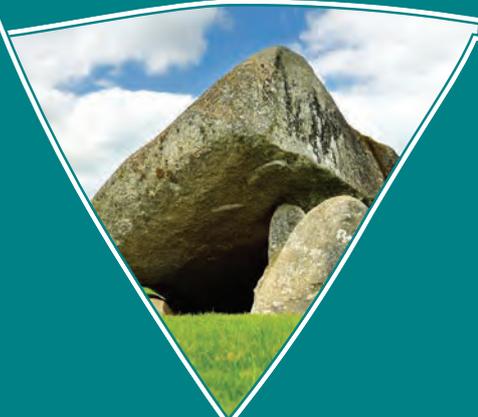


Annual Report 2021



COMHAIRLE CONTAE
CHEATHARLACH
CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Mission Statement

Our Mission is to provide a quality local government service for the people of County Carlow, through the protection and enhancement of the environment and improvement in the quality of life.



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Joint Foreword



Carlow is a progressive, vibrant County which is attractive, inclusive and accessible. Carlow County Council (CCC) is committed to providing the highest quality public services for local residents, visitors and for new and existing companies. Creating an environment for economic growth and excellent quality of life for all is a priority for this Council.

We are pleased to introduce the Carlow County Council Annual Report 2021, which outlines the work of the Council in delivering important public services during the year, all of which contribute to making County Carlow an attractive place in which to work, live, visit and do business. 2021 saw the continuation of the coronavirus pandemic across world, which had an ongoing effect of the delivery of Council Services.

The Council wishes to thank all the community, voluntary and sporting groups for all their participation in the covid community response effort. We also wish to thank all of the staff who participated and those who continued to provide essential services while their colleagues supported the community response teams. The impact of the pandemic caused significant immediate changes to work practices for staff, elected members and customers in that working from home became the norm rather than the exception with many services migrated online.

Council meetings also moved to a hybrid model, while some meetings moved entirely online. We wish to thank staff, elected members and the public for their adaptability in moving to new ways of working and delivering to our customers and constituents.

The Council developed a business continuity plan for the covid response and is followed this plan which was adapted and revised as updates were received from Government. Our staff, with the support and leadership of the management team and elected members, continued to maintain and deliver quality

services as referenced in our Corporate Plan, to all our customers.

As we move from 2021 into 2022, we look forward to continuing to deliver the Council's Services, efficiently and effectively to all our customers. 2022 will also see an accelerated focus on climate change and active travel initiatives in addition to the Council's regular services and supports to individuals, businesses and communities.



Fintan Phelan
Cathaoirleach



Kathleen Holohan
Chief Executive

About Our Council



The County of Carlow (Contae Cheatharlach) is located inland within the South East of Ireland in the province of Leinster covering an area of 896 square kilometres. The County is strategically located and has excellent access to transport infrastructure through its location on the M9 Dublin Waterford motorway, the Dublin Waterford main rail line and the N80 national road linking Rosslare Europort to the Midlands.

The population of County Carlow recorded in the 2016 census was 56,932. The county town of Carlow is located in the northwest of the County along the border with County Laois.

Carlow Town (including Graiguecullen) had a population of 24,274 recorded in the 2016 census making it the thirteenth largest urban centre in the state.

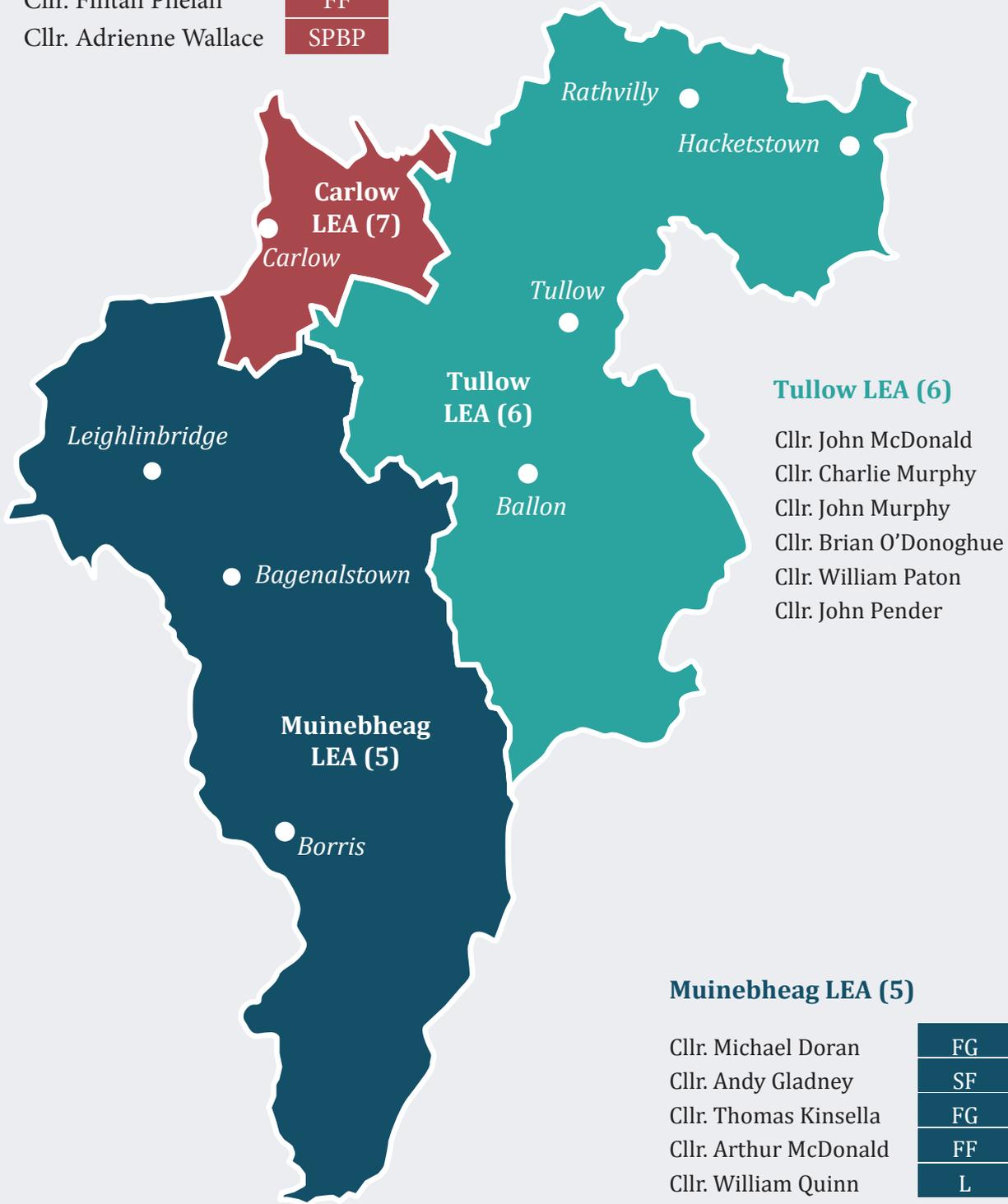
The Council is made up of 18 elected members within 3 municipal districts (Carlow, Tullow and Muinebheag). With the Cathaoirleach elected by the members annually.

Along with the Corporate Policy Group, 4 Strategic Policy Committees developed and recommend policy to the Council. Committees are made up of elected members and representatives designated external sectoral interests.



Carlow LEA (7)

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| Cllr. Fergal Browne | FG |
| Cllr. John Cassin | No Party |
| Cllr. Andrea Dalton | FF |
| Cllr Ken Murnane | FF |
| Cllr. Tom O'Neill | FG |
| Cllr. Fintan Phelan | FF |
| Cllr. Adrienne Wallace | SPBP |



Tullow LEA (6)

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| Cllr. John McDonald | FF |
| Cllr. Charlie Murphy | No Party |
| Cllr. John Murphy | FG |
| Cllr. Brian O'Donoghue | FG |
| Cllr. William Paton | L |
| Cllr. John Pender | FF |

Muinebheag LEA (5)

| | |
|-----------------------|----|
| Cllr. Michael Doran | FG |
| Cllr. Andy Gladney | SF |
| Cllr. Thomas Kinsella | FG |
| Cllr. Arthur McDonald | FF |
| Cllr. William Quinn | L |

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF CARLOW



Cllr. Fergal Browne



Cllr. John Cassin



Cllr. Andrea Dalton



Cllr. Ken Murnane



Cllr. Tom O'Neill



Cllr. Fintan Phelan



Cllr. Adrienne Wallace



Cllr. John McDonald



Cllr. Charlie Murphy



Cllr. John Murphy

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF TULLOW



Cllr. Brian O'Donoghue



Cllr. William Paton



Cllr. John Pender

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF MUINEBHEAG



Cllr. Michael Doran



Cllr. Andy Gladney



Cllr. Thomas Kinsella



Cllr. Arthur McDonald

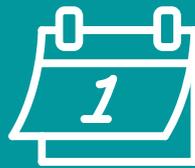


Cllr. William Quinn

Council Meetings 2021



13 Plenary Council



Annual Meeting



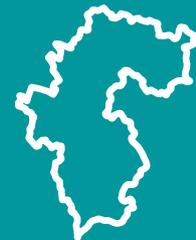
2 Special Council Meeting



5 Audit Committee



12 Municipal District of Carlow



13 Municipal District of Tullow



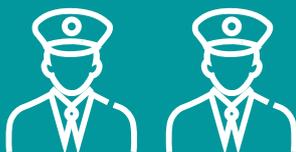
10 Municipal District of Muinebheag



16 Strategic Policy Committees (SPC)



11 Corporate Policy Group



3 Joint Policing Committee



5 Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee

Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs)



The purpose of Strategic Policy Committees (SPC) is to formulate, develop, monitor and review policies which relate to the functions of Carlow County Council and to advise the Council accordingly.

Carlow County Council operates 4 SPC each served by a Director of Service. The Chairs of the SPC's are selected by the Council at the AGM.

Housing, Community and Wellbeing SPC



Chaired by:

Cllr. Arthur McDonald

Council Members:

Cllr. Willie Quinn, Cllr. John Cassin, Cllr. Andrea Dalton, Cllr. Tom O'Neill, Cllr. Ken Murnane.

External Members:

Eileen Brophy, Joe Butler, John McHugh and Ahmed Adam.

The SPC met four times in 2021, the following is a summary of the Issues discussed.

- Disposal of Council Owned Private Sites Draft Policy
- Incremental Purchase Scheme 2021 – 2025
- Draft Allocation Scheme 2021 - 2025
- Draft Anti-Social Behavior Strategy 2021 – 2025
- Outdoor Recreation Strategy/ORIS – Determination of Future Projects
- Carlow County Council Control of Horses - Draft Byelaws 2021
- Accommodation Rightsizing Report
- Outdoor Recreation Strategy/ORIS
- Pathway to Addressing Vacancy and Efficient Use of Existing Stock
- Supporting the Four Pathways: Enabling a Sustainable Housing System
- Anti-Social Behavior
- Rent Review 2022

Transportation & Infrastructure Strategic Policy Committee



Chaired by:

Cllr. Willie Quinn (Jan – May)
Cllr. Andy Gladney (June – Dec)

Council Members:

Cllr Brian O'Donoghue, Cllr Michael Doran, Cllr. John McDonald, Cllr Ken Murnane

External Members:

Rowena Dooley, Chambers Ireland,
John Brophy, Chambers Ireland,
Jackie Meally, Community/Voluntary,
John Tully, Environment/Conservation

The SPC met four times in 2021, the following is a summary of the Issues discussed.

- Carlow Southern Inner Relief Road – Update on Strategic Analysis Report
- Street Furniture Licence for Covid – 2021
- Carlow PPN Update
- National Broadband Plan
- Draft policy on the use of Drones
- Active Travel Allocations 2021
- Carlow Co. Fire & Rescue Service Fire & Emergency Operations S26 Plan
- Draft Policy on use of Dash-Cams
- Public Lighting – ESB Live Working Policy
- Decarbonisation Zone
- EV Charging Infrastructure
- Project Carlow 2040, Carlow Town Bus Service
- Council Transportation and Infrastructure Policies Review

Planning, Environment, Climate and Bio-Diversity Action and Agriculture SPC



Chaired by:

Cllr. Thomas Kinsella

Council Members:

Cllr. Fergal Browne, Cllr. Charlie Murphy, Cllr. Brian O'Donoghue, Cllr. William Paton, Cllr. Fintan Phelan, Cllr. Adrienne Wallace.

External Members:

Liam Kelly, Brian O'Farrell, Liam O'Brien (PPN) Matthew English-Hayden (PPN) George Collier (Agriculture Farming IFA)

The SPC met four times in 2021, the following is a summary of the Issues discussed.

- Draft Litter Management Plan 2021 – 2023
- Climate Change
- Burial Ground Byelaws
- Review of the Carlow County Development Plan 2015-2021
- Climate Change Adaptation Strategy Annual Update and Proposed Next Steps
- Carlow County Council Biodiversity Plan
- Carlow County Council's Draft Ecological Assessment Procedure
- Update on Climate Action
- Decarbonisation Zone
- Carlow County Council's Sustainable Drainage (SuDS) Policy
- Flood Risk Assessment Advisory Note

Culture, Libraries and Digital Development, Tourism, Enterprise and Economic Development SPC



Chaired by:

Cllr. John Murphy

Council Members:

Cllr. Andrea Dalton, Cllr. Michael Doran, Cllr. John McDonald, Cllr. Tom. O'Neill, Cllr. John Pender

External Members:

Brian O'Farrell, Business/Commercial Sectoral Rep, Eileen O'Rourke, Community/Voluntary Sectoral

The SPC met four times in 2021, the following is a summary of the Issues discussed.

- Training & Business Development Programme Needs Analysis 2021-2023
- InCarlow - Economic Development & Business Support Strategy
- InCarlow - Tourism & Heritage Plan for St. Mullins
- Digital Development/Strategy
- Carlow Heritage and Biodiversity Plan 2022-2027
- Robert Hartpole Project Report
- An Fraughan, Drummin Bog Project
- Older Persons Projects
- Local Economic & Community Plan
- St. Mullins Tourism & Heritage Strategy
- Presentation on the Local Enterprise Office Development Plan 2021 – 2024
- Village Led Design Statement – Hacketstown
- Carlow: A Literacy Friendly County – A project overview

Joint Policing Committee



The Garda Síochána Act 2005 (Section 36) provides for the establishment of a joint policing committee (JPC) in each local authority. The purpose of these committees is to provide a forum where a local authority and the senior Garda Officers responsible for policing that area can consult, discuss and make recommendations on matters of policing for that area.

Chairperson:

Cllr. Michael Doran

Council Members:

Cllr. Fergal Browne, Cllr. John Cassin, Cllr. Andrea Dalton, Cllr. Arthur McDonald, Cllr. John McDonald, Cllr. Ken Murnane, Cllr. John Murphy, Cllr. Brian O' Donoghue, Cllr. Tom O' Neill, Cllr. William Paton, Cllr. John Pender, Cllr. Fintan Phelan.

Oireachtas Members:

Malcom Noonan TD, Jennifer Murnane O Connor TD

Executive Members:

Kathleen Holohan, Chief Executive, Michael Rainey, Director of Services Planning, Economic Development and Corporate

PPN Community Representatives:

Martin Tuite, Michael Nolan and Caroline Dargan

Garda Representatives:

Chief Superintendent Padraig Dunne, Waterford, Superintendent Aidan Brennan, Carlow

Other Community Representatives:

John Brophy, Chamber of Commerce, Anton Scheele, Carlow Women's Aid, An Garda Síochána



Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)



The LCDC consists of 19 members both statutory and non-statutory including four elected members. 12 LCDC meetings were held in 2021.

| Statutory Interests | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Cllr. Andrea Dalton | Elected Member |
| Cllr. Thomas Kinsella | Elected Member |
| Cllr. Tom O'Neill | Elected Member |
| Cllr. Willie Quinn | Elected Member |
| Kathleen Holohan | Chief Executive, CCC |
| Kieran Comerford | Head of Enterprise, CCC |
| Noel Barry | Department of Employment Affairs & Social Protection |
| Sarah Barron | Kilkenny/Carlow Education & Training Board Health Service Executive |
| Joan-Ita Murphy | Health Service Executive |
| Non-Statutory Interests | |
| Liam O'Brien | Bagenalstown Improvement Group (Community and Voluntary PPN Representative) |
| Padraig Dooley | Carlow Historical & Archaeological Society (Community and Voluntary PPN Representative) |
| Ann Shortall | Bagenalstown Family Resource Centre (Social Inclusion PPN Representative) |
| John Murphy | BEAM, Bagenalstown (Social Inclusion PPN Representative) |
| Molly Aylesbury | Carlow Environmental Network (Environmental College PPN Representative) |
| Annette Fox | Carlow County Development Partnership CLG |
| Rowena Dooley | Carlow Chamber (Business Employer) |
| George Hatton | Agricultural/Farming |
| Eilish Langton | Arts & Culture - Civic Society |
| Eileen O'Rourke | Carlow Tourism |

The position of Vice Chair was filled and 5 replacements in January 2021 were secured with approval of the CPG, Council and the LCDC.

They are as follows:

Vice Chair: Sara Barron (Statutory (KCETB), Social Economic and Community Interests: George Hatton (Agriculture) and Rowena Dooley (Employer), Local & Community Development: Liam O'Brien (PPN Community & Voluntary), Padraig Dooley (PPN Community & Voluntary) and Molly Aylesbury (Environmental PPN Rep)

While there was still the ongoing situation with the pandemic, the LCDC/LAG seamlessly worked and met using digital technology. In some instances, LCDC and LAG meetings were held on different dates to facilitate the deadlines for the LEADER programme and/or the SICAP programme. 10 LCDC and 9 LAG Meetings were held in 2021.

Corporate Affairs



5

No. Subject
Access Request

90

No. of Freedom
of Information
applications
received



27

No. staff were
trained as
Covid-19
Compliance
Officers

44,440

No. of Electors
registered to
vote



Corporate Affairs provides an effective and efficient support service to An Cathaoirleach, the Elected Members and Senior Management. It is also responsible for the provision and management of a wide range of services which include Communications, Customer Service, preparation of the Council's statutory reports, Register of Electors, Data Protection, Freedom of Information and a wide variety of ancillary services relating to the business of the Council.

- Management of Council and Corporate Policy Group Meetings, Attendance of Councillors at Conferences,
- Payment of Councillors Allowances and Expenses, Civic Receptions, Linkage with National Bodies such as LAMA and ACCC, and Joint Policing Committees.
- Register of Electors
- Local Elections
- Customer Service
- Corporate Communications – Press Releases
- Co-Ordination of Customer Service Performance Indicators
- Coroners Court
- Management of Council Property
- Ethics Register
- Preparation of Annual Report and The Corporate Plan
- Freedom of Information
- Ombudsman
- Data Protection
- Public Relations
- Irish Language Scheme
- Disability Plan
- Schools Business Programme Partnership
- Service Indicators co-ordination.
- Promotion of new Council initiatives such as Fix My Street and MapAlerter
- Major Emergency Management – Communications. Liaison with public, media and Councillors including during severe weather conditions.



Are you Registered to Vote

Register of Electors

The Council is responsible for the compilation of the Register of Electors for the County Carlow. The Register of Electors is produced annually and the Register of Electors for the period 2021/2022 issued on the 15th of February 2021. The total number of electors registered to vote in 2021 was 44,117 (Carlow Local Electoral Area 16,425, Tullow Local Electoral Area 14,652 and Muinebheag Local Electoral Area).

Corporate Property

The Corporate Affairs Section is responsible for all Corporate Property (Except Social Housing and Roads) and the maintenance and upkeep of same. It is also responsible for leases of property to and from other parties.

Business in the Community Ireland (BITCI)

Carlow County Council have been involved for several years now with the BITCI skills @ Work Programme in partnership with Tyndall College. This program encourages school completion and gives the student the opportunity to consider the many and varied career and study options open to them when they finish school. Students gain insights into the working role of Carlow County Council within their community, and they see first hand potential career paths that can be open to them.

The students did not miss out in 2021 as the CCC delivered this programme online. The students attended a number of online talks on the services, roles and responsibilities of local government, 'a day in the life' talk where CCC staff gave an insight into various careers within local government, followed by a remote visit to the Council Chamber. The final phase of the programme involved Corporate Affairs delivering CV and interview preparation advice to the students followed by mock interviews and delivering feedback by Corporate Staff.

The annual assessments of the scheme have been very positive over the last number of years.

Data Protection

Carlow County Council processes all personal information in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation 2016 and the Data Protection Acts, 1988 to 2018. The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) applies from 25th May 2018. It has general application to the processing of personal data in the EU, setting out more extensive obligations on data controllers and processors, and providing strengthened protections and rights for data subjects. The Data Protection Officer (DPO) has actively engaged with sections in carrying out Data Privacy Impact Assessments and addressing any risks identified. Training continues to be rolled out to staff, and various policy documents have been developed including department Privacy Statements, Data Protection Breach Management Policy, Clean Desk Policy.

Human Rights

Section 42 of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Act 2014 places the Duty in the context of strategic planning. Requiring public bodies to have regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity, and protect the human rights of staff and service users. Carlow County Council takes a leadership role in social inclusion, equality, human rights and universal accessibility.

Freedom of Information

The Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2014 gives legal rights to those seeking access to information held by public bodies covered by the Act.

The following is the breakdown of decisions made on these requests.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Applications Received | 67 |
| Requests Granted | 31 |
| Requests Refused | 23 |
| Requests Part-Granted | 10 |
| Requests Withdrawn | 2 |
| Carried Over 2022 | 21 |
| Internal Reviews | 3 |
| Appeals to Information Commissioner | 1 |
| Journalists | 36 |
| Business/Interest Groups | 8 |
| Oireachtas/Public Members | 2 |
| Staff | 2 |
| Clients | 19 |
| Other | 0 |

Ombudsman

The Office of the Ombudsman was established under the Ombudsman Act 1980, to examine complaints from members of the public who feel they have been unfairly treated in their dealings with state bodies including Local Authorities.

Carlow County Council received 7 complaints in 2021.

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Closed Cases | 3 |
| Open Cases | 4 |
| Total Cases | 7 |

Records Management and Archives

Corporate Affairs is responsible for the implementation of the National Retention Policy for Local Authority Records, and for development of the County Archives Service. In 2021 CCC procured a new Archives Centre to ensure that records are documented and archived correctly. The Centre is located in a unit on O'Brien Road in Carlow Town.

Council Meetings

Carlow County Council has **18** Elected Members which represent **3** municipal districts of Carlow, Tullow and Muinebheag. Corporate Affairs manages CCC Council Meetings, Carlow Municipal District Meetings, Corporate Policy Group meetings and Deputation. In 2021 due to Covid, CCC meetings moved to a hybrid model or fully remote in order to ensure continuity.

Chief Executive Monthly Progress Report to Council

The Chief Executive prepares a report on the performance of each directorate/section during the month following the previous monthly report. This report is an agenda item at every monthly Council meeting and questions are taken from members on any aspect of the report. This report also serves as a mechanism through which members have oversight of the progress on the implementation of the Corporate Plan. A copy of the Chief Executive's monthly report is also forwarded to the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government each month.



Carlow County Council is committed to managing and conducting its work activities in such a way as to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the safety, health, and welfare at work of its employees and others who may be affected by its business activities.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Carlow County Council continued throughout 2021 to implement an effective COVID-19 management system across the organisation in accordance with public health, government, and local authority sector advice and recommendations.

The prevention of accidents in the workplace is of utmost importance. Accidents/Incidents are investigated to determine the root cause and prevent reoccurrence. During 2021, 9 work related accidents and 2 near misses involving Council staff were recorded.

Carlow County Council is committed to promoting a safety culture, giving staff new skills and knowledge, and developing good

safety procedures on the job. 20 health and safety training courses were held in compliance with Covid-19 requirements. Carlow County Council continued with its workplace safety inspection programme during 2021 as a tool to monitor and maintain health and safety standards. Inspections are carried out on an ongoing basis and require effort and commitment by all staff across the organisation. The reward for this effort is continuous improvement of safety standards and no serious accidents.

Carlow Fire Service received an external surveillance audit of their Occupational Health and Safety Management System to ISO 45001 standard during December 2021.



Human Resources



Headcount at
31/12/2021

376



FTE 305.64

(Including

46

retained fire
fighters)



The Human Resources Section (HR) is involved in the administration of statutory employment provisions, and the staffing policies, procedures and schemes adopted by Management. The Section is also responsible for Recruitment, Training and Development, Time & Attendance Management, Superannuation, effective Employee Engagement, Industrial Relations, Equality & Diversity, Work Life Balance, delivery of the Staff Wellbeing Service and provision of support to the organisation.

While COVID-19 presented many challenges during 2021, the Human Resources Section continued to carry out the recruitment

process online. Staff Induction for all new employees and Continuous Professional Development moved online where possible.



Planning & Development



527

No. of Planning Applications Received



111

No. of Enforcement complaints received during 2020



4

Properties entered on the Vacant Site Levy Register



14

Total no. dangerous structures complaints received



3

Housing developments were taken in charge during 2020



32

Enforcement Notices Served



38

No. of Derelict Site notices issued



8

Total no. complaints received for potential breach of the Short-Term Lettings Regulations

The overall objective of the planning department is to promote the development of the County in a manner which facilitates sustainable economic and social progress. The day-to-day operation of the department covers a number of functional areas namely development management, planning enforcement, compliance, taking in charge of residential developments, derelict sites, dangerous structures and forward planning.

Development Management

Carlow County Council received a total of 527 planning applications during 2021. The following is a breakdown of decisions made during 2021 by Carlow County Council:

| | |
|---|-----|
| Number of valid applications received | 413 |
| Number of invalid applications received | 114 |
| Number of applications granted | 358 |
| Number of applications refused | 32 |
| Number of pre-planning consultations held | 146 |

Enforcement

The planning department in accordance with the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) seeks to ensure that planning permissions are complied with. All written complaints of unauthorised development, where they appear to be well founded, are investigated. Following an investigation of a bone fide complaint the commencement of the enforcement steps are initiated by the issue of a Warning Letter followed by the issue of an Enforcement Notice should the matter not be satisfactorily resolved following the issue of a Warning Letter. In the event of non-compliance with the Enforcement Notice legal proceedings are

initiated. A total of **111** complaints were received during 2021.

| Action Taken | 2021 |
|-----------------------------|------|
| Warning letters issued | 32 |
| Enforcement notices served | 33 |
| Legal proceedings initiated | 2 |
| Case Closed | 50 |
| Ongoing Court Proceedings | 16 |

Taking of Estates in Charge

Under the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) requests to take estates in charge can be made by the Developer or the majority of the owners residing in the development. The Planning and Development Act 2010 allows the Local Authority to take part of an estate in charge.

A total of **6** requests to take developments in charge were received in 2021. The following housing developments were taken in charge during 2021.

| Name of Development | Address of Development |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Barrow Rise, Green Hills | Leighlin Road |
| Sleaty Park View | Graiguecullen |
| Rivercourt – (Phase 2), | O’Brien Road, Carlow |

Derelict Sites

Derelict sites are dealt with in accordance with the Derelict Sites Act 1990. A total of **21** complaints were received during 2021.

| Action Taken | 2021 |
|--|------|
| Number of Notices issued | 38 |
| Number of Notices /letters complied with | 4 |
| Number of Derelict Sites on Register at 1st January 2021 | 22 |
| Number of Derelict Sites on Register at 31st December 2021 | 26 |
| Number of Derelict Sites with Levy Applied | 10 |
| Number of properties compulsory acquired | 1 |

Dangerous Structures

Dangerous Structures are dealt with in accordance with the Local Government (Sanitary Services) Act 1964. A total of **14** complaints were received in 2021.

| Action Taken | 2021 |
|---|------|
| Number of Notices/letters issued | 14 |
| Number of Notices complied with by the Owner/Occupier | 5 |
| Number of Notices complied with by Carlow County Council completing works | 0 |



Vacant Site Levy

The Planning Department continued to progress during 2021 the establishment of a Vacant Site Register as provided for under the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015, as amended by the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2018. The Vacant Sites Register is available to view online on the Council’s website at www.carlow.ie. Entries are made on the Register following the completion of site assessments and the issuing of notices pursuant to the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015, as amended by the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2018.

Short-Term Lettings

The Planning and Development Act 2000 (Exempted Development) (No. 2) Regulations 2019 gave effect to legislation regarding Short-Term Lettings. The legislation came into effect on 1st July, 2019. On 26th September 2019 the Carlow Local Electoral Area was designated as a Rent Pressure Zone and consequently, new regulations regarding Short Term Lettings were enforceable by Carlow County Council during 2021.

While the Covid-19 Pandemic did impact on the Short-Term Lettings market within the Rent Pressure Zone an increase in activity was recorded in the final quarter of 2021.

| Action Taken | 2021 |
|---|------|
| Total number of properties identified as potentially in breach of the Short-Term Lettings Regulations | 8 |
| Number of investigations completed | 8 |
| Warning letters issued | 4 |

Forward Planning

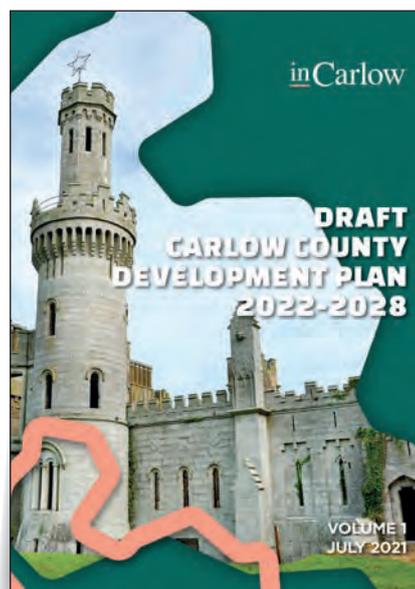
Carlow County Development Plan 2015-2021 Review:

The review of the Carlow County Development Plan 2015-2021 continued during 2021 with the preparation and publication of the Draft Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028. The Draft Plan was considered by the Elected Members at a Special Council Meeting held on 2nd July 2021 and was approved by resolution subject to amendments. Public consultation on the Draft Plan took place over a period of 10 weeks and closed on 1st October 2021.

The Chief Executive’s Report on the submissions received issued to the Elected Members on the 24th of November 2021. Formal consideration of the Chief Executive’s Report took place at a Special Council Meeting held on the 3rd February 2022.

The Elected Members resolved to amend the Draft Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028 as recommended by the Chief Executive and as further amended by way of motions and resolutions agreed at the meeting.

The Material Amendments are subject to a further period of public display. Thereafter, a further Chief Executive’s Report will be prepared for the consideration of the Elected Members, prior to the formal adoption of the Carlow County Development Plan 2022-2028 during 2022.



Local Enterprise Office, Economic Development & Special Project Development



256

The no. of Jobs created with assistance from the LEO



273

The no. of participants who received mentoring during 2020



1,589

No of participants for All Training/Development Programmes



36

No. of companies who have undertaken a Lean for Micro Assessment by a Lean Expert *



71

The no. of trading online voucher applications approved by the Local Enterprise Office in 2020



60

Outdoor Dining Grants approved



11

No. Festivals & Events grants approved, due to Covid-19 7 of the 25 events went ahead



25

No. Paint Scheme Grants were provided by CCC to enterprises located within Tullow, Bagenalstown & Carlow Town



650

Students from 10 No. schools participated in the Schools Entrepreneurship Programme

Carlow Local Enterprise Office has responsibility for the Business Support, Economic Development & Special Project Development functions of Carlow County Council.

Enterprise Ireland - Service Level Agreement

The output for 2021 in respect of the Service Level Agreement with Enterprise Ireland in respect of the operation of the Local Enterprise Office was as follows:

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Training Participants | 1589 |
| Training Programmes | 57 |
| Mentoring Participants | 273 |
| Lean for Micro Grants Approved | 36 |
| Financial Assistance to Manufacturing & International Services Companies | € 435,510.50 |
| Colour Carlow Scheme | €261,000.00 |
| Student Enterprise Places | 650 |
| Outdoor Dining & Infrastructure Grants | €374,000.00 |
| Trading Online Vouchers Approved | 71 |

| Number of Clients Approved Funding | Amt Approved |
|---|---------------------|
| 6 X Business Expansion Grants | €196,500.00 |
| 7 X Priming Grants | €180,963.00 |
| 5 X Feasibility Grants | €58,047.50 |
| 71 X TOV Vouchers | €156,019.16 |



Economic Development Hacketstown LED Design.

Strategy Development

The following strategies were developed and launched during 2021:

- Hacketstown Village Led Design Statement

The followings strategies were commenced in 2021 for completion 2022:

- Carlow Castle Feasibility Study
- Carlow Town Land Use Survey
- Enterprise Campus Business Case Development
- inCarlow Economic Development & Business Support Strategy

Covid-19 Response

The economic development coordinated a variety of activities which included the development of a coordinated Covid-19 response for the business community. This includes a wide variety of projects and programmes in partnership with a variety of key stakeholders.

Carlow Tourism: Carlow County Council supported the Annual Plan for Carlow Tourism under their MOU with Carlow Tourism and strategic framework for the future support of the Tourism Sector in County Carlow.

Community Enterprise Centre

Carlow County Council secured €87,000 funding in partnership with Carlow Community Enterprise Centre and commenced development of a strategic framework for expansion of the enterprise and incubation space footprint for County Carlow in 2022 and beyond.

Ireland South East Office

Carlow County Council provided funding to the Ireland South East Office for the co-ordination of a variety of actions in the area of economic development and business support. The Council published the South East Remote working study on behalf of the South East Local Authorities and engaged in the development of the New Regional Jobs Plan.



Promotion of National Women's Enterprise Day

Economic Marketing

Carlow County Council commissioned a variety of publications in association with the Sunday Business Post, Sunday Independent, RTE Guide, KCLR and the Nationalist during 2021.

Christmas 2020 Programme

Carlow's Christmas Programme, County Carlow - A Festive Family Experience, was a completely Hybrid programme due to Covid-19 restrictions, but huge engagement was recorded throughout the campaign. Programmes included a Schools Competition, a Light Up Carlow Campaign, a Window Display Competition, a PR Campaign in partnership with KCLR, and a Be Local Online Campaign. A physical launch event was in Carlow Town Hall Car Park attended by 2,500 people.

Special Project Development & Delivery Urban Regeneration & Development Fund Project Carlow 2040

Carlow County Council completed and launched the URDF Project Carlow 2040 Plan during 2020 and prepared a URDF application. Project Carlow 2040 is an ambitious Regeneration Strategy for Carlow Town. This Regeneration Strategy contains transformational and inspiring ideas for the economic, social and environmental benefit of Carlow.

Capital Projects – Special Project Development & EU Funding:

The Council continued to lead the delivery of Craft Hub under Creative Europe.

Carlow County Council secured EU Funding as part of Urbact and part of a Network called RU:RBAN Second Wave. Carlow County Council developed 3 applications for submission in 2022 as follows:

- PAL4Boxes
- Rural Tours
- Athea

The Council developed a framework for EU funding in order to realise the potential and challenges of EU funding as an organisation.

Special Project Development

During 2021 the following projects were developed for future applications:

- Connected Hub Development – Myshall
- Connected Hub Development – Hackestown
- Countywide Destination Signage Scheme
- Carlow Castle Feasibility Study
- Carlow Town – Land Use Survey
- inCarlow Enterprise Campus
- Vision Rathvilly 2040



Environment & Climate Action



28

No. bring sites operated by CCC



2

Civic Amenity Sites at Powerstown and Kernanstown



2,635

Tonnes of waste collected in 2021



1,700

hours of waste and recycling services provided



31,505

No. of visitors to Powerstown, increase of 4,509 from 2019



Due to increase custom and volumes Powerstown has opened **5 days a week**



Approx

2,635

Tonnes of material was removed from the site



160

No. of Fines issued under the Litter Pollution Act



900

No. routine Waste Inspections



99

No. non routine waste inspections

Environment & Climate Action Department of Carlow County Council performs a wide range of functions that are growing annually as new legislation is introduced, new national priorities emerge and work practices within the organisation change.

The following is a non-exhaustive list of functions:

- Climate Adaptation & Mitigation
- Environmental Compliant Management
- Waste Management – Enforcement & Licencing
- Operation of Civic Amenity Sites and Bring Centres
- Litter Prevention & Control
- Environmental Education & Awareness
- Water Pollution/Water Framework Directive
- Air Pollution
- Farm Inspection and Nutrient Management
- Environmental Planning
- Noise Pollution
- Burial Grounds
- Rural Water/Small Private Supplies
- Energy Management & Targets
- Resource Efficiency Planning
- Veterinary
- Miscellaneous Environmental Legislation

Inspections 2021

| Inspections | Planned | Completed |
|---|---------|-----------|
| Routine Waste Inspections | 784 | 1004 |
| Non-Routine Waste Inspections | 135 | 30 |
| Routine Litter Inspections | 1024 | 1034 |
| Route Water / Wastewater Inspections | 509 | 445 |
| Non-Route Water / Wastewater Inspections | 16 | 52 |
| Route Air / Noise Inspections | 92 | 48 |
| Non-Routine Air / Noise Inspections | 5 | 7 |
| Routine Producer Responsibility Inspections | 70 | 81 |
| Planning Inspections | 221 | 131 |



| Enforcement Actions | |
|---|------------|
| Waste | |
| Waste 'warning letters' | 53 |
| Section 14 WMA (Direction) | 1 |
| Section 18 WMA (info) | 1 |
| Section 55 WMA (measures) | 4 |
| Section 56 WMA | 0 |
| Section 71 WMA (abdnd. cars) | 1 |
| Article 25 Notices under Packaging Regulation | 0 |
| Article 12 of the Commercial Food Waste Regulations 2009 | 0 |
| Number of Fixed Payment Notices under the Waste Collection Permit Regulations | 1 |
| Number of Fines issued under the Litter Pollution Act | 93 |
| Number of recommendations to NWCPO to review waste collection permits | 0 |
| Other | 22 |
| Total Waste Enforcement Actions Initiated during reporting year | 176 |
| Water/Wastewater | |
| Water pollution 'warning letters' | 16 |
| Section 12 Notice WPA | 5 |
| Section 23 Notices WPA (req. info) | 1 |
| Section 110 Notices Public Health Act | 0 |
| Directions issued to private water supplies | 0 |
| Number of Boil Water Notices | 2 |
| Population affected by Boil Water Notices | 35838 |
| Total Water/Wastewater Enforcement Actions Initiated during reporting year | 22 |

Altamont Gardens, Co. Carlow

| Agriculture | |
|--|------------|
| Agri pollution 'warning letters' | 0 |
| NONCs to DAFF | 0 |
| Section 26(8) GAP Regs | 0 |
| Section 12 Notice WPA | 0 |
| Section 23 Notices WPA | 0 |
| Total Agri Enforcement Actions Initiated during reporting year | 0 |
| Air (incl. Odour/Dust) | |
| Air 'warning letters' | 22 |
| Solvents 'warning letters' | 1 |
| Deco Paints 'warning letters' | 4 |
| Section 16 APA (info) | 0 |
| Section 26 APA (measures) | 0 |
| Enforcement actions under solid fuel regulations (S.I. 326 of 2012) | 0 |
| Fixed payment notices under solid fuel regulations (S.I. 326 of 2012) | 0 |
| Section 110 Notices Public Health Act | 0 |
| Total Air Enforcement Actions Initiated during reporting year | 27 |
| Noise | |
| Noise 'warning letters' | 0 |
| Section 107 EPA (notice) | 0 |
| Total Noise Enforcement Actions Initiated during reporting year | 0 |
| Producer Responsibility Initiatives | |
| PRI Fixed Payment Notices (Waste Management Act) | 0 |
| Total PRI Enforcement Actions Initiated during reporting year | 0 |
| Grand Total Enforcement Actions Initiated during reporting year | 225 |

Bottle Banks

In 2021, Carlow County Council facilitated the recycling of 1,358.14 tonnes of Glass and 47.41 tonnes of Cans at all our 28 sites throughout Carlow and once again it is an increase on the previous year.

An additional bottle banks site was opened at Ardattin in August 2021. Since these banks were put in place 4.09 tonnes have been recycled.

Powerstown Civic Amenity Site

During 2021 Powerstown Civic amenity site continued to provide full service to the public despite the effects of the Covid 19 pandemic and associated restrictions. Approximately 1700 hours of waste and recycling services were provided during 2021.

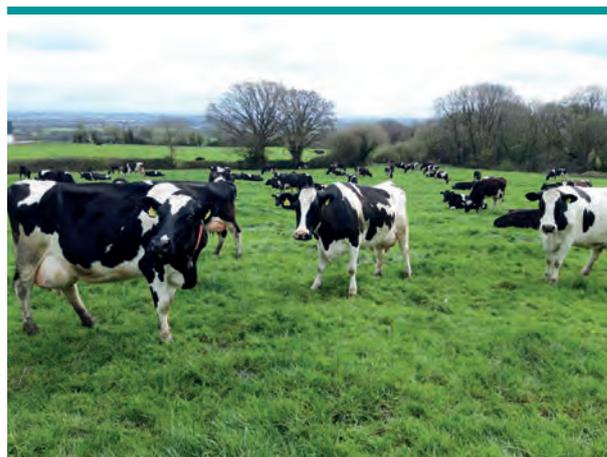
In 2021 a total of 31,507 customers were served at Powerstown. 2,635 tonnes of material was removed from the site. 1,306 tonnes of this material was used to produce energy from waste. 119 tonnes of material was disposed to landfill. 1,210 tonnes of material went for recycling / recovery.

The Civic Amenity site continued to accept bikes for Africa during 2021 and a total of 135 bikes were sent for refurbishment prior to shipment to Africa.

In June 2021 a very successful Paint Amnesty was operated at Powerstown CAS during which 293 customers deposited 12 tonnes of paint for disposal. Following the amnesty new charges were introduced to allow for the continued acceptance of paint at the site.

A bulky waste amnesty was operated during August allowing 333 customers to deposit 52 tonnes of bulky household items. 745 mattresses were collected in September as part of a successful mattress amnesty.

The EPA conducted an online site inspection during 2021 during which site management procedures were assessed, compliance reporting, leachate and gas management, groundwater and surface water monitoring and VOC emissions. Weighbridge records and tonnages were also assessed. The results of the inspection was that all areas assessed



Farm Inspection

were fully compliant with the conditions of the licence.

Rural Water Statistics

| 2021 Grants | |
|-----------------|----------|
| MARWP | €99,000 |
| GWS Operational | €292,000 |
| Septic Tank | Nil |
| Well Grants | €178,000 |
| DLRG | Nil |

Farm Inspections

A total of 68 farm inspections were carried out in 2021 for GAP Inspections, pollution complaints, planning inspections, biosolids spreading inspections and source protection Inspections. Where problems were found they were largely associated with silage effluent collection, poor soiled water management, inadequate slurry collection, poor gutters and downpipes in yards and inadequate maps for sludge spreading.

Climate Action and biodiversity initiatives / achievements:

Carlow Climate Action Team, Members and staff received Climate Capacity Training Climate Action for Carlow workshops for our community.

Let's Talk Climate Action Workshops gave an introduction to climate science, its impacts & possible solutions, helping communities to identify climate actions at a local level. Carlow County Council were delighted to support County Carlow Environmental

Network in hosting an informative & interactive workshop to support Biodiversity in Carlow.

During 2021 Carlow beekeepers expanded their apiary on site at Powerstown Landfill and the facility was used to host educational events and training workshops for prospective beekeepers.

A number of birdboxes were installed at Powerstown during 2021, following survey and advice from Birdwatch Carlow. It is hoped that these will be used during the 2022 nesting season.

As active members, Carlow County Council hosted the annual All Ireland Pollinator Plan Conference in 2021.



Launch of Bag it Bin It – Dog Fouling Campaign.

Carlow County Council, in partnership with Kilkenny, Wexford and Waterford County Councils launched the “Bag It Bin It” anti-dog fouling campaign. This campaign is designed to remind dog walkers to take responsibility for their dog waste and to ensure that they not only use a bag to pick it up but ensure that they place the waste into any general litter bin.

This regional campaign has 5 stages/ Themes.

- 1 Brand Awareness / your responsibility
- 2 Who is affected? Profiling community
- 3 Behaviour of Dog Walkers
- 4 BIN It – addressing those who bag it, but don't bin it appropriately
- 5 Supporting each other – based on the green dog walkers programme

Control of Dogs

The Control of Dogs Acts 1986 & 1992, Section 2, makes it an offence for a person to keep a dog unless he/she holds an individual or general licence covering any number of dogs at a specified premises, except those used wholly for official duties by the Gardaí, Defence Forces or the Custom & Excise



Carlow County Council Launch of BAG IT, BIN IT, Campaign

Services. Carlow and Kilkenny County Councils operate a joint Dog Warden Service with two Dog Wardens based at Paulstown, one for Carlow and one for Kilkenny. Annual statistics return relating to the Control of Dogs Acts 1986 - 2014 is submitted to the Department of Rural and Community Development Government Offices.

| | |
|------------------------|---------|
| Licences Issued | 2,057 |
| Income | €55,395 |

Litter Management Plan 2021 -2023

Following the statutory process outlined in the Litter Management Act 1997 as amended, the litter Management Plan for Carlow 2021 – 2023 was adopted in March 2021. The plan is a written statement outlining the objectives to prevent and control litter within the functional area of Carlow County Council. The following areas are addressed in the plan.

- The UN Sustainable Development Goals
- Litter Pollution
- Education and Awareness
- Community/Business Initiatives
- Services and Facilities provided by Carlow County Council
- Enforcement
- Key performance Indicators (KPIs)

National Tree Week – 2021

Carlow County Council distributed 500 Native Irish Saplings to over 50 community groups and schools in 2021.

A webinar facilitated by Dee Sewell, Greenside up was also provided to support those in our community planting trees.

Areas covered included:

- The right Tree in the right place
- Sowing saplings
- Bare root Vs container
- Making it grow
- The climate connection.

National Spring Clean 2021

2021 saw one of the largest ever Spring Clean events in Carlow. There was a significant increase in small pods / families / individuals willing to get involved in this national initiative.

Carlow GAA called all of their clubs throughout the County to action and asked them to help “Clean Carlow” while proudly wearing their Club Colours. Over 50 community and voluntary groups registered in 2021 for this National event and managed to collect just under 10 tonnes of litter.

The Environment Department of Carlow County Council hosted several online recycling “bin sorted “workshops throughout the month.

The Big Kid Clean Up Poster competition in partnership with KCLR and Kilkenny County Council saw Over 300 entries received from Schools and individuals.

Green Schools 2021

Green schools was severely impacted locally and Nationally by the Covid pandemic. Assessments took place online. Congratulations to the following schools who were awarded their green flags in 2021.

- Knockbeg college- Litter & Waste
- Carlow Educate Together – Energy
- Borris Vocational School – Water
- S.N. Fiontain Naofa, Tullow – water
- Carrigduff NS, Bunclody- Travel
- St. Michaels NS, Newtown – Travel
- Queen of The Universe NS, Bagenalstown – Globa Citizenship Litter & Waste
- Holy Family BNS Askea, Global Citizenship Energy
- Ballon NS, Global Citizenship Marine
- St Leo’s College Carlow, Global Citizenship Marine



Carlow County Council Green Schools 2021

UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Carlow County Council continue to act in capacity of Sustainable development Goal Champions.

We continue to work with local, regional and national structures to communicate the importance of the framework, objectives and targets set out in the goals to strive for environmental, social and economic progress in a sustainable way.

Online support and information workshops were delivered to a wide and varied audience including:

- Rotary Club Carlow
- County Carlow Tidy Towns Network
- Carlow PPN
- Myshall Muintre na Tire
- County Carlow Library Services

Energy

Carlow County Council continued to collaborate with the 3 Counties Energy Agency in 2021 to deliver on energy saving targets and to promote energy awareness through various programmes. By the end of 2020, Carlow County Council had achieved a 39.9% reduction in energy consumption since the baseline was set in 2009. Under the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (NEEAP) and the Public Sector Energy Efficiency Strategy, every local authority was required to achieve a 33% improvement on its energy efficiency by 2020 from a baseline year of 2009.

During 2021, targets for 2030 have been set and energy savings are required to bring a reduction of 50% on the baseline with an absolute carbon reduction of 51%. This target is challenging and together with the Climate Adaptation Strategy, measures will need to be agreed to achieve the targets. The Better Energy Communities Programme in 2021 continued to support communities, SMEs and households through grant funding available through the SEAI. Carlow County Council received support for the LED lighting programme.

Water Services



24

Wastewater treatment plants are run by Carlow County Council staff on behalf of Irish Water



11

Wastewater treatment Plants operate to the strict requirements of EPA Discharge



13

Smaller treatment plants operate to the requirements of their respective Certificates of Authorisation



679

Samples were taken with 6,495 individual parameters tested



12

Reportable incidents in 2021, six of which were related to power outages due to adverse weather



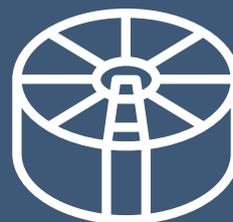
1

EPA audits were carried out at wastewater treatment plants



14,814m³

The daily average drinking water delivered by Carlow County Council



12

No. water treatment plants operated by Carlow County Council on behalf of Irish Water

Water Treatment

- 12 No. of Water Treatment Plants operated by Carlow County Council on behalf of Irish Water
- 210 samples taken with 2,873 parameters tested.
- 12 reportable incidents in 2021
- 1 No. EPA Audit at water and wastewater treatment plants
- Daily average drinking water delivered. 14,814m³

Wastewater

- There are 24 wastewater treatment plants operated by Carlow County Council on behalf of Irish Water.
- There were 469 samples taken in 2021 related to WwTP (Influent, Effluent and Ambient). There was a total of 4,936 individual parameters testing.

There were 22 incidents reported to the EPA during the year, only one was related to an ELV failure, six were breakdowns of items of abatement equipment, nine related to adverse weather power outages and

overflows from plant in Rathvilly (each time the storm tank over flows there it is reportable), six were network issues (blockages at siphon in Tullow, or other sewer overflows).

The EPA carried out four Audits (Two OEE Audits at Ballon WwTP and Carlow Town WwTP, two ORM Audits were carried out at Borris WwTP and Bagenalstown WwTP. The EPA also carried out a site inspection following a spillage/pollution incident to the sewer network in Tullow.

Since January 2014, Irish Water, the national water utility is responsible for the delivery of water and wastewater services. Carlow County Council and Irish Water agree to work under the terms of a 12-year Service Level Agreement (SLA) to provide efficient and quality water services to satisfy the needs of the customers in compliance with the statutory and regulatory requirements. In 2021 the SLA set targets across a number of operational measures, tracking measures and also 18 key performance indicators. These targets and objectives are spread across financial, procurement, internal



Upgrade Works at Tullow Wastewater Treatment Plant, Tullow, Co. Carlow

process/compliance, customer service, Workflow, CDS, leakage management, asset operations, DW & WW Environmental Regulation, HSQE, AER's, Capital Projects, Process Optimisation and Energy Management.

Capital Works

Capital Works progressed during 2021 across multiple Water and Wastewater Capital projects.

Planning permission was granted, and a detailed design developed to upgrade Rathvilly Water Treatment Plant.

Works completed through the Water Network Programme commenced in conjunction with the Regional Contractor. Works include the replacement of water mains and backyard services in the JKL/ O'Hanrahan Avenue area of Carlow town. As part of this programme a large portfolio

of works were also approved in 2021 with planned construction in 2022.

In Tullow, construction commenced in August 2021 to upgrade the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Plans for a pump station and sewerage network upgrade in the town were also progressed.

The design for the upgrade of Bagenalstown Wastewater Treatment Plant was finalised and planning permission was granted.

The scope of the upgrade works for the Carlow Town Wastewater Treatment Plant increased in 2021 to include a pumping station and some elements of the network, and the detailed design was progressed.

The contractor for the design and upgrade of Borris Wastewater Treatment Plant was appointed and a design was submitted for review.



Emergency Services & Building Control



192
Commencement
Notices

199
Building
Control
Inspections



37
Fire Safety
Certificates

22
Disability
Access
Certificates



Carlow County Council maintains Fire Brigades in four Fire Stations located in Carlow Town, Muine Bheag, Tullow and Hacketstown. A Fire Service Training Centre utilised by Fire Services from across Ireland is also based in Hacketstown Fire Station. The dedicated crews, together with modern vehicles and equipment, ensure delivery of a prompt, efficient and effective service responding to a total of 540 incidents on a 24/7 basis in 2021 resulting in 596 mobilisations by Carlow Fire Brigades. The operational response is supported by the Eastern Regional Control Centre located in Dublin Fire Brigade HQ in Townsend St, which receives calls from the public through the 999/112 service and mobilises the appropriate fire service resources in County Carlow.

Services such as administration, fire prevention activities, Building Control, Major Emergency Management etc. are delivered from the Fire Service Headquarters at Green Lane, Carlow Town.

The lifting of COVID 19 restrictions during 2021 which were introduced in March 2020 had a notable impact on the number of emergency incidents which Carlow County Fire Service attended. The total number of emergency incidents attended in 2021 (540) was approximately 17% higher than the number attended in 2020 (466).

The Local Authority Performance Indicators Report 2020 carried out by NOAC (National Oversight and Audit Commission) which was published in September 2021 highlighted the fact that Carlow Fire Authority had the 4th lowest cost per capita for the entire country at €34.32 per head of population. This compares favorably when compared against the national average of €62.69 per capita.

The NOAC report also highlighted that in 98% of mobilisations, a crew from Carlow Fire Service arrived at the scene of an emergency incident within 20 minutes from time of mobilisation.



Applications for Fire Safety Certificates were granted within the statutory period of 2 months in 63% of cases, ahead of the national average of 54%.

Safety, Health & Welfare

In December 2021, Carlow Fire Service's safety management system was certified to ISO45001 by the National Standards Authority of Ireland. This is confirmation of the safety management system in Carlow County Fire & Rescue Service complying with international best practice and also recognition of the work and dedication across all sections and levels of the service required to achieve this standard.

In order to achieve this award, a 2-day audit by the National Standards Authority of Ireland of the Fire Services Occupational Health and Safety Management System. The awarding of ISO 45001 means that the organisation is internationally recognised in an elite category of businesses, one of a small number of fire services that have attained this standard in Ireland.

Carlow County Fire Service was shortlisted in the Public Service Category of the Excellence in Health and Safety Awards in July 2021, the County Fire Service was shortlisted along with the Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Waterford Institute of Technology and Gas Networks Ireland.

Capital Funding

On December 29th, Minister for the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage Darragh O' Brien announced a new €61 million Fire Service Capital Programme. As part of this announcement, Carlow Fire Service has been allocated funding of €500,000 for the refurbishment and upgrade of Muine Bheag Fire Station in the 2021 - 2022 programme of funding which will greatly enhance the working conditions for firefighters within the station.

Carlow County Fire Service received funding from the National Directorate for a number of Capital Projects during 2021 including:

- Extensive construction and improvement works at Hacketstown Training Centre
- Class B Fire Appliance (Delivery expected early 2023)
- Replacement Breathing Apparatus Compressor for Carlow Town Fire Station
- Replacement Incident Command Unit
- Forklift for Hacketstown Training Centre
- Range of Water Rescue Equipment
- Range of specialist working at height equipment

Training

The COVID 19 pandemic continued to have a significant impact on the annual training programme. In order to catch up with lost training time, courses were condensed into the April – June period as well as extensive training taking place in October. Firefighters completed a total of 1980 hours training in a range of operational disciplines during 2021.

New training courses were developed to reflect specific risks and hazards within the County. Teagasc Oakpark facilitated a 1-day training session for firefighters in the techniques used to rescue farmers and farm workers trapped in agricultural machinery.

Hacketstown Training & Development Centre

Despite the COVID 19 pandemic having a significant effect on Fire Service Training Programmes throughout the country, during 2021 Hacketstown Training Centre facilitated Breathing Apparatus and Compartment Fire Behaviour Training courses for Laois, Kilkenny, Wexford, Wicklow, Waterford, Tipperary, Limerick, Cork County, Kerry and Meath Fire Services as well as the Irish Air Corps and Irish Defence Forces.

In total, Hacketstown Training Centre hosted training and development courses for a total



of 234 days during 2021, the number of training courses hosted in Hacketstown will increase in 2022 once planned construction and improvement works are completed.

Operations

The number of emergency incidents Carlow County Fire and Rescue Service attended in 2021 was 17% higher than the number attended in 2020. This is a common theme amongst Fire Services across Ireland and can be largely attributed to the less onerous restrictions which were imposed to limit the spread of COVID 19 compared to 2020.



Emergency Services respond in Severe weather conditions



Severe flooding which occurred throughout the County on Christmas Day 2021 as well as a number of severe weather events posed challenges for the Fire Service. False activations of monitored fire alarms in commercial and domestic premises continue to create issues for the fire service and initiatives are being developed to try to reduce them.

Community Fire Safety & Fire Prevention

In addition to its operational activities, Carlow Fire Service was also very active in promoting fire safety and continues to inspect public-assembly buildings in an effort to meet the obligations under the Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003.

Carlow Fire Service takes a proactive role in promoting Community Fire Safety in particular during Fire Safety Week which took place on October 4th – 11th 2021. As part of Fire Safety Week, members of the public are normally invited into our Stations to view our equipment and appliances, speak to Fire Prevention Officers and view

fire safety demonstrations and displays. In the context of COVID 19 all activities took place virtually with daily messages published on our social media pages as well as radio interviews with KCLR and Beat FM. Cathaoirleach of Carlow County Council, Cllr Fintan Phelan officially launched Fire Safety Week on Monday, October 4th.

The annual licensing and inspection of premises was completed in September with publicans, dance and restaurant license renewal applications before the Courts. In total 42 premises were inspected in the run up to the Court date in late September. A large body of work was undertaken to comply with the provisions of the Fire Services Act along with the administrative duties associated with issuing certificates, letters and conditions of license. A number of warning letters were issued to premises owners and occupiers following inspections on foot of complaints by members of the public as well as issues that have arisen post incident and other matters that they have been brought to the Fire Officers attention.

Building Control

The Building Control section actively manages the Building Control Management System and carries out routine inspections of construction projects to ensure compliance with all parts A to M of the Building Regulations during construction stage, validating and technically examining Disability Access Certificates as well as advising members of the public on the system. All Fire Safety Certificate and Disability Access Certificate Applications are now being made through the Building Control Management System.

The Building Control Section worked closely with the newly established National Market Surveillance Office which monitors the quality and standard of construction products offered for sale within County Carlow. A number of inspections of premises who offer construction products for sale within County Carlow received unannounced initial and follow up inspections.

The number of Commencement Notices received during 2021 (192) were 27% higher than the number received during 2020 (151).

Local Authorities Section 26 Fire and Emergency Operations Plan

The October meeting of Carlow County Council unanimously passed the Local

Authorities Section 26 Fire and Emergency Operations Plan.

The Section 26 Plan is a Fire and Emergency Operations Plan, which details a schedule of all organisational elements of the provision of fire and emergency operations by the Local Authority through its Fire Service. It outlines the required organisation structure, personnel, equipment, fire stations, water supplies, training, procedures, all resources and other related matters.

The plan details current arrangements within the fire authority and will also set out strategic plans and targets for the fire authority for the next 5 years.

NDFEM Resilience Fleet

Carlow Fire Service continues to support the work of the National Directorate for Fire & Emergency Management through the management of the Directorate's fleet of 11 Resilience and Training fire appliances. These 11 fire appliances are managed and maintained through Carlow Fire Service and are used by the National Directorate for the delivery of the Fire Service National Training Programme across Ireland for fire officers at all ranks from Recruit to Senior Fire Officer.

Two additional Class B Fire Appliances were purchased and added to the National Resilience Fleet during 2021.



Roads, Transportation & Special Projects



1,329km

No. of road network within the county of Carlow



36

No. funding Recoupment claims in the amount of €10,716,206



70

No. competitions (prepared documents, advertised, assessed & awarded)



109

No. Chief Executive / Director of Services Orders



80

No. Priority 1 Winter Services Treatments using 750 tonnes of salt



41

No. Priority 2 Winter Services Treatments using 1,060 tonnes of salt



326

No. Road Opening Licences processed



64

No. Abnormal Load Applications processed



€422,283

spent on National Road Maintenance Works



€1,990,000

spent on National Road Improvement Works



€3,415,500

spent on Regional & Local Roads Strengthening



€979,500

spent on Regional & Local Roads Resealing



€260,000

spent on Regional & Local Road Bridge Maintenance & Improvement



€1,539,405

spent on Regional & Local Road Drainage, Road Safety & Improvement works



6,499

No Public Lights in the county



2,670

No of LED Public Lights in the county



1,889

No. Public Lighting Repairs undertaken



€614,890

Public Lighting energy & Improvement Costs

Roads, Transportation

Having a good road and rail network is integral to the economic prosperity of a county. It is essential to have good access to Dublin, the ports, and the large towns of the region. For local economic, social and recreational purposes it is also essential that the regional and local road asset base is maintained to the highest possible standards consistent with available funding.

The policy of the Council is to maintain, develop and improve existing roads and to construct new roads as financial resources permit. The administrative area of Carlow has a road network of 1,329 km comprising of:

| Roadway Type | Km |
|--------------------|---------|
| Motorway | 24km |
| National Secondary | 54km |
| Regional Roads | 86km |
| Local Roads | 1,065km |
| DLRG | Nil |

Motorway Network

Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) manages and provides funding for all motorway schemes.

National Secondary Road Network

Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) provides funding for national roads. In 2021 an allocation of €2,328,783 was received for maintenance & improvement works to bridges & carriageways and to meet costs associated with supervision, public lighting and general maintenance of the national road network.

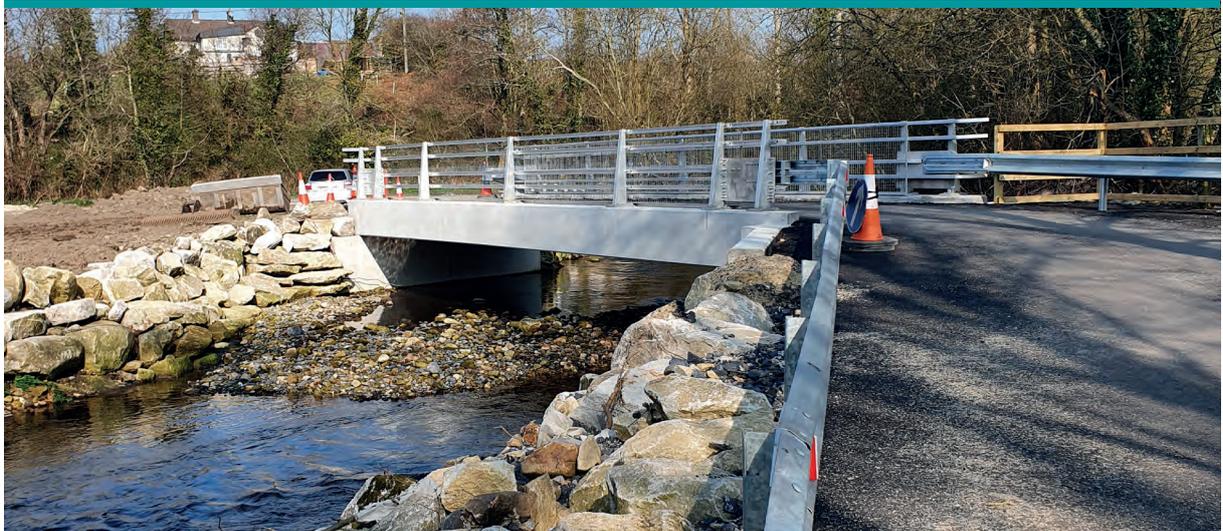
Subsequently, Carlow Co. Co. applied for and was awarded additional funding summarised as follows:

| Funding Category | Project | Allocation |
|---|--|------------------------|
| Pavement Improvement Scheme Based on a comprehensive survey of the national road network | 0a N80 Kilmurry-Kilgraney N81 Ballybit Little / Big | €1,000,000 €784,000 |
| National Road Safety Improvement Scheme Allocation to progress Safety Improvement Scheme through the PMG Phases 1-7 | N80 Leigh Bends Improvement Scheme | €200,000 |
| SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION Pavement Maintenance Scheme Larger than Defect projects, and smaller than Pavement Improvement projects, typically within the range €50-200k | N81 Kilmagarvogue N80 Dr Cullen Road | €200,000 €100,000 |
| SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION Defects Maintenance Scheme Additional funding for urgent remedial measures, typically within the range < €50k | Works to 15 locations on the National Road Network | €190,000 |

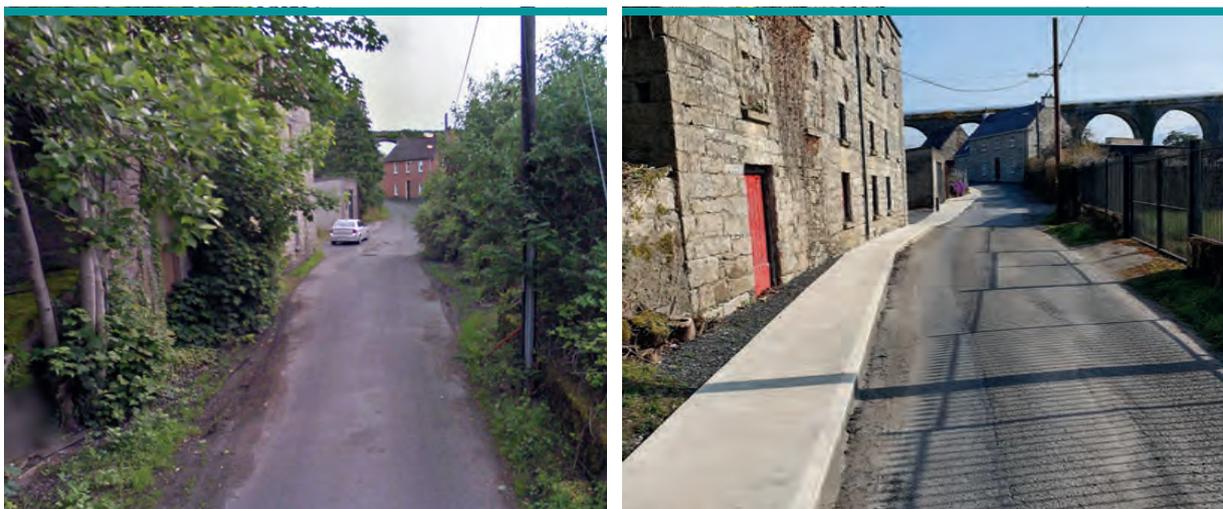
| Funding Category | Allocation |
|--|-------------------|
| <p>Restoration Improvement This programme targets improvements to the structural integratory of Regional & Local Roads.</p> | €3,415,500 |
| <p>Restoration Maintenance & Supplementary Restoration Maintenance This programme targets improvements to the surfaces of Regional & Local Roads.</p> | €979,500 |
| <p>Bridge Rehabilitation This programme targets repairs to bridges on Regional & Local Roads throughout the county.</p> | €210,000 |
| <p>Specific Improvement Grant The Specific Regional & Local Road Improvement Grant Scheme with a total estimated project cost of upto €5 million, aims to contribute to undertaking the necessary assessments to progress Junction Improvements on the R448, Kilkenny Road.</p> | €200,000 |
| <p>Strategic Improvement Grant The Strategic Regional & Local Road Improvement Grant Scheme with a total estimated project cost of over €5 million, aims to contribute to undertaking the necessary assessments to progress the Carlow Southern Relief Road.</p> | €100,000 |
| <p>Safety Improvement Works This programme targets improvements to specifically identified safety issues of Regional & Local Roads.</p> | €185,000 |
| <p>PSCI: Survey Support This Grant aims to contribute to undertaking the Pavement Surface Condition Inventory Rating Survey of Regional & Local Roads.</p> | €10,000 |
| <p>Training Grant This Grant targets specific training for staff involved in Regional & Local Roads projects.</p> | €28,500 |
| <p>Drainage Works This programme targets improvements to surface water drainage of Regional & Local Roads.</p> | €267,468 |
| <p>Former National Roads This programme targets improvements to the structural integratory of Former National Roads in the county.</p> | €350,000 |
| <p>Community Involvement Scheme This programme targets improvements to the structural integratory & surfaces of Local Tertiary Roads in the county in cooperation with the associated property owners.</p> | €334,500 |
| <p>Discretionary Grant This Grant contributes to meet costs associated with supervision, public lighting, winter & general maintenance signage installations, road markings, footpath improvements /repairs of the non-national road network</p> | €1,087,000 |
| <p>SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION Climate Adaptation & Resilience Works This Grant aims to undertake a targeted programme of improvement works to Regional & Local Roads</p> | €236,300 |

Local Improvement Scheme

The Minister for Rural and Community Development, announced funding for Local Improvement Schemes (LIS) from which Carlow received €270,000 to undertake a programme of targeted improvements to the structural integrity & surfaces of private roadways in the county in cooperation with the associated property owners.



Brook Lodge Bridge, Co. Carlow.



Footpath at Borris Before and After

Special Projects

Carlow Town Urban Regeneration Fund

In May 2020, the Department of Housing Planning and Local Government invited applications from Local Authorities for schemes for consideration under the Call 2 for the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund which forms part of the Program for Government. Carlow County Council submitted an application for the Call 2 funding including several of the interventions proposed in 'Project Carlow 2040'. Project Carlow 2040 is a regeneration strategy adopted by Council to transform Carlow into a regional powerhouse with sustainable growth and a better quality of life for all.

The total value of the application amounted to €20.8m, 75% of which would be grant aided through the URDF fund.

The Projects

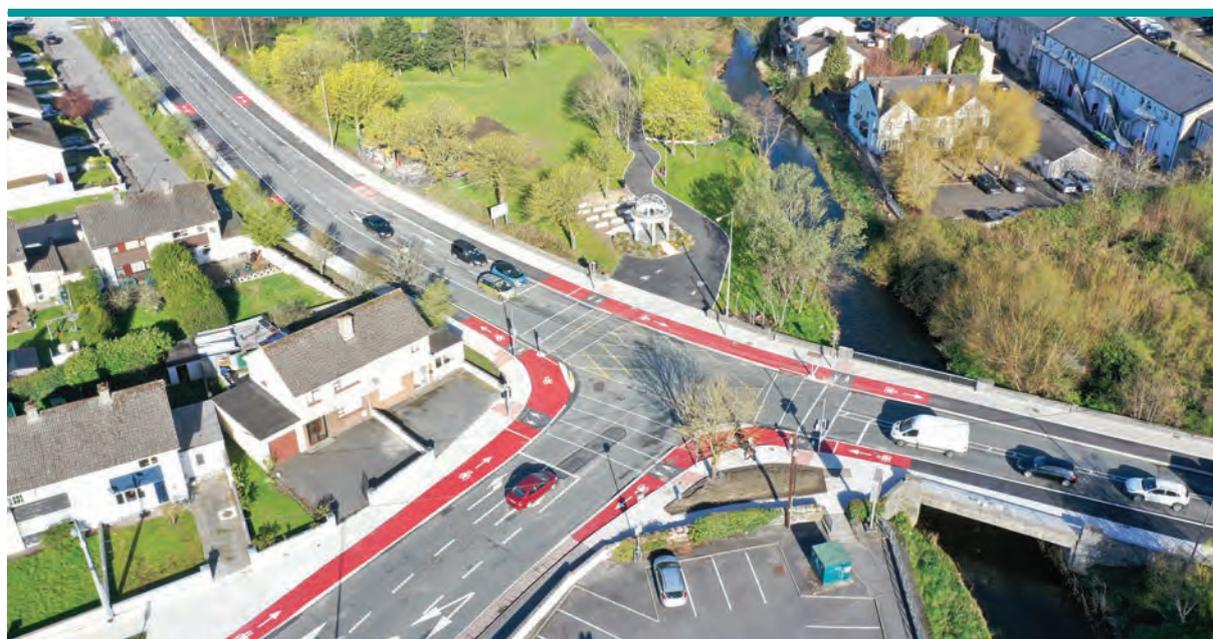
The schemes submitted for consideration were:

- Railway Link and Public Realm Improvement through Carlow College to Town Centre €2.7m
- Public Realm Improvement to Tullow St and Dublin St €1.9m
- Public Realm Improvement to Potato Market €7.8m
- Public realm improvement and new linkage from Potato Market to Barrack St via Carlow SC €3.0m
- Barrack St including Shamrock Square and Thompson's Corner/Bus Park €3.7m

- Public Realm Improvement to Kennedy Avenue €1.7m

The Vision is for Carlow Town to be a high-functioning, inclusive, compact, and accessible town underpinned by a robust and diverse local economy. The aim is to create a vibrant Town Centre providing for a network of linked open spaces, recreational uses and other social infrastructure elements that provides a good quality of life for all.

CCC were formally advised in August that the schemes submitted for consideration had received preliminary approval for the full amount requested. Preliminary approval was also confirmed to move to the next stage of the project life cycle, which in terms of the Public Spending Code is the Preliminary Business Case Stage.



Active Travel

In December 2020 the National Transport Authority invited applications from CCC for schemes to be considered for funding under the Active Travel Programme.

Carlow County Council submitted a comprehensive list of schemes for consideration in January 2021 and were successful in securing initial funding in March of almost €2.5m for active travel

projects and then another €0.46m in outdoor infrastructure funding later in the summer.

The NTA approved the recruitment of four additional staff to assist with the delivery of the Active Travel Programme. This team was established in late 2021 and in the interim works were completed by the MD staff in the delivery of the 'shovel ready' schemes with design work and the statutory consents process ongoing with the remainder.

| Scheme | Amount |
|--|---------|
| River Burren Cycle Track- Design | 100,000 |
| Hanover to Tyndall College - Design and Construct | 290,000 |
| Green Lane Junction Improvement- Design | 60,000 |
| Tullow Rd Carlow Cycle Scheme- Design and Construct | 300,000 |
| Dublin Rd Carlow Cycle Scheme - Design and Construct | 180,000 |
| Staplestown/Pollerton Rd Carlow - Design and Construct | 63,000 |
| Permeability Link to River Barrow | 108,000 |
| Tullow Town Cycle Scheme | 250,000 |
| Footpaths at Grange, Kildavin, Borris | 325,000 |
| Transport Studies | 200,000 |
| Rail Bridges Bagenalstown | 50,000 |
| Cycle Segregation Schemes | 100,000 |
| Junction Improvements/Pedestrian Crossing | 200,000 |
| Additional Outdoor Infrastructure | 460,000 |



Carlow Exchange

The project involves the covering over of an existing stone walled vacant site in Carlow town centre. The space will be covered with a bronze effect, standing seam metal roof. The roof itself is lifted above the existing stone walls so as to have minimal impact on the existing historic fabric.

It will be a managed, covered, outdoor civic space of approximately 334 m². The project contract is for €501,998 ex. VAT.

The expected completion date is the end of July 2022. It is designed to be a flexible open space, suitable for markets, exhibitions, outdoor classes, concerts, shows and group meetings. The structure is designed to be unique within the town centre's urban fabric. It will be immediately identifiable as a civic node and focal point within the public realm.

At night, the building will also be animated with LED lighting, to add to the structure's material palette and reflect its many possible uses.



Development of Carlow Exchange, Potato Market, Carlow Town.

Carlow County Civil Defence



192

Continued Support to help with Covid-19 operations



54

volunteer members

192

Preparation of Covid-19 Test Kits for Carlow Covid-19 test Centre



48

Patient Appointment Transfer to Various Hospitals in the Southeast & Dublin



January

Call out drone use to incident, River Barrow Area



May

2-day boat & drone search on the River Barrow



Carlow County Council is the Civil Defence Authority for the administrative area of County Carlow. The 2003 Civil Defence Act sets out a number of roles for Civil Defence. Among these roles are providing a backup service to the Primary Emergency Services; Community Service; Training in Casualty; Radio Communications; Rescue; Welfare; Fire Fighting and Boating Skills (search and recovery). Civil Defence also provides service to the Local Authority, Health Service Executive, and the Gardai in the event of severe weather conditions such as flooding and snow. Civil Defence also provide in emergency situations Radiation Monitoring.

The Major Emergency Management Framework document also sets out roles and responsibilities for Civil Defence in the event of emergencies, such as setting up Welfare Centres, Registration of Casualties, responsibility for casual volunteers and Secondary Line back up to the Principle Response Agencies.

The members of Carlow Civil Defence are all volunteers except for the Civil Defence Officer who is employed as CDO on a part-time basis by Carlow County Council. At present Civil Defence have over 54 volunteer members ranging from locations such as Carlow town, Muinebheag, Borris and Rathanna. Weekly training on subjects such as First Aid to CPR level, First Aid Responder, Emergency First Responders, Emergency Medical Technician, Fire Fighting skills, Swiftwater Rescue techniques, Technical

Rescue, Search Skills, Welfare etc., are taught and practised. On our training schedule at weekends the subjects taught are exercised and the skills resulting from this are pitched against other counties in competition at various venues.

Civil Defence Boat units provide backup assistance to the (PRAs) Fire service and Gardai in River Search and Recovery (RSR) situations. Volunteers are trained in Boating skills, River and land search and recovery techniques for back up situations to Gardai. Water awareness and Swift Water Flood Response courses are run throughout the year.

In 2021 Carlow Civil Defence were continuing to help with Covid-19 operations. Covid operations consisted of looking after the Health and Welfare.

Housing Department



1,951

Total housing stock



360

Total RAS



695

Total HAP, increase of 124 from 2020



95

Long Term Lease Properties



5

Repair and Lease Scheme



240

Homeless Presentation



168

Total Placed in Emergency Accommodation

Homeless Preventions (117 through prevention work & 51 through HAP Placefinder)



53

Turnkey/ Acquisitions



16

Total Direct Builds 2021



43

Number of Re-Lets



23.3 weeks

Average Re-let time



224

House Allocated (Includes 12 Traveller and 34 Disability Allocations)



63

Anti-Social Behaviour Complaints



2,481

Number of Maintenance Calls



€6.3 million

Rents Collected (97% collection rate)



€4.4 million

29 no. Mortgages Approved in Principle



€970,870

190 No. Grants Approved under Housing Aid for Older People



€275,426

58 No. Grants Approved under Mobility Aids Grant Scheme



€647,302

52 No. Grants Approved under Housing Adaptation Grant

It is the policy of the Housing Section of Carlow County Council: -

- To enable every household to have available an affordable dwelling of good quality, suited to its needs, in a good environment and as far as possible at a tenure of their choice.
- To promote home ownership and a thriving more diverse and well managed rented sector, both public and private.
- To maintain the living and construction standards of all properties to a high standard
- To liaise with our tenants and social partners to ensure that present and future needs are tackled.

Carlow County Council's activities as a Housing Authority can be summarised under the following headings:

- The provision, management and maintenance of rented Social Housing
- The review and update of social housing demand

- The provision of self-help grants to enable tenants carry out improvements to their homes
- The promotion of home ownership by promotion of Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan
- The improvement of accommodation, for both the elderly and disabled persons, by way of grant assistance under Housing Adaptation Grants for People with a Disability, Mobility Aids Grants and Housing Aid for Older People Grants
- Working with Approved Housing Bodies and Voluntary Bodies to assist in addressing the housing needs in Carlow
- Operation of Rental Accommodation Scheme/Leasing schemes and the Housing Assistance Payment for social housing provision
- Operation of the Mortgage to Rent Scheme
- Implementation of Traveller Accommodation Programme
- Implementation of Energy Upgrade Programme
- Housing Inspections Programme



Delta Sensory Gardens, Carlow.

Community, Recreation and Amenity



146

Grants awarded under the Environmental/Amenity Grant Scheme 2021 to the value of €62,620



26 Grants awarded through Community Environment Action Fund to the value of

€19,550



221 Grants awarded under the CCC Discretionary Funds to the value of

€102,886.86



800

No. of Covid-19 Community Calls Received



€106,196

Healthy Ireland was awarded from the Department of Health under a Community Mental Health Fund



6 Social Enterprise capital Grants Scheme to the value of

€19,097.38



81

Grants awarded through the Community Enhancement Programme to the value of €134,206



Leader project approved to the value of

€1,498,750

Carlow County Council continued to build on the strong working relationship it enjoys with all communities throughout County Carlow during 2021. The following grants were awarded to Community Groups and Residents' Associations within 2021.

| | | |
|--|-----|-------------|
| Environmental / Amenity Grant Scheme 2021 | 146 | €62,620.00 |
| Grass cutting, hedge and tree trimming, planting of new native trees and shrubs. Enhancement of common green areas for all estate members. Pollinator Friendly Planters and Window Boxes. Provide seating and benches in picnic area. Signage, repair and replace paths and developing Pollinator Friendly beds. | | |
| Community Environment Action Fund | 26 | € 19,550.00 |
| Projects that contribute to increase environmental awareness at local level or which promote building greener, more sustainable communities. Match funding from CCC & The Department of Communications Climate Action & Environment. | | |

| | | |
|--|-----|---------------|
| Discretionary Funding | 221 | €102,886.86 |
| The scheme has been created by the members of CCC for the purpose of supporting community groups in delivering and promoting projects in their areas. | | |
| Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) | | €563,572.00 |
| The Department of Rural and Community Development has advised that this current SICAP Programme has been extended for an extra year and will now run until 31st December 2023. | | |
| Community Enhancement Programme | 81 | €134,206.00 |
| Carlow LCDC received €134,206.00 under the 2021 Community Enhancement Programme (30% community groups/org and 70% for social inclusion projects). | | |
| Transitional LEADER Programme 2021 – 2022 | | |
| During 2021, the LCDC/LAG approved | | |
| 16 LEADER Expression of Interests in respect of Rural Tourism, Festivals, Rural Enterprise, Rural Towns, Social Inclusion, Environmental. | 16 | €1,498,750.00 |
| 2 Co-operation projects to the value of €59,969.25 were approved | 2 | €59,969.25 |
| Social Enterprise Capital Grants Scheme (Dormant Accounts Fund) | 6 | €19,097.38 |
| The Social Enterprise Capital Grants Scheme 2021 was an initiative by the Department of Rural and Community Development under the National Social Enterprise Policy for Ireland with the aim of supporting social enterprises. | | |
| 2nd Round of the COVID Emergency Fund | 45 | €44,656.00 |
| Under the 2nd round of the COVID Emergency Fund Carlow LCDC was awarded €44,656. | | |

Carlow's Pride of Place 2021

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the 22nd Carlow's Pride of Place Awards Event was adapted from an awards night to a partnership with KCLR and the Council where the awards were announced by independent Judge Gary Graham over 3 days on the Eimear Ní Bhraonáin Show on KCLR Live, with it culminating in a 2-hour broadcast show on the 4th day, 21st October 2021, where the overall winners were announced, together with guest speakers.

This year 116 residents' associations & 19 Tidy Towns Groups entered Carlow's Pride of Place Competition. The overall winner

of the Towns and Villages was Rathanna and New Oak Estate was the winner of the Overall Estates category. Jim O'Reilly received the Community Spirit Award. 60 cash prizes were awarded to Community Groups across the county, totaling over €16,000.

The Plots Community Allotment Project

Following a lull in operation due to the pandemic, the Plots Community Allotments formed a new committee in 2021 and continues to operate successfully and with direct support from Carlow County Council. 14 meetings took place in relation to the Plots Community Allotments in 2021.



Carlow Pride of Place Awards

Residents Association Work

18 meetings took place in 2021 to support the formation and running of Residents Associations in Carlow Town. 2 new Residents Associations were formed in Carlow Town and are operating successfully.

Bagenalstown Community Work

There were 11 meetings of the Bagenalstown Area Steering Group between June and December this year. This group have been responsible for several successful projects and community improvements for the town.

Community Development Work

- The community worker supported 4 applications for funding between June to December, 3 of which were successful amounting to €20,200 in value.
- 9 meetings to support the inter-agency shared usage agreement of the Tullow Road Pitches.
- 6 meetings to establish new community support in Clonegal.
- Supported 19 community projects amounting to €20,300 awarded via the Building Community Leadership fund 2021, these included community clean ups, allotments, social inclusion, social media training, community events.
- Support is continuing for the New Oak Community Centre. Carlow County Council supported the development of an energy audit report for the centre. This will enable the centre to apply for the SEAI Better Communities Grant in 2022.

Carlow Traveller Interagency Group

Carlow Traveller Interagency Group (TIG) monitors the implementation of the actions contained in the Interagency Traveller Strategy. Work continued remotely during 2021 and four meetings were held, while the Thematic Working Groups met bi-monthly.

Following a successful funding application for €17,400 to the Department of Justice & Equality a part-time Community Development Worker has continued to be employed through St. Catherine's Community Services Centre to develop and support the Carlow Traveller Forum. Work commenced

on the Assessment of Need and Strategic Plan 2021-2024.

Tullow Road Community Hub Project

County Council propose to construct a multi-functional community hub at Tullow Road, Carlow at a cost of €2.5m approx. This project will facilitate new and existing supports and services, catering for physical, social and community needs. The main constituents of the facility are broken down into three main areas: (1) General Administration, (2) Social Areas and (3) Activities spaces. The tender for the design of the Tullow Road was awarded to Kenneth Hennessey Architects in February. In June, a workshop took place with the Carlow MD Members to review Draft Design Plans for the Tullow Road Community Hub building. This was followed by a community drop in information event on the Draft Design Plans for the community which took place on the Tullow Road Community Pitches. There was an overwhelmingly positive response to the plans. The Part 8 process commenced in July with closing date for submissions on the 8th of October 2021. The Council approved the Part 8 planning process in December 2021 for this project.

Healthy Carlow

The Community Section of Carlow County Council administers the funding and supports Healthy Carlow. The LCDC Sub-Group includes representatives from



Healthy Carlow Dragon Boat Racing Taster Session on the River Barrow



Healthy Carlow Arts in Mind Wall, Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow.

the LCDC, Health Services Executive, Carlow Regional Youth Services, Carlow County Development Partnership, County Carlow Sports Partnership, St. Catherine's Community Services Centre, Carlow Public Participation Network, Carlow Library Services, Carlow Children & Young People Services Committee and Carlow County Council.

The Healthy Carlow Subgroup met 9 times during 2021 and continued to coordinate the actions of the Round 3 Healthy Ireland Fund during 2021. Below is a snapshot of a few of these events. Images to follow.

Comhairle na nOg

Due to COVID-19 the young people (ages 12-18) continued with their weekly meetings online and continued to work on their projects, focusing in particular on mental health, and to have training.

Advisory Group met four times during 2021 and received funding of **€20,000.00** with an additional **€5,000.00** for the development of stakeholder engagement locally.

Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme

Under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme 2020, Carlow received funding for the following projects which were announced in March and April 2021.

| Location | Amt |
|---|---------|
| Oakpark Upgrade of forest park looped walks, signage, seating, fencing and viewpoint. | 200,000 |
| Clonegal to Kildavin Upgrade of pathway & signage through Huntington Castle, construction of bridge across River Slaney, extension of pathway to Kildavin, connecting the south Leinster Way to the Wicklow Way. Design works are currently at tender stage. | 371,000 |

October and September, under the ORIS 2021 scheme the following projects were awarded

| | |
|--|----------|
| Tullow Kayaking Club | €20,000 |
| Cardinal Moran Bridge Steps, Leighlinbridge | €20,000 |
| Kilbrannish Scratoe's Bridge Carpark 3 Looped Walks | €20,000 |
| Borris Village Looped Walk | €20,000 |
| Duckett's Grove trail improvement and seating | €20,000 |
| Measure 2: Clashganny Amenity | €180,000 |
| Measure 3: Borris Village Link (South Leinster and the Barrow Way) | €246,600 |

CLÁR

Under the CLÁR scheme 2021, Carlow received funding for the following projects.

| | |
|--------------------|---------|
| St. Mullins Parish | €45,000 |
| St. Patrick's NS | €44,963 |

Capital Play and Recreation Grant Scheme 2021

A capital grant was awarded to Carlow Co. Co. for:

| | |
|--|---------|
| €13,494 for the development of Duckett's Grove Palatine. | €13,494 |
| €2,151 h for Leighlinbridge Playground | €2,151 |

Carlow Public Participation Network

A total of 454 member groups were registered with in Carlow PPN at end of 2021

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Environmental College | 14 |
| Social Inclusion College | 48 |
| Community & Voluntary College | 392 |

Arts Service



234

Carlow artists and groups were supported through arts grants and bursaries



3,459

children and young people engaged in 3 arts led youth programmes



4,772

audience members aged 18-65 engaged with the arts through 35 free events managed by the Arts Service



918

Carlovians over 65 benefited from 6 initiatives that helped combat social isolation



€633,500

in extra funding was received through 6 project submissions in competitive funding schemes



1

artist awarded a Public Art Commission



Carlow Arts Festival held 246 events, employed 223 artists, and entertained a total audience of 21,808 (online and in person)



Covid Care Concerts visited every care home in the county providing outdoor concerts to residents under the **Creative Community Resilience Programme**



794

posts published to a combined following of 3,617 people across 3 social media platforms



€450,000

funding secured for 'Creative Places Bagenalstown' projects of 3 years period



Carlow Live and Local

funded €281,000 through the LLPS Scheme created an employment opportunity for 273 individuals



3,000

performance music education provided to students under Music Generation



€277,065

funding secured for under the Creative Ireland Programme

2021 continued to be a challenging year for the arts across the county and nationally due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Artists and musicians were out of work, venues closed, and events were cancelled. Carlow County Council responded to this challenge through increasing supports and opportunities for the sector. The Arts Service worked closely with communities across the county in order to nurture creativity and artistic practice through this difficult time.



Launch of Carlow Live and Local Christmas Edition

The wellbeing of our older community members and the increased loneliness felt due to social isolation had a catalyst effect on our programming in 2021. Initiatives such as Mobile Music Machine and Borris Lace by Post, where creativity in older people was at the forefront, was prioritised.

Through the Carlow Arts Service the following programmes were led, supported, and nurtured in 2021:

- **Carlow Writer in Residence** managed by the Arts Service in partnership with Carlow College, Car-low Library Services and the Arts Council of Ireland had a very successful year.
- **Culture Night Carlow** returned in September with Carlow Arts Service managing a programme which called on participants to 'Come Together Again'. The

programme showcased 12 events, over 5 venues in the county, 3 taking place online, engaging 9 local artists and 4 performing groups with audience figures totaling over 420.

- **Carlow Arts Festival** became the first festival of the year to host live events in 2021. 81 live performances were delivered to real live audiences over the ten days-not counting the endless visitors that continued to experience the Woman in the Machine exhibition at VISUAL throughout the summer, enjoyed the mural by Maser across from Carlow Courthouse, and all of the online audiences that enjoyed the virtual events and the extensive #OnDemand film series.
- **Carlow Youth Theatre** managed by Carlow Arts Service provided 15 young people aged 11-13 years and 24 young people aged 14-18 years, with weekly zoom theatre workshops.

→ **Take A Part Carlow** worked collaboratively with community representatives, artists, and stake-holder partners to deliver high quality socially engaged art projects on the Tullow Road such as: Tullow Road Community Choir, 'Turn It Up' spoken word poetry workshops, Love To Draw, Street Art in the Skate Park Project and the "Take Over" Youth Reach Project. The Arts Action Group represented County Carlow in the 2021 Co-Operation IPB Pride of Place Awards and was shortlisted for two awards.

→ **Carlow Arts Service** worked with the Arts Council of Ireland and Local Government committee members in the planning stages

of the third Places Matter Conference which will be hosted in VISUAL Carlow in March 2022.

→ **Platform 31** a pilot project for a nationwide artists development scheme in collaboration between the Association of Local Authority Arts Officers (ALAAO) and the Arts Council of Ireland supported and enabled career development for 31 mid-career artists in all art forms across the country. Cian Kinsella was Carlow's successful artist. He received a €8,000 bursary to invest in his practice and he benefited greatly from participation in a developmental and networking framework.



Culture Night Carlow



Launch of Borris Lace by Post Exhibition

Carlow Sports Partnership



4,246

people participated in 62 CSP programmes and initiatives



104

females took part in 5 targeted Women in Sport programmes



34

clubs were supported and engaged with



70

older adults completed a 12-week resistance training initiative



1,002

persons with a disability engaged in 18 targeted physical activity programmes



€139,580.00

of grant funding was distributed to 97 clubs and community groups



411

people across 284 clubs completed 29 training courses



39,988

digital views were reached on 51 weekly e-bulletins distributed every Friday



9,418

views were reached on www.carlowsports.ie



766

posts were published to a combined following of 8,189 people across 3 social media platforms



5

booklets and 10 press releases were published and printed



12

national campaigns were promoted and supported by CSP

Carlow Sports Partnership undertook in 2021, a wide range of actions with the aim of increasing sport and physical activity participation levels in local communities.



Sports partnership Learning to Cycle and outdoor pursuits.



Water Safety



11
Rescues
completed

21
No. of time first
aid was given



192
Advice given to
members of public

Protected over
9,500
bathers



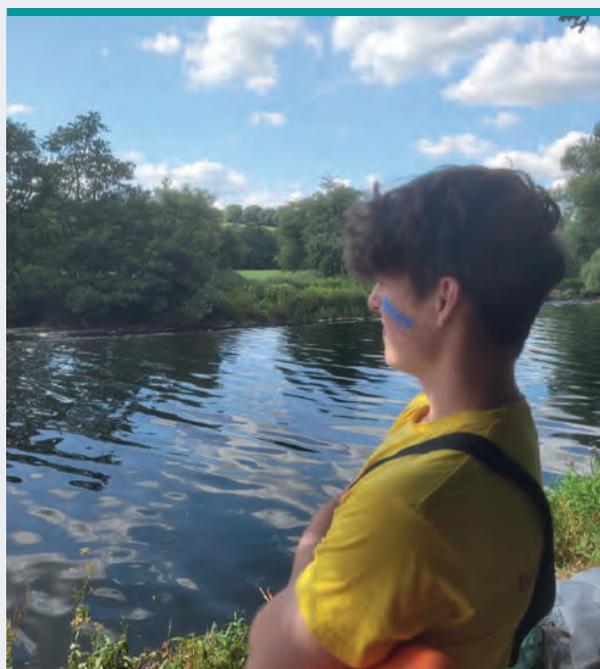
Funding was provided by Carlow County Council during the year to ensure the provision of the Water Safety program, including the employment of two teams of lifeguards. Lifeguarding service provided at two locations (DBAs) in Bagenalstown and two locations (DBAs) in Clashganny.

Lifeguarding services are provided over 11 weeks over the summer period from 19th June to 29th August 2021. Due to Covid 19 the bathing season was one of the busiest ever as the public could not travel and the weather was excellent which drew people to the rivers.

Training

Carlow Water Safety's usual summer program returned in 2021 with two weeks of Water safety lessons being delivered at Bagenalstown Swimming Pool.

Carlow County Council have started the process of getting the full barrow track that runs through Carlow, the River Slaney and the River Burren risk assessed by Water Safety Ireland.



National Drowning Day Prevention 2021

Museum



1,500

No. of visitors due to covid restrictions



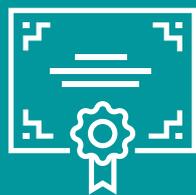
5

No. of Museum Board Meetings inclusive 1 AGM



2

No. reports to the Archaeological Designation Reports to the National Museum of Ireland (NMI)



Conferred with Interim Accreditation in February 2021 Museum Standards Programme of Ireland (MSPI) Status

3

full time staff based in the museum and 1 shared staff member with the County Library Service



Museum Board

In January 2021, Cllr. Ken Murnane was elected the Chairperson of the Board of Carlow County Museum for 2021. He succeeded Mr. Pdraig Dooley.

Covid-19 *

The Museum, in accordance with the Government Covid-19 restrictions and guidelines the Museum and Tourist Office reopened to the public on Friday May 21st with protocols such as pre-booking, contact tracing and social distancing. The Museum and Tourist Office was granted the Fáilte Ireland Covid-19 Charter which assures visitors that the premises is Covid-19 protocol compliant. As a result of the restrictions the Museum only welcomed 1,500 visitors, our lowest number.

Museum Standards Programme of Ireland (MSPI) Award

Carlow County Museum received its award of Interim Accreditation under the Museum Standards Programme for Ireland (MSPI),

coordinated by the Heritage Council, in a virtual award ceremony that was held on February 3rd. The County Museum is the first museum in the county to both participate in the MSPI programme and to be accredited.

Archaeological Finds

Carlow County Museum is Designated by the National Museum of Ireland (NMI) to collect and display archaeological finds. In 2021 the Museum received on loan from the NMI the Killinane Bronze Age Vessel and accompanying tiny rock crystal. This Bronze Age vessel and rock crystal was found in July 1982 in the townland of Killinane, near Bagenalstown, County Carlow.

The History Fix, KCLR96FM

Through the Creative Ireland Carlow programme, the Museum collaborated with the KCLR96FM 'The History Fix' show to bring some of Carlow's history to the fore. Topics included links between Carlow and calculating the date for Easter; life and times of Arthur MacMurrough Kavanagh of

Borris House; the 100th Anniversary of the Ballymurphy Ambush and Tullow na-tive Thomas Traynor who was executed one hundred years ago in Mountjoy Gaol for his part in the Irish War of Independence. All the shows can be listened back to on the KCLR96FM web-site.

Irish Conference of Historians:

The 33rd Irish Conference of Historians took place online on Thursday 20th and Friday 21st of May 2021. Carlow County Museum presented a panel on Thursday May 20th to kick off the conference on, 'Re-discovering St. Willibrord, Patron Saint of Luxembourg, First Apostle of the Netherlands and his County Carlow Connection', with three presentations by Prof. Emeritus Dáibhí Ó Cróinín, Department of History, NUI Galway; Michel Summer, PhD candidate, Trinity College; and Dermot Mulligan, Museum Curator, Carlow County Museum.

Methodist Church 1899 Tablecloth

Under the Regional Museum Exhibitions Scheme 2021 by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, the Museum received a grant for the conservation and mounting of a beautiful 1899 tablecloth from the Carlow Methodist Church.

This tablecloth contains the hand stitched signatures of 183 people who attended a church building fund raising 'Bazar and Sale of Work' in the Town Hall, Carlow Town, on Saturday May 13th, 1899.

International Museums Day 2021

International Museum Day 2021 was held on Tuesday May 18th. The Local Authority Museums Network (LAMN) partnered with the International Council of Museums (ICOM) Ireland and the Irish Museums Association (IMA) to mark the day online. This was done though an online exhibition titled 'Artefacts of Rebellious Ireland, Stories from around the Country'.



Kevin Barry Death Mask

On Monday June 24th, Ian Dowling, Dublin, loaned the Death Mask of Kevin Barry to the Museum for one year. This death mask was cast shortly after his death, how and by whom is not known. The death mask, and brooch were in the procession of Kathleen Napoli McKenna, who amongst other things was the private secretary to Arthur Griffith, head of the Irish delegation during the Anglo-Irish treaty negotiations in 1921, in London.

Ian is a cousin of Kevin, and he previously brought the mask to the Museum in October 2021 for the 100th anniversary of Kevin's death on November 1st, 1920. The death mask and the re-mains of Kevin's last cigarette, displayed in the Museum, appeared with Ian on the RTE Late Late Show on Friday 19th of February.

Museum Website

A new Museum website was launched by Cllr Ken Murnane, Mayor of the Municipal District of Carlow and Chairperson of the Board of Carlow County Museum. The launch coincided with 48th anniversary of the museum's opening in December 1973. The new website can be visited at www.carlowmuseum.com

16th Century Effigy of Robert Hartpole

Under the Community Monument Fund 2021 by the Department of Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Carlow County Council, through the Museum, were awarded a grant for the care and conservation of the late 16th century Hartpole Effigy (LA005-032) and its relocation from The People's Park, Portarlinton, to Carlow County Museum, Carlow Town, a Designated Museum, for permanent display. The Museum worked over several years with the Laois Heritage Office, the National Monuments Service, the National Museum of Ireland and the Carlow Historical & Archaeological Society in bringing this important project to fruition.



Cllr. Ken Murnane, Mayor of the Municipal District of Carlow and Chairperson of the Museum Board, welcoming Ian Dowling to the Museum.



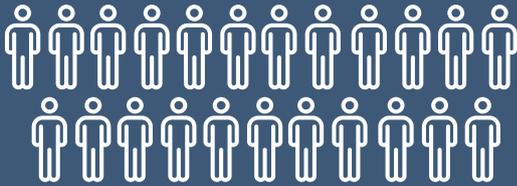
The Effigy of Robert Hartpole installed in Carlow County Museum, October 2021.

Carlow County Library



Membership & Circulation

Carlow County Library had 3,613 active members in 2021 and issued 35,870 books and other items during the year



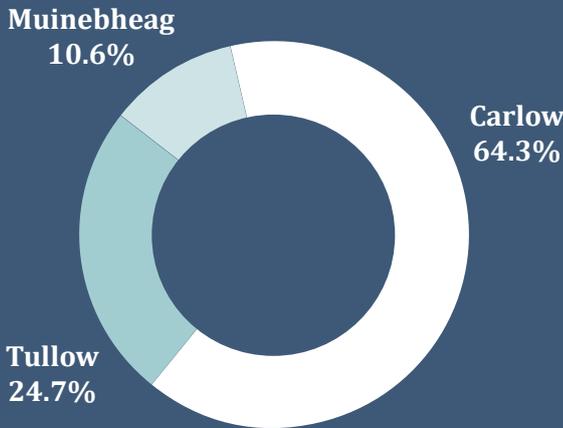
App Usage:

The Library App was used by members 2,176 times in 2021

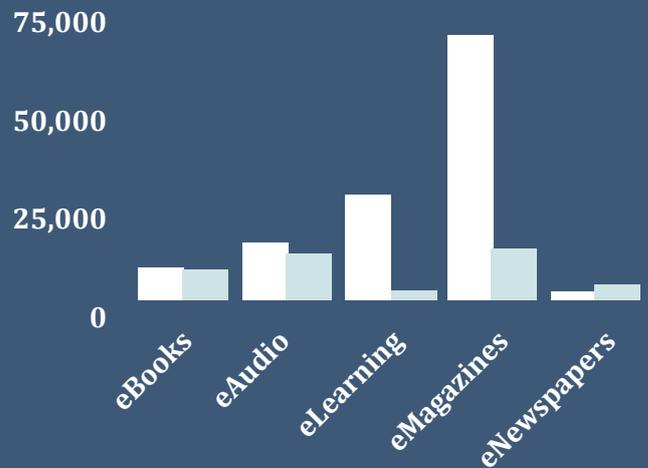


Website usage:

The Library Website was visited 38,475 times in 2021



Circulation Statistics by Branch 2021



Online Services
Usage of online library services during 2021 compared to 2020

The Talking Newspaper



Updated weekly on publication of the Carlow Nationalist. The talking Newspaper Podcast was downloaded 3,021 times in 2021

Twitter

@carlowlibraries received 700,000 views during 2021 and had 3,088 followers at year end



Facebook

The library Facebook Page had 3,541 page likes at year end, an increase of 7.6%



Reading & Literacy:

Literacy-Friendly County Carlow

Work continued this research project throughout 2021, supported by members of the Right to Read Net-work. The research report was completed and work on accompanying materials commenced. The overall aims of the project are to identify the key literacy issues in Carlow, including the barriers and supports available. This is a first step in raising awareness of unmet literacy needs in Carlow with the hope of further developing the Literacy-Friendly County Carlow initiative. This project was made possible by fund-ing from Dormant Accounts and Carlow County Council.

Ireland Reads

For the inaugural Ireland Reads initiative library staff created promotional materials to encourage use of Borrow Box to borrow items while libraries were closed. Over 900,000 reading minutes were pledged countrywide on Ireland Reads Day on 25th February.

Little Library Bags

Almost 50 Early Learning Centres (ELCs) throughout the county took part in the Little Library book bags initiative which took place in May and November on collaboration with Carlow County Childcare Committee.

Spring into Storytime

Online story time videos created by library staff were posted on the Carlow County Library Facebook page in April. These were viewed a total of 1,494 times. An online Rhyme & Sign Storytime session taught parents to communicate with their baby before they can talk.

Schools Library Ninja Challenge

Almost 600 pupils from three primary schools participated in the Ninja Challenge in May and June 2021, with each school receiving resources.





Winners of Library Ninja Challenge

Summer Stars

Over 400 children registered and took part in the challenge, earning rewards and incentives as the summer progressed. A weekly prize draw was held, and the initiative ended with a mega draw for two Amazon Kindle Fires.

Childrens' Book Festival

The library service adopted a hybrid approach to events for the Children's Book Festival. Author Dave Rudden visited Scoil Mhuire gan Smál, Carlow for two in-person writing workshops while Jackie Burke visited schools via Zoom in Carlow, Rathvilly, Bagenalstown and Newtown.

Family Time at The Library

Christmas-themed, signed online Irish Sign Language story times were broadcast throughout the month of December. In addition, a series of short videos highlighting Christmas books for children and families counting down to Christmas Day, were posted to the library's Facebook page.

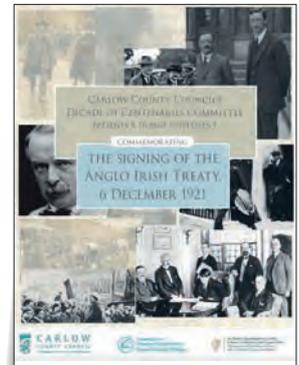
Community & Culture:

Decade of Centenaries:

Work on the Decade of Centenaries Programme continued in 2021 and focused on a number of relevant areas.

The Carlow County Council Centenaries Committee chaired by Cllr. Charlie Murphy and administered by the County Library Service delivered the programme online due to the continuing public health situation during the year. The main elements of the programme were as follows:

- Podcast & Video Series
- The Civil War and the Oral Tradition – A two-part radio documentary series.
- The Civil War: Nine previous Writers in Residence for Carlow County Council responded to the theme of Civil War in Ireland through their chosen written medium
- Anglo Irish Treaty - A 16-page supplement in the Carlow Nationalist was issued to mark the signing of the Anglo-Irish Treaty one hundred years ago.



Local Studies, Archive and Genealogy Service:

The public library is a curator of memory and is responsible for creating, storing and making accessible local cultural and

historical records. During 2021, there were almost 800 enquiries to our Local Studies/ Genealogy Department via email, telephone and in person visits.

Programming:

- As part of the Keep Well Campaign, the Grow It Forward Campaign was launched on 23rd March, a partnership between Healthy Ireland, Libraries Ireland & GIY (Grow It Yourself). 50,000 free food growing kits were given away and participants were asked to use the kits to share the experience with ten people, enabling half a million people across Ireland to enjoy the wide range of benefits that come from growing food at home.
- To mark Bealtaine, a Genealogy Workshop, an Introduction to Tracing Your Family History with Bernie Walsh, Genealogist was held on Zoom.
- An article on the Re-opening of Public Libraries featuring an interview with John Shortall, Coun-ty Librarian talking about the re-opening of Carlow Library Service was published in the Irish Times on Monday 17th May.
- There was a free LinkedIn Webinar with Joe Morris held on in June. This Webinar was aimed at jobseekers, career changers and new graduates. This webinar was part of the Work Matters At Your Library Programme of Events.

Learning & Information

Healthy Ireland

In 2021, Healthy Ireland at Your Library events took place online as follows:

- A 4-week term of Baby Sign Language Classes aimed at parents and babies ran in early 2021 via Zoom facilitated by Claire Glynn of Clever Little Handies.
- Clinical Psychologist, Dr. Eddie Murphy delivered an Online Workshop via Zoom called “Well-being In Strange Times” in February.

- A workshop took place in May called ‘Healthy Gut, Healthy You’ and was delivered on Zoom by Gillian McConnell, Qualified Dietician with Inside Out Nutrition.
- A free zoom webinar held in July called “Perfectly Imperfect Parenting” with Dr. Mary O’Kane, Psychology & Education Lecturer.
- Registered Dietician, Gillian McConnell (Inside Out Nutrition) who specialises in digestive dis-orders was back for a second workshop called “Boost Your Mood with Food” in October.

Grant Funding

Dormant Accounts:

Funding of €13,157 was approved in 2021 for a range of supports including programming and capital funding for Digital Equity and Social Inclusion. Supports provided include:

- An interactive touchscreen table for Carlow Central Library
- A C-Pen reader scanner for each library branch
- Irish Sign Language classes and a series of filmed storytimes
- Dream Big – a STEM programme with Niamh Shaw and Askea Girls NS

Design Thinking:

Funding of €1,500 was provided for materials to support our Design Thinking project. Six Samsung Galaxy tablets for use in a digital literacy library programme for older adults.

Customer Survey 2021

Some of the main findings from our recent customer satisfaction survey

Overall Importance

81% of respondents rate the library service as being either important or very important to themselves and their family.

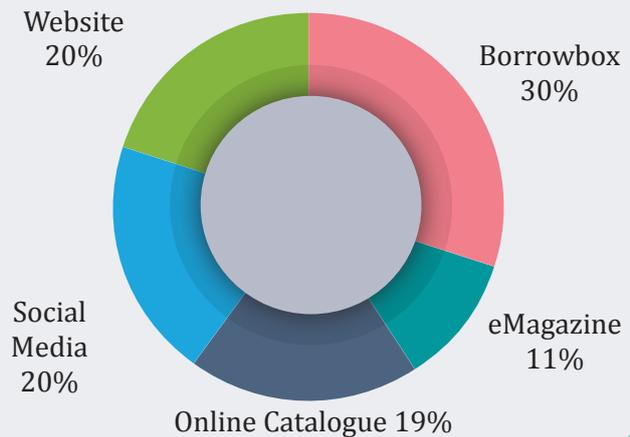


Service Usage

Main reason for using the library



Online Service Usage



Service Usage

Library Staff received an average approval rate of 95%



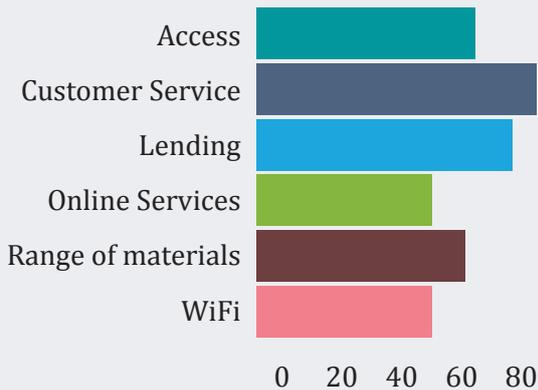
Service Usage

Borrowing materials were rated the most important aspect for the service

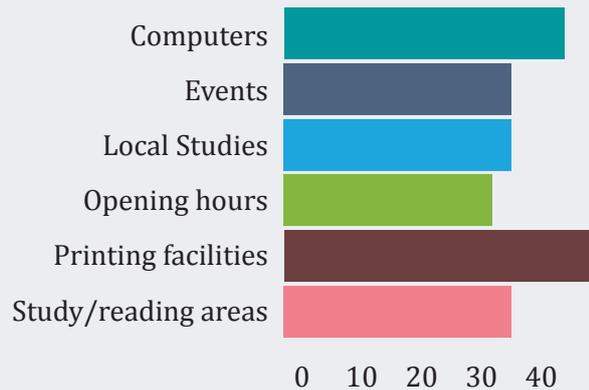


Service Rating

Highest rated services



Lower rated services



65% of respondents rate the overall service as excellent



Heritage Services



In 2021 Carlow County Council employed a Heritage Officer below is a list of funding secured for heritage services within our County.

- Secured funding for a Heritage-Led Regeneration Plan for Carlow Town under the **Historic Towns Initiative**. The production of the plan will be the first step in future applications to fund the implementation of the plan.
- Secured funding for four heritage projects in County Carlow under the Heritage Officer Fund from the Heritage Council. The projects are a Study and analysis of vernacular structures in the Blackstairs Mountains; Facilitation services to assist with public consultation of the Heritage Plan; Production of videography to tell the story of the Gordon Bennet Race (collaborative project with Kildare, Laois and Carlow Heritage Officers) and a Pilot Study to identify how to ensure inclusion of all children's voices in heritage surveys.
- Received Departmental approval for funding of seven applications in County Carlow in response to the open call for funding under the **Built Heritage Investment Scheme**.
- Assessed and forwarded three applications for County Carlow under the **Historic Structures Fund**, in addition to the Local Authority's application for proposed conservation works at Tullow Courthouse, Tullow.
- Submitted two grant applications under the **Community Monuments Fund**. One application was received from Carlow Historical and Archaeological Society and the second was produced by the Heritage Officer on behalf of Carlow County Council for funding for a Conservation Management Plan for St. Michael's Church and Graveyard, Tinnahinch, Carlow.
- Submitted a funding application for three biodiversity projects on behalf of Carlow County Council under the **Local Biodiversity Action Fund**.
- Supported eight applications for funding for County Carlow under the Heritage Council's **Community Grants Scheme and Heritage Stewardship Scheme**.
- Engaged with several local community groups and heritage stakeholders.



Borris House, Co. Carlow.

Motor Tax



Carlow County Council's Motor Tax Department delivers a high standard of service. Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, opening hours in the Motor Tax public office were limited during 2021, however the postal and online service was business as usual.

The online service is available 24/7 - 365 days per year at www.motortax.ie and now accounts for circa 85% of all transactions.

In 2021 14,000 transactions were processed in the Motor Tax public office to a value of €

2.4 million. In addition, 72,000 transactions were processed online to a value of €10.5 million. Total 86,000 transactions to a value of € 12.9 million.



Appendices



Appendix 1

Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet) at 31st December 2021

| | € | € |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| | 2021 | 2020 |
| Fixed Assets | 1,097,110,439 | 1,084,591,548 |
| Work in Progress and Preliminary Expenses | 5,565,043 | 6,179,669 |
| Long Term Debtors | 53,270,532 | 50,401,448 |
| Current Assets | | |
| Stocks | - | - |
| Trade Debtors & Prepayments | 9,600,533 | 9,421,742 |
| Short Term Deposits | 56,060,447 | 49,197,612 |
| Cash at Bank | 109,992 | 444,460 |
| Cash on Hand | 97,733 | 108,722 |
| Total Current Assets | 65,868,705 | 59,172,536 |
| Current Liabilities | | |
| Bank Overdraft | | |
| Creditors & Accruals | 18,756,073 | 16,470,714 |
| Finance Leases | - | - |
| Total Current Liabilities | 18,756,073 | 16,470,714 |
| Net Current Assets / (Liabilities) | 47,112,632 | 42,701,822 |
| Creditors | | |
| Loans Payable | 36,471,257 | 37,281,890 |
| Finance Leases | - | - |
| Refundable Deposits | 3,453,281 | 2,478,388 |
| Other | 15,621,593 | 11,240,357 |
| Total Creditors | 55,546,131 | 51,000,635 |
| Net Assets | 1,147,512,515 | 1,132,873,852 |
| Financed by | | |
| Capitalisation Account | 1,097,110,439 | 1,084,591,548 |
| Income WIP | 2,918,935 | 3,884,576 |
| General Revenue Reserve | 818,702 | 772,516 |
| Other Balances | 46,664,439 | 43,625,212 |
| Total Reserves | 1,147,512,515 | 1,132,873,852 |

Statement of Comprehensive Income (Income & Expenditure Account Statement) For year ended 31st December 2021

The income and expenditure account statement brings together all the revenue related income and expenditure. It shows the surplus (deficit) for the year.

| Expenditure by Division | Gross Expenditure 2021 | Income 2021 | Net Expenditure 2021 | Net Expenditure 2020 |
|---|------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | € | € | € | € |
| Housing & Building | 15,167,738 | 17,107,872 | (1,940,134) | (1,589,794) |
| Roads Transportation & Safety | 12,900,294 | 8,226,180 | 4,674,114 | 4,348,087 |
| Water & Sewerage | 4,448,437 | 4,210,615 | 237,822 | 97,272 |
| Development Incentives & Controls | 6,716,050 | 3,126,895 | 3,589,155 | 3,089,957 |
| Environmental Protection | 7,115,652 | 1,612,711 | 5,502,941 | 5,258,232 |
| Recreation & Amenity | 3,975,381 | 401,510 | 3,573,871 | 3,476,831 |
| Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare | 329,681 | 72,699 | 256,982 | 229,632 |
| Miscellaneous | 9,253,589 | 7,600,078 | 1,653,511 | 782,219 |
| Total Expenditure/Income | 59,906,822 | 42,358,560 | 17,548,262 | 15,692,436 |
| Net cost of Divisions to be funded from Rates & Local Property Tax. | | | 17,548,262 | 15,692,436 |
| Rates | | | 15,104,128 | 15,310,025 |
| Local Property Tax | | | 6,340,624 | 6,338,220 |
| Pension Related Deduction | | | - | - |
| Surplus/(Deficit) for Year before Transfers | | | 3,896,490 | 5,955,809 |
| Transfers from/(to) Reserves | | | (3,850,304) | (5,928,121) |
| Overall Surplus/(Deficit) for Year | | | 46,186 | 27,688 |
| General Reserve @ 1st January | | | 772,516 | 744,828 |
| General Reserve @ 31st December | | | 818,702 | 772,516 |

Appendix 2

Elected Members Attendance at Conferences/ Training/2021

| Date | Name of Training Conference / Seminar | Venue | Councillor in Attendance | Travel/ Sub/ Expense | Conference Fee |
|--------------------------------|---|---|---|----------------------|------------------|
| 16th Sept 2021 | AILG module 1 - Government Decision on the Reform on Renumeration & allowances Payable to Elected Members & Update on Planning and Development Bill 2021, Tralee Co. Kerry (S&E Region Seminar) | The Rose Hotel, Tralee, Co. Kerry | Cllr Arthur McDonald, Cllr Ken Murnane, Cllr John McDonald, Cllr John Pender, Cllr William Quinn. | € 1,993.00 | €325.00 |
| 24th, 25th & 26th Sept 2021 | Celtic Conference - Health & Safety in the Workplace | O' Donovans Hotel, Clonakilty, Co. Cork | Cllr. Arthur McDonald, Cllr. William Quinn | €1,007.22 | €200.00 |
| 15th, 16th & 17th October 2021 | Celtic Conference - A practical guide to budget 2022 | O' Donovans Hotel, Clonakilty, Co. Cork | Cllr. Fergal Browne, Cllr. John Pender, Cllr. Tom O' Neill | €1,698.98 | €300.00 |
| 3rd, 4th, & 5th November 2021 | LAMA - Autumn Training Seminar, Planning and Mental Health | Sligo Park Hotel & Leisure Club, Sligo | Cllr. Andy Gladney, Cllr. Arthur McDonald, Cllr. John McDonald, Cllr. Ken Murnane, Cllr. John Pender, Cllr. William Quinn | €2,533.53 | €900.00 |
| 6th November 2021 | November 2021 AILG Training Programme Module 2; Elected Members Mental & well-being and briefing on the National Office for suicide prevention. | Clayton Hotel Galway, Monivea Road, Ballybrit, Galway, H91 D526 | Cllr. Andy Gladney, Cllr. Arthur McDonald, Cllr. John Pender, | € 862.72 | €195.00 |
| 17th November 2021 | Irish Planning Institute Annual Training Conference | Clayton Whites Hotel, Wexford | Cllr. Arthur McDonald, Cllr. John Pender | €749.53 | €720.00 |
| 3rd, 4th & 5h Dec 2021 | Mental Health and wellbeing Four seasons Hotel, Carlingford | Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth | Cllr. Andy Gladney | €477.63 | €100.00 |
| | | | | €9,322.61 | €2,740.00 |

Educational Training Attended by Councillors

| Date | Educational Training | Educational Facility | Councillors in Attendance | Educational Fee |
|-----------|---|--------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| 2020/2021 | Cllr. John Cassin, Diploma in Management Effectiveness and Practice 2020/2021 | Institute of Technology Carlow | Cllr. John Cassin | €699.00 |
| 2020/2021 | Doctorate in Governance | Irish Public Administration | Cllr. William Paton | €1,500.00 |
| | | | | €2,199.00 |

Appendix 3

Elected Members Attendance at Meetings held in 2021

| Councillor Name | Total Meetings Held | No. of Meetings | % |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------|
| Fergal Browne | 34 | 34 | 100.00% |
| John Cassin | 33 | 32 | 96.97% |
| Andrea Dalton | 48 | 46 | 95.83% |
| Michael Doran | 31 | 31 | 100.00% |
| Andrew Gladney | 24 | 20 | 83.33% |
| Thomas Kinsella | 45 | 42 | 93.33% |
| Arthur McDonald | 38 | 38 | 100.00% |
| John McDonald | 34 | 33 | 97.06% |
| Ken Murnane | 33 | 33 | 100.00% |
| Charlie Murphy | 27 | 24 | 88.89% |
| John Murphy | 41 | 40 | 97.56% |
| Brian O' Donoghue | 30 | 26 | 86.67% |
| Tom O' Neill | 54 | 50 | 92.59% |
| William Paton | 30 | 29 | 96.67% |
| John Pender | 30 | 30 | 100.00% |
| Fintan Phelan | 34 | 33 | 97.06% |
| William Quinn | 49 | 46 | 93.88% |
| Adrienne Wallace | 31 | 30 | 96.77% |

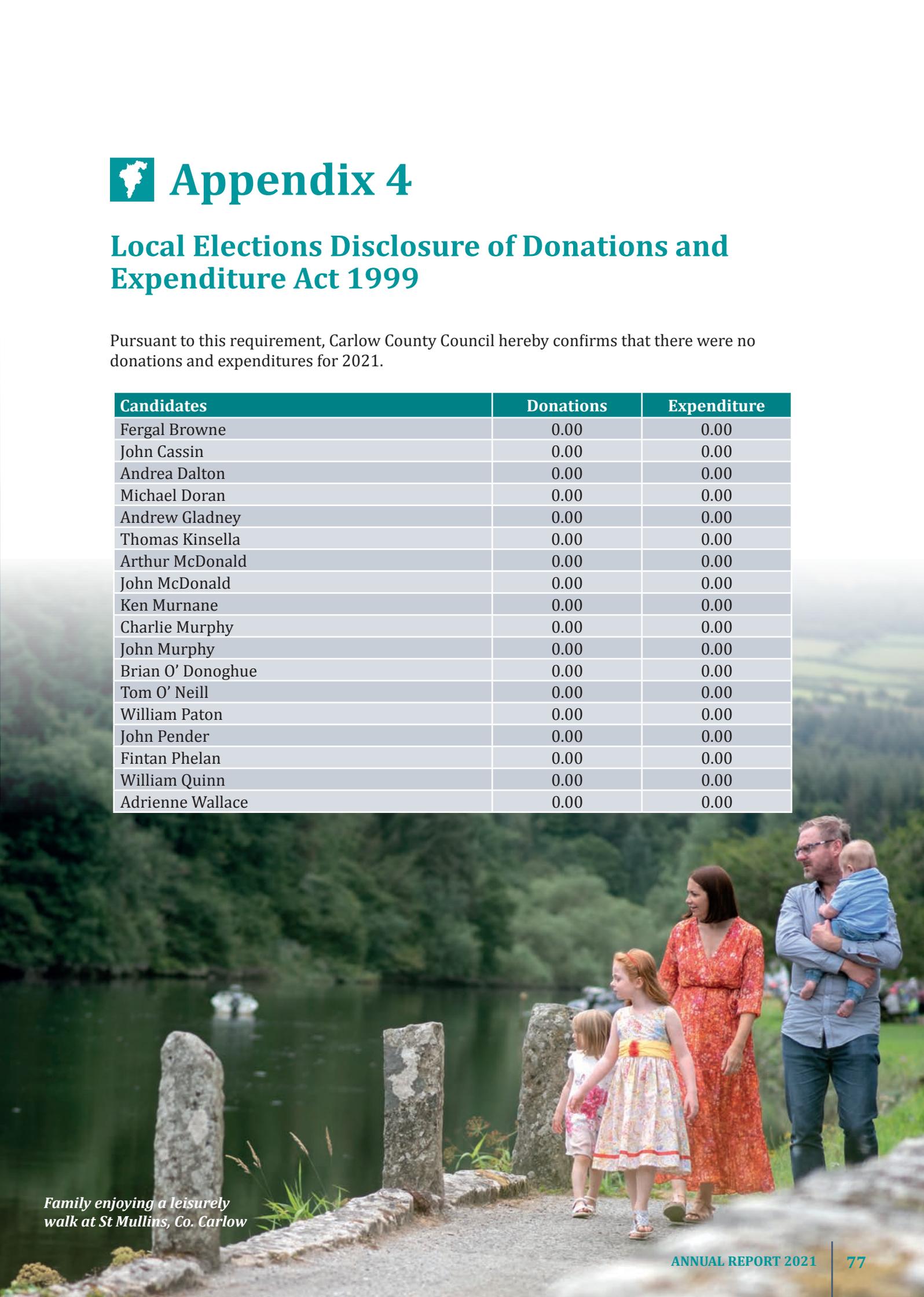
Tourists Hiking on the Mountain at Columban Way Co. Carlow

Appendix 4

Local Elections Disclosure of Donations and Expenditure Act 1999

Pursuant to this requirement, Carlow County Council hereby confirms that there were no donations and expenditures for 2021.

| Candidates | Donations | Expenditure |
|-------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Fergal Browne | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| John Cassin | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Andrea Dalton | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Michael Doran | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Andrew Gladney | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Thomas Kinsella | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Arthur McDonald | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| John McDonald | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Ken Murnane | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Charlie Murphy | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| John Murphy | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Brian O' Donoghue | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Tom O' Neill | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| William Paton | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| John Pender | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Fintan Phelan | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| William Quinn | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Adrienne Wallace | 0.00 | 0.00 |



Family enjoying a leisurely walk at St Mullins, Co. Carlow



Appendix 5 Payments to Councillors in 2021

(Section 142 of the Local Government Act 2001)

| Councillors Name | Representational Payment | Annual Expense Allowance | MD Allowance | Stationery | Mobile | Educational Fees | SPC Allowance | Cathaoirleach Allowance | Leas Cathaoirleach Allowance | Travel & Subsistence Home | Travel & Subsistence Abroad | Total Payment |
|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|------------|---------|------------------|---------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Fergal Browne | €21,664.97 | €4,345.15 | € 509.79 | €1,523.54 | €198.84 | € - | € - | € 6,117.46 | € - | €517.05 | € - | €34,876.80 |
| John Cassin | €21,664.97 | €4,345.15 | € 509.79 | €1,499.00 | €201.25 | € 699.00 | € - | € - | € - | € - | € - | €28,919.16 |
| Andrea Dalton | €21,664.97 | €4,345.15 | € 509.79 | € - | € - | € - | € - | € - | € - | € - | € - | €26,519.91 |
| Michael Doran | €21,664.97 | € 4,345.15 | € 509.79 | €186.00 | €110.34 | € - | € - | € - | € - | € - | € - | €26,816.25 |
| Andrew Gladney | €21,664.97 | € 4,434.67 | € 509.79 | €1,568.30 | € - | € - | €2,806.44 | € - | € - | €1,154.90 | € - | € 32,139.07 |
| Thomas Kinsella | €21,664.97 | € 4,940.71 | € 509.79 | €1,260.56 | €355.15 | € - | €6,000.00 | € 4,867.92 | € - | € - | € - | € 39,599.10 |
| Arthur McDonald | €21,664.97 | € 4,261.77 | € 509.79 | €1,409.11 | €118.38 | € - | €6,000.00 | € 3,058.74 | € - | €2,075.98 | € - | € 39,098.74 |
| John McDonald | € 21,664.97 | € 4,345.15 | € 509.79 | €1,137.00 | € - | € - | € - | € - | € 1,947.16 | €352.85 | € - | € 29,956.92 |
| Ken Murnane | €21,664.97 | € 4,345.15 | € 509.79 | €1,499.02 | €142.06 | € - | € - | € 5,841.50 | € - | €854.49 | € - | € 34,856.98 |
| Charlie Murphy | €21,664.97 | € 4,846.63 | € 509.79 | €1,500.00 | € - | € - | € - | € - | € - | € - | € - | € 28,521.39 |
| John Murphy | €21,664.97 | € 4,814.59 | € 509.79 | €1,058.87 | € - | € - | €6,000.00 | € - | € 2,039.16 | € - | € - | € 36,087.38 |
| Brian O' Donoghue | €21,664.97 | € 4,761.07 | € 509.79 | €1,360.92 | € - | € - | € - | € - | € - | € - | € - | € 28,296.75 |
| Tom O' Neill | €21,664.97 | € 4,282.03 | € 509.79 | €1,410.00 | €128.71 | € - | € - | €10,195.78 | € - | €485.32 | € - | € 38,676.60 |
| William Paton | €21,664.97 | € 4,282.03 | € 509.79 | €1,197.59 | €142.06 | €1,500.00 | € - | € - | € - | € - | € - | € 29,296.44 |
| John Pender | €21,664.97 | € 4,325.25 | € 509.79 | €1,521.25 | €201.26 | € - | € - | € - | € - | €2,489.93 | € - | € 30,712.45 |
| Fintan Phelan | €21,664.97 | € 4,345.15 | € 509.79 | €1,434.74 | € - | € - | € - | € 9,735.82 | € - | € - | €551.99 | € 38,242.46 |
| William Quinn | €21,664.97 | € 5,828.14 | € 509.79 | €1,331.20 | €108.24 | € - | €3,193.56 | € - | € - | €1,392.14 | € - | € 34,028.04 |
| Adrienne Wallace | €21,664.97 | € 4,282.03 | € 509.79 | €1,459.58 | €142.06 | € - | € - | € - | € - | € - | € - | € 28,058.43 |

Appendix 6

Protected Disclosures 2021

Section 22 of the Protected disclosures Act 2014 requires the publication of an annual report relative to Protected Disclosures received. Pursuant to this requirement, Carlow County Council hereby confirms that there were no protected disclosures received in 2021.



Appendix 7

Human Rights

In preparing the Plan the Council has been cognisant of cross cutting issues such as Social Inclusion, Equality, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Objectives, and Sustainable Development together with Quality Service and Community Leadership. The Council is also cognisant of the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights duty as set out in Section 42 of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Act 2014. This duty obliges the Council to have regard to the need to;

- A.** Eliminate discrimination
- B.** Promote Equality of Opportunity and treatment of its staff and the persons to whom it provides services and
- C.** Protect the Human Rights of its members, staff and the persons to whom it provides services Carlow County Council is committed in this Plan to supporting the Transforming Lives Programme in relation to people with disabilities to support participation in cultural, recreation, leisure and sporting activities and in fulfilling its role in ensuring that housing for people with disabilities is an integral part of mainstream housing efforts.

The Council's role in relation to migrants and new communities is reflected in the Corporate Plan and Carlow's Migrant Integration Strategy 2020-2024

Appendix 8

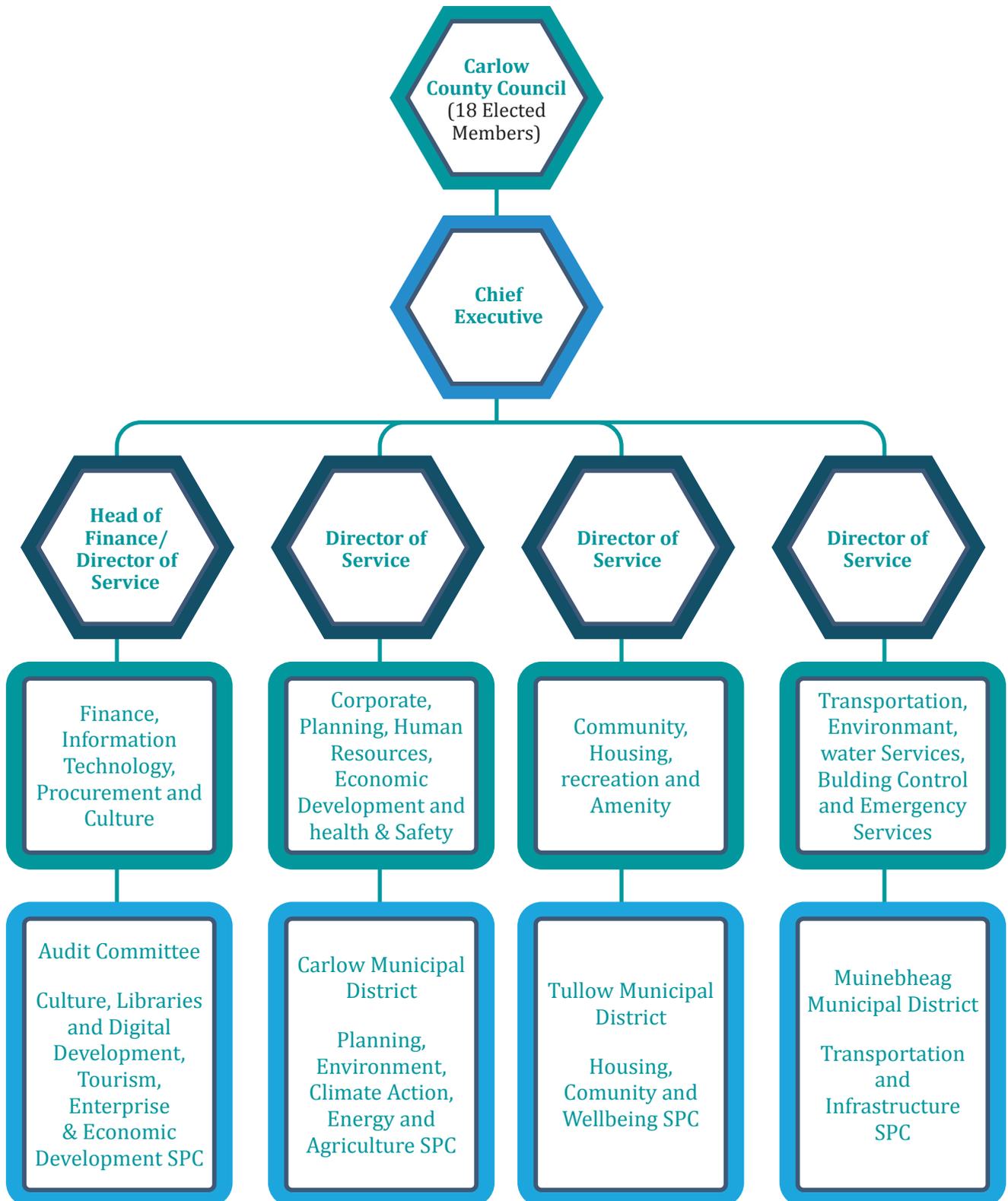
Senior Management Team

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Kathleen Holohan | Chief Executive. |
| Pat Delaney | Head of Finance: Finance, Information Systems, Arts and Culture. |
| Michael Brennan | Director of Services: Community, Housing, Recreation & Amenity. |
| Michael Rainey | Director of Services: Corporate/HR, Planning, Health & Safety, Economic Development /LEO. |
| Padraig O’Gorman | Director of Services: Transportation, Environment & Water Services, Building Control & Emergency Services. |



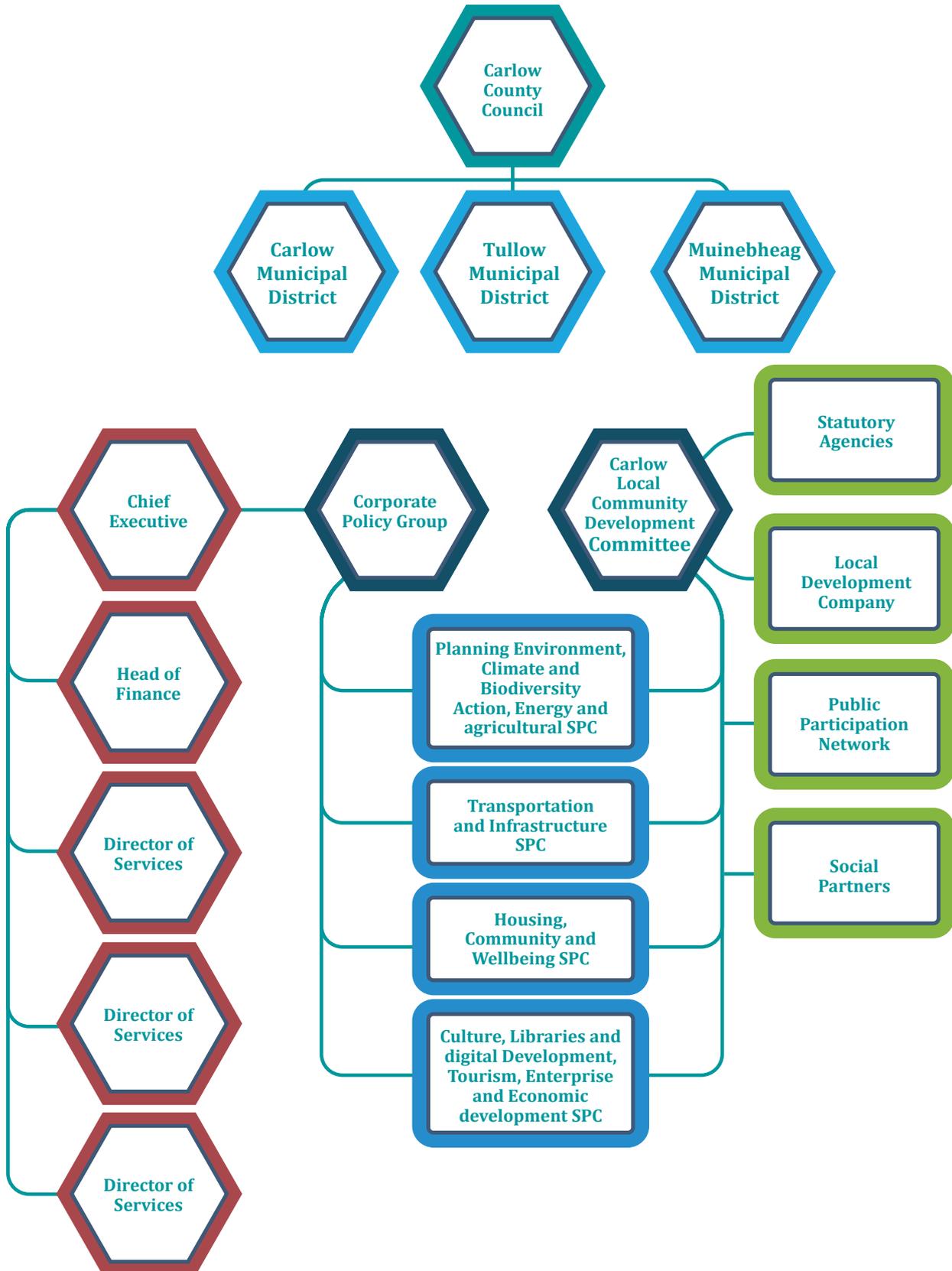
Appendix 9

Local Operating Environment



Appendix 10

Organisational Structure





COMHAIRLE CONTAE
CHEATHARLACH

CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

County Buildings
Athy Road
Carlow R93 E7R7

059 9170300 | www.carlow.ie