



Comhairle Contae
Ros Comáin
Roscommon
County Council



MANAGEMENT REPORT



September 2022

QUARTER 3

Roscommon County Council

Revenue Account Income & Expenditure Summary by Service Division

Management Accounts Summary to

30th September 2022

	EXPENDITURE		INCOME		NET
	Expenditure Incurred up to 30/09/2022	Adopted Full Year Budget	Income Receivable up to 30/09/2022	Adopted Full year Budget	Actual Overall Surplus/ (Deficit)
	€	€	€	€	€
Housing & Building	5,345,302	7,912,319	6,107,209	8,204,123	761,907
Road Transport & Safety	17,270,296	27,651,100	10,454,545	20,614,583	(6,815,750)
Water Services	4,399,848	7,543,881	4,680,604	7,503,821	280,756
Development Management	5,486,557	7,235,048	2,627,290	2,079,655	(2,859,267)
Environmental Services	4,023,269	5,964,033	441,058	961,143	(3,582,211)
Recreation & Amenity	3,233,620	4,216,889	1,144,419	554,668	(2,089,201)
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	531,433	818,316	139,525	257,927	(391,909)
Miscellaneous Services	4,103,428	5,261,757	3,377,444	2,892,172	(725,984)
Central Management Charges	2,184,232	0	140,656	0	(2,043,576)
Local Government Fund/General Purpose Grant	0	0	9,021,460	10,825,200	9,021,460
Pension Levy	0	0	0	0	0
Rates	0	0	9,381,251	12,710,052	9,381,251
	46,577,985	66,603,343	47,515,461	66,603,343	937,476

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 30th September 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	12,508,335	933,449	561,387	12,246,067	9,270,097	2,975,971	34,153	76%	83%
Rents & Annuities	370,508	4,160,038			4,530,546	4,036,330	494,216		89%	90%
Housing Loans	136,487	187,698			324,185	234,780	89,405		72%	57%

Recourse to Overdraft;

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

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Forward Planning

Work continued on the forthcoming *Roscommon Town Local Area Plan 2023 – 2029* and the *Boyle Local Area Plan 2023 – 2029*. Pre-draft submissions were received, following the publication of Issues papers on each of the towns, until 29th July and the forward planning team has prepared summary reports on the issues raised. Work is now underway to prepare the written text of the plans which will be undertaken over a six month period and it is anticipated that the Draft Plans will go on public display at the end of quarter 1 2023.

Further to the DHLGH issuing the *Residential Zoned Land Tax - Guidelines for Planning Authorities* earlier in the summer, surveying work and the preparation of maps was undertaken in August and September for the statutory publication on November 1st. This will include a draft map identifying all lands which will be 'in scope' for the purposes of the Residential Zoned Land Tax in the 8 main settlements within the County. The work is being undertaken collaboratively by the Forward Planning team and the Council's GIS Officer.

Development Management and Planning Enforcement Activity

The table below summarises Development Management activity in Q3. A total of 137 valid planning applications were received. Decisions issued on a total of 117 planning applications, of which 97 were grants of permission (83%).

Development Management Statistics

Period	Activity	Roscommon North	Roscommon South	Totals
Q3 2022	Valid app	73	64	137
	Extension of Duration	0	1	1
	DED	5	2	7
	Pre-planning meeting	21	26	47

Enforcement Activity

Period	Activity	Countywide Totals
Q3 2022	New enforcement case	23
	General letter	28
	Warning letter	31
	Enforcement notice	8
	Closed case	12
	Legal proceedings	0

Unfinished Housing Developments (UHD)

Development activity was ongoing in a total of 5 unfinished housing developments around the county at various times during Quarter 3. Contractors engaged under RCC's Framework were involved in site resolution works in 4 developments in the Boyle Municipal District. Developers were working on 1 unfinished development in Boyle also.

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.

Schedules for seven developments were referred to Roscommon County Council's Roads Section for Taking in Charge. Six of those are in the Boyle Municipal District – Erris View, Boyle and Goldsmith Drive and Convent Garden, both of which are in Elphin, an unnamed development in Commons Townland, Ballinlough, Riverwalk in Rooskey and Timber Drive in Strokestown. The seventh development (in the Athlone Municipal District) is a long established, unnamed development in Barrymore (identified locally as the 'tennis court' development).

ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT PROMOTION

Local Enterprise Office:

- **Trading On Line Vouchers (TOVs):**

27 applications have been received and approved to-date in 2022. Clients who received TOV approval in 2021 have now been paid, de-committed and reconciled. 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 20th of October 2022.

- **Evaluation & Approvals Meeting:**

An Evaluation Committee Meeting was held on the 28th September and, 1 Priming Grant, 1 Feasibility Study Grant and 2 Expansion Grant applications were assessed and funding approved totalling €69, 896. In total 13 M1 grants have been approved year to date totally €224,000. The next Evaluation Committee meeting is scheduled for November 2022.

- **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 11 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. 3 applications have 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 7 applications in 2022.

- **Microfinance:**

Year to date, 12 applications have been received, 7 have been approved, 2 declined and 3 are awaiting decision. Post MFI Mentoring is on-going with 2 clients. 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 610 participants have been facilitated between January and September 2022.

- **Remote Mentoring:**

Remote Business Advice Clinics were held in January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August & September. 248 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. **347** enquires were logged in total between January and September 2022.
- **Student Enterprise Programme:**
 Early Days Consultancy have been chosen as the co-ordinators for the 2022/2023 programme. All nine 2nd level schools in the county have registered to participate in the programme and initial school visits are 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.
- **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 & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Healthy Ireland

- HIF Round 4 Grant Agreement Signed and in place
- €40,000 up to end of December 2022 for planning purposes
- €12,599 up to the end of December 2022 for Social Prescribing action as ran under the round 3 programme.

LEADER

- Article 48 checks are ongoing
- LEADER Admin Returns being processed monthly
- 3 payments for LEADER grants made in September 2022
- Q3 & Q4 Payment for LEADER Admin was made in September 2022

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

Meeting of Roscommon Local Community Development Committee took place on 28th September 2022 Online Via Microsoft Teams. Some of the key agenda items discussed were as follows:

- Update on LECP Review
- Community Enhancement Programme 2022
- SICAP 2021 Draft Audit Report

LECP

Review ongoing of tenders received for Development of an Overall Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) integrated Framework for 6 year period and Initial Implementation Plan (2 Year) for County Roscommon.

Joint Policing Committee (JPC)

JPC Sub Committee meeting took place on 7th September 2022

Public Meeting of the JPC took place on 12th September 2022 in The Fortfield Suite, Abbey Hotel at 7.30pm

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 were submitted to the Department of Justice. We have been advised that they will be in contact with applicants when a decision has been reached on all applications but a very rough expected timeline for a decision is 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 finished and ready for drawdown.
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**
8 Projects totalling €323,599 was granted funding under tranche 1 and another 4 projects totalling €174,568.00 were granted funding under tranche 2 of CLÁR 2022 funding. This gives a total of €498,167 for 12 projects. Letters of Offer have been issued to all the successful applicants.

Communities Activities Fund (CAF)

- Grant payments under the operation and capital side of the scheme are ongoing.

SICAP

- SICAP payment for Q4 Funding was made in September.
- Audit Report of the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2021 was presented to the LCDC meeting on 28th September 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

Social Inclusion Unit

Age Friendly:

- Age Friendly together with the Older People's Network facilitated an information stand at the recent public meeting of the JPC..
- The Age friendly Programme Manager attended the National Ploughing Championships to facilitate an information stand with Laois Age friendly Programme Manager on behalf of Age friendly Ireland – Owing to the large attendance over all 3 days; there was a huge interest in the Age Friendly with lots of question and queries received

Migrant Integration Strategy:

- Working Group Meeting held to discuss 2nd version of the draft strategy and actions – attended by Consultants – Further work required on the actions – further meeting scheduled.

Comhairle na nÓg:

- Steering Committee Meeting attended – purposes of this meeting was to discuss and plan the upcoming Comhairle AGM.

Miscellaneous:

- **Roscommon Women's Network UpCycle Launch** – Launch attended – This initiative has been supported via various strands of funding; Social Enterprise, SICAP etc.
- **Social Farming Open Day Farm Visit** – Open day attended – this initiative has been supported via Health Ireland and Social Inclusion

Heritage

- **Royal Sites of Ireland World Heritage Bid**
Working Group meet on ZOOM on 29th September to discuss next steps. A 30k budget will be required from RCC each year for the next 5 years.
- **Farming Rathcroghan EIP – Community Archaeology Project**
Project is progressing well and is on target for its recoupment deadline.
- **Built Heritage Investment Scheme**
Progress report submitted to DHLG&H, as required. Despite their best efforts, 4 x projects have failed to commence. Funds have been re-allocated as much as possible to other applicants, within the parameters of the BHIS scheme. We confirm an underspend of €17, 143 that we cannot re-allocate at this stage and therefore will not be in a position to claim from the Department. An anticipated spend of €78,856 is still possible at this stage.
- **Historic Structures Fund**
Progress report submitted to DHLG&H, as required. 2 x projects supported this year are nearing completion and are on target for their recoupment deadline.
- **Conservation Advice Pilot Scheme**
This was announced by DHLG&H without advance warning and with a 2 x week window for applications. Heritage Office publicised the above scheme on RCC social media, Heritage Office news and to people who have enquired about grants during the past year. Also answered queries relating to the scheme and assisted with applications.
- **County Heritage Plan Funding**
4 projects are funded. 2 are on target. 2 are behind target due a lack of quotations for one project put out for quotations and pressures of other work commitments.
- **Táin March / Táin Tapestry 2022**
12 x primary schools, over 290 pupils, in County Roscommon are signed up to 'Royal Rathcroghan' - a FREE schools programme which will be delivered by heritage expert Chris Thompson this autumn.

- **Aleen Cust Commemorations 2022**

Work continues on the exhibition, story map, podcast series, schools pack all nearing completion. This project is led by the Aleen Cust Society and Galway County Council with the support of Roscommon & Tipperary County Councils.

- **County Roscommon Heritage Forum**

Meeting #3 took place in Strokestown Park. Main item for discussion was the review of the County Heritage Plan 2017-2021 & preparation of the new County Heritage Plan. This is linked to the new LECP and we are waiting on movement from the LECP which will in turn guide the public consultation for the preparation of the new Heritage Plan.

- **Hedgehog Survey Workshop**

Elaine O’Riordan from the Irish Hedgehog Survey, delivered a well-attended workshop in Strokestown, on Saturday 17th September. This event was held in association with Green Hub Gardening Club & Strokestown Tidy Towns.

- **RCC Actions for Pollinators**

Giorria Ecological Services meet with staff from Athlone MD to review 2022 council actions for pollinators and agree 2023 actions for pollinators.

- **Health and Safety Issue at Cloonshanville Cemetery**

Bat survey has been completed, still waiting for results of AA Screening for the required conservation works. A draft RFQ for conservation design has been sent to NMS for comment, as requested by NMS. I am still awaiting their feedback on this.

- **Owen O’Conor Mausoleum Conservation Project**

Project design has commenced. It is hoped that funding can be obtained for works in 2023.

- **Book – Kilmeane Graveyard, Mote Park, Roscommon Editor - Mary B. Timoney**

Project is progressing and on target for its recoupment deadline.

- **A Breeding Bird Survey of Carrowbehy Living Bog in association with Birdwatch Ireland; a video, story map & public event**

Project is progressing well and is on target for its recoupment deadline.

- **Roscommon Swift Colony Creation Project:**

Garrynagowna construction have been appointed for the erection of Swift Nest Boxes and caller systems @ 5 locations and this work, this work has been delayed due to circumstances beyond my control.

Tourism

Regional Projects:

- The inaugural meeting of IHH Destination & Experience Development Plan for Upper Shannon, Shannon-Erne and Border was held in mid-September. Roscommon representatives include RCC, Strokestown Park and Lough Key.

- Development of Shannon Discovery Points ongoing with Tandem Consultants
- Paul Hogarth Consultants are developing Discovery Points location and design on BBW
- Meeting with BnM regarding FI Just transition Application for greenway funding with Roscommon National Roads Regional Office (NRRO)

County

- County Marketing Campaign with Brouder Marketing campaign will be ongoing until end October
- Social influencers Barra Best (BBC weatherman) had 2-day visit to county in mid Sept. this received very positive feedback on all social media outlets.
- A Social media Halloween Marketing Campaign has commenced to highlight all activities taking place in the County
- Recording of *Ireland in Music* took place at Roscommon Castle and Lough Key for the programmes 2023 season on RTE.

King House

- House closed to the general public at the end of September for 2022 after a very success season
- RRDF retrofitting consultation on going and works are due to commence during the winter closed season
- Culture night events Musical Performances by Dotts O'Connor and Guests, with visit to the House open free all day.
- TG4 Cúltír recorded musical session was televised on 11th September, showcasing Local Roscommon Female Flute Players.
- Local Live Performances will take place during October in King House

Douglas Hyde Centre

- Centre closed for 2022 season
- Culture night event was the First in Series of 3 Local Presentations on Douglas Hyde – Dr Máire Nic an Bhaird presented *The Impact of Co Roscommon on the First President*. This was followed by performance of traditional music by local artists.

Outdoor Recreation Scheme 2021

- Arigna Discovery Park project at design stage, with works due to commence after Christmas
- All 5 Measure 1 2021 projects are ongoing at Lough O'Flynn, Judy's Harbour, Seating throughout the County, Cavetown and Lough Errit.

Arts Office

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

- Events at Edmondstown House Ballaghaderreen, In the Midst of Plenty at Roscommon Arts Centre, Night & Day Festival Castlerea, Lecture Series at Douglas Hyde Centre, Strokestown Park House/National Famine Museum.

Arts Participation Programme

CARE: Creative Ageing in Roscommon

- HSE Nursing Homes Artist Residencies: Weekly activities funded by HSE in Boyle, Roscommon and Castlerea. 5 artists engaged
- Music Network Teaching Residency at Trinity Arts Centre Castlerea, funded by Creative Ireland in partnership with Age Friendly Ireland

Inclusion in the Arts

- Following training funded by Disability Participation and Awareness Fund, 4 artists working with Brothers of Charity, Co Roscommon Disability Support Group and Castlekidz Childcare Special Needs group.

Culture Night Fri 23rd September

- Events in Roscommon kicked off at 3.30pm and ran until Midnight. With 26 events by 45 artists in 19 venues, the public could experience a range of arts and culture in the county's eclectic cultural venues at Arigna, Ballydangan, Boyle, Castlerea, Cootehall, Frenchpark, Keadue, Knockcroghery, Roscommon town and Strokestown. The new outdoor public performance space at Somers Park Castlerea hosted two music events. For those who could stick the pace – Music Generation Roscommon hosted a late night event for young Roma bands and DJs at The Quad Youth Centre in Roscommon Town.

Creative Ireland

- Festival in a Van *The Shared Music Sessions* at Ballyleague & Donamon Ukrainian Centres 19th September.

Decade of Centenaries

- Artist Commission 2022: A significant commemorative publication appeared as a supplement in The Roscommon Herald on 20th September – a large size commemorative publication by writer Richie Farrell with sketch artist Lea Farrell *War & Peace - The Satirical Sketches of the Roscommon Herald 1920-1923*;
- Roderic O'Conor Conference, which launched at Clonalis House on Culture Night, followed by a full day programme of events at Roscommon Arts Centre on Saturday 24th September.

Capital Programmes

In collaboration with Regeneration & Tourism

- Outdoor Public Space Scheme – Somers Park Castlerea – Stage Canopy to be installed October.
- Town & Village – Knockcroghery Public Art Commission – Mural & street art completed. Sculpture & Signage near completion.
- ORIS – Ballyleague – 2 artists commissioned and public consultations held on Culture Night for stone sculpture themes.
- Destination Town – Sculpture Trail – 2 sculptures installed, 3 near completion.
- RRDF – Reimagining Exhibitions & Visitor Experience at King House Boyle
- Roscommon Town Square & Laneways – preparing brief for call out for artist for Living Laneways with mosaic theme.

Roscommon Arts Centre

Performance Programme

The arts centre returned to a busy performance programme after the summer. Highlights included two sell-out performances of **“In The Midst of Plenty”** by Enchanted Croi Theatre, following on their successful run at Strokestown Park House and six sell-out performances of **“Beauty & the Beast”** by Roscommon Community College.

The centre’s in-house production **“An Ant called Amy”** returned to the rehearsal room.

Visual Art Programme

“The Playroom” continued in the gallery space, a group show commissioned by Roscommon Arts Centre and featuring work by artists Maree Hensey, Jen Fogarty & Celine Sheridan the exhibition explores “play” as a form of practice, a generative process and offers an experience for audiences to view and engage artwork, encouraging them to move, touch and play with it. The gallery space remained open late as part of **Culture Night** celebrations.

Creative Engagement & Education

The Creative Engagement Strand of this exhibition **“Wonderpools”** invites parents with toddlers to participate in a series of guided workshops with artist Maree Hensey in the gallery space.

The visual art education programmes: **Gallery X:Ed & Primary Colours** also re-commenced this month with opportunities for both primary and second level students having the opportunity to learn about the exhibitions and participate in workshops.

The weekly **Songbirds** (choral) and **Elderberries** (dance) initiatives for people aged 50+ have both re-commenced at the centre, with 15 + people participating weekly.

The Artist on My Green residency programme is now complete, with plans under discussion to host sharing evenings at the centre.

Workshop Space

Roscommon Youth Theatre & Cor Comain (choir) have both resumed their weekly sessions on the workshop space

Ukrainian Response Forum

Roscommon Community Response Forum was established by Roscommon County Council in March of this year. The Forum’s role is to co-ordinate the community led response in the provision of assistance and support to Ukrainian Refugees in Co. Roscommon. Partner agencies of the forum (Social Inclusion Measures Sub Committee SIM) work together to guide Refugees to the relevant services and supports required such as welfare, child care, health, education, employment, social and other integration needs. There are over 440 Ukraine’s currently accommodated in Roscommon and work is continually ongoing to accommodate additional displaced refugees in both centers and pledged properties.

REGENERATION UNIT

Urban Regeneration Development Fund

Roscommon Public Realm Enhancement Project

- Construction work on Main St and Market Square is now complete. Only minor snagging works remain.
- Design work on the Pavilion element is now complete and it is anticipated that the project will go to tender in November with commencement on site planned for Q1 2023.

Putting the Spokes back into the Wheel URDF

- Design work is progressing well and Part 8 Publication is planned for late Oct 2022.

Rural Regeneration Development Fund

Castlerea Food Hub

- Construction works ongoing with an expected completion date of July 2023.

Boyle Enterprise Hub and Riverside Promenade

- Construction is progressing well. Anticipated completion date of Q1 2023.

Monksland Life Sciences Hub

- Construction tender complete with funding shortfall for the project identified. Additional funding request to be submitted to DCRD & subject to additional funding approval the Construction Contract will be awarded. Subject to funding issues being resolved it is expected construction will commence in Q1 2023 with 12-month Contract.

Ballaghaderreen Public Realm

- NTA have committed a total fund of €5.6m to the Project under Active Travel. Construction tender pack being finalised for assessment & gateway approval by NTA. Subject to NTA Approval it is expected to publish Construction tenders in Q4 2022.

Energising Boyle Town Centre and King House

- Architect appointed for project management of Conservation Works to Doors and Windows of King House. Tender documents for works are practically complete.
- Mechanical/Electrical Consultant to project manage Energy Upgrade works to King House – Tenders have been received and are currently being assessed.
- It is anticipated to complete all mechanical/electrical works to King House during off-peak season – October 2022 to March 2023. Conservation works to doors and windows will extend beyond March 2023.
- Stage 2 Road Safety Audit is complete. Preliminary Design Report submitted to TII for approval. TII have sought additional reports and information. Works to tender documents are ongoing.

Putting the Heart into Monksland.

- Ongoing complications with site ownership being reviewed by RCC & its legal advisors. In the interim the award of the Consultancy Tender has been suspended.

Strokestown Bawn St Public Realm & Town Park Project

- Consultation meeting have been held with local councillors and community / stakeholder groups. Open consultation event held at Strokestown Agricultural Show in Sept.
- Internal consultation with RCC section heads on 19th October
- Part 8 publication planned for Q1 2023.

Town and Village 2020

Tarmonbarry

- Project complete

Croghan

- Project complete

Dysart

- Construction Works are ongoing & to be completed in Q4 2022.

Lecarrow

- Project Complete

Knockcroghery

- Landscaping and façade improvement elements complete
- Artists procured for mural, sculptor and signage elements.

Rooskey

- Construction of footpaths complete Feb 2022. Landscaping to be completed Q4 2022.

Four Roads

- Approval being sought from department for revisions to the scheme.
- Lighting element completed.

Town and Village 2021

Cloonfad

- Part 8 Published with Closing date for Submission of 21st October 2022
- Outdoor exercise Equipment Contract Awarded with equipment being installed
- Tender Document for Construction Contract being prepared

Monksland.

- Ongoing complications with site ownership being reviewed by RCC & its legal advisors. In the interim the award of the Consultancy Tender has been suspended.

Ballintubber

- Letter of offer has issued to the lead local community group who are implementing this project.

Global Rossie

- This project will fund a County wide marketing campaign to attract remote workers and mobile talent to the county.
- Tender documents being prepared for PR services are currently being prepared and will be published in Q4 2022.

Former Garda Stations Tarmonbarry & Ballintober - Development Measure.

- Consultants have been appointed by RCC with Public Engagements – Feasibility/Appraisal Stage to commence in November 2022 with an overall estimated programme of 6 months.

TVR Streetscape Enhancement Scheme 2022

- The Department of Rural and Community Development requested each Local Authority to nominate one town/village for inclusion in the 2022 scheme. Ballinlough has been nominated in respect of Roscommon. Initial meeting has been held in the village to discuss the scheme rollout.

Destination Towns

- Enhancement works to Boyle Pleasure Grounds are complete
- King House to Boyle River Enhancement Scheme – This project was re-tendered as the initial contractor withdrew his tender due to inflation in materials and labour. The project was re-tendered and the contractor due to be appointed by the end of October, however, it is expected that works won't commence until Q2 2023.
- Lighting to pedestrian bridge has been installed and lighting upgrade along river walk is complete.
- Sculpture Trail – Artists have been appointed and commissioning of sculpture pieces are ongoing. 3 of the 5 pieces have now been installed

Roscommon Bound - Global Rossie Project

- Work on social media element is ongoing and information on various projects of the Regeneration team is being highlighted as well as county wide news etc.
- The number of followers on social media continues to grow with 1443 (1,409) in the Roscommon Bound LinkedIn network from all over the world, 4,582 (4,521) followers on Facebook, 805 (782) followers on Twitter and 771 (739) followers on Instagram

Outdoor Recreation 2020

- Measure 2: Doon Shore: Works are complete. Additional works have been approved by the department
- Measure 2: Portrun: Works are substantially complete.
- Measure 3 – Mote Park – Trail enhancement/car parking works are complete. Stage 2 Road Safety Audit of looped cycleway is complete. Viewing Tower is not proceeding due to costs and a new application for ORIS funding has been submitted for large sculptures and natural play area.

Outdoor Recreation 2021

Ballyleague

- Landscape Architect Appointed to Progress Design of RCC elements of the scheme which is currently being finalised.
- Due to proximity of scheme to Lough Ree SPA & SAC – Environmental Report to include AA Screening & EIA Reports will be required.
- Two separate Artists have been appointed for Artistic Installation element.
- Construction tender documents for RCC elements of the scheme are being progressed in parallel with the landscape design & we expect to publish in Mid Q4 2022 once design has been finalised & Environmental reports are completed.

Ballintubber/Ballymoe Waterway and Looped Cycleway

- Ballintubber/Ballymoe Waterway and looped cycleway project €179,730. Stage 2 Road safety Audit of looped cycleway is complete. Tender is expected on E-Tenders, for the slipway element, in Q4 2022.

Arigna Energy Inclusive Park and Miner's Trail

- Consultants to project manage the delivery of the park were appointed on the 14th July 2022.

Rural Regeneration Development Fund 2021 Category 1

- Two applications for funding were submitted for Ballaghaderreen and Boyle.
- Part 8 Planning for proposed Boyle Community Library has obtained approval.
- No decision has been made yet in respect of these applications.

AEC AK

- The AEC Strategy and the AEC Hubs Strategy are complete and still awaiting ministerial sign-off.
- The WDC/AEC Ireland's National Hub Network ConnectedHubs.ie booking engine is now live with over 280 hubs on boarded to date
- National Hubs Summit scheduled for 24th November 2022 in Athlone.
- Corporate scheme is being scoped out with Grow Remote to engage corporate clients to use hubs. Initially planning a pilot with 6 corporates.

Just Transition

Ballyleague Boardwalk

- Feasibility Report Finalised and submitted to DECC for Approval.

Cloontuskert Works Project

- Feasibility Report Finalised and submitted to DECC for Approval

Mid- Shannon Wilderness Park

- Project transferred from Regeneration Section to Specialist Greenway Team within Roscommon NRDO

Greenways Carbon Fund

Athlone to Lanesboro Greenway

- Project transferred from Regeneration Section to Specialist Greenway Team within Roscommon NRDO.

Outdoor Performance Space

- Civils element complete
- Downer International Ltd appointed for supply and installation of Tensile Stage Canopy – to be complete in August 2022

Strokestown Town Centre First Plan

- Consultation meetings have been held with local councillors and community / stakeholder groups. Open consultation event held at Strokestown Agricultural Show in Sept.
- Internal consultation with RCC section heads on 19th October

LIBRARY SERVICES

Strokestown Library

Since reopening in June, Strokestown Library was visited by more than 6,000 people who have borrowed more than 4,000 items. These figures represent a 59% increase in visits compared to the same period in 2019. Items borrowed have increased by 84.5% in the same period.

Ballaghaderreen Library

Consultants have now been appointed to the project in Dillon House. The works are expected to be completed in Q2 2023, with the library expected to reopen during the summer of 2023. A weekly mobile library service continues in the town every Wednesday from 11am – 3:30pm.

Mobile Library

The mobile library has continued to offer services in Elphin, Ballaghaderreen and Monksland including visits to schools and preschools. A new schedule now includes visits to Keadue, Ballyfarnon, Rooskey and Tarmonbarry.

Equipment for visually impaired users

Through the support of the Dormant Accounts Fund, the library service has purchased a new device for Castlerea branch, aimed at supporting service users who are visually impaired, dyslexic and those with other needs. The new device is called an 'i-See HD electronic magnifier' which has been recommended specifically by the National Council for the Blind (NCBI). The equipment was supplied and installed by the NCBI, along with training provided for library staff and users. The device is designed to be easy and accessible to use. It can increase text and image size to more than 70 times the original size making it suitable for use by people with different levels and types of visual impairment. The device has settings that make letters clearly legible, aiding users with visual impairments, literacy needs and people with dyslexia.

Library Events and Activities

Culture Night events took place in Roscommon and Strokestown libraries in September. Roscommon Library hosted a War and Peace Exhibition and sketch workshops and Strokestown library hosted a performance and reading of "The Yipee Yaroo" by Helen McSharry. A series of videos, released during September, formed part of the Work Matters Programme. The four part series, delivered by Evelyn Cormican included *Education & Financial Supports for Careers*, *Rethinking your Career Post Covid*, *Interview Preparation* and *Effective CV Writing*.

Right to Read

The Summer Stars programme ran throughout the summer months. More than 900 children participated in Summer Stars this year in Roscommon.. This summer reading programme encourages children to read books for enjoyment during the summer months and offers rewards along the way. Junior infants aged children in the county can collect a free Little Library Book Bag from Boyle, Castlerea, Roscommon, Strokestown or the mobile library up until the end of October.

The Children's Book Festival will take place during the month of October with a range of events with writers and Storytellers visiting libraries across the county.

HOUSING BUSINESS UNIT

1.0 Homelessness & Housing Allocations

1.1 Homelessness:

A range of responses to homelessness in accordance with the West Framework Homelessness Action Plan are in place. The Western Region Homeless Action Plan 2019-2022 has been prepared by the lead Council (Galway City Council) with input from the other authorities in the region.

17 = homeless cases presented in Q3, 2022

14 = cases required short-term accommodation in Q3, 2022

Breakdown Homeless figures Q3 2022				
Presentations	Individuals	Families	Totals Households	Breakdown of Family unit
July	7	2	9	3Ad & 1Ch
August	3	1	4	2Ad
September	3	1	4	1Ad & 1Ch

Accommodated	Individuals	Families	Totals Households	Breakdown of Family unit
July	7	1	8	1Ad & 1Ch
August	2	1	3	2Ad
September	3	0	2	N/A

Galway Simon has been awarded the contract to provide Housing First services to the remainder of the Western Region (it was already contracted to provide these services for Galway City Council). Resources to support six Housing First applicants over a three-year period will be made available to County Roscommon under the Housing First programme. A Homeless Action Team (HAT) has been established to facilitate the co-ordination of Housing First and Housing-Led support services.

To date nine referrals have been forwarded to the HAT for consideration. Four referrals have been accepted for Housing-Led services and four referrals have been accepted for Housing First services. Four Housing First Tenancies and two Housing Led tenancies have commenced and other units of accommodation are currently being identified for the creation of further Housing First tenancies and Housing-Led tenancies. One referral was submitted to the HAT in Q2 2022 for consideration but was declined for both Housing Led and Housing First Services, as the client did not meet the criteria set out for eligibility under both mechanisms.

1.2 Housing Assessments & Allocations:

The 2022 Housing Needs Assessment commenced in September 2022 and the Minister has directed (circular 32/2022) that the summary be prepared on 1 November, 2022 and returned to the Department on or before 29 November 2022.

312 = applicants (excluding transfers) on the approved housing list at end of Q3, 2022

155 = applicants are currently in private rented accommodation

19 = offers of accommodation made in Q3, 2022

38 = nominations made to AHB

13 = new tenants appointed/allocated in Q3, 2022 to LA dwellings

0 = AHB Tenants appointed in Q3, 2022

3 = refusals recorded in Q3, 2022

2.0 Social Housing Rental Accommodation Market

2.1 Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS):

Financial support continues via the RAS Scheme for those applicants who have a long-term housing need. As of 30 September, 2022, there are 361 households receiving support (248 private rented and 113 in voluntary housing).

2.2 Housing Assistance Payment (HAP):

Roscommon County Council is working closely with the Community Welfare Officers in the Department of Social Protection to continue the transfer of Rent Supplement recipients to the HAP Scheme. 22 HAP tenancies were opened in Q3 and 10 were closed in the same period. As of 30 September, 2022, there were 422 social housing applicants in receipt of HAP.

2.3 Repair & Lease Scheme (RLS):

72 = applications were received and were assessed since the scheme was rolled out in Q1, 2017; the majority of the applications related to properties outside areas of need/demand or were remote rural dwellings in poor condition.

4 = number of lease agreements RCC has entered into under the RLS (two 1-bed apartments, and 3 bed ground floor apartment and a 4-bed house in Roscommon Town).

2.4 Leasing- Long-term Leasing and RAS-Type leases:

- As of 30th September, 2022, Roscommon County Council has 4 long-term leases: 3 in Boyle Town and 1 in Roscommon Town.
- As of 30th September, 2022, Roscommon County Council has 39 active RAS Type leases throughout the county. As part of Housing for All, it is the intention that there will only be 200 RAS Type leases nationally. RCC has received approval for 15 RAS type leases for 2022.
- One Mortgage to Rent (MTR) leases were completed in Q3 of 2022, which brings the total to 19 MTR's (6 with AHB's & 13 with HFL) leases in place.

3.0 Provision of Additional Social Housing Units

3.1 LA Build (including turnkeys & PPP):

- 10 units at Windmill Rd., Elphin – Contractor Appointed, works commencing October 2022 with estimated completion Q4 2023.
- 6 Units at Lake View Heights, Boyle - Stage 4 approval received from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in Q2 2022. Works commenced in July 2022 with estimated completion Q3 2023.
- 13 units at Lisnamult, Ardnanagh, Roscommon – Successful contractor identified in Q4 2022. Works expected to commence Q4 2022 with estimated completion Q4 2023.
- 2 Units at The Meadows, Castlerea – Works commenced in Q4 2021 for the refurbishment of unfinished houses acquired by RCC in 2021, expected completion Q4 2022.
- 1 Unit at Ardnanagh, Lisnamult, Roscommon – Works commenced in Q4 2021 with estimated completion Q4 2022.
- 27 units at Esker Lawns, Monksland – RCC received departmental approval for the turnkey acquisition of 3 and 4 bed houses, works commenced on site in Q3 2022 and expected completion in Q3 2023.
- 4 Units at Cortober, Carrick on Shannon - RCC received stage 2 approval in Q3 2022 for the construction of houses on RCC lands. Planning process expected to commence in Q4 2022.
- 14 Units at Curlew View, Boyle - RCC received stage 1 approval in Q1 2022 for the construction of houses on RCC lands. Planning process expected to commence in Q4 2022.
- 40 units at Sli an Choiste, Monksland –Stage 1 approved in Q3 2022 for the construction of 20 houses of the 40 due to demand concerns raised by the Department. Planning process expected to commence in Q1 2023.
- 1 Unit at Pound St., Ballaghaderreen – Stage 1 approved in Q3 2022 for the refurbishment of a vacant property owned by RCC. Planning process expected to commence in Q1 2023.
- Units at Elphin (Library) - Stage 1 approved in Q3 2022 for the refurbishment of vacant properties owned by RCC. Planning process expected to commence in Q1 2023.

3.2 Housing Association Activity:

Housing association activity in County Roscommon appears to have declined. It is suspected that the cost of new build via third parties (turnkey delivery method) versus market rents in the County are a factor.

- Tuath proposal for 35 units at Cloongowna, Monksfield, Athlone – A Building Agreement/Contract of Sale was entered into between Tuath Housing Association and the

Developer on 31 October, 2019. An extension to the back stop delivery date was sought by Tuath and granted by RCC and the Department. Expected completion by Q4 2022.

3.3 LA Acquisitions (including Buy & Renew):

3.3.1 Buy & Renew Scheme

Roscommon County Council sought expressions of interest in June 2021 to buy and refurbish long term vacant property for social housing use under the Buy and Renew Scheme. The focus under the Buy and Renew is on older stock in urban areas with a view to tackling dereliction and improving streetscapes in urban areas of Roscommon, Castlerea, Boyle, Ballaghaderreen, Elphin or Strokestown. 34 applications were received. Some offers were made to property owners in accordance with independent valuations received by RCC some agreements were reached. Five properties have been secured as part of Buy & Renew in Patrick Street, Castlerea and Elphin Street, Strokestown. Plans to develop these properties will proceed through the tender / four stage process.

3.3.2 Acquisition Programme

As of 31st September, 2022, Roscommon County Council acquired no houses under the acquisition programme. Funding for acquisitions will be nominal in 2022 as funding is diverted towards the delivery of houses under the construction programme.

3.3.3 – Derelict Sites and Dangerous Structures

The Housing Department took over the function of Derelict Sites and Dangerous Structures and Places in late February / March 2022. It is intended the focus will be on the towns within the county initially. Roscommon County Council may acquire by agreement or compulsorily purchase any derelict site situated within their functional area. Revised policies were presented to the Housing, ICT and Rural Water SPC in September 2022.

3.4 Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024:

- Proposal for 2 additional units at Cluain Airne, Killarney is stage 3 (Pre Tender) approved by the Department in Q1 2022.
- Proposal to alter units at Bri Chaoilinne, Harristown (one-bed units to be combined into 2no. larger more functional 5 bedroom units); works completed in Q3 2022.
- RCC to proceed with 3 extensions in Torpan Beg to existing units. Part 8 planning permission is in place with works expected to commence in Q1 2023.

3.5 Tenant Purchase:

The Tenant Incremental Purchase Scheme was published under the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2014. As at 30 September 2022, tenant purchase statistics were as follows:

222 = applications received to date

130 = offers made to date

91 = offers accepted to date

58 = sales completed to date

Total proceeds of sales received during Q3 2022 is €258,780.

4.0 Private Rented Accommodation Standards

Inspections of private rented dwellings are carried out under the Housing (Standards for Private Rented Houses) Regulations 2019.

- The recommended inspection target for Roscommon in 2022 is 745 inspections.
- 111 inspections were carried out in Q3 2022, 23 of which were follow-up inspections required to address issues arising from previous inspections.
- “Virtual Inspections” commenced in Q1 of 2022 on a pilot basis. Approximately 90 letters sent out and 14 responses were received to date.

Housing Stock

5.1 Energy Efficiency Programme (retrofitting existing stock):

- Funding under the Just Transition Midlands Retrofit Programme was identified for a number of counties in the midlands, including County Roscommon. RCC procured Collins Boyd Engineers and Architects as consultants to manage the project. The project entailed energy efficiency upgrades to 50 LA units in Roscommon. Surveys commenced in July, 2020 with works fully complete in Q1 2022. The majority of the costs have been grant funded and recouped from the Department. Project now fully complete.
- RCC received approval for the upgrade of a further 26 units (increased from 13) in 2021 under the Energy Efficiency Retrofit programme (EERP). Surveys commenced in Q1, 2021 with works fully complete in Q1 2022. Majority of costs claimed from the Department. Project now fully complete.
- Funding has been approved for the upgrade of a further 52 units in 2022, however part funding may be required by the LA. Works has commenced in Q3 2022 with works expected to be complete by Q2 2023.

5.2 Voids Programme:

There are no viable ‘voids’ (at least 6 months vacant) remaining within the housing stock and the national ‘voids’ programme has essentially ended. Any remaining non-viable (derelict) units are in isolated rural locations with low or no demand. Unsold rural properties will be assessed for suitability for renewal where a specific demand exists. However, RCC received funding approval of €286k from the department for refurbishment of 26 no. short term vacant stock in 2022.

5.3 Casual Vacancy Works (pre-letting works)

A total of 12 houses were refurbished due to normal turn-over of properties in Q3, 2022 at a cost to date of approx. €75,647.84 (excluding any outstanding invoices).

5.4 Housing Maintenance

RCC Housing received 342 maintenance calls in Q3, 2022 and billed expenditure on maintenance works during the same period was €118,531.26.

5.5 Housing Grants (Private Grants and LA Grants)

RCC received a budget allocation of €1,412,065.00 for private house grants (80% Department funded and 20% Roscommon County Council funded and the allocation is fully committed for 2022.

The council continues to receive a large volume of grant applications and the process of validating applications is ongoing.

The Disabled Persons Grant allocation for local authority housing stock for 2022 is €260,947.00 (90% Department funded and 10% Roscommon County Council funded), which is a reduction of €95,553.00 on the allocation for 2021. A total of 9 applications have been approved under this budget allocation to date.

5.6 Croí Cónaithe Fund

On 14th July 2022, the Minister for Housing launched the Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant which provides grant funding to support the refurbishment of vacant properties in town and villages for residential use. A grant of up to a maximum of €30,000 will be available for the refurbishment of vacant properties for occupation as a principal private residence, including the conversion of a property which has not been used as residential heretofore. This will be subject to upper limits for the types of work specified below having regard to a reasonable cost assessment by the local authority. The grant is inclusive of VAT cost of the works.

Where the refurbishment costs are expected to exceed the standard grant of up to €30,000, a maximum top-up grant amount of up to €20,000 will be available where the property is confirmed by the applicant to be derelict (i.e. structurally unsound and dangerous) bringing the total grant available for a derelict property up to a maximum of €50,000. In the case of a top-up grant in respect of a derelict property, an independent report prepared by an appropriately qualified professional (e.g. quantity surveyor, engineer etc.) is required to be submitted along with the application confirming that the property is derelict (i.e. structurally unsound and dangerous).

The scheme is now extended to rural vacant properties.

Number of Applications Received	Refurbishment Type (30K)	Top-up Grant (50 K)	Further info	Under review	Refused	Granted
14	5	9	5	8	1	0

The Ready to Build Scheme (Serviced Sites for new homes)

Stream 2 of Croí Cónaithe Fund is to make serviced sites in towns and villages available to potential individual purchasers (self-builders). These sites will be available at a discount on the market value of the site for the building of a property for occupation as the principal private residence of the purchaser. It is intended that the local authority will develop existing site(s) in their control or purchase site(s) and make them available for development by providing services and access to the site(s) concerned.

The level of discount to the individual will depend on the level of servicing cost incurred by the local authority before the sale of the site but will not exceed €30,000. The amount of such discount will be reflected in the sale price of the site to the purchaser. Sites can be for single sites (infill), generally 6units, Max of 10 units

ASSETS, CLIMATE ACTION AND ENERGY MANAGEMENT

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

- The responsibility for Facilities Management transferred to Assets and Energy Management in August 2021. Systems and procedures are been implemented in this area.
- Cleaning contract results received from OGP and successful contractor will be appointed in Q3-Q4 2022.

ASSETS

- PIR (Property Interest Register) Roscommon for all Building / Land Assets ongoing – update of Folios received from PRA, evaluated and submitted to OPW.
- Full listing of RCC Assets across all Sections prepared and issued for reconciliation of FAR and PIR Roscommon to all Sections – partial completion to date with reminders issued. Follow-up actions agreed with Finance Section and LG Auditor.
- Housing assets reconciled with iHouse to 31/12/2021.
- Ongoing administrative and technical involvement with Letting, Leases, Acquisitions and Disposals of RCC Assets.
- Policy documents approved and signed off for:
 - Disposal of Land/Property
 - Acquisition of Land/Property
 - Property Asset Management Plan
- Form for Property Condition Surveys developed and to be trialled using digital platform.

ENERGY

- **Reduce Your Use**

Energy Team has been setup and are rolling out the ‘Reduce Your Use’ national energy saving campaign across the organisation.
- **Energy Elephant Software**
 - Ongoing monitoring and review of significant energy usage in RCC Buildings. Expansion of energy monitoring from primarily electricity usage through Energy Elephant to other energy sources such as oil, gas and biomass.
- **Optimising Power @ Work Programme**
 - OP@W Mentor, Mark Skerritt, appointed and monthly meetings taking place in-person.
 - OP@W Mentor, Mark Skerritt, is advising on workplace energy saving programs and issues a Monthly Energy Report.
- **Energy Monitoring & Reporting (M&R) 2021**
 - Data for 2021 – Part 1 submitted by 28th January, 2022 and Part 2 is due by 29th April, 2022.
 - Currently at 38.1% of targeted 33% energy efficiency improvement by 2020, based on 2020 energy usage.
 - Liaise with Environment & Climate Section with regard to the ongoing development of the gap-to-target model (GTT model) which is a spreadsheet model for use by public bodies to

evaluate their energy efficiency (EE) performance and energy-related greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions¹ over time, using data and methodologies from SEAI's Public Sector Monitoring & Reporting (M&R) system.

PUBLIC LIGHTING

- Survey of all School Warning Lights in Co. Roscommon completed and Final Report issued – review of repairs/possible upgrades ongoing, subject to funding.
- Section 85 Agreement signed with Mayo County Council for the National LED Retrofit Project (PLEEP). County Roscommon forms part of Region 3 of the National Project.
 - Consultants appointed by Mayo County Council on behalf of Region 3 and Regional Meetings commenced in October, 2021 with an expected Construction commencement of Q1 2023, subject to confirmation by Mayo County Council.
- Loan Approval for the National LED Retrofit Project placed before and approved by the Members of RCC at Plenary Meeting of 21st December, 2020.
- Updates to DeadSure Inventory and UMR Database in preparation for National LED Upgrade – ongoing.
- Connaught Public Lighting Maintenance, LED Retrofit, New Works & Associated Services – Tender prepared by Mayo County Council on behalf of Six Connacht Local Authorities. Documentation reviewed and Evaluation process completed with Electric Skyline Limited appointed in October, 2020.
- The cost of the annual maintenance of public lighting has risen substantially due to the unavailability of replacement SOX lamps and associated cost of replacing SOX lamps with LED units.
- Taking-in-Charge of Estates (Public Lighting) – continuing in conjunction with Planning and Roads Sections. Updates posted to RCC website.

CORPORATE AFFAIRS

Communications:

A dedicated communications unit manages 16 social media profiles across the council on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn, promoting greater awareness of the Council and its services. This is achieved through the use of engaging content and informative updates on various council initiatives which are of interest to the public and to our various partners and stakeholders.



WATER AND WASTE WATER

There is an ongoing extensive Infrastructural portfolio, Capital Programme portfolio and Water Networks portfolio in place for Water and Waste Water schemes in the County. The following is a summary of works planned and underway.

INFRASTRUCTURE PORTFOLIO:

Roscommon Town Main Drainage:

The key objective of the Roscommon Town Main Drainage project is to address and remove the drivers for the Roscommon Agglomeration being listed on the EU Commission's Letter of Formal Notice 2015 under the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive. Tobin Consulting Engineers have been appointed as the Clients Representative for the project. Ministerial consent was issued on 26th May 2021. The contract was awarded to GMC Utilities Ltd. Works commenced on 15th June 2021.

The following is a brief summary of the works involved.

- Installation of 7.2km of new higher capacity sewers and rising mains. 95% completed.
- Upgrade of six existing storm water overflows and decommissioning a further six. Not commenced.
- Construction of a new inlet pumping station, balancing tank and storm water holding tank at the existing Wastewater Treatment Plant. 60% completed.
- New/upgraded pumping stations with storm water storage at Circular Rd, Castlerea Rd, Ardsallagh and Ballinagard. 80% completed.

Works are underway at the following locations:

- Circular road. Carrying out sewer connections.
- New pumping stations at Circular road, Ballinagard, Ardsallagh & Castlerea Road on going.
- New inlet pumping station and balancing tank at the waste water treatment plant on going.

Upgrade works to Ballaghadereen Waste Water Treatment Plant:

The Ballaghadereen WWTP has been included under the 2017-2021 Investment Plan for assessment of its primary and secondary treatment processes. The current plant is at risk in terms of UWWTD compliance, overloading and failure to provide adequate capacity for growth. The project has moved to a new delivery mechanism and will now be progressed under the ECI (Early Contractor Involvement) Contract. The National ECI contracts are divided into two regions with Roscommon County in the Northern Region. The successful Contractor within this region is Veolia who has now taken over the project since January 2020.

A project brief of the proposed upgrade has now been issued to Veolia. Veolia is currently proceeding with a proposed detailed design in consultation with all parties having their input to the overall outcome to the delivery of the project.

The main items of work to be delivered as part of the ECI project are:

- Upgrade the terminal Pumping Station with increasing capacity of the tank on site as well as associated site works
- Upgrade the site Boundaries by separation of the entrance currently used as a common shared entrance to both Irish Water and Roscommon County Council
- Upgrade the Secondary Treatment process in order to improve capacity of the existing process
- Associated ancillary site works including upgrade of the SCADA System

Land to the north of the pumping station are required. Finalise the revised storm water tank design. Design at the WWTP is complete and is as per the design presented at the Hazop and ALM. Workshop 4 to take place early November.

Monksland and Boyle Drainage Area Plans:

The preparation of a Drainage Area Plan and Wastewater Source Control Study was undertaken in Monksland and Boyle to accurately estimate the condition of the existing networks and the flow and load arriving to the Wastewater Treatment works. This Drainage Area Plan work was carried out by Nicholas O'Dwyer Consulting Engineers together with McCloys Water and Environmental Consulting Engineers.

The manhole and sewer CCTV surveys for both towns, Flow and Load Survey in Monksland and the Flow and Rainfall Survey in Boyle have been completed. A Model build for the networks on both towns was carried out. A Technical Solution Development Report was issued for both locations in June 2018 and following on from this a Process Optimisation Report for Monksland was developed.

Both Monksland & Boyle are programmed for Feasibility studies to be carried out. No progress in this quarter.

CAPITAL PROGRAMME PORTFOLIO:

Inlet Works, Sludge & Storm Programme (IWSS):

Upgrade to the Inlet, Storm and sludge process at Termonbarry Waste Water Treatment Plant has been included in this programme. JB Barry has been appointed as Consulting Engineers. A Conceptual Design was completed in Q4 2018. A technical options report has been reviewed and approved. Irish Water asset planning have reviewed the report and the following upgrade works have been approved: New inlet works, a storm tank and replacement of the old sludge tank with a larger sludge tank together with associated mechanical and electrical works and upgrades.

A task instruction which was issued to Conway Engineering for Termonbarry WWTP under contract 17/170_007 Wastewater Treatments Plants Contract 2. Works due to commence in mid November.

National Certs of Authorisation Programme (NCAP):

RPS Consulting Engineers were appointed and are currently gathering data for site assessment and site options report for 15no. sites in County Roscommon. The assessment is based on the impact the asset has on the environment rather than plant condition. Lecarrow, Croghan, Bellanagare, Cloonfad & Ballintober WWTP are identified as high impact sites. Roscommon County Council staff have engaged with RPS and have provided detailed information on each of the plants that have been examined under this programme. A draft site assessment report on each of the above locations was reviewed in Q2 2019 and commented on by Roscommon County Council Operations engineers.

RPS are in the process of preparing technical options reports for each of the sites based on the recommendations contained in the site assessment reports. A technical options reports were circulated in Q3 2020.

There is currently no Roscommon WWTP approved for NCAP capital funding.

Water Treatment Programme.

A Regional Water Treatment programme is underway in the North and West Region. There are 12no. sites in the North West Region included in the programme. Mount Talbot – Four Roads Water Treatment Plant is included in the programme. EPS Ltd have been awarded the regional contract with

a total value of €8million. Advance works are completed at Mount Talbot WTP. Raw water data gathering is ongoing. This data will assist in the final scope for the plant upgrade.

Remainder of dial out SMS alarm system – 2 weeks to complete

Source protection - To be completed by end September.

Final design drawing on the source protection to be forwarded for review. Following a site meeting this site will be put forward for ground water investigations.

Reservoir Refurbishment Programme.

Refurbishment Works are planned for Fairymount and Derrinacantha Reservoirs. However, unlikely works will proceed this year.

Access to Heights and Edge Protection Programme.

This is a regional programme aimed at addressing medium and high-risk items identified in HSQE audits. IW have requested a review of any outstanding HSQE items that may be considered for delivery under this programme.

Works were completed in Monksland WWTP in Q1 and further works planned at Boyle WWTP later this year. No progress in this quarter.

Storm Water Overflow Assessment Programme.

Jacobs/Tobins appointed by IW to deliver this regional programme. A review of current list of WWTP's and storm water overflows (SWO's) is completed. Site assessments reports on all sites are to be issued. No progress in this quarter.

Waste Water Pumping Stations and Rising Mains Capital Maintenance Programme.

Jacobs have been appointed by IW to deliver this regional programme. Ballyfarnan WWPS has been prioritised under this programme.

Jacobs completed the concept design so this WWPS. The report is with Asset Planning who maintain A register of PS's nationally and recommend which ones are prioritised for further works. No progress in this quarter.

WWBG Pump Station Growth Programme

Bellanamullia PS (Monksland) and Daneshill PS (Monksland) included in this programme. GMC Utilities have been appointed to upgrade the pump stations.

More details have been sought from IW in relation to this programme. No progress in this quarter.

Waste Water Below Ground Telemetry Programme.

The WWBG Telemetry programme provides for installation of telemetry outstations at WW pumping station sites in order to allow early warning in case of spills to sensitive waters and to obtain data for future upgrades, connection requests, etc. All sites covered under this programme will be connected to interim National Telemetry System (iNTS). Each local authority will have a full access to data from sites in their county.

The programme has been running since 2018 with the priority sites being WWPSs that are located close to **shellfish, bathing and sensitive waters**. We are at a stage now where all these WWPSs are in hand/complete and there was capacity in the programme to add a limited number of pumping stations. The following pumping stations are identified for inclusion in the programme.

1. BALLYLEAGUE - CLOONTUSKERT PS (BALLYLEAGUE)
2. BOYLE WASTEWATER TREATMENT WORKS - BOYLE BRIDGE PS
3. BOYLE WASTEWATER TREATMENT WORKS - FELTON ROAD PS
4. BOYLE WASTEWATER TREATMENT WORKS - WOODEN BRIDGE PS
5. CASTLEREA - ARM PS (CASTLEREA)
6. CASTLEREA - WILLIAMSTOWN ROAD PS (CASTLEREA)
7. MONKSLAND - BELLANAMULLIA PS (MONKSLAND)
8. MONKSLAND - CUSHLEA PS (MONKSLAND)
9. ROOSKY - MOHER ED ROOSKY PS, COUNTY LEIRIM (ROOSKY)
10. ROSCOMMON - ARDSALLAGH PS (ROSCOMMON)
11. ROSCOMMON - CASTLEREA ROAD PS (ROSCOMMON)
12. STROKESTOWN WASTEWATER TREATMENT WORKS - LISROYNE PS

Surveys have commenced on the above sites. Awaiting survey reports.

Reservoir Cleaning Programme.

All reservoirs and clear water tanks are cleaned up to date. North Roscommon clear water tanks 1&2, Fairymount reservoir, Granlahan reservoir old and new were cleaned in March 2022. Further cleaning is planned for South Roscommon later in 2022. No progress in this quarter.

Sewer Rehabilitation Programme.

AECOM have been appointed by IW to develop a National Sewer Rehabilitation Programme. A workshop was held with IW, RCC and AECOM to identify areas for rehabilitation.

CCTVs have been carried out at the following locations last week, Ballyleague, Ballinlough, Roscommon Town, Boyle & Knockcroghery.

The CCTV reports will determine extents of works required. Sewer rehab commenced in Greatmeadow, Boyle this week.

Small Towns and Villages Growth Programme.

It is proposed that there will be a Small Towns & Villages Growth Programme which will support a number of the National Policy Objectives and National Strategic Outcomes under the NPF (e.g. development of a new rural settlement investment approach under National Strategic Outcomes of the NPF). The Small Towns & Villages Growth Programme is intended to provide WWTP and WTP growth capacity in smaller settlements which would not otherwise be provided for in the Investment Plan.

Lecarrow WWTP has been selected for upgrade works. Workshop -1 held on 22nd April.

Ballinameen WWTP has also been included in the programme. Work shop 0 held on 1st September. Project now handed over to Asset Delivery to deliver.

Energy Efficiencies – Heating & Lighting Programme.

A list of sites has been issued to IW for inclusion in this programme.

Castleria WTP, Mount Talbot WTP, Ballagherreen WWTP, Monkland WWTP are included in this programme. No progress in this quarter.

ESB Upgrade Programme.

North Roscommon WTP has been included in this programme. The following is a brief outline of the works proposed.

Full electrical upgrade to included replacement of 7 electrical panels

- Main Incomer Panel
- Sludge dewatering Building old Panel
- R/W building – bandscreen panel and pump control panel are corroded in raw water pumphouse. These should be replaced.
- Replace high lift pumphouse - washwater pump panels 1 and 2
- Replace old panel in coagulation room

As well as the above list of outputs it is planned to bring the plant from an LV supply to an MV supply. Appropriate assessments are being carried out for submission with a planning permission for the proposed works. No progress in this quarter.

Supply Demand Deficits Programme:

Workshop held on Longford Springs. Further workshops planned.

National Telemetry System.

IW are proposing to install WITS (Worldwide Industrial Telemetry Standards) outstation panels at Longford Springs WTP, Cloonlaughnan WTP and Lough Gara WTP. In advance of this the system integrator, Cully Automation, has requested a site visit to Cloonlaughnan WTP to inform their pricing. Cloonlaughnan WTP & Lough Gara WTP have been excluded from the programme. Works will proceed in Longford Springs WTP. No progress in this quarter.

National Water Resources Plan.

A submission on the Regional Water Resources Plan was submitted to IW on 11th March 2022.

The southern Water Resources Plan was published for consultation, however there are no Roscommon supplies impacted.

Irish Water has adopted the Regional Water Resources Plan – Eastern and Midlands (RWRP-EM), which will safeguard public health, support growth and meet the challenges of climate change across the Eastern and Midlands region over the next 25 years.

The National Water Resources Plan (NWRP) is Ireland’s first 25-year strategic plan enabling us to move towards safe, secure, reliable, and sustainable public water supplies for all of our customers and communities, whilst safeguarding public health and the environment.

Following on from the adoption of the NWRP draft Framework Plan and associated reports in 2021, the NWRP was split into 4 separate regional plans and following a public consultation on the first regional plan, the RWRP-EM has been updated and adopted by Irish Water along with a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Statement and an Appropriate Assessment Determination.

A consultation report summarising feedback received during the public consultation, along with the RWRP-EM and all associated reports, can be viewed and downloaded at <https://www.water.ie/rwrp/eastern-midlands>

There were 64 submissions received in total, including responses from the Office of the Planning Regulator, the Southern Regional Assembly, and local authorities in relation to national and regional policy for growth and development.

The public consultation ran from 14 December 2021 to 08 April 2022. Hard copies of the public consultation materials were available for public display in 29 local authority offices and at two county libraries for the duration of the consultation period. Irish Water also facilitated webinars for interested members of the public and both webinars and in-person briefings for elected representatives.

Phase 2 of the NWRP comprises the development of four Regional Water Resources Plans (RWRPs):

- Regional Water Resources Plan - Eastern & Midlands
- Regional Water Resources Plan - North West
- Regional Water Resources Plan - South West
- Regional Water Resources Plan - South East

Each regional plan will comprise of both a non-statutory screening and scoping consultation with environmental authorities, followed by a statutory public consultation.

Consultation on the Regional Water Resources Plan - Eastern & Midlands is now complete and the plan has been updated and adopted. Consultation on the Regional Water Resources Plan – South West took place between 01 June 2022 and 24 August 2021 and our teams are now working on the post consultation analysis. Consultation on the last two regional plans for the North West and South East will take place later in 2022 and in 2023.

WATER NETWORKS PORTFOLIO:

Water Network Framework Programme:

Irish Water has rolled out a Water Network Portfolio under its Capital Investment Plan 2017 to 2021. Works intended to be rolled out under this programme include:

- New mains and service laying.
- Back yard lead replacement.
- DMA establishment.
- Pressure management.
- Resolution of shared services.
- First fix.
- Lead services.

Water Networks Rehabilitation Programme.

Contract Works:

Farrans Ltd are the appointed regional contractor to undertake works on behalf of Irish Water.

Note the following rehab works to proceed in Roscommon for 2022 are as follows:

- Roscommon Central WSS: 509m of new mains in Lisnamult. Works completed.
- North Roscommon WSS: 3050m of new trunk main to supply south Sligo. Trial holes carried out. Due to commence Q4 2022. 10no. back yard services to be replaced also to be delivered in Q4 2022.
Works commenced on new Sligo trunk main. Approx 20% completed.
- Ballinlough/Loughlynn WSS: 531m of new mains at Granlahan. Approved to design only.

- North East Regional WSS: 1,100m of new main in Elphin. Works commenced in June. Works completed.

Direct Labour Works:

None planned at present but attendance will be required on the above rehab schemes.

Pressure Management

A review of all PRVs have commenced. A pressure management programme has been prepared and will be rolled out during 2022. Works has commenced in the North District.

Find and Fix Programme

The Find & Fix scheme involves leak detection crews undertaking surveys to prove the extent of the supply area, 'Step testing' to focus areas with leakage and using sounding and logging equipment on footpaths and other public areas to find the leaks. Once the leaks are found a repair crew then completes the repair. In Q3 of 2022 Farrans Construction Ltd (the contractor) has focussed on a number of District Metering Areas (DMA's) in the Lisbrock and Killeglan Water Supply Zones (WSZ) where unaccounted for water levels are high. Target Leakage reduction has been achieved in a number of DMAs and are now closed and handed back to the operations caretakers. Other DMAs are still being investigated and in some cases have been split into sub DMAs to assist in leakage reduction and operational management process. Roscommon County Council Direct labour crew are currently working in the North East Regional WSZ in Roscommon South Water Area. This ongoing find and fix work has resulted in a reduction of unaccounted for water within County Roscommon and will continue to do so over the lifetime of the programme. Pressure Management proposals have been investigated and where potential reduction of pressure and flows could be achieved, pressure reducing valves have been proposed and installed. Ongoing monitoring indicates reasonable savings as a result.

First Fix Programme

Farrans Construction has been appointed by IW to carry out works under this programme. The duration depends on the take up by customers who will avail of the scheme. Letters have been issued to customers with meter usage <1M3/day. Farrans Construction will undertake the find and fix for customers who wish to avail of the scheme.

Non-Domestic Meter Replacement

Farrans commenced exchanging meters in Roscommon. They have commenced replacing DN15 concentric meters. We have a list of just under 2000 concentric meters for Roscommon. These are matched Non Domestic meters which have no reads.

Leakage Management System

Netbase is now operational. An on line system is now in place that will allow caretakers/supervisors access to logged meter data from their phones/laptops.

Acoustic Logger Trial.

An acoustic logger trial was carried out in Frenchpark DMA. The results of the trial are under consideration. Pending the outcome of the trail this system may be deployed in other DMAs. Logger are going to be installed in Cloonown Road DMA in South Roscommon in the coming days.

MULTI-ANNUAL RURAL WATER PROGRAMME 2019-2021

The Multi Annual Rural Water Programme 2019-2021 is a scheme specific or project based approach to funding from the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage. The Department has agreed that works continue under this programme until the new 2022-2024 funding programme is available later this year.

The objective for this cycle is to provide enhanced funding certainty for priority investment needs to support the implementation of proper planning and sustainable development in rural areas. This is to assist in meeting the requirements of the Drinking Water Directive in relation to rural water supplies and to support the delivery of measures identified in the *River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018-2021* to meet the objectives of the Water Framework Directive.

The 2019-2021 funding cycle of the multi-annual programme consists of eight measures. These measures reflect the key challenges currently facing the rural water sector in respect of funding support. In particular, the measures have been more expressly focused around a 'multiple barriers' approach, from catchment to consumers (source – treatment - distribution), to prevent the contamination of, and ensure that, drinking water is safe and meets the quality parameters of the Drinking Water Regulations on a consistent long-term basis.

Approval of the schemes/projects under the MARWP 2019-2021 and the grant funding allocations were received from the Department in Circular letter dated 14th October, 2019.- €2,861,263.

The eight funding measures are:

- **Measure 1 - Source Protection (Group Water Scheme Sector- Funding approved for the GWS Pilot Project at Peak Mantua, Polecat Springs, Corracreigh, Mid Roscommon, Oran Ballintubber & Castlestrange GWS and additional works at Brusna, Gorthaganny and Castlestrange GWS' -total available €351,150 for the period 2019-2021.**

Roscommon County Council are working in partnership with the National Federation of Group Water Schemes and other stakeholders on a Source Protection Pilot Project developing full source protection plans including specific actions to improve the safety and security of Group Water Schemes drinking water. The work commenced in 2018 and continued in Q3 2022. A steering group and operational working group have been set up to progress the development of the source protection plans.

Works undertaken to date at a cost of €370,504.34 were 100% recoupable from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Further works were undertaken at Brusna and Castlestrange GWS' at a cost of €12,362.50.

A campaign to raise public awareness on source protection and incorporating Biodiversity was developed to coincide with Rural Water Week on 7th to 11th September, 2020 with many initiatives. Mitigation measures for swallow holes were developed and farmers encouraged to fence off vulnerable areas on their lands.

Catchment walks were undertaken by GWS managers to identify further sources of pollution. Farmers and contractors were reminded of the importance of proper and effective nutrient management to help protect water sources from pollution. Promotional Video clips were also undertaken to raise awareness. Available on www.roscommoncoco.ie under Water & Wastewater/Rural Water Programme.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BijH8U5Z_DLI4Tuz7M7twQFjlbAPgyj/view?usp=sharing

‘I’ve Planted a Tree and My Garden is Pesticide Free’

Approximately 8,000 trees were distributed to all the primary schools in the County. This initiative was to encourage the community to go pesticide free in their gardens and to educate and create awareness in schools. Surveys undertaken suggest that most householders that currently use pesticides are prepared to rethink their use in order to protect the environment. Concerns at the damaging impacts of pesticides on water sources and biodiversity lie behind the initiative and was developed as part of this project in Roscommon County Council. A main objective is to educate the wider community on the damage that pesticides can do in their domestic gardens. This is an important part of the overall project, and is very much linked to the ‘Let it Bee’ initiative. [I've Planted a Tree and My Garden is Pesticide Free](#)

The ‘**Let It Bee**’ initiative- Farmers working together to protect their local water source and enhance biodiversity is another initiative of the Group Water Scheme Source Protection Pilot Project in Roscommon.

Bees, hives, equipment and mentoring were supplied to selected members of the community. In return the farmers are looking at changing their practices, putting in biodiversity measures and informing the wider community about the dangers of pesticides.

The farmers taking part in the initiative also receive a Plaque which is placed on the wall outside their homes to highlight their involvement.

‘European Bee Award 2020’ for Roscommon

The Source Protection Pilot Project in Roscommon won the European Bee Award 2020 for its outstanding contribution to protect pollinators, promoted by the European Landowners’ Organisation. The project was also shortlisted for the Cogeca European Award for Co-operative Innovation. The ‘Let It Bee’ initiative continued to be developed through this project into 2022.

- **Measure 2 - Public health compliance (Group Water Scheme Sector): Funding of €814,000 approved for the period 2019-2021.**

This measure is aimed at improving water quality in existing group water schemes, through upgrading their treatment facilities, so that the schemes can sustainably achieve compliance with the parameters of the Drinking Water Regulations on a consistent long-term basis. The Capital Replacement works are ongoing in accordance with a planned programme on the Design Build Operate Group Water Schemes. Works were undertaken to date on Mid Roscommon, Oran Ballintubber and Corracreigh GWS at a cost of €438,923 with 85% of costs €351,138 recoupable.

Works to upgrade the existing UV systems to validated UV systems on the Design Build Operate bundle, Mid Roscommon, Oran Ballintubber and Corracreigh Group Water Schemes were undertaken in 2020 at a cost of €248,186.34 to date.

Contractor for the upgrade of the existing UV systems to validated UV system on the Brusna GWS have been approved for installation following tender process.

Installation has not commenced – Discussion with employer’s representative TJ O Connor Consulting Engineers to take place.

- **Measure 3 – Enhancement of existing schemes including water conservation (Group Water Scheme Sector): Funding of €1,431,000 approved for the period 2019-2021.**

This measure supports projects to make existing group water schemes more efficient in their operation (e.g. water conservation and network upgrades, including storage) and contributing to good water quality on a consistent sustainable long-term basis.

Funding of €1,215,564.65 has been paid to the Group Water Schemes at 85% of costs in Mid Roscommon, Oran/Ballintubber, Corracreigh, Polecat Springs, Brusna, Gorthaganny and Castlestrange.

In 2021 contracts works ongoing/completed on the following projects totaling approx. 13 kilometers of water mains.

- Corracreigh – Contract No.1 2020: - The contract provides for the installation of 319 linear meters of 90mm OD PE100 SDR17 1209 linear meters of 125mm OD PE100 SDR17 HPPE Water mains, installation of 4 connections to existing water mains, installation of 1 Air Valve, 6 Sluice Valves, 1 No Elster 4000 Bulk water meter, 1 No Cla Val Pressure reducing valve with strainer, 3No. Domestic PRVs and 12 no connections to services in the Townlands of Cloonyquin and Killynagh-Completed.
- Gortnaganny GWS Upgrade Contract 1(2019)- 785 linear meters of 90mmOD PE100 SDR17 HPPE Water mains, installation of 2 No connection to existing water mains, installation of 1 Bulk water meter, installation of 1 scour valve, 4 Sluice Valves and 14no connections to new and existing service pipes in the Townlands of Gortaganny and Carrowbehy-. -Completed.
- Mid Roscommon -Contract 01(2020) Tulsk: – The contract provided for the installation of 415 linear meters of 63mm OD PE100 SDR17 & 1509 linear meters of 90mm OD PE100 SDR17 HPPE Water mains- Completed
- Mid Roscommon-Contract02(2020) Kinnity: - The contract provides for the installation of 2052 linear meters of 90mm OD PE100 SDR17 HPPE Water mains - Completed
- Mid Roscommon -Contract 03(2020) Bushfield: - The contract provides for the installation of 2852 linear meters of 63mm OD PE100 SDR17 & 1913 linear meters of 90mm OD PE100 SDR17 HPPE Water mains -Completed.
- Oran Ballintubber-Contract No.1(2020): -The contract provides for the installation of 1965 meters of 90mm water main with 10 service connections- Completed Q1 2022
- Polecat Springs -Contract 01(2020): - The contract provides for the installation of 1746 linear meters of 90mmOD PE100 SDR17 HPPE Water mains- extra works necessary have been completed. -Completed.

Upgrade contracts have been awarded on the following and work will continue into Q4 2022. Delays in projects are still occurring due to costs and supply problems with construction materials.

- Corracreigh – Contract No.1 2020 Extras: The contract provides for the installation of approx 400 linear meters of 63mm OD PE100 SDR17, a number of connections to services in the Townland of Cloonequin. Works 100% completed –August 2022.
- Corracreigh – Contract No.1 2022: The contract provides for the installation of approx 1000 linear meters of 90mm OD PE100 SDR17, a number of connections to services in the Townland of Annaghmore. Contractor appointed, works delayed due to other contract commitments. Expected to commence before end of October 2022.
- Gortnaganny GWS-Contract No.1 Extra (2021): - The contract provided for the installation of 785 linear meters of 90mmOD PE100 SDR17 HPPE Water mains, installation of 2 No connection to existing water mains, installation of 1 Bulk water meter, installation of 1 scour valve, 4 Sluice Valves and 14no connections to new and existing service pipes in the Townlands of Gortaganny and Carrowbehy.

An additional 1000 linear meters of 63mm OD PE100 SDR17 was added to the contract due to major Road Works being proposed on local road L-5697-16. A section of water main along this road was identified with high leakage rates and it was considered prudent to carry out replacement of this section whilst contractor was on site. Application is being made to the Department for approval to proceed with the additional works.

- Mid Roscommon – 2021 Contract 1 Ballinderry-Carrowbaun: – The contract provides for the installation of 1400 meters of 90mm water main water and 1350 meters of 63mm water main water, with various fittings laid in the public road at two locations. Contractor appointed.

- Mid Roscommon – 2021 Contract 2 Carrowduff-Tonbaun: – The contract provides for the installation of 1400 linear meters of 63mm OD PE100 SDR17 & 950 linear meters of 63mm OD PE100 SDR17 HPPE Water mains. Contractor appointed, works 80% completed. Expect 100% completion mid-October.
- Mid Roscommon – 2021 Contract 3 Coggalbeg: – The contract provides for 4100 meters of 90mm water main water with various fittings laid in the public road. Contractor on site and works have progressed with 75% completion. Expected completion by the end of October.
- Oran Ballintubber-Contract No.1(2022): -The contract provides for the installation of 800 meters of 75mm water main with 5 service connections- Contractor appointed, works due to commence Q4 2022 (contractor has other work commitments which is delaying commencement).

The following contract has been approved for construction and work will continue into Q4 2022 & beyond.

- Corracreigh / Peake Mantua Amalgamation -Contract 01(2022): - A Special General Meeting of Peake Mantua held on Friday 10th June approved a motion for a “transfer of engagements” (Amalgamation) with Corracreigh GWS. This clears the way to proceed with the process of design of the interconnector.
The contract will provide for approximately 3,600 meters of 125 mm water main and approx. 1000 meters of 75 mm water main with various fittings laid in the public road.
Survey, Design & contract documentation is currently being produced for this contract. Awaiting Final design details from Consultants (TJ O Connors), now expect to go to tender Q4 2022.

Group Water Scheme Managers have been advised to identify works/upgrades necessary on their schemes in preparation of the next programme of funding.

- **Measure 5 – Transition of Existing Group Water Schemes and Group Sewerage Schemes to the Public (Irish Water) Water Sector: Funding of €247,000 approved for the period 2019-2021.**

This measure enables existing group water schemes and existing group sewerage schemes, where they wish to do so and with the agreement of Irish Water, to transition to the public water sector (Irish Water).

Discussions are underway with 2 Group Water Schemes to progress to taking in charge by Irish Water.

At the end of 2021 Projects totalling 3.5 kilometers of watermains at a cost to date of €168,261 are completed.

- Works are completed on the Drumheriff /Derrinasoo GWS. December 2020
Drumherriff: 1480m of 63mm watermains with 10 connections.

- Works are completed on the Lisagallon GWS -June 2021
Lisagallon: 1928m of 125mm watermains with 46 connections.

The taking in charge process has been initiated with Irish Water. As built drawings and relevant forms have been produced. Some amendments to drawings necessary for Irish water.

- Discussions are ongoing with Woodbrook GWS Q2/4-2022
Contract documents are being produced, however a complete survey is necessary for production of these. Consultation with group is proving difficult. Poor knowledge of scheme.
- A request was received from Caramunia GWS, Rahara to be taken in charge by Irish Water – additional surveys required.

- **Measure 6 –A Community Water Connection**

Crosshill, Arigna was undertaken in 2019 costing €22,314. Completed.

- **Measure 8 - PRIVATE WATER SUPPLY- Grants for the improvement of a private water supply to a house**

The existing grant scheme to support improvement works for a private water supply providing water intended for human consumption and domestic purposes to a house, (more commonly known as private or household wells) has been revised with effect from 4th June, 2020 under the ***Housing (Private Water Supply Financial Assistance) Regulations 2020 (S.I. No. 192 of 2020)***.

1. Purpose of grant

The purpose of this grant scheme is to assist households in rural areas that are dependent on a private water supply (individual well) for their household use, by financially assisting them where they incur capital expenditure, to carry out improvements to the supply to ensure that the water supply is wholesome and clean, or that the quantity supplied is insufficient to meet the domestic needs of the household as defined in the Housing (Private Water Supply Financial Assistance) Regulations 2020 (S.I. No. 192 of 2020).

2. Level of grant

The level of a grant is determined by the type of improvement works being undertaken and shall not exceed the following amounts:

- (a) (i) 85% of the approved costs for rehabilitation works, subject to a maximum of €3,000; or
(ii) 85% of the approved costs for the provision of a new well, subject to a maximum of €5,000 (where the housing authority agrees that this is the most appropriate solution);
- (b) 100% of the approved costs for works that, in the opinion of the housing authority, are necessary to treat the water to meet the water quality standards specified in the Regulations, subject to a maximum grant of €1,000. Examples of such treatments are filtration or Ultra Violet treatment.

To the end of Q3 2022 a total of 12 applications for the upgrade of Private Water Supplies have been received. Grants totalling €23,000 have been paid out on 8 completed applications.

SUBSIDY - Payable towards the Operational Costs of Group Water Schemes Providing Water for Domestic Use:

With effect from 1st January, 2018, the subsidies have been increased, streamlined and new incentives introduced for smaller schemes. This is intended to bring greater equity and fairness to ensure that domestic users on group water schemes receive comparable benefits to those receiving their water supply from Irish Water.

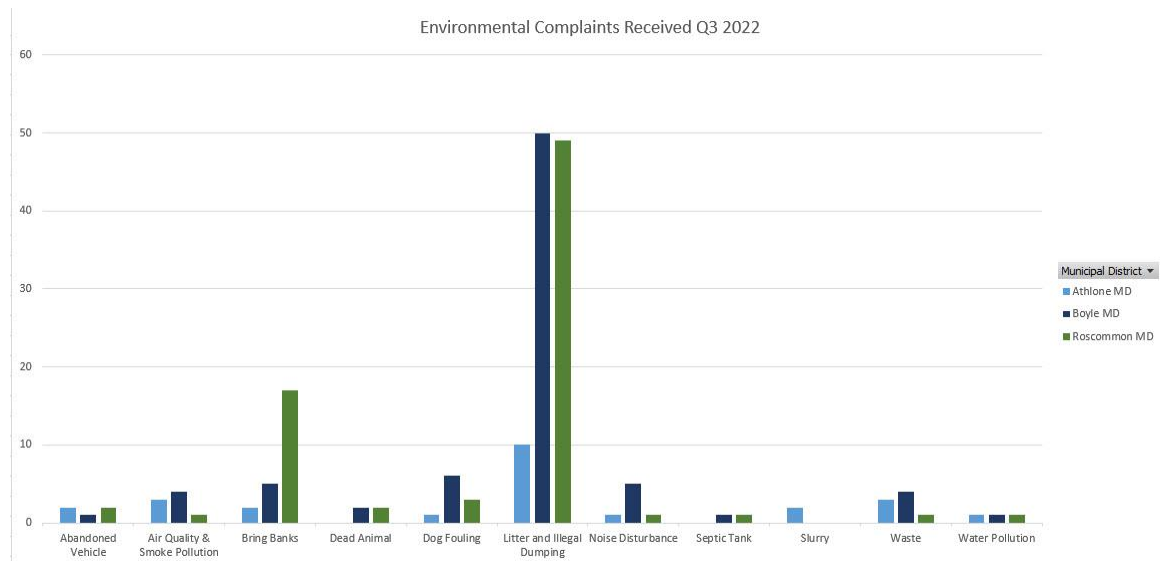
- **Annual Subsidy** - An annual subsidy per house is available to group schemes for the operational cost of providing domestic water. Annual subsidies in the sum of €463,621 have been paid to Group Water Schemes to end of Q3 2022.
- **Operational and Maintenance Subsidy** – This subsidy is payable towards Operational and Maintenance (O&M) costs associated with “bona fide” Design/Build/Operate (DBO) contracts for group schemes that have their own water treatment facilities. O&M subsidies have been paid in the sum of €465,855 to Group Water Schemes to the end of Q3 2022.

Total Subsidies paid to Group Water Schemes to end of Q3 2022 is €929,476.

ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE UNIT

Complaints

The Environment Unit continues to investigate litter and pollution complaints on a daily basis. All complaints are recorded, assigned and investigated using a newly developed database. Monthly reporting to the LGMA has also moved to a **new online portal called NEMIS**; the ability to generate quarterly reports from NEMIS is currently being investigated by RCC/Environment with a view to providing suitable report in future management reports.



Environmental Awareness

The Environmental Awareness Officer position has been vacant since Q4 2021. The position was advertised and applicants have been short-listed. Duties have been shared with other staff or temporarily suspended, as necessary.

Keadue Village took part in the Entente Florale international competition at the end of June and start of July, 2022. RCC staff, including Environmental staff, were on hand to assist with advanced preparations and presentations to the judging panel. Keadue was one of only two locations in the 32 counties invited to participate. Keadue received a Gold Award at a ceremony held in Balatonfuerd, Hungary in September.

Media Campaigns

A number of Social Media/Awareness Campaigns were organised during this period including:

- Unauthorised Waste Collector, a joint campaign with Longford County Council and funded under the ADI
- Waste Presentation Bye Laws also funded under ADI
- DWWTS awareness campaign

Waste Collection and Civic Amenity Sites

Roscommon County Council operates four Civic Amenity Sites which are open to the public three days a week. Waste collected at all four sites is reflected in the National Waste Survey which is submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency. Waste collected at Roscommon and Ballaghaderreen is also reflected in the Annual Environmental Report (AER) and the Annual Environmental Performance Reporting (EPR) landfill returns.

Water, Wastewater, Air and Noise Pollution

1. RCC continues to engage with Lough Forbes Pesticides Action group. This group looks at mechanisms to address **pesticides exceedances** within catchment area. RCC attended a meeting July with this Group.
2. Water quality – protect and restore water bodies, (rivers, lakes etc.) to at least good status remains a function of local authorities and it is highlighted as key area for Ireland to achieve objectives under the Water Framework Directive. Catchment investigations and inspections are ongoing in the Derryhippo River catchment area (Creggs/Dunamon area) and these are expected to conclude in Q4 of this year. Number of minor issues have been recorded on farms to date and these are being addressed and resolved by the farmers involved.
3. Western ROC (regional operation committee) Water Framework Directive committee continue to meet and coordinate a number of national agencies in relation to implementation/progressing of water quality issues within the Western Region. Number of engagements with regional co-ordinator took place in Q2. Meetings also held with LAWPRO Regional Co-ordinators, Community Water Officer and Catchment Scientist in Q3 to facilitate the introduction of new staff within these offices.
4. National Inspection plan for DWWTS – Roscommon County Council has had ongoing engagement with the EPA in relation to the number of outstanding advisory notices open within the county. A programme of measures had been devised and submitted to the EPA. This programme will require new inspections of premises not engaging with the local authority and where necessary legal proceedings will be instigated. A number of households are engaging with the local authority and it is expected that the required works will be completed in a timely manner. Regular updates will be provided to the EPA in relation to open files with a view to reducing the number of open notices by the end of year. EPA report highlighted that Roscommon is among the counties with the highest inspection failure rates and had the highest number of open advisory notices at the end of 2021. This area will require additional staffing resources and recruitment within this Section is ongoing.
5. Air Quality at monitoring station in Roscommon Town (adjacent to Aras an Chontae) remained at good quality for Q3. The monitor in the period has had a number of errors which were rectified by Environment Department staff.
6. Water For Life Programme was launched earlier in 2022, following on from which a public meeting was held in Q3, attended by RCC staff, to introduce the Water for Life Programme to the community.
7. A number of staff members from this Department attended webinars/information sessions relating to the new Nitrates Action Programme which determines future focus areas and Inspection Programme required for the next 5 years
8. A member of staff is sitting on the Agricultural Inspections Working Group with a view to developing a new framework for Local Authority inspections at a national level. This working group was initiated in Q3.
9. A number of staff attended training/information session relating to enforcement of the Mercury Regulations. RCC continues to engage with dentists operating in the County in relation to these regulations

Closed Landfill Sites

These landfill facilities have ceased accepting waste for landfill disposal but Waste Licences still remain in place and as per the conditions set out in the Licences, Roscommon County Council is obliged to continuously monitor environmental risks associated with the closed facilities (e.g., landfill gas, groundwater quality, surface water quality). Regular maintenance and servicing continues to take place. Funding has been secured for Certificate of Authorisation works at Castlerea historic landfill. Contracts for the prescribed works will need to be prepared. An agreement to transfer the Castlerea site lands back to the original owner for a nominal amount is not contested; however, the lands cannot be transferred until all RCC's site restoration obligations have been met, with the possible exception of monitoring. Access to lands will be required post transfer to facilitate any future monitoring requirements.

RCC continues to sample leachate, surface water and ground waste from these closed landfill sites.

Laboratory Services

The laboratory provides both a technical/analytical and sampling service and is accredited to ISO 17025 (one of only 6 Local Authority testing laboratories accredited to this standard). The laboratory provides a shared service to Local Authority's and LAWPRO in three provinces and continues to expand its customer base. Maintaining output is a primary concern. This year's accreditation audit by the Irish National Accreditation Board will be taking place in Q4, 2022 on the 5th and 6th of October.

Casual Trading

Public consultation process commenced for the review of the Casual Trading Bye-Laws. The review entailed a review of the location of existing casual trading bays and other administrative corrections/clarifications deemed necessary by RCC. Copies of the proposed Casual Trading Bye-Laws were available for inspection at a number of RCC offices and www.roscommoncoco.ie from 1st September 2022 to 30th September 2022 with written submissions to be received no later than 14th October 2022.

Anti-Dumping Initiative 2022

In Q2 of this year following submission to CUWERLA of a number of proposed projects, RCC was advised of a grant in the amount of €97,174 for the above initiative.

The following projects were completed in Q3

- Bulky Goods Collection held at each CAS
- Awareness campaign around Waste Presentation Bye-Laws which included newspaper advertising and social media campaign and was funded under ADI
- Awareness campaign around the issue of Unauthorised Waste Collectors which included radio advertisements and a social media campaign. This project was a joint project with Longford County Council and was funded under ADI.

A number of projects commenced in Q3 and will continue and be completed in Q4 to including targeted clean ups, removal of tyres from a number of locations and also the clean-up of roadside dumping at a number of locations. Final claim to be submitted in Q4 for this initiative.

ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION

N5 Ballaghaderreen–Scramoge: The Ballaghaderreen to Scramoge Road Project is 33.4km in length and extends from the east tie-in point of the N5 Ballaghaderreen By-pass to Scramoge and bypasses Frenchpark, Bellanagare, Tulsk and Strokestown. The Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) was made on 11 December 2017. The application for Development Consent and for confirmation of the CPO and associated documentation was submitted to An Bord Pleanála (ABP) on 20 December 2017. The closing date for receipt of submissions to ABP was 6 March 2018. ABP made a request for additional information and same was submitted to the Board on 7 June 2018. Following an Oral Hearing convened by An Bord Pleanála ('The Board') in October 2018 the Board approved the scheme and confirmed the CPO in January 2019. CPO notices have been served on all persons listed in the CPO and land negotiations are progressing. Land & property valuation services and legal services to assist with land acquisition were procured in 2019. Various works and services contracts were procured in advance of the main construction contract. Fencing, Archaeological site works, topographical surveys, geotechnical investigations and advance diversions of some Authority & Utility apparatus are complete. Technical consultants were appointed to assist in progressing the project through the tender and construction stages. The main construction contract tender documents were issued to all pre-qualified candidates on 22 July 2020 and the closing date for receipt of tenders was set for Tuesday 22 December 2020. The tenders received on or before the specified closing date were assessed. In accordance with the Public Spending Code, the updated Final Business Case together with a request to award the main construction contract was submitted to the Department of Transport on 14 April 2021. On 11 June 2021, the Department of Transport advised that Government approval as required under the Public Spending Code was given on 9th June 2021 and granted approval to award the main construction contract under the direction of TII. TII approval to award of the main construction contract was received on 14 June 2021. The Main Construction Contract was awarded to Roadbridge Ltd. on 16 June 2021 and the Contract was formally executed on 06 October 2021. A receiver was appointed over certain assets of Roadbridge Ltd. on 11 March 2022 and all work under the contract ceased. Roadbridge Ltd.'s contract was terminated on 04 April 2022. A contract notice to re-procure the main construction contract was published on eTenders on 13th April 2022 and on the OJEU on 15th April 2022. Three pre-qualification submissions were received by the latest time and date for receipt of submissions (16.00 hrs on 27 May 2022) and all three Applicants were subsequently deemed to pass the suitability assessment. The main construction contract tender documents were issued to all pre-qualified candidates on 22 July 2022 and tender process is ongoing. A number of minor advance contracts procured during Q2 2022 and are ongoing.

N61 Ballymurray to Knockcroghery Road Project: This project comprises the improvement of the N61 National Secondary Road between Ballymurray and Knockcroghery which will incorporate a bypass of Knockcroghery. Roughan & O' Donovan-AECOM Alliance (ROD-A) was appointed as Lead Engineering Consultants in December 2018 following a procurement process using TII's Framework Agreement for Consultancy Services. The initial study area was increased in consideration of potential future upgrades to the N61 corridor. Throughout 2019 & 2020 ROD-A progressed the project through the constraints and option selection phases with two public consultations held to present the route options and the emerging preferred route corridor C-3. Route Corridor C-3 was subsequently confirmed as the preferred route corridor with the publication of the Option Selection Report in August 2021. Following this RCC sought approval from TII to proceed to Phase 3 Design & Environmental Evaluation. TII responded to this request in December 2021, stating that due to funding availability the Authority was not in a position to give approval to proceed to Phase 3 at present. Some funding has been allocated in 2022 under the TII Minors programme to develop an overall strategy to address the safety and related issues on the section of N61 between Roscommon town and Athlone pending the implementation of long-term solution(s). ROD-A were appointed in August 2022 to undertake this study.

N61 Tulsk to Clashaganny Road Project involves the realignment of approximately 4km of the N61 National Secondary route from Tulsk village to Clashaganny. Phase 3 (Design & Environmental Evaluation) is complete and in September 2022 RCC sought approval from TII to proceed to Phase 4 (Statutory Processes). Subject to receipt of TII approval, a planning application in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations will be published in Q4 2022 in respect of the proposed road development.

N61 Tulsk to Gortnacranagh Road Project involves the realignment and improvement of approximately 5.6km of the N61 National Secondary Road between Tulsk village and the new N5 crossing of the N61 at Gortnacranagh Townland. TII approved the appointment of Lead Technical Consultants and independent specialists to progress the project through the planning phases. Roughan & O' Donovan-AECOM Alliance (ROD-A) was appointed as Lead Engineering Consultants in July 2022 following a procurement process using TII's Framework Agreement for Consultancy Services. Phases 0 and 1 have been completed and work has commenced on Phase 2 (Options Selection). In addition, topographical survey data has been procured and a ground investigation contract is nearing completion.

National Road Pavement Projects: Design and Contract documentation are being prepared for the pavement overlay projects included in the 2022 TII National Road Allocations. Contract documentation for Athlone North (Phase 2) and the N61 Shankill to Cladagh pavement projects were completed in June 2022 and September 2022 respectively.

N4 Carrick on Shannon to Dromod Project involves the provision of a transport solution, which may include a new crossing of the River Shannon, to relieve the significant traffic congestion on the N4 through Carrick on Shannon / Cortober. The extents of the project include a 21km section of the N4 national primary route extending from Drumharrow townland in County Roscommon to Faulties townland in County Leitrim. A Section 85 Agreement under the Local Government Act is in place between Roscommon County Council and Leitrim County Council. Under the Section 85 Agreement Leitrim County Council is the Lead Authority. Leitrim County Council appointed Ove Arup & Partners Ireland Ltd. (ARUP) to progress the project through the planning process in March 2020. ARUP completed Phase 1 (Concept and Feasibility) in July 2020. As part of Phase 2 (Option Selection), a Constraints Public Consultation was held in October 2020 by means of a virtual public consultation accessible through the dedicated project website, to inform the public of the project and invite submissions. Over forty submissions were received during this consultation. Preliminary ground investigation works to inform the option selection process commenced in April 2021 and were completed in July 2021. Public Consultation No. 2 (Alternatives and Options) was held between the 19th of May 2021 and the 25th of June 2021. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, a face-to-face event was not feasible considering public health advice and associated public health risks. A virtual public consultation accessible through the project website was held which included the facility to book online meetings with the project team. Over 2,300 submissions were received and a total of one hundred and eighty-nine (189) virtual online meetings were undertaken as part of the consultation. Acknowledgements and responses were issued by Leitrim County Council following a review of the submissions by the Project Team. Work continued on the assessment of the various Alternatives and Options throughout 2021 and culminated in Q1 2022. Public Display No 3 – Preferred Transportation Solution took place in the Landmark Hotel in Carrick on Shannon on the 18th and 19th May 2022. Phase 2 deliverables were issued to TII in Q3 2022 together with a request seeking formal approval to proceed to Phase 3 (Design & Environmental Evaluation) of the project development. The procurement of Environmental Survey and Topographical data necessary to progress the project development is ongoing.

GREENWAY PROJECTS

Athlone to Ballyleague/Lanesborough Greenway Project involves the provision of a greenway, with an approx. indicative length ranging from 45 to 60km. This Greenway links into proposed Galway to Athlone cycleway scheme in the Athlone area. RPS has been appointed to progress project through Phase 0 Scope and Pre-Appraisal & Phase 1 Concept and Feasibility (TII Project Managers Manual for Greenway Projects).

Mid Shannon Greenway Project

Mid Shannon Greenway is the adopted name for proposed greenway project between Ballyleague/Lanesborough and Tarmonbarry/Strokestown/Roosky. The Mid Shannon greenway has an approx. indicative length ranging from 30 to 45km. This Greenway links into Athlone to Ballyleague/Lanesborough Greenway scheme. Ryan Hanley has been appointed to progress project through Phase 0 Scope and Pre-Appraisal & Phase 1 Concept and Feasibility (TII Project Managers Manual for Greenway Projects). A public consultation was held on 09/06/2022 at Strokestown Community Centre. Phase 0 Strategic Assessment Report has been submitted to TII for approval.

Lough Key to Carrick on Shannon Greenway Project involves the provision of a greenway with an approx. indicative length ranging from 15 to 20km. A tender process is ongoing to procure consultants to deliver the tasks necessary for the purposeful delivery of Phase 0 Scope and Pre-Appraisal & Phase 1 Concept and Feasibility (TII Project Managers Manual for Greenway Projects).

Local Improvement Scheme 2022

The Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD) operates the Local Improvement Schemes for the improvement of local non-public roads. In total Roscommon County Council received an overall allocation in 2022 of **€571,758** (Round 1 €456,990 and Round 2 - €114,768). 24 projects were funded from this allocation. There are 10 applicants remaining on the secondary list and these carry over to 2022. The Council intend to advertise in early December for expressions of interest for 2023, subject to funding from the Department.

Lough Funshinagh Interim Flood Relief Work

The OPW have completed the remediation plan as per the instruction of the High Court within some minor fencing works to be completed by the Local authority. Offers of compensation to landowners will soon be issued once the calculations are agreed. Roscommon County Council is prohibited from carrying out any further works in this area following a judicial review by Friends of the Irish Environment.

CFRAM Carrick on Shannon (and Cortober) Flood Relief Scheme

Ryan Hanley has been appointed by Leitrim County Council as Design Consultants. Roscommon County Council is on the Steering Group Committee. Site investigation, environmental surveys and fieldworks are substantially complete. The consultants are now working on refining the flood model for the study area and options are now being drafted for the scheme.

CFRAM Bogganfin Athlone

In May 2021, the Council received an offer of funding from the Office of Public Works in the amount of €350,000 for the project at Bogganfin. The design brief is now complete and will be put on e-tenders in late October.

Active Travel Programme

The Programme for Government published in June 2020 included significant and ambitious targets for the development of walking and cycling schemes. In 2021 the National Transport Authority announced €72.8 million in funding to 19 local authorities for active travel in rural areas. It was the first ever active travel investment programme for rural Ireland.

Roscommon County Council received an allocation of €2,397,000 in 2021 and €3,264,798 in 2022. The funding for 2021 and 2022 are Year 1 and 2 of a 5-year Active Travel Investment Programme, which will be transformative in the area of green sustainable transport options to those outside of the large urban centres. The development of high quality walking and cycling facilities will encourage more people to switch to active travel and will contribute to tackling climate change. Connecting communities and making walking and cycling attractive, safe and accessible to everyone is what this funding will help to accomplish.

In 2021 the Active travel team completed schemes at locations across the six engineering areas i.e. Creagh, Ballaghaderreen, Cortober, Cootehall, Elphin, Castlerea and Roscommon.

In 2022 we have another 12 projects commencing throughout the six engineering areas including Athlone, Castlerea, Lecarrow, Rooskey, Boyle & Croghan. Consultants have been appointed to six of the schemes with a further six projects under construction which are due to be completed in Q4 2022.

Galway to Athlone Cycleway

This project is being delivered by the Westmeath, Galway and Roscommon local authorities. Design consultants, RPS from Galway, were appointed in 2020 to identify a project study area and constraints. The Galway to Athlone Cycleway will complete the over 300km car-free corridor between Galway and Dublin for cyclists and walkers. A dedicated Project Office was established in Ballinasloe where people can liaise with the project team by appointment by contacting (091) 509267 or info@galwaytoathlonecycleway.com.

The first of four focused periods of public consultation commenced on 10th August 2020, to hear people's views on the Project and the proposed Study Area. The second public consultation took place in January 2021, showing the route corridor options. The third consultation commenced on 8th December 2021 to 28th February 2022 showing the emerging preferred route corridor option.

There has been ongoing face to face meetings and calls with landowners over the past two years. It has since been announced in December 2021, that the preferred route corridor is No 5. It is expected from discussions and face to face meetings with landowners, that in a vast majority of cases, a route along a farm boundary can be chosen, and severance of farms avoided. The preferred route both maximise the use of public Bord na Móna lands, following its demise in recent years. The greenway has also the full support of Bord na Móna for this route corridor selection. Maps have been drawn up outlining the preferred route on landowner's properties, which was in principle agreed with the Project Liaison Officers (PLOs) and the landowners previously.

Over the past few months, there has been face to face meetings with the PLOs and the landowners, where the landowners are given a copy of these maps and information been received on the landowner's thoughts to date. There are approximately 350 potentially impacted private landowners had been identified along the emerging preferred route. It starts near Ballyloughane Beach in Renmore, passing through Oranmore, Rinville, Clarinbridge, Kilcolgan, Kinvara, Gort, Woodford, Portumna, Meelick, Clonfert, Ballinasloe, Shannonbridge, and finishing at Athlone Castle before linking with the cycleway to Dublin.

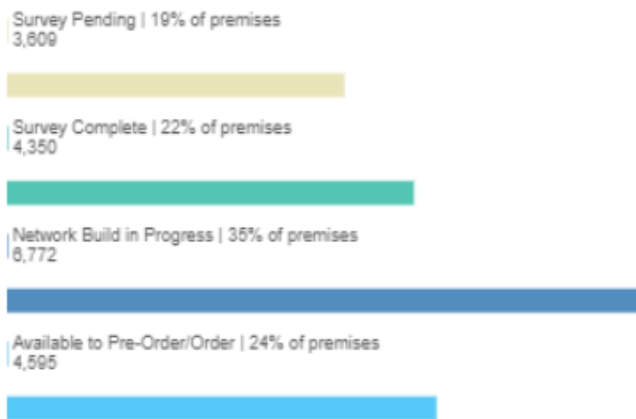
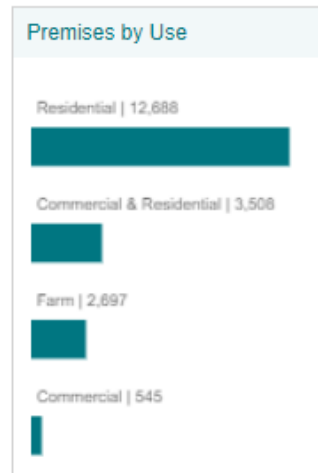
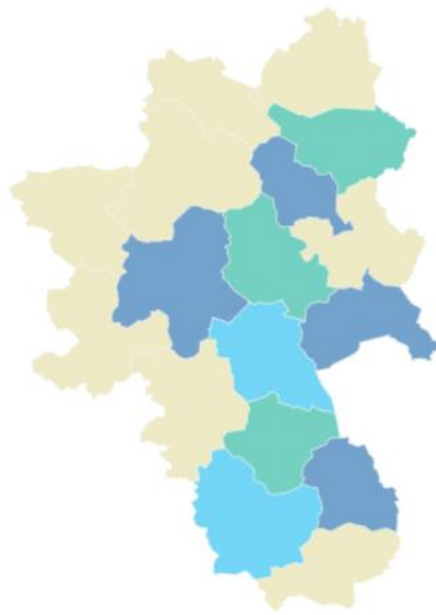
Landowners have been engaged with this process, they have been listened to and their thoughts and potential issues identified. Where feasible, the route has been amended to address identified issues whilst ensuring the continuity of the route, end to end. There were three focused public consultations have been held since 2020.

During the second public consultation 11,631 submissions were received on Route Corridor Options between January and March 2021, of which 95% were positive; 3% were neutral and 2% were negative. Corridor Option 5, which includes Kinvara, Ballinderreen and Kilcolgan, attracted the highest number of submissions totalling 1,896. This segment of the cycleway is approximately 15km or 7% of the over 205km route. Overall, there was “positivity and support” for the project over approximately 90% of the emerging preferred route. Overall there is still a very positive response from the landowners. The project website is www.galwaytoathlonecycleway.com.

Broadband

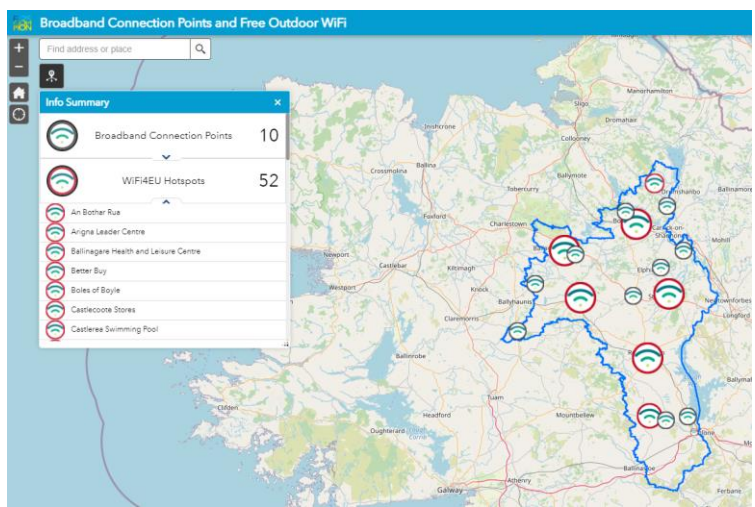
NBI

Work continues with NBI staff regarding build designs and S254 planning applications across the network. Ballinasloe and Roscommon deployment areas are taking orders currently for new connections and properties are now live on the network in both areas. So far it appears that customers are getting connected in a timely fashion. Approximately 900 new pole applications have been processed to date in the county and NBI are satisfied with the way applications are progressed through Roscommon. Below is an update of the progress so far in County Roscommon. Out of the 19000 premises in Roscommon to be passed over 4000 have already been passed by NBI, this would be well above the national average at this stage.



WiFi4EU

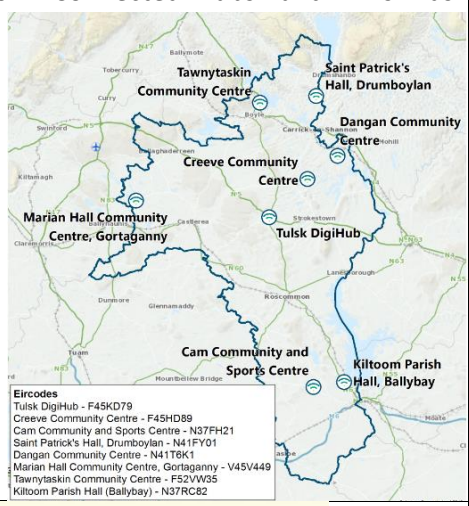
WiFi4EU was a project that received EU funding to provide free Wi-Fi hotspots around the county. The project was completed in Q1 2022 and 52 access points are now live in towns and villages in Roscommon. This project is bringing free Wi-Fi hotspots to towns and villages all over the county and is being widely used in most locations.



A link to the above map showing all locations has been created on our GIS homepage.

Broadband Connection Points (BCPs)


RCC was awarded **€17,7444.65** under the 2021 Connected Hubs fund. This was targeted at improving the locations that had been set up as BCP sites. The bulk of the work was completed as programmed in 2021. RCC broadband office assisted the BCP sites to make applications for the 2022 Connected Hubs fund and **€65,000** has been received from DRCD for the 2022 program of works. The works are almost almost complete and funding was processed through RCC for works on Tisrara Community Centre, Kilmurray Community Centre, Tawnytaskin BCP, Cam BCP & Creeve BCP. Online booking is available for all BCP sites through the RCC website.



Eduroam



Eduroam is an international roaming service for users in research, higher education and further education. Eduroam allows roaming research and educational users to more easily obtain Internet access via the Wi-Fi service at participating sites. When attaching to Eduroam Wi-Fi users are authenticated via their home institution. If authentication succeeds the user is granted wireless network access. Eduroam access is currently available in Boyle and Castleree Libraries and will be available in all Roscommon County Libraries by early 2023.

Website	<p>The Digital and Broadband tab was updated recently on our website. It is much improved and easier for the public to find on our homepage. Regular updates are posted here with regard to broadband in the County.</p> 
Digital Strategy	<p>The final draft of the Digital Strategy has been reviewed by the IS team and is gone to print. This will be before the members for adoption before the end of the year</p>
Siro	<p>Siro have commenced works in Roscommon Town in January and should have many housing estates in the town connected to high speed fibre in the next year or so.</p>

Road Opening Licences

Excavations made in a public road or footpath require a Road Opening Licence. Applications for licences to open the public road are lodged through the central portal with the Road Management Office www.rmo.ie. The Roads Department processes the licences for County Roscommon from this portal and attaches conditions and fees to the licence. The number of new applications for Q3 2022 is 33.

Abnormal Load Permits

Roscommon County Council operate a permit system for abnormal loads on all or part of journeys where specific weight and height conditions apply. The Roads Department issued 100 Abnormal Load Permits to the end of Q3 2022.