



January 2026





Directorate Highlights

Architects

Construction

Tender rec: - Cheshire Ballina (83)
Stage 1 & 2 – Kilbride, Swinford (40)

Facilitation Works Tender – Ellison Street Castlebar (13)

Project Completion – Ballavarry (12)

Conservation

Completion of HTI conservation project in Pearse Street and Former Church of Ireland, Ballina.

Roads

N59 Newport to Derradda Road Project – in construction stage

N60 Breaffy Active Travel & Safety Scheme – in construction stage

N5 Swinford Bypass Safety Scheme – Request sent to TII to progress to Ph 2 (Option Selection)

N26 Mount Falcon to Foxford: Consultant appointed & currently at Phase 2 Options Selection. Preferred corridor expected Q1 2026.

N60 Manulla Bypass: Commence Phase 4 statutory processes in Q3 2026

R315 Crossmolina to Lahardane & R314 Killala Road Project – Consultant appointed with NIS preparation underway.

Dates to Note

Heritage

County Mayo Heritage Forum was held on 19th December 2025.

Preparation & publication of Mayo Heritage Calendar 2026

Roads

Urban Road speed limit is ongoing with all new limits operational by the end of March, 2027.

Housing, Roads, Architectural Services & Services Development

TOM GILLIGAN



Roads

N58 Foxford Transport Project: - Phase 2 options selection underway

.Belclare to Murrish Greenway Scheme: Phase 2 Options Selection process due to be completed Q1 2026.

Great Western Greenway Newport Town: Technical consultants are appointed for Phase 5 of the TII Project Management Guidelines

National Road safety projects at various stages include:

N60 Claremorris to Ballyhaunis at Bekan – Rail Bridge – Scheme, Part 8 planning has been granted.

Ballinrobe Traffic Lights Phase 2: Feasibility & Options report to be submitted to TII in Q1 2026

N59 Lord Edward St. Ballina – Pedestrian crossing – contract awarded and works to commence shortly.

N84 Kilmaine Community Grounds – Feasibility & Options report to be submitted to TII, awaiting approval.

N84 Pedestrian crossing at Shrulue – Feasibility & Options report to be submitted to TII in Q1 2026.

N26 pedestrian crossing at Foxford, Road Safety Audit completed. Design & S.38 to be published in Q1 2026

N17 Junctions closures, contract awarded, works to commence shortly
Procurement ongoing for R332 Kilmaine to Foxhall Road Imp. Scheme. MCC Direct Labour have started site clearance.

Preparation of a NIS for the R312 Glenisland Phase 2, ongoing consultation with Inland Fisheries Ireland to overcome issues with river crossing.

Housing

HAP & RAS Delivered in December 2025:

- 1 No. properties delivered under HAP
- Total of 1,730 active households being supported by RAS/HAP in Mayo at the end of December 2025.

Leasing Programme:

- 33 No. new properties delivered in Dec. under the Leasing programme (1 Short term lease & 32 Long term lease)

Repair and Leasing RLS (December 2025)

- 18 No. applications for 53 units.

Homelessness (December 2025)

- 5 new homeless presentations in Dec. 2025
- 158 adults and 62 children in Private Emergency Accommodation.

Vacant Homes (December 2025)

Croi Conaithe Grant – 696 approved to date; 195 Paid to date;

Defective Concrete Blocks Grant Scheme (December 2025)

Stage 1 484 Applications Received.

434 Application Approved.

Stage 2 271 Applications Received.

270 Applications Approved

130 Properties completed.

URDF 3:

1 No. property advertised for sale on the open market.

1 No. property commenced CPO process under URDF 3

Affordable Housing

An application for Affordable Housing Fund has been submitted to the Department for proposed Affordable Housing Scheme for Castlebar.

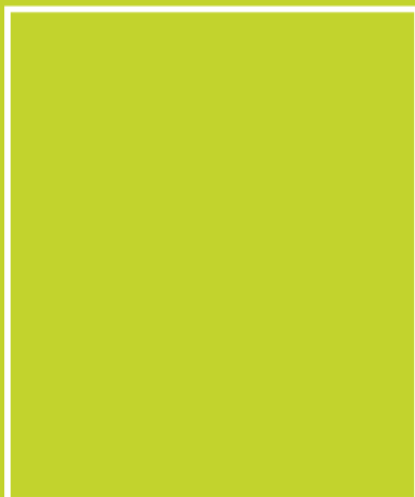




Directorate Highlights



Dates to Note



Water Services, Environment, Climate Change & Emergency Services

ANN MOORE

Acting Director of Services

**Environment****Flooding:**

The Minister for OPW Kevin Boxer Moran, joined by Dara Calleary, Minister for Social Protection, Rural and Community Development visited Ballina to announce progress on the Ballina Flood Relief scheme as it moves into Stage 3 detailed design.

An Coimisiún Pleanála confirmed without modifications, the Compulsory Purchase Order CPO for the Ballina Flood Relief scheme. The CPO involves 48 landowners and covers temporary and permanent land acquisitions and wayleaves.

Works commenced on first bridge related to the Crossmolina flood scheme which will facilitate the flood diversion channel crossing the R315.

Environment Awareness:

Composting & Recycling dumpster dives and audits in 3 secondary schools. Midwest environmental messages campaign.

Presentation of Awards sponsored under Anti-Litter Awareness Grant scheme at Castlebar Tidy Towns Awards.

Burial Ground Capital Programme:

Works commenced on construction of new cemetery at Mayo Abbey and Mayo's first Columbarium at St. Tiernan's cemetery Crossmolina. Both due to be completed early in 2026.

Climate Action:

Community Climate Action Programme Phase 2 application period closed on December 12th. Videos of some of the Community Climate Action Programme Phase 1 available across Mayo.ie platforms.

Lough Carra LIFE Project:

New Project Manager to commenced work on the 5th of January.

Derelict Sites:

Review of all files completed. Presentations to Environment SPC and Ballina MD. 8 properties added to Register and 16 removed.

Civil Defence**2025 Activity**

Mayo Civil Defence has deployed on 92 occasions throughout 2025 responding to Emergencies, Missing Person Searches, Community Support and Medical Support activities across Co Mayo. These deployments are supported by a dedicated group of Volunteers, who contribute to their community by supporting public events and initiatives, helping communities stay safe and connected during times of emergency and local tragedy.

Volunteers Charter/Development Plans

Civil Defence has recently launched its Volunteers Charter, which will be shared with all members in early January. Civil Defence HQ is currently engaged with the Department of Defence in drafting the local Civil Defence Development Plan for 2026 - 2027.





Directorate Highlights

Planning Data for December 2025

Applications received:	158
E Planning Applications:	106
Hardcopy Applications:	44
Section 5 Declaration Applications	8
Decisions to Grant:	77
Decisions to Refuse:	5
Forthcoming Decisions:	152
Formal Preplanning App:	3
Appointments at 6 Planning Clinics on the 10 th December	25

Files appealed to An Coimisiún Pleanála: 3

To date this year (2025) a total of 26 Part VIII Consultations have been placed in the public domain.

Governance & Customer Service

FOI Requests:	12
Insurance PL Claims:	4
Total Calls Answered:	2584
Ombudsman New Cases:	0

Staff Wellbeing

Launch of the following initiatives:

Menopause in the Workplace Policy and Menopause Hub.

Domestic Violence & Abuse Policy.

Coaching Programme and Coaching Hub.

Dates to Note

Planning, Human Resources, Communications, and Corporate Affairs

CATHERINE McCONNELL



Human Resources

New Appointments in December

1 Architectural Technician Grade 1

Competitions Advertised in December

Executive Architect and Craftworker Carpenter

Shortlisted/Screened

Horticulturist

Interviews held

Promotion Awareness Evaluation Officer, Preliminary Administrative Officer (Grade VII),

Apprentice Accounting Technician, Climate Action Officer

Retirements

1 General Services Supervisor and 3 General Operatives

Training Data for December 2025

125 indoor staff participated various trainings.

26 Outdoor staff participated in CSCS Signing, Lighting & Guarding at Roadworks, Manual Handling, Driver CPC Module 1, 2 & 3, CSCS Site Dumper.

Training Centre: A total of 4852 attendees participated in Castlebar Regional Training Centre courses in 2025

Corporate Communications / Diaspora / Oifig na Gaeilge / Road Safety

- Public information updates on severe weather, traffic disruption, Water repairs, recruitment.
- Christmas in Mayo** mini site developed on Mayo.ie' to promote activities and events across the County in December in conjunction with Mayo.ie's Social Media.

Social Media/Publicity Campaigns/Press Releases

- #ChristmasInMayo - Tourism 2027 Calendar Photography Competition
- Christmas Road Safety
- Clans of Mayo Homecoming 2026 Funding Scheme
- The Christmas Parking arrangements for MCC's Various MDs
- Public Information in relation to Traffic Calming Measures
- Round 2 of the Community Climate Action Programme funding
- #BeingWinterReady - Bag it & Bin it - Dog Fouling
- Out-of-Season Bathing: Be Aware of the Risks - Historic Structures Fund 2026
- Let's clear the air - Christmas Recycling – WEE and Bottle banks
- LGMA Local Authority Customer Service Report
- Mayo Vacant Home Matchmaker Scheme
- Community Climate Action Programme 2025 highlights

Road Safety

- Road Safety Campaign in collaboration with Ireland West Airport.
- Road Safety Officer recorded a Christmas Road Safety Message and this was broadcasted across Midwest Radio over the Christmas period.

Events Supported by Corporate Communications

- Christmas in Castlebar
- Canal Bank House official opening Belmullet.

Parks & Recreation

- The 2025 mapping and treatment programme for Japanese Knotweed is complete. A total of 1,479 stands are scheduled for herbicide treatment in 2026.
- Recent Playground Refurbishment works were completed at Killala Community Playground and Cois Abhainn, Castlebar.

Property & Facilities

- Water Services, LAWPRO, and CARO have fully relocated to the AKAD building on the Mall. The former Water Services area in Aras will accommodate the SCDT, Forward Planning and Planning Enforcement.
- The tender for the design of Council Chamber & foyer upgrade was published.

Procurement

- Publication of Centralised Competitions for Legal Services.
- The Plant Hire competitions for 2026 were published for all the MD's and the winning suppliers for each plant hire item notified.

Organisational Change

- Fire Safety updates in the Aras have been completed, and training was provided to over 60 staff as part of the updated Emergency Evacuation procedure.

This directorate primarily contributes to SDGs:





Directorate Highlights

Castlebar Library –

- Sam Madden, football freestyling champion held workshops 8 November
- Parenting talk with expert Aoife Lee 17 November
- Hosted a talk on the History of Castlebar Rugby Club on 20 November
- Mini Music Explorers in collaboration with Music Generation ran throughout November
- All day Genealogy Consultation in conjunction with North Mayo Heritage Centre held on 22 November

Ballina Library –

- Craoibhin Community Art Show of 8 local artists ran for November with big turnout for launch on Fri 14
- MSLETB Creative Writing Event for 30 participants facilitated by author Kate Kerrigan
- Erris Employability Information Meeting held on Fri 14 November
- Túsla Foster Peer Support Group Meeting held with 17 foster parents and children
- HSE Mayo Recovery Clinic – Held Fri 21 November with 14 participants
- Erris Employability workshop held on Tues 25 for 10 people
- Summer Stars Presentation with Sen. Mark Duffy held on Sat 29 November for 200 children receiving their certs
- 7 Outreach visits to local rural national schools in November by Ballina library staff
- Disability in Sport Week 1- 7 December MSP celebrated this national campaign with leadership, education, participation, accessibility & inclusion themed messages
- Bia Blasta grants awarded to support families registered with ECCE services

Dates to Note

- Visit MSP Eventbrite page to book courses and events from MSP - See our latest newsletter @ [mshp.ie](#)
- National Mentoring Programme to Mayo Writers open until Friday 16 January @ 5 pm
- Arts Grants 2026 Bursaries & Grants open for applications until Friday 16 January 2026
- Healthy Ireland, Round 4 is focused on Physical & Mental Health. The HI steering group will meet on Jan 20 to assess
- Mayo LCDC Education, Training & Skills Working Group will hold a Training & Education Expo at ATU Mayo Campus on Wed, 21 January from 10am -3pm
- The LEO Spring 2026 training programme available [www.leo.ie/leotraining](#)

Enterprise, Community, Economic Development & Tourism

JOANNE GREHAN



Enterprise & Economic Development Unit

- The LEO Evaluation & Approvals Committee took place on 4 December with 3 projects supported.
- The Economic & Enterprise Development SPC took place in early December and included a presentation on business sentiment and outlook in the small business community.
- Business Advisory Clinics were held in Ballina, Westport and Claremorris.

Community, Arts, Sports, Childcare

- Ongoing roll out of updated Aistear national early years curriculum information sessions to services around the County. 5 workshops delivered capturing 47 services with 127 Early Years Educators attending.
- Outdoor Recreation Plan - The draft plan was presented to and was noted at the full Council on 8 December and will be launched in early in 2026.
- Local Enhancement Fund (LEP) 2026 was announced with a fund of €217,741.96 allocated to Mayo.
- Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme 2025 funding allocated to MSP to support the ongoing work for health officers programme of work with older people in Erris and Achill areas.
- Four UPSTART Arts & Disability Projects Launch - "Art Through My Eyes" by The Hub Ballina, "My Special Place" by Belmullet Hub, 'Sensing Lannagh' by A.T.U WAVE and 'Celtic Tales by Warrior's Hand' by Luisne Arts Project.
- Town and Village Renewal Scheme (TVRS) 2025 was announced on 22 December 2025. MCC were successful in securing 4 main projects comprising: Ballina, Belmullet, Castlebar and The Neale totalling €1.4m and two Project Development Measures for Ballyhaunis and Castlebar totalling €95,000.
- Achill Tourism won the 2025 Pride of Place Community Tourism Initiative category. Cong Village received a runner up award in the 2025 Pride of Place 0-300 Population category.
- Oweninny Community Benefit Fund 2025. Applications for all four categories were approved by the Board for 2025. The amount allocated for Cat. 1,2 & 3 was €221,473; €99,100 for projects under Cat. 4.
- The 2026 Social Inclusion Communities Activation Programme (SICAP) budget allocation increased by 3% across all 3 Mayo Lots - Mayo Islands / Ballina & West Mayo / Castlebar & Claremorris.

Integration

- A meeting of the Community Integration Forum is scheduled for 13 January 2026.
- The Irish Refugee Council provided training for frontline working group members and the Housing teams in the MDs on Thurs 11 December 2025. Another training session will be scheduled for January 2026.
- TV Ireland produced a 26-minute programme titled "New Faces, Warm Places," which broadcasted on SKY TV on 25 November and the 3 December 2025. This initiative presented a positive story on how the Ukrainian community is settling in and being valued as part of Achill's community.

Tourism, Recreation & Amenity

- IAAT Conference The 7th annual conference was hosted in Westport on 26 and 27 November, with MCC as the main partner. The event was attended by over 200 people and included outdoor activities, Business 2 Business (B2B) network event, Mayo Tourism providers showcase, Panel discussions.
- Tourism Strategy MCC will begin the process of developing its new 5-year strategy.
- Murrisk Enhancement Confirmation received from DRCDG to award civil contracts and progress works on this project. Works will commence in January.
- Mayo promotion Presenting to Abbey Tours with four of Mayo's tourism providers. Sample itineraries around Mayo will be presented to the group.
- Mayo 2027 Tourism Calendar Tourism Section inviting photo submissions for Mayo Moments 2027 calendar. First round seeking winter season photos. Full details at www.mayo.ie/visit

Town Centre First (TCF), Town Regeneration

- Killala: Finalising the Tower Hub business case in preparation for funding application in 2026.
- Ballyhaunis: Continuing work to deliver priority projects in the Town Centre First Plan.
- Swinford: Continuing work with MNE SICAP to establish a Community Council for Swinford.

Ireland West Strategic Development Zone

- Engagement with Utilities continuing.
- Drafting of SDZ Development Roadmap continuing.

Library Update

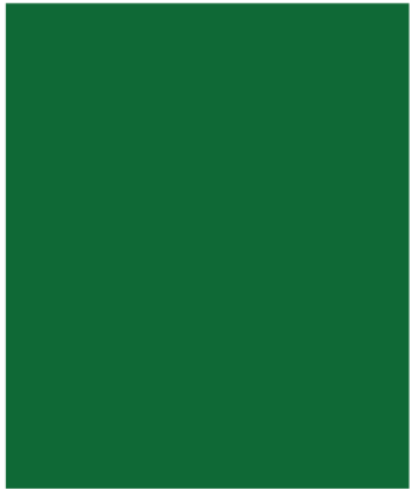
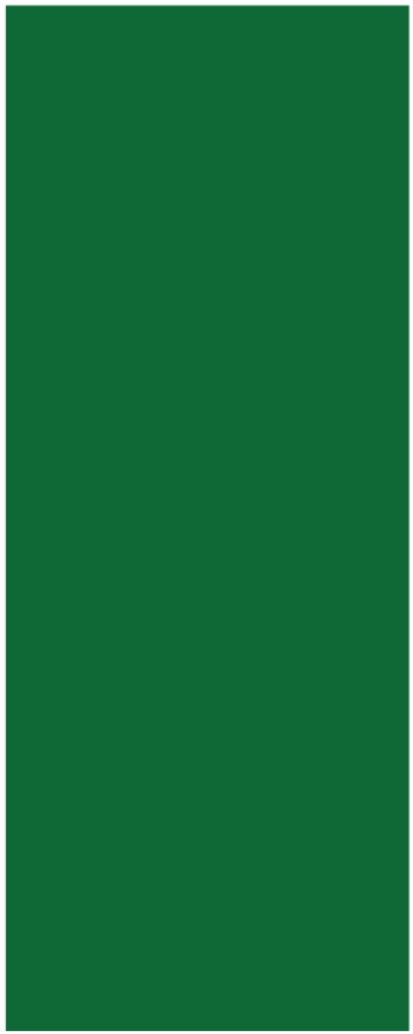
- The Jackie Clarke Collection launched its Sleeping Winter Garden on Sun 23 November, delivered in collaboration with Ballina Costume Company, Ballina Autism Friendly, Moyne College, Western Care, and Mayo Arts Squad. The launch event attracted 4,307 visitors. The JCC also received its ninth Green Flag Award for the Walled Heritage Garden and its first Green Heritage Site Accreditation Award.
- The Million Stars exhibition was installed and launched on the 25 November with music, refreshments and a craft session. The Million Stars project is an inclusive community arts project connecting communities across Ireland in solidarity against domestic abuse and all forms of violence.





Directorate Highlights

Financial Management, Information
Systems & Motor Tax
PETER DUGGAN



FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, INFORMATION SYSTEMS & MOTOR TAX

This directorate primarily contributes to SDGs:



Mayo County Council

1. Major Expenditure and Income by Division with 2023 Adopted Budget
Eleven months ended 30th November 2023

Service Division	Description	Est. To Date Nov-23	Budget 2023	Remaining 2023	% Spent 2023	Est. To Date Nov-23	Budget 2023	Net Total 2023	% Budget 2023
A	Housing and Building	37,594,348	35,006,989	-2,587,359	107%	36,132,146	33,090,031	-3,042,115	109%
B	Roads Transport and Safety	56,098,804	56,362,603	2,663,799	100%	47,206,966	46,643,565	-5,634,011	101%
C	Water Services	12,632,979	16,104,100	3,471,121	78%	16,293,612	20,422,650	3,838,938	81%
D	Development Management	18,632,389	21,207,418	2,575,029	88%	7,767,339	9,362,852	1,595,513	83%
E	Environmental Services	21,762,038	24,024,336	2,262,298	91%	8,067,957	9,364,769	1,296,812	86%
F	Recitation and Amenity	14,712,648	15,312,217	600,069	96%	5,401,621	5,401,621	-2,652,772	105%
G	Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare	1,449,552	1,561,035	111,483	93%	255,634	243,805	-12,029	105%
H	Miscellaneous Services	16,138,720	15,353,620	-785,100	105%	19,734,263	17,163,044	-2,571,319	115%
I	Central Management Changes	26,142,157	26,536,659	2,394,702	92%	41,543,453	47,662,620	5,931,166	91%
J	Local Government Fund	-	-	-	-	20,397,258	22,251,565	1,854,297	92%
GRAND TOTAL		205,163,435	213,473,677	8,310,242	96%	205,257,612	213,473,677	8,216,065	96%

2. Performance of Local Authority Revenue Collection Levels

Portals	Total for collection Nov-23	Collected Nov-23	Arrears Nov-23	% Collected
Portals	9,710,749	8,892,767	827,982	91%
Rates	44,488,380	40,817,822	3,670,558	92%
Housing Loans	3,363,103	2,863,392	499,711	85%

3. Recourse to Overdraft Facility

Number of days in overdraft	Estimated interest incurred
0	0

4. Significant Variance against Budget

	2023
Housing Rental Leasing	-265
Freight Services	80
Swimming Pools	325
Spreads - T/F to Sinking Fund	325
L L Larnagh	-325
L L Larnagh - T/F to Sinking Fund	330
Roads	330
Planning	225
Tourism	125
Libraries	430
Corporate HR	140
Finance/IT	740
Gratuities	68
Other	68