



Comhairle Contae Chorcaí  
Cork County Council

# An Buiséad & Tuarascáil an Phríomhfheidhmeannaig 2025 Chief Executive's Report & Budget 2025





RIAI Awards 2024  
Conservation, Adaptation and Re-Use Category  
**Winner - Kinsale Library**

# Chief Executive's Report and Adopted Budget 2025



## Comhairle Contae Chorcaí

---

## Cork County Council

# ***ANNUAL BUDGET 2025***

<b><i>INDEX</i></b>	<b><i>PAGE COLOUR</i></b>	<b><i>Page</i></b>
<b>Chief Executive's Report Introduction</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>i - xviii</b>
<b>Chief Executive's Report By Division</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>1 - 111</b>
<b><u>Statutory Tables</u></b>		
<b>Tables A to E</b>	<b>Pink</b>	<b>1 - 12</b>
<b>Table F</b>	<b>Pink</b>	<b>13 - 33</b>
<b>Appendix 1</b>	<b>Pink</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Appendix 2</b>	<b>Pink</b>	<b>35</b>



## **BUDGET REPORT 2025 TUARASCÁIL BUISÉD 2025**

Is dúshlán mór é Buiséad a ullmhú don bliana seo arís mar thoradh ar dhúshlán shuntasacha d'airgeadas na Comhairle i 2025.

Agus an Buiséad á ullmhú, cuireadh béim ar thacaíocht do na Ceantair Bhardasacha agus cothromú a dhéanamh ar na riachtanais mhéadaithe ar na bpríomhsheirbhísí ar fad chun leanúint le forbairt na mbailte agus na pobail tuaithe sa Chontae.

Trí Bhuiséad 2025, tá leithdháileadh de acmhainní dírithe ar na réimsí tosaíochta agus na réimsí ina bhfuil siad ag teastáil is mó. Ar an mbealach sin, úsáidfean an t-airgead atá ar fáil, déanfar riachtanais a tiomantas a mhaoiniú, agus déanfar cistí roghnacha a dháileadh sna háiteanna is gá.

### **Introduction**

The Draft Budget for the financial year 2025 is presented to the Members of Cork County Council in compliance with the statutory framework, Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) and relevant regulations. The Draft Annual Budget 2025 Report, and tables therein, outline the growing investment the Council will make in the operation and delivery of services to our citizens, and the enhanced support to the sustainable development of our communities.

Cork County Council's Draft Annual Revenue (day to day operational) Budget for the 2025 financial year amounts to €518m, an increase of €60m over the 2024 Budget of €458m. This increase in expenditure reflects Cork County Council's commitment to deliver the services needed to enhance our urban and rural communities. The Draft Budget 2025 is reflected in the statutory tables as detailed herein and presented to Members for

adoption at the Annual Statutory Budget Meeting of 4<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

In accordance with the Local Government Act 2001 (s135) the proposed Capital Programme for the period 2025 – 2027 will issue to Members under separate cover. The Capital Programme outlines an ambitious programme of projects with a potential investment of over €1.4bn in the County over the next three years.

## **Strategic Context**

The Draft Budget 2025 has been prepared in consultation with the Members, with the intent of meeting the objectives, as adopted by Cork County Council, of the County Development Plan (CDP) and Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP), and includes:

- Continuation of the progressive investment in services with a focus on our towns & villages across the County
- Providing funds for the continuation and enhancement of service delivery levels, including increased investment in front line services such as housing maintenance, library operations, street cleaning and maintenance of open spaces as well as supporting economic development and the business communities, and investment in infrastructure projects,
- Supporting the development of the County aligned to the overall financial sustainability.

The Draft Budget as presented attempts to strike the appropriate balance between the multiplicity of service demands.

The overall budget strategy is an iterative process based on specific building blocks to arrive at the presentation of the statutory Draft Budget for adoption by Members. Throughout this process, the Council's Corporate Policy Group (CPG) played a critical role in preparing this Budget. The CPG has been regularly consulted at a series of meetings since July 2024, with meetings in September, October, and November on the key objectives for the 2025 Budget. The key stages for 2025 Draft Budget included:

- Decision by the Council in September on the adjustment factor to the Local Property Tax (LPT) to vary the basic rate of LPT upward by 10% (7.5% 2024).
- Consultation with the Corporate Policy Group (CPG) with initial CPG meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> September and further Meetings on the 16<sup>th</sup> September, 5<sup>th</sup> November and 20<sup>th</sup> November.
- Briefing to Council on the emerging budgetary strategy at Development Committee meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> September and the 5<sup>th</sup> November.
- Consideration of Municipal District Draft Budgetary Plans, including the General Municipal Allocations, for 2025 at their budgetary meetings in November 2024.

In preparing the draft budget the main priority has been to maintain, and where funding allowed, increase the level of service provision across our key areas. Primary features in the preparation of Draft Budget 2025 include:

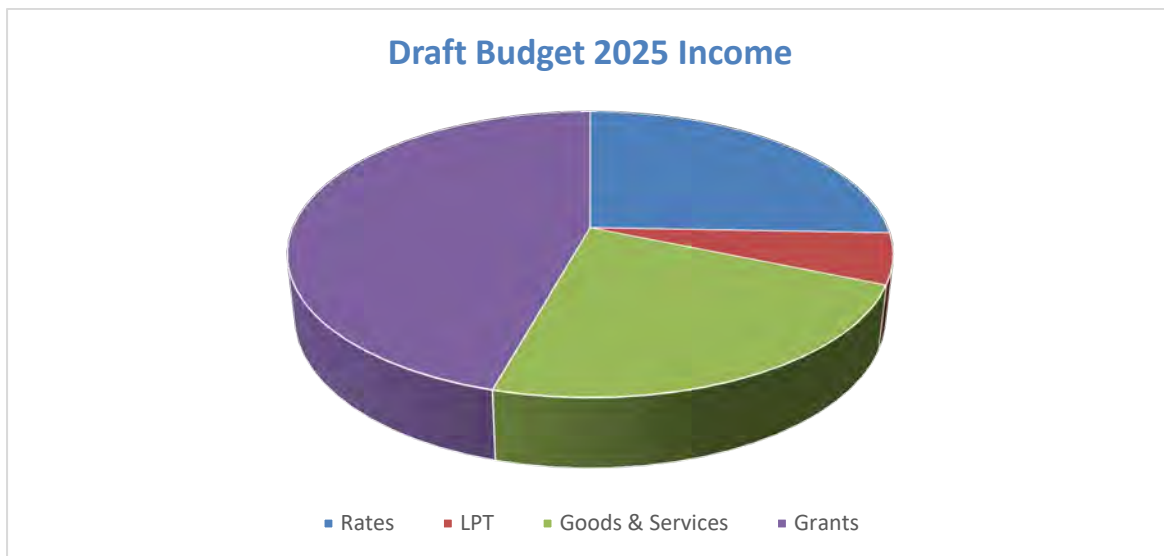
- Maintaining and enhancing existing service levels
- Increasing focus into our operations in the key towns and villages
- Focus on housing provision and our commitment to the delivery of Housing for All programme across the county
- Supporting economic development
- Delivery of projects in a sustainable way and meeting climate action targets
- Service Enhancement Fund for the review and investment in operational resources
- Providing for statutory requirements
- Internal own resource funding to meet our infrastructure project needs and match funding requirements, as identified in the Council's Capital Programme. The Capital Programme will be critically assessed over 2025 to determine which schemes will advance over the coming years.

## **Inflation & Economic Context**

Over recent years, our economy has experienced significantly high levels of inflation. These higher consumer prices and business costs not only affect households and business, but the Local Authority spending capacity is also reduced.

The general inflation rate (Jan 2022 – Oct 2024) was 14.8% and the cost of energy to the local authority almost doubled from 2022 to 2024. To put this in the context of operational budgets and frontline services, and additional €1.3m in expenditure has been provided for in Civic Amenity Sites between 2022 and 2025, representing a 9% increase as a result of inflationary pressures. Similarly, a 37% increase has been allocated to the street cleaning budgets between 2022 and 2025 which is a €1m increase in that timeframe. This presents a key challenge with pressure placed on provision of all our services and the need to find efficiencies to maintain delivery levels.

## **Income Sources 2025**



### **Commercial Rates**

Cork County Council is a multi-faceted authority which has always focused on creating the best possible environment for the business community and citizens of Cork County. Over the years, the Council has continued to enhance its economic development function and has introduced a suite of initiatives and measures to support and nurture our commercial sector. The overall focus is to make Cork a better place in which to work and live.

Commercial Rates is a significant contributor to the total budgeted income for the Council accounting for 25% of overall income. Cork County Council continues to work closely with the Valuation Office to ensure that income potential is maximised through timely valuations, and with its rates payers to ensure collection rates remain high while supporting business sustainability.

The Council is presenting this budget with an increase of 3% in the Annual Rate on Valuation (ARV) for commercial rates. The Council recognises the difficulties faced by Rates Customers across the County, but this increase is necessary to enhance service delivery and to facilitate the provision of a number of new strategic initiatives in 2025.

As highlighted in the table below increases in our commercial rates have not kept pace with inflation over the last 10 years, with a shortfall on ARV v CPI of 16%. This has led to a reduction in spending power and budget capacity to provide services. If the ARV had tracked with the CPI over the last decade, this would have resulted in approximately an additional €20million in rates income which would have been available to Cork County Council for the provision of services.



<b>Inflation vs ARV 2014 - 2024</b>	
<b>Consumer Price Index (CPI) Jan 2014</b>	<b>82.3</b>
<b>Consumer Price Index (CPI) Sep 2024</b>	<b>100.7</b>
<b>% Increase CPI</b>	<b>22.4%</b>
<b>% Increase ARV</b>	<b>6.6%</b>
<b>ARV Shortfall</b>	<b>15.8%</b>

This commercial rates increase of 3% will help bridge this gap and allow Cork County Council to provide increased budget allocations to continue to enhance service delivery across all services and particular deliver the key initiatives and priorities listed below.

The increase in ARV of 3% generates an additional €3.8m of income for Cork County Council. This additional income has been ringfenced to directly fund the provision of key strategic initiatives and enhanced frontline services such as:

- Additional investment in services to focus on towns and villages presentation with dedicated teams providing year round maintenance and upkeep works in each Municipal District
- Provision for the acquisition of economic development land to support businesses and start-ups, and it will be an annual rolling internal fund
- Annual rolling fund to support an agreed programme for the taking in charge of estates
- Provisions to support ongoing and future capital projects across the county
- Increased provisions for Planned Maintenance (Housing) and a new fund for Relief Roads design works.

<b>Draft of Budget 2025 includes the following new initiatives:</b>	<b>Annual Cost €m</b>
Town & Village operational and maintenance investment	1.4
Estates Taken in Charge Fund	0.2
Strategic Economic Land Acquisition Fund	0.3
Roads Relief Design Work Fund	0.2
Capital Projects Funding Provision (loan) Increase	1.5
Strategic Housing Land Acquisition Fund	1.0

Cork County Council recognises the ongoing challenges businesses are facing in the current economic climate. The Draft Budget retains the current Rates Incentive Grant Scheme with a primary focus to assist Small and Medium Enterprises (SME's), who comprise the majority of Ratepayers. The scheme applies on the following basis:

- Scheme to apply to all ratepayers countywide.
- Relief at 3.5% of annual bill, capped at maximum bill of €7,000; i.e. the max relief any ratepayer will receive is 3.5% of €7000 = €245

The Local Government Rates and Other Matters Act 2019 (as amended) provided for new rates waiver (section 15) scheme, and a rates vacancy abatement scheme (section 9), to be decided by local authority members in order to promote national and/or local policy objectives. The approval of these schemes will be a reserved function of the elected members and will be considered within the context of Budget 2026.

We are committed to engage early with Members to review the current scheme included in the budget and the options under the Act for the rates waiver scheme and rates abatement scheme. This will be done by June 2025 in preparation for Budget 2026. This will allow full consideration of options and implications and allow the development of a robust scheme to support ratepayers, while maintaining the financial capacity of the Council to deliver and enhance services.

### **National Revaluation Programme**

A revaluation of all commercial and industrial property in Ireland is provided for in the Valuation Act 2001, as amended. Revaluation of Commercial and Industrial properties in Cork City and County by the Valuation Office is currently under consideration for commencement. Revaluation will improve equity, uniformity, and transparency in the LA rating system. Residential property and agricultural lands are not rateable and consequently are not affected by the National Revaluation Programme.

### **Local Property Tax National Allocation 2025**

The Finance (Local Property Tax) (Amendment) Act 2021 updated the regulation of LPT giving effect to a package of measures in line with the Programme for Government to address the future of the Local Property Tax. Under the Local Property Tax (Local Adjustment Factor) Regulations 2022 100% of the LPT is retained in the area, and each Local Authority continues to receive a baseline funding amount and the impact of any variation in the basic rate of LPT is retained by the LA.

In September 2024, Cork County Council decided to vary the basic rate of LPT upwards by 10% for 2025, providing an allocation of €38,169,864 (100% LPT Income) which is represented in the draft budget as:

Housing Capital Expenditure <i>(not included in Revenue Budget)</i>	€ 5,700,000
Revenue Budget (Table A)	€ 29,731,207

Self-Fund Housing & Roads (Revenue)	€ 2,738,657
Total (Appendix 2)	€38,169,864

As mentioned above this increase to our LPT discretionary Income of approximately €870,000 compared to Budget 2024 was critical in the balancing of Cork County Council's budget. Both the executive and the Council would like to acknowledge this additional support.

### **Grant Income**

The budget has been finalised on the basis that grant allocations received for 2024 will continue into 2025. Where adjustments have been made, increases, or decreases, it is grounded on discussions with the relevant National Government Departments. It should be noted that final grant allocations will not be known until 2025 and where increased grants are received this will be reflected in the delivery of services on the ground.

## **Budget 2025 Strategic Benefits**

### **Economic Development**

Cork County Council continues to be proactive in driving economic development across the County and is very conscious of the need to support our business sector and to underpin the sustainability of our communities. To that end, Draft 2025 Budget continues to provide for:

- Economic Development Fund supporting tourism and strategic marketing initiatives, partnerships with local and regional stakeholders, and the co-funding for economic development initiatives.
- Dedicated Property Activation and Regeneration Unit (PARU) is supported by the EDF and continues to Proactively engage with internal and external stakeholders to examine and action opportunities for property activation and town centre regeneration. PARU provides the foundation for a programme to address issues with a focus on the utilisation of property, vacant property, and ownership.
- Town Centre Regeneration Fund recognising the levels of vacancy and dereliction in towns and villages and the need to innovate to solve these problems as well as the renewed national and local focus on town-centre regeneration.

The Town Centre First (TCF) Programme is a national progressive and multifaceted programme, to aid in the coordination of the regeneration and revitalisation of towns across Ireland. Given the initiatives and ongoing investments by the Council, funded by our own resources, we are positioned to avail of the opportunities that will arise from this critical programme.

Additionally, the Members have identified the need for more Economic Development land across the County. This ask has been acknowledged and a budget of €300,000 has been included to provide a funding reserve for the expansion of our economic development land bank, which will be built up over the coming years.

The Council has a long tradition and success in providing economic development infrastructure for the facilitation of the growth and development of private sector enterprises, throughout the county. This has varied from land provision for large companies to serviced sites on which companies can develop their own buildings, to units rented to developing enterprises. These actions have resulted in employment growth, multiplier effects in the local economy, rates income for the Council and economic growth in areas spread throughout the County, ensuring a geographic spread of economic activity in the process

A market view of business land availability in the main towns of the County found that there was very little vacancy in rental units in the vast majority of the County's towns, as low as 1% in many locations. This is curtailing the development potential of our towns.

The proposal for a new rolling fund of €0.3m in 2025 for the purchase of economic development land will allow the Council to replenish its enterprise landbank and will facilitate the expansion of local businesses and new businesses coming to our towns.

The Town Development Fund (TDF) and Village Enhancement Fund (VEF) are recognised as being of significant value to the Municipal Districts. It is critically important that the core principle of supporting town & village development, in particular the vitality of the retail, hospitality, and services sector core of our towns, is the primary criteria for the spending on this fund. It is intended to engage with the MD Members to consider the alignment of the TDF €0.95m and VEF €0.55m to co-fund strategic projects early in 2025.

Our Local Enterprise Offices (LEO) continue to engage with the business community and provide support both financially and through mentoring and training. The LEOs serve as a first stop shop to providing support and services to start, grow and develop micro businesses in the County.

However, it must be noted the Council's investment in the economic development of the County is not solely confined to direct investment and supports for enterprises. The Council invests across its services to make the region an attractive proposition for economic growth, to benefit communities and fortify our rates base. This investment includes maintenance and development of the transportation network, providing recreation and amenity facilities, developing communities both rural and in towns and investing in the culture and heritage of the area. Through this the Council provides improved quality of life for potential workers, new remote workers, and new citizens. In addition, the town development and village enhancement funds available to our MDs, together with the expansion of connected hubs across the County are key to the resilience of our towns and villages.

Our County Development Plan adopted in 2022 provides for the development of Cork County Council as an attractive, competitive place to do business. It outlines the opportunities and the strategy for sustainable development across the County and lays the foundations for continued economic development. This is reflected in the ambitious Capital Programme 2025-27 and highlights the need for our Annual Budget to provide the necessary funding to deliver these projects.

### **Towns & Villages**

The commitment to Council was a review of municipal area services and resourcing which identified the following key objectives :

- Establishment of Town Presentation Teams in each MD (key towns and villages)
- Preparation of Town Enhancement Plan
- Divisional Officers (North, West, South and East)

For Budget 2025, with the budget from increased rates income, it is proposed that Cork County Council will ringfence resources to focus specifically on town and village presentation, including drain clearing, street cleansing, litter management, signage maintenance and open spaces management, and a town & village designated team will be put in place to deliver these. This team will focus resourcing toward operational activity in towns and villages aligned to the Town Enhancement Plan.

Divisional Officers (North South East and West) will focus on road openings inspection, hedge cutting notices, casual trading and outdoor street furniture compliance, litter management, Beach bye laws and inspection of parks and open spaces among others.

### **Taking in Charge of Estates**

The Draft Budget contains an additional provision of €200,000, which will be an ongoing fund annually, towards the funding gap and progression of the taking in charge of estates across the County, which is being financed by the 3% Rates increase income

In 2020 the Planning Directorate prepared a programme of works to utilise funds received as a result of Bonds claimed to progress the finishing of estates to a Taking in Charge Standard. A group of housing estates was selected to form Bundle 1 and the geographic spread of these estates was across all Divisions of the Council. It is now proposed to assess Bundle 2 and to prepare a schedule of works to consider these estates for the taking in charge process. The investigative work (i.e. CCTV Surveys, Water Audits etc.) is ongoing, the results of which will determine what works are required to bring the estates in question to a taking in charge standard and the cost of same.

Taking the previous costs of Bundle 1, the economic volatility in relation to building materials and our experience to date it is estimated there could be a shortfall of €1.46m in the funding for the Bundle 2 works. While this is an estimation has not been based on

site specific considerations it is recognised the Council needs to provide for funding to help bridge the gap and take these estates into charge.

### **Capital Programme Own Resources Funding**

The Capital Programme encompasses the current, proposed, and potential infrastructural projects to be undertaken by Cork County Council, for the years 2025 - 2027. It outlines a proposed investment of over €1.4bn across the entire range of activities including housing, library provision, recreation and amenity, economic development & tourism, transportation and active travel measures, public realm, coastal protection, and flood relief. This programmes require the Council to provide our own local funding to match grants and the Draft Budget includes a provision towards financing this local funding whether through bank financing or internal loans.

The Council's Draft Budget reflects the Council's continued commitment to aid the development and support of our communities, our towns, villages and supporting hinterland, and the economic activity therein, through securing grants and providing match funding to schemes such as ORIS and Town & Village Renewal, as well as the delivery of funding for larger projects through successful applications under both URDF and RRDF schemes for which the Council must also apply own resources.

A Capital Projects fund increase of €1.5m has been included in the Draft Budget financed by the increase in commercial rates. This increases our internal loans budget to provide resources towards the Council's match funding requirements for RRDF and URDF which will be required for projects such as Midleton Town Centre improvement, Fermoy, Mallow, Cobh, and Skibbereen Public Realm improvements.

Examples of infrastructure projects requiring own resources include playgrounds (€2m), burial grounds (€8.7m), car parking, public lighting, and public toilets. In addition, Cork County Council need to have internal own resources to match fund the development of libraries, to fund upgrade of our swimming pools, and invest in our marine infrastructure. The three year Capital Programme identifies €190m of own resource funding to progress the delivery of a number of these projects, and the programme of projects will need to be prioritised based on the funding available. This internal funding need requires a critical assessment of the capital programme to evaluate which schemes will advance over the coming years.

### **Sustainability and Climate**

Sustainability is a key objective of Cork County Council and integral to all our activities from Housing maintenance and retrofit, public lighting LED upgrade to plant & machinery modernisation and the benefit of green procurement.

Members will be aware that national Climate Action legislation commits Ireland to net-zero emissions by 2050 and a 51% reduction by 2030. Recent severe weather events around the globe and locally confirm that Climate Change is real. The destruction caused in our towns and villages, by Storm Babet in 2023 and more recently Bantry in October 2024 has increased focus on the need to accelerate efforts to combat climate action.

The Local Authority Climate Action Plan (LACAP) is facilitating the development of annual implementation programmes that will have regard to the targets the Council is required to meet, and the budgets available from local and national government sources and from private sector sources where available. Climate Action is required both in mitigation where we try to reduce our impact on Climate Change and in adaptation where we work to develop resilience to the certain challenges that Climate Change will bring.

In addition to its statutorily defined obligations, Cork County Council will continue to act as an agent for central government in areas of activity such as development of flood protection measures, retrofitting of social housing stock and adaptation of roads and drainage infrastructure.

Cork County Council is committed to continuing to mainstream Climate Action in the delivery of its services and affecting change in terms of climate adaptation as the Council's investment in Climate Action is not solely confined to direct investment and supports. Other initiatives and actions to adapt our practices and sustainability deliver our services include:

- Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project (PLEEP)
- Fleet Management Unit energy management and fuel alternatives
- Sustainable Transport & Active Travel Programme
- Energy retrofitting & efficiencies and LED lighting in 200 Council properties
- Housing Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Programme (EERP), funded by DHLGH, includes the provision of external wall insulation, new windows and doors, attic insulation and Heat Pumps.
- Flood Management and Protection Schemes
- Coastal and research project with UCC to aid Council in developing an overall strategy for managing coastal erosion
- Biodiversity & Ecosystem Protection
- Public Awareness & Community engagement.

The Council's commitment to Climate Adaptation is also reflected in our Capital programme through investment in rural work hubs, improving living conditions in urban and rural areas, flood and coastal protection works for vulnerable communities, energy efficiency projects in Council owned facilities including swimming pools, protection of waterways and sustainable travel projects.

## **Draft Budget 2025 – Service Areas**

The Draft Annual Budget is €518m in 2025 which is a €60m increase on 2024 (€458m).

In framing this Budget, Cork County Council has been conscious of the inflationary pressures that are currently facing operations. Balancing the budget has required a balancing of priorities. When considering the financial resources available the Council has had to reconfigure the budget and delivery methods, finding efficiencies and, where required allocate additional funding to ensure there is no impact on service delivery.

Because of the sound financial management and prudence in previous years the Council has built up of some reserves for purposes such as new playgrounds, burial ground extensions, ICT infrastructure, public convenience provision and the County Development Plan. Some of these capital reserves facilitate the Council to build up provisions to meet costs of cyclical events such as Local Elections and County Development Plans which spread the funding cost of these over 5 years rather than a hit in one year.

The Draft Budget 2025 has not been able to meet the totality of service expectations of the Directorates. The increased expenditure demands are not being matched by sufficient income buoyancy thereby limiting our ability to meet the level of expectation/demand for services. However, throughout the budget preparation process the executive has worked to review financial resources and configure these to ensure the continuation of service delivery. The Draft Budget 2025 continues provision for key areas including:

### *Housing*

There has been an increase to our Housing and Building on both the expenditure and income side.

- In response to increasing demands on service and increasing costs due to inflationary pressures there has been an increase of €1.4m to the Expenditure budget for the maintenance and improvement of Local Authority Housing. Additional funding has been provided for day-to-day response maintenance and an additional fund of €0.5m for planned maintenance. Our Boiler maintenance provision is €334,000 and the provision for the upgrading of Heating systems increased to €470,000 (€356,000 in 2024)
- Continue to drive our VOIDS programme of €6.5m
- Croí Cónaithe Towns Grant is among the suite of measures under the pathway to addressing vacancy and efficient use of existing stock in Housing for All. There is a provision of €18m included for the delivery of this program, an increase of €15.5m.
- Homeless Emergency Accommodation budgets remain in line with 2024 which is reflective of the demand on these services.



- €8.4 has been included for Housing Grants for Housing Aid Older People, Housing Adaption Grant & Housing Mobility Grant. an increase of €1.4m.
- €16.9m is provided for the delivery of the Payment and Availability Scheme, an increase of €4m on 2024 (€12.9m). This expenditure is matched by Income as this expenditure is 100% recoupable.
- The Better Energy Communities (BEC) grant aided fund of €320,000 has been maintained to provide other refurbishment/energy efficiency schemes
- The Social Housing PPP Bundle 2 Programme. This is a partnership between the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH), the Local Authorities involved, the National Development Finance Agency (NDFA) and a specially formed Project Company (PPP Co.). Budget 2025 includes income of €11m and corresponding expenditure of €11m for the delivery of this programme.
- The above increases are being part-funded by the increase in Cork County Councils housing stock and the annual rent review which together will generate an additional buoyancy in Housing Rents with an increase of €2m in rents from existing stock and an estimated rental income figure of €0.7m resulting from new Cost Rental Properties that will come on stream in 2025.

#### *Roads and Transportation*

- The Roads Budget for 2025 has been increased to reflect the increasing cost of fuel, electricity, and materials.
- Grant allocations for national local and regional roads are in line with expectations for 2025 based on engagement with TII and are subject to change. The allocations will not be known until early 2025. In addition, there has been a focus within the Programme for Government on Town Centre First principles, active travel, climate change adaptation and mitigation. It is expected that funding for these measures will continue throughout 2025.
- Public lighting provision has been maintained at €350,000 and provides some funding for the loan requirement for the public lighting energy efficiency project
- Pay Parking Dividend – provision is made for the continuation of a dividend of €270,000 in 2025 which is dependent on realisation of the parking income.
- A new fund of €0.2m to allow for the advance work on Relief Roads design has been introduced to prepare projects for future grant funding.

#### *Water Services*

- €7.2m has been provided for the administration of group schemes and private installations in line with current grant allocations representing an increase of €2.3m.
- A total of €1.1m is provided for the management of Flood Schemes at Mallow, Fermoy, Clonakilty, Skibbereen and Bandon., which is fully grant funded.
- €1.9m has been provided for Public Conveniences which is a slight increase (5.5%) on last year's budget (€1.8m)

### *Planning and Development*

- Provision of €1.1m is made for the County Development Plan process including advertising, consultation, meetings, printing, and Irish translation.
- With increased rates income a provision of €0.3m has been introduced for the acquisition of economic development land
- A new budget of €0.2m has been included for funding Taking in Charge of estates
- The critical role the LEO offices provides is recognised through an increased budget provision of €4.6m (funded DETE)
- Conservation Grant and Commemorations Budget totals €522,000 (part grant-funded) for 2025.

### *Environmental Services*

- The operation of Landfill sites has increased by €800,000 due to increased activity, costs of disposal of materials, energy increases and loan charges.
- Increase of €0.2m in the provision of street cleaning services up to €3.4m
- Funding for the provision of the maintenance of burial grounds has been maintained with a draft budget of €2.3m
- Climate Action Fund is retained at €400k to reflect the Councils focus
- WRC Retained Fire Services Agreement: The additional costs in 2025 relate solely to payroll for the new recruits and the revised terms for existing staff and an income recoupment of has been included in the Draft Budget to cover this cost
- €1.3m provided for the new Community Climate Action Programme (CCAP) and Community Climate Action Fund which supports small and large, rural, and urban communities to tackle climate action at a local level (fully grant funded).

### *Recreation & Development*

- 2025 budget for Libraries has increased by €1m, protecting the book fund while providing additional funding to deliver on the National My Open Library Service and to our library e-resources program.
- Provision for increased funding of €0.4m to the Arts Programme
- The investment in new and improved amenities is driven by the Municipal Districts (MDs) including enhancement of parks in Mallow, new playgrounds, and leisure facilities such as Midleton, Kinsale and Youghal libraries and the Midleton to Youghal Walkway.
- Due to the opening of a number of new parks and greenways (Midleton to Youghal) funding has increased for the maintenance of our parks and open spaces by €0.7m.

### *Municipal and Area Services*

- Through the proposal before Members €1.4m is provided towards town and village operational enhancement.
- The Service Enhancement Fund is retained for 2025 with €0.3m assigned towards the costs of Divisional Officers.

The key MD discretionary funds maintained in full for 2025 include:

- *General Municipal Allocations (GMA)*: The provision of €1.8m to support the Municipal Districts discretionary expenditure through the Community Grants Scheme is continued in full.
- *Town Development Fund (TDF)*: The provision of €0.95m towards discretionary programme expenditure at Municipal District level is provided for 2025
- *Villages Enhancement Fund (VEF)*: A total fund of €550,000 is maintained for 2025 and funds enhancements to the public realm and community infrastructural fabric of villages.

For 2025 the allocation of discretionary funds to Municipal Districts is maintained and allocated as follows:

	<b>GMA</b>	<b>TDF</b>	<b>VEF</b>
	€	€	€
Carrigaline MD	188,598	120,000	68,750
Cobh MD	183,394	120,000	68,750
East Cork MD	241,218	120,000	68,750
Fermoy MD	198,250	110,000	68,750
Kinsale Bandon MD	208,100	115,000	68,750
Macroom MD	197,253	98,000	68,750
Mallow Kanturk MD	284,913	139,000	68,750
West Cork MD	314,000	130,000	68,750
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,815,726</b>	<b>952,000</b>	<b>550,000</b>

#### *Other*

- Coastal Reserve has been maintained at €150,000 to reflect the Council's and national government's focus on Coastal Protection and Management.
- A provision of €100,000 has been allocated to the Town Regeneration Program.
- Provision of €2.5m, an additional €1.5m due to rates ARV increase, towards funding for delivery of a Capital Infrastructure Programme including coordination with potential funding from the Urban and Rural Regeneration Schemes.
- The compensation for increases in rates of pay is noted at €33.5 in Draft Budget 2024 (pay increases in 2024 & assumed for 2025)
- Investment in ICT and Cyber security to protect Council business continuity.

### **Boundary Compensation**

An Increased income of €16.4m is included in the Draft Budget. The views of Cork City Council in relation to indexation of the Boundary Compensation figure are noted. Per the legislation and agreement this amount has been included as a full recoupment for the 2025 Budget.

## **Conclusion**

The Council's Corporate Plan 2024-2029 is currently being developed. This will highlight the emerging priorities for the Council over the next 5 years and inform the development of our Budgets. The preparation of our Annual Service Delivery Plans will be aligned to the 2025 Annual Budget, and these will be presented to Members in early 2025

The preparation of the 2025 Draft Budget was principally carried out by the Director of Finance Loraine Lynch, Deputy Director of Finance Jeremy Canty, Financial Management Accountant Chris Sheehan, and other members of the Finance team. It involved engagement and cooperation with teams from all Directorates to ensure the effective allocation of resources. I would like to compliment them on their work and thank all Members of Management Team and their staff for their input.

I would also like to thank the County Mayor Cllr. Joe Carroll and his predecessor Cllr. Frank O Flynn along with the Corporate Policy Group and the wider membership of Council for their assistance and support in the past year and particularly in the consultative process of this Budget.



---

**Moira Murrell**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**  
**CORK COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**November 2024**

## Housing Directorate

### Division A

Services carried out by the Housing Directorate include the provision of housing support for households in need through a combination of:

- Rented Local Authority Housing
- Approved Housing Bodies
- Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) / Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)
- Affordable Housing
- Tenant in Situ Scheme
- Traveller Accommodation
- Transfer from existing Local Authority Accommodation
- Extension to an existing Local Authority House to meet needs.
- Grants to adapt dwellings to meet the needs of disabled and older persons.
- Construction
- Acquisition

### **POLICY AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES UNIT**

The Housing Policy and Management Services Unit will continue to develop and feed into Housing policies for Cork County Council in 2025.

This Unit facilitates the work of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee (S.P.C)  
In 2024 the SPC carried out the review and development of the following:

- Capital Programme: Housing for All-Housing Delivery Action Plan 2022-2026
- Affordable and cost rental housing
- Tenant in Situ: acquisition of HAP properties
- Local Strategy: Housing for People with Disabilities- ongoing progress reports

The Unit processes approximately 220 Housing representations per month from Public Representatives on the IT software Reps System and will continue this service in 2025.

### **Housing and Disability Steering Group**

A joint Cork County and City Housing and Disability Steering Group was established in 2015, with representatives from the four categories of disability as outlined in the National Housing Strategy for People with a Disability; the HSE, the Approved Housing Bodies and both Local Authorities.

A Cork County and City Strategic Plan for Housing People with Disabilities was developed by the Joint Local Steering Group for Cork County and City Councils and was approved by the Housing SPC in 2021.

The objectives of the Strategy will continue to be met in 2025.

The Steering Group held 4 meetings in 2024 and reported to the Cork County Council Housing SPC on progress.

### **HOUSING FINANCE UNIT**

This Unit is responsible for monitoring expenditure & income (both Revenue & Capital) and for submitting grant claims in excess of €100m in 2024 to the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage.

The Unit coordinates the annual budget for the Directorate as well as the preparation of the rolling 3 Year Capital Programme.

### **HOUSING CAPITAL ADMINISTRATION & ACQUISITIONS UNIT**

This Unit works towards the social housing build targets set by the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage through direct construction, AHB delivery, turnkey acquisitions and leasing. In addition, it works towards the social housing acquisition targets set by the Department of Housing Local Government & Heritage through the acquisition of second-hand properties including the Tenant in Situ Scheme. It also supports progressing the planning, design and construction of social housing on Council owned, or acquired sites.

#### **Acquisitions**

As a supplementary measure, the acquisition of single houses is considered in areas of high demand, where there is a specific need that is best met by the acquisition of an existing house, or where a property has been vacant for over 12 months and is suitable for renovation for social housing. In 2024, the Housing Directorate progressed approximately 30 to completion by year end.

#### **Tenant in Situ Acquisitions**

A Circular issued in March 2023 concerning the arrangements for social housing acquisitions in 2023 and a new Guidance Document issued in 2024 which allows Local Authorities to focus on the acquisition of homes where tenants are facing eviction due to the sale of the property by the landlord. The scheme applies to tenants with a valid Notice of Termination, deemed at risk of experiencing homelessness and who qualify for social housing support, including those in receipt of Housing Assistance Payment (HAP), Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) or those in receipt of Rent Supplement. Cork County Council has progressed 85 Tenant in Situ properties to sale closing in 2024.

#### **Part 8 Planning Process**

Before Cork County Council can undertake any developments or works which are not considered to be exempt development, the Council is required to first undergo the procedure as set out in Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001(as amended). The Planning and Development and Foreshore (Amendment) Act 2022 introduced a new Section 179A into the Planning and Development Act 2000 as part of the Government's plan to streamline and accelerate the delivery of social, affordable and cost-rental housing under its Housing for All plan. In addition, applications for approval for Local Authority Developments are made to An Bord Pleanála under 177AE of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended (Appropriate Assessment).

The Capital Administration and Acquisitions Unit is responsible for co-ordinating the Part 8 Planning Process in accordance with the Regulations for the Housing Department. In 2024, the Housing Department progressed 8 Section 179A Developments, 2 Part 8 Developments and 1 177AE Development through the planning process.

#### **Housing Rent Collection**

The Rent Collection Unit has county wide responsibility for the collection and management of rents from social housing tenants and RAS tenants. The unit also has responsibility for initiating legal action where rent payments are not made. The importance of early prevention of rent arrears is accepted as the most effective way to protect the Council's income and prevent low-income tenants accruing debts which can be very difficult to clear.

The rent charged by Cork County Council is based on a differential rent scheme where the rent is calculated based on the assessable income of the principal earner together with a contribution from any subsidiary earner in the household. The minimum weekly rent is €25 and there is no maximum rent. The Rent Collection Unit manages rent appeals under the Rent Appeal Policy and if the Council feels that the

amount of a rent calculated under the Differential Rent Scheme would give rise to hardship in a household, it may agree to accept a lesser weekly rent for a specified time.

The Rent Assessment Unit is responsible for carrying out rent assessments. A full rent review of tenants' rents is currently underway and will continue in 2025. This ensures that rents are based on current household incomes and updated occupancy details.

It is expected that Rental Income in 2025 will be €24.85m.

## **Social Operations Unit**

### **Housing Allocations**

In excess of 800 units were allocated to successful applicants and this figure will be matched in 2025. This includes allocations to units provided by the Council's own housing stock and Approved Housing Bodies. All new tenants are provided with pre-tenancy training.

### **Estate Management**

The Estate Management Unit continued to work with Residents Associations to improve estates during 2024. Funding is allocated to active Resident Associations to assist with costs incurred. The Estate Management Unit is working with residents in estates with a view to setting up Residents Associations. Liaison with state agencies continues to be strengthened for the exchange of information and continues to be beneficial to all parties involved.

### **Disabled Persons Grants**

Cork County Council received an allocation of €1,506,850 in 2024 to adapt Council Properties. This includes the Local Authority Contribution of 10%. In 2024, works to assist disabled persons were carried out on a total of 105 Local Authority houses consisting of 100 Minor Works and 7 Extensions countywide. A similar programme of work is proposed in 2025.

### **Travellers**

A new Travellers Accommodation Programme was drafted in 2024 after consultation and input from the public was invited. This programme will determine the Council's accommodation of Travellers for the next 5 years. A new Local Travellers Accommodation Consultative Committee will be established in order to assist the Council to deliver on the Accommodation Programme

### **Homeless Services**

A Tenancy Sustainment Worker is employed through Novas Initiatives to address homeless issues and tenancy sustainment in West Cork. This service is run in conjunction with the HSE.

In South Cork and North Cork, two Tenancy Sustainment Officers are employed through Sophia Housing to address homeless issues. Social Operations South Cork work closely with the City Council to deal with homeless presentations.

Cork County Council continues to liaise with Cork City Council and Kerry County Council to deal with homelessness on a regional basis through the Strategic Management Group on Homelessness and the Regional Homeless Forum.

In addition, a Placefinder Officer continues to assist homeless persons in securing HAP accommodation. This is a targeted support for homeless households to source HAP tenancies and the Placefinder Officer is working with both landlords and homeless persons to source accommodation. Provision is made in the Budget to maintain this service.

### **Processing Unit**

The Processing Unit has responsibility for the centralised processing of all applications submitted for social housing support for the county. In excess of 1500 applications were received in 2024.

### **Choice Based Letting**

Cork County Council's Choice Based Letting system (CBL) is an on-line web-based system accessible at [cbl.corkcoco.ie](http://cbl.corkcoco.ie) and has been live countywide since March 2017. This system enables approved housing applicants to express an interest in vacant properties, including Approved Housing Body vacancies, that are advertised on a weekly basis.

The refusal rate with regards to offers of council housing has reduced from over 30% prior to the introduction of Choice Based Letting to below 7% currently.

### **Social Housing Public Private Partnership (PPP) Programme**

In 2023, the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage (DHLGH) approved the sites for inclusion in a new Social & Affordable Housing PPP Bundle 6 Project. This involves 7 schemes across 3 local authorities and approximately 480 social units across the bundle. The Bundle 6 Project includes schemes in Mitchelstown, Carrigtwohill, Midleton & Bantry. Cork County Council will again act as sponsoring agency and lead local authority for this project. In 2024 Cork County Council's housing dept, as lead authority, commenced the design stage of this project with the NDFA.

## **HOUSING MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL UNIT**

In excess of 8,000 properties are managed by the Maintenance section.

### **Energy Efficiency Works**

200 properties benefitted from an energy efficiency upgrade in 2024. These consisted of 100 voids properties and 100 tenanted properties under the Department of Housing's 10-year Energy programme: **Energy Efficiency/Retrofitting Programme (EERP)** at a cost of €5,500,000 which was part funded by the DHLGH. Phase 2 measures include the provision of external wall insulation, new windows and doors, attic insulation and heat pumps.

These programmes will continue in 2025 with a further 200 properties throughout the county being projected to be retrofitted under a department funding stream with similar funding anticipated from the DHLGH as part of the Council's 3-year Energy Efficiency programme 2025-2027.

### **Voids Programme**

A total of 110 vacant properties were refurbished in 2024 through the continuation of a funding stream made available by the DHLGH to facilitate the return of vacant properties to productive use. The Council has committed to reducing the time taken to re-let vacant properties with the introduction of a new Voids Procedure. It is expected that in excess of 130 vacant properties will be refurbished in 2025.

### **Planned Maintenance**

Planned maintenance works to the value of €505,000 were proposed to be undertaken on 218 properties across the county in 2024. This consisted of various works items such as upgraded windows and doors, replacement of fascia and soffits, chimney repair works and sewerage upgrades.

## **HOUSING OPTIONS UNIT**

### **Leasing**

Leasing as a form of social housing provision widens the options for increasing the supply of social housing for Cork County Council. The Capital Advance Leasing Facility (CALF) is a loan facility, which is exclusively available to Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs) to assist them in financing acquisition, construction or refurbishment projects to deliver homes to be made available for social housing support purposes where the ongoing funding is provided through the Social Housing Current Expenditure



Programme. This loan facility is a contract debt between the housing authority and the AHB where the AHB makes homes available under a Payment & Availability (P&A) agreement to nominees of the housing authority for a set period of time. P&A payments together with the CALF have become one of the main funding mechanisms for the supply of social housing by AHBs.

The Mortgage to Rent (MTR) scheme is a government scheme to help homeowners who are at risk of losing their homes due to mortgage arrears. Units purchased by the AHB and Home for Life under Mortgage to Rent (MTR) may be funded by CALF as above with the property owner now renting the unit back from AHB or Home for Life.

- The ongoing leasing of unsold Affordable Units to the AHBs is also included in this initiative.
- 1,235 leased units have been delivered to date.
- 490 unsold affordable units are currently leased to Approved Housing Bodies.
- There were over 189 new units delivered in 2024.

### Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS)

The Capital Assistance Scheme working with the Approved Housing Bodies assists those with special needs such as older persons, people with disabilities and homeless people. Grant funding for this scheme is provided by the DHLGH and Cork County Council’s Local Property Tax (LPT) revenue.

Funding of €50m is approved for current CAS projects. Four CAS acquisitions were completed within the category of Homelessness and three CAS acquisitions within the category of transfer from Congregated Settings.

Details of CAS projects:

Housing Location	Project Type	Current Status 2025
Ardmanagh Road, Schull	Turnkey Construction – 12 units	Complete
Daniel O’Brien Terrace, Buttevant	Construction - 9 units	Complete
St. Michael’s, Bandon	Construction - 6 units	On Site
Masseytown, Macroom	Construction – 18 units + 1 communal ABBI unit	Stage 3
Distillery Lane, Midleton	Construction - 16 units	Stage 2
Mardyke St, Skibbereen	Construction – 8 units	Stage 2
Lisheen Field, Dunmanway	Construction - 16 units	Stage 1
Millbrook, Bandon	Construction – 20 units	Stage 1
Main Street, Mallow	Construction - 3 units	Single Stage Approval
Bantry Convent, Bantry	Construction – 18 units	Complete
Church View, Love Lane, Charleville	Construction – 9 units	Complete
South Main St, Youghal	Acquisition/Buy & Renew – 4 units	On Site
Strand St, Passage West	Acquisition/Buy & Renew – 6 units	On Site
Russell Place, Mallow	Acquisition/Buy & Renew – 1 unit	On Site
Browns Court, Youghal	Acquisition – 1 unit	Complete
Ivy Gardens, Mallow	Acquisition – 2 units	Complete
Buttery Court, Mallow	Acquisition – 1 unit	Complete
Lackenroe, Glounthaune	Acquisition – 2 units	Complete
Ard na Greine, Macroom	Acquisition - 1 unit	Complete



*Construction of 6 units in Bandon*



*Construction of 18 units at Bantry Convent*

### **Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)**

While new RAS properties have diminished with many landlords exiting the private rented market, it remains a relevant social housing option currently available to those who are assessed as being in need of housing support. 2,000 tenants have transferred to RAS from private rented and voluntary housing accommodation since commencement.

### **Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)**

Provision of the Housing Assistance Payment scheme (HAP) continued countywide during 2024. All newly approved social housing applicants are circulated with the HAP provisions which is now available on-line. The transfer of existing rent supplement recipients to HAP is also ongoing on a phased basis in consultation with the Department of Social Protection.

The HAP unit is responsible for processing and set-up of applicants for the scheme as well as arranging inspections of the properties under the rented standards. The transactional Shared Services Centre in Limerick City & County Council processes payments of monthly rent to landlords and collection of differential rent from tenants on behalf of all local authorities.

Cork County Council has the second highest number of HAP tenancies nationally (after Dublin City Council) with over 3,300 active HAP tenancies. Just over 450 were signed up to the scheme in 2024 with further signings to continue in 2025.

### **Inspections of Private Rented Properties**

The Council is responsible for enforcement of standards under the Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) Regulations 2019. Inspection activity includes properties on HAP, RAS, other private rented and complaints received in relation to rented standards.

In excess of 3,000 private rented inspections were carried out by the Council in the year. Provision for continuation of the inspection programme is included in the 2025 Budget.

### **Croi Conaithe**

The Council operates a countywide Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant scheme and is responsible for processing applications, issuing approvals, arranging grant inspections as well as payment of grant monies and recoupment claims to DHLGH.

In excess of 1,000 applications have been received since the scheme was introduced in July 2022 with approval for over 250 of the applications made in 2024.

### **Local Authority Home Loan**

The Local Authority Home Loan is a government backed mortgage for first time buyers and Fresh Start applicants who are unable to obtain a mortgage from regulated financial providers.

Approved applicants can borrow up to 90% of the market value of the property and under the Local Authority Home Loan Scheme, the maximum market value of the property that can be purchased or self-built in Cork County has increased to €330,000 i.e. max loan of €297,000.

Local Authority Home Loan currently offers two fixed interest rate products:

- 4% fixed for loans up to 25 years.
- 4.05% fixed for loans over 25 years and up to 30 years.
- *Interest rates are subject to change and fixed interest rates are set on the date of drawdown of a mortgage. All rates are exclusive of Mortgage Protection Insurance (MPI) which is a requirement of borrowing.*

To date, Cork County Council has received over 379 applications for the Local Authority Home Loan with just under 50% of the applications obtaining approval.

The Housing Department also maintains Shared Ownership and Affordable loans in respect of subsidy, redemption and claw-back applications.

### **Local Authority Purchase and Renovation Loan**

The Local Authority Purchase and Renovation Loan (LAPR) is a government backed mortgage and loan for the purchase and renovation of derelict and non-habitable homes that qualify for the Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant whether derelict, non-habitable or simply vacant.

The new Housing Local Authority Purchase and Renovation Loan came into effect on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2024.

### **Shared Ownership Restructuring Scheme**

Circular 14 of 2016 advised Local Authorities of a new option for existing Shared Ownership borrowers which involves restructuring their Shared Ownership arrangement that would involve rolling-up all outstanding debt under a Shared Ownership arrangement into a single Annuity Loan. The Restructured Annuity Loan will comprise of any outstanding Annuity balance, rental equity balance and arrears and is subject to suitability, terms and conditions.

### **Tenant (Incremental) Purchase Scheme 2016**

The Tenant (Incremental) Purchase Scheme was introduced on 1st January 2016 and was reviewed in 2021 to include a number of changes which came into effect from February 2022.

It was introduced to: -

- assist persons to realise home ownership ambitions.
- support long term commitment to a location.
- discourage early re-sale of properties at a profit through the claw-back mechanism.
- provide a source of finance to Local Authorities for Housing Capital purposes.

Among other qualifying criteria, tenants must have a minimum reckonable income of €11,000 per annum. The discount applicable to the purchase price is based on income and not length of tenancy. In order to qualify for the scheme, applicants must be in receipt of social housing support for at least 10 years.

To date there has been over 475 full applications with over 140 sales completed.

### **Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and People with a Disability.**

Grants are provided as financial assistance to house owners to make their property more suitable to accommodate older persons or persons with a disability and/or mobility issues. The Housing Grants Section has countywide responsibility for processing all applications submitted to Cork County Council.

One application form namely Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and People with a Disability now covers the 3 grants available and is in operation since 1st January 2020.

- *Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability*
- *Mobility Aids Grant Scheme*
- *Housing Aid for Older People Scheme*

Grants under the Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability and Mobility Aids Grant Scheme are available for owner occupied housing, private rented accommodation, accommodation provided by Approved Housing Bodies and accommodation occupied by persons living in communal residences. Grants for Housing Aid for Older People Scheme are available for owner occupied housing, where the elderly person either owns the house or has a right of residence in the house where the work will be done.

Cork County Council was allocated €6.4m in 2024, with 20% being funded by Cork County Council's own resources. At year end 2024, Cork County Council will have received over 1,400 applications and paid out over 950 grants. A similar allocation is anticipated in 2025.

## TECHNICAL ARCHITECTURAL SUPPORT (TAS) UNIT

The Technical Architectural Support Unit in the Housing Directorate provides a dedicated architectural service to the Housing Directorate across the three divisions for delivery of both housing and apartment schemes.

The TAS units provides several functions including:

- Inhouse design and procurement of social housing projects from inception to completion.
- Client Rep / manager on several outsourced schemes for social and affordable housing.
- Design and feasibility studies in relation to site acquisitions/ projected pipeline projects.
- Preparing Developer budgets and procuring open market valuations to ascertain viability of Affordable Housing schemes at design/ tender phase.
- Preparation of professional reports in relation to council properties for tenant purchase, planning advice, design and preparation of Contract documents, Contract Administration and appointment of External Consultants as required.
- From time to time, the Architectural support unit also provide support architectural services to a number of Capital Assistance Schemes (CAS) projects, recently successfully completing the Love Lane scheme in Charleville and currently progressing Planning/ Tender drawings for a Lions Club scheme at Distillery Lane, Midleton.
- Review of existing properties to assess viability for housing.
- Offering general architectural advice to Floor 4 as needed in relation to CPO lands, derelict sites etc.
- Seek to provide opportunities for new housing projects on existing Council land banks and estates, keeping abreast with planning and government policy changes to support this.



## **HOUSING CONSTRUCTION SECTION**

In tandem with the Architectural Support Unit, the Housing Construction Section provides for the construction of various projects such as Disabled Person Grant Extensions, Rapid Build units, Housing Construction, land acquisition and Turnkey Projects. The following projects were progressed in 2024.

<b>Housing Location</b>	<b>Project Type</b>	<b>Current Status 2024</b>
Sleaveen East, Macroom	8 unit Ship scheme	Complete
Brigown Road, Mitchelstown	8 unit scheme	Complete
Silverwood, Youghal	5 unit turnkey scheme	Under construction
Dromdiagh park, Killeagh, Phase 2	20 unit scheme	Complete
Newmarket Turnkey	11 unit turnkey scheme	8 units complete with balance under construction
Rockchapel, Turnkey	2 unit turnkey scheme	2 units complete
The Tannery, Bandon	24 unit turnkey scheme	24 units under construction
Crann Ard, Fermoy	turnkey housing development – 52 units	First phase complete and works onsite
Loughbeg, RIngaskiddy	12 unit turnkey scheme	Under construction
Warrens Court RIngaskiddy	17 unit turnkey & Part V scheme	Under construction
Caherdaniel, Bantry	34 unit turnkey scheme	First ten units complete with balance under construction
Adrigole Garda Station Project	2 unit SHIP project	At Part 8 stage
Goleen Garda Station Project	2 unit SHIP project	At Part 8 stage
Mogeely Turnkey	2 unit turnkey project	Complete
Cluain Ard, Cobh	54 unit turnkey project	Complete
The Estuary, Youghal	5 unit turnkey project	Under construction
Millstreet Turnkey	12 unit turnkey project	Complete
Kanturk Turnkey	2 unit turnkey project	Under construction

## Affordable Housing:

The Affordable Housing Scheme is designed to help people bridge the gap between what a person can afford to pay and the price of a new home.

Cork County Council is making newly built homes available at a reduced price for first-time and other eligible buyers who cannot afford to purchase a home at its open market value with a maximum mortgage and 10% deposit. New homes under this scheme are located in areas with the greatest housing need and where affordability is an issue.

The Council takes a percentage equity share in the home equal to the difference between the open market value of the home and the reduced price paid. This means that if a person buys a home at a 20% reduction on the open market value, the local authority will have a 20% equity share in the home.

To date, the Council has launched a total of 239 affordable homes in Mallow, Carrigaline, Cobh, Fermoy, Bandon x2, Midleton, Macroom and Carrigtwohill with further schemes due to be advertised in the coming year.

### Affordable Housing Projects

Proposed Scheme	No of Affordable Homes	Grant Funding Approved €	Status 2024	Status 2025
Clonmore, Mallow	55	4,125,000	Houses being sold	Complete
The Water’s Edge, Carrigaline	32	3,200,000	Houses being sold	Complete
Cluain Ard, Cobh	49	3,675,000	Houses being sold	Complete
Rathealy Place, Fermoy	20	1,500,000	Houses being sold	Complete
Allmans View, Bandon	20	1,500,000	Houses being sold	Complete
The Fairways, Midleton	13	975,000	Advertised	Complete
Meadowlands, Macroom	15	1,125,000	Advertised	Complete
Baile Adaim, Carrigtwohill	23	1,725,000	Advertised	Complete
Beechgrove, Clonakilty	31	2,325,000	Design underway	Part 8 complete and works underway
Commogue Kinsale	134	10,050,000	Design underway	Part 8 complete and works underway
St Joseph’s Road, Mallow	112	8,400,000	Design underway	Planning complete and works underway
Kilnagleary, Carrigaline	60	4,500,000	Design underway	Part 8 Complete



The Fairways, Tir Cluain, Midleton



The Waters Edge, Carrigaline.

### Cost Rental:

The Cost Rental scheme provides tenants with a secure tenancy at a rent which is below the market rent in the local area. It is a long-term secure rental option. The rent charged is based on the cost of building, managing, and maintaining the homes. The rent for Cost Rental homes is at least 25% below regular market rents in the area.

The Council is advancing a number of these schemes throughout the County with development partners and is also about to appoint a design consultant to progress a cost rental scheme on our own lands in Carrigaline.

The cost rental schemes will be kept under review in the context of overall financial and long-term considerations.

Proposed Scheme	No. of Cost Rental Homes	Grant Funding Approved	Status 2024	Status 2025
An Cnocan, Bantry	10	€100,000	Tenanted	Tenanted
The Fairways, Midleton	11	€100,000	Tenanted	Tenanted
Allmans View, Bandon	20	€100,000	Tenanted	Tenanted



## Road Transport and Safety

## Division B

## National Roads

The overall **Transport Infrastructure Ireland allocation** to Cork County Council for improvement and maintenance work in 2024 was **€61.8 million**.

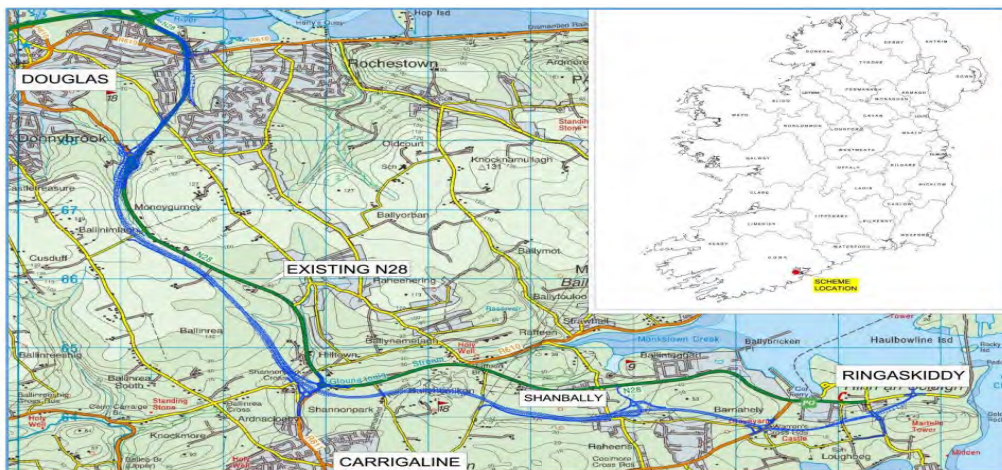
The **Cork – Ringaskiddy Motorway Project** - The M28 Cork to Ringaskiddy Project is a 12.5km upgrade of the national primary route from the N40 South Ring Road in Cork to the Port in Ringaskiddy.

Cork County Council has published the tender for the motorway section of the M28 Cork to Ringaskiddy Project during the summer months of 2024. The scheme, which forms part of the Core Trans-European Transport Network, will enable the strategic development of the Port of Cork’s facilities in Ringaskiddy whilst also supporting the economic development in the local area and nationally.

Funded by Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII), the design and build contract will see the construction of approximately 11km of mainline motorway from the Bloomfield Interchange to Barnahely. A construction contract for the delivery of 1.5 kilometres of single carriageway from Barnahely to the Port of Cork in Ringaskiddy is expected to be awarded in late 2024.

The initial enabling works phase of project has been under construction during 2022, 2023 and 2024. This has involved diversions of major utilities, archaeology investigations and environmental mitigation works in line with commitments outlined in the Scheme’s Environmental Impact Statement.

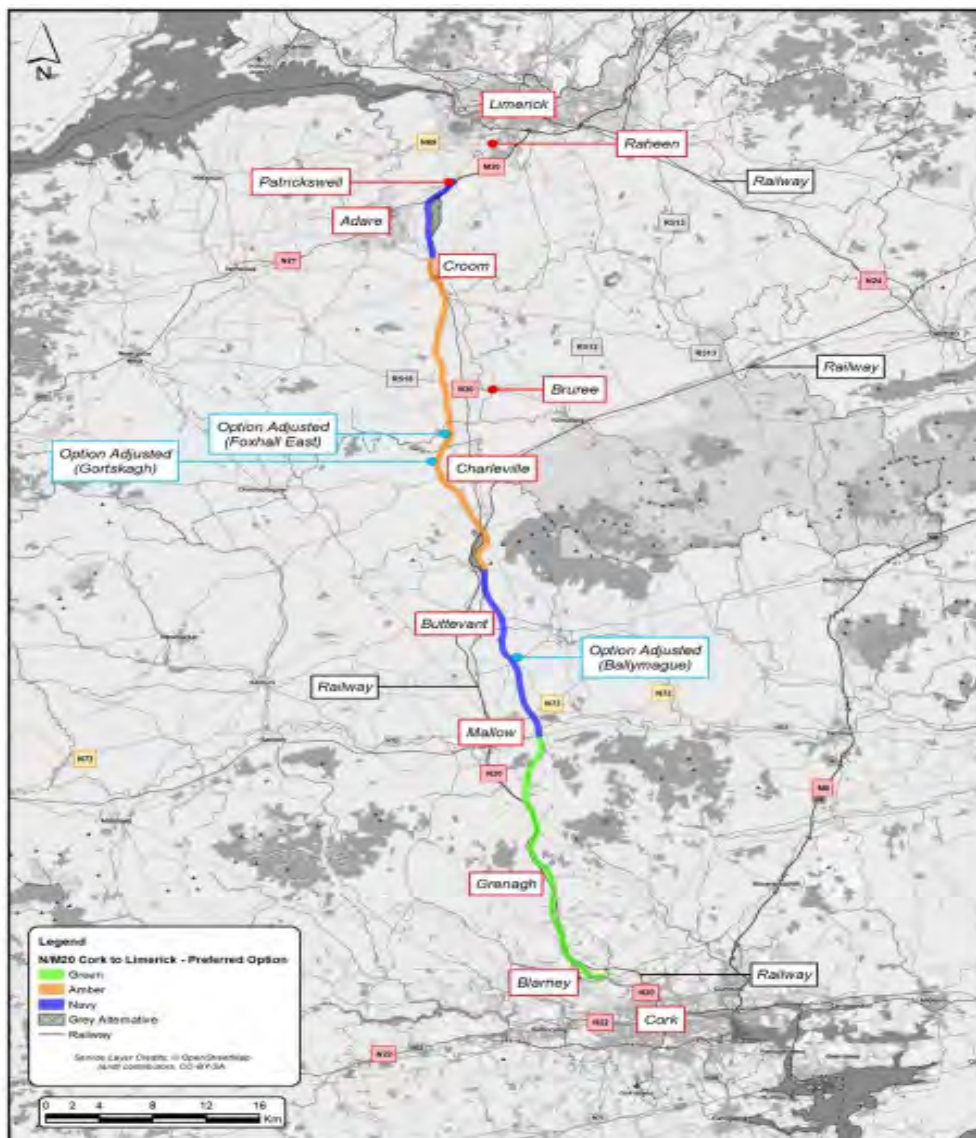
It is anticipated that, subject to Cabinet approval, the works on the motorway section will commence in 2025 and will have a 36-month construction programme. The M28 motorway will be a key part of the road infrastructure in Cork, improving connectivity with key urban areas such as Carrigaline, while providing vital access to the Port of Cork facilities in Ringaskiddy.



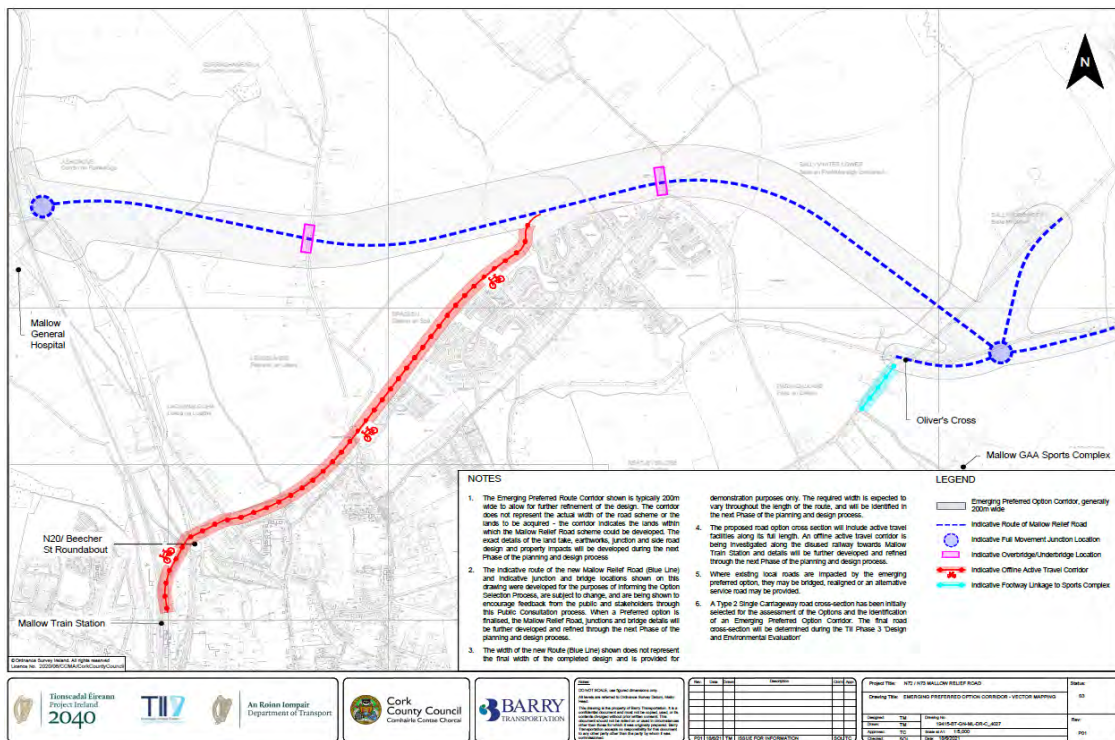
*M28 Cork to Ringaskiddy Project – Scheme Map*

**Cork – Limerick Motorway Scheme** Following on from the announcement and public display of the preferred transport solution for the N/M20 Cork to Limerick Project on the 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022, virtual briefings for Elected Representatives took place in February & November 2023. These project updates were during Phase 3 as the project team work to develop the design and the environmental evaluation for the project. A third virtual briefing for Elected Representatives took place in June 2024.

This Project will deliver 80km of new and improved dual carriageway road between Cork City and Patrickswell, Limerick and provide bypasses of the towns of Mallow, Buttevant and Charleville and will reuse between 30% and 40% of the existing N20 road asset. Environmental assessment and design continued in 2024.



The Mallow Northern Relief Road option selection and appraisal was completed in 2021. Preferred Route (Option C) Site Investigation and Topographical Survey contracts were awarded and progressed during 2022. Design, ecological and environmental assessments were progressed in 2022. A design and environmental evaluation of the project was progressed during 2024 for the purposes of completing a planning submission in late 2024 or early 2025. Subject to the necessary approvals, it is intended to submit the planning application in early 2025.



*Proposed Mallow Northern Relief Road – emerging preferred option*

The **N22 Baile Bhuirne – Macroom A** sectional opening extending from Coolcour to Carrigaphooca opened to traffic on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022. A further sectional opening to Toonlane was achieved on the 11<sup>th</sup> of August 2023. The balance of the scheme opened on the 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023. A number of close out works elements and residual network works were progressed during 2024.

The **N25 Carrigtohill – Midleton Upgrade Major Scheme** Public display of preferred route option took place from July - September 2021. A revised Options Selection Report and Options Appraisal Report were completed and a full set of revised Phase 2 deliverables submitted to TII in Quarter 4 2021. Further progress on this scheme was paused during 2022, 2023 and 2024 as no funding was made available.

**The N25 Carrigtohill – Midleton Junction Safety Improvements**

Funding was provided by TII in 2024 to carry out an assessment for a potential N25 Carrigtohill to Midleton minor scheme. This assessment is under way and is focusing on potential safety improvement measures and associated low-cost minor works interventions.

**The N25 Midleton to Youghal Transport Project (includes potential bypasses of Castlemartyr and Killeagh)** - Following completion of Phase 0, scope and strategic assessment for this project, Cork County Council progressed Phase 1, concept and feasibility assessment for this project during 2024.

**The N71 Bandon Bypass Extension** A public consultation took place in June 2022 regarding potential route options. During 2023, the project was appraised against the updated TII Project Management Guidelines (2023) and updated accordingly in advance of publishing a tender competition to appoint Technical Advisors to progress the scheme in early 2024. TII approval to appoint the preferred bidder is pending.

**The N71 Newmills to Owenahincha Scheme.** A public consultation took place in October 2022 regarding potential route options. During 2023, the project was appraised against the updated TII Project Management Guidelines (2023) and updated accordingly in advance of publishing a tender competition to appoint Technical Advisors to progress the scheme in early 2024. TII approval to appoint the preferred bidder is pending.

**N73 Clogher Cross to Waterdyke Scheme.** A tender process for this scheme was completed in early 2022 and a construction contract awarded in July 2022. Construction commenced in July 2022 and the project was completed in mid-2023. A number of close out works were progressed during late 2023 and 2024.

**N73 Annakisha Scheme.** TII approval to proceed to tender was received in January 2023. A tender competition for this scheme was completed in early summer 2023 and the construction contract awarded in June 2023. Construction continued during 2024 and remains on schedule for completion by late 2024 or early 2025.

**The N20 Charleville Scheme.** Cork County Council formed a multi-disciplinary working group during 2023, including road safety expertise from TII, to assess all options to improve pedestrian safety on the main street in Charleville. These include the development of improved pedestrian crossing facilities and enhanced streetscape proposals for the main street, together with the assessment of objectives and options for a potential relief road. Pedestrian crossing refurbishment works were progressed during 2024. In addition, designs for a new Part 8 approved pedestrian crossing at AIB and proposed new bus stop locations were also progressed during 2024 with the intention of progressing these to construction in early 2025, subject to TII funding approval.

The **programme of pavement and minor improvement works** was advanced during 2024. As part of this programme, a significant upgrade was carried out to a section of the N72 at Lyradown with localised pavement repairs completed on the N71 west of Bandon and Innishannon.

**Greenways & Active Travel.** Options assessments for a number of potential Greenway and Active Travel projects were progressed during 2024 and will continue during 2025. These include a potential South Cork Greenway (Cork to Kinsale), West Cork Greenway (Cork to Schull split into two study areas – the Bandon Sections and the Skibbereen Sections), an M28 Active Travel scheme and an N22 Active Travel scheme (Baile Bhuirne, Macroom).

The Dungarvan Mallow Greenway is currently at Phase 2 Options Selection with further assessment progressed during 2024. The project was reviewed during 2024 against current and updated Government policy, including but not limited to the National Planning Framework, NIFTI, Sustainable Mobility, TII NR2040, TII Cycle Network and NTA CycleConnects.

**Safety Barrier Repairs.** A multi-year Vehicle Restraint System (VRS) Southern Region Regional Term Maintenance contract was awarded in 2023 for the purposes of compiling a VRS asset database from which repair/replacement works can be prioritised in future years. This maintenance contract continued during 2024.

Finally, the **maintenance contract of the motorways and dual carriageways**, being carried out by Egis Lagan, continued in 2024.

## **Regional and Local Roads**

### **Restoration Improvement Programme and former National Roads Programme**

The pavement of a total of 253 km of Regional and Local Roads was strengthened under the Restoration Improvement Grant Allocation 2024, consisting of 262 Schemes.

### **Restoration Maintenance Programme**

394 km of Regional and Local Roads were surface dressed under the provisions of the Restoration Maintenance Programme at 234 locations.

### Community Involvement Schemes Grant (public roads)

33 CIS schemes totalling 21km of roads were completed, using 2024 grant funding.

### Local Improvement Schemes Grant (non-public roads)

32 Schemes totalling 22 km approx. and costing €1.7 million were approved for completion in 2024. An allocation of €1.1 million is available for 2025.

### Low-Cost Safety Improvement Schemes

28 Schemes on regional and local roads were progressed in 2024. These schemes treat sites with accident histories or where potential risks are evident and help to significantly reduce the risk of accidents occurring at these locations, leading to improved Road Safety. Funding for a similar number of schemes has been sought for 2025.

### Bridge Rehabilitation

A total of 15 structures (bridges, retaining walls or embankments) were repaired or replaced in 2024.

### Severe Weather Grant – Storm Babet

The initial estimate for damage caused by Storm Babet to Regional and Local Roads was assessed to be in the region of €50 million to €55 million. This was inclusive of costs associated with cleanup, response, road reinstatement, bridge/structures repairs and design/supervision/coordination costs. A delivery plan was developed and agreed in the form of individual tranche submissions to the Department of Transport in early 2024. The initial 12-month delivery plan was structured as follows:

Tranche No	Estimate	For Completion
1	€ 6,000,000	Q1 2024
2	€ 8,000,000	Q2/Q3 2024
3	€ 6,000,000	Q3/Q4 2024
4	€ 6,000,000	Q1 2025
<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 26,000,000</b>	

### Strategic Regional and Local Roads

Many strategic regional and local roads improvement projects were advanced in 2024:



#### Great Island Transportation Study

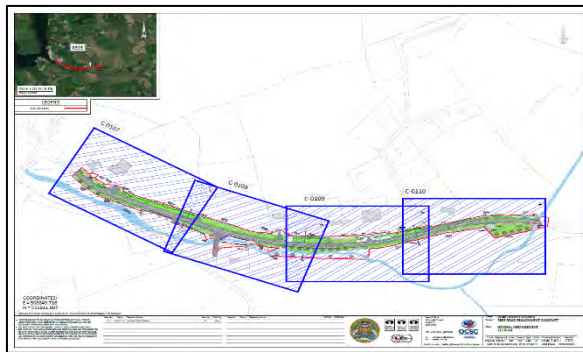
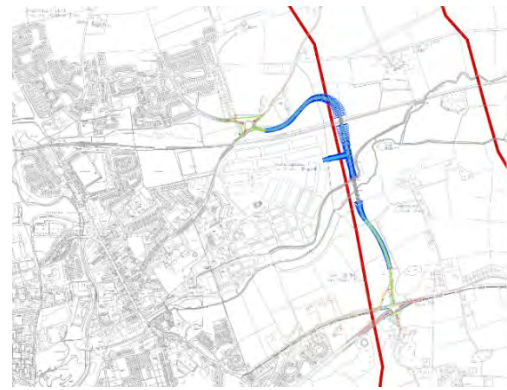
A Project Outline Document (POD) was commissioned in 2023 to appraise transportation options for Cobh and Great Island. The Project Outline Document was submitted to the Department of Transport in February 2024 for approval.

Cork County Council received approval from the Department of Transport in April 2024 to prepare a Preliminary Business Case and for the development of the brief for consultancy services.

### Midleton Northern Connectivity Corridor

The Midleton Northern Connectivity Corridor is the third and final phase of an outer relief road designed to reduce traffic in the town centre and to promote the commercial development of the town.

The preliminary design of the scheme was finalised in 2024. A Preliminary Appraisal Form to be submitted to the Department of Transport in September 2024. Subject to approval, the project will move to statutory processes in 2025.



### R595 Realignment at Old Court, Skibbereen

The project will realign a substandard section of regional road to improve road safety.

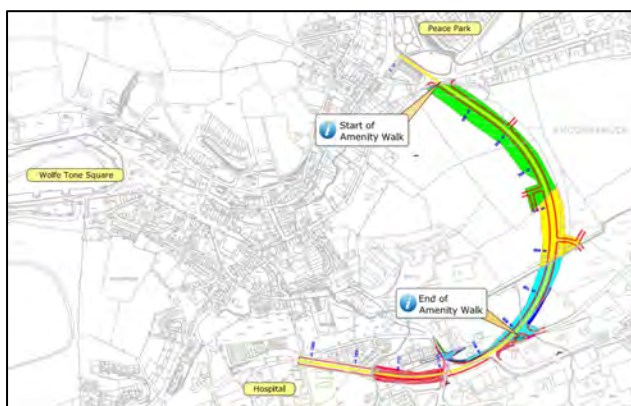
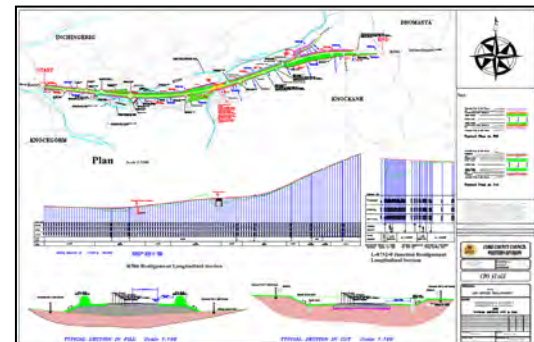
The detailed design of the project took place in 2022. Extensive advance works, including a stream diversion, were completed in 2023. Procurement Documents and PEER Review stage completed. Construction to start in Quarter 4, 2024, subject to funding.

### R586 Realignment at Ilen Bridge, Drimoleague

The scheme will realign a substandard section of regional road to improve road safety.

The detailed design of the project took place in 2022. Extensive advance works, including a cattle underpass, were completed in 2023.

Procurement Documents and PEER Review stage to be completed in 2024. Construction to start in early 2025, subject to funding.



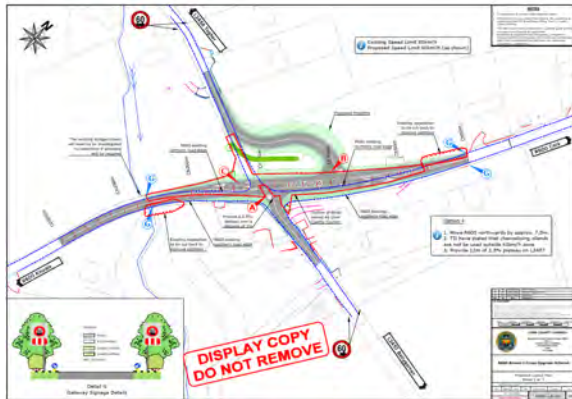
### Bantry Relief Road

A Consulting Engineer was appointed in March 2023 to undertake the detailed design of Phase 1 of the project.

Phase 1 will move to construction in 2025 subject to funding.

### R572 realignment at Adrigole

The project will realign a substandard section of regional road to improve road safety. A Consulting Engineer was appointed in October 2022 to develop the preliminary design. The preliminary design of the scheme was finalised in 2023 and statutory processes to commence in Quarter 4, 2024. Subject to funding allocation, the project will move to Detailed Design stage in 2025.



### R600 Bowen’s Cross Upgrade

The project will upgrade a substandard crossroads to improve road safety. Subject to funding allocation, the project will move to Detailed Design stage in 2025.

### Mill Culvert Upgrade, Bantry

The project will replace a substandard section of culvert in Bantry. The application for Section 50 consent was submitted to the Office of Public Works in August 2022. Section 50 approval was received in Quarter 3, 2024. The preliminary design of the scheme was finalised in Quarter 3, 2024 and statutory processes to commence in Quarter 4, 2024.



### Ballinrea Cross Upgrade, Carrigaline

The project will upgrade a substandard crossroads to improve road safety. A Consulting Engineer was appointed in July 2022 to develop the preliminary design. The Part 8 was advertised in Quarter 4 2023. A Preliminary Appraisal Form to be submitted to the Department of Transport in September 2024. Subject to funding allocation, the project will move to Detailed Design in 2025.



### **R600 Archdeacon Duggan Bridge**

The project will consist of the Bridge deck to be resurfaced. Funding received in 2024 to progress the design for the structure. Detailed design completed. Contract documents being finalised. PEER review to be completed by end of Quarter 3 2024. Subject to funding allocation, the project will move to construction in 2025.

## **Sustainable Travel Unit**

The Sustainable Travel Unit is a multidisciplinary team within the Roads & Transportation Directorate. It has 3 fundamental pillars: (1) Development Management - reporting on planning applications; (2) Strategic Planning – STU is integral to the Council’s forward planning function, and (3) Delivery of sustainable transport interventions.

The implementation of sustainable travel schemes is funded by the National Transport Authority (NTA), through the Active Travel Investment Grant (ATIG), the Safe Route to School (SRTS) Programme, and the bus stop upgrade programme. Schemes currently being progressed include, but are not limited to:



### **Carrigaline Transportation and Public Realm Enhancement Plan (TPREP)**

Implementation of Carrigaline Transport Plan Strategies to enhance sustainable travel throughout the town and its environs.

### **Dunkettle to Carrigtwohill (Old N25) Pedestrian & Cycle Route**

Completion of remaining sections of pedestrian and cycle link creating continuous active travel connectivity from Dunkettle to Carrigtwohill including to significant employment centres such as Little Island and Carrigtwohill Business & Technology Park.







### **Ballinacurra to Midleton Pedestrian & Cycle Route**

Phase 1 of the scheme which commenced at Ballyanne Woods car park and runs to the Coolbawn in Midleton was completed in 2024. The next phase from Rosehill Business Park to Lakeview will commence construction in Quarter 3 2024 and is expected to be completed in Quarter 4 2025. Further phases of the scheme will be progressed to construction in 2025.

### **Carrigtwohill to Midleton Pedestrian & Cycle Route**

This scheme aims to enhance connectivity around the town of Carrigtwohill while also linking into the Dunkettle to Carrigtwohill scheme and the Ballinacurra to Midleton scheme. When completed, a continuous pedestrian cycle link will be created linking Cork city with Midleton and further on to Youghal via the Midleton to Youghal Greenway. The first phase of this scheme will commence construction in Q4 of 2024. Further phases are to be progressed to construction in 2025.



### **Safe Route to Schools**

Ten schemes were initially selected for Round One of the Safe Routes to Schools scheme in 2021. Of these; design, statutory processes and construction has been completed for nine schemes. A further seven schools were selected in Round Two. Design, Statutory Processes and construction are planned for these schemes in 2025.

### **Little Island Active Travel Interventions**



This scheme aims to enhance sustainable transport throughout Little Island with the creation of pedestrian cycle links and the construction of bus corridors. Phase 1 on the Western side of the island is currently at construction stage with further stages to commence construction in 2025.

### **Active Travel Towns and Villages interventions**

The National Transport Authority (NTA) provide an annual allocation towards the enhancement of active travel throughout county towns and villages. In 2024, €2.96 million was allocated towards schemes which include pedestrian crossings, footpath connectivity, traffic calming, and cycle parking in all Municipal District areas.



### **Bus Shelter and Accessible Bus Stop Programme**

The NTA provide funding towards upgrading existing bus stops and providing new bus stops including improving bus stop facilities for wheelchair users, mobility impaired and visually impaired. The roll out of this programme is ongoing with a further 27 bus stops in progress.

In total, Cork County Council secured €21.39 million funding from the NTA in 2024 under the Active Travel Investment Grant.

### **Public Lighting**

The public lighting maintenance contract was re-tendered in 2024 and Electric Skyline Ltd were appointed and took over the maintenance of public lighting on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024 from the previous contractor Enerveo. A programme of new public lights was carried out in 2024. A total of 100 new or upgraded lighting units were installed under the programme covering all of the Municipal Districts. All of these lights were low energy consuming LED lights. A similar number is expected in 2025 subject to funding.

The public lighting section also installed 200 new lights as part of Sustainable Travel Projects. A series of hybrid lights are being installed on the Glounthaune to Carrigtwohill Greenway. These lights derive their power mainly from solar panels but are backed up by an electrical supply to recharge the battery on the shorter winter days.

### **Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project (PLEEP), South-West Region**

Cork County Council (CCC) is the Lead Authority with responsibility for the administration, management and delivery of the Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project (PLEEP) across the South-West Region, which includes Clare County Council, Cork County Council, Kerry County Council, Limerick City & County Council, Waterford City & County Council and TII.

The project scope covers the retrofitting of 60,000 (approx.) existing public lights with new LED Luminaires across 24 Municipal Districts in 5 Local Authorities.

Cork County Council executed two contracts in 2022 to facilitate the delivery of the PLEEP SW project:

- Cork County Council executed a contract with **Ove Arup and Partners Ireland Ltd (Arup)** on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022 to provide multidisciplinary Consulting Engineering Services and to act as the Client’s Representative

- Cork County Council executed a Design Build contract with **Le Chéile Consortium** (Enerveo Ireland Ltd, Al Read Electrical Company Ltd, Electric Skyline Ltd) on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2022.
  - The current forecasted completion date for the overall PLEEP SW programme is October 2025 whilst Cork County is forecast to be substantially completed by end of June 2025.

The overall Project Budget to deliver the PLEEP SW project was **€57 million** incl VAT, however the current forecast to complete the project is **€70 million** incl. VAT.

Great progress has been made on the Retrofit works for Cork County which is 70% complete whilst retrofitting progress across the southwest is 40% complete. All retrofit works are currently ongoing in 4 Local Authorities. (Clare, Cork, Kerry and Waterford). It is anticipated that retrofit works will be substantially completed in Cork by end of June 2025 and the southwest region by end of October 2025.

The **Project Objectives** are:

- Contribute to new National targets (energy efficiency & carbon reduction).
  - 50% Energy Efficiency improvement by 2030.
  - 50% Carbon reduction by 2030.
  - Net Zero emissions by 2050.
- Project Specific targets for Cork Co. Council at end of project (2025)
  - 44% Energy Efficiency improvement estimate.
  - 18% Carbon reduction estimate.
- Achieve significant cost savings through improved energy efficiency.
- Phase out old SOX /SON public lights.
- Undertake Survey of all assets to plan for future upgrade works as required.

## Speed Limits

Cork County Council completed the review of the Cork County Special Speed Limit Bye Laws for both National, Regional and Local Roads in 2022/2023. The next review will be carried out in 2027.

The commencement of the Road Traffic Act 2024 will result in changes to default speed limits on certain categories of Irish roads. The new law introduces a number of changes to the default speed limits on roads including:

1. 60km/hr on Rural Local Roads (from default of 80km/hr).
2. 80km/hr on National Secondary Roads (from default of 100km/hr).
3. 30km/hr in Urban Areas (from default of 50km/hr).

It is a priority that the new default speed limits, including necessary and supporting byelaws, are in place as soon as possible. This is to coincide with the commencement dates of the default speed limits as follows over three phases:

Phase 1: Rural Local Roads (before the end of November 2024).

Phase 2: National Secondary Roads and Urban Areas (during the first half of 2025).

Phase 3; Other Special Circumstances, such as schools (later in 2025).

Work has commenced on phase 1.

A small number of Speed Limit appeals were received in 2024. Any appeals upheld are formally adopted and the speed limit byelaws amended.

## Fleet Management

### Fleet Overview

The Fleet Management Unit, FMU, is tasked with the provision, management and maintenance of the local authority fleet, fleet size circa 700 vehicles, for the service delivery of local authority operations, by its direct labour force, within its various program groups, such as Roads, Environment, Housing, Library

services and with Water Services, under a Support Services Agreement (SSA) with Irish Water (Uisce Éireann). The FMU section is tasked with ensuring that this fleet is maintained in accordance with Commercial Vehicle Registration Testing (CVRT) legislation and to Road Safety Authority (RSA) standards, whilst also ensuring that FMU staff operate in accordance with Safety Management Systems (SMS), so as to comply with Health and Safety Authority (HSA) standards, whilst also operating the fleet service in an efficient and sustainable manner.

### **Climate Change and Sustainability**

The Council is continually reviewing ongoing developments around energy, to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels and achieve the Climate Action 2030 targets.

Cork County Council, including its fleet operations, has demonstrated its commitment to energy efficiency by becoming the first local authority in Ireland, in May 2016, to become fully certified to the ISO 50001 standard, the international standard for energy management. The council successfully retained its ISO:50001 accreditation since with successful surveillance audits conducted to ensure its continued compliance.

Cork County Council continues with its use of newer technologies and fleet telematics, to achieve greater energy efficiencies as the council works on reducing its carbon footprint. Cork County Council also provides driver awareness and fuel-efficiency training to its drivers.

The council continues to substantially invest in its fleet, with newer technologies to achieve efficiencies – Euro 6 energy efficient engines and also with lightweight bodies, where possible, for fuel efficiency purposes, with the aim to upgrade the fleet in order to meet its 2030 climate change targets.

Fuel consumption reduction and emissions reduction will be necessary to reduce the existing carbon footprint. In October 2023, Cork County Council commenced a trial using Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) in a number of council vehicles (38 No. Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs)) across 3 locations (Mallow, Skibbereen and Fermoy). The trial completed recently and Cork County Council saved over 59 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> within the period. The trial has proved very successful and HVO will play a significant role in reducing the council's greenhouse gas emissions.

All fuel supplies have been integrated into the vehicle telematics system which will further assist with fuel reduction measures and the structured rollout of Electric Vehicles (EVs) in the fleet. Cork County Council added further EVs to its fleet in 2023 with 2 No GTX ID.4 Volkswagen SUVs for the M28 project.

The council has a number of EV charging points now in the machinery yards in Mallow & Skibbereen, County Hall, Glanmire and Carrigaline area yards and the M28 project offices. The council is continuing to pilot EVs with a view to further rollout of EV fleet, as circumstances and charging infrastructure allow.

### **Operations**

The Fleet Management Unit was involved in the provision of new and improved fleet, under its 2023/2024 Fleet Purchasing Program. Replacement vehicles delivered include –

- 18 Tonne Tar Sprayer (8000L) - will be used for Surface Dressing works carried out by Cork County Council. This machine will be based at the Skibbereen Machinery Yard.



- Grader – will be used for Wetmix during the year and will be based in the Newberry Machinery Yard.



- Velocity Patcher – Used for repair of range of road defects including potholes, edge deterioration, centreline joints, cracks and crazing, deformation and also for pre-surface dress patching repairs.

### Roads Fleet Operations

Surface dressing is the most economical road surfacing technique that restores and seals the road surface in one process, making the road waterproof and protects against frost and water damage. It also improves the skid resistance, making the roads safer. Cork County Council carries out a programme of surface dressing each year between April and September by direct labour using the council fleet including tar sprayers, chip spreaders, rollers, trucks and sweepers.

### Roads Materials Testing Lab

The Materials Testing Lab, based in Newberry Machinery Yard Mallow, undertakes ongoing testing of material samples from its suppliers of road making materials to Cork County Council.

The Materials Testing Lab also monitors the performance of Fleet Management Unit tar sprayers and gritters throughout the year by the completion of quality control checks during surface dressing operations.

To achieve greater efficiencies, a second sub-lab was set up in the Machinery Yard, Skibbereen in 2022, to facilitate material testing locally in West Cork, during the main surface dressing season. This lab continues to provide assistance with material testing in West Cork.

### Emergency Response and Winter Maintenance



Cork County Council is tasked to respond to winter weather conditions by mobilisation of a fleet of trucks to pre-salt in response to forecasted low temperatures to reduce the likelihood of frost and ice forming on key routes.

Cork County Council also operates an emergency call-out service, 24/7, during severe weather events, alerts and incidents, with dedicated call-out vehicles deployed in areas for this purpose.

Significant and ongoing fleet investment is essential so that the Council has sufficient fleet requirements for agility in responding to ever more frequent severe weather events: flooding, storms, snow, and ice.

### Fleet Management Unit - Commercial Road Worthiness (CVR) compliance

All commercial vehicles one year & older must, by law, be CVR tested on an annual basis.

In addition to the annual CVR testing, commercial fleet owners are also required by law, to ensure that fleet is periodically inspected, and that any notified defects are remedied.

The “periodic” vehicle inspection is carried out by an appropriately licensed vehicle inspector, with any notified defects documented and repaired.

Cork County Council ensures compliance for its fleet of vehicles with over 1,600 vehicle inspections carried out in the last 12-month period.

### Health and Safety compliance

The councils ISO:45001 reaccreditation audit was successfully carried out in November 2023 and which specifically mentioned the FMU as follows: “Fleet & Equipment is well managed and has excellent traceability and tracking, it is to a standard seen in international logistics organisations.”

### Capital Programme Implementation Unit

The Capital Programme Implementation Unit co-ordinates the development and implementation of a number of Cork County Council’s Capital Projects. It provides specialist support services to existing Capital Project delivery departments in the development and delivery of Capital projects.

Major Capital projects currently being delivered and managed directly by the Capital Programme Implementation Unit include-

- Midleton Youghal Greenway -Currently at Construction –  
Development of 23km Greenway between Midleton to Youghal along the disused existing railway line.  
Phase 1 Midleton to Mogeely opened to the public in 2024.
- Implementation of Bandon Traffic Public Realm Enhancement Plan -Phase 1 complete, Phase 2 and Phase 3 at construction:  
Town centre streetscape enhancement including junction improvement works and active travel measures to promote walking and cycling.
- Cobh Public Realm (Currently at Design Stage):  
Upgrading of streetscape and Town enhancement scheme focusing on the Waterfront development and public Park.

### **Roads Statistics for 2024 (up to end July 2024)**

- The road network in the county totals **12,222 km** and comprises of the following:  
455 km of National Roads, 1,344 km of Regional Roads and 10,423 km of Local Roads.
- No. of Temporary Road Closure Applications received - 117.
- No. of Road Opening Licence Applications received- 3,143.
- No. of Abnormal Load Permit Applications received – 271.
- No. of Roads Cases created on CCC on-line portal ‘Your Council’ –7514





**Division C**

Uisce Éireann has been responsible for the provision of public water and wastewater services since 2014. Cork County Council continued to manage and deliver these services on behalf of Uisce Éireann under a Service Level Agreement (SLA), recouping costs from Uisce Éireann on a monthly basis. In accordance with the Framework for the Future Delivery of Water Services which was published in June 2022, Cork County Council signed a Master Co-Operation Agreement (MCA) with Uisce Éireann in May 2023. The Master Co-Operation Agreement replaced the Service Level Agreement (SLA) which has been in place since 1 January 2014 to facilitate the provision of water services by Cork County Council to Uisce Éireann. The Master Co-Operation Agreement provides for the transition of services, responsibility and accountability for water services functions to Uisce Éireann in 2023. Cork County Council’s role will be limited to the provision of staff and associated resources. A new Services Support Agreement is currently being drafted between Cork County Council and Uisce Éireann and will be signed in 2024. This temporary arrangement will remain in place until the end of 2026 at which point Cork County Council’s involvement in the provision of Public Water Services will cease.

**Rural Water Programme:**

The following services are managed directly by Cork County Council under the Rural Water Programme:

- Supervision and monitoring of Group Water Schemes
- Supervision and monitoring of Small Private Supply Schemes
- Section 4 Discharge Licensing (licence to discharge to surface waters)

Cork County Council administers the Multi Annual Rural Water Programme to include:

- Capital Payments to Group Water Schemes.
- Subsidies towards the operational costs of Group Water Schemes (GWS).
- Domestic Well Grant Applications (DWG) applications.
- Administrative and engineering guidance to Group Water Schemes.
  - In the region of 10,000 households in Cork County are served by Group Water Schemes, which consist of 4 Public GWS’s and 82 Private GWS’s.
  - Small Private Supplies supply water to the Public as part of a commercial or public activity, of which there are 369.
  - Cork County Council processed 835 DWG applications in 2023.
  - Cork County Council administers the Domestic Lead Remediation Grant.

**The Council also provides the following services:**

- Development and delivery of Flood Prevention Schemes in cooperation with the OPW and Coastal Management Projects with the support of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM).
- Implementation of a programme of dredging which targets key piers and harbours.
- Co-ordination of the development and management of Cork County Council’s Social Sustainability Investment Programme.

## Housing Infrastructure Implementation Team

The housing infrastructure implementation team is a multi-disciplinary team with responsibility for delivery of local housing infrastructure capital projects within the Council's urban expansion areas using URDF and LIHAF funding and development contributions. This role also includes a requirement to provide reports on UEA related planning applications and provide returns under URDF and LIHAF funding streams.

Capital Projects are being progressed in Midleton, Carrigtwohill and Cobh and are at various stages of completion; from planning stage to implementation/construction stage and could ultimately deliver c.€120m of local housing infrastructure within the UEAs.

The Water Rock Road Upgrade works contract is programmed to commence in Q1 of 2025 with an estimated value of €4.4m. This involves the realignment and upgrade of 1.2km of rural local road at Water Rock Urban Expansion Area to an urban single carriageway with segregated cycle and pedestrian facilities. It will take 15 months to complete.

The Water-Rock Railway Overbridge and Link Road to the Northern Relief Road has an estimated capital value of c. €10m. This will open c.37hectares of land zoned for High Technology Campus Development and will provide connectivity to the Midleton Northern Relief Road/ future N25 layout and serve to optimise the capacity of the road network within this area into the future. Project planning stage will be commenced in Q2 of 2025.

Part 8 planning has been approved for URDF Infrastructure in Carrigtwohill. Subject to funding approval from DHLGH, the next stage of the project will commence in 2025. It is also intended to prepare a new bespoke development contribution scheme for Carrigtwohill with an estimated contribution value of €35m.

Interim Measures with a capital value of c.€1.5m are proposed to upgrade/widen Station Road, Carrigtwohill at several locations to enhance existing footpath connectivity and provide new connectivity between the town centre, the new school's campus development and Carrigtwohill Railway Station. Implementation of these measures is now anticipated to commence in Q1 2025 subject to funding.

An Bord Pleanála approved the Council's planning application for the Water-Rock Linear Park project in July 2024. Subject to URDF funding approval, the detail design and land acquisition stage of this project will be progressed during 2025. This project would deliver a new public park benefitting both the existing settlement and the Water Rock urban expansion area.

**Development Management****Division D****Planning and Development****Planning Applications**

Cork County Council received 3,398 planning applications in 2023. This represented a reduction of just over 8% on the number of applications received in 2022. The number of planning applications received to 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2024 is 1,575. This represents approximately 8% of a decrease in the level of applications received when compared to the same period in 2023.

Large Scale Residential Development (LRD):

- 3 No. applications were granted in 2023 that will provide 425 residential units.
- 4 No. Section 247 meetings in respect of potential 905 residential units were held in 2023.

**e-Planning**

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage is progressing a plan to provide a national online system for planning applications, third party submissions and prescribed body submissions. The roll out of e-Planning will have a significant impact on the planning process for the Planning Directorate and for the wider stakeholders (applicants, the public, council members). E-Planning will facilitate the online submission of planning applications through a single portal across 31 Local Authorities reducing paper-based applications and standardising the planning process.

Following months of piloting e-Planning in two local authorities and having undergone a significant amount of preparatory work, the Local Government Management Agency (LGMA) has gone ‘live’ with e-Planning in a number of other local authorities. It is anticipated that the roll out of e-Planning will be finalised by Q1 2025.

**Integrated Planning System (IPS):**

Following the conclusion of the competitive dialogue tender process to procure a company to supply an Integrated Planning Solution (IPS) to Cork County Council, the contract has been awarded to Agile Applications Limited (UK). The IPS will facilitate the roll out of ePlanning (National Planning Portal) for the council by providing a new back-office planning system called APAS providing additional functionality, replacing a number of manual processes with digital processes/systems and all stand-alone legacy systems. The new IPS provides an opportunity to align the planning suite of systems with business goals, providing an opportunity for an improved service to council staff (improved data analytics to better inform and support decision making) and all stakeholders thus ensuring that the council’s planning suite of systems evolve to keep pace with advances in technology. Commencement of the IPS began in Q4 with additional modules to be rolled out through 2025.

**Estates**

A substantial programme of remedial works on 14 existing private housing developments (1,143 units) was carried out to bring these developments to a taking in charge standard. Site investigation works have been carried out on a further 18 housing developments (919 units) to determine the extent of the works necessary to bring these estates to a taking in charge standard. The Planning and Development Department is currently monitoring 88 active housing developments. These estates have a total of 5,728 approved units of which 3,653 are constructed and 998 are currently under construction.

## **Planning Policy Unit**

The Planning Policy Unit is responsible for the preparation of strategic land use planning policies across County Cork and supporting their subsequent implementation. The staff of the Planning Policy Unit (PPU) are involved in undertaking research and data analysis on a range of planning and socio-economic issues to support the implementation of the Cork County Development Plan 2022-2028 and in response to new national and regional policy initiatives and guidelines. The PPU also provide data for use by other sections of the Planning Department and the Council.

During 2025 and continuing in 2026 Planning Policy Unit staff will be involved in the following projects:

### **National Planning Framework Revision:**

During 2024 the Draft National Planning Framework was issued for public consultation. The Government’s first National Planning Framework (NPF) was adopted in 2018 and was revised in 2024. The NPF is a national document that guides at a high-level strategic planning and development for the country so that as the population grows, that growth is sustainable (in economic, social and environmental terms).

Once finalised, the NPF will inform the drafting of future regional and local statutory plans, as well as future public funding decisions (in conjunction with the National Development Plan).

### **Implementation of the Cork County Development Plan 2022-2028**

The Plan sets out the planning strategy showing how Cork County intends to accommodate a population growth of 59,000, requiring the delivery of up to 22,611 houses and the delivery of 36,000 additional jobs up to 2028 as the first of three plans to deliver the 104,000-population target set for 2040. Full details of the adopted plan, all supporting background documents and environmental assessments are available to view at <https://www.corkcoco.ie/en/cork-county-development-plan-2022-2028> . Implementation will include delivering on a number of commitments within the Plan namely:

- a) Publish Guidance on the Provision of Recreation and Amenity Space/Green Infrastructure across Settlement Network.
- b) Prepare a detailed assessment of Climate Risk for Kinsale Town and Passage West/Glenbrook/Monkstown (SFRA).
- c) Complete Employment Land Study Phase 2 and 3.

**Implement the Statutory Plan Making provisions of the Planning and Development Act, 2024.**

**Support the Review of the Southern Region Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy on foot of the publication of the Revised NPF 2040.**

**Commence Preparation of Cork County Development Plan 2028-2038**

### **CSO Statistical Analysis/Research**

The Planning Policy Unit continues to analyse CSO Census 2022 data and other data sources to provide statistical information to support work both within the Unit and the work of other Council Departments. Significant work in 2025 will include analysis of Powscar and Small Area Statistics data.

## Mapping

The Planning Policy Unit provided significant mapping support to several key areas such as the mapping for the County Development Plan implementation and Review. The PPU will continue to expand its outputs around ArcGIS for a range of projects helping to improve data collection, analysis, and dissemination. Significant resources are required to ensure that mapping for the RZLT and LVS are prepared and updated accordingly.

## Websites

The Planning Policy Unit continues to maintain, support and update the following planning policy websites which host key planning policy documents which are available to all; in particular: -

- Cork County Development Plan, 2022-2028 including CDP Map Browser which contains all public documents relating to the preparation of the 2022 CDP at [Cork County Development Plan 2022-2028 | Cork County Council \(corkcoco.ie\)](https://corkcocoplans.ie)
- Planning Policy Documents, which hosts all current and previous planning policy documents (CDPs, LAPS, Town Council Town Development Plans, Sub Regional Plans and Guidance documents) <https://corkcocoplans.ie/> and <https://corkcocoplans.ie/archive/>
- Complete the putting in place of a new Planning Policy Archives web page on Council’s website to replace current Planning Policy Documents, Cork County Development Plan, 2014 and MD Local Area Plans, 2017 websites.

## Ecology Unit

The Ecology Unit forms part of the Planning Policy Unit.

### - Integrating Biodiversity Protection in Development Management Process

The Ecology Office will continue to provide ecological support to the development management planners and prospective developers to ensure the implementation of biodiversity protection and enhancement commitments as set out in policies 15-2 and 15-6 of the County Development Plan. This will include providing pre planning advice, review and reporting on planning applications, planning compliance review and reporting and provision of advice and reporting services in respect of planning enforcement cases.

### - Planning Policy

The Ecology Office will continue to provide inputs including policy development, AA reporting and support to the SEA reporting process for emerging policy documents as required during 2025.

### - Integrating Biodiversity Protection in Local Authority Projects

The Ecology Office will continue to provide cross directorate support to active travel, roads, municipal districts, architects, housing and other staff to ensure that the protection of biodiversity is fully integrated into local authority projects such as active travel schemes, new housing developments and public realm projects in accordance with policies 15-2 and 15-4.

- **Supporting the Implementation of the Climate Action Plan**

The Ecology Office will work closely with the Climate Team to support the implementation of the County Climate Action Plan in 2024.

- **Developing the County Biodiversity Action Plan**

It is intended to complete the process of reviewing and updating the County Biodiversity Action Plan in 2025.

- **Implementing Biodiversity Projects**

Working with community and other partners, it is intended to continue to implement biodiversity projects with support funding provided through the Local Biodiversity Action Plan fund. Previous projects funded through this scheme include habitat enhancement works at Harpers Island, invasive alien species eradication in the Bride Valley and the development of Pollinator Plans for county towns.

- **Supporting Biodiversity Protection in the Community**

Where resources allow, it is intended to support individuals, communities and public partners in the implementation of projects relating to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity.

**Active Land Management Team**

This Team undertakes Active Land Management (ALM) activities to assist land that is zoned for development to come into use. The ALM Team is initially focussed on residentially zoned lands through several initiatives:

- Data Collection, Analysis & Presentation
- Vacant Sites Register
- Residential Zoned Land Tax
- Monitoring & Engagement

**Data Collection - CDP Residential Lands Tiering / Monitoring:**

As part of the drafting of the current County Development Plan 2022-2028 (CDP) and using the methodology set out in the National Planning Framework Plan Appendix 3, the zoned land supply set out in the County Development Plan review process was classified as Tier 1 (serviced) or Tier 2 (not fully serviced). c.81 no. Tier 1 residential zoned sites were identified, representing a total of c.300 hectares of serviced development land. The remaining Tier 2 lands during the lifetime of its current County Development Plan requires the provision of supporting infrastructure.

Post-adoption of the current CDP, the ALM Team identified all lands with potential to deliver housing during the lifetime of the plan period and commenced the monitoring of these sites. The ALM Team continues to monitor in excess of 500 housing delivery sites.

In addition, during 2024 the ALM Team has commenced the transfer of all data to a GIS Mapping format. This allows for the presentation and analysis of significant volumes of planning, housing lands and infrastructure data.

### **Vacant Sites Register - Urban Regeneration and Housing Act, 2015, as amended:**

The Vacant Sites Register & Levy applies to certain Residentially Zoned Sites and Regeneration Areas identified in statutory Development Plans. The Register is constantly evolving, which has a direct impact on sites on the Register, as well as an indirect impact on potential 'candidate' sites for inclusion – where it is observed that the VSL may impact on landowner considerations.

Annual reviews of the Council's Vacant Sites Register were undertaken following adoption in Q2 2022 of the Council's new County Development Plan 2022-2028 – to remove activated sites, to remove sites where zoning status has changed during its CDP review process and to add additional serviced zoned residential / regeneration lands identified in current CDP review process.

A number of sites have been removed from the Council's Register for reasons including:

- Site activated for housing development.
- Residential zoning use changed under CDP review.
- Site no longer has the benefit of public infrastructure.

Where Vacant Site Levy remains unpaid, the amount remains a charge on the land concerned. The Vacant Site Levy is expected to be replaced by the Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT) in 2025, when the RZLT becomes liable.

#### **Residential Zoned Land Tax**

In addition to the Vacant Sites Levy process, the Council is required annually to undertake a significant review of vacant lands within its settlements that meet the requirements of the Government's Residential Zoned Land Tax initiative – proposed to replace the Vacant Sites Levy process and to stimulate the provision of land for new housing.

Cork County Council prepared its initial Draft Annual RZLT Map that was placed on public display/consultation on 1st November 2022 up to 1st January 2023. During the first public consultation phase, the Council's RZLT webpage received in excess of 6,000 visits and a total of 134 submissions. In 2023, 84% of total submissions received related to infrastructure matters (60% related to water services and 24% related to other infrastructure). Arising from submissions received, 17 sites were removed from the Council's RZLT Map and 10 mapping alterations were made.

As is required, determinations on submissions were issued to landowners and during 2023 appeals were lodged with An Bord Pleanála (ABP). The relevant appeal documents were issued to ABP as well as observations on the appeals themselves.

The RZLT Map was finalised and published on 1st December 2023. The taxation was due to come into effect on February 1st 2024 for collection by Revenue, however Government extended the activation date by one year to 2025 in order to allow for further engagement with the process by landowners.

Following a review of all existing entries on the Council's RZLT map, the Council published its second Draft Annual RZLT Map on February 1st 2024, for public consultation until 1st April 2024 (for landowners wishing to have their lands excluded) and to May 31st 2024 (for landowners requesting a change of zoning objective on their land).

19 submissions were received from landowners relating to exclusion of lands and 5 submissions were received relating to change of zoning objective. There were over 1,500 visits to the Council's RZLT webpage as part of the 2024 process.

The same RZLT process was followed in 2024 as that of 2023. Following review of all submissions, 9 sites were removed from the Final Annual RZLT Map 2025, to be published on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025.

The RZLT process covers all urban locations in Cork County that meet with the criteria for entry and is to be reviewed annually.

### **Land Value Sharing (LVS):**

Included in the Planning and Development (Land Value Sharing and Urban Development) Bill 2022, LVS will apply to all lands that are zoned for the purposes of residential use or mixed-use including residential. The LVS is intended as a mechanism to ensure that a proportion of the value uplift associated with the decision to zone land for development purposes is shared with the State in the interest of the common good.

Cork County Council will be required to publish a map showing the lands in scope for LVS. Owners of ‘substantially undeveloped’ land falling into scope for LVS will be required to submit self-assessments of the Existing Use Value and Market Value calculations with respect of lands within their ownership for entry by the planning authority onto a Land Value Sharing Register. The planning authority may however undertake an assessment of the submitted self-assessed valuations at any time and may amend the valuation accordingly. Where this occurs, the landowner may appeal the valuation of the planning authority to the Valuation Tribunal. Any decision made by the Valuation Tribunal will be binding on both parties.

Cork County Council is required to record the valuations and contributions on the LVS register and will be required to report on how contributions are spent in connection with the provision of public infrastructure, services and facilities.

### **Monitoring & Engagement:**

The Council continues to actively monitor all planning decisions – residential and non-residential - within Cork County. Coupled with the monitoring of all potential housing delivery sites, this data is used to inform the Council Members and Council Executive of housing related data, monitor the implementation of the CDP and will allow the Council to actively engage with all actors involved in the activation of residential lands.

### **Development Contribution Scheme:**

During 2024, the ALM Team commenced a review of the current Council Development Contribution Scheme, in accordance with the Development Scheme Guidelines.

This is a significant exercise that requires the review and collation of a range of information, as follows:

- Planning consents.
- Contributions received.
- Economic data.
- Existing scheme review.
- Infrastructure needs and costs assessment.
- Future development targets; and,
- Allocation and adjustment of costs.

The collection and analysis of the above information is required to inform a Draft Development Contribution Scheme that will be the subject of a public consultation.



## **HERITAGE:**

Investment in the county's heritage continued to grow in 2024 and the outlook for 2025 remains positive evidenced by increasing levels of heritage expenditure year on year.

The key projects and work areas delivered on in 2024 are expected to continue and grow further in 2025. These are now summarised as follows:

### **Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS) and Historic Structures Fund (HSF)**

Applicants across Cork County were allocated a combined total of €554,168 for 22 different projects under the 2024 Built Heritage Investment Scheme (€162,168 across 16no. projects) and Historic Structures Fund Schemes, (€362,000 across 6no. projects). This compared to €556, 653 in 2023. County Council structures awarded funds included €96,000 for 2024 and €96,000 for 2025 to Mallow Castle.

### **Community Monuments Fund**

The fund supports projects and plans relating to archaeological sites funded by the National Monuments Service and saw an investment of €421,796 across 8no. projects compared to €431,863.33 for 7no projects in 2023.

### **Heritage Council Heritage Officer Scheme**

Supported by the Heritage Council, the Heritage Unit undertook a publication on the Natural Heritage of County Cork and it is intended that 2024 will see the 12<sup>th</sup> release in the series, titled 'The Retail Heritage of County Cork.'

The 2024 scheme allocated €44,600 across 26no. projects in comparison to €37,250 across 29no. projects in 2023. The scheme is supported by the Heritage Council since 2021.

### **Annual Heritage Unit Work Programme:**

The following is a selection of key Heritage Unit 2024 undertakings delivered on, with plans to implement the majority of these again in 2025.

- Continued support of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan.
- Archaeological Heritage Guide Maps: Led by the County Archaeologist and Conservation Officer, intend to produce additional Historic Towns Town Maps/ Leaflets including Midleton.
- Support the Celebrating Cork Past Heritage Exhibition in September with the Cork Lions Club.
- Continued support of the Cork Schools Garden Competition with the Council's Environment Awareness Office. Run by Muintir na Tíre, this project that promotes cultural and natural heritage in the school setting, factoring in links with local heritage, pollinator projects and much more.
- Promoting awareness of heritage is a key priority of the Heritage Unit. The latest edition to the Heritage Series commissioned is titled 'The Retail Heritage of County Cork'.
- Heritage Map Viewer: The Heritage Unit provides an annual contribution to the National Heritage Map Viewer and systematically provides heritage relevant datasets on completion.
- Heritage of County Cork Publication Series: The Heritage Unit produces a new book in the series each year and manages all project aspects including sales. Sales are generating over €3,500 in income per annum.

- Historic Monuments Advisory Committee: Cork County Council’s Historic Monuments Advisory Committee continued to meet in 2024 undertaking work on a variety of different projects. A programme of Digital Mapping of the Walls of the County’s Walled Towns has commenced with Buttevant.
- Historic Town Maps: 2024 saw continuation in the production of Historic Town Maps for towns in the County, led by the County Archaeologist in conjunction with the local MD Offices. These are a significant asset to Cork County’s tourism product and copies of the maps are available to download for free online on the ‘Pure Cork’ website ([www.purecork.ie](http://www.purecork.ie)). 2025 will see the continued production and publication of maps for the heritage towns including Midleton.
- Irish Community Archive Network: continued development of the iCAN website portal that captures and ensures the longevity of local heritage collections that have been digitised.
- National Biodiversity Week in May
- National Heritage Week in August including more than 160 registered Heritage Week events.
- National Tree Week and National Tree Day: In partnership with the Tree Council, the Heritage Unit coordinates National Tree Week in county Cork, aligned with the Council’s Climate Adaptation Strategy, distributing more than 1,000 trees to over 50 different groups, schools and organisations.
- Planning and Development: An important part of the Heritage Unit’s role is advising at both preplanning and planning stages in respect of the impact that development proposals may have on the county’s Heritage. Considerable time is spent on planning applications; Part 8s, Section 57s and the devising of placenames for new housing developments.

## COMMEMORATIONS:

2024 was a busy year for commemorative activity in the county of Cork. While the centenary of the Civil War came to a close in 2023, 2024 saw a continuation in the array of commemorative projects supported by Cork County Council’s Commemorations Committee, as well as the roll out of a Council-led project that set out to map the commemorative landscape for County Cork from 2024 up until 2040.

The following is a list of the key commemorative undertakings/key supports provided by the Commemorations Committee in 2024 with plans to incorporate a number of further commemorative events for the 2025 Commemorative Work Programme.

### County Cork Commemorative Landscape 2024 – 2040:

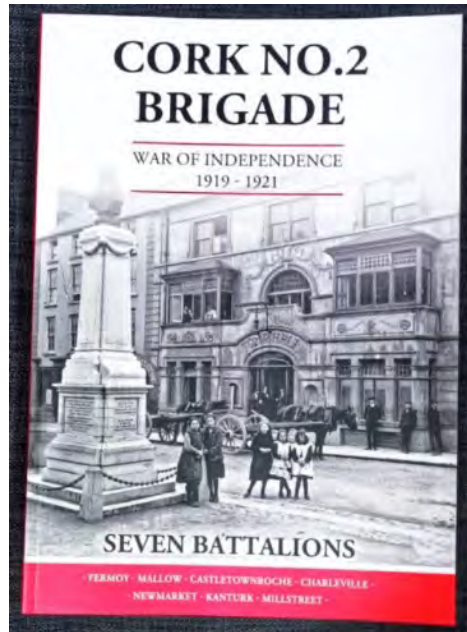
The County of Cork saw extensive commemorative activity spanning the Decade of Centenaries initiative, between 2012 and 2023, and won several national awards for these endeavours. From hundreds of events to mark the Easter Rising and a myriad of projects that commemorated the Anglo-Irish War of Independence and ensuing Irish Civil War, the people of County Cork did themselves proud in commemorating everything from the local to the national level. Over the same timeframe, other important events were commemorated such as the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Fenian Rising in 2017 and the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of An Gorta Mór in 2022 (commemorating Black ’47). In truth, commemorative activity in the county of Cork takes a wide berth and many other commemorative activities occurred, marking further events such as quasiquintennials and bicentenaries. The purpose of the County Cork Commemorative Landscape 2024 – 2040 Project was to identify the commemorative landscape up until the end of 2040, looking at key local, regional, and national events, whose key anniversaries occur over the coming years. It is an excellent document and will inform much of the commemorative focus for the Council and the county’s commemorative and heritage groups over the next decade and a half.

### Centenary Project Supports in 2024:

- A Commemorative Information Board noting Kinsale's role in the War of Independence and Civil War.
- Support of the excellent publication by Mallow Development Partnership documenting the Cork No. 2 Brigade during the War of Independence from the Capture of Mallow Military Barracks to the Truce.
- The support of an excellent U.C.C.-led play - Souls, Shadows and Secrets, which gave voice to, and depicted, three of Ireland's prominent historical figures: Michael Collins, Constance Markievicz and Éamon de Valera.
- Support of the centenary of Ballinora G.A.A., which included historical talks; a family fun day; planting of 100 commemorative trees throughout the parish; the production of historical and contemporary booklets to mark the occasion and the undertaking of a Time Capsule.
- A plaque to commemorate locals involved in the War of Independence and Civil War, undertaken by Clogagh and Ballinascarthy Historical Society.
- The erection of a sign to commemorate three locals who were deeply involved in the War of Independence and Civil War, undertaken by Clondulane Community Association.
- A publication marking the Centenary of Cork City and County Sports 1924-2024.
- The erection of a bust of Dick Barrett in Ballineen, at a location agreed with the West Cork Municipal District, to coincide with the centenary of his reinterment in County Cork from Dublin on November 1<sup>st</sup> 2024. Dick Barrett was killed during the Irish Civil War and the project was undertaken by the Dick Barrett Commemoration Committee.
- A Stone Plaque to commemorate the women of Cumann na mBan in East Cork by the East Cork Cumann na mBan Commemoration Group.
- An information board and event recognising the men and women of Clontead parish who joined the Volunteers and Cumann na mBan, undertaken by the Riverstick Commemoration Committee.
- The erection of a plaque in memory of locals killed in WW1, undertaken by Rosscarbery Heritage and Historical Society.



*Commemorative play, 'Souls, Shadows and Secrets'*



*The front cover of the Cork No. 2 Brigade Publication*

Restoration of Graves Fund:

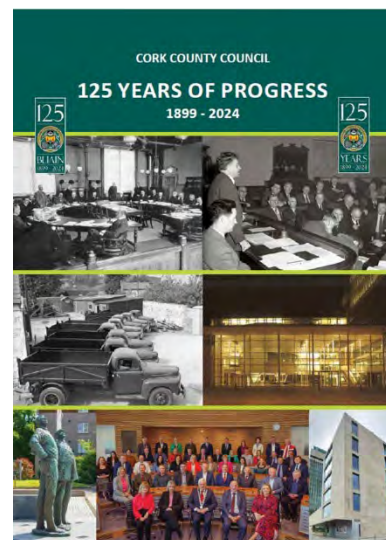
- The erection by Clogagh and Ballinascarthy Historical Society, of a metal Cross at the grave of Dan O'Donovan who was killed at the blowing up of Timoleague Bridge during the Irish Civil War.

Cork County Council 1899-2024 – 125 Year Commemoration

Cork County Council held its very first meeting on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1899. 125 years to the day, a most memorable day was held in County Hall, which included an exhibition; a display of G.A.A. jerseys spanning the decades (with the assistance of the County Board of Cork G.A.A.) and a bespoke publication, focusing primarily on the past 25 years as an organisation.



*The display of GAA Jerseys*



*CCC 125 Years of Progress book*

### **Town Regeneration Office**

The primary focus of the Town Regeneration Office (TRO) for 2025 is on continuing to implement the Town Centre First Policy with a dedicated focus on;

- ✓ developing Town Centre First Regeneration Plans
- ✓ establishing Town Teams
- ✓ progressing the property activation programme
- ✓ tackling vacancy and dereliction
- ✓ progressing the Council’s compulsory acquisition programme

The TRO works closely with a number of Cork County Council Directorates and engages with a wide range of external stakeholders to support the activation of vacant and derelict properties, and the advancement of plans to promote the regeneration of town centres. This work will continue to advance in 2025.

#### **Property Activation Programme**

In 2025, the TRO will continue to engage with internal and external stakeholders to activate town-centre properties that are underutilised, vacant or derelict. This work largely focuses on designated Regeneration Sites per the Cork County Development Plan 2022 – 2028 and will continue throughout 2025 across the County. In URDF eligible settlements, there is funding of €8million to acquire properties for re-sale on the open market for the purpose of residential development.

#### **Derelict Sites**

Throughout 2025 the TRO will continue to progress efforts to deal with the issue of dereliction across the county. This will include engagement with the owners of derelict sites, the inclusion of additional derelict sites on the register and a particular focus on levying of derelict sites.

#### **Compulsory Acquisition Programme**

The Town Regeneration Office is responsible for the compulsory acquisition of derelict sites under the Derelict Sites Act 1990. In 2024, the Town Regeneration Office was successful in compulsorily acquiring 5 Derelict Properties under the Derelict Sites Act. In 2025 and it is intended to commence compulsory acquisition proceedings on a further 10 properties.

## Economic Development, Enterprise & Tourism

### TOURISM

In 2024 the Tourism Unit supported a number of key initiatives demonstrating Cork County Council’s commitment to supporting and promoting sustainable tourism, enhancing festival experiences and improving tourism infrastructure to ensure Cork remains a leading destination for visitors.

These initiatives included:

#### **‘Explore Cork’ app.**

The "Explore Cork" tourism app, launched in May 2021, has become a pivotal tool for promoting tourism in the Cork region. In 2024 the app underwent significant improvements and an enhanced marketing campaign to further its reach and enhance the user experience.

#### New Additions to app

- Addition of Cycle Trails section
- Walking trails database integration: Walking trails category now includes updated data from Sports Ireland, providing users with detailed and reliable trail information.
- Trails category development: Initiated further expansion of the trails category by planning to include Greenways and Blueways, to be further developed in 2025.

#### Key Marketing activity engaged in 2024:

- Extensive digital media campaigns across social media platforms –Fuller Marketing engaged to assist with managing campaigns.
- New dedicated social media channels launched as well as targeted digital advertising.

#### Links to social media pages:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ExploreCorkApp/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/exploreCorkapp/>

- Newspaper advertising in a number of staycation features throughout the summer and autumn
- Content Creator Collaborations: Partnered with notable content creators and micro-influencers including Thom Breathnach and Eadoin Fitzmaurice to produce engaging social media reels that highlight the app's features and benefits.
- Extensive advertising at Cork Airport to target the international visitor continued in 2024.

#### Success of app in 2024:

- The app reached a peak of over **37,000 active users in 2024** compared to 24,000 in 2023.

#### Plans for 2025:

- **Digital Marketing Emphasis:** Continue maintaining a strong presence in digital marketing to reach wider audiences.
- **Social Media Audience Growth:** Focus on expanding social media audiences and engagement.
- **Database Development:** Further enhance the app database, particularly the trails database, to offer more comprehensive information to users.

## Support of Festivals/Events

The Tourism Unit continued to provide significant financial support to festivals/events under the Local Festival Fund, Economic Development Fund and Tourism Marketing Grant scheme in 2024 with in excess of 65 festivals and events supported.

### ‘Green Your Festival’ Programme

- Continued support for the *Green Your Festival* grant scheme in 2024, which aims to help festival organisers implement sustainable practices.

### Toolkit

- Dedicated toolkit document for festival/event organisers, supported by Cork County Council, progressed and launched in 2024 with useful links and information to assist organisers in all aspects of festival management/development.
- This will continue to be circulated widely to Cork County Council supported festivals in 2025.

## Marketing Initiatives

Financial support was given to a number of initiatives which raised the profile of Cork as a must-see tourism destination such as Munster Vales, Visit Cork & West Cork Islands.

### Cork Summer Show

Significant Tourism stand at Cork Summer Show in June 2024. Opportunity used to promote Explore Cork app. Various groups invited to showcase their tourism experiences, including Visit Cork, the West Cork Islands, Spike Island, Living Youghal, Gaeltacht Mhuscraí and Visit Ballyhoura.

## Sustainable Initiatives

### Green Hubs Project

- Collaboration between Cork County Council’s Tourism & Environment sections, Cork City Council and Visit Cork. The aim of this initiative was the reduction of food waste in the tourism sector.

### Next Steps

- Continue to encourage tourism and hospitality businesses to implement better waste management practices.
- Develop a working group to promote zero food-waste events.

### Augmented Reality (AR) Trail, Mallow Castle

- AR Trail ‘Finn’s Quest’ launched in 2024 featuring high end animations of local heritage/wildlife to enhance the tourism offering at Mallow Castle.
- Funded by the Tourism Unit and Kanturk/Mallow MD.

## Failte Ireland Destination Experience Development Plans

The Tourism Unit continued in 2024 to work with Failte Ireland in implementing the actions of the West Cork Coast & Kenmare Destination Experience Development Plan (DEDP) where Cork County Council

is either the lead or partner in the delivery of a number of the actions. The Cork DEDP covering Cork City, Cork Harbour and East Cork was launched and we continued to work with Failte Ireland, Cork City Council & Port of Cork in the development of the Cork Harbour Tourism Plan. Development of Ireland’s Hidden Heartlands Destination Experience Development Plan for the Ballyhoura area of North Cork commenced. Cork County Council will continue to assist Failte Ireland in 2025 as required.

## Policy Development

### Cork County Tourism Strategy

- Updating of the current strategy significantly advanced in 2024 with further development planned for 2025.

### Cork County Motorhome Policy Review

- **Code of Conduct** for Motorhome users has been added to the council website.
- Ongoing engagement with MDs to **progress potential pilot parking locations** (subject to funding).
- It is intended to progress the adoption of the draft **Cork County Motorhome Policy** in Q1 2025 which has been developed by the Tourism Unit following a review of the 2018 policy.

## **Tourism Capital Initiatives**

Dursey Island Cable Car & Associated Visitor Centre: The Final Account has been settled and this project is closed.

Bantry Tourism Destination Towns Project: All Contract Works, i.e. the erection of Wayfinding Signage & Decluttering Works, have been completed.

### Claycastle Weatherproofing and Outdoor Dining

The Maritime Area Consent, for construction of the proposed Water Sport Activity Centre on the Claycastle foreshore, has been received from MARA.

The Planning Application has been submitted to An Bord Pleanála (ABP) and we await their decision.

Pending the decision of ABP, the projected construction start date is Q3 2025 with substantially completed works anticipated for Q3 2026. The constructed facility will be owned, managed, and maintained by Cork County Council.

### The Old Steam Mill, Skibbereen

The Future Usage Report and Conservation Management Plan were completed in early 2024. Minor remedial works to the building exterior have been completed and a final decision on the direction of travel for the building is under consideration.

### Motorhome Parking

The Claycastle Pitch & Putt carpark in Youghal has been identified as a potential site for overnight motorhome parking. Design Consultants were appointed in June 2024.



## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND AND PROJECTS TEAM**

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND**

#### **SUMMARY OF INITIATIVES WITH LOCAL AND REGIONAL STAKEHOLDERS.**

##### **CorkBIC Growth Pathway Programme:**

CorkBIC supports the identification and growth of innovative, knowledge intensive, companies based on promising technology. It helps entrepreneurs to navigate the challenges of raising finance, developing business propositions, making agreements with shareholders and investors and finding customers.

Cork County Council was a founding partner of the Growth Pathway Programme in 2016. This programme, involving SMEs, start-ups and business leaders, is focused on building the next generation of high-performance companies. Refer to <https://www.corkbic.com/about-cork-bic> for more information.

##### **Cork Smart Gateway:**

The County Council, City Council, MTU, UCC, the Nimbus Research Centre and the Tyndall National Institute established Cork Smart Gateway to promote Cork as a smart region and raise awareness about the availability of our local research facilities to help the small and medium enterprises develop ICT, IoT and energy solutions in response to these challenges. Refer to <http://www.corksmartgateway.ie/about/> for more information.

##### **Energy-Cork**

Energy Cork is an economic cluster seeking to secure a competitive advantage for the energy sector in Cork by pursuing coordinated actions to strengthen enterprise, create employment and capitalise on Cork’s position at the forefront of the energy sector in a sustainable manner. Refer to <http://www.energycork.ie/index.php/about/> for more information.

**IGNITE:** Cork County Council has supported this initiative since it was launched in 2011. IGNITE is a joint initiative with the City Council and the Local Enterprise Offices to encourage entrepreneurship and enterprise creation.

It is an international award-winning business incubation programme supporting recent graduate entrepreneurs turn good ideas into great businesses. Based at University College Cork, the 12-month programme is open to all recent graduates from all Irish third level institutions who have the passion and ambition to work full-time on a scalable start-up idea with potential for commercial or social impact.

Since then, it has worked with approx. 120 start-ups and raised the capacity of more than 140 founders who have launched companies such as UrAbility, AnaBio Technologies, ApisProtect, Eurocomply, LegitFit, OnTheQt, PunditArena, Supply.ie, Talivest, TrustAp and Vconnecta. Refer to <https://www.ucc.ie/en/ignite/aboutus/> for more information.

**STEM Southwest:** This Cluster promotes and nurtures STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) throughout the Southwest region of Ireland. The cluster comprises industry stakeholders (SMEs and MNCs), Higher Education Institutes - MTU and UCC, local government (Cork County Council), not-for-profit (Kerry SciTech) and the Southern Regional Skills Forum, who are working together to maximise the capacity of the STEM Sector in the South West and to create and develop opportunities for members and the communities within which they operate.

**Cork Economic and Community Data Monitor:** The Monitor is a custom designed software solution containing relevant datasets and indicators from authoritative sources to provide insight into the economic and community performance of Cork County at a variety of spatial scales. The monitor can be applied to meet the increased demand for data and evidence-based decision making across the many functions within the Council.

## CO-FUNDING INITIATIVES

### EI Regional Economic Development Fund.

Enterprise Ireland invited proposals for support from the Regional Economic Development Fund (REDF). Using a Competitive Call Process, the REDF supports regions to build on their unique strengths and create sustainable jobs. Projects were selected following a rigorous evaluation process based on criteria which includes impacts and value for money, collaboration and participation, viability and sustainability, building regional strengths and significance for innovation.

Two applications supported by Cork County Council have been approved by Enterprise Ireland and the Council will provide the co-funding element required by the two projects which are;

**SynBioHub:** This initiative will seek to attract early stage life science start-up companies to Cork and help them to accelerate their development towards mature growth stage companies. SynBioHub, which is led by University College Cork (UCC) & Cork County Council (CCC) will trade as CorkBioHub and provide a “one stop shop” growth and development system enabling life science start-up companies to thrive in a unique supportive environment custom designed to suit bio-based businesses.

**A Digital Hub:** An tÚdarás na Gaeltachta propose to undertake an extensive redevelopment of an existing regional facility in Baile Bhúirne in the Muskerry Gaeltacht to provide a regional Digital Hub offering the full range of business training and development supports. The Digital Hub will offer a flexible, connected, innovation space providing a range of critical supports targeting the relatively disadvantaged and isolated rural districts in the Muskerry area of County Cork and its broader regional catchment area.

## EU CO-FUNDED PROJECTS

This year Cork County Council will be participating in the following EU Co-Funded projects:

### Project Acronym: A-AAGORA:

**Programme:** HORIZON Europe - EU Mission Oceans and Waters

**Theme:** Climate Adaptation: Coastal Zone Management and Citizen Engagement/Science

### Project Acronym: HYBES: Approved Q4 2022, Commencement date Q1 2023

**Programme:** INTERREG NPA

**Theme:** Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy – Decarbonisation

### Project Acronym: CDREUROPE Approved Q4 2022, Commencement date Q1 2023

**Programme:** INTERREG EUROPE

**Theme:** Corporate Digitalisation for Public Authorities, SME’s and Micro Business

**Project Acronym: Bauhaus Goes North (BGN)**

**Programme:** INTERREG NPA

**Theme:** Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

**Project Acronym: BioSensei**

**Programme:** Horizon Europe

**Theme:** Clean Environment & Zero Pollution

**OTHER INITIATIVES:**

**Initiative: ERRIN** (European Regional Research and Innovation Network). Based in Brussels, ERRIN is a network of approx. 120 regional organisations which operates across multiple thematic areas, aligned with European programmes. The network is committed to delivering projects linked to the UN’s 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)

**CORK COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICES (LEO’s)**

The LEOs serve as a first stop shop to provide support and services to start, grow and develop micro and small businesses in each local area. They are strategically charged with stimulating economic activity at City/ County level through the development of indigenous enterprise potential in each of the 31 operating areas.

The first ever Local Enterprise Offices Policy Statement 2024-2030 was published in May 2024. The policy statement was developed by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment in collaboration with Enterprise Ireland, the LEO Network, and the City and County Managers Association.

This policy statement is anchored on four core pillars:

- Enabling Entrepreneurship.
- Offering Business Advice.
- Providing Enterprise Supports.
- Supporting Local Economic Development.

In 2025 the LEOs of Cork County Council will continue to promote entrepreneurship, foster sustainable business start-ups and develop existing micro and small businesses to drive job creation and to provide accessible high-quality supports for business ideas.

They will do this with a focus on the following strategic priorities:

1. Entrepreneurship
2. Competitiveness and Digitalisation
3. Green/Sustainability
4. Innovation
5. Exporting/Internationalisation
6. Networks and Clustering

Under each of these priorities the LEOs will continue to deliver on staple supports and programmes such as Start Your Own Business and LEAN for Business and Mentoring. However, in delivering on these we have set out a range of ambitious new initiatives and approaches which we hope will not only attract new cohorts of people to entrepreneurship, but which will add significant value to our existing business community.

A newly expanded Energy Efficiency Grant was introduced in 2024 and the LEO’s will work with client businesses to help reduce their environmental impact through the Green for Business Programme.

The Digital for Business programme and the new Digital for Business Development Grant will aid businesses to get that digital edge through preparing and implementing a plan for the adoption of digital tools and techniques across the business.

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

### ***Promotion and Support of community and economic development in Cork County***

Community development in Cork County is promoted and supported by implementing the provisions of legislation and regulations & guidelines, insofar as they relate to the 3 Local Community Development Committees (LCDCs) and their workings. North/South/West Cork LCDCs comprise of both private and public stakeholders and hold monthly meetings wherein programmes under their remit are discussed and progressed.

### ***Promote & Support health and wellbeing in the Cork Community through activation of Government funding.***

Cork County Council has a full time Healthy Ireland Co-ordinator in place who promotes health & wellbeing throughout the County via funding under the Healthy Ireland Initiative. Actions are discussed via the LCDC Healthy Ireland Sub-Group and approved by LCDC members. During 2025 the focus will be on the following:

- 2 Outcome Factor Areas selected (maximum allowable) are:
  - Lifestyle & Behavior Risks (CHOSEN)
  - Wellbeing Factors (CHOSEN)
    - OUTCOME 1 – BREASTFEEDING RATES (Lifestyle & Behavior Risks)  
Increase in the breastfeeding percentage rates (exclusively and non-exclusively) at first Public Health Nurse visit and at follow-up visit at three months.
    - OUTCOME 2 – POSITIVE MENTAL HEALTH (Wellbeing Factors)  
Increase in the individual’s level of positive mental health based on Energy and Vitality Index (EVI).
- Coordination and delivery of “Together at the Castle” at Mallow Castle in Sept 2024, a Family Funday promoting positive mental health and showcasing all Mental Health services available throughout the North Cork area and beyond. A similar event was held in Middleton in Sept 2024 covering the South Cork area. Both events were very successful and provided a range of activities such as live music, yoga classes, kids workshops and food & beverages. These events are planned to continue in 2025.
- The PSYCHED initiative, assisting businesses with Mental Health awareness, continued to be rolled out with various workshops offered to all employers throughout 2025.

***Stimulate economic activity in rural Cork.***

Manage & Implement the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 in conjunction with the 3 No. Local Action Groups (LAGs) and in partnership with 3 Implementing Partners, namely, Avondhu/Blackwater CLG, SECAD (South & East Cork Area Development Partnership CLG, and Comhar na nOileán CTR.

- Funding allocated to Cork LAGs for this programme 2023-2027 is a total of €12.5m.  
 North: € 2,969,553, South: € 3,645,671, West: € 5,882,337  
 The programme will be open for applications from Q4 2024.

The LEADER programme is a European Union initiative to support rural development projects initiated at the local level in order to revitalise rural areas and create jobs. Decisions on LEADER funding are made at a local level by a Local Action Group (LAG), through the framework of a Local Development Strategy (LDS). A LAG is made up of representatives from the local community as well as from the local public and private sector. The LDS is a plan that is developed by rural communities to support sustainable development of their sub-regional area. There are three LEADER Local Action Groups (LAGs) in County Cork located in the Divisions of North, South and West.

***Support and Promote community development.***

Cork County Council supports communities by providing a range of grants. The Community Section has provided the following grants in 2024. All grants were administered and approved by the three LCDC’s in Cork County.

Grant Type	County Allocation	No. Applications Received	Value of Applications Received	No. Successful
Local Enhancement Programme & Women’s Group Fund 2024	€245,559	244	€1,205,659	163

***Promote social inclusion through targeted financial support.***

The aim of the Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) is to reduce poverty and promote social inclusion and equality through local, regional and national engagement and collaboration. Its vision is to improve the life chances and opportunities of those who are marginalised in society, living in poverty or in unemployment, through community development approaches, targeted supports and interagency collaboration, where the values of equality and inclusion are promoted, and human rights are respected.

SICAP is a national programme which is managed locally by the three Local Community Development Committees in North, South and West Cork, and delivered locally by 6 Local Development Companies under contract, i.e. Avondhu/Blackwater CLG, Ballyhoura Development CLG, IRD Duhallow CLG, SECAD (South & East Cork Area Development Partnership CLG), Comhar na nOileán CTR & West Cork Development Partnership CLG.

The SICAP Programme 2024-2028 commenced a new 6-year cycle in January 2024 with a total value of €14.62m. This figure includes an additional allocation for New Arrivals funding of (€0.709m) that was allocated during 2024.

***Continue to support the workings of Comhairle na nÓg.***

Cork County Comhairle na nÓg is one of 31 Comhairli na nÓg around the Country representing young people. These Youth Councils are designed to enable young people to have a voice on the services, policies and issues that affect them in their local area.

***Continue to Support the role of the Public Participation Network (PPN)***

Cork County PPN is a network of Community & Voluntary, Social Inclusion & Environment groups that was established in 2015. Through the office of the PPN co-ordinator, PPN member groups are kept informed of important matters such as funding opportunities, public consultations, plan-making and policy development.

PPN member groups and their representatives can also interact with the policy-making committees of Cork County Council by electing PPN Representatives onto SPCs, LCDCs and the JPC.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - INFRASTRUCTURE**

Property Options to support Business: Cork County Council provides a range of property options across the County to support economic development initiatives for existing and emerging enterprises and appropriately zoned lands which are available to respond to new opportunities as and when they arise. This work will continue in 2025 across the full range of options available.

**Strategic Land**

Cork County Council has a long tradition and success in providing economic development infrastructure for the facilitation of the growth and development of private sector enterprises, throughout the county. This has varied from land provision for large companies to serviced sites on which companies can develop their own buildings, to units rented to developing enterprises. These actions have resulted in employment growth, multiplier effects in the local economy, rates income for the Council and economic growth in areas spread throughout the County, ensuring a geographic spread of economic activity in the process.

A market view of business land availability in the main towns of Cork County has found that there was very little vacancy in rental units in the vast majority of the County's towns, as low as 1% in many locations. This is curtailing the development potential of our towns.

The proposal to make provision in the Revenue budget for the purchase of land for economic development will allow the Council to replenish its enterprise landbank and will facilitate the expansion of local businesses, facilitate new businesses coming to the various towns and fill a gap that the private sector is not addressing at present.

**Commercial Units to Let**

At present the Council has 48 commercial and food units, 15 food (including 2 incubator Kitchens) & 33 industrial. In addition we have some units which are converted to other uses:

Fermoy – 9 offices, a meeting room and E centre with hot desks

Bantry – 1 meeting room, Canteen and small office and E Centre with hot desks.

Occupancy levels overall are very good with few if any vacancies. 2025 will see a continued drive to market and fill any current vacancies and future ones as they arise. Turnover in tenants is a positive sign of an active entrepreneurial marketplace.

E-Centres, Hot Desking and Training Facilities:

Cork County Council provides Hot Desking facilities, own door offices and training / meeting rooms in our E-Centres throughout the County. Cork County Council supports the E Centre project both through direct provision in Bantry, Fermoy, Macroom and Youghal and in conjunction with bone fide community organisations in other centres across the County. Grant funding was secured under the Connected Hubs Initiative for upgrading of facilities at Bantry and Fermoy with increased desk space, improved heating and WIFI facilities installed.

Construction work is well underway on new Hubs at Mitchelstown and Cobh Library Buildings funded under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme and matched Cork County Council funding. It is expected that both hubs will be completed shortly, bringing an exciting option for new companies to locate in those towns, for remote working options, increasing footfall and economic activity in the town centres and bringing a use to vacant floorspace.

### **Food Production and Incubation Kitchens**

Cork County Council have 15 food production units available for rent, facilitating the growth of small food companies. Two of these units are incubator Kitchens, with state-of-the-art facilities, rentable by the hour to facilitate the growth of micro food enterprises, as they move from home production to a more professional set up.

### **Serviced Sites for Sale**

The Council has serviced sites for sale at a number of locations, to facilitate those who wish to build units to allow their businesses to grow and develop. This is particularly important in the current market with little or no spec building of units to cater for growing demand. A number of site sales would be expected to close in 2025, following the pattern of 2024, with development to commence subject to planning permission.

### **Maintenance and upgrading**

Cork County Council maintains all its Parks and units as required. This is facilitated by quarterly Safety Tours of Inspections, which are required from a health and safety point of view but also show up the maintenance issues which need to be addressed to ensure that the Councils parks are portraying the most positive image of the activities of the Council and also reflect well on the businesses who occupy sites or units in our Parks.

### **SOUTHWEST REGIONAL ENTERPRISE PLAN**

Implementation of the Southwest Regional Enterprise Plan will now extend into late 2025 and the Steering Committee will oversee the final stages of implementation of the Strategic Objectives of the Plan as well as developing a new Regional Enterprise Plan for the region, including new objectives and actions to be launched in Q1 2026.

The Steering Committee includes key stakeholders, representatives from Enterprise Ireland, IDA, ETB, Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, Third Level Institutions, Enterprise Champions, Local Authorities, LEOs, SRA, Regional Skills Forum and Chambers of Commerce.





## Environmental Services

### Division E

#### Environmental Protection

##### Climate Action

All local authority budgets must in the coming years be framed in the context of government climate action policy, which by statute commits Ireland to net-zero emissions by 2050, with a 51% reduction in emissions by 2030 as well as an equivalent improvement in energy efficiency by that date.

Earlier this year the council adopted its Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 which contains 245 actions across 8 themes. Some actions are specific to individual directorates, but many – in particular the key energy objectives apply across the whole organisation. Increasingly, government policy require that we factor net zero carbon emission and energy objectives into all of our expenditure decisions.

We face challenging sectoral targets and while Local Authorities are generally only directly responsible for less than 5% of their area’s emissions, we of course will play a much broader and significant leadership role in driving the climate agenda at local and community level.

##### Climate Action Regional Office (CARO).

Cork County Council continues its role as lead authority for the Atlantic Seaboard South Climate Action Regional Office (ASBS CARO) under a Service Level Agreement with the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC). ASBS CARO works to support the five local authorities of Cork, Clare, Limerick and Kerry in planning for and delivering effective Climate Action in accordance with National Policy and statute.

##### Statutory Regulation, Monitoring, Enforcement & Awareness programmes

Statutory obligations under EU and national legislation together with Agency Service commitments to Uisce Éireann (UÉ) (formerly Irish Water) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), will again require the Council to deliver wide ranging environmental programmes in 2025.

##### Water

Key elements of Water Quality programme for 2025 will be;

- Drinking Water - monitoring of public, group and private supplies
- Beaches – scheduled and incident response monitoring at Blue Flag, Green Coast and other Identified Bathing Waters
- Monitoring of Municipal and Trade effluent discharges
- Delivery of the National Inspection Plan and related Grant Scheme for Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems
- Agriculture - Delivery of farm/agriculture inspection programme
- Supporting implementation of the River Basin Management Plan 2022-2027

Under the ‘Framework for Future Delivery of Water Services’, UÉ assumed full functional management for public water services in September of 2023. Under this framework UÉ intends by 2027 to bring all sampling and testing of public drinking and wastewater in house. In the interim while the Environment Directorate will continue to provide a sampling and testing service to UÉ under a support services

agreement, we have commenced developing a laboratory strategy to meet the challenges, budgetary and otherwise, of this change.

Continued focus will again be required in 2025 on the monitoring of group and private water supplies, to comply with Regulatory, NOAC KPIs and EPA Audit requirements. Budgetary provision is being maintained to meet demands in this area.

In the year ahead resources will continue to be applied to maintaining laboratory accreditation to ISO 17025 standard for our Water Quality and Wastewater laboratories.

Restoring and protecting good water quality in rivers, lakes, estuaries, groundwater and coastal waters remains a key priority. Environment Protection Agency (EPA) reports show declining water quality, with agriculture being identified as a significant contributor. Dept of Housing, Local Government & Heritage (DHLGH) are funding local authorities to assign increased staff resources in this area. Additional staff have been recruited in 2024, with the increased payroll costs for 2025 being fully recoupable from DHLGH.

#### Air and Noise:

- Ongoing annual Air & Noise work programmes will include;
- Monitoring of industries licensed under the Air Pollution Act.
- Regulation and monitoring of businesses using Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) e.g. Spray Painters, Dry Cleaners, Filling Stations.
- Air/Noise pollution complaint response
- Solid Fuel regulation and inspection programmes

#### Waste

Waste Management continues to represent the single biggest element of the council’s environment budget encompassing;

- Management of Councils’ 12 Civic Amenity/Recycling Centres
- Management of 130 Bring Bank Sites
- Ongoing oversight and management of 5 closed, licensed landfill sites.
- Waste & Litter Enforcement
- Waste Facility Licensing
- Remediation of legacy landfills
- Regulation of private waste facilities and operators

Increasing costs for treating and disposing of materials, as well as increased charges for leachate disposal, coupled with the need to make revenue provision to fund future required capital works at closed landfills, means there is a net increase in the waste management budget for 2025.

#### Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authority (WERLA)

Cork County Council is the Lead Authority for Waste Enforcement (WERLA) in the Southern Region. 2025 sees an increased payroll budget reflecting the full implementation of an enhanced staffing structure for the authority. The enhanced structure is cost neutral for the council as the WERLAs are fully funded by the exchequer.

## **Environmental Awareness**

The Environmental Awareness programme for 2025 will again look to support a range of national policy priorities. With the publication earlier this year of the **National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy 2024-2030**, there will be an increased focus in 2025 on circular economy initiatives, both inhouse and in the broader community.

Provision has been made for the continuation of a Circular Economy Fund grant scheme to promote initiatives at community level.

The Environmental Awareness Unit will continue to deliver a range of school programmes including Green Schools, School Gardens, Climate Literacy, Picker Pals and other targeted initiatives as they arise.

An increasing focus on promoting Climate Action Awareness will also be maintained.

## **Fire Service and Building Control Department**

The focus of activities and budgets in 2025 will as always be on ensuring effective service delivery and meeting our statutory obligations in relation to;

- Fire Service Operations
- Fire Prevention/Technical Fire Safety
- Building Control
- Community Fire Safety
- Major Emergency Management
- Civil Defence

The impact of the WRC settlement in relation to the retained firefighters dispute is reflected in an increasing payroll budget in that area for 2025. Cork County Council will have recruited additional retained firefighters by the end of 2024 and all once off costs in relation to these new recruits will be incurred and recouped in 2024. Provision is made in the draft budget for the additional costs in 2025 which will relate solely to payroll for the new recruits and the revised terms for existing staff which will be funded by the Department.

The sector continues to engage with national government to agree recoupment of these additional costs.

Ongoing annual work programmes will include:

### **Operations:**

- Maintaining the operational readiness of the fire service fleet
- Maintaining fire service operational equipment to ensure an effective operational response.
- Maintaining fire service buildings

### **Fire Prevention:**

- Improving standard of fire safety in existing buildings and new buildings
- Education campaigns to improve awareness of fire safety.
- Targeted inspections of high-risk premises such as residential care premises
- Review of standard operating guidelines

Additional resources will be required to implement the Interim Scheme for Defective Apartments as well as new Dangerous Substances Licensing Legislation

Community Fire Safety:

- Developing and implementing a Risk Based Community Fire Safety Programme for each Station area of operation, based on the objectives of the Community Fire Safety Plan and the local risk.
- Engaging with other stakeholders (Community Alert, Neighbourhood Watch, Lions Club, etc) to promote Fire Safety in the Home
- Continued involvement in the Wildfire Cooperative Group, with focus towards land management

Building Control:

- Operating and maintaining the Building Control Management System for Cork County
- Targeted inspections of premises on a prioritised basis

Major Emergency Management:

- To review, update, exercise and test Cork County Council's Major Emergency Plan in accordance with the Framework for Major Emergency Management.
- To review, update, exercise and test site specific external emergency plans for upper-tier SEVESO establishments in County Cork
- To advance training of key staff in Major Emergency Management roles
- Monitoring of weather alerts from Met Eireann. Preparation of Flood Response Plans/Severe Weather Plans
- Support the operation of the Inter-agency Emergency Management Office

Civil Defence:

- Continue the structural reorganisation of the Civil Defence Units
- Support the Principal Response Agencies in responding to emergencies.
- To provide first aid and other support at local community events

## Recreation and Amenity

### Division F

#### **ARTS SERVICES:**

Cork County Council’s arts services aim to support and strengthen the practice and enjoyment of the arts in local communities in an inclusive and accessible manner and to promote and support artists and makers to create innovative work of the highest artistic standard.

#### **Cork County Council Arts Plan 2025-29**

A new five-year Arts Development plan for Cork County Council is being prepared by the Arts Office Team and will be presented to the elected members. Public and stakeholder consultation took place from July - September and written submissions were accepted through the [yourcouncil.ie](http://yourcouncil.ie) portal.

#### **Artist Bursaries**

In 2024, 159 applications were made to the scheme with 25 applications being successful. It is intended to continue this in 2025.

#### **Arts Grants**

103 arts organisations received funding of over €166,000 from Cork County Council through its 2024 Arts Grants Scheme which will continue in 2025.

#### **YOUNG PEOPLE PROGRAMME:**

**BEAG:** 2024 agreement with Graffiti Theatre Company to deliver the BEAG early years arts programme to children aged 0-3 in childcare settings across the county was approved.

**Cork Young filmmakers Summer Programme** - The 2024 Cork young filmmakers summer film programme was delivered in 5 County locations. The project was open to young people aged 14-18 years and was managed by Cork Film Centre who provided professional training and equipment.

**Rainbow Library** - Rainbow Library is a pioneering publishing initiative to create more books by and for young readers that include LGBTQ+ identities and experiences. Supported by Cork County Council’s Library and Arts Service and Creative Ireland, the Cork Rainbow library project has been active since 2022. In 2024 the group published the ‘Solstice Zine’ which was launched at their panel discussion with moderator Sasha de Buyl at the West Cork Literary Festival on 17<sup>th</sup> July.

**Frameworks** uses artworks from the Cork County Collection as a starting point for creative exploration for young people. The scheme loans a number of artworks to participating schools for a year during which artists work with pupils to develop creative responses to the artwork.

**Sliabh Luachra Trail:** The Sliabh Luachra region is associated with a specific and idiomatic traditional music repertoire and performance style, widely regarded as one of the important regional styles in Irish music. A meeting with the Tourism officers of the three local authority areas (Cork, Kerry and Limerick) and Fáilte Ireland officers took place in Ballydesmond in mid-May to look at developing a coordinated approach to increasing visitor numbers to the area. This involves partnership with the region’s local festivals and events promoters. This next phase will also attempt to progress a bid for inclusion of the Sliabh Luachra Style in the UNESCO register of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

## **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT WORK**

**Culture Night.** Culture night is a national celebration of the arts providing free access to all members of the community to arts and cultural events. The Arts Office coordinates the Culture Night programme for Cork County. It is a major event in the annual arts calendar involving professional artists and the county’s voluntary. It attracts a broad-based audience across all demographics. In 2024, 21 county towns were featured as “Culture Night Hub Towns” and an additional 14 smaller towns and villages also organised events. A total of 160 events took place and brought out an audience of some 9,000 people. We aim to build on this in 2025.

**The West Cork Fit-Ups Summer Theatre Programme** organised in association with Blood in the Alley Theatre Company and runs in various location in West Cork in July and August each year. The 2024 programme featured a total of 9 individual productions in 38 performances at 8 West Cork locations including 3 Islands reaching an audience of nearly 3,000.

### **Cultural Companions**

Cultural Companions is an initiative of Age an Opportunity, the national agency for Creativity in Older Age. Cultural Companions aims to encourage older people to participate more frequently in cultural opportunities in their localities. 2024 was a very active year for the organisation with events in all three Divisions which it is hoped to continue in 2025.

### **Creative Places West Cork Islands**

Creative Places West Cork Islands is an initiative funded by the Arts Council and Cork County Council. The project aims to build sustained arts investment and create opportunities for local arts programmes across the 7 islands of Cape Clear / Oileán Chléire, Sherkin Island / Inis Arcáin, Heir Island / Inis Uí Drisceoil, Long Island / An tOileán Fada, Whiddy island / Oileán Faoide, Bere island / An tOileán Mór, Durseý island / Oileán Bao. The project duration is over a 3-year period, with an implementation period from 2023 to 2025 and is an exciting opportunity to think long-term and to build slowly.

### **Creative Ireland**

The Creative Ireland Programme is supported by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media. It is an all-of-government culture and wellbeing programme and it is their ambition to inspire and transform people, places and communities through creativity. Creative Ireland is committed to the vision that every person in Ireland should have the opportunity to realise their full creative potential.

**Make Or Break:** Cork County Council Library and Arts Service have been awarded €140,000 over two years, to develop Pilot Creative Health and Wellbeing Programme “Make or Break” – a creative wellbeing pilot programme, which aims to promote employee wellbeing through creative workshops offered in the workplace. The Make-or-Break programme is now being extended to workplaces in the Cork / Kerry region with support from the Creative Ireland programme.

**Healthcare Hoolies:** Throughout the year Cork County Council’s Creative Ireland Programme delivered concerts to residents of every Community Hospital in the county. 50 concerts were delivered by a variety of musical ensembles, including Corks Pops Quartet, Down Memory Lane, Aengus Kirakowski and Hifilutin Flute Quartet.

**Shared Island:** *The ties that bind* was a creative exchange between artists living in The Duncairn in inner city Belfast and Levis in Ballydehob in rural County Cork. The project tells the story of two corners of the island and how they have successfully leveraged the arts to build respect, inclusion and positivity in their respective areas. This involved artists residencies and two takeover weekends in Ballydehob in July and Belfast in November.

#### **PUBLIC ART:**

**The N22 artworks** ‘Céimeanna’ were installed during Easter week by artist Sarah Goyvaerts. The story was covered online, in local papers, The Examiner and on RTÉ Six One News. There was also an accompanying podcast series exploring the heritage of the area surrounding the N22. This is available on the Céimeanna Instagram and YouTube channel.

**Kinsale Library Public Art commission:** Cork County Library and Arts Services invited professional artists, designers and craft makers, working individually or as part of an artistic team, to propose an artwork to be installed in Kinsale Library.

**Housing:** Artist Mick Wilkins was selected for two Per Cent for Art schemes (PCAS): An Cuan Dunmanway and An Faoleáin Skibbereen. Both works will be outdoor sculptures with a community engagement programme. Briefs for Courtmacsherry and Doneraile were announced in November 2024.

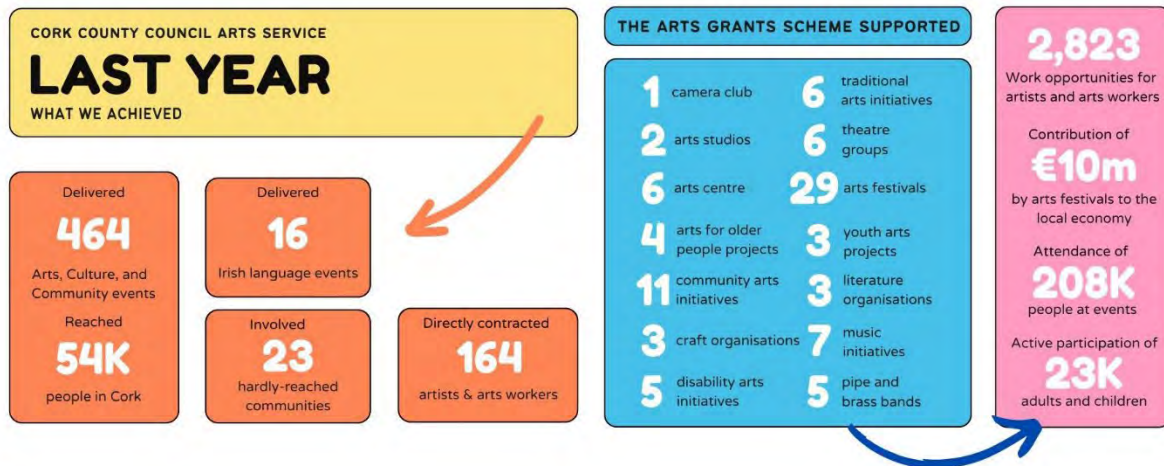
#### **West Cork OPW Flood Relief Per Cent for Art update**

- Bandon Flood Relief Per Cent for Art Scheme: The Per Cent for Art Scheme is a community-based residency in Bandon. The selected artist is Aoife Desmond.
- Briefs for Skibbereen and Clonakilty PCAS were launched in September.

**Dunkettle Interchange Per Cent for Art:** Public Art project in collaboration with TII and Cork City Council. A Public Art Management specialist was engaged to create the artists brief and manage the selection process.

#### **CORK COUNTY COUNCIL ARTS SERVICE PRIORITIES FOR 2025:**

- Finalise and publish a new Five-Year Arts Strategy
- Delivery of Year 3 of the Creative Ireland County Cork Strategy 2023-27 including the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the Make-or-Break programme.
- Develop a ‘Reader in Residence’ project building on research begun in a pilot project in North Cork in 2024.
- Redevelop the Poetry Town programme.
- Libraries and Culture. In 2025 we intend to work with staff and library management to enhance the range and quality of arts and cultural events and activities we programme in these vibrant community spaces.
- In Year 3 of Creative Places West Cork Islands programme, the intention is to build on connections made in through the programme in 2024 and to initiate the Storyteller in Residence and Ocean and Environment Commission projects.
- Youth Arts Capacity Building measures in 2025 will focus on training and development for the sector. We will continue to engage in the LYCP process and intend to provide training and support for Youth Workers and expand the opportunities for experienced artist facilitators to engage on longer term directed programmes particularly in poorly served areas of the county.



### THE LIBRARY SERVICE:

The Library Service is responsible for the provision and development of a library service that provides access to resources that educate, inform and enrich the lives of citizens. This will be achieved through the network of 25 branches, the four mobile libraries and via a range of digital and online services. Cork County Library reaches into the heart of the community which it serves, by establishing strong network connections with a variety of agencies and organisations including schools and colleges, community groups, advocacy groups, special interest clubs and societies and a variety of support agencies, The Service works within the remit of the Municipal Districts Directorate with direction from the Libraries Development Section of the LGMA.

Book issues increased 7.3% in 2024. There was also a 12% increase in e-audiobooks and e-books are up 6.4%. The number of events and events attendances increased by 19% as the range expanded and evolved due to demand. We are continuously seeking ways of stretching the impact of our assets; space, staff expertise and other resources to provide the best and most responsive service to the public in each library.

### **LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS 2024:**

#### **Library Infrastructure Development - Buildings**

- The new and improved Briery Gap building boasts a state-of-the-art theatre and library in a modern, purpose-built premises that replaces the original building that was fire-damaged in 2016.
- Newly refurbished and *My Open Library* enabled, Carrigaline Library reopened to the public at the end of October after a 12-week closure. The upgrade works to the library interior included: A community meeting room, extra study spaces, a dedicated teen/young adult, a feature children's zone with sensory play elements for younger children to enjoy, improved Wi-Fi connectivity to support study and remote working.
- Middleton Library with support from the Architect's Department successfully sourced grant funding from the Heritage Council under the Historic Towns Initiative 2024 for Priority External Conservation works.
- Mallow Library introduced the 'My Open Library' service in Q3 2024.



- Conservation and Upgrade works to Bantry Library were completed in January 2024 on the back of receiving €269,000 in Heritage Council funding to replace all the windows and roof repairs and significant Cork County Council support to repair the roof and skylights.
- Kinsale Library introduced the ‘My Open Library’ service in Q3 2024.
- Internal upgrade of Clonakilty Library including new furniture, shelving, carpet and painting was complete in the Spring of 2024.
- Eight Libraries completed LED light upgrades in collaboration with CCC energy department.
- Leabharlann Oileán Chléire – bhog an leabharlann ón bportacabin go dtí an t-áitreabh nua i bhfoirgneamh coop i mí Iúil 2024. D’oscailíodh an Leabharlann go hoifigiúil i mí Dheireadh Fómhair 2024 ag Méara Chontae Chorcaí, an Comhairleoir Joe Carroll.  
Leabharlann Oileán Chléire moved from the portacabin to the new premise in the co-op building in July 2024. The library was Officially opened by the Mayor of the County of Cork, Cllr. Joe Carroll in October 2024.
- Youghal Library Project completed enabling works stage and proceeded to tender preparation for the full project, subject to funding

### **Library Infrastructure Development - Mobile Library Service**

This service is central to our commitment to deliver library services to every community across the 7,500 square km of the County and is thriving since the replacement of 3 vehicles with new trucks in December 2021. 4 Mobiles make up the fleet and we are adding new stops all the time as demand continues. Mobile Library East attended the Cork Summer Show on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of June, the Carbery Agricultural Show on 18<sup>th</sup> July and the National Ploughing Championships in September. The mobile library had many visitors across the two days and was a popular attraction. Mobile Library Service supported 13 primary schools during summer provision programmes.

### **Library Infrastructure Development - ICT and DIGITAL**

- Remote & Self- Managed Printing: seven libraries now offer this service.
- Broadband & Network Upgrade: To enhance the delivery of our digital services we upgraded our broadband connections to the best fibre options available in each location. Satellite StarLink broadband is ready for deployment in the new Leabharlann Oileán Chléire and Sherkin Island Library.

### **Library Service Development - Local Studies**

Local Studies handles an average of 60 queries per month and the website.

Cork Local Studies – Preserving all aspects of life in County Cork, past and present - had 36,000 interactions on the websites in 2024.

### **Library Service Development - Library Programmes and Events**

**RIGHT TO READ:** Children and Young People

- Spring into Storytime 2,457 participants and 79 events storytime events in April.
- Whole Wild World Tour organised by Children’s Books Ireland and with Children’s Laureate, Patricia Forde, visited schools, libraries and cultural venues in five counties over a two-week

period, concluding at Kinsale Library in Cork on Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>. Five authors did reading and illustration workshops for children and families in Sherkin Library on Saturday April 27<sup>th</sup> and Kinsale Library on Sunday April 28<sup>th</sup>.

- Summer Stars: 4750 children participated in 2024 which was a 500 increase on 2023.
- Children’ Book Festival –15 authors/illustrators, 25 events, 1000 attendees.
- Teen Book Festival –7 authors, 9 events, 500 attendees
- One County One Book - ‘Freya Harte is not a puzzle’ by Méabh Collins was the OCOB title. The book explored the theme of Autism Awareness.
- Family Time at your Library -- 50 events, 1350 attendees
- Neonatal and postnatal baby reading programme in partnership with City Libraries and CUH library was launched in September 2024- Brave Bookworms supports parents to find easy and enjoyable ways to communicate to their babies through reading stories while they are in incubators. The sound of the parent’s voice is very comforting and also gives parents something to say and focus on which many parents struggle with when they spend time with their newborn babies in stressful circumstances.

### Adult Services

- BOOKCLUBS: As well as the 70 bookclubs CCLAS is supporting, we established Book Clubs for Nursing Homes and Older People. CCC Employee Book Club was also started in 2024 as part of the staff wellbeing programme.
- The launch of the West Cork Literary Festival was on the 12<sup>th</sup> of July in Bantry Library. 930 people attended events in Bantry Library over the week.
- Writer in Residence: Victoria Kennefick commenced worked writers’ groups in Kanturk, Cobh, Carrigaline, Mitchelstown and Bandon libraries, working with secondary schools and working one to one with a writer who couldn’t otherwise access library workshops. Participants will read their work at the West Cork Literary Festival in July.

### STEAM PROGRAMME (supported by Creative Ireland)

- Demand for the weekly lego clubs and games clubs running across the county continued to grow in 2024.
- Astronomy week in March was promoted with Declan Foley of Cork Astronomy Club.
- Engineer’s Week - Skibbereen Library staff facilitated a renewable energy circuit building workshop which was very popular and they plan to repeat this.
- During Tech week (17<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> April), Anyone4Science conducted 3 workshops: Coding bracelet - where children learn about the computer language of binary and make a bracelet spelling their name for 3rd-6th class pupils and crack the code and cipher wheel workshop for 1st/2nd class. Library Staff facilitated workshops using Kinia renewable energy circuit building kits.
- As part of the STEAM programme for this summer, the Digital Services team rolled out a series of Online and in Branch workshops around Podcasting, Coding and Robotics. Louise Caldwell from ‘Our Kids Code’ a programme run by Trinity College to promote coding with families, wants to run workshops during summertime in branches. Participants will learn to code and there is some dance involved (they code a dance mat!).

### **‘Healthy Ireland at Your Library’:**

- Bike Week promoting importance of exercise.
- Brain Health with Vanessa Bradbury from The Alzheimer Society of Ireland
- International Women’s Day with nutrition talks delivered by a registered dietician and Music & Movement workshops.
- Men’s Health Week - In conjunction with Cork Sports Partnership, Staying Fit for the Future – Better Balance taster workshops were held in the North Cork area.
- World Microbiome Day - Working with partners at APC Microbiome, UCC, Dhrati Patangia delivered a talk on the importance of the probiotic for good gut health.
- Outreach - The Library Service and HI@YL teams have been delighted to be in a position to attend a number of Dementia Awareness events that have been taking place in our local communities.

### **Climate Awareness at Your Library**

- Energy monitors – partnered with CCC environment section to have source energy monitors for library customers to borrow.
- Repair Cafes – 7 libraries were facilitating Repair Cafes by the end of 2024.
- Cork Cuts Carbon – Back for the third year in 2024, the focus was on local communities.

## **SOCIAL INCLUSION AND INTEGRATION**

### **Accessibility**

- A Neurodiverse Creative Writing Group was established in Bandon Library in 2024.
- Digital Literacy - ETB Pilot Digital Device courses. We partnered with CETB to provide Smartphone classes in Mallow, Fermoy, Dunmanway, Cobh, Carrigaline and Charleville in the 2024. They have proven very popular. We plan to work with ETB to look at other locations. We also met with ‘Alone’ who is looking at the Vodafone HI Digital model with a view to involving local companies to provide tutors. We partnered with Age Action to provide similar sessions in Fermoy and Kinsale.
- Age Friendly Libraries - Installed AF parking in Kinsale and Millstreet.
- Your Good Self’: To coincide with the Bealtaine Festival, 5 talks were facilitated by HSE focused on Positive Mental Health for Older Adults.
- Bealtaine Festival 2024 ran many successful events in collaboration with the Arts Office
- The Nursing Home Bookclubs was launch in September 2024

### **INTEGRATION**

The Library and Arts Service partnered with Cork County Council’s integration officer, age friendly homes coordinator and age friendly coordinator throughout 2024 to support their work through our local library branches and to signpost each other’s services.

### **HIGHLIGHTS AND AWARDS**

- Book launch celebrating 50 years of Bantry Library was launched by Deputy Mayor of Cork County, Gerard Patrick Murphy in the library on May 17<sup>th</sup>. Bantry native and conservation architect, Dermot Harrington, published Bantry Library: Bantry’s Brutalist Bibliotheque, an architectural archive celebrating the library’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

- LAMA Awards – Mallow Library's Repair Café was shortlisted in 2024.
- Cork County Library Staff representing our Service at the Áras an Uachtaráin for the Bloomsday Garden Party. President Higgins was celebrating the vital role of public libraries in Ireland.
- Kinsale Library won 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the RIAI people's choice award and 1<sup>st</sup> place in the reuse category.

## LIBRARY SERVICE PRIORITIES FOR 2025

- Launch the 'My Open Library' service in the new Macroom Library and conduct feasibility of 'My Open Library' roll out in other libraries.
- Progress the preservation and redevelopment of Middleton Library, subject to funding.
- Progress Youghal Library Project, subject to funding.
- Investigate funding opportunities to replace heating system and redesign the floorplan in Bantry Library
- Investigate options to develop a library in Carrigtwohill.
- Develop a plan to complete more energy saving works.
- Grow the stock collection to meet population growth, service development and expansion and new demands as they arise.
- Upgrade IT hardware and software for public and staff to ensure we meet the needs of the public both in the branches and when accessing services from home. Focus on broadband and printing solution.
- Focus on staff training and development due to high numbers of new and promoted staff.
- Develop a 'Climate Action Library and Arts Service Plan'
- Actively participate in the implementation of the National Public Library Strategy 2023- 2028
- Continue to promote and develop the Library Service and to increase usage of all services.
- Develop key partnerships to continue to deliver digital literacy supports to our communities

## Municipal Districts Operations and Rural Development

### COBH MD

#### General Municipal Allocation 2024 - €183,394

##### Allocated as follows:

- Amenity Grants: 71 applicants including 32 resident associations received funding.
- Capital Fund: 2 groups received funding.
- Community Contracts: 8 groups received funding.

#### Town Development Fund 2024 - €120,000

- St Patricks Day Parades – Cobh & Carrigtwohill
- Christmas Lights – Cobh & Carrigtwohill
- Cobh Carillon Committee
- See You in Cobh
- Polska/Eireann Festival Cobh
- Cobh Summer Swing Events
- Cobh Tourism Events
- Cobh Sailing Club
- Cobh & District Show Bird Show
- Carrigtwohill Business Association
- Cobh & Harbour Chamber - Tourist Office
- Cobh Museum
- Cobh Molgoggers
- Cobh Peoples Regatta
- Cobh Animation Team
- Cobh American Pier Association
- Cobh Tourism Contribution
- Cobh Ramblers Football Club
- Carrigtwohill Community Council

## 2024 Projects Completed

### Walkway & Playground at Carrigrenan, Little Island:

Funding was received in 2021 under Measure 2 of the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme for an upgrade to the existing walkway at Carrigrenan, Little Island. Funding was also allocated by the members of the Municipal District through the Village Enhancement Scheme (2022) with additional funds coming from Council’s own resources and contributions from local businesses in Little Island. The additional funding provided facilitated the substantial upgrade to the existing playground at Carrigrenan as well as an increase in the carparking and bicycle parking facilities at the amenity. The playground was officially opened in May by the County Mayor.



**Village Enhancement Fund 2024:** It was decided by the Members of the Cobh Municipal District to allocate this year’s Village Enhancement Scheme to Knockraha. The proposals received included additional planting, upgrades of village signage, maintenance of public spaces, and purchase of equipment. Funding has also been allocated to upgrades of the community centre in the village.

**Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) 2022 – Slatty Pond Enhancement (Measure 1):** Under the 2022 ORIS scheme funding of €30,000 was awarded to facilitate the upgrade of the existing amenity at Slatty Pond in Carrigtwohill. Under the scheme, a new bird hide was constructed and installed, with upgrades to the carparking facilities and the installation of benches. The work, which was completed in Q2 in 2024, was carried out with the support of Merck Group, Siemens Energy, BCE Consulting Engineers and Carrigtwohill Community Council

### Launch of Harpers Island Wetlands School Workbooks

Harpers Island Wetlands is a Council owned site in Glounthaune which is one of the most important areas of Cork Harbour for wetland birds, supporting internationally important numbers of some species that use wetland habitat on and surrounding the island. The site is managed by a Steering Group made up of representatives from Cork County Council, Birdwatch Ireland, Glounthaune Community Association, Glounthaune Tidy Towns and Glounthaune Men’s Shed. During 2024, the County Mayor officially launched the Harper’s Island Workbook, a special publication written and designed by a group led by renowned local author and educator Jim Wilson encouraging the interest of young children in the beauty of nature and wildlife. Copies of the Workbook, which is available in both Irish and English, were

presented to local schools, while the Workbook is also available on the Harpers Island website for download.



### **Introduction of Pay Parking App**

In 2022, the elected members of Cork County Council agreed to look at introducing a cashless pay parking option for the 7 towns in the County – Cobh, Youghal, Mallow, Fermoy, Macroom, Bandon and Kinsale – which currently have pay parking. Following a tender process, a company, Park Magic, was appointed by the Council to develop and roll out a pay parking app. The system was initially introduced in Cobh and is currently being rolled out across the other 6 towns in the County. The new app provides an additional method of payment for people parking in pay parking areas of the County.

## **CARRIGALINE MD**

### **General Municipal Allocation 2024 - €188,598**

#### **Allocated as follows:**

- Amenity Grants: €63,000 - 22 applicants received funding.
- Capital Fund: €80,000 - 8 groups received funding.
- Community Contract: €41,997 - 10 groups received funding.

### **Town Development Fund 2024 - €120,000**

- Christmas Festival Provision (Festival Lights Carrigaline, Passage West, Crosshaven)
- St. Patricks Day Festival Carrigaline
- Streetscape Paint Scheme
- Floral Displays Passage West
- General Festival Provision Passage West
- General Festival Provision Crosshaven
- Power washing Carrigaline, Crosshaven, Passage West, Ringaskiddy
- Urban Forestry
- Playground Equipment Carrigaline
- Fountainstown Lights (Christmas)
- Carrigaline Twinning

## **2024 Projects Completed**

**Carrigaline Public Realm:** A transformative public realm scheme has been designed for the centre of Carrigaline (Owenabue Car Park). The Public Realm proposal is for the construction of a new public open space including a plaza, pavilions, biodiversity/pollinator planting, open green spaces, and seating area. The initial phase focused on detailed design of the new public realm, this was funded from the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF). The detailed design was completed in 2024 and the Part VIII was approved by elected members. Further progression of the scheme is subject to funding from the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund.

**Village Enhancement Fund 2024:** It was decided by the Members of the Carrigaline Municipal District to allocate this year’s Village Enhancement Scheme between 13 Tidy Towns groups operating within the Carrigaline Municipal District. Groups were contacted with details of how to submit project proposals. The proposals received included additional planting, equipment purchase, improved village signage, clearance cost and maintenance of popular areas.

**Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) - Fountainstown Measure 2:** Under the 2022 ORIS scheme phase 2 Fountainstown was awarded funding of €200,000 to see the addition of



information boards on biodiversity, provisions of pathway/looped walk, seating on the beach wall and landscaping. This was completed in Q2 in 2024.



Before (Cliff Walk)



After (Cliff Walk)

**Historic Towns Initiative (HTI)** - Our Architects Department was successful in securing funding of €50,000 from the Heritage Council to produce a heritage led regeneration plan for Passage West. The plan will help identify opportunities to improve the appearance of Passage West & bring derelict buildings back into use. The plan will identify opportunities to enhance and nurture the town’s attractive waterfront setting and its rich architecture, with an emphasis on regenerating its historic town centre which will increase the attractiveness of the town resulting in an increase in vibrancy & a sense of pride for the community. The plan will be completed in 2024.

**Carrigaline Playground:** The playground in Carrigaline Community Park has been in existence over 20 years. In 2023 the Carrigaline Elected Members made the provision to allocate €25,600 from the 2023 Town Development Fund and a further €25,600 from the 2024 Town Development Fund. This funding would be used to upgrade the equipment in the Carrigaline playground. Three Carrigaline elected members are part of a new community group named the ‘Carrigaline Playground Committee’ and their main goal is to raise €200k towards upgrading the playground equipment.



**Owenabue Car Park:** Owenabue Car Park is the main car park in Carrigaline town where the car park surface was in a poor condition. The elected members used funds from the Town Development Fund to pay for the resurfacing of Owenabue Car Park.



**Camden Fort Meagher:** In 2023 works began on the comprehensive revitalisation and enhancement programme of Camden Fort Meagher. Renovations include the excavation of over seven feet of fill material from the earthen roof of the casemate block, fixing the roof drainage system and repairing stone to ensure the structure's waterproof integrity. The fort opened to the public in April 2024 and will remain open until October 2024.



## **EAST CORK MD**

### **General Municipal Allocation 2024 - €241,218**

#### **Allocated as follows:**

- Amenity Grants €149,380 - 64 organisations/groups received funding.
- Capital Grants €39,000 - 2 organisations/groups received funding.
- Community Contracts €22,500 - 8 organisations/groups received funding.

### **Town Development Fund 2024: €120,000**

The Town Development Fund for 2024 is €120,000. The distribution of the Town Development Fund for 2024 will allocate 50% to Youghal and 50% to Midleton.

#### **Midleton**

- St. Patricks Day Parade
- Painting Scheme – Midleton
- Midleton Chamber
- Gooses Acre - provision for seating.
- Bridge at The Lodge Park - for railings on either side of the bridge.
- FEAST - formerly Midleton Food and Drinks Festival.
- Midleton Lodge Park – hazel tree copses and willow trees

#### **Youghal**

- St. Patricks Day Parade
- Painting Scheme – Youghal
- Festivals – Youghal4All – 3 Festivals
- Christmas Festival - Youghal Chamber
- Clock Gate – Marketing & Promotion
- Events @Living Youghal – Marketing and Promotion
- Digital Marketing and promotion for living Youghal
- Youghal Chamber of Tourism and Development
- Possible alternatives to Ironman or other.

### Civic/Capital Projects

Location	Project Type	Stage 2024
Regeneration of Youghal Town Centre	RRDF Category 2	Part 8 Planning
Youghal Lighthouse	Town & Village Renewal Scheme	Detail design complete & procurement for a contractor has commenced

Examples of some of the projects & visitor attractions that are grant aided in various locations in the East Cork Municipal District:

#### Youghal Medieval Festival

The award-winning Festival took place on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2024. The one-day event is worth in the region of at least €750,000 to the local economy.

#### fEast Cork, Food & Drink Festival

Celebrating East Cork, held 8<sup>th</sup> September 2024, with many events taking place in Midleton for the weekend.

#### Recently opened Phase 1 of MY Greenway

Stretches 8km from Midleton Train Station to Mogeely, this transformative project promises enhanced connectivity and recreational opportunities for residents and visitors alike. The construction of the Greenway has been supported by TII (Transport Infrastructure Ireland)





Youghal Clock Gate Tower is an iconic building and popular attraction on Ireland’s Ancient East.



St Mary’s Collegiate Church is a unique tourist attraction sitting within the historic walls in the Raleigh Quarter of Youghal.

## **KANTURK & MALLOW MD**

General Municipal Allocation 2024 - €284,914

Allocated as follows:

- Amenity Grants: 51 organisations/groups received funding.
- Capital Grants: 21 organisations/groups received funding.
- Community Contract Grants: 64 organisations/groups received funding.

Town Development Fund 2024: €139,000

- Painting Scheme for Mallow, Charleville, Kanturk, Newmarket and Buttevant
- Christmas Lights for Mallow, Charleville, Buttevant and Newmarket
- Financial support for Community Centre in Kanturk
- Buttevant Irish Walled Town Subscription
- Financial support for events.

### **Projects Completed in 2024:**

#### **Mallow Castle – Main House**

Following the preparation of tender documents and the undertaking of a tender process, Cumnor Construction were appointed as the contractor for these works.

Cumnor Construction were also appointed for the re-pointing of the Castle House and the cleaning of the façade. These works are being carried out at present.



#### **Mallow Castle – Granary Yard**

##### **Heritage Funding**

In 2023 Cork County Council was successful in getting a heritage grant for the Granary at Mallow Castle. The grant is for €80,000 for 2023 and €80,000 for 2024 with equal match funding from Cork County Council. The total grant is €320,000.

### Urban Regeneration Development Funding (URDF)

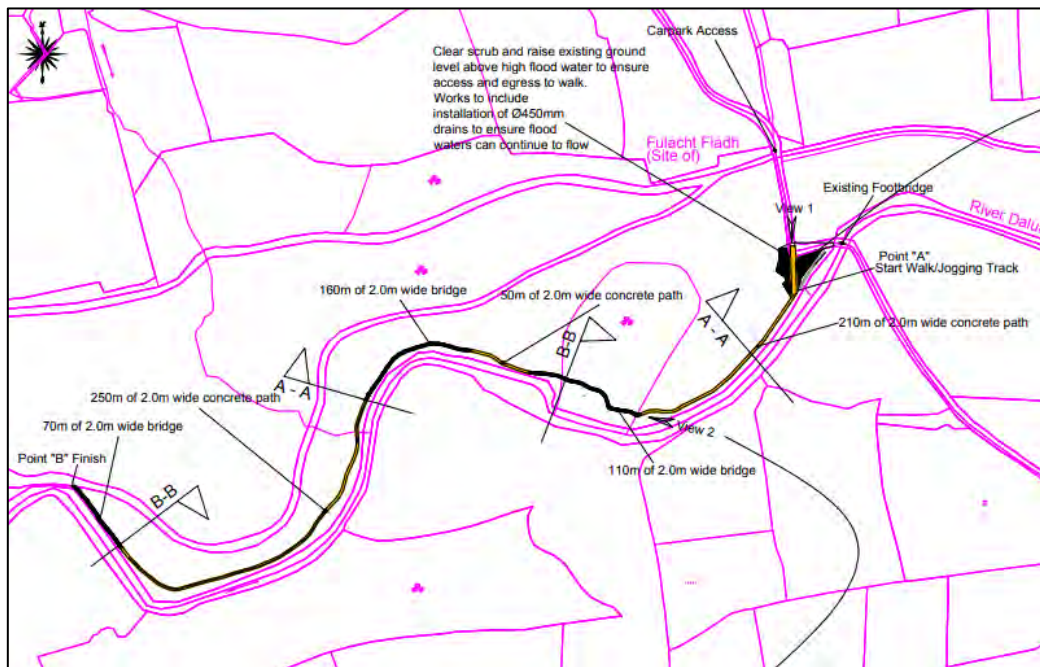
In May 2024, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage agreed and approved to the undertaking of further conservation and restoration works to buildings in the Granary Yard. The allocated funding was €490,000 which includes 25% match funding provided by Cork County Council.



### Island Wood – Newmarket

In May 2024, Cork County Council was granted M1 ORIS funding of €30,000 to install a section of new footpath at the outset of the River Walk. These works form part of an overall plan spearheaded by Newmarket Sports & Leisure (NSL) to upgrade the entirety of this walk (850m).

Works are due to be completed in 2024.



**Ballydesmond Rural Regeneration Development Fund (RRDF).**

The artist’s sculpture outside the pocket park was installed in mid-February. All works regarding Ballydesmond RRDF are now complete.



**CIVIC/CAPITAL PROJECTS**

Location	Project Type	Stage 2023	Stage 2024
Rockchapel	extension to burial ground	Planning granted – currently with law for acquisition of land	Land purchase complete. Progress subject to funding.
Extension to Dromina	extension to burial ground	Planning granted – currently with law for acquisition of land	Land purchase complete. Progress subject to funding.
Mallow Pool Building Upgrade	Pool Upgrade	Consultant appointed to undertake detailed design & prepare tender documents	Tender Stage completed. Progress subject to approval and funding
Mallow Running Track	Running Track	Detailed Design Stage	Funding applied for through LSSIF
Mallow Public Realm	Consultant fees & Construction works	Awaiting Department approval to proceed to the next stage	Awaiting Department approval to proceed to the next stage
Charleville Plaza	Consultant fees for detail design	RRDF funding granted but on hold awaiting department letter of offer	Increased funding approved by Department. Project progressing to implementation on phased basis
Town Hall Theatre, Mallow	Development of Theatre	Thrive Funding awarded	



## **BANDON KINSALE MD**

### **General Municipal Allocation 2024 – €208,100**

#### **Allocated as follows:**

- Amenity Grants: €41,700 - 14 organisations/groups received funding.
- Capital Grants: €53,300 - 4 organisations/groups received funding.
- Community Contract Grants: €45,000 - 14 organisations/groups received funding.
- Local Sports Equipment Grant €20,000 - 25 organisations/groups received funding.

### **Town Development Fund 2024: €115,000**

- Painting Scheme for Bandon and Kinsale Towns
- Contribution towards festival/Christmas lights in Bandon & Kinsale
- Replace picnic benches at different locations in the MD.
- Bandon Walled Town Registration
- Funding for Music events throughout the year
- Ringfenced €50,000 for a future playground in Kinsale
- Ringfenced €50,000 for the future development of public toilets in Kinsale
- Money ringfenced for village designs
- Undertook the re-painting of the Anne Boney Mural at the Stoney Steps, Kinsale

### **Village Enhancement: Scheme**

- €68,750 ringfenced for roads works in Newcestown

**The Municipal District also has responsibility for the co-ordination of funding applications and subsequent delivery of projects under the following national funding schemes.**

- Clár
- Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure
- Town and Village Renewal
- Rural Regeneration & Development
- Urban Regeneration & Development

The following schemes were progressed or completed in 2024.

- Under the CLAR Scheme €45,000 funding was provided to Timoleague playground for the purchase of new equipment. Between CLAR funding and council reserves a total of €80,000 will be invested in the playground.

- Community Recognition Fund. In 2024 Bandon Kinsale MD with the support of the Department of Community and Rural Development was successful in supporting 2 applications within the Municipal District to the value of €152,000. Projects will be commenced in late 2024 and 2025. 6 projects totalling €82,000 were progressed from the 2023 scheme.
- ORIS 2023; Funding was approved for 3 projects in Bandon Kinsale MD
  - Installation of fencing along Bandon Walkway to the Civic Amenity site totalling €30,000 (under Measure 1) which we hope to progress towards the end of 2024 or early 2025.
  - Resurfacing of a 2.1 km section of a walkway in Ballymartle Woods (under Measure1)
  - Beach Disability Access – Garrylucas, Garretstown, Owenahincha & Inchydoney - €200,000
- June 2024 saw another big step in the enhancement of public realm in Bandon. The upgrade works will include the introduction of cycle lanes, upgraded footpaths, universally accessible bus stops, carriageway resurfacing, landscaping and more, all aimed at transforming the town centre into a vibrant and pedestrian-friendly space.
- Improvement works in Innishannon which are funded by the Council's Village Enhancement Scheme were completed.
- In 2024 Bandon Kinsale Municipal District again ran the Streetscape Paint Scheme, a very successful and popular grant where the public can claim a grant to paint their property in town centre locations. The scheme has helped fight dereliction in both towns in the MD. In 2024 the Municipal District Members allocated €10,000 towards the scheme.
- A public concession scheme continued in 2024 to facilitate trading in designated areas within the Bandon Kinsale Municipal District
- Dereliction- 10 properties been progressed within the MD under the Derelict Sites Act. Engagements have undertaken with property owners to return the buildings to an acceptable standard. This work will continue into 2025.
- Plans have been finalised for a new burial ground in Templemartin. The plan which will be brought to full council in Sept 2024 proposes to build a new cemetery with 319 burial plots and 33 car spaces
- Kinsale Library was shortlisted for the RIAI awards and the Public Choice Awards. Cork County Council are thrilled to announce that the building came 3<sup>rd</sup> place from 42 projects nominated which is a testament to the vision and hard work of the architect's team and the contractors.
- The Bandon Kinsale MD members finalised a twinning arrangement with representatives of Bandon Oregon, USA. The arrangement gives an opportunity to share problems and solutions, exchange opinions, learn from each other and create friendships through common interests and issues.
- Connecting for Life – As part of the Connecting for Life strategy, the HSE worked with stakeholders including Cork County Council on a number of agreed actions and goals. One of the national and

local goals set out in Connecting for Life Cork is to reduce and restrict access to means of suicidal behaviour and this can include erecting signage, increasing lighting, installing barriers and lifebuoys. The above-mentioned deterrents were installed in numerous areas around Kinsale.

### **Cruises - Seabourne Venture**

We were delighted and proud to welcome the first cruise liner of 2024 to Kinsale in May where passengers from the Seabourne Venture, welcomed by musicians from Ballinspittle Comhaltas, explored the many attractions Kinsale has to offer. Deputy Chair of Bandon-Kinsale Municipal District, Cllr. Kevin Murphy presented a gift to the captain who then graciously offered a tour of the magnificent ship. This visit highlights the strong and enduring relationship Cork County Council maintains with cruise operators and is a testament to the dedication of all involved in making it a resounding success.



### **Beach Management**

Cork County has been awarded 11 Blue Flags for beaches, 2 Blue Flags for Marinas & 14 Green Coast Awards. Garrylucas and Garretstown successful retained their flags for 2024.

## MACROOM MD

General Municipal Allocation 2024 – Macroom MD €197,254

Allocated as follows:

Amenity Grants €84,253	-	55 organisations / groups received funding.
Capital Grants €84,000	-	09 organisations / groups received funding.
Community Contracts €29,000	-	07 organisations / groups received funding.

**Town Development Fund 2024: €98,000**

- Festival Lights (Christmas) for Macroom & Millstreet
- St Patrick’s Day Provision for Macroom
- General Festival Provision for Macroom
- Macroom Music Festival
- Floral Displays for Macroom
- Macroom Castle Demesne Project
- Macroom Town Park Project
- Tourism Promotion of Macroom
- Millstreet New Pavement Project from Drishane to Coole Cross

## **Macroom Library & Briery Gap Project**

- Works commenced in January 2022 on the Macroom Library & Briery Gap Project. The project involved the entire demolition & rebuilding of a new state of the art library & theatre with the most modern of equipment to enable the hosting of many & varied performances and events.
- The construction element of the project was completed and keys to the building handed back to Cork County Council in May 2024.





*The Mayor of the County of Cork, Cllr Joe Carroll together with Minister of State, Colm Burke TD and Chief Executive of Cork County Council, Moira Murrell cut the ribbon for the official opening of The Briery Gap Theatre and Library on Saturday the 21st of September 2024.*

<b>Total Village Enhancement Allocation for 2024:</b>	<b><u>€68,750</u></b>
➤ Installation of Speed Safety Measures -	€18,000
➤ Village Enhancements to <b>Ballinora</b> Village -	€25,375
➤ Village Enhancements to <b>Cill na Martra</b> Village -	€25,375

### 2024 Community Recognition Fund

Under Window 1 recently announced by the Department, 2 successful projects within Macroom Municipal District have been granted funding as follows:

No	Area / Group	Project	Amount Awarded
1	Macroom Tidy Towns Group with Cork County Council	Refurbishment of Coolcower Picnic Area + Footpath Extension to Coolcower House	€100,000
2	Millstreet Community School	Upgrade and Refurbishment of Changing Rooms	€72,000

### **Eurovision Street Party**

To celebrate the great achievement of Bambi Thug reaching the Eurovision Final, a large screen was erected in Macroom Square to host the event live with families invited to this free street party event. The town was decorated for this event with shops being encouraged to decorate their shopfronts for the event & families asked to wear green to support Bambi on the night.

### **Rylane Community Playground Project**

Rylane Community Park Association, assisted by Cork County Council has achieved their goal of adding a playground to their village.

### **Refurbishment of Old Fire Station Millstreet Project for Millstreet Mens Shed Meetings**

This project by Millstreet Mens Shed, co-funded by Cork County Council completed essential renovations to Millstreet old fire station to facilitate weekly group meetings & workshops. The total cost of this project was €46,014 and Clár provided funding of €38,700.

### **Outdoor Recreation & Infrastructure Scheme (ORI)**

The Macroom River Sullane Crossing Project has been granted €50,000 under ORI Project Development Measure to develop this project. The proposal is to design a pedestrian bridge to link the north of River Sullane section of Town Park to the south section of the park.

### **Macroom MD Civic Reception**

Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lucey hosted a Civic Reception to honour the awards won by various winning teams & individuals at underage: ages 12 – 18 throughout Macroom Municipal District on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April at The Castle Hotel Macroom. At this reception, Cllr Lucey presented Certificates to representatives of winning teams & individuals with over 750 certificates given out over the 2 nights.

### **Lights at Carnegie Hall Millstreet**

The flood lights onto Carnegie Hall have been replaced & upgraded with energy efficient lighting, which can be programmed & colour changed accordingly. This project was funded from Millstreet's Town Development Fund.

### **Town Centres First: Town Team Support Fund**

Macroom was one of 3 towns in Cork County to benefit from €10,000 each for Town Team Support Fund. The other two towns are Mitchelstown and Bantry. This funding will go toward establishing a Town Team which will be formed over the coming months.

## **Decarbonisation Zone**

Macroom is Cork County’s first Decarbonized Zone and all future projects will be required to include measures in line with the Climate Action Plan around this.

## **Macroom Development Project, Public Realm & Church of Ireland Refurbishment**

Under RRDF Category 1 4<sup>th</sup> call, the Department of Community & Rural Development had granted this project funding of €7,212,103 in November 2022 as a Phase 2 project. As part of the verification process in relation to progressing this project, an increase in this funding to €8,479,673 for the increased inflationary uplift with the project was approved.

This project will be transformative for the town of Macroom and will see St. Colman’s Church, currently unoccupied, developed into a focal & significant destination for the people of Macroom town. This project relates to a number of interventions in the town centre of Macroom, developed through Category 2 funding.

**Fermoy MD**

**General Municipal Allocation 2024 - €198,250**

**Allocated as follows:**

- Amenity Grants €67,150 -41 organisations/groups received funding
- Capital Grants €100,000 -10 organisations/groups received funding
- Community Contracts €31,100 -25 organisations/groups received funding

**Town Development Fund 2024: €110,000**

- Mitchelstown St Patrick's Day Parade
- Fermoy St Patrick's Day Parade
- Seasonal Planting in Fermoy & Mitchelstown
- Financial support towards Fermoy & Mitchelstown Christmas Lights
- Halloween Event
- Relining roads- Fermoy & Mitchelstown
- Fermoy Town Park Installation of additional car parking spaces
- Streetscape Scheme 2024- Fermoy, Mitchelstown, Glanworth, Doneraile, Conna & Castletownroche.

**Village Enhancement Scheme 2024 €68,750**

- Glanworth €22,916
- Glenville €22,916
- Killavullen €22,916

**Civic/Capital Projects**

Location	Project Type	Stage 2024
Georgian Cultural/Heritage Quarter for Mitchelstown extending from St George's Church to Kingston Square, and including New Square and King Street	RRDF Category 2	Part 8 Planning and Statutory approval. Project scope under review for future Cat 1 Application.



Repurposing of a prominent vacant town centre building, in Fermoy, as well as key public realm and amenity enhancements.	RRDF Category 2	Building at detail design stage. Public realm at early concept design stage
--	-----------------	---

Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS)

**Resurfacing Knockananig Reservoir Car Park**

Cork County Council has recently completed resurfacing works to the car park at Knochananig Reservoir, which was funded by the Department of Rural & Community Development via the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme. The grant awarded was €30,000 to this project.

**Fermoy Swimming Pool Refurbishment**

Fermoy Swimming Pool refurbishment works to a value of €1.2 million were completed during 2024. The upgrade project was launched to improve the energy performance of the facility. Works included the installation of 170 new solar PV panels, an upgraded heating system, new air handling units, replacement of gas boilers and external painting works.



### **Church Hill Playground Mitchelstown**

Refurbishment and Installation of new zip line and junior play equipment at Church Hill Playground.

### **Community Monument Fund 2024**

Conservation works were undertaken to the medieval rural parish church with rare features including drip stones and parapet located at Kilgullane Mitchelstown Co. Cork. This cemetery is frequently visited by members of the public and the works were funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage to a value of €82,396.

## **West Cork Municipal District**

### **General Municipal Allocation 2024 - €314,000**

- Capital Scheme €60,000
- Community Contract Scheme €100,000
- Amenity Scheme €50,000
- Hedge Cutting Scheme €20,000
- Leap Playground Refurbishment €15,000
- Ballineen Toilets €30,000
- Beach Access Works €37,500
- Gallanes Amenity Signage €1,500

### **Town Development Fund 2024 – €130,000**

- Gazebo
- Music Scheme
- Hire of Stage / Equipment
- CCTV running costs
- Bantry Peace Park
- Ballydehob MUGA
- Michael Collins House Welfare Facilities
- Gallanes Phase 3
- Twinning

### **Village Enhancement Scheme 2024 - €68,750**

- Eyeries €34,375
- Shannonvale €34,375

### **West Cork Islands Community Fund Scheme 2024**

This scheme funds island community development with small scale capital and amenity projects with a minimum of €1,000 and a maximum of €25,000 per project to improve the range and/or quality of community-based facilities on the following Islands – Bere Is, Heir Is, Dursey Is, Sherkin Is and Whiddy.

### **ORIS SCHEMES ongoing: -**

CCC / Schull Tidy Towns / Walking Club / Running Club – Walkway and Park fencing - €30,000.

CCC – Beach Disability Access – Garrylucas, Garretstown, Owenahincha & Inchydoney - €200,000

Durrus & District Comm Council / Sheepshead Walkway / Durrus Project Group – Footpath near foreshore at Durrus - €200,000

### **Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF)**

Cork County Council secured €1,855,945 for Skibbereen Public Realm Enhancement. The investment is being provided under the RRDF, which is specifically aimed at revitalising rural towns and villages through planned and sustainable regeneration in line with the Town Centre First Policy, that will drive greater economic activity and footfall, address vacancy and dereliction and ensure the re-use of heritage and other existing buildings. Match funding of €463,986 to be provided by Cork Co. Council.

### **COMMUNITY RECOGNITION FUND 2024:**

Skibbereen Public Toilets Refurbishment - €80,000 – Window 1 DRCD Project Approval received in August 2024

### **Community Monuments Fund 2024**

The Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage has approved a number of important archaeological heritage projects in Cork County to the tune of €420,000. Rathbarry Church is allocated a grant amount of €30,000 under Stream 3 of this scheme towards an ecological assessment, conservation reports and address the most critical conservation works.

### **Skibbereen Heritage Centre: -**

A new resource for those researching their Cork ancestry is now available online free of charge courtesy of the team at Skibbereen Heritage Centre. The ‘West Cork Genealogy’ podcast features local genealogist Margaret Murphy sharing her extensive knowledge on how to carry out research with local historian Terri Kearney over five short episodes. All five episodes are available on [www.skibbheritage.com](http://www.skibbheritage.com), or search for ‘West Cork Genealogy’ on Apple, Spotify and other hosting platforms. The Heritage Centre has successfully uploaded a further c.23,000 previously unavailable Cork County Council burial register records to its online database from 18 graveyards throughout the county. This brings the total number of burial records now available on this site to over 82,700, all of which are available to access free of charge from anywhere in the world.

### **Skibbereen Town Hall Theatre**

The Skibbereen Town Hall Theatre hosted a number of plays and events throughout 2024. The Town Hall can now host multimedia events after the building was upgraded to a full fibre broadband service

following co-operation between the team at Ludgate Hub, fibre broadband operator Siro, and Cork Co. Council, such as the recent streaming of the Olympic rowing events during the Skibbereen Arts Festival.

### **Town Centre First Heritage Revival Scheme (THRIVE)**

Cork County Council successfully applied for and was granted €200,000 THRIVE (ERDF) Strand 1 funding for Clonakilty to develop an integrated urban strategy for all of the council owned buildings/lands on this street. It is envisaged that this strategy will facilitate the renovation and reuse of pre-identified publicly owned vacant or derelict heritage buildings on Kent St., Clonakilty.

### **Town Centre First Team Support Fund**

Three County Cork towns - Bantry, Macroom and Mitchelstown will each benefit from €10,000 in funding from the Department of Rural and Community Development under the Town Centre First Town Team Support Fund to help address challenges such as vacancy and dereliction.

### **Air India Memorial**

The 39<sup>th</sup> Air India Memorial was attended in large numbers on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June at the memorial garden in Ahakista to commemorate the tragedy that befell the Air India Flight from Canada to India, killing all 329 passengers and crew on board. Deputy Mayor of the County of Cork Cllr. John Healy also welcomed members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to Cork County Hall recently, in preparation for next year's 40th anniversary commemoration of the 1985 Air India crash.

### **Dursey Cable Car**

Free travel is currently granted to full-time residents and Island farmers. This scheme has recently been reviewed and now allows the option to purchase an annual or half yearly pass to those who own a second/holiday home on the island. A new special category has also been introduced for Senior Citizens (65+) and Students (16+). These fares will be available on production of valid identification. A card payment machine was also recently installed at the Dursey Cable Car Station.

### **Pride of Place**

Durrus Community Council, West Cork is one of five community groups which will represent County Cork at the 2024 IPB Pride of Place Awards, in association with Co-operation Ireland. This competition acknowledges the work undertaken every day by communities all over the island of Ireland.

### Glengarriff Blue Pool Trails

The Blue Pool Trails was completed as an Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) project, funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development, with matching funding from Cork County Council. In total, €595,940 was invested in newly refurbished Blue Pool Trails, with funding coming from the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme. It involved the upgrading of approximately 1600m of existing tracks within the incredibly scenic Blue Pool area. The Official Opening took place in May 2024. Blue Pool Glengarriff Trails project was a recipient of a national award from LAMA in 2024.



### Bantry Peace Park Playground

This project involved the installation of a playground in the Peace Park, Bantry, funded through the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD), with matching funding from Cork County Council. €366,000 was invested in the Peace Park which included funding received from the DRCD through both the Town and Village Renewal Scheme (TVRS) for the installation of a new playground, and the Community Recognition Fund Scheme for the provision of wheelchair accessible equipment and carpark works. The Official Opening of this Park took place in May 2024.

### Community Integration

The Community Integration Section is responsible for leading a multi-agency approach to the integration of new arrivals, both International Protection and Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection (BOTPs), in particular through the Community Integration Forum, Cork County Council's Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT), Community Integration Unit and Support Hubs and the progression of National and local interventions.

The Section works within the remit of the Municipal Districts Directorate with direction from the LGMA, Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) and DHLGH.

**COUNTY ARCHITECT’S DEPARTMENT**

The County Architect’s Department provides a full Architectural Service to the organisation, through the design, construction and conservation of significant Capital Projects as listed below and in the provision of professional reports, planning advice and consultations, as required: -

- Fire Stations – Starts, completion and refurbishment.
- Libraries – Starts, completion and refurbishment.
- Theatre Projects – Starts, completion and refurbishment.
- Civic Buildings – Starts, completion and refurbishment.
- Art, Community, Tourist & Heritage Centres – Starts, completion and refurbishment.
- Procurement of Consultants for delivery of Capital Projects
- Urban public realm streetscape design
- Planning advice and consultations
- Forward Planning
- Graphic design services to all Directorates
- Coordination and management of National Monuments Team



Kinsale Library



Water Sports Activity Centre, Youghal.



Church of Ireland, Macroom.



Church of Ireland (Interior)





## Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare

### Division G

#### VETERINARY AND FOOD SAFETY

##### Food Safety Services

In 2025 the Veterinary Food Safety Team will continue to deliver a range of specialised food safety services to a range of external bodies including our principal customer, the Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI). 59 local food businesses are subject to official control inspections under food safety and animal welfare legislation.

Discussions on the transfer of local authority veterinary functions to the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine (DAFM) are continuing at national level following a recent government decision to proceed with the amalgamation of state veterinary services. It is currently the objective of all stakeholders that implementation of this process will be completed by the end of 2024 or early 2025 at the latest. Costs for this service have been recouped from DAFM, so the change will largely be neutral in budgetary terms. However, for Cork County Council these changes will nevertheless be significant, not least for the veterinary inspection staff involved. It will bring to a close a chapter, which began in the mid-1960s, of having an in-house veterinary public health inspectorate within the council.

The Veterinary Food Safety Laboratory as a National Designated, INAB Accredited, Official Control Laboratory, located at Inniscarra Campus, will continue to provide a range of microbiological services to all Local Authorities, other agencies, and the private sector on a commercial basis, currently funded through an FSAI contract. Discussions on retaining this laboratory within Cork County Council and operating under a future service level agreement with DAFM/FSAI are ongoing.

##### Community Services

Community services in relation to Control of Dogs and Horses Acts funded by income generated from dog licence fees and exchequer recoupments will continue for 2025.

#### COASTAL & FLOOD PROJECTS (CFP)

##### Flood Relief Projects

Cork County Council’s Coastal & Flood Projects Section continued their ongoing work in conjunction with the Office of Public Works (OPW), on a number of major flood relief schemes (FRS) within the County to mitigate flood risk to those communities affected.

##### CCC led schemes acting as Agent of the OPW:

- Midleton FRS (c.€50m) \* - Planning documentation to be completed and submitted to prescribed body in 2025.
- Skibbereen FRS (€24.7m Main Works contract) – Main Contract Works completed and follow on contracts progressing (estimated total cost of additional works €2.75m\*). Tenders for construction works of value c. €2m advertised in 2024 and commenced on site. These will be completed in 2025.

- Bantry FRS (c.€8m) \* – Stage 1: Scheme Development and Design will be completed in 2025, and the Stage 2 (Planning) will commence.
- Crookstown FRS (c.€1.6m) \* – This scheme will be progressed in 2025, using a combination of OPW and Council own resources funding.
- Ballymakeera Flood Relief Scheme (€5.5m) \* - Consultant to be appointed and Stage 1 Scheme Development and Design to progress in 2025.
- Ballinhassig (c.€1.4m) \* - . Planning Process to be completed in 2025, and detailed design to commence.
- Glashaboy FRS (€21m) - Works Contract ongoing in 2025. Client role transferred to Cork City Council with Cork County Council acting as Project Co-ordinator.

Note: \* Works Estimate

#### **OPW led Schemes with CCC in Liaison role.**

- Bandon Flood Relief Scheme (€22.9m Works contract) – Contract Works complete.
- Clonakilty Flood Relief Scheme (€21m Works contract) - Contract Works complete except for completion of Ring Road remedial works – to be undertaken in 2024/2025.
- Lower Lee Flood Scheme (OPW, with Cork City Council & CCC in Liaison role).
- Mallow Flood Relief Scheme and Fermoy Flood Relief Scheme – in operation and maintenance phase.

The operational and maintenance phase of the completed major flood relief schemes is being carried out by Cork County Council, acting agents for the OPW. There is an Operational Flood Schemes Manager in the Flood Projects Team, with an oversight role, in liaison with fellow Council colleagues and the OPW, to ensure effective ongoing management systems are in place.

Please note that a number of key roles in the Coastal & Flood Projects team, involved in the delivery of flood relief schemes are funded by the OPW.

Smaller flood relief schemes continue to be developed, under the OPW’s Minor Works Programme. Schemes approved by OPW, which are due to be carried out in 2024/2025 include Ballymakeera, (Interim Works) and Ballintubber.

The Coastal & Flood Projects Section is also managing delivery of the Fermoy Weir project. Part X Planning for Fermoy Weir Remediation and Fish Bypass Channel Project was received from ABP in 2024. Works on site is subject to confirmation of funding sources.

Slatty Pond Pumping Station maintenance is managed under the County Engineers Department, currently the M&E contract is managed by the Coastal & Flood Projects Section.

#### **Coastal Projects**

The Coastal & Flood Projects Section manages capital coastal infrastructure projects. The Council receives the bulk of its coastal infrastructure funding from Department of Agriculture, Food & Marine,

(DAFM), under the Fishery Harbour & Coastal Infrastructure Development Programme, which covers Harbour Development, Marine Leisure & Storm Damage.

Cork County Council estimates that an allocation of €600K may be approved for minor improvement projects associated with piers and harbours in 2025 based on historical DAFM grants. DAFM provide 75% funding for the construction element of the project and the local authority is required to provide 25% match funding. The design of these projects is managed by CFP. The progression of these projects is subject to provision of funding.

Assessments on sites for OPW Coastal Protection/Minor Works Scheme were progressed and 3 no. live locations were granted funding. Glandore works are currently at planning stage. Funding for coastal protection works associated with an access road in Finure has been approved by the OPW with design works and consents planned for 2025. A study is being completed on 9.5km of the Youghal coastline which is planned to be completed in 2025 that will make recommendations for improvements at vulnerable locations. Two other coastal erosion projects are also under consideration by the OPW and CCC. Ongoing assessment for further applications will continue in 2024/2025. The OPW fund 90% of the project costs and CCC have to match fund 10%, which is subject to available resources.

A Coastal Vulnerability Study is ongoing in partnership with UCC. This is a 3.5-year study, which commenced in October 2022 and will establish a vulnerability rating for the Cork Coastline and implement monitoring and modelling for a selected number of beaches.

Coastal & Flood Projects Section is responsible for the Council's Oil Spill Contingency Plan. The Council has a contract with a specialist contractor for oil spill response. Coastal & Flood Projects Section mobilise the oil spill team for oil spill incidents and also respond to incidents where there is a potential threat of an oil spill.

The Coastal & Flood Projects Section is also responsible for the technical maintenance and upkeep of Dursey Cable Car. In 2023 the Dursey Cable Car refurbishment works were completed in cooperation with the Commission for Railway Regulation (CRR) and reopened on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2023.



Division H

Mayor’s Office:

Mayor’s Community Awards 2024



**MAYOR’S COMMUNITY  
AWARDS  
CORK COUNTY**



The Mayor’s Community Awards are held annually to recognise the invaluable contributions made by individuals and community and voluntary groups within their communities. The Awards were held at a Gala event in County Hall on the evening of 20<sup>th</sup> February 2024. Eleven awards were given by the Mayor Cllr. Frank O’Flynn:

- 9 Divisional Awards – 3 for each of the three Divisions (North, South and West)
- 1 overall group award
- 1 overall individual award

## Mayor’s Charity Gala 2024

The Mayor’s Charity Dinner is held annually to recognise and support worthy causes in the County of Cork. This year the dinner was held on the evening of Friday April 19<sup>th</sup> at the Radisson Blu, Little Island. We were joined on the night by C103 broadcaster Patricia Messenger and celebrity comedian Bernard Casey. The dinner was attended by over 200 guests. The charities supported by the event were Blackwater Search and Recovery Unit and Cope Foundation’s locations in Fermoy and Mitchelstown.



## Corporate Support Services

The Corporate Support Services section provides administrative support to the Chief Executive’s Office and the Mayor’s Office. It provides support for our 55 Elected Members and co-ordinates the compilation of the Annual Service Delivery Plan, Corporate Plan, Annual Report and Performance Management and Development System (PMDS). The Reprographics Section provides in-house printing, copying and binding services for the organisation.

## Meetings Held in 2024

Title	No. of Members	No. of Meetings
Full Council	55 Elected Members	22
Development Committee	55 Elected Members	10
Corporate Policy Group	10 Elected Members	13
Joint Policing Committee	28 (15 Elected Members)	1
International & European Affairs	13 Elected Members	1
Commemorations Committee	11 Elected Members	4
Audit Committee	12 (3 Elected Members)	4

The Corporate Policy Group (CPG) provides a forum for detailed discussion of policy issues including the annual budget and submits detailed recommendations to Full Council for approval.



The Development Committee meets once a month except in August and other meetings may be arranged throughout the year as required. All 55 Members can attend the meetings that provide a forum for detailed briefings and discussions on matters impacting the Council. The meeting is chaired by the Mayor.

The Audit Committee is part of the governance framework, tasked with considering the organisation's internal control systems and procedures and providing assurance to the Council regarding the suitability of those systems. The Committee comprises of Elected Members, an external Chairperson as well as nominees who are appointed for a 5 year term.



The Joint Policing Committee works to develop greater consultation and co-operation on policing and crime issues between An Garda Síochána, Local Authorities and community and voluntary sectors. It oversees the implementation of the five-year Joint Policing Committee Strategy 2016 -2021.

The Commemorations Committee oversees the remembrance of the significant historical events that have occurred throughout Cork County and reviews proposals and funding for local commemorations projects and initiatives within the Decade of Centenaries programme.



The International and European Affairs Committee seeks to develop the international relationships that the Council has built up at a countywide and local level and reviews the impact of EU initiatives on the work of the Council.

## Full Council

Cork County Council holds two meetings per month on the second and fourth Monday of each month (excluding August) and one meeting in December. An Annual Meeting is held every June and a Budget meeting in November. Additional special meetings as requested for the business of the Council are held as required.

## Mobile Phones

The Mobile Phone team in Corporate Services are responsible for the management of mobile phones and data sims within the organisation.

## Register of Electors

The Franchise team in Corporate Services are responsible for the maintenance of the Register of Electors for the Cork County area.

- **Irish citizens can vote in every election and referendum**
- **British citizens can vote in Dáil and local elections**
- **EU citizens can vote in European and local elections**
- **Non-EU citizens can vote in local elections**



There were 285,008 voters on the 2024 Rolling Register of Electors on 1 August 2024. These electors are spread over 10 Local Electoral Areas and 5 Dáil Constituencies. There were 27,371 voters added to the 2024 Cork County Register of Electors.

Local Electoral Area	Electors
Bandon/Kinsale	31,071
Bantry - West Cork	21,551
Carrigaline	30,851
Cobh	28,682
Fermoy	31,716
Kanturk	21,494
Macroom	32,413
Mallow	23,651
Midleton	36,397
Skibbereen - West Cork	27,182

### Referendums and Local Election 2024

The Family Amendment and Care Amendment referendums were held on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March 2024. A total of 122 candidates contested the Local Election in Cork County on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2024 for the 55 seats. The European Elections was also held on this date. The Franchise Team was responsible for the provision of Polling Packs across the county. This included the Rolling Register of Electors and the Balancing Register. The Team liaised closely with the County Returning Officer and with the County Sheriff in facilitating the running of both events.

### Corporate Projects, Governance and Oifig na Gaeilge (Irish Office)

The Corporate Projects, Governance and Irish Office unit co-ordinates the Performance Indicators for the organisation for submission to the National Oversight and Audit Commission, responsibility for Ombudsman and Customer Complaints under the Customer Charter and oversees the management of Freedom of Information requests.

### Activities:

- Projects
- Promote Irish Language
- Oversee PMDS compliance for the organisation.
- Coordinate and input ASDP objectives and review completion for the Directorate and organisation
- Coordinate Freedom of Information requests and Office of the Information Commissioner submissions and ensure compliance.
- Coordinate and oversee Ombudsman complaints and ensure compliance.
- Coordinate formal complaints under Customer Charter
- Administration of the Risk Oversight Committee meetings
- Administration of the Audit Committee meetings
- Organise training for the organisation on Freedom of Information and Risk Management
- Manage risk register and oversee compliance and training for the organisation.
- Coordination of National Oversight and Audit Commission KPI returns.



## Data Protection

The Data Protection Unit provides advice regarding the ongoing implementation of the General Data Protection Regulation and deals with queries from Elected Members, staff and the public. The Data Protection Officer (DPO) is the point of contact for all Data Protection Commission queries and deals with all breaches of personal data and Data Subject Access Requests.

The DPO advises staff on Data Protection Impact Assessments which are conducted to identify and mitigate against any data protection risks arising from a new system or project, which may affect Cork County Council or the individuals it engages with. As part of the implementation of GDPR the Data Protection Oversight Committee meet to ensure that Data Protection by design is embedded in the organisation.

## Oifig na Gaeilge (Irish Office)

Oifig na Gaeilge promotes the Irish language and ensures that Cork County Council is compliant with the Official Languages Act 2003 and the Official Languages (Amendment) Act 2021, while also identifying opportunities to increase the presence of the language among staff. Oifig na Gaeilge liaises regularly with Oifig an Choimisinéara Teanga, the Gaeltacht areas of Múscraí and Oileán Chléire, Comharchumainn, the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht together with a wide variety of local and national Irish Language Groups.

Oifig na Gaeilge and Cork County Council continue to implement the new legislative provisions and await the National Plan which was presented to the Minister in June. This Plan will inform our HR plans for implementing the provision which requires 20% of recruited staff must be proficient in Irish by the end of 2030.

Oifig na Gaeilge provided funding for various Irish language events online throughout Cork County during Seachtain na Gaeilge 2024, including a pilot STEAM schools project. It supported the Council’s Arts Office in its Irish Language based Arts Funding Scheme and will do so again in 2025. Funding was also provided for an extended run of a trilingual play for children, An Seandúine Óg, that was commissioned by Cork County Council, in association with Graffiti Theatre Company. The extended run took to play to the West Cork Islands to great success.

In 2024, funding through the Irish Office Grant Scheme, was awarded to 16 applications for Irish projects and events held across the County. This funding scheme will again be advertised in early 2025 and open to suitable applications.

## Oifig na Gaeilge

Cuireann Oifig na Gaeilge an Ghaeilge chun cinn agus cinntíonn sí go gcomhlíonann Comhairle Contae Chorcaí Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla 2003 agus Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla (Leasú) 2021, agus ag an am céanna sainaitheann deiseanna chun láithreach na teanga a mhéadú i measc na foirne. Bíonn Oifig na Gaeilge i dteagmháil go rialta le hOifig an Choimisinéara Teanga, ceantair Ghaeltachta Mhúscraí agus Cléire, na Comharchumainn, Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus na Meán, mar aon le raon leathan de Ghrúpaí Gaeilge áitiúla agus náisiúnta.

Leanann Oifig na Gaeilge agus Comhairle Contae Chorcaí ag cur na forálacha reachtaíochta nua i bhfeidhm agus táthar ag fanacht leis an bPlean Náisiúnta a cuireadh faoi bhráid an Aire i mí an Mheithimh. Beidh tionchar ag an bPlean seo ar ár bpleananna Acmhainní Daonna chun an fholáir, a éilíonn go gcaithfidh 20% den fhoireann earcaithe a bheith inniúil sa Ghaeilge faoi dheireadh 2030, a chur i bhfeidhm.

Chuir Oifig na Gaeilge maoiniú ar fáil d’imeachtaí Gaeilge éagsúla ar fud Chontae Chorcaí le linn Sheachtain na Gaeilge 2024, lena n-áirítear treoirthionscadal STEAM i scoileanna éagsúla. Thacaigh sí le hOifig Ealaíon na Comhairle ina Scéim Mhaoiniúcháin do na hEalaíona trí Ghaeilge agus déanfaidh sí amhlaidh arís in 2025. Cuireadh maoiniú ar fáil freisin do shraith leathnaithe de dhráma tritheangach do pháistí, An Seandúine Óg, a choimisiúnaigh Comhairle Contae Chorcaí, i gcomhar le Graffiti Theatre Company. D’éirigh go hiontach leis an tsraith leathnaithe go hOileáin Iarthar Chorcaí.

In 2024, bronnadh maoiniú trí Scéim Deontais Oifigí na Gaeilge ar 16 iarratas ar thionscadail agus imeachtaí Gaeilge a reáchtálfar ar fud an Chontae. Fógrófar an scéim maoinithe seo arís go luath in 2025 agus beidh sí oscailte d’iarratais oiriúnacha.


## Facilities and Porters

### Corporate Facilities

This department has responsibility for the buildings on campus, County Hall, County Library HQ, Business Growth Hub, Fire Control Building, multi-level car park and external areas.

There are 15,000 maintainable assets on site, maintenance includes:

- Statutory maintenance, fire detection, sprinkler, emergency lighting, gas installations, electrical testing, passenger lifts, water quality, fall arrest systems etc.
- Planned preventative maintenance of all systems, air conditioning, air handling, heating and distribution, lightning protection, CCTV, intruder alarms, access control, kitchen equipment, chiller units, building management system etc.
- Electrical failure back up and electrical network testing
- Uninterruptible Power Supply, Residual Current Devices, Thermal Imaging, Transformer, Switchgear, earth loop impedance testing
- Insurance/Irish Engineering Service inspections
- Passenger lifts, boilers, water tanks and water quality management, calorifiers, pressure vessels, kitchen extinguisher

	<p><b>THE FACILITIES SECTION CARRY OUT WORKS IN RELATION TO:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SAFETY ISO 45001</li><li>• ENERGY ISO 50001, EMAP (ENERGY MANAGEMENT ACTION PLAN), OPTIMAL ENERGY EFFICIENCIES FOR YEAR-ON-YEAR OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT</li><li>• NEEAP (NATIONAL EFFICIENCY ACTION PLAN)</li><li>• CLIMATE ACTION PLAN COMMITMENTS</li></ul>
---	---

- Extensive collaborative works involving the Facilities Department and the maintenance contractor have continued with regards to the management of water systems across the campus,

with particular attention to fluctuations in occupancy rates, to ensure that the healthy status of the systems remain intact and are suitably tested and certified accordingly.

- A collaborative approach between the Health and Safety department and the Facilities Department is underway in order to examine the different buildings with regards to new regulations governing indoor air quality. Areas of the building, such as meeting rooms and offices, have been risk assessed to determine safe occupancy rates, comfort and safety for the occupants and how the ventilation servicing these areas can be safely, effectively and efficiently managed to ensure compliance.

**Other initiatives ongoing/completed in 2024 include:**

- As part of the Climate Action works, we have continued the monitoring of the operational use of the utilities (electrical and gas) across the campus to maintain the building comfort and operation levels whilst maximising efficiencies. The ongoing monitoring and management of the utility consumption and constant review of operational strategies demonstrate an annual saving in consumption rates. As part of these works additional new metering and monitoring platform has been installed and commissioned.
- Revised Legionella Risk Assessment of the campus has been completed to reflect the ongoing management and the remedial works undertaken in relation to the last risk assessment, as well as to highlight any further remedial measures that are to be undertaken over the coming months and years.
- An update and refreshing of the east carpark and spine road markings to reflect alterations to layouts.
- Repairs and redecoration of the County Library exhibition room.
- The extension of the campus security contract for a further 12-month period.
- Upgrade project for the refurbishment of the ground floor public toilets in the County Hall building.
- Structural repairs to the Fire Building Control’s leaking roof and the associated redecoration of the affected offices, as well as leak repairs and associated redecoration works in the County Library building floor 6 and the meeting room on floor 6 of the County Hall building.
- Upgrade works carried out to the fire alarm/smoke evacuation system in the basement of the County Library building to upgrade the dormer doors to improve conformance with the fire regulations.
- Structural remedial works to repair the Multi-Story Carpark.
- Upgrade works to improve the redundancy of the IT Server rooms on floor 3 of the County Hall building and floor 3 of the County Library building completed.
- Upgrade of the catering facilities on Floor 17 of the County Hall building.
- Continuation of the phased upgrade of the County Hall louver controls.

**Porters**

Our Porter Service provide our Front of House and Information services and manage the manned security function, the monitoring and operation of Access Control, CCTV and Intruder Alarm systems. This team looks after the high-volume franking and post function for the campus and arranges meeting room set up. It ensures that audio-visual equipment checks are carried out as well as daily accessibility building

checks. In collaboration with facilities, they arrange the setup of Corporate and other events in the County Hall foyer and elsewhere in the building.



#### **OUR PORTERS**

- **MANAGE SECURITY**
- **POST AND FRANKING**
- **MEETING ROOM SETUP**
- **AV EQUIPMENT CHECKS**
- **ACCESSIBILITY AND BUILDING CHECKS**
- **EVENT MANAGEMENT FOR CORPORATE AND OTHER FUNCTIONS**

### **Internal Audit**

The Internal Audit section completed audits under the audit plan 2024 and provided a consultation service for internal departments. The purpose is to provide independent assurance to management that the governance, risk management and internal control processes are operating effectively and efficiently within departments to meet their statutory obligations, achieve objectives and deliver best value for our citizens.

In cases where remedial action is necessary the Internal Auditor will recommend specific measures to management for action.

Internal Audit reports on findings and progress on implementation of recommendations to the Audit Committee comprised of Elected Members and external industry management professionals.

Internal Audit will deliver the following in 2025:

- The annual audit plan approved by Audit Committee at the start of 2025.
- Provide consultative services on risk management, strategic management, and controls to operational divisions.
- Progress initiatives under the internal audit strategic plan
- Support and respond to the needs of the Audit Committee in carrying out their statutory function.
- Co-ordinate activity with the Local Government Auditor to ensure efficient use of collective auditing resources.

### **Corporate Communications & Marketing Department**

In 2024, Cork County Council's Corporate Communications & Marketing Department continued its critical role in facilitating transparent, timely, and accessible communication between the Council and the public. As digital platforms increasingly dominate how information is disseminated, the department made significant strides in enhancing its online presence, social media engagement and response to public enquiries. These efforts ensure that the Council remains a reliable source of information for residents, businesses, and stakeholders, particularly during emergencies and critical events.

## Digital & Online Presence

The Council’s digital platforms have seen substantial growth, reflecting the community’s increasing reliance on online resources to access information and engage with the Council.

**Website Metrics:** On average, 38,446 users per month accessed the Council’s website in 2024, generating approximately 129,458 page views monthly. Notably, 64.8% of these users accessed the site via mobile devices, indicating a 9.9% increase from the previous year, underscoring the importance of mobile friendly design.

**Social Media Growth:** The Council’s social media followers expanded significantly reaching a total of 92,405 followers across platforms by mid-year 2024. This growth accompanied by a notable increase in engagement, with over 103,237 interactions and more than 1,918,027 impressions, highlights the effectiveness of social media as a tool for reaching and engaging our citizens.

**Gov Delivery:** Measured since April 2024, the Gov Delivery newsletter service saw a further increase in subscriptions, reaching 2068 by July. This service allows for targeted communications with residents, enhancing the Council’s ability to disseminate information on areas such as the Mayor’s Office, Heritage, Environment, Arts and Library services.

## Communications Activity & Media Engagement

The department has maintained a robust presence in both traditional and digital media, ensuring widespread positive coverage of Council activities, policies and services.

**Press Releases:** A total of 157 press releases were issued up to and including the 31<sup>st</sup> of July 2024, with 23 in Irish. Regular media releases help to maintain transparency and inform the public on a wide range of topics such as grants, events and good news stories.

**Media Queries:** The Council responded to 428 media queries up to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2024. Positive engagement with media outlets ensures accurate and timely information is provided where possible.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
53	75	57	58	60	67	58

**Campaigns and Events:** A wide number of campaigns were organised and/or supported in 2024, including the launch of several Affordable Housing Schemes, public consultations for greenways, numerous grant schemes, the Council’s Climate Action Plan, Town Centre First and Municipal District events, as well as road and water safety messaging.

Amongst the events supported in 2024 were the final of the Best in Cork Awards, the St. Patrick’s Day Trade and Tourism Delegation to Chicago, Safe Route to School launch events in Cobh, Belgooly and Bandon, the launch of the Midleton to Youghal Greenway Phase One, 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Cork County Council, a relaunch of Camden Fort Meagher, Local Election coverage and a number of contracts signing photo calls.

A total of 27 editorial features were drafted for the Mayor & Chief Executives offices.

**Mayor’s Office:** Communications supports the Mayor’s Office by promoting the Mayor’s activities, including drafting speeches, fortnightly columns in the Cork Independent and The Echo and video messages. 121 speeches and columns were drafted during this period. Communications also supported the Mayor’s Community Awards and Mayor’s Charity Gala.



### Crisis Communications (Severe Weather Assessment Team) and MEMC

Effective communication during emergencies is a critical function of the department. In 2024, the Council’s ability to swiftly disseminate information during crises, such as inclement weather warnings or public health alerts, was significantly enhanced by its robust digital presence and strategic media partnership.

Social media in Crisis: Social media platforms were instrumental in the Council’s emergency response efforts enabling rapid dissemination of critical information and ensuring that residents were informed in real-time. This capability was particularly evident during severe weather events, where the Council’s posts received substantial engagement and were further amplified by media outlets.

### Customer Service Department 2023 Statistics

Area	Calls Handled
Main County Hall Switch	41,000
Customer Contact Centre	70,000
Out of Hours Services	4,500

### Customer Contact Centre

In 2023 the Cork County Council’s Customer Contact Centre handled **70,000** calls. Calls relating to the Increased Cost of Business Grant were managed through the contact centre on behalf of the Finance Department.

Calls Handled	70,000
Emails Handled	6,500
Post fulfilment	7,000

## INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

ICT is responsible for the development, management, availability and security of the information systems and infrastructure that support, connect and enable the work of the council. Our network extends to 150 sites across the county and our IT Service Desk handles over 15,000 tickets per annum.



The Local Government Digital and ICT Strategy was launched in July 2024 and will inform our annual service delivery plans up to 2030. We are committed to advancing the objectives outlined in the strategy to continue to improve digital and IT services and systems for our workforce, elected members and communities. Digitisation offers huge opportunities to deliver efficiencies, assist with realising our energy targets and meet the increasing demands for more online services. Projects to deliver these objectives including identifying manual processes that can be automated and modernising our workforce tools will be progressed during 2025.



**SABAHAT KHAN LGMA CIO AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT ALAN DILLON AT THE LAUNCH OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT DIGITAL & ICT STRATEGY 2030**

A significant part of the ICT budget is allocated to software licences and tech refresh projects. All IT systems and hardware components need to be continually maintained and refreshed to ensure application and system software are working on fully supported and correctly licenced software versions. The hardware and software lifecycle management program will continue to identify, replace and retire End of Life (EOL) and End of Support (EOS) hardware and software components.

Maintaining the security and availability of all ICT systems and infrastructure is of paramount importance. Security threats and attacks have become more prevalent since 2020, local government administrations are regularly listed in the top five most targeted sectors. Security will continue to be a priority in 2025 particularly focusing on augmenting our security controls, improving resilience, maturing our recovery procedures, and ensuring we are complying with the Public Sector Cyber Security Baseline Standards and the EU NIS2 directive.

### **HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (HRM)**

Human Resource Management is a support function responsible for staffing & recruitment, training & development, pensions, safety, health & wellbeing, compliance with legislation and the provision of value for money, workplace culture, and industrial relations. In 2024, HRM continued to increase visibility and connectivity, streamline processes, improve communication and engagement at cross directorate level and deliver an increased level of staff wellbeing initiatives. We have launched a number of new initiatives to support our workforce to meet the challenges of a demanding work environment, in training and development and staff wellbeing, for example.

In 2024 Cork County Council maintained accreditation to ISO 45001, the International Safety Management System (SMS) Standard through the ongoing continual improvement of our SMS.

Cork County Council also maintained our accreditation of our Employee Wellbeing Program to the IBEC KeepWell Mark Standard.

In 2024 we rolled out a series of wellbeing events for outdoor staff, our “Let’s Talk Your Health and Wellbeing” These were a bespoke, unique and innovative project targeting an age cohort and gender that it is recognised as having poorer health outcomes by the relevant statutory agencies. This bespoke project was evidence based in response to the results of our health screening programme in 2022/2023.

We also rolled out the Habitus Health App which included a study requiring participants to download the Habitus Health App to their electronic device (iPhone or Android) and complete questionnaires at four timepoints across 8 weeks. The study examined the effectiveness of the Habitus Health app in improving posture and related health outcomes of a sample of desk-based staff. Participants were asked to complete self-report measures of physical health, psychological wellbeing, experiences at work including a virtual ergonomic risk assessment, as well as measures relating to the usability and experience of using the App. A remarkable 80% of participants noticed a significant boost in their health after integrating the Habitus Health app into their daily routine.

### **MOTOR TAX**

The Motor Tax office provides an efficient vehicle taxation service to Cork County and Cork City customers through the provision of appointments based public counter facility and postal service. In addition to providing all the services that are provided online, the Motor Tax office continues to deal with related motor taxation issues that cannot currently be dealt with online including trade plates, refunds, exempt vehicles, certificates for court proceedings for Garda and government bodies, solicitor enquiries and trailer registrations.



## **HOUSING LOANS COLLECTION**

Cork County Council has continued to increase its collection rate during 2024 through a combination of large numbers of payment arrangements on arrears and a smaller number of long-term resolutions such as Shared Ownership Restructuring and the Local Authority Mortgage to Rent Scheme (LAMTR).

Challenges continue to be significant in collecting mortgage arrears. The impact of higher interest rates and increased cost of living are the main challenges facing a large numbers of borrowers.

## **INSURANCE**

The Insurance Section maintains and manages the insurance policies in place for Cork County Council. The main areas of cover include:

- Public Liability
- Employer’s Liability
- Motor/Fleet Insurance
- Computer Insurance
- Property Insurance

These policies are continually reviewed to ensure that optimal value for money is achieved and that the Council’s exposure to risk is minimised.

## **COMMERCIAL RATES**

Rate is levied on commercial properties and is calculated by multiplying the ‘Rateable Valuation’ (RV) by the ‘Annual Rate on Valuation’ (ARV):

- Rateable Valuation is decided by Tailte Éireann, formerly the Valuation office, (or on appeal by the Valuation Tribunal, High Court or Supreme Court).
- Annual Rate on Valuation is set annually by the Members of Cork County Council at the Budget Meeting.

Cork County Council’s gross Valuation base as at 1/1/24 was €1,604,855 an increase of €9,633 on the 2023 equivalent of €1,595,222, generating an income of €127m.

Following the introduction of new legislation from 2026 interest will be payable on arrears of rates charged from 2025 onwards.

The Council is continuing the Rates Incentive Grant Scheme originally introduced in 2023. The primary focus of the initiative is to assist Small and Medium Enterprises (SME’s), who comprise the majority of Ratepayers, many of which are experiencing difficult trading conditions.

The purpose of the scheme is twofold.

- Incentivise payment.
- Alleviate the rates burden.

The scheme has been prepared on the following basis:

- Scheme to apply to all ratepayers countywide.
- Relief at 3.5% of annual bill, capped at maximum bill of €7,000; i.e. the max relief any ratepayer will receive is 3.5% of €7000 = €245

The Local Government Rates and Other Matters Act 2019 (as amended) provided for new rates waiver (section 15) scheme, and a rates vacancy abatement scheme (section 9), to be decided by local authority members to promote national and/or local policy objectives. The approval of these schemes will be a reserved function of the elected members and will be considered in the context of Budget 2026. The Council are committed to engage early with Members to review the current scheme included in the budget and the options under the Act for the rates waiver scheme and rates abatement scheme. This will be done by June 2025 in preparation for Budget 2026 to allow full consideration of options and implications and allow the development of a robust scheme to support ratepayers, while maintaining the financial sustainability of the Council to deliver and enhance services.

## 2024 Statistics

Revenue and Capital Turnover 2024(Est.) –	877m
Total Number of Employees –	2,863
Employees of Cork County Council (Whole Time Equivalent) –	2373.32
Planning Application Numbers 2024 (Est.)	3,262
Number of Council Rented Properties –	8481
Number of Active Housing Loans	1023
Length of Roads in Council Area (Kilometres)	12,222km
Motor Tax Transactions 2024 (Est.) –	87,000
Number of items borrowed (inc. books and e-issues) Est -	1,320,540
Number of Rate Demands Issued –	12,202
Number on Register of Electors –	285,008
Number of Dog Licences Issued (Est) –	30,000

# **COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHORCAÍ**

**LOCAL AUTHORITY BUDGET**

**AND**

**CALCULATION OF THE ANNUAL RATE OF VALUATION**

**FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2025**

**MOIRA MURRELL**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**HALLA AN CHONTAE, CORCAIGH**

**SAMHAIN 2024**

**TABLE A - CALCULATION OF ANNUAL RATE ON VALUATION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR**

<b>Summary by Service Division</b>	<b>Expenditure €</b>	<b>Income €</b>	<b>Budget Net Expenditure 2025 €</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Estimated Net Expenditure Outturn 2024 €</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Gross Revenue Expenditure &amp; Income</b>						
A Housing & Building	120,551,005	108,561,393	11,989,612	7.5%	12,919,902	8.3%
B Road Transport & Safety	136,369,743	95,404,823	40,964,920	25.5%	36,656,286	23.5%
C Water Services	48,846,367	42,124,847	6,721,520	4.2%	4,546,595	2.9%
D Development Management	48,006,849	13,688,435	34,318,414	21.3%	31,988,128	20.5%
E Environmental Services	63,492,842	14,066,368	49,426,474	30.7%	44,049,333	28.2%
F Recreation & Amenity	35,205,569	2,390,067	32,815,502	20.4%	29,927,171	19.2%
G Agri, Educ, Health & Welfare	7,607,198	2,775,435	4,831,763	3.0%	4,593,150	2.9%
H Miscellaneous Services	56,379,917	76,550,453	(20,170,536)	(12.5%)	(8,713,706)	(5.6%)
	<b>516,459,490</b>	<b>355,561,821</b>	<b>160,897,669</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>155,966,859</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Provision for Debit Balance	-		-			
<b>ADJUSTED GROSS EXPENDITURE AND INCOME (A)</b>	<b>516,459,490</b>	<b>355,561,821</b>	<b>160,897,669</b>		<b>155,966,859</b>	
<b>Financed by Other Income/Credit Balances</b>						
Provision for Credit Balance		-	-			
Local Property Tax		29,731,207	29,731,207			
<b>SUB-TOTAL (B)</b>			<b>29,731,207</b>			
<b>AMOUNT OF RATES TO BE LEVIED C=(A-B)</b>			<b>131,166,462</b>			
Net Effective Valuation (E)			1,613,896			
<b>GENERAL ANNUAL RATE ON VALUATION (C/E)</b>			<b>81.27</b>			

**TABLE B: Expenditure and Income for 2025 and Estimated Outturn for 2024**

Division & Services	2025				2024			
	Expenditure		Income		Expenditure		Income	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>A Housing &amp; Building</b>								
A01 Maint/Improv LA Housing Units	22,184,444	22,184,444	30,274,004	30,274,004	20,314,111	20,314,111	27,616,853	27,616,853
A02 Housing Assess, Alloc & Trans	3,774,688	3,774,688	404,675	404,675	3,279,415	3,279,415	334,038	334,038
A03 Housing Rent & TP Admin	2,685,134	2,685,134	31,521	31,521	2,598,172	2,598,172	35,048	35,048
A04 Housing Comm Dev Support	553,577	553,577	135,504	135,504	643,152	643,152	135,505	135,505
A05 Admin Homeless Service	9,632,045	9,632,045	7,813,700	7,813,700	9,600,203	9,600,203	7,834,540	7,834,540
A06 Support to Housing Capital Pro	25,896,746	26,196,746	18,027,059	18,027,059	26,141,333	26,141,333	18,045,591	18,045,591
A07 RAS Programme	23,310,266	23,310,266	22,947,155	22,947,155	19,430,910	19,430,910	18,399,398	18,399,398
A08 Housing Loans	3,761,663	3,761,663	2,853,199	2,853,199	4,484,708	4,484,708	3,622,632	3,622,632
A09 Housing Grant	28,281,526	28,281,526	25,363,495	25,363,495	11,008,388	11,008,388	8,303,799	8,303,799
A11 Agency & Recoupable Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A12 Hap Programme	470,916	470,916	711,081	711,081	476,251	476,251	729,337	729,337
<b>Division A Total</b>	<b>120,551,005</b>	<b>120,851,005</b>	<b>108,561,393</b>	<b>108,561,393</b>	<b>97,976,643</b>	<b>97,976,643</b>	<b>85,056,741</b>	<b>85,056,741</b>

**TABLE B: Expenditure and Income for 2025 and Estimated Outturn for 2024**

Division & Services	2025				2024			
	Expenditure		Income		Expenditure		Income	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>B Road Transport &amp; Safety</b>								
B01 NP Road - Maint & Improv	1,162,323	1,162,323	575,553	575,553	1,032,447	1,032,447	485,485	485,485
B02 NS Road - Maint & Improv	1,441,303	1,441,303	634,843	634,843	1,294,626	1,294,626	536,307	536,307
B03 Reg Road - Maint & Improv	38,790,363	38,790,363	27,406,357	27,406,357	29,168,872	29,168,872	23,075,145	23,075,145
B04 Local Road - Maint & Improv	78,593,178	78,593,178	61,916,134	61,916,134	71,564,565	71,564,565	52,275,063	52,275,063
B05 Public Lighting	5,683,554	5,683,554	433,420	433,420	5,283,274	5,283,274	366,302	366,302
B06 Traffic Management Improvement	588,345	588,345	275,731	275,731	664,727	664,727	306,572	306,572
B07 Road Safety Engineering Improv	102,950	102,950	1,000	1,000	74,051	74,051	547	547
B08 Road Safety Promotion/Educate	873,380	873,380	14,680	14,680	840,210	840,210	13,212	13,212
B09 Car Parking	2,712,478	2,712,478	1,249,049	1,249,049	2,530,846	2,530,846	1,131,878	1,131,878
B10 Support to Roads Capital Prog	2,487,827	2,587,827	73,388	73,388	1,401,299	1,401,299	59,578	59,578
B11 Agency & Recoupable Services	3,934,042	3,934,042	2,824,668	2,824,668	2,970,544	2,970,544	1,919,086	1,919,086
<b>Division B Total</b>	<b>136,369,743</b>	<b>136,469,743</b>	<b>95,404,823</b>	<b>95,404,823</b>	<b>116,825,461</b>	<b>116,825,461</b>	<b>80,169,175</b>	<b>80,169,175</b>

**TABLE B: Expenditure and Income for 2025 and Estimated Outturn for 2024**

Division & Services	2025				2024			
	Expenditure		Income		Expenditure		Income	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>C Water Services</b>								
C01 Water Supply	24,271,906	24,271,906	22,887,934	22,887,934	24,620,255	24,620,255	24,620,255	24,620,255
C02 Waste Water Treatment	8,628,146	8,628,146	8,106,981	8,106,981	9,215,172	9,215,172	9,090,772	9,090,772
C03 Collection of Water Charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
C04 Operation & Maint Public Conv	2,211,328	2,211,328	40,200	40,200	2,038,906	2,038,906	39,576	39,576
C05 Admin Grp Schemes & Private In	7,397,080	7,397,080	7,333,026	7,333,026	4,264,641	4,264,641	4,205,888	4,205,888
C06 Support to Water Capital Prog	988,010	988,010	442,495	442,495	698,655	698,655	698,655	698,655
C07 Agency & Recoupable Services	991,174	991,174	1,255,850	1,255,850	473,391	473,391	473,391	473,391
C08 Local Authority Water	4,358,723	4,358,723	2,058,361	2,058,361	3,840,138	3,840,138	1,476,026	1,476,026
<b>Division C Total</b>	<b>48,846,367</b>	<b>48,846,367</b>	<b>42,124,847</b>	<b>42,124,847</b>	<b>45,151,158</b>	<b>45,151,158</b>	<b>40,604,563</b>	<b>40,604,563</b>



**TABLE B: Expenditure and Income for 2025 and Estimated Outturn for 2024**

Division & Services	2025				2024			
	Expenditure		Income		Expenditure		Income	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>D Development Management</b>								
D01 Forward Planning	7,018,711	7,018,711	876,974	876,974	5,608,979	5,608,979	119,379	119,379
D02 Development Management	14,464,203	14,464,203	2,594,316	2,594,316	13,282,570	13,282,570	2,166,410	2,166,410
D03 Enforcement	1,557,654	1,557,654	24,536	24,536	1,469,135	1,469,135	26,260	26,260
D04 Indust & Comm Facilities	1,174,976	1,174,976	302,866	302,866	1,084,826	1,084,826	351,835	351,835
D05 Tourism Development & Promot	1,965,326	1,965,326	141,162	141,162	1,904,384	1,904,384	139,737	139,737
D06 Comm & Enterprise Function	4,728,208	4,728,208	3,834,100	3,834,100	4,123,901	4,123,901	2,984,480	2,984,480
D07 Unfinished Housing Estates	862,094	862,094	8,570	8,570	641,299	641,299	8,193	8,193
D08 Building Control	1,405,371	1,405,371	20,842	20,842	1,359,105	1,359,105	17,531	17,531
D09 Economic Development & Promot	11,985,116	12,085,116	4,652,424	4,652,424	12,712,402	12,712,402	5,690,767	5,690,767
D10 Property Management	652,565	652,565	7,146	7,146	367,107	367,107	5,552	5,552
D11 Heritage & Conservation Serv	1,609,613	1,609,613	1,189,324	1,189,324	1,738,352	1,738,352	1,271,479	1,271,479
D12 Agency & Recoupable Services	583,012	583,012	36,175	36,175	513,311	513,311	35,620	35,620
<b>Division D Total</b>	<b>48,006,849</b>	<b>48,106,849</b>	<b>13,688,435</b>	<b>13,688,435</b>	<b>44,805,371</b>	<b>44,805,371</b>	<b>12,817,243</b>	<b>12,817,243</b>

**TABLE B: Expenditure and Income for 2025 and Estimated Outturn for 2024**

Division & Services	2025				2024			
	Expenditure		Income		Expenditure		Income	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>E Environmental Services</b>								
E01 Landfill Operation & Aftercare	6,883,758	6,883,758	283,524	283,524	6,566,653	6,566,653	361,421	361,421
E02 Recovery & Recycle Facility Op	10,104,201	10,104,201	4,103,898	4,103,898	10,149,198	10,149,198	4,428,167	4,428,167
E03 Waste to Energy Facility Oper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
E04 Provision Waste Collect Serv	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
E05 Litter Management	2,892,738	2,892,738	169,973	169,973	2,971,323	2,971,323	205,070	205,070
E06 Street Cleaning	4,100,796	4,100,796	54,033	54,033	3,743,639	3,743,639	49,548	49,548
E07 Waste Regs, Monitor & Enforce	4,019,912	4,019,912	2,129,120	2,129,120	3,807,747	3,807,747	2,053,560	2,053,560
E08 Waste Management Planning	507,819	507,819	3,891	3,891	467,542	467,542	5,446	5,446
E09 Maintenance of Burial Grounds	3,940,373	3,940,373	854,317	854,317	3,717,495	3,717,495	781,370	781,370
E10 Safety of Structures & Places	3,132,643	3,132,643	289,793	289,793	3,066,522	3,066,522	265,764	265,764
E11 Operation of Fire Service	20,361,987	20,361,987	2,256,641	2,256,641	20,371,407	20,371,407	5,253,749	5,253,749
E12 Fire Prevention	1,883,684	1,883,684	1,456,892	1,456,892	1,943,073	1,943,073	1,954,066	1,954,066
E13 Water Quality,Air & Noise Poll	2,822,307	2,822,307	334,881	334,881	2,329,143	2,329,143	242,697	242,697
E14 Agency & Recoupable Services	167,553	167,553	3,976	3,976	138,825	138,825	3,600	3,600
E15 Climate Change & Flooding	2,675,071	2,675,071	2,125,429	2,125,429	1,880,907	1,880,907	1,499,683	1,499,683
<b>Division E Total</b>	<b>63,492,842</b>	<b>63,492,842</b>	<b>14,066,368</b>	<b>14,066,368</b>	<b>61,153,474</b>	<b>61,153,474</b>	<b>17,104,141</b>	<b>17,104,141</b>

**TABLE B: Expenditure and Income for 2025 and Estimated Outturn for 2024**

Division & Services	2025				2024			
	Expenditure		Income		Expenditure		Income	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>F Recreation &amp; Amenity</b>								
F01 Leisure Facilities Operation	4,520,028	4,520,028	1,535,535	1,535,535	3,660,766	3,660,766	1,348,356	1,348,356
F02 Operation of Library & Archive	14,970,569	14,970,569	237,586	237,586	13,632,050	13,632,050	162,360	162,360
F03 Outdoor Leisure Areas Oper	6,987,705	6,987,705	142,782	142,782	6,137,099	6,137,099	136,975	136,975
F04 Comm, Sport & Rec Development	5,542,420	5,542,420	20,795	20,795	6,764,160	6,764,160	1,243,342	1,243,342
F05 Operation of Arts Programme	3,114,132	3,114,132	453,085	453,085	2,877,091	2,877,091	326,199	326,199
F06 F Agency & Recoupable Services	70,715	70,715	284	284	73,264	73,264	27	27
<b>Division F Total</b>	<b>35,205,569</b>	<b>35,205,569</b>	<b>2,390,067</b>	<b>2,390,067</b>	<b>33,144,430</b>	<b>33,144,430</b>	<b>3,217,259</b>	<b>3,217,259</b>

**TABLE B: Expenditure and Income for 2025 and Estimated Outturn for 2024**

Division & Services	2025				2024			
	Expenditure		Income		Expenditure		Income	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>G Agri, Educ, Health &amp; Welfare</b>								
G01 Land Drainage Costs	154,831	154,831	254	254	83,883	83,883	174	174
G02 Op & Maint of Piers & Harbours	1,916,443	1,916,443	192,378	192,378	1,869,953	1,869,953	185,880	185,880
G03 Coastal Protection	1,286,048	1,286,048	12,024	12,024	1,197,802	1,197,802	11,478	11,478
G04 Veterinary Service	4,189,308	4,189,308	2,569,834	2,569,834	4,182,395	4,182,395	2,601,082	2,601,082
G05 Educational Support Services	60,568	60,568	945	945	58,623	58,623	892	892
G06 G Agency & Recoupable Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Division G Total</b>	<b>7,607,198</b>	<b>7,607,198</b>	<b>2,775,435</b>	<b>2,775,435</b>	<b>7,392,656</b>	<b>7,392,656</b>	<b>2,799,506</b>	<b>2,799,506</b>

**TABLE B: Expenditure and Income for 2025 and Estimated Outturn for 2024**

Division & Services	2025				2024			
	Expenditure		Income		Expenditure		Income	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>H Miscellaneous Services</b>								
H01 Profit/Loss Machinery Account	18,194,217	18,194,217	18,361,700	18,361,700	17,179,246	17,179,246	16,994,263	16,994,263
H02 Profit/Loss Stores Account	883,252	883,252	715,769	715,769	811,160	811,160	715,086	715,086
H03 Administration of Rates	18,068,862	17,368,862	2,187,723	2,187,723	17,555,535	17,555,535	185,210	185,210
H04 Franchise Costs	618,228	618,228	86,799	86,799	484,991	484,991	4,683	4,683
H05 Operation Morgue/Coroner Costs	491,879	491,879	-	-	463,471	463,471	-	-
H06 Weighbridges	28,978	28,978	104	104	32,535	32,535	120	120
H07 Operation Markets/Casual Trade	412,199	412,199	186,878	186,878	319,635	319,635	175,148	175,148
H08 Malicious Damage	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
H09 Local Reps & Civic Leadership	4,029,536	4,029,536	52,151	52,151	4,151,369	4,151,369	40,241	40,241
H10 Motor Taxation	2,557,311	2,557,311	42,811	42,811	2,066,969	2,066,969	33,755	33,755
H11 Agency & Recoupable Services	11,070,455	12,556,401	54,891,518	54,891,518	8,771,490	8,771,490	42,401,601	42,401,601
<b>Division H Total</b>	<b>56,379,917</b>	<b>57,165,863</b>	<b>76,550,453</b>	<b>76,550,453</b>	<b>51,861,401</b>	<b>51,861,401</b>	<b>60,575,107</b>	<b>60,575,107</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>516,459,490</b>	<b>517,745,436</b>	<b>355,561,821</b>	<b>355,561,821</b>	<b>458,310,594</b>	<b>458,310,594</b>	<b>302,343,735</b>	<b>302,343,735</b>

**TABLE C - CALCULATION OF BASE YEAR ADJUSTMENT**

Rating Authority	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)
	Annual Rate on Valuation 2025 €	Effective ARV (Net of BYA) 2025 €	Base Year Adjustment 2025 €	Net Effective Valuation €	Value of Base Year Adjustment €
<b><u>Cork County Council</u></b>	<b><u>81.27</u></b>				
Clonakilty	81.27	81.27	-	-	-
Cobh	81.27	81.27	-	-	-
Fermoy	81.27	81.27	-	-	-
Kinsale	81.27	81.27	-	-	-
Macroom	81.27	81.27	-	-	-
Mallow	81.27	81.27	-	-	-
Midleton	81.27	81.27	-	-	-
Skibbereen	81.27	81.27	-	-	-
Youghal	81.27	81.27	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>				-	-

Table D

## ANALYSIS OF BUDGET INCOME 2025 FROM GOODS AND SERVICES

<b>Source of Income</b>	<b>2025</b> €
Rents from Houses	27,345,598
Housing Loans Interest & Charges	2,460,979
Parking Fines & Charges	1,213,684
Uisce Éireann	24,313,109
Planning Fees	1,921,500
Domestic Refuse Charges	-
Commercial Refuse Charges	-
Landfill Charges	-
Fire Charges	1,485,000
Recreation/Amenity/Culture	1,555,000
Agency Services & Repayable Works	-
Local Authority Contributions	1,678,826
Superannuation	3,100,001
NPPR	200,000
Other income	53,894,710
<b>Total Goods &amp; Services</b>	<b>119,168,407</b>

Table E

## ANALYSIS OF BUDGET INCOME 2025 FROM GRANTS &amp; SUBSIDIES

	2025
	€
<b>Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage</b>	
Housing & Building	76,329,511
Road Transport & Safety	-
Water Services	16,309,866
Development Management	3,712,147
Environmental Services	4,534,624
Recreation & Amenity	-
Agri, Educ, Health & Welfare	-
Miscellaneous Services	33,566,242
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>134,452,390</b>
<b>Other Departments and Bodies</b>	
TII Transport Infrastructure Ireland	90,424,906
Media, Tourism, Art, Culture, Sport & the Gaeltacht	363,800
National Transport Authority	50,000
Social Protection	-
Defence	217,114
Education	-
Library Council	-
Arts Council	170,000
Transport	-
Justice	9,915
Agriculture, Food, & Marine	-
Enterprise, Trade & Employment	3,960,027
Rural & Community Development	122,311
Environment, Climate & Communications	2,118,522
Food Safety Authority of Ireland	1,822,592
Other	2,681,837
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>101,941,024</b>
<b>Total Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>	<b>236,393,414</b>



<b>Table F - Expenditure</b>				
<b>Division A - Housing &amp; Building</b>				
<b>Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service</b>	<b>2025</b>		<b>2024</b>	
	<b>Adopted by Council €</b>	<b>Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €</b>	<b>Adopted by Council €</b>	<b>Estimated Outturn €</b>
A0101 Maintenance of LA Housing Units	17,029,683	17,029,683	15,607,777	15,607,777
A0102 Maintenance of Traveller Accommodation Units	427,466	427,466	401,614	401,614
A0103 Traveller Accommodation Management	40,098	40,098	60,717	60,717
A0104 Estate Maintenance	362,718	362,718	308,601	308,601
A0199 Service Support Costs	4,324,479	4,324,479	3,935,402	3,935,402
<b>A01 Maint/Improv LA Housing Units</b>	<b>22,184,444</b>	<b>22,184,444</b>	<b>20,314,111</b>	<b>20,314,111</b>
A0201 Assessment of Housing Needs, Allocs. & Trans.	2,713,537	2,713,537	2,144,954	2,144,954
A0299 Service Support Costs	1,061,151	1,061,151	1,134,461	1,134,461
<b>A02 Housing Assess, Alloc &amp; Trans</b>	<b>3,774,688</b>	<b>3,774,688</b>	<b>3,279,415</b>	<b>3,279,415</b>
A0301 Debt Management & Rent Assessment	1,861,463	1,861,463	1,782,981	1,782,981
A0399 Service Support Costs	823,671	823,671	815,191	815,191
<b>A03 Housing Rent &amp; TP Admin</b>	<b>2,685,134</b>	<b>2,685,134</b>	<b>2,598,172</b>	<b>2,598,172</b>
A0401 Housing Estate Management	206,726	206,726	278,956	278,956
A0402 Tenancy Management	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
A0403 Social and Community Housing Service	163,636	163,636	193,517	193,517
A0499 Service Support Costs	173,215	173,215	160,679	160,679
<b>A04 Housing Comm Dev Support</b>	<b>553,577</b>	<b>553,577</b>	<b>643,152</b>	<b>643,152</b>
A0501 Homeless Grants Other Bodies	1,855,029	1,855,029	1,704,063	1,704,063
A0502 Homeless Service	7,160,150	7,160,150	7,260,150	7,260,150
A0599 Service Support Costs	616,866	616,866	635,990	635,990
<b>A05 Admin Homeless Service</b>	<b>9,632,045</b>	<b>9,632,045</b>	<b>9,600,203</b>	<b>9,600,203</b>
A0601 Technical and Administrative Support	16,943,730	17,243,730	16,561,639	16,561,639
A0602 Loan Charges	7,101,477	7,101,477	7,156,175	7,156,175
A0699 Service Support Costs	1,851,539	1,851,539	2,423,519	2,423,519
<b>A06 Support to Housing Capital Pro</b>	<b>25,896,746</b>	<b>26,196,746</b>	<b>26,141,333</b>	<b>26,141,333</b>
A0701 RAS Operations	5,187,576	5,187,576	5,218,850	5,218,850
A0702 Long Term Leasing	-	-	-	-
A0703 Payment & Availability	17,254,532	17,254,532	13,244,254	13,244,254
A0704 Affordable Leases	-	-	-	-
A0799 RAS Service Support Costs	868,158	868,158	967,806	967,806
<b>A07 RAS Programme</b>	<b>23,310,266</b>	<b>23,310,266</b>	<b>19,430,910</b>	<b>19,430,910</b>
A0801 Loan Interest and Other Charges	2,700,621	2,700,621	3,451,565	3,451,565
A0802 Debt Management Housing Loans	553,126	553,126	621,607	621,607
A0899 Service Support Costs	507,916	507,916	411,536	411,536
<b>A08 Housing Loans</b>	<b>3,761,663</b>	<b>3,761,663</b>	<b>4,484,708</b>	<b>4,484,708</b>

<b>Table F - Expenditure</b>				
<b>Division A - Housing &amp; Building</b>				
<b>Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service</b>	<b>2025</b>		<b>2024</b>	
	<b>Adopted by Council €</b>	<b>Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €</b>	<b>Adopted by Council €</b>	<b>Estimated Outturn €</b>
A0901 Disabled Persons Grants	-	-	-	-
A0902 Loan Charges DPG/ERG	-	-	7,057	7,057
A0903 Essential Repair Grants	-	-	-	-
A0904 Other Housing Grant Payments	26,987,895	26,987,895	9,828,235	9,828,235
A0905 Mobility Aids Housing Grants	250,155	250,155	169,110	169,110
A0999 Service Support Costs	1,043,476	1,043,476	1,003,986	1,003,986
<b>A09 Housing Grant</b>	<b>28,281,526</b>	<b>28,281,526</b>	<b>11,008,388</b>	<b>11,008,388</b>
A1101 Agency & Recoupable Service	-	-	-	-
A1199 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>A11 Agency &amp; Recoupable Services</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
A1201 HAP Operations	301,396	301,396	308,650	308,650
A1299 Service Support Costs	169,520	169,520	167,601	167,601
<b>A12 Hap Programme</b>	<b>470,916</b>	<b>470,916</b>	<b>476,251</b>	<b>476,251</b>
<b>Division A Total</b>	<b>120,551,005</b>	<b>120,851,005</b>	<b>97,976,643</b>	<b>97,976,643</b>

<b>Table F - Income</b>				
<b>Division A - Housing &amp; Building</b>				
<b>Income by Source</b>	<b>2025</b>		<b>2024</b>	
	<b>Adopted by Council €</b>	<b>Estimated by Chief Executive €</b>	<b>Adopted by Council €</b>	<b>Estimated Outturn €</b>
<b>Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>				
Housing, Local Government & Heritage	76,329,511	76,329,511	55,584,027	55,584,027
Other	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>	<b>76,329,511</b>	<b>76,329,511</b>	<b>55,584,027</b>	<b>55,584,027</b>
<b>Goods &amp; Services</b>				
Rents from Houses	27,345,598	27,345,598	25,067,523	25,067,523
Housing Loans Interest & Charges	2,460,979	2,460,979	2,735,501	2,735,501
Superannuation	300,545	300,545	343,230	343,230
Agency Services & Repayable Works	-	-	-	-
Local Authority Contributions	-	-	-	-
Other income	2,124,760	2,124,760	1,326,460	1,326,460
<b>Total Goods &amp; Services</b>	<b>32,231,882</b>	<b>32,231,882</b>	<b>29,472,714</b>	<b>29,472,714</b>
<b>Division A Total</b>	<b>108,561,393</b>	<b>108,561,393</b>	<b>85,056,741</b>	<b>85,056,741</b>

Table F - Expenditure				
Division B - Road Transport & Safety				
Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2025		2024	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
B0101 NP - Surface Dressing	-	-	-	-
B0102 NP – Pavement Overlay/Reconstruction	-	-	-	-
B0103 NP – Winter Maintenance	160,133	160,133	135,033	135,033
B0104 NP – Bridge Maintenance (Eirspan)	-	-	-	-
B0105 NP - General Maintenance	407,285	407,285	342,663	342,663
B0106 NP – General Improvements Works	-	-	-	-
B0199 Service Support Costs	594,905	594,905	554,751	554,751
<b>B01 NP Road - Maint &amp; Improv</b>	<b>1,162,323</b>	<b>1,162,323</b>	<b>1,032,447</b>	<b>1,032,447</b>
B0201 NS - Surface Dressing	-	-	-	-
B0202 NS - Overlay/Reconstruction	-	-	-	-
B0203 NS - Overlay/Reconstruction – Urban	-	-	-	-
B0204 NS - Winter Maintenance	223,547	223,547	188,475	188,475
B0205 NS – Bridge Maintenance (Eirspan)	-	-	-	-
B0206 NS - General Maintenance	402,482	402,482	338,448	338,448
B0207 NS – General Improvement Works	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000
B0299 Service Support Costs	735,274	735,274	687,703	687,703
<b>B02 NS Road - Maint &amp; Improv</b>	<b>1,441,303</b>	<b>1,441,303</b>	<b>1,294,626</b>	<b>1,294,626</b>
B0301 Regional Roads Surface Dressing	-	-	-	-
B0302 Reg Rd Surface Rest/Road Reconstruction/Overlay	-	-	-	-
B0303 Regional Road Winter Maintenance	622,726	622,726	525,000	525,000
B0304 Regional Road Bridge Maintenance	-	-	-	-
B0305 Regional Road General Maintenance Works	13,851,221	13,851,221	7,668,993	7,668,993
B0306 Regional Road General Improvement Works	20,178,475	20,178,475	16,949,917	16,949,917
B0399 Service Support Costs	4,137,941	4,137,941	4,024,962	4,024,962
<b>B03 Reg Road - Maint &amp; Improv</b>	<b>38,790,363</b>	<b>38,790,363</b>	<b>29,168,872</b>	<b>29,168,872</b>
B0401 Local Road Surface Dressing	-	-	-	-
B0402 Local Rd Surface Rest/Road Reconstruction/Overlay	-	-	-	-
B0403 Local Roads Winter Maintenance	-	-	-	-
B0404 Local Roads Bridge Maintenance	-	-	-	-
B0405 Local Roads General Maintenance Works	24,465,727	24,465,727	26,059,352	26,059,352
B0406 Local Roads General Improvement Works	41,004,390	41,004,390	33,292,055	33,292,055
B0499 Service Support Costs	13,123,061	13,123,061	12,213,158	12,213,158
<b>B04 Local Road - Maint &amp; Improv</b>	<b>78,593,178</b>	<b>78,593,178</b>	<b>71,564,565</b>	<b>71,564,565</b>
B0501 Public Lighting Operating Costs	4,823,590	4,823,590	4,754,757	4,754,757
B0502 Public Lighting Improvement	264,000	264,000	-	-
B0599 Service Support Costs	595,964	595,964	528,517	528,517
<b>B05 Public Lighting</b>	<b>5,683,554</b>	<b>5,683,554</b>	<b>5,283,274</b>	<b>5,283,274</b>

Table F - Expenditure				
Division B - Road Transport & Safety				
Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2025		2024	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
B0601 Traffic Management	24,994	24,994	63,641	63,641
B0602 Traffic Maintenance	-	-	-	-
B0603 Traffic Improvement Measures	352,742	352,742	342,539	342,539
B0699 Service Support Costs	210,609	210,609	258,547	258,547
<b>B06 Traffic Management Improvement</b>	<b>588,345</b>	<b>588,345</b>	<b>664,727</b>	<b>664,727</b>
B0701 Low Cost Remedial Measures	33,534	33,534	33,534	33,534
B0702 Other Engineering Improvements	19,272	19,272	456	456
B0799 Service Support Costs	50,144	50,144	40,061	40,061
<b>B07 Road Safety Engineering Improv</b>	<b>102,950</b>	<b>102,950</b>	<b>74,051</b>	<b>74,051</b>
B0801 School Wardens	666,505	666,505	666,379	666,379
B0802 Publicity and Promotion Road Safety	26,208	26,208	19,871	19,871
B0899 Service Support Costs	180,667	180,667	153,960	153,960
<b>B08 Road Safety Promotion/Educate</b>	<b>873,380</b>	<b>873,380</b>	<b>840,210</b>	<b>840,210</b>
B0901 Maintenance and Management of Car Parking	23,000	23,000	23,000	23,000
B0902 Operation of Street Parking	92,500	92,500	79,950	79,950
B0903 Parking Enforcement	1,099,621	1,099,621	1,025,474	1,025,474
B0999 Service Support Costs	1,497,357	1,497,357	1,402,422	1,402,422
<b>B09 Car Parking</b>	<b>2,712,478</b>	<b>2,712,478</b>	<b>2,530,846</b>	<b>2,530,846</b>
B1001 Administration of Roads Capital Programme	793,900	893,900	463,072	463,072
B1099 Service Support Costs	1,693,927	1,693,927	938,227	938,227
<b>B10 Support to Roads Capital Prog</b>	<b>2,487,827</b>	<b>2,587,827</b>	<b>1,401,299</b>	<b>1,401,299</b>
B1101 Agency & Recoupable Service	3,500,643	3,500,643	2,559,464	2,559,464
B1199 Service Support Costs	433,399	433,399	411,080	411,080
<b>B11 Agency &amp; Recoupable Services</b>	<b>3,934,042</b>	<b>3,934,042</b>	<b>2,970,544</b>	<b>2,970,544</b>
<b>Division B Total</b>	<b>136,369,743</b>	<b>136,469,743</b>	<b>116,825,461</b>	<b>116,825,461</b>

Table F - Income

Division B - Road Transport & Safety				
Income by Source	2025		2024	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>				
Housing, Local Government & Heritage	-	-	-	-
TII Transport Infrastructure Ireland	90,424,906	90,424,906	76,210,077	76,210,077
Media, Tourism, Art, Culture, Sport & the Gaeltacht	-	-	-	-
National Transport Authority	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Transport	-	-	-	-
Rural & Community Development	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>	<b>90,474,906</b>	<b>90,474,906</b>	<b>76,260,077</b>	<b>76,260,077</b>
<b>Goods &amp; Services</b>				
Parking Fines & Charges	1,213,684	1,213,684	1,095,610	1,095,610
Superannuation	685,049	685,049	655,826	655,826
Agency Services & Repayable Works	-	-	-	-
Local Authority Contributions	1,575,184	1,575,184	946,512	946,512
Other income	1,456,000	1,456,000	1,211,150	1,211,150
<b>Total Goods &amp; Services</b>	<b>4,929,917</b>	<b>4,929,917</b>	<b>3,909,098</b>	<b>3,909,098</b>
<b>Division B Total</b>	<b>95,404,823</b>	<b>95,404,823</b>	<b>80,169,175</b>	<b>80,169,175</b>

Table F - Expenditure				
Division C - Water Services				
Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2025		2024	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
C0101 Water Plants and Networks	13,843,337	13,843,337	15,594,593	15,594,593
C0199 Service Support Costs	10,428,569	10,428,569	9,025,662	9,025,662
<b>C01 Water Supply</b>	<b>24,271,906</b>	<b>24,271,906</b>	<b>24,620,255</b>	<b>24,620,255</b>
C0201 Waste Plants and Networks	4,123,914	4,123,914	4,326,145	4,326,145
C0299 Service Support Costs	4,504,232	4,504,232	4,889,027	4,889,027
<b>C02 Waste Water Treatment</b>	<b>8,628,146</b>	<b>8,628,146</b>	<b>9,215,172</b>	<b>9,215,172</b>
C0301 Debt Management Water and Waste Water	-	-	-	-
C0399 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>C03 Collection of Water Charges</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
C0401 Operation and Maintenance of Public Conveniences	1,834,287	1,834,287	1,690,149	1,690,149
C0499 Service Support Costs	377,041	377,041	348,757	348,757
<b>C04 Operation &amp; Maint Public Conv</b>	<b>2,211,328</b>	<b>2,211,328</b>	<b>2,038,906</b>	<b>2,038,906</b>
C0501 Grants for Individual Installations	2,410,000	2,410,000	1,550,000	1,550,000
C0502 Grants for Water Group Schemes	4,412,284	4,412,284	2,145,800	2,145,800
C0503 Grants for Waste Water Group Schemes	-	-	-	-
C0504 Group Water Scheme Subsidies	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
C0599 Service Support Costs	374,796	374,796	368,841	368,841
<b>C05 Admin Grp Schemes &amp; Private In</b>	<b>7,397,080</b>	<b>7,397,080</b>	<b>4,264,641</b>	<b>4,264,641</b>
C0601 Technical Design and Supervision	135,000	135,000	165,638	165,638
C0699 Service Support Costs	853,010	853,010	533,017	533,017
<b>C06 Support to Water Capital Prog</b>	<b>988,010</b>	<b>988,010</b>	<b>698,655</b>	<b>698,655</b>
C0701 Agency & Recoupable Service	622,624	622,624	196,726	196,726
C0799 Service Support Costs	368,550	368,550	276,665	276,665
<b>C07 Agency &amp; Recoupable Services</b>	<b>991,174</b>	<b>991,174</b>	<b>473,391</b>	<b>473,391</b>
C0801 Local Authority Water Services	1,559,899	1,559,899	1,373,944	1,373,944
C0802 Local Authority Sanitary Services	-	-	-	-
C0899 Service Support Costs	2,798,824	2,798,824	2,466,194	2,466,194
<b>C08 Local Authority Water</b>	<b>4,358,723</b>	<b>4,358,723</b>	<b>3,840,138</b>	<b>3,840,138</b>
<b>Division C Total</b>	<b>48,846,367</b>	<b>48,846,367</b>	<b>45,151,158</b>	<b>45,151,158</b>

<b>Table F - Income</b>				
<b>Division C - Water Services</b>				
<b>Income by Source</b>	<b>2025</b>		<b>2024</b>	
	<b>Adopted by Council €</b>	<b>Estimated by Chief Executive €</b>	<b>Adopted by Council €</b>	<b>Estimated Outturn €</b>
<b>Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>				
Housing, Local Government & Heritage	16,309,866	16,309,866	16,308,064	16,308,064
Other	829,199	829,199	350,000	350,000
<b>Total Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>	<b>17,139,065</b>	<b>17,139,065</b>	<b>16,658,064</b>	<b>16,658,064</b>
<b>Goods &amp; Services</b>				
Uisce Éireann	24,313,109	24,313,109	23,334,381	23,334,381
Superannuation	618,483	618,483	557,928	557,928
Agency Services & Repayable Works	-	-	-	-
Local Authority Contributions	-	-	5,000	5,000
Other income	54,190	54,190	49,190	49,190
<b>Total Goods &amp; Services</b>	<b>24,985,782</b>	<b>24,985,782</b>	<b>23,946,499</b>	<b>23,946,499</b>
<b>Division C Total</b>	<b>42,124,847</b>	<b>42,124,847</b>	<b>40,604,563</b>	<b>40,604,563</b>



Table F - Expenditure				
Division D - Development Management				
Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2025		2024	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
D0101 Statutory Plans and Policy	5,291,083	5,291,083	3,895,921	3,895,921
D0199 Service Support Costs	1,727,628	1,727,628	1,713,058	1,713,058
<b>D01 Forward Planning</b>	<b>7,018,711</b>	<b>7,018,711</b>	<b>5,608,979</b>	<b>5,608,979</b>
D0201 Planning Control	8,673,405	8,673,405	8,288,610	8,288,610
D0299 Service Support Costs	5,790,798	5,790,798	4,993,960	4,993,960
<b>D02 Development Management</b>	<b>14,464,203</b>	<b>14,464,203</b>	<b>13,282,570</b>	<b>13,282,570</b>
D0301 Enforcement Costs	1,017,757	1,017,757	931,012	931,012
D0399 Service Support Costs	539,897	539,897	538,123	538,123
<b>D03 Enforcement</b>	<b>1,557,654</b>	<b>1,557,654</b>	<b>1,469,135</b>	<b>1,469,135</b>
D0401 Industrial Sites Operations	384,425	384,425	335,657	335,657
D0403 Management of & Contribs to Other Commercial Facs	558,717	558,717	541,731	541,731
D0404 General Development Promotion Work	-	-	-	-
D0499 Service Support Costs	231,834	231,834	207,438	207,438
<b>D04 Indust &amp; Comm Facilities</b>	<b>1,174,976</b>	<b>1,174,976</b>	<b>1,084,826</b>	<b>1,084,826</b>
D0501 Tourism Promotion	1,169,829	1,169,829	1,283,386	1,283,386
D0502 Tourist Facilities Operations	328,275	328,275	232,563	232,563
D0599 Service Support Costs	467,222	467,222	388,435	388,435
<b>D05 Tourism Development &amp; Promot</b>	<b>1,965,326</b>	<b>1,965,326</b>	<b>1,904,384</b>	<b>1,904,384</b>
D0601 General Community & Enterprise Expenses	961,584	961,584	928,248	928,248
D0602 RAPID Costs	-	-	-	-
D0603 Social Inclusion	3,411,406	3,411,406	2,582,382	2,582,382
D0699 Service Support Costs	355,218	355,218	613,271	613,271
<b>D06 Comm &amp; Enterprise Function</b>	<b>4,728,208</b>	<b>4,728,208</b>	<b>4,123,901</b>	<b>4,123,901</b>
D0701 Unfinished Housing Estates	656,696	656,696	457,262	457,262
D0799 Service Support Costs	205,398	205,398	184,037	184,037
<b>D07 Unfinished Housing Estates</b>	<b>862,094</b>	<b>862,094</b>	<b>641,299</b>	<b>641,299</b>
D0801 Building Control Inspection Costs	168,360	168,360	200,576	200,576
D0802 Building Control Enforcement Costs	741,880	741,880	749,721	749,721
D0899 Service Support Costs	495,131	495,131	408,808	408,808
<b>D08 Building Control</b>	<b>1,405,371</b>	<b>1,405,371</b>	<b>1,359,105</b>	<b>1,359,105</b>

<b>Table F - Expenditure</b>				
<b>Division D - Development Management</b>				
<b>Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service</b>	<b>2025</b>		<b>2024</b>	
	<b>Adopted by Council €</b>	<b>Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €</b>	<b>Adopted by Council €</b>	<b>Estimated Outturn €</b>
D0901 Urban and Village Renewal	208,984	208,984	1,588,010	1,588,010
D0902 EU Projects	597,606	597,606	411,579	411,579
D0903 Town Twinning	-	-	-	-
D0904 European Office	-	-	-	-
D0905 Economic Development & Promotion	4,609,340	4,709,340	4,489,156	4,489,156
D0906 Local Enterprise Office	4,688,047	4,688,047	4,266,319	4,266,319
D0999 Service Support Costs	1,881,139	1,881,139	1,957,338	1,957,338
<b>D09 Economic Development &amp; Promot</b>	<b>11,985,116</b>	<b>12,085,116</b>	<b>12,712,402</b>	<b>12,712,402</b>
D1001 Property Management Costs	477,335	477,335	240,122	240,122
D1099 Service Support Costs	175,230	175,230	126,985	126,985
<b>D10 Property Management</b>	<b>652,565</b>	<b>652,565</b>	<b>367,107</b>	<b>367,107</b>
D1101 Heritage Services	610,574	610,574	641,370	641,370
D1102 Conservation Services	171,647	171,647	195,991	195,991
D1103 Conservation Grants	674,800	674,800	674,800	674,800
D1199 Service Support Costs	152,592	152,592	226,191	226,191
<b>D11 Heritage &amp; Conservation Serv</b>	<b>1,609,613</b>	<b>1,609,613</b>	<b>1,738,352</b>	<b>1,738,352</b>
D1201 Agency & Recoupable Service	115,603	115,603	83,323	83,323
D1299 Service Support Costs	467,409	467,409	429,988	429,988
<b>D12 Agency &amp; Recoupable Services</b>	<b>583,012</b>	<b>583,012</b>	<b>513,311</b>	<b>513,311</b>
<b>Division D Total</b>	<b>48,006,849</b>	<b>48,106,849</b>	<b>44,805,371</b>	<b>44,805,371</b>

Table F - Income

Division D - Development Management				
Income by Source	2025		2024	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>				
Housing, Local Government & Heritage	3,712,147	3,712,147	4,481,634	4,481,634
Media, Tourism, Art, Culture, Sport & the Gaeltacht	363,800	363,800	409,800	409,800
Enterprise, Trade & Employment	3,960,027	3,960,027	3,326,298	3,326,298
Rural & Community Development	122,311	122,311	100,000	100,000
Other	1,333,313	1,333,313	1,053,028	1,053,028
<b>Total Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>	<b>9,491,598</b>	<b>9,491,598</b>	<b>9,370,760</b>	<b>9,370,760</b>
<b>Goods &amp; Services</b>				
Planning Fees	1,921,500	1,921,500	1,919,000	1,919,000
Superannuation	437,537	437,537	455,153	455,153
Agency Services & Repayable Works	-	-	-	-
Local Authority Contributions	-	-	-	-
Other income	1,837,800	1,837,800	1,072,330	1,072,330
<b>Total Goods &amp; Services</b>	<b>4,196,837</b>	<b>4,196,837</b>	<b>3,446,483</b>	<b>3,446,483</b>
<b>Division D Total</b>	<b>13,688,435</b>	<b>13,688,435</b>	<b>12,817,243</b>	<b>12,817,243</b>

Table F - Expenditure				
Division E - Environmental Services				
Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2025		2024	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
E0101 Landfill Operations	5,054,427	5,054,427	4,811,409	4,811,409
E0102 Contribution to other LA's - Landfill Facilities	-	-	-	-
E0103 Landfill Aftercare Costs.	1,384,563	1,384,563	1,426,884	1,426,884
E0199 Service Support Costs	444,768	444,768	328,360	328,360
<b>E01 Landfill Operation &amp; Aftercare</b>	<b>6,883,758</b>	<b>6,883,758</b>	<b>6,566,653</b>	<b>6,566,653</b>
E0201 Recycling Facilities Operations	6,982,352	6,982,352	6,993,462	6,993,462
E0202 Bring Centres Operations	741,994	741,994	834,663	834,663
E0204 Other Recycling Services	-	-	-	-
E0299 Service Support Costs	2,379,855	2,379,855	2,321,073	2,321,073
<b>E02 Recovery &amp; Recycle Facility Op</b>	<b>10,104,201</b>	<b>10,104,201</b>	<b>10,149,198</b>	<b>10,149,198</b>
E0301 Waste to Energy Facilities Operations	-	-	-	-
E0399 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>E03 Waste to Energy Facility Oper</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
E0401 Recycling Waste Collection Services	-	-	-	-
E0402 Organic Waste Collection Services	-	-	-	-
E0403 Residual Waste Collection Services	-	-	-	-
E0404 Commercial Waste Collection Services	-	-	-	-
E0406 Contribution to Waste Collection Services	-	-	-	-
E0407 Other Costs Waste Collection	-	-	-	-
E0499 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>E04 Provision Waste Collect Serv</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
E0501 Litter Warden Service	405,945	405,945	325,399	325,399
E0502 Litter Control Initiatives	1,328,982	1,328,982	1,535,340	1,535,340
E0503 Environmental Awareness Services	219,854	219,854	249,431	249,431
E0599 Service Support Costs	937,957	937,957	861,153	861,153
<b>E05 Litter Management</b>	<b>2,892,738</b>	<b>2,892,738</b>	<b>2,971,323</b>	<b>2,971,323</b>
E0601 Operation of Street Cleaning Service	3,438,348	3,438,348	3,162,075	3,162,075
E0602 Provision and Improvement of Litter Bins	-	-	-	-
E0699 Service Support Costs	662,448	662,448	581,564	581,564
<b>E06 Street Cleaning</b>	<b>4,100,796</b>	<b>4,100,796</b>	<b>3,743,639</b>	<b>3,743,639</b>
E0701 Monitoring of Waste Regs (incl Private Landfills)	385,070	385,070	280,632	280,632
E0702 Enforcement of Waste Regulations	2,530,970	2,530,970	2,329,142	2,329,142
E0799 Service Support Costs	1,103,872	1,103,872	1,197,973	1,197,973
<b>E07 Waste Regs, Monitor &amp; Enforce</b>	<b>4,019,912</b>	<b>4,019,912</b>	<b>3,807,747</b>	<b>3,807,747</b>

Table F - Expenditure				
Division E - Environmental Services				
Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2025		2024	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
E0801 Waste Management Plan	415,340	415,340	341,909	341,909
E0802 Contrib to Other Bodies Waste Management Planning	-	-	-	-
E0899 Service Support Costs	92,479	92,479	125,633	125,633
<b>E08 Waste Management Planning</b>	<b>507,819</b>	<b>507,819</b>	<b>467,542</b>	<b>467,542</b>
E0901 Maintenance of Burial Grounds	2,285,909	2,285,909	2,273,909	2,273,909
E0999 Service Support Costs	1,654,464	1,654,464	1,443,586	1,443,586
<b>E09 Maintenance of Burial Grounds</b>	<b>3,940,373</b>	<b>3,940,373</b>	<b>3,717,495</b>	<b>3,717,495</b>
E1001 Operation Costs Civil Defence	513,154	513,154	527,681	527,681
E1002 Dangerous Buildings	211,894	211,894	240,251	240,251
E1003 Emergency Planning	219,817	219,817	218,153	218,153
E1004 Derelict Sites	391,689	391,689	384,209	384,209
E1005 Water Safety Operation	957,832	957,832	894,266	894,266
E1099 Service Support Costs	838,257	838,257	801,962	801,962
<b>E10 Safety of Structures &amp; Places</b>	<b>3,132,643</b>	<b>3,132,643</b>	<b>3,066,522</b>	<b>3,066,522</b>
E1101 Operation of Fire Brigade Service	17,859,507	17,859,507	16,631,214	16,631,214
E1103 Fire Services Training	480,693	480,693	1,510,613	1,510,613
E1104 Operation of Ambulance Service	-	-	-	-
E1199 Service Support Costs	2,021,787	2,021,787	2,229,580	2,229,580
<b>E11 Operation of Fire Service</b>	<b>20,361,987</b>	<b>20,361,987</b>	<b>20,371,407</b>	<b>20,371,407</b>
E1201 Fire Safety Control Cert Costs	513,960	513,960	514,615	514,615
E1202 Fire Prevention and Education	617,239	617,239	582,024	582,024
E1203 Inspection/Monitoring of Commercial Facilities	179,538	179,538	218,420	218,420
E1299 Service Support Costs	572,947	572,947	628,014	628,014
<b>E12 Fire Prevention</b>	<b>1,883,684</b>	<b>1,883,684</b>	<b>1,943,073</b>	<b>1,943,073</b>
E1301 Water Quality Management	1,306,068	1,306,068	1,122,237	1,122,237
E1302 Licensing and Monitoring of Air and Noise Quality	410,458	410,458	348,233	348,233
E1399 Service Support Costs	1,105,781	1,105,781	858,673	858,673
<b>E13 Water Quality,Air &amp; Noise Poll</b>	<b>2,822,307</b>	<b>2,822,307</b>	<b>2,329,143</b>	<b>2,329,143</b>
E1401 Agency & Recoupable Service	140,232	140,232	112,462	112,462
E1499 Service Support Costs	27,321	27,321	26,363	26,363
<b>E14 Agency &amp; Recoupable Services</b>	<b>167,553</b>	<b>167,553</b>	<b>138,825</b>	<b>138,825</b>
E1501 Climate Change and Flooding	2,532,985	2,532,985	1,794,194	1,794,194
E1599 Service Support Costs	142,086	142,086	86,713	86,713
<b>E15 Climate Change &amp; Flooding</b>	<b>2,675,071</b>	<b>2,675,071</b>	<b>1,880,907</b>	<b>1,880,907</b>
<b>Division E Total</b>	<b>63,492,842</b>	<b>63,492,842</b>	<b>61,153,474</b>	<b>61,153,474</b>

<b>Table F - Income</b>				
<b>Division E - Environmental Services</b>				
<b>Income by Source</b>	<b>2025</b>		<b>2024</b>	
	<b>Adopted by Council €</b>	<b>Estimated by Chief Executive €</b>	<b>Adopted by Council €</b>	<b>Estimated Outturn €</b>
<b>Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>				
Housing, Local Government & Heritage	4,534,624	4,534,624	7,554,594	7,554,594
Social Protection	-	-	-	-
Defence	217,114	217,114	200,000	200,000
Environment, Climate & Communications	2,118,522	2,118,522	1,495,000	1,495,000
Other	82,221	82,221	20,000	20,000
<b>Total Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>	<b>6,952,481</b>	<b>6,952,481</b>	<b>9,269,594</b>	<b>9,269,594</b>
<b>Goods &amp; Services</b>				
Domestic Refuse Charges	-	-	-	-
Commercial Refuse Charges	-	-	-	-
Landfill Charges	-	-	-	-
Fire Charges	1,485,000	1,485,000	1,985,000	1,985,000
Superannuation	380,324	380,324	377,238	377,238
Agency Services & Repayable Works	-	-	-	-
Local Authority Contributions	-	-	-	-
Other income	5,248,563	5,248,563	5,472,309	5,472,309
<b>Total Goods &amp; Services</b>	<b>7,113,887</b>	<b>7,113,887</b>	<b>7,834,547</b>	<b>7,834,547</b>
<b>Division E Total</b>	<b>14,066,368</b>	<b>14,066,368</b>	<b>17,104,141</b>	<b>17,104,141</b>

Table F - Expenditure				
Division F - Recreation & Amenity				
Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2025		2024	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
F0101 Leisure Facilities Operations	3,687,874	3,687,874	3,045,308	3,045,308
F0103 Contribution to External Bodies Leisure Facilities	37,740	37,740	37,740	37,740
F0199 Service Support Costs	794,414	794,414	577,718	577,718
<b>F01 Leisure Facilities Operation</b>	<b>4,520,028</b>	<b>4,520,028</b>	<b>3,660,766</b>	<b>3,660,766</b>
F0201 Library Service Operations	9,837,478	9,837,478	8,758,693	8,758,693
F0202 Archive Service	125,721	125,721	111,000	111,000
F0204 Purchase of Books, CD's etc.	787,393	787,393	722,547	722,547
F0205 Contributions to Library Organisations	-	-	-	-
F0299 Service Support Costs	4,219,977	4,219,977	4,039,810	4,039,810
<b>F02 Operation of Library &amp; Archive</b>	<b>14,970,569</b>	<b>14,970,569</b>	<b>13,632,050</b>	<b>13,632,050</b>
F0301 Parks, Pitches & Open Spaces	3,204,232	3,204,232	2,477,925	2,477,925
F0302 Playgrounds	683,336	683,336	689,853	689,853
F0303 Beaches	534,313	534,313	534,313	534,313
F0399 Service Support Costs	2,565,824	2,565,824	2,435,008	2,435,008
<b>F03 Outdoor Leisure Areas Oper</b>	<b>6,987,705</b>	<b>6,987,705</b>	<b>6,137,099</b>	<b>6,137,099</b>
F0401 Community Grants	3,691,228	3,691,228	3,681,201	3,681,201
F0402 Operation of Sports Hall/Stadium	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
F0403 Community Facilities	337,108	337,108	256,381	256,381
F0404 Recreational Development	869,776	869,776	2,102,828	2,102,828
F0499 Service Support Costs	624,308	624,308	703,750	703,750
<b>F04 Comm, Sport &amp; Rec Development</b>	<b>5,542,420</b>	<b>5,542,420</b>	<b>6,764,160</b>	<b>6,764,160</b>
F0501 Administration of the Arts Programme	590,671	590,671	602,873	602,873
F0502 Contributions to other Bodies Arts Programme	1,148,563	1,148,563	874,748	874,748
F0503 Museums Operations	135,474	135,474	67,796	67,796
F0504 Heritage/Interpretive Facilities Operations	794,787	794,787	819,605	819,605
F0505 Festivals & Concerts	-	-	-	-
F0599 Service Support Costs	444,637	444,637	512,069	512,069
<b>F05 Operation of Arts Programme</b>	<b>3,114,132</b>	<b>3,114,132</b>	<b>2,877,091</b>	<b>2,877,091</b>
F0601 Agency & Recoupable Service	51,211	51,211	58,854	58,854
F0699 Service Support Costs	19,504	19,504	14,410	14,410
<b>F06 F Agency &amp; Recoupable Services</b>	<b>70,715</b>	<b>70,715</b>	<b>73,264</b>	<b>73,264</b>
<b>Division F Total</b>	<b>35,205,569</b>	<b>35,205,569</b>	<b>33,144,430</b>	<b>33,144,430</b>

Table F - Income

Division F - Recreation & Amenity				
Income by Source	2025		2024	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>				
Housing, Local Government & Heritage	-	-	1,223,490	1,223,490
Education	-	-	-	-
Media, Tourism, Art, Culture, Sport & the Gaeltacht	-	-	-	-
Social Protection	-	-	-	-
Library Council	-	-	-	-
Arts Council	170,000	170,000	219,000	219,000
Transport	-	-	-	-
Rural & Community Development	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>	<b>170,000</b>	<b>170,000</b>	<b>1,442,490</b>	<b>1,442,490</b>
<b>Goods &amp; Services</b>				
Recreation/Amenity/Culture	1,555,000	1,555,000	1,380,000	1,380,000
Superannuation	293,622	293,622	277,520	277,520
Agency Services & Repayable Works	-	-	-	-
Local Authority Contributions	-	-	-	-
Other income	371,445	371,445	117,249	117,249
<b>Total Goods &amp; Services</b>	<b>2,220,067</b>	<b>2,220,067</b>	<b>1,774,769</b>	<b>1,774,769</b>
<b>Division F Total</b>	<b>2,390,067</b>	<b>2,390,067</b>	<b>3,217,259</b>	<b>3,217,259</b>



Table F - Expenditure				
Division G - Agri, Educ, Health & Welfare				
Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2025		2024	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
G0101 Maintenance of Land Drainage Areas	141,463	141,463	72,248	72,248
G0102 Contributions to Joint Drainage Bodies	-	-	-	-
G0103 Payment of Agricultural Pensions	-	-	-	-
G0199 Service Support Costs	13,368	13,368	11,635	11,635
<b>G01 Land Drainage Costs</b>	<b>154,831</b>	<b>154,831</b>	<b>83,883</b>	<b>83,883</b>
G0201 Operation of Piers	1,208,126	1,208,126	1,194,116	1,194,116
G0203 Operation of Harbours	181,503	181,503	182,405	182,405
G0299 Service Support Costs	526,814	526,814	493,432	493,432
<b>G02 Op &amp; Maint of Piers &amp; Harbours</b>	<b>1,916,443</b>	<b>1,916,443</b>	<b>1,869,953</b>	<b>1,869,953</b>
G0301 General Maintenance - Coastal Regions	250,446	250,446	235,440	235,440
G0302 Planned Protection of Coastal Regions	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
G0399 Service Support Costs	785,602	785,602	712,362	712,362
<b>G03 Coastal Protection</b>	<b>1,286,048</b>	<b>1,286,048</b>	<b>1,197,802</b>	<b>1,197,802</b>
G0401 Provision of Veterinary Service	-	-	-	-
G0402 Inspection of Abattoirs etc	1,021,637	1,021,637	1,069,588	1,069,588
G0403 Food Safety	841,432	841,432	842,114	842,114
G0404 Operation of Dog Warden Service	970,142	970,142	937,419	937,419
G0405 Other Animal Welfare Services (incl Horse Control)	246,737	246,737	222,408	222,408
G0499 Service Support Costs	1,109,360	1,109,360	1,110,866	1,110,866
<b>G04 Veterinary Service</b>	<b>4,189,308</b>	<b>4,189,308</b>	<b>4,182,395</b>	<b>4,182,395</b>
G0501 Payment of Higher Education Grants	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
G0502 Administration Higher Education Grants	36,935	36,935	38,118	38,118
G0505 Contribution to VEC	-	-	-	-
G0506 Other Educational Services	-	-	-	-
G0507 School Meals	-	-	-	-
G0599 Service Support Costs	18,633	18,633	15,505	15,505
<b>G05 Educational Support Services</b>	<b>60,568</b>	<b>60,568</b>	<b>58,623</b>	<b>58,623</b>
G0601 Agency & Recoupable Service	-	-	-	-
G0699 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>G06 G Agency &amp; Recoupable Services</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Division G Total</b>	<b>7,607,198</b>	<b>7,607,198</b>	<b>7,392,656</b>	<b>7,392,656</b>

Table F - Income

Division G - Agri, Educ, Health & Welfare				
Income by Source	2025		2024	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>				
Housing, Local Government & Heritage	-	-	-	-
Media, Tourism, Art, Culture, Sport & the Gaeltacht	-	-	-	-
Education	-	-	-	-
Transport	-	-	-	-
Food Safety Authority of Ireland	1,822,592	1,822,592	1,839,901	1,839,901
Agriculture, Food, & Marine	-	-	-	-
Other	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500
<b>Total Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>	<b>1,828,092</b>	<b>1,828,092</b>	<b>1,845,401</b>	<b>1,845,401</b>
<b>Goods &amp; Services</b>				
Superannuation	79,636	79,636	81,105	81,105
Agency Services & Repayable Works	-	-	-	-
Local Authority Contributions	-	-	-	-
Other income	867,707	867,707	873,000	873,000
<b>Total Goods &amp; Services</b>	<b>947,343</b>	<b>947,343</b>	<b>954,105</b>	<b>954,105</b>
<b>Division G Total</b>	<b>2,775,435</b>	<b>2,775,435</b>	<b>2,799,506</b>	<b>2,799,506</b>

Table F - Expenditure				
Division H - Miscellaneous Services				
Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2025		2024	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
H0101 Maintenance of Machinery Service	3,487,456	3,487,456	3,539,554	3,539,554
H0102 Plant and Machinery Operations	11,991,140	11,991,140	11,352,104	11,352,104
H0199 Service Support Costs	2,715,621	2,715,621	2,287,588	2,287,588
<b>H01 Profit/Loss Machinery Account</b>	<b>18,194,217</b>	<b>18,194,217</b>	<b>17,179,246</b>	<b>17,179,246</b>
H0201 Purchase of Materials, Stores	48,720	48,720	43,735	43,735
H0202 Administrative Costs Stores	531,563	531,563	452,718	452,718
H0203 Upkeep of Buildings, stores	176,936	176,936	211,035	211,035
H0299 Service Support Costs	126,033	126,033	103,672	103,672
<b>H02 Profit/Loss Stores Account</b>	<b>883,252</b>	<b>883,252</b>	<b>811,160</b>	<b>811,160</b>
H0301 Administration of Rates Office	415,133	415,133	444,180	444,180
H0302 Debt Management Service Rates	1,306,912	1,306,912	1,109,712	1,109,712
H0303 Refunds and Irrecoverable Rates	15,250,000	14,550,000	15,180,000	15,180,000
H0399 Service Support Costs	1,096,817	1,096,817	821,643	821,643
<b>H03 Administration of Rates</b>	<b>18,068,862</b>	<b>17,368,862</b>	<b>17,555,535</b>	<b>17,555,535</b>
H0401 Register of Elector Costs	236,587	236,587	193,016	193,016
H0402 Local Election Costs	241,817	241,817	139,617	139,617
H0499 Service Support Costs	139,824	139,824	152,358	152,358
<b>H04 Franchise Costs</b>	<b>618,228</b>	<b>618,228</b>	<b>484,991</b>	<b>484,991</b>
H0501 Coroner Fees and Expenses	472,519	472,519	447,508	447,508
H0502 Operation of Morgue	-	-	-	-
H0599 Service Support Costs	19,360	19,360	15,963	15,963
<b>H05 Operation Morgue/Coroner Costs</b>	<b>491,879</b>	<b>491,879</b>	<b>463,471</b>	<b>463,471</b>
H0601 Weighbridge Operations	16,489	16,489	3,500	3,500
H0699 Service Support Costs	12,489	12,489	29,035	29,035
<b>H06 Weighbridges</b>	<b>28,978</b>	<b>28,978</b>	<b>32,535</b>	<b>32,535</b>
H0701 Operation of Markets	-	-	-	-
H0702 Casual Trading Areas	99,639	99,639	106,100	106,100
H0799 Service Support Costs	312,560	312,560	213,535	213,535
<b>H07 Operation Markets/Casual Trade</b>	<b>412,199</b>	<b>412,199</b>	<b>319,635</b>	<b>319,635</b>
H0801 Malicious Damage	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
H0899 Service Support Costs	-	-	-	-
<b>H08 Malicious Damage</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>

<b>Table F - Expenditure</b>				
<b>Division H - Miscellaneous Services</b>				
<b>Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service</b>	<b>2025</b>		<b>2024</b>	
	<b>Adopted by Council €</b>	<b>Estimated by Chief Executive /Mayor €</b>	<b>Adopted by Council €</b>	<b>Estimated Outturn €</b>
H0901 Representational Payments	1,750,008	1,750,008	1,579,820	1,579,820
H0902 Chair/Vice Chair Allowances	108,000	108,000	108,000	108,000
H0903 Annual Allowances LA Members	811,796	811,796	700,000	700,000
H0904 Expenses LA Members	-	-	-	-
H0905 Other Expenses	312,812	312,812	329,626	329,626
H0906 Conferences Abroad	30,000	30,000	19,900	19,900
H0907 Retirement Gratuities	50,000	50,000	-	-
H0908 Contribution to Members Associations	24,000	24,000	24,000	24,000
H0909 General Municipal Allocation	-	-	-	-
H0999 Service Support Costs.	942,920	942,920	1,390,023	1,390,023
<b>H09 Local Reps &amp; Civic Leadership</b>	<b>4,029,536</b>	<b>4,029,536</b>	<b>4,151,369</b>	<b>4,151,369</b>
H1001 Motor Taxation Operation	1,728,068	1,728,068	1,609,608	1,609,608
H1099 Service Support Costs	829,243	829,243	457,361	457,361
<b>H10 Motor Taxation</b>	<b>2,557,311</b>	<b>2,557,311</b>	<b>2,066,969</b>	<b>2,066,969</b>
H1101 Agency & Recoupable Service	10,022,681	11,508,627	7,412,707	7,412,707
H1102 NPPR	145,492	145,492	136,695	136,695
H1199 Service Support Costs	902,282	902,282	1,222,088	1,222,088
<b>H11 Agency &amp; Recoupable Services</b>	<b>11,070,455</b>	<b>12,556,401</b>	<b>8,771,490</b>	<b>8,771,490</b>
<b>Division H Total</b>	<b>56,379,917</b>	<b>57,165,863</b>	<b>51,861,401</b>	<b>51,861,401</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>516,459,490</b>	<b>517,745,436</b>	<b>458,310,594</b>	<b>458,310,594</b>

<b>Table F - Income</b>				
<b>Division H - Miscellaneous Services</b>				
<b>Income by Source</b>	<b>2025</b>		<b>2024</b>	
	<b>Adopted by Council €</b>	<b>Estimated by Chief Executive €</b>	<b>Adopted by Council €</b>	<b>Estimated Outturn €</b>
<b>Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>				
Housing, Local Government & Heritage	33,566,242	33,566,242	23,868,406	23,868,406
Agriculture, Food, & Marine	-	-	-	-
Social Protection	-	-	-	-
Justice	9,915	9,915	11,515	11,515
Other	431,604	431,604	20,450	20,450
<b>Total Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>	<b>34,007,761</b>	<b>34,007,761</b>	<b>23,900,371</b>	<b>23,900,371</b>
<b>Goods &amp; Services</b>				
Superannuation	304,805	304,805	302,003	302,003
Agency Services & Repayable Works	-	-	-	-
Local Authority Contributions	103,642	103,642	-	-
NPPR	200,000	200,000	439,000	439,000
Other income	41,934,245	41,934,245	35,933,733	35,933,733
<b>Total Goods &amp; Services</b>	<b>42,542,692</b>	<b>42,542,692</b>	<b>36,674,736</b>	<b>36,674,736</b>
<b>Division H Total</b>	<b>76,550,453</b>	<b>76,550,453</b>	<b>60,575,107</b>	<b>60,575,107</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>355,561,821</b>	<b>355,561,821</b>	<b>302,343,735</b>	<b>302,343,735</b>

**APPENDIX 1****SUMMARY OF CENTRAL MANAGEMENT CHARGES FOR YEAR 2025**

<b>Description</b>	<b>2025 €</b>
Area Office Overhead	1,529,300
Corporate Affairs Overhead	7,313,491
Corporate Buildings Overhead	6,514,881
Finance Function Overhead	5,291,708
Human Resource Function Overhead	5,994,221
IT Services	11,174,636
Print/Post Room Service Overhead Allocation	440,428
Pension & Lump Sum Overhead	29,327,507
<b>Total Expenditure Allocated to Services</b>	<b>67,586,172</b>

**APPENDIX 2**

**SUMMARY OF LOCAL PROPERTY TAX ALLOCATION FOR YEAR 2025**

<b>Description</b>	<b>2025</b> €	<b>2025</b> €
<b>Discretionary</b>		
** Discretionary Local Property Tax (Table A)	<u>29,731,207</u>	<b>29,731,207</b>
<b>Self Funding - Revenue Budget</b>		
Housing & Building	2,332,841	
Roads, Transport & Safety	<u>405,816</u>	
		<u><b>2,738,657</b></u>
<b>Total Local Property Tax - Revenue Budget</b>		<b>32,469,864</b>
<b>Self Funding - Capital Budget</b>		
Housing & Building	5,700,000	
Roads, Transport & Safety	<u>-</u>	
		<u><b>5,700,000</b></u>
<b>Total Local Property Tax - Capital Budget</b>		<b>5,700,000</b>
<b>Total Local Property Tax Allocation (Post Variation)</b>		<b>38,169,864</b>

\*\*This amount includes an equalisation contribution of €0 from the Exchequer/Local Government Fund.

## **Front Cover**

Macroom Briery Gap Theatre & Library

Clonakilty Fire Station

Kilworth Housing Scheme

Rylane Playground

Bantry Library - (Celebrates 50 Years)

N22 Macroom Bypass - (Art Scheme Sculptures)

Bere Island – Island Sky Cruise Ship

Midleton to Youghal Greenway Phase 1 (Mogeely)

Mallow Castle

Cobh Heritage Centre - (The Queenstown Experience)





Comhairle Contae Chorcaí  
Cork County Council