



Comhairle Contae  
Ros Comáin  
Roscommon  
County Council



# MANAGEMENT REPORT



January 2020

**Roscommon County Council**  
**Revenue Account Income & Expenditure Summary by Service Division**  
**Management Accounts Summary to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020**

|   | EXPENDITURE                           |                          | INCOME                             |                          | NET                               |
|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|   | Expenditure Incurred up to 31/01/2020 | Adopted Full Year Budget | Income Receivable up to 31/01/2020 | Adopted Full year Budget | Actual Overall Surplus/ (Deficit) |
|   | €                                     | €                        | €                                  | €                        | €                                 |
| Housing & Building                          | 335,332                               | 6,640,134                | 673,727                            | 7,294,094                | 338,395                           |
| Road Transport & Safety                     | 621,020                               | 24,288,076               | 40,460                             | 17,645,706               | (580,560)                         |
| Water Services                              | 293,123                               | 7,639,343                | 0                                  | 7,510,258                | (293,123)                         |
| Development Management                      | 67,800                                | 7,126,358                | 292,618                            | 1,631,071                | 224,818                           |
| Environmental Services                      | 68,190                                | 6,001,605                | 34,060                             | 937,131                  | (34,131)                          |
| Recreation & Amenity                        | 182,342                               | 4,126,824                | 64,008                             | 607,634                  | (118,335)                         |
| Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare    | 15,285                                | 679,748                  | 3,866                              | 258,556                  | (11,418)                          |
| Miscellaneous Services                      | 88,922                                | 4,785,214                | 119,557                            | 1,932,252                | 30,636                            |
| Central Management Charges                  | 705,747                               | 0                        | 56,544                             | 0                        | (649,203)                         |
| Local Government Fund/General Purpose Grant | 0                                     | 0                        | 901,433                            | 10,817,200               | 901,433                           |
| Pension Levy                                | 0                                     | 0                        | 0                                  | 0                        | 0                                 |
| Rates                                       | 0                                     | 0                        | 1,049,248                          | 12,653,400               | 1,049,248                         |
|   | <b>2,377,761</b>                      | <b>61,287,301</b>        | <b>3,235,521</b>                   | <b>61,287,301</b>        | <b>857,760</b>                    |

**Note 1;**  
The Central Management Charge is allocated one month in arrears. The costs included in the Central Management Charge are distributed among Divisions A-H and include costs from Area Offices, Corporate Affairs, Corporate buildings, Finance, Human Resources, IT Print & Post Room Services, Pension & Lump Sums.

**Summary of Major Collections as at 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020**

| <b>Debt Type</b>             | <b>Opening<br/>Balance</b> | <b>Accrued</b> | <b>Vacant<br/>Property<br/>Adjustments</b> | <b>Write<br/>Off</b> | <b>Total for<br/>Collection</b> | <b>Collected</b> | <b>Closing<br/>Balance</b> | <b>Specific<br/>Doubtful<br/>Arrears</b> | <b>% Collection</b> | <b>%<br/>Collection<br/>Previous<br/>Year</b> |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|--|----------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|--|---------------------|---|
| <b>Commercial Rates</b>      | 1,358,169                  | 12,590,977     | (1,508)                                    | 8,075                | 13,942,578                      | 270,621          | 13,671,956                 | 79,806                                   | 2%                  | 3%  |
| <b>Rents &amp; Annuities</b> | 474,557                    | 435,602        |  |                      | 910,159                         | 415,534          | 494,624                    |  | 46%                 | 39%   |
| <b>Housing Loans</b>         | 120,379                    | 15,261         |  |                      | 135,640                         | 39,517           | 96,123                     |  | 29%                 | 29%   |

**Recourse to Overdraft;**

There has been no recourse to overdraft during the month of January 2020.

# Planning Section Management Report

## Forward Planning

### Forthcoming review of the *Roscommon County Development Plan 2014-2020*

Preparation was on-going internally within the Planning Section in January in advance of the forthcoming commencement of the statutory process for the review of the *Roscommon County Development Plan 2014-2020*. In accordance with the legislative provisions of Section 11 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), the commencement of the review process was deferred in 2018 pending the adoption of the *Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy* (RSES) by the Northern and Western Regional Assembly (NWRA). It has been confirmed that the RSES was made by the NWRA on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2020. The statutory process for the review of the County Development Plan is required to commence within 13 weeks of that date. Work which was on-going in January in preparation for the start of the formal process included the preliminary drafting of an Issues Paper (which will be circulated as part of the formal consultation process), work to finalise the development of a website dedicated to the review of the RCDP, and the issuing of a request for tenders for environmental consultants to undertake Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA) as required during the plan making process.

### Development Management and Planning Enforcement Activity

The table below summarises Development Management activity in the Planning Section in November. A total of 32 valid applications were received in January. Although a significantly lower number of applications than in preceding months, it is reflective of the general trend in January in previous years. Decisions were made on 43 planning applications, of which 3 were refusals.

| Period       | Activity              | Roscommon North | Roscommon South | Totals |
|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------|
| January 2020 | Valid app             | 12              | 20              | 32     |
|              | Invalid app           | 2               | 1               | 3      |
|              | Extension of Duration | 0               | 0               | 0      |
|              | Refusal               | 1               | 2               | 3      |
|              | DED                   | 1               | 1               | 2      |
|              | Pre-planning meeting  | 6               | 3               | 9      |

### Enforcement Activity

| Period       | Activity             | Countywide Totals |
|--------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| January 2020 | New enforcement case | 9                 |
|              | Warning letter       | 6                 |
|              | Enforcement notice   | 0                 |
|              | Closed case          | 3                 |
|              | Legal proceedings    | 0                 |

A total of 9 new planning enforcement complaints were received in January, of which 7 originated from members of the public. The number of complaints received in January was unusually high, relative to the total number of planning enforcement complaints received during 2019 (55).

## Unfinished Housing Developments

A range of activity continued to be undertaken in January as part of the on-going initiative to resolve unfinished housing developments. Similar to activity at the latter end of 2019, developers have been undertaking work on three sites in Roscommon town, while semi-skilled workers employed directly by Roscommon County Council were engaged in works at two developments – one in Monksland, and one in Barrybeg.

As part of the preliminary stage of the Taking in Charge (TIC) process, schedules were sent to Irish Water in respect of two developments – one each in Boyle and Barrybeg. In addition, two further developments have reached the final stage of the TIC process – Riverview in Rooskey and Greenhills in Knockcroghery were referred to the Roads Section for Taking in Charge.

## Economic and Development Promotion

### Local Enterprise Office:

- 182 enquiries were recorded.
- 2 Business Advice Clinics were held with 12 participants.
- 15 people availed of the TOV Information Session.
- Promotion of Brexit supports continued.
- Ongoing one-to-one mentoring for the business community continued.
- On-site mentoring continued as part of the Lean for Business Programme.
- 2019/2020 Student Enterprise Programme: All 9 second level schools have received support and the Programme continues, with the County Final scheduled to take place on 12<sup>th</sup> March.
- Primary School Enterprise Awareness Workshop: 16 School visits in total have taken place. The closing date for the Enterprise Slogan is 14<sup>th</sup> February.
- The Spring training programme was set out with online bookings put in place - all being promoted on social media.
- Planning for Local Enterprise Week commenced, with 17 Events scheduled.
- All LEO supports are being promoted on the LEO website and on various social media platforms.
- 5 businesses were supported in exhibiting at Showcase 2020 held in the RDS 19<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> January.
- A Projects Evaluation Meeting took place on the 30<sup>th</sup>. Two projects were recommended for funding approval to Enterprise Ireland's Investment Committee. Awaiting outcome.
- USEFE FabLab & Operational Group Meetings were held on the 21<sup>st</sup> attended by HoE.

**Vacant Sites:** Ongoing advertising of available sites continues.

**Enterprise Development Plan to 2020:** Strategic Objective 4 "Enhancing the Growth Potential of Ag Tech in the West". The report has been completed.

**IDA:** HoE has had a meeting with Rikki Conneely, IDA Regional Executive, IDA re: attracting investment to Roscommon. A portfolio of lands is currently being prepared.

The IDA and LEO are hosting an Event during Local Enterprise Week in the Roscommon Arts Centre on Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 7.30pm, ie Remote Working – Grow Remote.

# Community and Economic and Development

## Healthy Ireland

- Final document and addendum received;
- All applications submitted were successful;
- Awaiting monies from Pobal;
- Interviews to be held for HI Co-ordinator position Feb 2020.

## LEADER:

- 53 payments made to promoters totaling €1,593,188.14;
- 26 Projects paid in full;
- Monthly Admin Returns and payments to LEADER Co. are ongoing;
- Article 48 checks are ongoing.

## Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

Local Action Group meeting held 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020 and following agenda items dealt with:

- Financial report;
- LEADER Programme Implementation Update;
- LEADER Sub-Committee Meeting Report;
- Update on Expressions of Interest;
- Consideration of recommendations of LEADER Evaluation Committee.

## Social Inclusion

### National Age Friendly Coordinators meetings:

- Managers meeting taking place at the end of the month.

### Integration Strategy:

- Development of strategy to commence in conjunction with LEADER and CYPSC.

### SICAP:

- SICAP Annual Plan 2020 and 2019 Annual Performance Review have been completed and are being presented for approval to LCDC Meeting 26/02/2020.

## Heritage

### **Heritage Plan Funding- Application to Heritage Council**

- Two projects:
  - Field Monuments adviser for Farming Rathcroghan EIP;
  - Conservation Report of 3 RCC owned Church Ruins.
  - Anticipate hearing in March.

## Arts

- Received letter from Arts Council confirming funding for 2020 of €49200;
- Advertised for the Artist Bursary Programme and Tyrone Guthrie Scholarship. Closing date for applications 14<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020.

## Tourism

- Meetings with –
  - Archivist in Strokestown House to review his working for first year of employment contract;
  - RRO Eilish Canty to agree the final elements of the Green Heartlands Cycle way project;
  - IHH in regard to Commercial Tourism Trade Network development;
  - IAAT – to discuss the development of Adventure Activities in IHH;
  - Coillte RCC Steering Group – to review the Coillte and RCC projects for coming months.
- Application submitted to Dept. Transport Tourism and Sport for funding for feasibility for potential Greenway from Tarmonbarry to Athlone.
- Trade Show – Attended the 3-day Holiday World Show in RDS Dublin.
- Creative Ireland – With Nollaig Feeney (Heritage) agreed to look at developing an Eco tourism/Bio Diversity project which will encourage local children to visit lough Key, through funding national school visits.
- Website/Social media – New Social media Instagram account created, all social media now reflecting the visitrosocmmon title. Continual update of events page.