



Comhairle Contae
Ros Comáin
Roscommon
County Council



MANAGEMENT REPORT

JULY 2022

Roscommon County Council
Revenue Account Income & Expenditure Summary by Service Division
Management Accounts Summary to
31st July 2022

	EXPENDITURE		INCOME		NET
	Expenditure Incurred up to 31/07/2022	Adopted Full Year Budget	Income Receivable up to 31/07/2022	Adopted Full year Budget	Actual Overall Surplus/ (Deficit)
	€	€	€	€	€
Housing & Building	3,875,917	7,912,319	4,660,056	8,204,123	784,140
Road Transport & Safety	11,511,649	27,651,100	7,032,441	20,614,583	(4,479,208)
Water Services	2,764,327	7,543,881	3,277,130	7,503,821	512,803
Development Management	3,391,564	7,235,048	1,870,757	2,079,655	(1,520,808)
Environmental Services	2,652,275	5,964,033	287,842	961,143	(2,364,433)
Recreation & Amenity	2,051,464	4,216,889	544,971	554,668	(1,506,494)
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	353,341	818,316	122,487	257,927	(230,854)
Miscellaneous Services	3,049,745	5,261,757	2,917,433	2,892,172	(132,312)
Central Management Charges	4,658,157	0	294,155	0	(4,364,002)
Local Government Fund/General Purpose Grant	0	0	7,217,168	10,825,200	7,217,168
Pension Levy	0	0	0	0	0
Rates	0	0	7,299,511	12,710,052	7,299,511
	34,308,440	66,603,343	35,523,950	66,603,343	1,215,511

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 31st July 2022

Debt Type	Opening Balance	Accrued	Vacant Property Adjustments	Write Off/Waivers	Total for Collection	Collected	Closing Balance	Specific Doubtful Arrears	% Collection	% Collection Previous Year
Commercial Rates	1,232,568	12,513,448	845,966	536,760	12,363,290	8,142,829	4,220,461	35,153	66%	72%
Rents & Annuities	370,508	3,178,976			3,549,484	3,077,972	471,512		87%	88%
Housing Loans	136,487	161,081			297,569	170,747	126,821		57%	50%

Recourse to Overdraft;

There has been no recourse to overdraft during the month of July 2022

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Forward Planning

Pre-draft preparation was on-going in July in respect of the forthcoming *Roscommon Town Local Area Plan 2023-2029* and the *Boyle Local Area Plan 2023-2029*. Pre-draft public consultation periods commenced for both Plans on June 30th and were on-going until July 29th. An Issues Paper was published relating to each Plan, with the purpose being to highlight key themes which will be reflected in each of the Draft Local Area Plans and to invite comment on how the community wish to see Roscommon and Boyle develop.

Development Management and Planning Enforcement Activity

The table below summarises Development Management activity in July. A total of 47 valid planning applications were received, which was similar to the May figure of 46. Decisions issued on 52 planning applications, of which 43 were grants of permission.

Development Management Statistics

Period	Activity	Roscommon North	Roscommon South	Totals
July 2022	Valid applications	27	20	47
	Extension of Duration	0	1	1
	DED	1	1	2
	Pre-planning meeting	6	13	19

Enforcement Activity

Period	Activity	Countywide Totals
July 2022	New enforcement case	7
	General letter	10
	Warning letter	7
	Enforcement notice	1
	Closed case	4
	Legal proceedings	0

Unfinished Housing Developments (UHD)

Development activity was on-going in three unfinished housing developments in July, all three of which were in the Boyle Municipal District. Contractors engaged under RCC's Framework were working on two of the developments and a developer was at work in the remaining development.

Schedules for three developments were referred to Irish Water as part of the process of progressing developments to being considered for taking in charge. The three developments are Quay West (North) and Quay West (South) in Cootehall and an unnamed development in Commons Townland in Ballinlough.

In addition, Erris View, Boyle and Goldsmith Drive and Convent Garden, both of which are in Elphin, reached the final stages of the taking in charge process and were referred to Roscommon County Council's Roads Section.

ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT PROMOTION

Local Enterprise Office:

- **Trading On Line Vouchers (TOVs):** 20 applications have been received and approved to-date in 2022. Clients who received TOV approval in 2021 and whose deadline date is approaching are being followed up, with only one grant payment outstanding. Remote Trading Online Voucher Information Seminars are held regularly, with booking accepted via the LEO website. The next Remote Trading Online Voucher Information Seminar is on 25th of August 2022.
- **Evaluation & Approvals Meeting:** An Evaluation and Approval Committee Meeting was held on 27th July. Two Priming Grant applications were before the committee and both were approved for funding. The next Evaluation Committee meeting is scheduled for 28th September.
- **Green for Micro Scheme:** The Green for Micro helps small businesses become more environmentally friendly and sustainable by providing advice and technical support covering topics such as resource efficiency, understanding carbon footprint and implementing an environmental management system. LEO Roscommon has processed 10 applications in 2022.
- **DigitalStart Scheme:** Digital Start is a pilot initiative from the Local Enterprise Office designed to help businesses prepare and implement a plan for the adoption of digital tools and techniques across the business. Procurement of consultants has been completed and 1 application has been received to date.
- **Technical Assistance for MicroExporters:** helps small businesses expand into export markets by assisting with the costs of exhibiting at international trade shows. LEO Roscommon has processed 6 applications in 2022 (2 applications received previously were subsequently withdrawn).
- **Microfinance:** Year to date, 7 applications have been received, 5 have been approved, 2 declined and 0 are awaiting decision. Post MFI Mentoring is on-going with 1 client. Work continues on the promotion of this source of finance on social Media and via mentoring clinics.
- **Training:** Demand for Training to support the business community is high and well attended. A total of 565 participants have been facilitated between January and July 2022.
- **Remote Mentoring:** Remote Business Advice Clinics were held in January, February, March, April, May, June & July. 205 clients in total have been facilitated through Business Advisory Clinics and One to One Mentoring via Submit.com.
- **REBOOT Training Programme:** (RTP) is a co-operative collaboration between Local Action Groups and Local Enterprise Offices in Mayo, Roscommon and Sligo. It will ensure consistency, flexibility, stimulation and activation of tailored training needs and skills development and will run for 18 months. 3 courses have now commenced. Training has been delivered to 108 businesses as part of the programme and a Digitalisation Networking event was held on May 12th.

- **Enquiries:** Appropriate support provided on an ongoing basis. **278** enquires were logged in total between January and July 2022.
- **Student Enterprise Programme:** This programme has now completed and the procurement process for the co-ordinators of the 2022/2023 programme is currently ongoing.
- **National Enterprise Awards:** This initiative has concluded for 2022 and will recommence in 2023.
- **Promotion:** All LEO supports were promoted on the LEO website and on various social media platforms.
- **EI:** LW continues to work with Meabh Conaghan, the new West Region Manager and Noeleen Hussey and has joined the LEO Projects Evaluation Committee.
- **IDA:** LW is keeping the line of communication open between IDA, CE & Senior Management of RCC in the hope of encouraging FDI to Roscommon.

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT

Healthy Ireland

- HIF Round 4 Grant Agreement Signed and in place

LEADER

- Article 48 checks are ongoing
- LEADER Admin Returns being processed monthly
- 9 payments for LEADER grants made in July 2022

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

Meeting of Roscommon Local Community Development Committee took place on 20th July 2022 online via Microsoft Teams. Some of the key agenda items discussed were as follows:

- Update on Migrant Integration Strategy
- Update on LECF Review
- Attendance/Location of future LCDC Meetings
- SICAP: Additional Funding for Ukrainian Support
- Update on SICAP work to support Ukraine crisis in County Roscommon
- Approval of SICAP 2022 Mid-Year Review

Joint Policing Committee (JPC)

No meetings held in July.

Public Meeting of the JPC scheduled for 12th September.

2022 Community Safety Innovation Fund

€2 million has been made available for 2022 to support the development of community safety through innovative, local community based initiatives.

Applications submitted to the Department of Justice and is currently under consideration - expected timeline for a decision late September/October

CLÁR

- **CLÁR 2020**
8 Projects totalling €309,144 was granted funding under CLÁR 2020
CLÁR 2020 is nearing completion with the final project nearing completion
7 projects completed and paid in full.
- **CLÁR 2021**
7 Projects totalling €269,412 was granted funding under CLÁR 2021.
Work is in progress on these projects. Some are nearing completion and drawdown.

- **CLÁR 2022**
28 Applications were received for CLÁR 2022. 15 applications were submitted to the Department for consideration. The funding is expected to be announced in July 2022.

SICAP

- SICAP payment for Q3 was paid in July.

Communities Activities Fund (CAF):

- Grant payments to groups has commenced under the operation costs side of the scheme. Approximately €4,000 remains for payment across 4 community groups under this category.
- Grant payments under the capital side of the scheme are ongoing with a drawdown date of end of August 2022.

Tidy Towns and Amenity Grants Scheme

- Grant claims are being checked and grant payments are being processed on the basis of works complete and relevant documentation is submitted

Pride of Place 2022

Ongoing liaising with the 3 groups in this year's competition for the judging scheduled for 8th & 9th August

The 3 groups are as follows:

- The Melting Pot Community Society Ltd – Category - Community Wellbeing Initiative
- Lisnamult Tenants & Residents Association – Category - Urban Neighborhoods
- Lough Ree Angling Hub – Category - Community Tourism Initiative

Social Inclusion Unit

- **Play Day:** Successful Play Day held on 2nd July; with over 264 Adults and 314 Children in attendance; special travel concessions were put in place for the Ukrainian families throughout the County.
- **Comhairle na nÓg:** Comhairle na nÓg Co-ordinations event attended; Steering Committee Meeting also attended.
- **Age Friendly Programme:** Age Friendly Event hosted by Laois County Council attended – event based around the development of the new Strategy.
- **Migrant Integration Strategy:** Progression of Strategy ongoing – 1st Draft received from Consultants for Comment – circulated to Steering Committee – reviewed and returned to Consultants for amendment.

Heritage

Royal Sites of Ireland World Heritage Bid:

- RIt was announced in July 2022 that the Royal Sites of Ireland, including Rathcroghan, has been successful in its application for addition to Irelands World Heritage Tentative List. The Royal Sites of Ireland Steering Group will continue to work with the World Heritage Unit of the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage and all stakeholders to progress the application to UNESCO, which could take up to two years

Farming Rathcroghan EIP Community Archaeology Programme:

- Project archaeologist continues to provide support to the Farming Rathcroghan EIP and delivered a guided walk during National Heritage Week 2022.

Built Heritage Investment Scheme:

- A progress report on all 13 projects was submitted to the Department of Housing Local Government & Heritage. Heritage Office continues to liaise with projects.

Historic Structures Fund

- A progress report on 2 x projects operating under this scheme was submitted to the Department of Housing Local Government & Heritage. Heritage Office continues to liaise with projects.

County Heritage Plan Funding:

- 4 projects are funded. 2 are on target. 2 are behind target.

Aleen Cust Commemorations 2022

- Project planning continues. Local participants have been contacted to take part in the conference which is scheduled for August 2022.

Heritage Week 2022

- Plans are progressing for the RCC programme of events. Ongoing support will be provided to the public and community groups to plan and publicise their *events*.

County Roscommon Heritage Forum

- NA.

Preparation of New County Heritage Plan

- NA

RCC Actions for Pollinators

- Heritage Office continues to provide information materials and signage to community groups and individuals around the county.

Health & Safety Issue at Cloonshanville Cemetery

- Heritage officer has met representatives of OPW & National Monuments Service on site

Tourism

Regional Projects:

- **IHH & WWI** – Shannon Discovery Points review on going. Meeting with Longford County Council to discuss.
- **Clondra/Richmond Harbour/Tarmonbarry** – feasibility with WWI ongoing.

County:

- **Hodson Bay** – SLR consultants Feasibility Study in final phase.
- **Tourism Video** – Final draft of Video being prepared by Spicy Dog media
- **KEADUE Entente Florale** – Judging
- **Marketing:** Brouder Marketing consultant were awarded 3-month marketing and are currently completing the following
 - Arranging 2 Influencer visits (families in Sept and Great Escapers in Oct)
 - Launch of the new Tourism Video for autumn/midterm market
 - Weekly Social media adverts – FB, Instagram and Twitter
 - National advertising – Women Way, irishCentral.ie, UK2ireland.com and Local Newspapers.

King House

- CRA exhibition opened to public by Minister Humphreys
- Recording for TG4 Cúltír to show case Roscommon Musical talents and will air in Sept
- King House hosted the Boyle Arts festival (including Launch evening) and Boyle Arts exhibition was displayed in house during July and August
- Consultations on RRDF funding works commenced

Douglas Hyde Centre

- For summer 2022 the centre will open to public from June to Sept each weekend and via appointment during the week.
- New brochure designed and produced
- Planning currently ongoing for Culture night and Autumn LLPPS

Funding:

Town & Village

- Preparation and submission of Arigna T&V application 2022

Destinations Town

- **Public Art Commission Call** – Installation commenced of sculptures
- **Pleasure grounds** work nearing completion.

ORIS

- **Measure 3 2021** – The Arigna Energy Discover Park - Inception meeting with Paul Hogarth Ltd
- **Measure 1 2021** – Tender awarded for seating.

Arts Office

Local & Live Roscommon: Local Live Performance Programming Scheme Phase 4

- Events at Castlerea Rose Festival.

The **King House Piano Commission** 2022 marked the second in a series of music commissions by Roscommon County Council, in celebration of the grand piano at King House. The commission was awarded to Ronan Guilfoyle, composer, and the performance of Rath Cruachan premiered on July 18th during Boyle Arts Festival for piano, clarinet and guitar

Arts Participation Programme

- Inclusion in the Arts Bursaries awarded to 4 artists working with disability groups

Call to artists and cultural venues for **Culture Night** events (taking place Fri 23rd September).

Creative Ireland

- **Threading the Táin**, Áras an Chontae June/July

Decade of Centenaries

- **Connaught Rangers** new exhibition at King House
- **Artist Commission** for Culture night ongoing

Capital Programmes

In collaboration with Regeneration & Tourism

- Destination Towns – King House & Pleasure Grounds Public Art Commissions – 5 artists commissioned. First sculpture installed '*Posts Modern Point West*' by Conleth Gent.
- Outdoor Public Space Scheme – Somers Park Castlerea – 1 artist commissioned and installed '*Iasc*' by James Gannon.
- Town & Village – Knockcroghery Public Art – 3 artists commissioned and progressing for September/October installation.
- ORIS – Ballyleague –two artists commissioned

Roscommon Arts Centre

- **Theatre and Gallery** - Programmes ongoing

Artist Supports

- Seven artists taking part in initiatives: Artist On My Green, Creative Ireland Wings 2022 Artist in Residence, Studio 22 & New Voices Residency.