



Comhairle Contae
Ros Comáin
Roscommon
County Council



To: The Cathaoirleach and Each Member of Roscommon County Council

Date: 19th September, 2018

Re: Management Report August, 2018

Dear Cathaoirleach and Members,

As part of the on-going governance of the Local Authority, Section 136 (2) of the Local Government Act 2001 as inserted by section 51 subsections (3) and (4) of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 places an obligation on the Chief Executive to prepare monthly management reports, in relation to the performance of his or her executive functions during the preceding calendar month, including implementation of policy or other matters required by the council in the exercise of its reserved functions, and the provision of services by the council, and shall on the set day (4th Monday of each month) furnish a copy of the management report to each member of the local authority.

I refer to circular letter LG 18/2014 which contains the guidelines on the preparation of the monthly management reports. The monthly management reports are intended to assist the elected members discharge their governance responsibilities.

The attached management report for August, 2018 has been prepared in accordance with Circular LG18/2014 and policies which have been adopted by Roscommon County Council are currently being implemented throughout the organisation.

Yours sincerely,



Chief Executive



Comhairle Contae
Ros Comáin
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MANAGEMENT REPORT



August 2018

Summary of Major Collections as at 31st August 2018

Debt Type	Opening Balance	Accrued	Vacant Property Adjustments	Write Off	Total for Collection	Collected	Closing Balance	Specific Doubtful Arrears	% Collection	Collection Previous Year
Commercial Rates	2,428,797	11,763,092	1,057,567	468,791	12,665,532	8,064,124	4,601,407	78,692	64%	57%
Rents & Annuities	412,573	2,988,900		(6,470)	3,407,943	2,988,502	419,442		88%	87%
Housing Loans	140,224	108,095			248,319	111,393	136,926		45%	47%

Recourse to Overdraft;

There has been no recourse to overdraft during the month of August 2018

Saturday, 17th November in Cork City Hall.

Tidy Towns and Amenity Grants

- The 83 groups awarded funding under this scheme are carrying out their small scale capital amenity and local enhancement projects currently and payments are being issued as works are completed. All claims have to be returned to the section by 28th September 2018.

Age Friendly

- Programme status update given to National coordinators in Meath County Council.
- Introductory meeting held with working group members including GRETB, OPC, Brothers of Charity and LEADER company representatives.
- Date proposed for 1st working group meeting end of Sept to allow OPC hold meeting on 27th September and update AFWG.
- Projects progressing include WHO affiliation and official launch of Boyle as Age Friendly Town.

Social Inclusion

- Plans underway to develop Healthy estate in Boyle
- Call seeking projects for Social Inclusion week published in August.

Town Teams Community

- Tender request for Monksland Community Centre feasibility study consultancy works advertised via e-tenders
- Community Sports day held in August in Monksland
- Roscommon Town Team Wellness weekend event scheduled for September.

Roscommon Arts Centre

- During renovations at the arts centre, the visual art programme is being presented offsite through exhibitions, residencies and publications. Fiona McDonald completed her work in the county in August and the work produced was launched in our offsite exhibition in King House.
- 18 applications for the Historic Commission/Margaret Cousins were received in August. These were recently reviewed by an independent assessor and the artist Eimear Walsh was selected.
- Writer in residence Sue Rainsford has produced 2 newly commissioned publications in response to Fiona McDonald's exhibition in King House & RAAF award winner Siobhan O'Connor in Oonagh Young Gallery, Dublin.
- Outside of the visual art programme, no other events took place during the month of August as building works have commenced and this period was left dark to accommodate works on the foyer space. The schedule of works has now however changed and the majority of the work on this space has now been pushed back until the end of November.
- The box office has re-located to Aras an Chontae for the duration of the renovations and both the Arts Centre Director and Marketing Officer are now also located here.
- The Arts Centre Director has taken on the role of Acting Arts Office and the Marketing Development Officer has been providing administrative support to the Department also in the absence of the Arts Officer. The Technical Manager has been assisting in the library during this period.

Forward Planning

Vacant Site Levy work arising from the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015

The Valuer appointed to undertake valuations on all sites entered on the Vacant Site Register concluded his work, and the Planning Authority subsequently issued formal notification of the valuations to all owners. In accordance with the provisions of the Act, owners now have the opportunity to appeal the valuations to the Valuation Tribunal.

Development Management (including enforcement activity)

The table below summarises Development Management activity in the Planning Section in August. A total of 42 valid applications were received, which represented a reduction from the July figure (54). 52 decisions were issued on planning applications in August, of which only 1 was a refusal. The summary table below reflects the recent changes in the Development Management structure, with a change from development management areas based on the 3 Municipal Districts to two areas – 'Roscommon South' and 'Roscommon North.'

Period	Activity	Roscommon South	Roscommon North	Totals
August 2018	Valid app	13	29	42
	Invalid app	4	11	15
	Extension of Duration	1	0	1
	Refusal	0	1	1
	DED	1	2	3
	Pre-planning meeting	19	9	28

Enforcement Activity

Period	Activity	Roscommon South	Roscommon North	Totals
August 2018	New enforcement case	4	1	5
	Warning letter 0	0	0	0
	Enforcement notice	0	1	0
	Closed case	1	0	1
	Legal proceedings	0	0	0

Unfinished Housing Developments

Similar to the situation in July, due to the summer holiday period, development activity on site in Unfinished Housing Developments was not as prevalent as in earlier periods this year. Developers continued to undertake agreed site resolution works in 3 developments (two in Ballaghaderreen and one in Rooskey). Direct labour workers engaged by Roscommon County Council also continued with their programme of work in developments in Ballinagare and Frenchpark.

Two developments (in Ballaghaderreen and Strokestown) have also been deemed to be of a satisfactory standard to enable the taking in charge process to be progressed, and as part of this, Schedules have been sent to Irish Water in respect of the developments.

Two contracts were also rewarded in August for site resolution works at developments in Boyle and Tarmonbarry.

1. Demonstrate the importance of mainstreaming entrepreneurship education within VET for the benefit of individual students and wider regional development.
2. Publically recognise the achievements of the alliance.
3. Encourage the formation of other alliances in other Regions.
4. Showcase the methods available to educators to integrate entrepreneurship into main stream curriculum.

USEFE:

- Annual contribution of €10,000 approved in April.

Town and Village and Other Funding:

- Prioritised projects from each MD collated.
- Meeting arranged with DOS and MD co-ordinators to agree top projects.
- Update and clarification sought in relation to change of use with Dept.
- 2018 Scheme launched – call for expressions of interest advertised in both local papers. Closing date for entries was the 5th June.
- 17 Expressions of Interest received.
- 2016 & 2017 Funding must be expended by end of June 2018 to allow a town apply for 2018 funding.
- Enterprise section finalising complete applications to Department by 30th June.
- 9 applications for Town and Village funding 2018 sent to Department, confirmation of approvals expected in August.

Outdoor Recreation Scheme:

5 Applications sent to Department for approval.

- Boyle Green Way.
- Cross River Walk Way Monksland.
- Suck Valley Way.
- Sliabh Ban Trail.
- Loughnaneane Park Trail.

Marketing of County:

- Photographer has completed a number of the business and tourism photographs. Final list to be delivered in September.
- Tender was prepared and circulated for DVDs to promote county overall as well as different sectors. It was also promoted on both the LEO and RCC social media channels.
- Content prepared on reasons to invest in each town.

Monitoring of Economic Element of LECP:

- Update provided in relation to Economic actions.

- **Rebranding :** Contract awarded to Design West and first meeting held.

- **Publicity & Media:**

Publicity Material/Website: Advertisement development for Go Lakelands and Roscommon people Summer magazine.

Signage: 2 further signs for Casey's Roscommon being developed for King House and Arigna Mining Experience.

Social Media: Information from attractions and communities being updated on daily bases. Enterprise Department has agreed to coordinate Council Social Media usage for Arts, Heritage, Economic Development, Social Inclusion and Community Section. 3 adverts posted on Facebook with – 6,556 people reached. 6 adverts posted on Twitter.

Events Calendar: Enterprise Department approving events and promoting through numerous channels and contacts. GIS Officer has promoted in Local Authority News publication. Working with GIS Officer to develop more user friendly links before advertising on local print and social media in 2018. Calendar advertised on 2 local papers and also through social media advert during March.

Trade Shows: Attended the 50 plus Trade Show in Hodson Bay.

- **Outdoor Recreation:** Donamon and Castlerea Demesne project under Measure II 2017, match funding agreed.
2018, Application for 2 projects submitted under Measure II. Sliabh Bawn application lodged for €187,000 and Suck Valley Way for €100,000.
- **Healthy Ireland:** Application submitted for 2018 scheme to develop county booklet on walks and outdoor activities. Awaiting decision.
- **2018 Festival and Events:** 4 projects paid out to date.