assessment of the position, on the basis of the information available at the time and having regard to the measures proposed by the Local Authority to raise funding itself. The Programme as set out in the attached table and as outlined below reflects the significant reduction in capital funding available from Central Government across most Programme areas, with the exception of the Housing & Building area where renewed activity and investment is anticipated, and also reflects that Irish Water is now the responsible entity in relation to the Water Services Capital Programme.

Housing & Building:
The Housing Capital Programme for the three year period 2016-2018 will see a continuation of the Construction / Acquisition Programme in line with the Government’s published Housing Strategy ‘Social Housing Strategy 2020: Support, Supply and Reform’, in addition to the continuation of the investment in the upgrading of the Council’s existing stock, funded through a combination of Departmental funding and Leitrim County Council own resources (Internal Capital Receipts and Part V).

The Government’s vision as outlined in the Social Housing Strategy is that every household will have access to secure, good quality housing suited to their needs at an affordable price in a sustainable community and is founded on a three Pillar approach including the provision of new social housing supply to address the immediate supply shortage as well as creating a sustainable approach which aims to accommodate everyone on the Housing Waiting Lists by 2020.

It will:
- Provide 35,000 new social housing units, over a 6 year period, to meet the additional social housing supply requirements as determined by the Housing Agency,
- Support up to 75,000 households through an enhanced private rental sector; and
- Reform social housing supports to create a more flexible and responsive system.

A multi-annual approach underpins the delivery requirements during two phases. Phase 1 sets a target of 18,000 additional housing units and 32,000 Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) / Rental Assistance Payment (RAS) units by end 2017. Phase 2 sets a target of 17,000 additional housing units and 43,000 HAP/RAS units by end 2020.

- In April 2015 Leitrim County Council received details from The Minister for Environment Community and Local Government on delivery targets under a range of housing programmes out to 2017 broken down between capital and current programmes and how funding will be attached to that delivery. The target of units set for delivery under these programmes in the period 2015 – 2017 is 119 housing units at an estimated cost of delivery (current and capital) of €4.4m.
20 units are being targeted for delivery under the Capital Programmes encompassing Construction, Acquisition including Part V acquisition, Capital Assistance Scheme and Return of Void Properties for the period 2015 to 2017 with a provisional capital allocation of €3.6m.

In 2015 a total of 9 units were completed under the Voids Programme. This facilitates the return of targeted vacant stock to a lettable, energy efficient condition at a reasonable cost. Leitrim County Council secured funding in the sum of €223,000 in 2015 in respect of the 9 No. vacant properties. It is anticipated that this programme will be continued and a similar level of activity and associated costs are envisaged over the coming two years. Funding up to a maximum of €30,000 per unit is available, subject to limits on individual aspects of works, and provision is made for match funding to be provided from the Council’s Internal Capital Receipts to meet costs over and above those individual work aspect limits or to fund necessary works which are outside of the scope of eligible works.

With regard to acquisitions, 3 properties were secured in Carrick-On-Shannon in 2015 for addition to the Council’s own stock.

Progress has also been made towards the acquisition of 2 units in Carrick-on-Shannon by North West Simon under the Capital Acquisition Scheme. These properties will be occupied by suitable applicants on the housing waiting list.

In 2016 it is planned to significantly progress the construction of 7 additional units at Taobh Tire, Manorhamilton to augment Council housing stock in this area. Part 8 approval was already in place in relation to this development.

In addition to the capital programme, Leitrim County Council will continue with our ongoing implementation of the Social Housing Current Expenditure Programme (previously Social Housing Leasing Initiative (SHLI) and the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) as enablers for the Council to meet the longer term needs of households on the housing list. Targets as set out for Leitrim by the Department of Environment Community and Local Government in these areas are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Leasing Target for Delivery</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>58</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RAS Target for Delivery</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>41</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2015 31 units were delivered under these programmes. Supply issues and acceleration in the private rented sector in a number of locations are impacting on ability to meet these targets.

- The Department is also currently in the process of rolling out the transfer of those on long term rent supplement over to the local authorities under the new Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) – currently operative in a number of local authorities - and under this arrangement these households, who represent a significant proportion of those currently identified as having a housing need, will be deemed to have had their housing need met.
A programme aimed at improving Energy Efficiency in Local Authority Housing Stock was introduced in 2009 by the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government targeted at bringing the entire housing stock up to a ‘comfortable living’ baseline standard and works including attic and cavity wall insulation, draught proofing and ventilation upgrades (Phase 1 works). The programme has operated on a year on year rolling basis where significant energy efficiency works have lead to better quality efficient houses across approx 85% of Leitrim County Councils housing stock. It is planned that in 2016 the entire local authority housing stock will have been brought to this ‘comfortable living’ standard. The Programme is currently 100% funded by the Department and it is anticipated that this will remain the position. It is also anticipated that, once the entire stock is brought to the acceptable baseline, consideration will be given to more extensive energy efficiency upgrades (Phase II works including window and door replacement) under the ongoing rolling programme.

In relation to the County Buildings at Aras-an-Chontae, Carrick-on-Shannon there are approximately 100 staff based at the existing County Buildings. The remainder of the staff approximately 50 are located at three other buildings in Carrick-on-Shannon, namely, Park Lane House, Town Hall and the Water Treatment Works Building. It is proposed to locate the staff from these three buildings to the Aras-an-Chontae campus. An extension has to be provided to accommodate these additional staff together with an additional car parking area to provide in the region of sixty extra car-parking spaces. The new building will also provide additional meeting rooms. The estimated total cost of providing the extension is estimated to be in the region of €3,500,000 and the cost will be financed by a loan. It is proposed that the construction of the extension will commence in late 2016 and be completed in 2017.

Roads and Transportation:
The Roads Capital Programme for the three year period 2016-2018 will comprise of improvement works on the National and Non-National Roads which will be funded by the National Roads Authority and the Department of Transport, based on allocations to be notified.

- The N16 Cornacloy to Sradr ine Phase II project will commence in Jan 2016. This is the realignment of 2km of the N16. Witha 10 month construction programme this will be completed in 2016.

- Leitrim County Council will continue to pursue similar improvement schemes on the N16 over the period of this report, including a proposed scheme at Drummahan. We expect to go for Planning Permission in 2016 with potential construction to commence in 2017.

- Leitrim County Council also proposes the replacement of road pavement over the single carriageway section of the N4 with emphasis on the Drumsna Jamestown section, with the extent of works to be carried out each year dependent on funding.

- The Carrick-on-Shannon to Dromod Road Scheme is still suspended and it is doubtful if it will be resumed during the next three years.

- Non-National Roads projects activity will be based on allocations received each year from the Department of Transport. The Specific Improvement Grants Scheme remains discontinued and it is doubtful if it will be resumed during the next three years.

- Funding for the construction of a Salt Barn in Manorhamilton is still being pursued with the Transport Infrastructure Ireland.

- Under the Active Towns Programme submissions have been made for funding for schemes in Carrick on Shannon, Drumshanbo and Manorhamilton which it is hoped to complete over the next three years, subject to funding being approved.
Water Services:
- Following the establishment of Irish Water, Leitrim County Council remains the water authority for group water and sewerage schemes. Funding for the upgrade of existing schemes or construction of new schemes has been reduced in recent years.

Environmental Services:
- Leitrim County Council proposes to complete the following projects over the next three years, pursuant to our commitments under the Climate Change Strategy
  - Better Energy Community – Manorhamilton - It is proposed to continue to pursue the Better Energy Community Scheme of the SEAL with a focus on Manorhamilton in 2016 and to complete further upgrades to Council buildings in the county together with a number of community projects from Manorhamilton town subject to agreement of potential partners to take part.
  - Leitrim County Council will continue to manage and upgrade our existing Waste Management Infrastructure over the next three years and address legacy issues regarding historic closed landfills within the County subject to the support of the Department as follows
    - Risk Assessment and Registration – Medium Risk Landfills - County Leitrim has six historic closed landfills which must be registered with the EPA. Three of these have already been assessed as “Medium” risk. It is proposed to complete works necessary to facilitate the registration of our three “Medium” risk sites over the next three years, namely Ballinamore, Kiltyclogher and Drumshanbo, subject to a scheme of funding being made available by the Department.
    - Weighbridges at Mohill and Manorhamilton Recycling Centres - All waste management facilities will be regulated on a weight basis to facilitate the proper financial management and control of both recycling facilities within County Leitrim. This will provide an equitable means of assessment for all customers.
    - Materials storage/handling shed at Mohill Recycling Centre - it will be necessary to erect a storage/handling shed at the Mohill facility to properly secure and store all recycled materials and thereby improve the income stream for the facility.

Leitrim County Council has approval in principle to replace the existing Fire Station in Manorhamilton and it is proposed to acquire a suitable site in 2015 with construction anticipated to commence, subject to full funding approval, in 2016. Anticipated site costs are €60,000 with anticipated construction costs of €1m to be provided by the Department. Discussions have taken place with a number of landowners in Manorhamilton to try to procure a suitable site, however, no agreement has yet been reached and the Council will continue to progress this matter. A capital funding application for €120,000 was also submitted in 2015 for improvement works to be carried out to Ballinamore Fire Station and approval in this regard is awaited. It is proposed to submit a capital funding application in 2016 for an extension to the existing Fire Station in Drumshanbo to accommodate the new 4x4 Vehicle.

Recreation and Amenity:
Leitrim Council will continue to prioritise the development of recreation and amenity infrastructure within the County as a means to support economic development and in particular, support the ongoing development of our tourism product. The following projects are proposed over the next three years:

- Leitrim County Council, working in conjunction with Cavan County Council and Sligo County Council has established a Steering Group to advance the provision of 2 Greenways in the County along the Sligo North Leitrim Railway from Sligo town through Manorhamilton onto Blacklion and along the old Cavan Leitrim Railway from Dromod through Mohill and Ballinamore and on to Belturbet. Both projects will be pursued through the planning process while in 2016 an application will be made to the Interreg VA program for the relevant section of the SLNCR ie Manorhamilton to Enniskillen. The Council will continue to work with all partners to progress the development of the Sligo to Manorhamilton element
of the project and also the Dromod to Belturbet Greenway as opportunities are identified. A feasibility study for the latter route will also be completed in 2016.

- The next phase of the Lough Rynn Recreational Facility of this project will see the construction of new launch pontoon, finishing tower, starting town and alignment hut in 201 (subject to Department agreement) The construction of integrated wetlands to deal with waste water from the site will be furthered through the planning process during 2016. Funding will be pursued under the Sports Capital Programme for future phases of this project including new starting facilities, enhanced access, parking and viewing areas for spectators along the course.

- It is anticipated that funding will again be made available from 2016 onwards by Failte Ireland to invest in tourism capital projects. These projects will be informed by the Tourism Strategy which was launched by the Minister recently. The new Leader program, which should also be operative from 2016, should provide additional opportunity.

- There is an expectation that a Recreation Fund will be established nationally to assist with trail development. The Council has submitted expressions of interest across a number of projects as detailed on the attached in addition to a number which would be community led in delivery should funds become available.

- The Council will be assessing the detail of the new Village and Towns Renewal Scheme which has been announced by the Government. Based on the scale of funding it is hoped that Leitrim could benefit to the value of around €500,000 over the lifetime of the scheme.

The Programme as set out above represents an ambitious programme of capital works over the coming three year period, much of which is contingent on the necessary funding being secured. Leitrim County Council is committed to actively pursuing the necessary resources to facilitate implementation of the projects detailed. Periodic reports will be presented to the Members as Programmes are progressed.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]
Frank Curran
Chief Executive
## CAPITAL PROGRAM - 2016-2018 - LEITRIM COUNTY COUNCIL

### SERVICE DIVISION | SERVICE | PROJECT | 2016 € | 2017 € | 2018 € | TOTAL € | FUNDED BY | GRANTS € | ICR’S/Part V € | DEV. LEVY’S € | LOANS € | REVENUE A/C €
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | ---
Housing & Building | Construction/Acquisition | Various locations - 10 in 2016 (7 new build & 3. acquisition; 7 in 2017) | 1,100,000 | 1,450,000 | 1,000,000 | 3,550,000 | 3,550,000 | 0 | | | | |
Housing & Building | Energy Efficiency | Phase I Works | 170,000 | 0 | 0 | 170,000 | 170,000 | 0 | | | | |
Housing & Building | Energy Efficiency | Phase II Works | 30,000 | 30,000 | 30,000 | 90,000 | 90,000 | 0 | | | | |
Housing & Building | Energy Efficiency | SEAI Better Communities - 2nd Phase of Carrick & new project in Manorhamilton | 300,000 | 100,000 | 0 | 400,000 | 164,000 | 236,000 | | | | |
Housing & Building | Voids Programme | Prioritised void units county wide | 277,000 | 277,000 | 100,000 | 654,000 | 398,940 | 255,060 | | | | |
Housing & Building | Disability Works | Adaptations to individual properties | 60,000 | 60,000 | 60,000 | 180,000 | 162,000 | 18,000 | | | | |
Housing & Building | Disability Works | Extensions as required | 60,000 | 30,000 | 30,000 | 120,000 | 108,000 | 12,000 | | | | |
Housing & Building | Planned Maintenance | General Estate works / septic tank upgrades | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 150,000 | | 0 | | | | |
Housing & Building | Extension to Aras-an-Chontae | Office Extension at Aras-an-Chontae | 200,000 | 2,800,000 | 500,000 | 3,500,000 | | | | | | 3,500,000 |
**Housing & Building Total** | | | 2,247,000 | 4,797,000 | 1,770,000 | 8,814,000 | 4,642,940 | 671,060 | | | | | 3,500,000 |
**Roads & Transportation** | Roads Capital Programme | N16 Corncloy to Sradine Phase 11 | 5,000,000 | 500,000 | | 5,500,000 | 5,500,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0
Roads & Transportation | Roads Capital Programme | N16 Drummahan Planning Design Construction Phase | 50,000 | 750,000 | 1,750,000 | 2,550,000 | | 2,550,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0
Roads & Transportation | Roads Capital Programme | N4 Pavement (Drumsna/Jamestown) | 850,000 | 850,000 | | 1,700,000 | | | 1,700,000 | 0 | 0
Roads & Transportation | Roads Capital Programme | Salt Barn - Manorhamilton | 300,000 | | | 300,000 | | | | 300,000 | 0
Roads & Transportation | Roads Capital Programme | N16 2km Upgrade Planning Design Phase | 50,000 | 50,000 | | 100,000 | 100,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0
Roads & Transportation | Active Towns Programme | Carrick on Shannon (Attyfinlay/Attirory) | 150,000 | 160,000 | | 310,000 | | | | | | 310,000
Roads & Transportation | Active Towns Programme | Drumshanbo | | | 515,000 | 515,000 | 460,000 | 460,000 | 55,000 | 55,000
Roads & Transportation | Active Towns Programme | Manorhamilton | | | | | 414,000 | 414,000 | 46,000 | 46,000
Roads & Transportation | Town Centre Enhancements | Carrick on Shannon (Bridge St/Main St - Phase 1) | 100,000 | 100,000 | 300,000 | 500,000 | | | | | | 450,000
**Roads & Transportation Total** | | | 6,450,000 | 2,870,000 | 2,615,000 | 11,935,000 | 11,734,000 | 0 | 201,000 | 0 | 0 | 0
**Wafer Services** | Rural Water | Annual Group Water Schemes - 3 per year | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 600,000 | | | | | | 600,000
**Wafer Services** | Rural Water | Annual Group Sewerage Schemes - 3 per year | 200,000 | 200,000 | 200,000 | 600,000 | | | | | | 600,000
# CAPITAL PROGRAM - 2016-2018 - LEITRIM COUNTY COUNCIL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SERVICE DIVISION</th>
<th>SERVICE</th>
<th>PROJECT</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Services Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>1,200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate Change Strategy</td>
<td>Energy Efficiency Programme</td>
<td>Better Energy Community - Manorhamilton for 2016</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Village and Town Renewal Scheme</td>
<td>Awaiting call for proposals and criteria</td>
<td>County Wide</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste Management</td>
<td>Landfill Remediation</td>
<td>Risk Assessment - Ballinamore</td>
<td></td>
<td>70,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>70,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste Management</td>
<td>Landfill Remediation</td>
<td>Risk Assessment - Drumshambo / Kilty</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>107,000</td>
<td>107,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste Management</td>
<td>Management of Recycling Centres</td>
<td>Installation of Weigh Bridge - Mohill</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste Management</td>
<td>Management of Recycling Centres</td>
<td>Installation of Weigh Bridge - Manorhamilton</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste Management</td>
<td>Management of Recycling Centres</td>
<td>Materials Storage/Handling Shed - Mohill</td>
<td></td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Service</td>
<td>Fire Stations</td>
<td>Site for Fire Station Manorhamilton</td>
<td>60,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Service</td>
<td>Fire Stations</td>
<td>Construction of Fire Station, Manorhamilton</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Service</td>
<td>Fire Appliances</td>
<td>Class B Fire Appliance for LM21</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Service</td>
<td>Fire Appliances</td>
<td>Class B Fire Appliance for LM25</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Service</td>
<td>Fire Appliances</td>
<td>Class B Fire Appliance for LM24</td>
<td></td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Services Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>690,000</td>
<td>1,770,000</td>
<td>337,000</td>
<td>2,797,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FUNDED BY</th>
<th>GRANTS</th>
<th>ICR'S/Part V</th>
<th>DEV. LEVY'S</th>
<th>LOANS</th>
<th>REVENUE A/C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,200,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Walking and Cycling     | Greenway Projects               | Sligo Leitrim Cavan Greenway (Nth Leitrim)                  | 15,000 | 500,000 | 2,250,000 | 2,765,000 |
| Walking and Cycling     | Greenway Projects               | Cavan Leitrim Greenway (5th Leitrim)                        | 25,000 |       | 750,000 | 775,000 |
| Walking and Cycling     | Leitrim Way                     | Upgrading                                                   | 60,000 | 60,000 |       | 120,000 |
| Walking and Cycling     | Arroo Walk                      | New walk                                                    | 50,000 |       |       | 50,000 |
| Walking and Cycling     | Carrick on Shannon to Leitrim Village | New Launch Pontoon, Finishing Tower, starting and Aligning Huts | 202,000 |       |       | 202,000 |
| Rowing and Canoeing     | Lough Rynn Recreation Centre    | Wastewater Treatment System                                 |       | 250,000 |       | 250,000 |
| Rowing and Canoeing     | Lough Rynn Recreation Centre    | Starting Structure                                          |       | 450,000 |       | 450,000 |
| Rowing and Canoeing     | Lough Rynn Recreation Centre    |                                                            |       |       |       |       |

Appendix 10 - 11th January 2016
# CAPITAL PROGRAM - 2016-2018 - LEITRIM COUNTY COUNCIL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SERVICE DIVISION</th>
<th>SERVICE</th>
<th>PROJECT</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Entrance, car park and Viewing Area</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>75,000</td>
<td>75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rowing and Canoeing</td>
<td>Lough Rynn Recreation Centre</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amenity and Tourism</td>
<td>Tourism Product Development</td>
<td>Pursue projects identified in the Tourism Strategy</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Service</td>
<td>Carrick on Shannon</td>
<td>Site Purchase new Branch Library</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Construction new Branch Library</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Service</td>
<td>Carrick on Shannon</td>
<td>Adaptation new Branch Library</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>35,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Service</td>
<td>Dromahaire</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation &amp; Amenity Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>1,262,000</td>
<td>4,260,000</td>
<td>6,022,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>€10,287,000</td>
<td>€11,099,000</td>
<td>€9,382,000</td>
<td>€30,768,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FUNDED BY</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>GRANTS</th>
<th>ICR'S/Part V</th>
<th>DEV. LEVY'S</th>
<th>LOANS</th>
<th>REVENUE A/C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>56,250</td>
<td>18,750</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>225,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>75,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>35,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5,248,150</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>773,250</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>€25,277,690</td>
<td>€911,060</td>
<td>€1,079,250</td>
<td>€3,500,000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Cathaoirleach agus Gach Ball,

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE LIATROMA.

Re Item No. 10: Report on flooding in County Leitrim

Dear Member,

The following is a brief outline of the flooding events that have affected Leitrim since the 5th December 2015. Met Eireann issued a weather warning for Strom Desmond on the 4th December 2015. Over 100mm of rain fell in the Upper River Shannon catchment area over the 4th/5th December, 2015. The initial problems on the weekend of the 5th/6th December related to flooded roads and the ability of the road drainage to cater for the excessive rainfall. After this the problem was the rise in river levels. Water levels in all rivers started to rise rapidly on the 5th December and continued to do so until the 13th December. They fell from the 13th December until the 28th December. On the 29th December Storm Frank arrived and increased the rate of increase in water levels. Water levels are now beginning to reduce slowly.

The water level in the River Shannon reached its peak in Carrick on Shannon on the 13th December and reached a level of 45.017m OD. In 2009, the highest level reached in Carrick on Shannon was 45.37. The following is a summary of water levels for the flooding event:

- Maximum Water Level 2009 Carrick on Shannon 45.37
- Maximum Water Level 2015 Carrick on Shannon 45.017
- Maximum Water Level 2009 Lough Allen 50.77
- Maximum Water Level 2015 Lough Allen 50.6

![Water Level River Shannon Carrick on Shannon](image-url)
Leitrim County Council had our full complement of 63 men working every day from the 5th December until the 23rd December providing flood defences for properties including sand bags, pumps, road diversions etc. From the 24th December until today (except for Christmas Day) Leitrim County Council had on average 10 men per day maintaining the flood defences and road diversions. In total we provided 10,000 sand bags to property owners and arranged diversions or road closures in 45 different locations. The main road areas affected were:

- Closure of the National Primary Road N4 in Carrick on Shannon on 2 occasions
- Closure of roads in and around Leitrim Village
- Closure of road at Kiltoghert
- Closure of Quay Street and road at Courthouse Carrick on Shannon
- Closure of road at Lough Rynn
- Closure of Mill Road Kinlough due to damage to Four Masters Bridge
- Landslide at Carrick on Shannon Road Ballinamore
- Landslide on Rossinver to Kinlough Road
- Closure of car parks in Carrick on Shannon prior to Christmas

The following is a summary of property's affected by the flooding in Leitrim:

- Total number of residential dwellings adversely affected by flooding - 5
- Residential dwellings not flooded but inaccessible due to road flooding – 136
- Residential dwellings currently under threat of flooding - 42
- Business premises affected by flooding - 31

We had an emergency phone number available for the public during the weekends of the 12th/13th December, weekend of 19th/20th December and over the Christmas period when our offices were closed. Since the beginning of December we have issued 29 updates on social media and to local media of the flooding situation in Leitrim (see attached separate Communications Report). This does not include responses to individual media requests. The information contained in the status updates related to the following:

Areas affected by the flooding including road closures and diversions, risk of flood water contamination, updates provided by the ESB in relation to Lough Allen, maintenance of flood defences, safety tips for motorists, procedures for logging incidents and processing requests for sand-bags, information in relation to stabilisation of flood waters, information provided by the Gardai, weather forecasts and information in relation to assistance available to persons affected by the flooding under the Humanitarian Flood Relief operated by the Irish Red Cross.

Our Civil Defence teams have been monitoring the situation constantly since the 5th December, 2015. They have helped property owners with flood defences and landowners with farm animals. They are constantly in contact with individuals whose properties are inaccessible due to floods in case they need any assistance.

Our Fire Service responded to 14 different weather related incidents during this period. This included helping with flooded properties and dealing with fallen trees.
A number of meetings of the Emergency Response Team were held to discuss the crisis particularly in relation to traffic management issues in Carrick-on-Shannon. The Gardaí, HSE and all sections of Leitrim County Council were involved with these meetings.

The cost to Leitrim County Council from 5\textsuperscript{th} December until the 24\textsuperscript{th} December was €477,000. These costs have been submitted to the Government and we expect to be fully compensated for these. The costs since the 24\textsuperscript{th} December are €294,000. These have also been submitted to the Government and we await confirmation on these. The Government has also advised that there will be funding available to repair damage caused to public infrastructure. We await details of this but will be making a submission when flood waters recede.

Yours Sincerely,

________________

Joseph Gilhooly,
Director of Services

During the recent severe weather/flooding incident in the county the Media Liaison Team were proactively engaged with the Emergency Response team to provide regular and timely updates in relation to status changes from the commencement of the Severe Weather Event on Friday 5th December, 2015. In this regard, the Council made maximum use of our IT resources to ensure that the information updates were communicated via the Council’s website www.leitrimcoco.ie and via our social media platforms on Facebook and Twitter. The level of engagement with the public via the social media channels was greater than could have been anticipated and the Council utilised these methods of communication to engage with our customers and the business community to disseminate regular updated information as conditions on the ground changed in a timely and efficient manner. A total of 29 updated status reports were provided from Tuesday 8th December, 2015 until Wednesday 6th January, 2016. The information contained in the status updates related to the following: areas affected by the flooding including road closures and diversions, risk of flood water contamination, updates provided by the ESB in relation to Lough Allen, maintenance of flood defences, safety tips for motorists, procedures for logging incidents and processing requests for sand-bags, information in relation to stabilisation of flood waters, information provided by the Gardai, weather forecasts and information in relation to assistance available to persons affected by the flooding under the Humanitarian Flood Relief operated by the Irish Red Cross. As the situation improved and conditions permitted information in relation to roads affected by the flooding that were re-opened was also communicated. The statistics in relation to the facebook postings indicate that of the 29 postings published in the relevant period the postings were ‘shared’ 496 times thus increasing their visability to a much broader audience with a cumulative reach of 91,489.

The Media Liaison Team also actively engaged with the local print and broadcasting media and all of the updates posted to our website and social media accounts were also circulated to the local media. Interviews were also facilitated with Shannonside News by Mr. Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services and Mr. Frank Curran, Chief Executive of Leitrim County Council. The Council also provided regular updates to the RTE Regional Office and responded to a number of media enquiries from the National Print Media.

An Emergency Hotline Number was put in place from Friday 11th December until County Council Friday 18th December, 2015 to respond to calls received outside of normal office hours. The operation of the Hotline was publicised through all communication channels and a number of persons used the hotline to contact the Council to provide assistance particularly from Friday 11th to Sunday 13th December, 2015. Calls continued to be monitored outside of normal working hours up to 31st December, 2015. One major incident with road flooding at Lough Rynn, Mohill was reported on Saturday 27th December, 2015 and measures were immediately put in place to respond to this incident. Regular social media updates were provided during the Christmas Holiday Period.
**Monthly Management Report (for the period 1st October, 2015 to 31st October, 2015) prepared in accordance with Section 136 (2) of the Local Government Act, 2001 as inserted by Section 51 of the Local Government Act, 2014.**

**Finance & Water Services Directorate**

**October 2015 - Revenue Account Income & Expenditure Summary by Service Division**

**(PRELIMINARY OCTOBER 2015 - FIGURES)**

**Expenditure**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Division</th>
<th>Expenditure Year Budget £</th>
<th>Adopted Full Year Budget £</th>
<th>% Budget Spent</th>
<th>Budget Remaining £</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Housing &amp; Building</td>
<td>3,009,604</td>
<td>3,714,002</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>644,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B Road Transport &amp; Safety</td>
<td>10,103,084</td>
<td>13,750,733</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>3,647,659</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C Water Services</td>
<td>2,600,595</td>
<td>4,151,197</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>1,550,602</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D Development Management</td>
<td>2,705,996</td>
<td>3,311,932</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>601,936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E Environmental Services</td>
<td>3,998,744</td>
<td>3,720,204</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>294,540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F Recreation &amp; Amenity</td>
<td>2,365,720</td>
<td>3,075,963</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>710,243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G Agriculture, Education, Health &amp; Welfare</td>
<td>585,970</td>
<td>657,852</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>71,882</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H Miscellaneous Services</td>
<td>1,545,835</td>
<td>3,059,493</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>504,658</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LG Local Government Fund / GPs</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PL Pension Levy</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RA Rates</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Income**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Division</th>
<th>Income Year Budget £</th>
<th>Adopted Full Year Budget £</th>
<th>% Budget Raised</th>
<th>Budget outstanding g £</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Housing &amp; Building</td>
<td>2,353,267</td>
<td>2,377,726</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>24,459</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B Road Transport &amp; Safety</td>
<td>7,609,599</td>
<td>9,615,016</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>1,945,417</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C Water Services</td>
<td>2,855,344</td>
<td>4,137,638</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>1,284,244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D Development Management</td>
<td>1,055,883</td>
<td>888,127</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>(167,756)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E Environmental Services</td>
<td>331,799</td>
<td>626,226</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>294,427</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F Recreation &amp; Amenity</td>
<td>169,212</td>
<td>336,672</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>177,460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G Agriculture, Education, Health &amp; Welfare</td>
<td>294,555</td>
<td>443,857</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>149,342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H Miscellaneous Services</td>
<td>814,209</td>
<td>1,020,160</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>205,957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LG Local Government Fund / GPs</td>
<td>6,901,933</td>
<td>8,192,319</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>1,280,386</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PL Pension Levy</td>
<td>529,994</td>
<td>664,648</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>134,654</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RA Rates</td>
<td>4,310,660</td>
<td>5,210,420</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>899,760</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Main Points as at End of October 2015**

- All figures contained herein are October 2015 preliminary figures & are subject to change prior to submission to EU/IMF/ADETP expenditure reports to be submitted 20/11/15.
- Water expenditure is in line with income from Irish Water.
- Development Management Income is ahead of budget due to GLD Grant income from Enterprise Ireland, this is distributed throughout the year.
- Education spend ahead of budget due to payment of HEA's in January & June/September.
- Miscellaneous Income ahead of target due to higher than budgeted NPP receipts.

---

**October 2015 - Recourse to Overdraft**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. Days in Overdraft during October 2015</th>
<th>0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**October 2015 - Collection Rates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housing Rents</td>
<td>1,566,958</td>
<td>1,562,868</td>
<td>1,382,905</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial Rates</td>
<td>3,821,214</td>
<td>3,655,805</td>
<td>3,413,356</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing loans</td>
<td>153,856</td>
<td>148,051</td>
<td>164,404</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**October 2015 - Aged Debt Analysis**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RATES</th>
<th>£180 Days</th>
<th>£1 Year</th>
<th>£2 Years</th>
<th>£&gt;2 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>£2,136,816</td>
<td>£1,054,864</td>
<td>£645,357</td>
<td>£155,332</td>
<td>£47,569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£2,136,816</td>
<td>£1,054,864</td>
<td>£645,357</td>
<td>£155,332</td>
<td>£47,569</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RENTS</th>
<th>£25 Days</th>
<th>£60 Days</th>
<th>£90 Days</th>
<th>£180 Days</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>£2,913,319</td>
<td>£666,192</td>
<td>£587,526</td>
<td>£340,458</td>
<td>£187,215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£2,913,319</td>
<td>£666,192</td>
<td>£587,526</td>
<td>£340,458</td>
<td>£187,215</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOANS</th>
<th>£90 Days</th>
<th>£180 Days</th>
<th>£1 Year</th>
<th>£2 Years</th>
<th>£&gt;2 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>£6,284,972</td>
<td>£1,438,127</td>
<td>£1,054,864</td>
<td>£645,357</td>
<td>£155,332</td>
<td>£47,569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£6,284,972</td>
<td>£1,438,127</td>
<td>£1,054,864</td>
<td>£645,357</td>
<td>£155,332</td>
<td>£47,569</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WATER SERVICES:

Operations Update
During October, 2015 the following interruptions to service occurred:

- 14 Bursts / Leaks.
- 3 Sewer Blockages.
- 2 No. unplanned Outages at Moneyduff Water Treatment Plant for 3 hrs and Glenade for 7hrs.

Maximo
The month of August saw 50 issues raised on Maximo, IRISH WATER Asset Management System. 44 related to water and 6 related to waste water.

Water Conservation
The Unaccounted for Water has decreased from 53% to 48%. In Volumetric Terms this current audit amounts to 6602 m3/day UFW.

Capital Update
North Leitrim Regional Water supply Scheme (Project No. 1000390)

- Jennings O’ Donovan Consulting engineers has been appointed, the commencement date of contract was 13th April, 2015. The total estimated cost of this project is now €8.076 million incl. VAT.
- A draft “Drinking Water Safety Plan” for the NLRWSS has been prepared by the Consultant and has been circulated to Operations for comment.
- Leitrim County Council has made a recommendation to grant planning application for new pumping station at Coolodonnell reservoir has been granted permission.
- All Draft Tender Documents including Preliminary Health and safety Plans and drawings etc. have been completed. Comments have been made by FG.
- Design and Tender documents workshop to be arranged for 15th October 2015 by David Mc Loone to finalise all documents prior to going to tender.
- PSDP report has also been received.

Manorhamilton Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Project No 10000734
Mohill Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Project No 10000735

- This project was approved by WIAC on 21st January, 2015.
- Consultants Nicholas O’ Dwyers has been set up on iProcurement.
- The “Updated Design Review Report” is finalised.
- All Third party contracts are now completed on Site investigations, Flow and Load surveys and Utilities survey on both sites.
- Applications for Planning Permission for the proposed developments at Mohill and Manorhamilton were submitted to Leitrim County Council on 2nd October, 2015.
- The preparation of the contract documents is ongoing.
- The programme for completion of tendering and contract award following WIAC approval and commencement of construction on site is now March, 2016.
- These two separate projects in Irish Water’s Capital Programme are being completed as one. The combined construction costs are currently estimated at €1.956 Million incl VAT

Minor Capital Works
The total cost of all Projects Approved to date is Estimated in excess of €2.0million

- **HSQE Programme** – On hold by IRISH WATER
  8 No. housing wastewater package plants in County Leitrim. They are considering their position in relation to responsibility for these and are withholding funding.
• **Energy Efficiency Programme** – Carrick on Shannon Water Treatment Plant is selected as a pilot project which is being managed directly by Irish Water. We have not been consulted on this project.

• **Sampling Programme** -- flow monitoring and sampling at 12 no. WWTP’S in County Leitrim. This project is regionalised with Irish Water Donegal office - Patrick Carty as Project Manager is being progressed with our assistance. **Glan Agua** has been awarded this contract and has visited sites in Leitrim and commenced their Design work. Francis Gaffney PM has had initial meetings with the contractor and is providing backup information. Approximate Estimate €120,000.

• **Process Optimisation and Control Programme** --level sensors and SCADA telemetry at 13 No. drinking water reservoir sites. This has also been regionalised and **Ryan Hanley** consulting engineers have been appointed to Design and prepare contract documents for this contract. — On behalf of IW, IPL has inspected the sites and are to submit a report on possible design solutions to Leitrim County Council/IW/Ryan Hanley. We await an instruction from Irish Water on when these works in Leitrim are to commence. No change since July. Approximate Estimate €160,000.

• **Power actuated valves** to replace ball cock valves at 5No. Reservoirs - all civil works completed. All mechanical and electrical works substantially complete and commissioned. Contract Value €73,900.

• **DMA Programme** – Upgrade and complete the District metering structure on the networks in County Leitrim. Tenders have been received and assessed by Leitrim County Council and a recommendation has been made to Irish Water to appoint the preferred supplier. Commencement on this Design Build Contract before the end of October 2015 with six months to complete. Completion circa May, 2016 at an estimated cost €600,000.

• **Kilenna Watermain** replacement (2km) is approved and included in the minor capital programme. Estimated cost = €150,000. The Design and contract Documents for this new pipeline at Kilenna are nearing completion by Leitrim County Council and we hope to submit all docs to IRISH Watery week ending 9th October for procurement. Programme – Construction to commence before the end of the year.

• **Provide Raw Water Sample** to instruments at Carrick on Shannon Water Treatment Plant. This was approved and included in Minor Capital Programme. Veolia Ireland Ltd has been appointed and the work has commenced at a cost of €8,500.

• **Drumshanbo, Leitrim Village and Ballinamore WWTP Upgrades. Include Carrigallen.** Estimate €270,000, upgrade works at Carrigallen has also been approved and has been added to this small bundle. The approved works recommended are specific and are Mech / Elec in nature for process improvement. We are currently in negotiation with NOD’s on the fees and a fee proposal has been sent to Irish Water for approval. Budgets approved Drumshanbo - €150,000, and Ballinamore - € 51,100 and Leitrim Village €6,500 Carrigallen - € 60,000

• **Trunk Main replacement Eslin – Mohill (2.5Km) - €500,000** Leitrim County Council has completed work on the design and preparation of the Contract Documents. These documents have been submitted to Irish Water for the appointment of a Contractor from their Frameworks. A contractor for these works will be appointed in November, 2015.

• **Dowra and Boley Hill Watermain Replacement.**
Design and tender documents for these two water mains replacement job in accordance with IW’S new specifications were submitted to Irish Water n 1st October, 2015 for procurement off frameworks of a contractor to design and build. These have been flagged to Irish Water as extremely urgent due to boil water notice and we have asked them to fast-track the appointment. Approximate Estimate €100,000.

- **Drumsna WWTP.** Irish Water has approved an ANB for Minor Capital upgrade of Drumsna WWTP to provide for optimisation of the treatment process. The works require the construction of a balancing tank and level sensor and linked communications to main pumping station. The estimated cost is €62,000. Design and tender document preparation will be undertaken by CaPO and submitted to IRISH WATER for procurement.

- **Mains Replacement at Bridge Street, Carrick-on-Shannon.** An ANB proposal for the replacement of old cast iron water mains in Bridge Street Carrick on Shannon has been made to Irish Water and they are considering the application for funding under Minor Capital mains refurbishment. Samples of the old pipeline will be taken this week to ascertain the condition. A pricing document has been prepared and will be sent to IRISH WATER with our report on the sample on Wednesday 7th October, 2015.

- **Other Projects recently approved under Minor Capital works**
  1. Chlorination Boosting at Oughteragh Reservoir
     Negotiations with Kevin Love and John Mc Elwain have taken place in relation to this project. Temporary measures are in place by boosting chlorine upstream – the matter will be given further consideration as part of the Disinfection Programme Review for Leitrim.
  
  2. Asset Needs Brief (ANB) for Critical Failure controls and shut down required at Carrick or Shannon Water Treatment Plant has been approved. Irish Water has instructed that this be procured under minor repair and maintenance framework by Operations.

  3. The provision of cover to the flash mixers and flocculators in Carrick on Shannon Water Treatment Plant has been approved under Minor Capital and Irish Water has instructed that this be procured under minor repair and maintenance framework by Operations.

  4. A number of ANB’s have been approved at Moneyduff Water Treatment Plant under Minor Capital Works for Critical alarms, Sludge mixer, Auto poly make up unit, and Backwash and Scour Upgrade. Irish WATER has been advised that these works are included in the Major Capital Project for extension and upgrade of the Moneyduff WTP which will go to tender in the next few weeks with works scheduled to commence in the New Year. Our recommendation is to hold off on these minor capital works at this plant and undertake under the Main Capital works contract.

  5. A project approved under Minor Capital works "Leitrim Leak Detection works" is currently held up.

  6. An ANB for a Turbidity Analyser at Kiltyclogher Reservoir has been approved under minor Capital and Irish Water has advised this be procured under the Repair and Maintenance framework by Operations.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NO CHANGE IN THE STATUS OF THE WATER SERVICES REPORT SINCE LAST UPD TAED IN THE SEPTEMBER 2015 REPORT.**
Appendix 12 - 11th January 2016

Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation Directorate

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING:

Local Enterprise Office (LEO)
Ireland’s Best Young Entrepreneur

The County Final took place on 7th October in Lough Rynn Castle where winners announced were:

1. Best Business Idea (Pre Trading): Iain Keaney, U-Clid
2. Best start up Business (up to 24 mths): Edwina Guckian, Éiru

The 3 county winners progressed to the Regional Final on Tuesday 27th October also in Lough Rynn competing against Longford, Sligo and Donegal and Jennifer Wrynne won in her category at regional level and will now progress to National Final.

Online trading Vouchers

Programme is very popular with significant uptake, a total of 37 vouchers approved in the 15 months since it started.

Microfinance Ireland

We continue to offer access to Credit to the SME sector through Microfinance Ireland, to date we have exceeded the 2015 targets.

Management Development Training for small Businesses

- Regional Food Academy (Leitrim, Donegal and Sligo) programme started on 21st October and has 5 Leitrim participants, this will run out to Spring 2016.

Networking

- Jobs Fair: Held on 1st October, was a great success with over 100 jobs available on the day and attended by in excess of 1,000 people.
- The National Women’s Enterprise Day took place on 21st & 22nd October and we offered 10 Leitrim female entrepreneurs the chance to attend by offering them a free ticket (LEO Funded) through a competition we ran.
- First Fridays commenced on October 1st, participants meet for a breakfast meeting the first Friday of the month with mentoring in between sessions.

One to one meetings and mentoring: Ongoing demand on mentoring time with clients, a lot of one to one meetings with clients for advice and signposting to supports.

Economic Development
RDP 2014 – 2020

- Meeting held on 19th October of the Rural Development Programme Operational Sub-committee of the LCDC as part of the ongoing process, by Leitrim Development Company as implementing partner, of the preparation of the Local Development Strategy.
- Consultations have concluded and initial paper reviewed by the LCDC including provisional budget allocations assigned per identified priorities.
Local Community Plan and Local Economic Plan

- Final changes made arising from referral of the draft plan to the Municipal Districts were presented and approved by the LCDC in regard to the Community element of the Plan.
- Statement on consistency between Economic and community Elements agreed by LCDC.

Regional Economic Development Zones (REDZ)

- Letter of offer for Manorhamilton REDZ and USEFE Blueway REDZ applications received.
- Tender prepared, circulated and assessed in relation to the Capacity Building Element of the Manorhamilton REDZ.
- Blueway REDZ – Work commenced on capacity building element following appointment of consultant for the following elements – capacity building with community groups and preparation of information and photography for four Blueway trails.
- Work on specification for signage for Blueway was commenced in conjunction with Waterways Ireland.

Purple Flag

- Planning commenced in relation to raising of Purple Flag in November which will tie into Christmas events.
- Logo circulated to businesses in order to assist with marketing the town as a Purple Flag town.
- Awards ceremony to take place in early November.

Renewable Energy Group

- A Renewable Energy Group has been formed based arising from an action in the Economic Element of the LECP. The Group is chaired by the Chief Executive of Leitrim County Council and includes membership from Renewable Energy private sector, SEAI, Teagasc, LDC, WDC, Bord na Mona and Leitrim County Council and LEO.
- The NWRA attended to highlight the potential of a new Interreg project.
- Discussion took place on the potential of forestry, biomass, wind and solar technology.
- The Group will meet again in January 2016 once further clarity on Energy White Paper is available.

Upper Shannon Erne Initiative

In addition to the REDZ Flagship the following was completed in October:

- Diaspora Group Meeting on the 6th of October.
- Presentation in Cavan Co. Council on 12th October
- Assisted in organising the Regional Food Event on the 14th of October 2015 in Lough Allen Hotel, Drumshanbo

Tourism Development

Tourism Promotion

1) County Leitrim Centenary Plan launched in Dublin by An Taoiseach Enda Kenny. Launch was attended by Frank Curran, John McCartin – Cathaoirleach and Vincent Dwyer.

2) Visited projects in Canada as part of the Diaspora Programme including projects in Peterborough - Ontario, Ottawa and Toronto. Attended a number of Civic Receptions and met with Tourism Ireland – Canada and Enterprise Ireland representatives also.

3) Hosted a Familiarisation Trip for a number of Tour Operators who offer packages to incoming visitors to Ireland. These operators included Brack Tours Ireland, Abbey Tours, Paddywagon Tours, Extreme Ireland, Hello Ireland and Extreme Ireland. The purpose of the trip was to highlight the Shannon Blueway in the Lakelands Counties of Leitrim and Roscommon and Leitrim Tourism hosted, in
conjunction with our counterparts in Roscommon, and ensured that they had a memorable stay. While in Leitrim these Tour Operators visited Acres Lake, Drumshanbo where they experienced Stand Up Paddle Boarding on the Shannon Blueway with Lee Guckian at Leitrim Surf, Leitrim Village where they cycled on the Shannon Blueway with Electric Bike Trails, The Food Hub, Drumshanbo where they visited both the Carrig Brewing Co and The Shed Distillery and enjoyed Bushcraft and Wilderness Therapy with Kevin Currid at Lough Allen Adventure.

4) The Tour Operators visit generated traffic on all of our social media platforms with engagement from tour operators and followers generating an increase in likes and a marked increase in activity levels.

5) Slow Adventure Tourism (SAINT) project launched at Aras an Chontae by Gerry Finn CEO Northern and Western Regional Assembly who remarked that the concept fitted very well with tourist product offerings in Leitrim. A number of tourism providers from Leitrim attend the launch. The event received extensive coverage in local press. As part of the project activities in Royrvik in Norway were visited.

6) Website development ongoing and is nearing completion.

Development Management

Carrick on Shannon/Cortober Joint Local Area Plan

The Planning Department is continuing to work on Strategic Issues Papers which will form part of the proposed public consultation phase of the Local Area Plan project.

Unfinished housing developments PSI and SRF

- The Council is continuing to move forward with 3 no. developments awarded funding under the Special Resolution Fund, with outstanding works approaching substantial completion.
- Work is ongoing with Developers, Banks, Bond Companies and the DoEHLG to progress completion of unfinished estates within the County.
- 12 housing developments have been taken in charge by Leitrim County Council in the year to date.
- Workshops with the Manorhamilton and Ballinamore Municipal District members were held in October before their respective Municipal District meetings.

Pre Planning

- The pre planning clinics continued during the month of October. The Clinic System operates on an appointment basis with the relevant Area Planner each Wednesday morning. Appointments, which require pre-booking take place in Aras An Chontae, Carrick on Shannon.

Development Management

- 12 valid planning applications were received during October; 3 of which relates to commercial development. 6 applications which were received were deemed invalid.
- 13 final decisions on planning applications were made during October whilst Further Information was requested in relation to a further 4 applications.

Delivering remaining projects of the 2007-2013 Programmes

A number of projects are currently being delivered arising from investment opportunities secured from the various funds nationally and cross border.
- Failte Ireland – Glencar Waterfall
Appendix 12 - 11th January 2016

Project Scoping and design options for Amenity Block building are completed. Architect prepared detailed design drawings and Tender Documentation went out for tender and tenders are now returned with Architect evaluation nearing completion. will be completed by end of year. The Playground works is completed and opened to the public. Site Works are ongoing within waterfall site with upgrading of looped footpaths. Footpaths are almost completed. Landscape Geotourism Geologist has been appointed for Interpretation of the site and draft signage is now prepared and will be erected by end of year. Road surfacing to Glencar Waterfall site is now completed. Works are ongoing is the provision of safe pedestrian routes and construction of an uncontrolled crossing point from main car park to Waterfall site and traffic calming works. It is expected that these works will be completed by end of year.

- **Sean Mac Diarmada Site:** Provision of car parking at Sean Mac Diarmada Site. The archaeology investigation works are now completed on site and this Archaeology Report is now submitted to the National Monuments Division for approval to proceed with works. Site works are currently ongoing and will be complete by the end of year 2015.

**ENVIRONMENT:**

**National Inspection Program (DWWTS)** – All the 2015 NIP Inspections are completed. A review is currently ongoing regards 2014 NIP where the public were notified to rectify problems with their DWWTS and given a specified timeframe to address sites that failed the test.

**RMCEI Plan** – Works are ongoing as outlined in the RMCEI 2015 Plan.

**CFRAMs – OPW and their Consultant Jacobs Engineering are working on** the development of suitable flood mitigation options regarding the management of flood risk in the Leitrim area. The Flood Risk Management Options will be subject to Public Consultation which is to take place within Leitrim on Thursday 19th November 2015 @ the following locations by OPW/Jacobs Engineering:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AFA</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Day and Date</th>
<th>Political Briefing</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leitrim</td>
<td>Leitrim</td>
<td>Thursday 19 Nov</td>
<td>Political Briefing 1-2 for Leitrim &amp; Roscommon Council Chamber</td>
<td>2.00-7.30</td>
<td>Leitrim Co. Co. Chambers, Aras an Chontae (Contact PGM member)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohill</td>
<td>Leitrim</td>
<td>Thursday 19 Nov</td>
<td>Political Briefing</td>
<td>2.30-7.00</td>
<td>Mohill Family Support Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carrick on Shannon</td>
<td>Leitrim / Roscommon</td>
<td>Thursday 19 Nov</td>
<td>Political Briefing</td>
<td>2.00-7.30</td>
<td>St. Joseph's Community Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Council Chamber</td>
<td></td>
<td>St. Joseph's Community Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dromod</td>
<td>Leitrim</td>
<td>Thursday 19 Nov</td>
<td>Political Briefing</td>
<td>2.30-7.00</td>
<td>Copper Still Bar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drumshanbo</td>
<td>Leitrim</td>
<td>Thursday 19 Nov</td>
<td>Political Briefing</td>
<td>2.30 - 7.00</td>
<td>Aras Padraig</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix 12 - 11th January 2016

ENERGY:
A funding application was submitted to SEAI in regard to a Better Energy Community scheme for Carrick on Shannon. The application provided for works involving insulation, energy efficient heating and lighting across 44 domestic units in 4 local authority housing estates and Carrick on Shannon Fire Station along with a number proposed works in respect of a number of community buildings in Carrick on Shannon and Leitrim Village.

Leitrim County Council were successful in the application with a grant awarded to Leitrim County Council to the value of €515,240.06 including Vat. The Total Grant assistance provided by SEAI for this 2015 “Better Energy Communities Programme” is €220,012.95 with the balance of funding coming from Leitrim County Council and the Community Project Beneficiaries.

All works have now been successfully completed on this SEAI Project.

Leitrim County Council are now selected as a finalist in the Sustainable Energy Awards 2015 to be held in the Royal Hospital Kilmainham on Thursday 19th November 2015 for the Energy Project completed in Mohill back in 2014.

ROADS:
- Area Programme 2015 – works underway
- 10 tenders were received for the construction contract for the N16 Corncloy to Sadrine Phase II scheme. The tenders have now been assessed and contract formalities are commencing.
- Special Speed Limit Bye Laws public consultation process is now complete and the bye laws are for final approval (November Council Meeting).

Rural Water Programme:
Approval has been given to carry out improvement works on the following existing schemes Cornabrone/Aghaslane, Cloonsarne and Lough Errill. Approval has been given for new group water scheme at Poolboy.

Discussions also continue with proposed new Group Water Scheme at Carrigeencor.

Meetings have been held with the three proposed Group Sewerage Schemes with estimated costings of each scheme having been provided and discussions are ongoing currently. The schemes involved are Ballynamoney, Aughameeney and Killahurk.

Discussions have also taken place with Crowes Hill Sewerage Scheme with a view to progressing planning issues for this scheme.
Appendix 12 - 11th January 2016

Housing and Community, Corporate Services, Culture and Emergency Services Directorate

HOUSING:

Housing Allocations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offers issued to 31st October, 2015</th>
<th>Offers accepted</th>
<th>Acceptance Rate</th>
<th>Offers refused</th>
<th>Refusal Rate</th>
<th>Awaiting Reply</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>112</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>54.90%</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>45.10%</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

New Tenancies created from 1st January 2015 to 31st October, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Existing tenants transferred to alternative accommodation to 31st October, 2015</th>
<th>New Tenants (1st time allocation)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Traveller Accommodation Programme Targets – Progress Report at 31st October, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accommodation Type</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>Outputs Quarter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group Housing Scheme – Existing</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Block - Existing</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Authority Standard Housing</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental Accommodation Scheme (incl. renewals)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Term Leasing (incl. renewals)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing Assistance Payment (incl new family formations)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>12</strong></td>
<td><strong>11</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11 of 12 outputs for 2015 were achieved at 31st October, 2015 representing a 92% completion rate.

Private Rented Inspection Programme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall target for delivery in 2015</th>
<th>No of inspections completed to 31st October, 2015</th>
<th>% Complete</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>112%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Energy Retrofitting Programme

Our Submission to the Department in February 2015 identified 342 number Housing Units remaining to be completed under Phase 1 Energy Efficiency Upgrade Works, with an estimated total associated cost of approximately €440,000. On June 3rd 2015 we have been officially notified that funding of €260,000 will be made available for Phase I of the Energy Retrofitting Programme for 2015. Works on 195 houses have been completed to date. Snag lists have been detailed and completed and BERs are being finalised out also on all 195 properties. Claims drawdown will now commence from the Department.

An additional 18 units in Ross Manorhamilton will also be completed before year end. A further 41 housing stock had these energy works completed under the SEAI better energy programme as detailed below.

Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) Better Energy Communities Area Based Scheme

An Application for Grant aid was submitted to the SEAI for a proposed Better Energy Community Scheme project in Carrick on Shannon. On 12th June the Council received confirmation that a grant of €142,261 (42%) would be
allocated toward works totaling €337,833 on 41 Council stock houses in Carrick-On-Shannon. These are spread between Autumn View, Cara Court, Ath na Ri and Oak Drive estates. These units are all included in the 342 units identified as requiring Phase 1 Energy Efficiency Upgrade Works. This Funding Application, which is being co-ordinated by the Environment Department, also includes public lighting upgrades and works to a number of public/community buildings including an allocation for Carrick-On-Shannon Fire Station / HQ to facilitate energy efficiency works. All 6 contracts in respect of Council Housing stock and 3 for Carrick Fire Station have contractors appointed and works were substantially completed as of 31st October.

In total this means that 254 Local Authority Houses will have had significant energy efficiency works carried out in 2015 leading to better quality efficient houses across approx 85% of Leitrim County Councils housing stock. It is hoped the remaining 15% approx will be completed in 2016 under similar programmes.

**Voids Programme 2015**

Leitrim County Council submitted a prioritised listing of 13 No. units, to the Department for funding under the Voids Programme in 2015. During the course of the year the Council has secured funding allocation of €223,000 for works on nine number housing units under the Voids Program 2015. Six of these houses are in Carrick on Shannon and one in Dromahair. Works are progressing towards completion on all these by 31st October. A further 2 houses in Killargue are also now at contractor selection stage and are targeted for completion by year end. Contracts for 5 houses in the Mohill will be advertised for tender in the coming weeks and a further 5 will be advertised in November / early December.

**Disability Works in Council Houses**

Adaptation Works (Disability related) are carried out to our housing stock where necessary in order to render the dwelling more suitable to the particular needs of the Tenant, with typical works including, depending on the individual circumstances, installation of level access shower, installation of rails in bathrooms, installation of ramp access to front/back doors, installation of oil heating systems or storage heating and associated works.

Our 2015 Funding Allocation in respect of Adaptation Works required to Council Housing Stock is €59,130 - This constitutes 90% of the value of works, this translates to an actual allocation of €65,700 for these works for the current year.

To date 12 number grant applications have been processed and approved to proceed. The following is the position with these:

- 2 number of these have been completed in Kilboderry, Carrick on Shannon and Hillside Crescent, Manorhamilton;
- 5 of these have been advertised and a contractor has been appointed in Bredagh, Carraigallen; Breffni Crescent Carrick on Shannon; Cappagh, Mohill; Dristernan, Drumshanbo; Naomh Padraig, Drumshanbo. Works are substantially completed at end of October.
- A chair Lift has been installed during October in a unit in Breffni Crescent following tendering and appointment of a Contractor.
- At Treanmore, Mohill, disability works was completed on a unit by Council staff.
- At Melvin Court, Kinlough a unit requires a level access shower and this is being progressed.
- An extension has to be constructed to a unit at Drumlease, Dromahair. Contractor assessment is underway.
- Bathroom Adaptations are required at a Unit in Shannonside View, Carrick on Shannon and these adaptations are being completed by LCC Staff.
Appendix 12 - 11th January 2016

Improvements/Upgrades to House Purchased in 2014
Leitrim County Council completed the Purchase of a 4 Bedroom House at Oaklands, Carrick on Shannon in late 2014. This House required upgrades in the form of Energy Retrofitting Upgrades, Window & Door Replacement, Heating Upgrades and other minor refurbishment works. Works consisting of the Replacement of the Windows & Doors in this House were completed in April, 2015 and the Energy Retrofitting Works were completed in June 2015. This house has now been tenanted.

Acquisitions
The Council is currently in negotiations for the purchase of 3 additional family type houses in Carrick-On-Shannon.

Housing Grants

NOTE: HGD = Housing Adaptation Grant; MAG = Mobility Aids Grant; HOP = Housing Aid for Older People

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2015 Allocation</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01/01/2015 – 31/10/2015</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRANT</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>VALUE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAID 2015</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HGD</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>€77,827.30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAG</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>€31,702.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOP</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>€145,738.45</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>€255,267.75</td>
<td>€255,267.75</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Approved not paid

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2015 Allocation</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01/01/2015 – 31/10/2015</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRANT</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>VALUE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HGD</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>€79,663.20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAG</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>€11,848.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOP</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>€76,835.50</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>€168,346.70</td>
<td>€168,346.70</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Applications Rec'd Not Yet Approved

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2015 Allocation</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01/01/2015 – 31/10/2015</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRANT</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>VALUE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOP</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>€40,000.00</td>
<td>Estimated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAG</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>€5,000.00</td>
<td>Estimated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HGD</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>€30,000.00</td>
<td>Estimated</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>€75,000.00</td>
<td>€75,000.00</td>
<td>€498,614.45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BALANCE

-€159,874.45

Community:
Public Participation Network
- The financial return for 2015 was submitted to the Dept of Environment, Community and Local Government
- A meeting to support communities in engaging with the PPN was held by Leitrim Development Company. This was attended and forms were distributed to groups that had not, to date, registered.
Age Friendly County

- The Age Friendly Ireland support officer has returned to work following maternity leave. A meeting was held and several issues of use to the future work on Age friendly Leitrim were discussed.

Comhairle na nOg

- An event promoting good mental health was held during the month. Titled Let’s Go Mental, it was part of a national initiative and events were held in most areas around the country.

Playgrounds

- Tenders were scored for the refurbishment of Aura playground and the contract was awarded. Work is to be carried out in November.
- The annual independent inspections of all playgrounds were carried out at the end of the month. These will form the basis for maintenance works on the playgrounds in addition to the weekly checks carried out by council staff.

Floral Pride

- The Floral Pride Awards event was held in The Corn Mill Theatre in Carrigallen. 21 prizes were awarded with Mohill winning the overall award.

Peace III

- An Article 16 check was carried out by The Department of Finance and Personnel on two 2014 claims. Whilst the report has not yet issued, no issues arose during the audit.

Leitrim Sports Partnership

Programmes

1. FAS CE Sports Coaches
   The 2 LSP FAS CE sports coaches who coordinate and manage the delivery of the sports and recreational programmes in Leitrim Schools for the LSP have just completed coaching in 6 Primary Schools in Leitrim, with 263 children benefiting from this programme, 162 boys and 101 girls.
   
   St Patrick’s Boys, Ballinamore N.S. – Boys -61,  
   Aughawillian N.S, – Boys -12, Girls – 16  
   Newtowngore N.S. – Boys 17 – Girls –12  
   St Mary’s N.S. Drumlea – Boys 20 – Girls –22  
   St Patrick’s N.S Tarmon Spencer Harbour – Boys -14 Girls -18  
   St Brigid’s N.S Drumnakerrin, Boys – 38, Girls - 37

   Total Participants 263

2. Ag Sugradh Le Cheille Workshop.
   This programme is about parents and children playing together in tutor lead fun classroom activities and games during school hours or as after School programme. We held three workshops in September with 26 parents and 39 children participation in the workshops.
   St Clare’s N.S. – Parents-, 9 students & 9 parents  
   St Clare’s N.S. - Parents- 16 students & 14 parents  
   Ardvarney N.S. – Parents – 18 students & 10 parents

   Total Parents - 33 & Total Children 43

3. Girls Active Training Day for School Coordinators
Appendix 12 - 11th January 2016

The Girls Active training day for the schools coordinators offers the teachers a simple flexible programme framework to support and give guidance to the delivery of this programme in their Schools, from student recruitment to programme delivery of multi activities throughout the 16 weeks. We had 7 teachers from 6 different Schools in the County. All 7 schools will be involved in this programme.

Total Participants – 7

4. Girls Active Programme

This is a joint programme between the Health Services Executive North West and Leitrim Sports Partnership. This programme is aimed at teenage girls that participated in the girl’s Active programme in their School over 16 weeks. We have 6 Post Primary Schools involved in this programme.

Ballinamore Community Schools – 40 Girls
Drumshanbo Vocational School – 32 Girls
Carrick on Shannon Community School – 30 Girls
Carrigallen Vocational School – 35 Girls
St Clare’s Comprehensive School – TBC.
Lough Allen College – TBC.

Total Participants – 137

5. Get Fit, Keep Fit Programme.

The project offered women the opportunity to take part in a number of activities over the 6 weeks. It’s a fitness based boot camp including running, circuits and toning exercises and is a definite favourite with women as it is fast, fun, and works. The programme was designed for women of all ages regardless of fitness levels. It’s was the perfect opportunity to make new friends “have fun, get fit and keep fit”. We had a total of 59 females that participated on this programme in Ballinaglera 13, Drumshanbo 10, Drumkerrin 8 , Dromahair 20 & Kiltyclogher 8,

Total participants 59

Code of Ethics Workshops

6. Leitrim Sports Partnership held 2 Code of Ethics course( Safe Guarding 2 Workshop) in late September and early October in Carrick on Shannon with 24 participants involved and participants from the community coaching programme.

Total participants 24

7. Go For Life Pals Training Days for the Active Age Group Leaders

Go for Life is the national programme for sport and physical activity for older people in Ireland. It is run by volunteers who we call PALs. A PAL is a Physical Activity Leader who is already part of a group or club and is willing to lead activities. PALs lead their local group in things like short exercise routines, fun games, simple dances and sports like pitch and toss. In partnership with the HSE and Leitrim Development Company we have completed two out of four Pals workshops in Drumshanbo with 28 group leaders participating. The next two workshops are planned for Leitrim Village in November.

Total Groups 28

8. First Aid Course

Basic First Aid course will cover Patient Assessment, Wounds and Bleeding, Altered Level of Consciousness, Musculoskeletal Injuries and CPR with the use of the defibrillator. The course will take approximately 6 hrs and you will receive an Irish Heart Foundation Heartsaver AED certificate valid for 2yrs along with a first aid certificate of attendance from First Aid Aware. We held a one day course with Glencar Manor GAA club members with 10 people attending the course.

Total participants 10
Appendix 12 - 11th January 2016

Disability Programmes

9. Rehab Care Exercise and Health Programme

This was a 6 week gym and health programme for adults in Balliname, all the participants got opportunity to try our many different activities in the School gym. We had 10 participants involved in this programme.

Total Number 10


This programme of tennis and outdoor bowling at the local tennis club and we had 12 young adults participating on this programme.

Total Number 12

11. St Ciaran’s Day Service Dancing Programme

In partnership with St Ciaran’s day service, we have completed a 6 week light zumba dancing programme for the young adults in the centre. The programme will have given the participants opportunity to participate and enjoy physical activity with other day users in the comfortable setting of the day centre.

Total Number 8

12. Drumshanbo Vocational School Autism Unit – Zumba Dancing Programme

This was a 6 week zumba dancing programme involving 6 students in the Drumshanbo Vocational School. All the participants get opportunity to try out different zumba dancing moves. This programme is well supported by the School, participants and family members.

Total Number 6

13. Irish Wheelchair Association - Exercise to Music Programme

This is a 6 week programme, where all the participants get opportunity to exercise to music, and have some fun together, we have 10 participants involved in this programme in the IWA centre in Carrick on Shannon.

Total Number 10

Current & Future programmes in 2015

- Code of Ethics Courses/Safe Guarding 2 workshop – Fri 5th Dec.
- Get Fit, Keep Fit Programme – Oct-Dec 2015
- Leitrim’s Disability Sports Forum Programmes – 6 weeks – Nov-Dec
- Schools Community Physical & Recreation Programme – Sept – Dec 2015
- Be Active Schools Programme – Oct – Dec 2015
- Ag Sugradh le Cheile Programme – Primary Schools – Oct – Dec 2015
- Cycling Ireland Coaching/Level 2 Course
- Go For Life Pals Training Games – 3rd & 10 November
- LSP Sports Star Awards 2014 – Sat 28th November in the Lough Rynn Hotel
- Be Active Training Day – North Leitrim (Drumlease N.S.) Tues 3rd & 12th Nov
- Leitrim Down Syndrome Group - Disability Cycling programme for beginners sat 2nd Nov.
- Manorhamilton Special Olympics Multi Sport Programme

The Arts

Creative Frame - In partnership with Leitrim Local Enterprise Office, Anna-Marie O’Rourke has begun to develop the Creative Frame programme—a user driven continuous professional development network designed to facilitate the
ongoing training and development requirements of practitioners in the creative sector in Leitrim and the wider region.

**Creative Space Scheme**- Details of the scheme to provide for temporary occupancy of vacant retail units in the County have been drawn up and potential properties are in the process of being identified.

**Spark** – 13 submissions were received for the Spark project and the participating artist is in the process of being selected.

**Artist Bursary Scheme** – Applications opened for the 2016 Individual Artist Bursary Scheme.

**Artists in Schools** – 4 Artists have now commenced their work with schools

**Artist in the Community** – 4 Artists are currently working with community groups.

**Drumshanbo Artist Studios** – Artist Kate Wilson and writer Gerry Boland have commenced their Residencies

**Leitrim Equation 4** – The Irish and UK premieres of the Leitrim Equation 4 concert took place at the Corn Mill Theatre in Carrigallen and in London as part of the Return to Camden Town Festival which was attended by the Irish Ambassador.

**Youth Theatre**- Autumn/winter term has started for 5 existing Youth Theatre groups in Manorhamilton, Carrick on Shannon and Carrigallen with a new junior group starting in Manorhamilton.

**Library Service:**

**Library Development Plan**
On hold, while awaiting outcome of Shared Services discussions.

**Event Programming**
A busy programme of activities took place in all branches across the county during the month of October, including a Book Launch in Ballinamore Library, Knitting for Moldova Workshops in Carrigallen Library, and Comhrá Classes in Kinlough Library. A very interesting and well-attended project being delivered in Mohill Library during October was Lumra with the ICA. The local ICA guild taught classes in Lumra, an old Irish craft using scraps of sheep wool to make rugs, wall hangings and other items.

**Children’s Book Festival 2015**
Children’s Book Festival is a celebration of books and reading, which takes place during the month of October. This is a major highlight of the Library calendar, and plays an important part in raising awareness and usage of Children’s Services. In October 2015 a full programme of events took place to mark this festival including visits by acclaimed storytellers, children’s writers and illustrators.

**Special CBF Events** organised with local primary schools, included:

- Puppet Workshops, held in Kiltyclogher Library
- Halloween Storytelling events were held in Carrick-on-Shannon Library
- Irish language event with author Anna Heussaff working with 2nd year students from Drumshanbo Vocational School.

**Class Visits**
Schedule of class visits by local primary and secondary schools continued in Branch Libraries across the county.

**Summer Reading Tree 2015**

**Awards Ceremonies**
Awards ceremonies for our very successful Summer Reading Tree Project took place in all branch libraries during October, with guest speakers presenting the awards.

SEAI – Film Production at Mohill Library
Film Production took place at Mohill Library on October 30th as part of Leitrim County Council’s selection as a finalist in the Sustainable Energy Awards 2015, for energy works completed on the building in 2014.

City and County Librarian’s Autumn Seminar: A/Senior Executive Librarian attended.

Fire Service
Building Control
Received 11 Commencement Notices 8 (valid) (3 invalid), Received 1 Short Commencement Notice (valid), Received 2 Fire Safety Certificates.

Annual Licensing inspections
A number of annual licensing inspections were carried out during October 2015 in advance of the annual licensing courts.

National Fire Safety Week
A very successful programme of fire safety events was delivered throughout the county during National Fire Safety Week in early October. These were featured on Leitrim TV later in the month. These included visits to primary school children and talks to Active Age Groups. A special feature of this year’s programme was the provision of smoke alarms to vulnerable people in the community and the distribution of testers for smoke alarms.

Fire Charges
A further meeting was held with the Director of Services to review outstanding monies relating to outstanding and aged fire charges. Position is being kept under review.

Fire Statistics
Made a submission to EUstat on fire statistics as part of an EU public consultation on statistics. Liaised with National Directorate also in relation to this.

Courts Service - Online Licensing System
Continued to liaise with Courts Service in relation to the implementation of their new online system for all types of applications.

Capital funding
a) Fire Appliances
Leitrim County Council is part of a joint procurement tender for 5 new Class B fire appliances with a number of other adjacent fire authorities. The closing date for the return of tenders was early September. Leitrim County Council has one appliance included in the tender. Roscommon County Council is the contracting authority and they have been reviewing submissions received. The tenders have been evaluated and a recommendation for a preferred supplier is being prepared to submit to the Dept.

b) Ballinamore Fire Station
We made a submission to the Department of Environment Community and Local Government for capital funding to carry out improvements to the existing station. We are still awaiting a response.

c) Better Energy Scheme
Works were completed in Carrick-on-Shannon fire station.

Site for new Manorhamilton fire station
Possible new sites are still being investigated.
Fire training
The following training courses were delivered in October 2015:
Station Officer Course (1 participant), Walk Around Driver training checks (11 drivers), Breather Apparatus Initial Wearers Course (1 participant), CFBT course (4 participants).

Cross Border Emergency Management

LGMA / SIPTU national discussions on retained service
We are awaiting progress on a number of issues relating to the retained service at these discussions taking place at national level between the National Directorate / LGMA and SIPTU.

Road Safety Authority – new Junior Cycle course on Road safety
As part of the brief of the RSA Development Committee for the new Junior Cycle Short Course on Road Safety to produce a ‘First Response’ video, I spent some time trying to source video footage of RTC training to help to explain the role of fire service at RTC’s. Liaised with RSA on this

Leitrim County Council contract for servicing of fire and other Council vehicles
Reviewed content of previous contract and submitted comments for inclusion in the next tender document being finalised.

Traveller Accommodation – fire safety
Received Circular Letter from National Directorate requesting actions to improve fire safety standards at all designated traveller accommodation in the county. Commenced initial review of activities involved.

Health and safety
Second round of statutory inspections on fire equipment completed. Servicing and maintenance programme of fire vehicles other fire equipment ongoing. Pre fire plan inspection of MCI factory carried out.

Civil Defence

On the 26th Oct Malin Head Coastguard requested Civil Defence to investigate reports of a Cruiser in difficulty on Lough Bofin between Dromod and Roosky. The Boat Crew responded and launched at Dromod Marina. Following a search of the area a 26 ft Cruiser with one person on board was located. The Cruiser was aground and disabled. The cruiser was refloated and escorted to Roosky Marina. The person on board the Cruiser was not injured.

Signed: _______________  Date:  11th November, 2015
Frank Curran  
Chief Executive
Finance & Water Services Directorate

November 2015 - Revenue Account Income & Expenditure Summary by Service Division
(Preliminary November 2015 - Figures)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENDITURE</th>
<th>Income</th>
<th>NET</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adopted Full Year Budget</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Housing &amp; Building</td>
<td>3,325,571</td>
<td>3,754,002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B Road Transport &amp; Safety</td>
<td>11,381,463</td>
<td>12,706,733</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C Water Services</td>
<td>3,381,915</td>
<td>4,291,147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D Development Management</td>
<td>3,053,793</td>
<td>3,331,492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E Environmental Services</td>
<td>3,348,148</td>
<td>3,720,204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F Recreation &amp; Amenity</td>
<td>2,762,742</td>
<td>3,073,069</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G Agriculture, Education, Health &amp; Welfare</td>
<td>615,097</td>
<td>657,852</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H Miscellaneous Services</td>
<td>2,850,252</td>
<td>3,059,493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LG Local Government Fund / GPG</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I Pension Levy</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RA Rates</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£30,085,630</td>
<td>£34,054,088</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expenditure V Budget - November 2015

Income V Budget - November 2015

Main Points as at End of November 2015
* Water Expenditure in line with Income from Irish Water.
* Development Management Income is ahead of budget due to LDC Grant Income from Enterprise Ireland, this is distributed throughout the year.
* Miscellaneous Income ahead of target due to higher than budgeted NPPR Receipts.

November 2015 - Recourse to Overdraft

No. of Days in Overdraft during November 2015

Interest Income

November 2015 - Collection Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housmg Rents</th>
<th>Commercial Rates</th>
<th>Housing Loans</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>£1,184,575</td>
<td>£4,053,916</td>
<td>£168,085</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£1,185,975</td>
<td>£4,055,308</td>
<td>£168,060</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£189,390</td>
<td>£1,554,356</td>
<td>£184,441</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% FY 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% Nov-15</th>
<th>% Nov-14</th>
<th>% FY 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>64%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91%</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Commentary
Slightly higher than November 2014.
Cash collected higher than 2013.

November 2015 - Aged Debt Analysis

RATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>30 Days</th>
<th>60 Days</th>
<th>90 Days</th>
<th>180 Days</th>
<th>1 Year</th>
<th>&gt;2 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>£1,080,555</td>
<td>£1,080,555</td>
<td>£1,080,555</td>
<td>£1,080,555</td>
<td>£1,080,555</td>
<td>£1,080,555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£2,577,842</td>
<td>£2,577,842</td>
<td>£2,577,842</td>
<td>£2,577,842</td>
<td>£2,577,842</td>
<td>£2,577,842</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£1,505,753</td>
<td>£1,505,753</td>
<td>£1,505,753</td>
<td>£1,505,753</td>
<td>£1,505,753</td>
<td>£1,505,753</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£227,580</td>
<td>£227,580</td>
<td>£227,580</td>
<td>£227,580</td>
<td>£227,580</td>
<td>£227,580</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>30 Days</th>
<th>60 Days</th>
<th>90 Days</th>
<th>180 Days</th>
<th>1 Year</th>
<th>&gt;2 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>£22,671</td>
<td>£22,671</td>
<td>£22,671</td>
<td>£22,671</td>
<td>£22,671</td>
<td>£22,671</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£1,080,555</td>
<td>£1,080,555</td>
<td>£1,080,555</td>
<td>£1,080,555</td>
<td>£1,080,555</td>
<td>£1,080,555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£2,577,842</td>
<td>£2,577,842</td>
<td>£2,577,842</td>
<td>£2,577,842</td>
<td>£2,577,842</td>
<td>£2,577,842</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£1,505,753</td>
<td>£1,505,753</td>
<td>£1,505,753</td>
<td>£1,505,753</td>
<td>£1,505,753</td>
<td>£1,505,753</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£227,580</td>
<td>£227,580</td>
<td>£227,580</td>
<td>£227,580</td>
<td>£227,580</td>
<td>£227,580</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LOANS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>30 Days</th>
<th>60 Days</th>
<th>90 Days</th>
<th>180 Days</th>
<th>1 Year</th>
<th>&gt;2 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>£1,080,555</td>
<td>£1,080,555</td>
<td>£1,080,555</td>
<td>£1,080,555</td>
<td>£1,080,555</td>
<td>£1,080,555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£2,577,842</td>
<td>£2,577,842</td>
<td>£2,577,842</td>
<td>£2,577,842</td>
<td>£2,577,842</td>
<td>£2,577,842</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£1,505,753</td>
<td>£1,505,753</td>
<td>£1,505,753</td>
<td>£1,505,753</td>
<td>£1,505,753</td>
<td>£1,505,753</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£227,580</td>
<td>£227,580</td>
<td>£227,580</td>
<td>£227,580</td>
<td>£227,580</td>
<td>£227,580</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WATER SERVICES:

Operations Update

During November there were the following interruptions;

- 24 Bursts / Leaks.
- 16 Sewer Blockages.
- 5 No. Unplanned Outages at Moneyduff WTP and Glenade.

Maximo:

In November 46 issues were raised on Maximo, (IW Asset Management System). 36 related to water and 10 related to waste water.

Water Conservation:

The Unaccounted for Water is 50.3%. Area of Priority for IW during 2016.

The Following District Metered Areas need Water Conservation/Leak Detection.

- Gowel to Kilnagross.
- Corraleehan Scheme.
- Mt Campbell to Jamestown.
- School Rd, Black Road – Drumkeerin.
- Manor Point X to Drumkeerin.

Capital Update

North Leitrim Regional Water supply Scheme (Project No. 1000390)

- Jennings O’ Donovan Consulting engineers has been appointed
- The total estimated cost of this project is now €8.076 million incl. VAT.
- Planning Application for new pumping station at Coolodonnell reservoir has been granted.
- Tender Documents have been finalised and submitted to Irish Water Central Sourcing Team (CST/SSP) in November 2015.
- The current Programme envisages award of contract and commencement on site for both contracts in August / September 2016. This programme allows for the completion, as a priority, of the pipeline to Kiltyclogher and a new supply of treated water to be delivered to Kiltyclogher by the end of 2016 and the removal at that time of the current boil water notice.

Manorhamilton Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Project No 10000734

Mohill Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Project No 10000735

- This project was approved for Funding by WIAC on 21st January, 2015.
- The “Updated Design Review Report” is finalised.
- Applications for Planning Permission for the proposed developments at Mohill and Manorhamilton were submitted to Leitrim County Council on 23rd October, 2015. A decision in relation to this application is awaited.
- The Design and Tender Documents workshop was held on 23rd November, 2015 to finalise the documents. The consultants will finalise the documents when the planning permission is granted. These will be submitted to Irish Water CST for their approval before the end of the year. The
current programme envisions this to be advertised for tender in January, 2016 with contract award in 16th May, 2016.

- These two separate projects in IW’s Capital Programme are being completed as one. The all in cost of this project is currently estimated at €2,009,931 incl VAT.

**Minor Capital Works**
The total cost of all Projects Approved to date is Estimated in excess of €2.0million

- **HSQE Programme** – On hold by IW
  8 No. housing wastewater package plants in County Leitrim. They are considering their position in relation to responsibility for these and are withholding funding.

- **Energy Efficiency Programme** – Carrick on Shannon Water Treatment Plant is selected as a pilot project which is being managed directly by Irish Water.

- **Sampling Programme** – flow monitoring and sampling at 12 No. WWTP’S in County Leitrim. This project is regionalised with IW Donegal office - Patrick Carty as Project Manager is being progressed with our assistance. **Glan Agua** has been awarded this contract and has visited sites in Leitrim and commenced their design work. **Approx Estimate €120,000**

- **Process Optimisation and Control Programme** – level sensors and SCADA telemetry at 13 No. drinking water reservoir sites. This has also been regionalised and **Ryan Hanley** Consulting Engineers have been appointed to design and prepare contract documents for this contract. – On behalf of IW, IPL has inspected the sites and are to submit a report on possible design solutions to LCC/IW/Ryan Hanley. We await an instruction from Irish Water on when these works in Leitrim are to commence. **Approximate Estimate €160,000**

- **Power actuated valves** to replace ball cock valves at 5No. Reservoirs - all civil works completed. All mechanical and electrical works substantially complete and commissioned. **Contract Value €73,900.**

- **DMA Programme** – Upgrade and complete the District Metering Structure on the networks in County Leitrim. Tenders have been received and assessed by the Council and a recommendation has been made to Irish Water to appoint the preferred tenderer. Commencement on this Design Build Contract before the end of October, 2015 with six months to complete. Completion date May 2016. **Estimated cost: €518,000.**

- **Killenara Watermain** replacement (2km) is approved and included in the minor capital programme. **Estimated cost = €100,000.** *(The existing supply along this section is under a threat of a boil water notice due to poorly discoloured water due to poor condition of old cast iron mains.)* The Tender Documents were prepared and finalised by the Council and were submitted to Irish Water on 29th October, 2015 for procurement of a contractor off their Frameworks. There has been no update from Irish Water on the appointment of a Contractor. This delay means that these works cannot begin before the end of this year.
Appendix 13- 11th January 2016

- **Provide Raw Water Sample** to instruments at Carrick on Shannon Water Treatment Plant. Works completed by Veolia Ireland Ltd at a Cost of **€8,500**

- **Drumshanbo, Leitrim Village and Ballinamore WWTP Upgrades.** Include Carrigallen. **Estimate €270,000.** Upgrade works at Carrigallen has also been approved and has been added to this small bundle. 
The approved works recommended are specific and are Mechanical/ Electrical in nature for process improvement. Budgets approved Drumshanbo - €150,000, and Ballinamore – € 51,100 and Leitrim Village €6,500 
Carrigallen - € 60,000

- **Trunk Main replacement Eslin – Mohill (2.5Km) - €500,000**
The Council has completed work on the design and preparation of the Contract Documents. These documents have been submitted to Irish Water on the 29th October for the appointment of a Contractor from their Frameworks.

- **Dowra and Boley Hill Watermain Replacement.**
  *(Currently on boil water notice)*
Design and tender documents for these two watermains replacement works were completed in accordance with IW’S new specifications by LCC and were submitted to IW on 1st October, 2015. Pricing document Rev 2 sent to IW on 4th November, 2015. We had flagged these to Irish Water as extremely urgent due to boil water notice and we had hoped that it would be fast-tracked.

- **Drumsna WWTP.** Irish Water has approved an ANB for Minor Capital upgrade of Drumsna WWTP to provide for optimisation of the treatment process. The works require the construction of a balancing tank and level sensor and linked communications to main pumping station. The estimated cost is **€62,000.** Design and tender document preparation will be undertaken by CaPO and submitted to IW for procurement.

- **Bridge Street- Carrick-on-Shannon**
  Irish Water has approved the replacement of old cast iron watermains in Bridge Street, Carrick on Shannon at an estimated cost of circa **€50,000.**
The Council has prepared Pricing Documents in accordance with minor works frameworks which were submitted to IW on 19th October, 2015 for procurement of a Contractor. We await notification of appointment.

- **Other Projects recently approved under Minor Capital works**
  1. **Chlorination Boosting at Oughteraghart Reservoir.** Estimated cost: **€25,000**
     Some negotiations with IW on this. Temporary measures are in place by boosting chlorine upstream. Best tackled as part of the Disinfection Programme review for Leitrim.

  2. **ANB for Critical Failure controls and shut down required at Carrick on Shannon Water Treatment Plant** has been approved. **Estimated cost: €14,000.** Irish Water has instructed that this be procured under minor repair and maintenance framework by Operations.
3. **New Cover to the flash mixers and flocculators in Carrick on Shannon Water Treatment Plant**, Estimated cost: €50,000, has been approved under Minor Capital and Irish Water has instructed that this be procured under minor repair and maintenance framework by Operations. Tender Documentation submitted to IW for Procurement.

4. A number of ANB's have been approved at **Moneyduff Water Treatment Plant** under Minor Capital Works for Critical alarms, Sludge mixer, Auto poly make up unit, and Backwash and Scour Upgrade. IW has been advised that these works are included in the Major Capital Project for extension and upgrade of the Moneyduff WTP which will go to tender in the next few weeks with works scheduled to commence in the New Year. Our recommendation is to hold off on these minor capital works at this plant and undertake under the Main Capital works contract.

5. A project approved under Minor Capital works **"Leitrim Leak Detection works"** is held up due to IR issues.

6. An ANB for a **Turbidity Analyser at Kiltyclogher Reservoir** has been approved under minor Capital and Irish Water has advised this be procured under the Repair and Maintenance framework by Operations.

7. **Drumkeeran Lead Pipe Replacement** estimated at €8,950 is approved and are now complete.

8. Two jobs at **Kinlough / Tullaghan – Glenade Water Treatment Plant** the **upgrade of Filters and Raw Water Diversion** at a total estimated cost of €44,000 is approved and the Council will commence work on the design and contract documents in the next week or so.

9. We have been informed that **replacement of old cast Iron mains at Ballinamore and Mohill** has also recently been approved under Minor Capital Programmes and the Council await formal notification and details of requirements from IW.

### Economic Development, Planning, Environment and Transportation Directorate

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING:**

**Local Enterprise Office (LEO)**

**Training**

The last training courses of 2015 were rolled out in November and planning for the 2016 training programme has commenced.

**Online trading Vouchers**

Programme is very popular with a lot of uptake, a total of 37 vouchers approved in the 15 months since it started.

**Micro Finance Ireland**

We continue to offer access to Credit to the SME sector through Micro Finance Ireland, to date we have exceeded the 2015 targets.

**Networking**
• Meet West took place in Athlone on 18th/19th November and we gave two Leitrim Entrepreneurs the chance to attend by offering them a free ticket (LEO Funded) through a competition we ran.

• First Fridays continued in November, participants meet for a breakfast meeting the first Friday of the month with mentoring in between sessions.

• The Head of Enterprise participated in a joint western county and Ireland West Airport initiative to Rhode Island exploring tourism and business links for micro enterprises.

One to one meetings and mentoring.
Ongoing demand for mentoring time with clients, a lot of one to one meetings with clients for advice and signposting to supports were facilitated.

Student Enterprise 2015/2016
Visits have started to the secondary schools for the forthcoming Programme.

Taste Leitrim
THE Leo has assisted in submitting proposals and securing funding for this new initiative that promotes the county’s food offering and strengthen its links with tourism – launched on 7th December, 2015 in the Food Hub, Drumshanbo.

Economic Development
Carrick on Shannon Town Group
• There was a second meeting of the Carrick On Shannon Town Development Group jointly hosted by the Chamber of Commerce and the Council on 30th November, 2015.
• There were 3 meetings of their Marketing Group who achieved the following:
  o Purchase of new Christmas lights for the town – 32 pieces plus centre piece
  o Programme of events for turning on of lights on Saturday 5th December, 2015 to include Santa arriving by boat, raising of the Purple Flag, dancers and music at Quay and activities in the Market Yard.
  o Christmas Markets planned for Saturday and Sunday on two weekends with 20 stalls in the Market Yard on 12th & 13th December, 2015. Plans to have 27 stalls in The Courtyard on 19th/20th December in addition to Fun and Frills activities for children and carole singers etc.
  o Social Media Marketing of the festival named Draiocht san Aer – Nollag I gCora Droma Ruisc.
  o Marketing on local radio and in the local paper.

RDP 2014 – 2020
• Meeting held on 16th November of the Rural Development Programme Operational Sub-committee of the LCDC as part of the ongoing process, by Leitrim Development Company as implementing partner, on the preparation of the Local Development Strategy (LDS).
• An initial draft of the LDS was circulated and discussed with recommendation to put before the LCDC.

Local Community Plan and Local Economic Plan
• Final report prepared on the SEA and AA Screening based on consultation with Statutory Consultees.
• Final draft of LECP with Screening reports, recommendation on screening, draft profile and review of strategies was sent to NWRA for their December meeting.

Regional Economic Development Zones (REDZ) Manorhamilton
• Consultants appointed for Capacity Building element of project.
• 4 workshops were held in Manorhamilton on the REDZ project as follows:
Appendix 13 - 11th January 2016

- **November 2\textsuperscript{nd}** – Manor HUB
  - Introduction to the process, agreed themes to concentrate on and dates for project
- **November 11\textsuperscript{th}** – Glens Centre, Manorhamilton
  - Kenny Murtagh on Self Catering Accommodation and Packaging of Activities as well as running a Community Festival in Carrick on Shannon
  - Patsy McShane – Workspace, Draperstown on community owned enterprises and channelling profits back into the community.
- **November 17\textsuperscript{th}** – Bee Park, Manorhamilton
  - John O’ Neill on BEAM project in Donaghmore where a community theatre formed the basis of a social enterprise project which now gives employment to locals and students and is run without grant aid
  - Annamarie C’ Rourke – spoke on the achievements from the harnessing Creativity project and the range of people living in North Leitrim who are highly recognised in their creative field both nationally and beyond. Also outlined possible packaging of events and the need for good ancillary services around accommodation and food.
- **November 25\textsuperscript{th}** – The Sculpture Centre
  - Simon Wall – spoke about his role as architect with Mayo County Council and the various initiatives that had been carried out in conjunction with businesses and communities in Westport. Also outlined possible options for Manorhamilton and the use of public space for outdoor concerts.
  - Pat O’ Neill – spoke about the development of his business Powerscreen in rural Tyrone and in Kilbeggan and how spin off businesses were developed from the main business. Also spoke on the role of the community in developing an old site in Kilbeggan and the input various members of the community had through volunteering their services.
  - A study trip planned for a weekend was moved to a week day in December based on feedback from attendees. Approximately 15 – 20 people are attending from the area at each workshop and a plan for Enterprise and Employment is being prepared based on the inputs and discussions.
  - Work is progressing on each of the three enterprise projects which form the other element of the Manorhamilton REDZ – ManorHub, Organic Centre and Sculpture Centre.

**Blueway REDZ**

- Blueway REDZ – Work continued on capacity building element following with a total of 8 meetings held – two in each county with both the trade and community reps in the four counties co-ordinated by the USEFE co-ordinator with the Consultant.
- These focus groups have been used to gather information and photography for four Blueway trails.
- Significant work took place in terms of identifying signage requirements and the specification for signage for Blueway in conjunction with Waterways Ireland and Infrastructure Dept of LCC.
- Tenders were prepared and assessed in relation to the design and printing of the Trails and negotiation with Tourism Officers across the region in terms of what should be included.

**Purple Flag**

- The award was formally received in Guildford, Surrey on 4\textsuperscript{th} November, 2015 and promoted in local media.
- An event was planned as part of the Chamber of Commerce Turning on of the Lights to formally raise the Purple Flag, turn the town purple and run a campaign for a family/couple/older person to assist in raising the Flag on 5\textsuperscript{th} December, 2015.
- An event for those involved in the PF project was also planned for 5\textsuperscript{th} December, 2015.
- A Purple Flag Steering Group meeting was held on 30\textsuperscript{th} November, 2015 to recap on Data Dashboard indicators and plans for the Raising of the Flag.
Renewable Energy

- There was two further meetings of the SECURE Project team to put together an application under the Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme (NPP) Priority Axis 3 - Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy - Increased use of energy efficiency and renewable energy solutions in housing and public infrastructures in remote, sparsely populated areas.
  - The partners are: Leitrim County Council, Dublin City Council, Ernact (lead Partner), Kommunförbundet Västernorrland in Sweden, Derry City & Strabane District Council, Karelia Ammattikorkeak, oulu Oy in Finland, Ecology Action Centre in Canada and Jarðfeingi in the Faroe Islands.
  - The aim of the SECURE project is to transfer and implement innovative energy solutions for housing and public infrastructure across NPA regions with different maturity-levels.
  - The main thrust of the project application is to increase energy awareness in communities and local authorities, evidenced by the following:
    - 5 Smarter Energy Communities,
    - 15 outputs energy solutions applied which retrofit 24 houses,
    - increase efficiency by 5% in 3 buildings,
    - install alternative energy sources in 3 public infrastructures,
    - solutions from high maturity regions as services for delivery to other parts of the NPA,
    - sustainability by building up local authority expertise.
  - The expected outcome of the application is mid 2016.

Upper Shannon Erne Initiative

In addition to the REDZ Flagship the following was completed in November:

- USEFE Diaspora Group meetings took place on the 4th of Nov and the 30th of Nov in Leitrim Co. Co. offices
- The project was presented at the HLAG meeting on the 14th Nov in The Hive, Carrick On Shannon, the Steering Group meeting on the 16th of Nov in Cavan and a meeting of Roscommon LEADER Partnership in connection with Erasmus + project in relation to Food Incubators Transforming Regions.

Tourism Development

Tourism

The following actions have been undertaken throughout November 2015 to facilitate the continued promotion of the tourism offering in the County:

1) Completed filming of the Shannon Erne section of the Blueway. Footage includes cycling, walking, kayaking, canoeing, stand up paddling, angling and barge cruises as well as towns and villages along the waterway. The DVD will be used to promote the blueway on all social media channels and at various trade/consumer exhibitions.

2) The preparation of the new county tourism marketing website in continuing with content building and proofing now at an advanced stage.

3) Assistance with the Food Hub and Leitrim County Council project to develop a food trail for Leitrim which consists of digital and interactive elements under the new brand ‘Taste Leitrim’. Funded by the CEDRA programme, Taste Leitrim is the definitive guide to places to eat, food experiences and the wonderfull food and drink producers of County Leitrim. Taste Leitrim brings you a dynamic interactive mobile responsive website, featuring 5 virtual food trails, 59 video profiles and an overall directory of over 80 food and drink champions.

4) Continued presence on all Social media platforms was maintained.
The 2016 National Centenary workshop which included the announcement of Phase II Funding for 2016 grants by An Taoiseach Enda Kenny was attended and subsequently the local call for Phase II Grant Scheme for events and projects in 2016 was agreed and organised.

**Development Management**

**Carrick on Shannon/Cortober Joint Local Area Plan**
The Planning Department is continuing to work on Strategic Issues Papers which will form part of the proposed public consultation phase of the Local Area Plan project.

**Unfinished housing developments PSI and SRF**
- The Council is continuing to move forward with 3 no. developments awarded funding under the Special Resolution Fund, with outstanding works approaching substantial completion.
- Work is ongoing with Developers, Banks, Bond Companies and the DoEHLG to progress completion of unfinished estates within the County.
- 12 housing developments have been taken in charge by Leitrim County Council in the year to date.
- A workshop with the Carrick-on-Shannon Municipal District members were held in November before the Municipal District meetings.

**Pre Planning**
- The pre planning clinics continued during the month of November. The Clinic System operates on an appointment basis with the relevant Area Planner each Wednesday morning. Appointments which require pre-booking take place in Aras An Chontae, Carrick on Shannon.

**Development Management**
- 19 valid planning applications were received during November, 5 of which related to commercial development. A further 6 applications which were received and deemed invalid.
- 10 final decisions on planning applications were made during November whilst Further Information was requested in relation to 8 applications.
- Leitrim County Council also approved a Part VIII application at their November meeting which allows for the development of a Blueway (combined cycle and pedestrian trail) along the Leitrim Canal towpath between Battlebridge and Acres Lake, Drumshanbo. This development will be constructed in partnership with Waterways Ireland.

**Delivering remaining projects of the 2007-2013 Programmes**
A number of projects are currently being delivered arising from investment opportunities secured from the various funds nationally and cross border.

- **Failte Ireland – Glencar Waterfall**
  Project works at Glencar Waterfall includes upgrade works as follows:

  1. Provision of Playground
  2. Enhanced looped footpaths within waterfall site.
  3. Landscaping to enhance the visual attraction
  4. Enhanced viewing area at waterfall site with paving and railings
  5. Road surfacing and road markings
  6. Traffic Calming
  7. Disabled access car parking
  8. Sign Interpretation at site
  9. Refurbishment of Amenity Block building.
All works are now nearing completion and should be fully completed by the end of December, 2015.

- **Sean Mac Diarmada Site:**
  This Project involved the provision of Car parking at Sean Mac Diarmada site. All works are currently 90% complete. This Project will be fully completed by end of December 2015.

**ENVIRONMENT:**

**National Inspection Program (DWWTS)** – All the 2015 NIP Inspections are completed. A review is currently ongoing regards 2014 NIP where the public were notified to rectify problems with their DWWTS and given a specified timeframe to address sites that failed the test.

**RMCEI Plan** – Works are ongoing as outlined in the RMCEI 2015 Plan.

**CFRAMs – OPW and their Consultant Jacobs Engineering are working on** the development of suitable flood mitigation options regarding the management of flood risk in the Leitrim area. The Flood Risk Management Options will be subject to Public Consultation which took place within Leitrim on Thursday 19th November, 2015 at the following locations by OPW/Jacobs Engineering:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AFA</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Day and Date</th>
<th>Political Briefing</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leitrim</td>
<td>Leitrim</td>
<td>Thursday 19th November</td>
<td></td>
<td>2-7.30pm</td>
<td>St. Joseph's Community Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohill</td>
<td>Leitrim</td>
<td>Thursday 19th November</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.30-7pm</td>
<td>Mohill Family Support Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carrick on Shannon</td>
<td>Leitrim / Roscommon</td>
<td>Thursday 19th November</td>
<td>Political Briefing 1-2 for Leitrim &amp; Roscommon Council Chamber</td>
<td>2-7.30pm</td>
<td>Leitrim Co. Co. Chambers, Aras an Chontae (Contact PGM member)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dromod</td>
<td>Leitrim</td>
<td>Thursday 19th November</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.30-7pm</td>
<td>Copper Still Bar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drumshanbo</td>
<td>Leitrim</td>
<td>Thursday 19th November</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.30 – 7pm</td>
<td>Aras Padraig</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Office of Public Works (OPW) is leading the CFRAM Programme in part to meet Ireland’s obligations under the 2007 EU Floods Directive, in accordance with the European Communities “Assessment and

Draft Flood Maps are currently on Public Display as part of the Statutory Public Consultation from Friday 20th November 2015 to Wednesday 23rd December 2015 inclusive.

**ENERGY:**

A funding application was submitted to SEAI in regard to a Better Energy Community scheme for Carrick on Shannon. The application provided for works involving insulation, energy efficient heating and lighting across 44 domestic units in 4 local authority housing estates and Carrick on Shannon Fire Station along with a number proposed works in respect of a number of community buildings in Carrick on Shannon and Leitrim Village.

Leitrim County Council were successful in the application with a grant awarded to the value of €515,240.06 including Vat. The total grant assistance provided by SEAI for this 2015 “Better Energy Communities Programme” is €220,012.95 with the balance of funding coming from Leitrim County Council and the Community Project Beneficiaries. All works have now been successfully completed on this SEAI Project.

Work will commence on scoping a further project application for the 2016 Program with a particular emphasis on the community facilities within Manorhamilton town.

**ROADS:**

- **Area Programme 2015** – All works complete except for some finishes to minor schemes.
- **Letter of acceptance issued to Fox Building & Engineering Ltd for the construction contract for the N16 Cornacloy to Srardine Phase II Scheme. Project is to be completed by November 2016.**

**Rural Water Programme:**

Improvement works on the following Group Water Schemes have been approved for grant funding. Works are underway or about to commence: Cornabrone/Aghaslane, Cloonsarne, Lough Errill and Poolboy.

Discussions also continue in relation to a proposed new Group Water Scheme at Carrigeencor.

Meetings have been held with an additional 3 Group Water Schemes: Ballynamoney, Aughameeney and Killahurk Group Water Schemes and estimates prepared for each scheme. Discussions are ongoing in this regard.

**Housing and Community, Corporate Services, Culture and Emergency Services Directorate**

**HOUSING:**

**Housing Allocations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offers issued to 30th November, 2015</th>
<th>Offers accepted</th>
<th>Acceptance Rate</th>
<th>Offers refused</th>
<th>Refusal Rate</th>
<th>Awaiting Reply</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>122</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**New Tenancies created from 1st January 2015 to 30th November, 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Existing tenants transferred to alternative accommodation to 30th November, 2015</th>
<th>New Tenants (1st time allocation)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Traveller Accommodation Programme Targets – Progress Report at 30th November, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accommodation Type</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>Outputs achieved at 30th November, 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group Housing Scheme – Existing</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Block - Existing</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Authority Standard Housing</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental Accommodation Scheme</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(incl. renewals)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Term Leasing (incl. renewals)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing Assistance Payment (incl. new family formations)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

18 Outputs have been achieved at 30th November, 2015 and this exceeds the target by 6 and represents an Output percentage of 150%.

Private Rented Inspection Programme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall target for delivery in 2015</th>
<th>No of inspections completed to 30th November, 2015</th>
<th>% Complete</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>158%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Energy Retrofitting Programme

Our Submission to the Department in February 2015 identified 342 number Housing Units remaining to be completed under Phase 1 Energy Efficiency Upgrade Works, with an estimated total associated cost of approximately €440,000. On June 3rd 2015 we have been officially notified that funding of €260,000 will be made available for Phase I of the Energy Retrofitting Programme for 2015. Works on 211 houses have been completed to date including Ross Manorhamilton which is in addition to the target. Snag lists have been detailed and completed and BER’s are being finalised out also on all these properties. Claims have been processed by the Department.

A further 41 housing stock had these energy works completed under the SEAI better energy programme as detailed below.

Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) Better Energy Communities Area Based Scheme

An Application for Grant aid was submitted to the SEAI for a proposed Better Energy Community Scheme project in Carrick on Shannon. On 12th June the Council received confirmation that a grant of €142,261 (42%) would be allocated toward works totalling €337,833 on 41 Council stock houses in Carrick-On-Shannon. These are spread between Autumn View, Cara Court, Ath na Rí and Oak Drive estates. These units are all included in the 342 units identified as requiring Phase 1 Energy Efficiency Upgrade Works. This Funding Application, which is being co-ordinated by the Environment Department, also includes public lighting upgrades and works to a number of public/community buildings including an allocation for Carrick-On-Shannon Fire Station / HQ to facilitate energy efficiency works. All 6 contracts in respect of Council
Housing stock and 3 for Carrick Fire Station have been completed at end of November other than minor snagging.

In total this means that 252 Local Authority Houses will have had significant energy efficiency works carried out in 2015 leading to better quality efficient houses across approx 85% of Leitrim County Councils housing stock. It is hoped the remaining 15% approx will be completed in 2016 under similar programmes.

Voids Programme 2015
Leitrim County Council submitted a prioritised listing of 13 No. units, to the Department for funding under the Voids Programme in 2015. During the course of the year the Council has secured funding allocation of €223,000 for works on nine number housing units under the Voids Program 2015. Six of these houses are in Carrick on Shannon and one in Dromahair. Works are substantially completed as of 30th November. A further 2 houses in Killargue have also been advanced and improved under this programme with completion by December. Contracts for 4 houses in the Mohill were advertised for tender on the voids framework but no response was received. These are to be re-advertised in December. A further 6 houses for the Mohill area and 5 houses in Carrick-on-Shannon will also be advertised in December under two separate contracts as part of an proactive programme in Leitrim County Council to return vacant houses to useable stock.

Disability Works in Council Houses
Adaptation Works (Disability related) are carried out to our housing stock where necessary in order to render the dwelling more suitable to the particular needs of the Tenant, with typical works including, depending on the individual circumstances, installation of level access shower, installation of rails in bathrooms, installation of ramp access to front/back doors, installation of oil heating systems or storage heating and associated works.

Our 2015 Funding Allocation in respect of Adaptation Works required to Council Housing Stock is €59,130 - This constitutes 90% of the value of works, this translates to an actual allocation of €65,700 for these works for the current year.

To date 12 number grant applications have been processed and approved to proceed. The following is the position with these:

- 2 number of these have been completed in Kilboderry, Carrick on Shannon and Hillside Crescent, Manorhamilton;

- 5 number in Bredagh, Carraigallen; Breffni Crescent Carrick on Shannon; Cappagh, Mohill; Dristernan, Drumshanbo; Naomh Padraig, Drumshanbo are completed at end of November.

- A stair Lift has been installed in Breffni Crescent following tendering and appointment of a Contractor.

- At Treanmore, Mohill, disability works was completed on a unit by Council staff.

- At Melvin Court, Kinlough a unit requires a level access shower and this is being progressed.

- An extension has to be constructed to a unit at Drumlease, Dromahair. Contractor is on-site progressing works.

- Bathroom Adaptations at a Unit in Shannonside View, Carrick on Shannon were completed by Council Staff.
As the above projects did not utilise the full allocation, in this regard an additional 5 units were identified for works to maximise the funding stream under the current programme. Houses to be addressed as follows:

- A unit at Hyde Terrace requiring hand rails
- A unit at Breffni Crescent to be fitted with ramps, handrails and bathroom adaptations
- A unit at Shannonside view requiring bathroom adaptations and other minor works
- A unit at Oak Drive Carrick-on-Shannon bathroom adaptations
- A unit at Gurteen, Glencar requires concrete ramps.

These works have been tendered and a contractor will be appointed in December.

**Acquisitions**
The Council is currently in negotiations for the purchase of a number of additional family type houses in Carrick-On-Shannon. These purchases are being progressed and it is expected they will be completed before year end.

**Community:**

**Public Participation Network**
- A dedicated development and support officer commenced work at the beginning of the month.
- Several meetings of the secretariat took place and the process of developing a work plan for the forthcoming year began.
- Briefs issued for the engagement of a PR consultant and the procurement of PPN promotional materials.
- The secretariat attended a regional meeting organised by Social Justice Ireland and also involved LCDC representatives in a two day training course.

**Age Friendly County**
Discussions about carrying out a walkability audit in Manorhamilton have taken place with Age Friendly Ireland. It is hoped to do this in the next month or so.

**Comhairle na nOg**
- The Annual General Meeting of Comhairle na nOg Liatroma was held in the Bush Hotel on 3rd November, 2015. Over 100 representatives from all schools in the county attended and 7 Elected Members also attended.
- The annual Dáil na nOg took place in Croke Park. All 31 Comhairle were present, 4 members from Drumkeerin and Manorhamilton attended on behalf of the Leitrim Comhairle na nOg. The event focused on positive mental health and it was attended by Minister James Reilly and Minister Jan O’Sullivan.

**Playgrounds**
- The refurbishment of the playground at Aura, Carrick on Shannon was completed. A new roundabout that is completely wheelchair accessible was installed and the safety surface was replaced.

**Play and Recreation Policy**
- An initial draft of Leitrim County Council policy on Play and Recreation was prepared and discussed at an SPC meeting. This will go to consultation before February, when it is hoped to adopt it.

**Pride of Place**
- The Pride of place awards event was held in Ennis on 14 November. There were three entries from Leitrim:
  - Mohill Age Friendly Town in the Age Friendly Community Initiative
Cloone in communities under 300 population
Manorhamilton in communities between 1,000 and 2,000 population.

Both Cloone and Manorhamilton were runners up in their categories and these achievements were celebrated by an attendance of 19 representatives from the three communities and the council.

Inter Agency Traveller Services Group
A meeting took place of the IATSG at which the plan to 2017 was agreed with the exception of Traveller representation on the group. Geographic and gender balance is being sought and the issue is expected to be settled shortly.

Leitrim Sports Partnership
LSP Sports Star Awards 2015
The purpose of the Leitrim Sports Star Awards is to acknowledge Individuals, Sports Clubs, Teams, Schools and Community Volunteers for their outstanding contributions and achievements to sport and recreation in Leitrim for 2015. The Sport Star Awards Night was held in Lough Rynn Castle Hotel, Mohill on Saturday 28th November, 2015 with guest of honour John o Mahoney former Leitrim, Galway and Mayo senior GAA manager.

Code of Ethics Workshops
Leitrim Sports Partnership held 1 Code of Ethics course in November in Carrick on Shannon with 11 participants involved and participants from the community coaching programme.

Men on the Move Programme
This 8 week programme is designed for men over 35 years of age who were physically inactive. The participants meet twice weekly and engage in physical activity programme, which also includes, health checks, fitness testing and nutrition workshops. We have recently started a programme in Drumreilly Community Centre with 14 men participating on the programme, ranging in ages from 40 years to 70 years of age.

Be Active Training Day
We held two training days for teachers and parents in Drumlease N.S. Dromhair in North Leitrim on Tuesday 3rd November and in Fatima N.S. Cloone on Thursday 12th November, 2015. We had 11 teachers from 4 schools in Drumlease and 6 teachers from 2 Schools in Cloone National School.

Go For Life Pals Training Day (Physical Activity Leaders)
Go for Life is the national programme for sport and physical activity for older people. The programme is delivered by volunteers who we call PALS. A PAL is a Physical Activity Leader who is already part of a group or club and is willing to lead activities. PALS lead their local group in things like short exercise routines, fun games, simple dances and sports like pitch and toss. In partnership with the HSE we have completed two Pals workshops in Leitrim Village in November with 28 group leaders participating.

Leitrim Down Syndrome Group - Cycling programme
This programme was about giving children and teenage boys/girls from Leitrim’s Down syndrome group opportunity to learn how to cycle independently or with the support of a guide to assist them as they learn to cycle. This programme was delivered in Leitrim Village community facility and it was a great success with 8 participants benefiting from the programme.

Couch to 5k Programme
In partnership with the County Athletics board and in particular with Drumshanbo A.C. and North Leitrim A.C. we organised an 8 week couch to 5k programme with both clubs. The clubs designed and delivered the programme with the new participants, both programmes where success with majority of the
participants becoming active members of each club at the conclusion of the programme. Drumshanbo A.C. had 14 new participants and North Leitrim A.C. had 16 new participants on the programme.

The Arts

Creative Frame- In partnership with Leitrim Local Enterprise Office, Anna-Marie O'Rourke has begun to develop the Creative Frame programme – a user driven continuous professional development network designed to facilitate the ongoing training and development requirements of practitioners in the creative sector in Leitrim and the wider region.

Creative Space Scheme- Details of the scheme to provide for temporary occupancy of vacant retail units in the County have been drawn up and potential properties are in the process of being identified.

Spark –Leo Scarff has been selected to work with Mohill Enterprise Centre for the Spark programme.

Artist Bursary Scheme – Applications opened for the 2016 Individual Artist Bursary Scheme and 34 applications have been received.

Artists in Schools – 4 Artists have now commenced their work with schools

Artist in the Community – 4 Artists are currently working with community groups.

Drumshanbo Artist Studios – Artist Kate Wilson and writer Gerry Boland have commenced their Residencies

Leitrim Equation 4 – Planning has begun for concerts in Dublin and Carrick on Shannon for 2016

Youth Theatre- Autumn/winter term has started for 5 existing Youth Theatre groups in Manchrhamilton, Carrick on Shannon and Carrigallen with a new junior group starting in Manorhamilton.

Library Service:

Event Programming
A full programme of activities took place in all branches across the county, including regular I.T. classes, Craft and Hobby Group Meetings, Film Screenings, Citizen Information Mobile Clinic in Mohill Library, Reading Groups and Creative Writing Workshops. Comhrá lessons commenced in Kinlough Library during November and will continue on a weekly basis. Other Outreach Activities included a library promotional talk in Manorhamilton Library to members of the local “Men’s Group”.

Highlights include
Carrick-on-Shannon Library hosted:
- A reading by award-winning author Dolores Walshe.

Ballinamore Library presented:
- *March Away My Brothers-Irish Soldiers and their music in the Great War*
- Music for All Ages – a free Concert with RTÉ Lyric FM String Quartet
- *Nurturing Happiness and Contentment* – a lecture by GROW patron, and former Governor of Mountjoy Prison, John Lonergan, with an attendance of 91.
- Presentation by historian Gerard MacAtasney on Seán Mac Diarmada

Science Week 2015 - 9th to 14th November, 2015
Manorhamilton and Drumshanbo Libraries invited classes from local primary and secondary schools to attend Science Road shows.
Appendix 13- 11th January 2016

Library Ireland Week 2015 - 16th to 21st November, 2015.
Specific events for Library Ireland Week included:

- **Carrick-on-Shannon Library**: Irish Broadcaster & Writer Cathal Póirtéir delivered a bilingual presentation on *Folklore of the Famine*. This event received support from Foras na Gaeilge.
- **Mohill Library** was transformed for a very special Storytime in Narnia session, with a reading from *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, followed by a magical picnic.

Libraries supporting College Awareness Week - 2nd to 28th November, 2015.
Kiltyclogher Library marked the week with a visit by local schoolchildren, who explained what they'd like to be when they grow up, and exploring the many resources on display.

Class Visits
Schedule of class visits by local primary and secondary schools continued in Branch Libraries across the county.

**Storytelling for Pre-Schoolers**
Storytelling for Toddlers continued in Carrick-on-Shannon throughout November.

**Local Studies Department**
A group of history students with their lecturer from St Angela’s College were given a presentation on the Local Studies Department, its facilities and resources.

**Fire Service**
A total of 1 Commencement Notice (valid), 2 Disabled Access Certificates and 3 Fire Safety Certificates, were received in November, 2015.

**Capital funding Fire Appliances**
Leitrim County Council is part of a joint procurement tender for 5 new Class B fire appliances with a number of other adjacent fire authorities. The tenders have been evaluated and a recommendation for a preferred supplier is being prepared to submit to the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government. Meeting held in Sligo to review recommended tender.

**Major Emergency Management**

**Cross Border Emergency Management**
A meeting of the Cross Border Emergency Management Group was held in the Council Chamber, Carrick-on-Shannon on 16th November, 2015.

**Traveller Accommodation Fire Safety**
We received a Circular Letter from the National Directorate requesting that a programme to improve fire safety standards at all designated Traveller Accommodation in the county be implemented. A Local Steering Group has been established and an initial meeting was held. Further guidance is awaited from the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government.

**Health and Safety**
Further pre fire planning inspections carried out on a number of premises in the county.
Civil Defence

- On 7th November, 2015 - Volunteers attended an Avian Influenza Occupational Health Workshop hosted by the Department of Agriculture in Sligo. Civil Defence is tasked with assisting the Department of Agriculture with recovering birds from our waterways in the event of a suspected Avian Influenza outbreak. This training takes place on an annual basis.
- On 28th November, 2015 - Civil Defence were requested by the Gardai to assist in a missing person search in the Carrigallen area. Volunteers responded but were stood down following a successful outcome to the search.
- On 29th November, 2015 - Civil Defence participated in a National Radiation monitoring exercise. Samples of grass and soil were taken and background radiation readings recorded by Volunteers. The samples and radiation readings information were transported to the Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland in Dublin.

Signed: ____________________________
Frank Curran
Chief Executive

Date: 11th December, 2015
Congress
Charter for
Fair Conditions at Work
Congress Charter for Fair Conditions at Work

Decent working conditions and a fair income – at work and in retirement - are essential components of any civilised society, along with the provision of high quality public services that meet all the citizen’s needs. The Congress Charter sets out the key elements required to make Ireland the best place in which to work, live and raise a family. A strong economy cannot exist without a fair society.

A Living Wage

A living wage affords an individual sufficient income to achieve an agreed, acceptable minimum standard of living, taking account of the need for food, clothing, heating, accommodation, transport and other essential costs. Currently, it is estimated that in order to earn a living income from full-time work - taking account of taxes and welfare - it would be necessary for a single adult to earn at least €11.50 per hour. See http://bit.ly/livingwageireland

Fair Hours of Work

Every worker has the right to a regular contract of employment which provides security of hours and certainty of income. There must be an end to low and zero hour contracts and precarious work practices. See http://bit.ly/fairhours
Right to Representation & Collective Bargaining

Every worker has the right to be represented without fear of victimisation and to have a union represent them in collective bargaining negotiations with their employer. This right is recognised by the United Nations as a fundamental human right. The European Convention on Human Rights also recognises the right of workers to be represented and to engage in collective bargaining. Ireland has no legal framework which supports workers seeking to assert these rights. See http://bit.ly/unionrights

Respect, Equality & Ethics at Work

Every worker is entitled to be treated with respect and dignity, as they go about their work. No one at work should be subjected to bullying or any other form of abusive behaviour. To ensure this right is vindicated, a national Charter of Workplace Ethics must be developed and put in place. http://bit.ly/ethicalworkplace

Fair Public Procurement

Every worker employed under a publicly-tendered contract is entitled to enjoy all the rights and protections outlined in this Charter. http://bit.ly/publicprocure
I Support Decency at Work.
A Living Wage.
Fair Employment Conditions.

STRONGER TOGETHER
CONGRESS
Irish Congress of Trade Unions
Congress Charter for Fair Conditions at Work

About the Charter
By pledging your support for the Congress Charter you are helping to establish decent standards of pay and employment for all, thereby ensuring we can build a strong economy and a fair society for every citizen.

www.ictu.ie/congresscharter

Irish Congress of Trade Unions
32 Parnell Square
Dublin 1
Decency at Work Pledge

I formally pledge to support the Congress campaign to achieve:
- A Living Wage of €11.50 per hour
- Fair Employment Conditions as set out in the Congress Charter

Signed ______________________