

2025



Cavan

Comhairle Contae an Chabháin
Cavan County Council

TUARASCÁIL BHLIANTÚIL



ANNUAL REPORT





Our Mission

Our mission is to collaborate with our stakeholders in providing the necessary services and supports for our people, thereby fostering sustainable growth and enhancing the quality of life in our communities. We aim to make Cavan a vibrant and welcoming place to live, work, invest and visit.

Our Vision

Cavan is recognised as an ambitious, entrepreneurial and inclusive county.



CONTENTS PAGE	
Cathaoirleach's Address	4
Chief Executive's Address	8
Municipal Districts and their Elected Representatives	11
Meeting of Local Authority	12
Conferences, Seminars, Events Attended by Elected Members	13
Training Availed of by Elected Representatives	13
Public Authorities and other Bodies Elected Representatives are on	14
Payments to Elected Representatives	15
Strategic Policy Committees	15
Political Donations	16
Corporate Plan	16
Management Team	18
Housing, Libraries & Cultural Services, Human Resources & Corporate Services	
Human Resources & Corporate Affairs	19
Housing	27
Libraries	40
Arts	45
County Museum	60
Townhall Arts Centre & Ramor Arts Centre	65
Transportation, Climate Change, Environment, Waste Management, Water Services, Town Regeneration, Economic Development, Enterprise	



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Transportation	73
Environment	107
Climate Action Cavan	120
Waste Management, & Enforcement and Environmental Education and Awareness	127
Water Services	137
Town Regeneration	148
Economic Development	155
Local Enterprise Office	158
Planning, Community Development, Rural Development, Tourism and Cuilcagh Lakelands & UNESCO	
Planning	177
Rural Development & Tourism	191
Community Development	208
Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global tourism	228
Finance, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Emergency Services	
Finance, Rates, Procurement and Internal Audit	236
Motor Tax	245
Information and Communication Technology (ICT)	247
Emergency Services & Civil Defence & Building Control	249
Appendices	
Statement of Accounts	257
Statement of Internal Financial Control (SIFC)	259
Governance Statement	264



Cathaoirleach's Address

Tá áthas orm a cur i láthair an Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Chomhairle Contae an Chabháin 2025 agus aitheantas a thabhairt don ionchur athan duine an dul chun cinn ar go leor tionscnaimh le linn na tréimhse sin.

It is with pleasure that I introduce the Annual Report of Cavan County Council for 2025 and to acknowledge the contribution of so many to the progress made on many fronts during that time.



Housing

Housing is a huge challenge and one that Cavan County Council is rising to meet. 75 new builds were delivered, including the hugely impressive St Brigid's Terrace Phase 1 development in Cavan Town. 64 vacant homes were returned to available stock in 2025.

In addition, 11 schemes for 141 new units were under construction at the year end and therefore that pipeline is set to continue.

The Council are working with property owners to address dereliction. The hugely popular Croí Cónaithe Scheme is bringing many properties back into use throughout the County.

There are many one-off homes under construction, and we are also, at last, seeing the commencement of large developments, vital to ensuring a mix of development in our towns and villages.

Delivering housing requires a combined effort. The Council leads on social housing and planning. It also requires the provision of infrastructure, particularly by Uisce Eireann, consistent national policy, and the engagement of private developers and landowners.

Capital/Regeneration Schemes

Great progress has been made in advancing some very significant projects, including the Shannon Pot Discovery Centre in my own locality, which I have no doubt will become a tourism attraction of national significance.

Clearance works took place on the transformative Abbeylands Regeneration Project, clearing the



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil

Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

way for commencement of construction in 2026. This is a project that will have a uniquely revitalising effect on Cavan Town, and I look forward to following its progress.

Around the county, progress also continued on regeneration projects in Ballyjamesduff, Kingscourt, and Cootehill. It is testament to the foresight of our rural and community development staff, aided in no small part by the energy and enthusiasm of our communities, that we have so many projects of this nature underway across the county.

These projects, along with the Regional Sports Campus, have attracted significant investment from Government and the support of Dara Calleary TD, Minister for Rural & Community Development and his Department has been indispensable.

Councillors who support difficult decisions on Commercial Rates and Local Property Tax can be especially proud of these large-scale projects, as without the matching funds the Council could not make these projects happen.

Shared Island

In May, in a hugely significant moment for West Cavan, Taoiseach Micheál Martin TD announced that the Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark is to receive €6 million to support tourism through conservation with a focus on delivering a number of projects identified in the Cuilcagh Masterplan. As Vice-Chair of the Geopark Committee, I look forward to further developments in this regard.

Culture

Once again, in 2025 Cavan, showed itself to be a cultural hotbed, with our Arts Office and our library service in particular supporting a wide range of arts and cultural events and initiatives including Cavan Arts Festival, Cavan-Monaghan Science Festival, the cross-border 'Dance Connects', the innovative and groundbreaking 'Art of Life' project and the Glangevlin Prayer Booklet – a unique project that recreated a 1921 bilingual prayer booklet from the Glangevlin Gaeltacht using phonetic Irish. 2025 also saw Cavan Arts Office represent Ireland on the European stage as our Arts and Health Officer travelled to Finland to take part in the EU CultureAndHealth Platform.

I had the pleasure of attending events in both Townhall Arts Centre Cavan and Ramor Arts Centre during 2025, and great credit must go to the team there for their commitment to delivering such a varied, entertaining and challenging programme.

Cuirim fáilte roimh cheapadh ár nOifigeach Gaeilge i mí Iúil. Cuirfidh sé leis an obair a rinne réamhtheachtaithe a raibh an Gaeilge mar chuid dá gcúram. Is céim thábhachtach í seo chun úsáid na teanga a leabú ar fud na Comhairle agus beidh sí ina spreagadh fáis sa phobal i gcoitinne.



Museum

I was delighted to officially re-open the WW1 Trench Experience at Cavan County Museum in July. It is a truly special historical attraction, and great credit goes to the current museum management and those who went before them, for the work that has gone into originally developing the attraction, and the fantastic enhancements that have seen it become a permanent installation.

As we celebrate 30 years of our County Museum, we acknowledge all the staff over the period who have made it a great success, a place to tell our story, to bring the different strands of our history together and grow mutual understanding.

Roads and infrastructure

Cavan County Council continued to make progress delivering on major transport infrastructural projects in 2025, with the N3 Virginia Bypass and the N55 Ballinagh Traffic Relief Scheme among the two most prominent. These projects take time, but when complete will alleviate bottlenecks and significantly improve road safety on the county's two most integral national routes.

The needs of road users and local communities must take centre stage, and these projects need to be expedited.

Significant work was undertaken by our roads department in maintaining and enhancing the roads network throughout the county. This is a particular challenge against the backdrop of global pricing instability and increasing weather extremes at home.

As a local authority we can only spend the money available to us. Government must address the growing gap between the funds available and need to invest in our deteriorating local and regional road network.

Climate

In 2025 Cavan County Council adopted our first ever Climate Action Plan. It is an important document, detailing almost 200 actions that will be undertaken between now and 2029. As we witness global temperature records being broken every year, the reality of climate change is becoming ever more apparent. It is crucial that Cavan County Council acts not only to reduce its own emissions, but as a leader locally, so that we can try to do our bit as a county to stem the tide of climate change.



Emergency Services

January 2025 saw one of the worst storms this country has seen for centuries, and certainly the most destructive in living memory. Miraculously no-one was killed in County Cavan, and great credit must go to our fire fighters, our civil defence volunteers, and our municipal district crews who worked around the clock to keep vital infrastructure open. I would like also to acknowledge the trojan efforts of our ESB crews, who worked tirelessly against almost impossible odds to restore power.

It, once again, highlighted the blight of poorly managed and largely unregulated afforestation particularly in West Cavan, which resulted in homes without power, water and communication and in some circumstances without road access for long periods.

Cavan was, rightly, acknowledged as a leader nationally for its efforts in opening community hubs, which allowed members of the community to come together for warmth, hot water, and shelter during the worst of Eowyn's aftermath. This was a collaborative effort, where our Rural and Community Development staff acted quickly to liaise with local communities and business owners to ensure that vulnerable people had somewhere to shelter in their hour of need. It showed how adversity can bring out the best in us, and Cavan really outdid itself in that regard.

Overseas trips

Cavan has developed many important international links. It is vital that we expand and deepen these relationships. I had the honour of leading the delegation of Council and community to Würzburg to celebrate St. Kilian. There are other relationships which can grow and develop further, in particular in France and the US, not just with the Cavan P& B Association in New York but through other elements of our diaspora. In 2025, in conjunction with the Diocese of Kilmore, we celebrated the Feast of Blessed Michael McGivney whose parents were Cavan natives, the founder of the Knights of Columbus – a huge international charitable organisation.

Cultural, educational, sporting and economic opportunities all flow from engagement with our diaspora.

Acknowledgements

Councillors are the democratically elected voice of the people. As Cathaoirleach one gets a greater appreciation of the unique role of Councillors. I thank all Councillors for their cooperation and sincere efforts on behalf of the people of the County. In particular, I thank my predecessor as Cathaoirleach, Cllr. TP O'Reilly, my Leas Chathaoirleach, Cllr. Winston Bennett and the other Councillors who stepped in for me on different occasions. I also acknowledge Eoin Doyle our Chief Executive and the senior management team at Cavan County Council with whom I and my fellow elected representatives enjoy a fruitful working relationship.



Chief Executive's Address

A chairde,

Tá áthas orm Turascáil Bhliantúil Chomhairle Contae an Chabháin a chur i láthair. Is cáipéis an-chuimsitheach agus mionsonraithe í a thugann léargas breá soiléir don léitheoir ar an dul chun cinn iontach atá déanta ag an Údarás Áitiúil le linn na tréimhse sin.



It is my pleasure to introduce the 2025 Annual Report of Cavan County Council. It is a most comprehensive and detailed document which gives the reader an excellent insight into the great progress that has been made by this local authority during that period.

2025 was a year that got off to a challenging start as January saw Cavan join the rest of the nation in bracing itself against Storm Éowyn, an exceptionally severe storm event that laid bare the scale of the climate challenge ahead while also showcasing the very best of community spirit and inter-agency cooperation.

As a local authority, Cavan County Council was at the heart of the recovery operation, whether through the efforts of our fire service, roads crews, or civil defence volunteers, or through the work of our Rural and Community Development team in coordinating a massive community effort to set up dedicated hubs across the county to provide heat, water, and shelter for those in need, an effort that was recognised when Cavan won the award for 'Best Corporate Social Responsibility' at the 2025 LAMA Awards.

Housing remains a key priority for Cavan County Council and our housing construction team hit the ground running early in 2025 with the signing of contracts for a new €2.5 million housing development in Cootehill. By year's end, 141 units were under construction in 11 schemes across the length and breadth of Cavan, while 74 new builds were completed in Kingscourt, Cootehill, Ballyjamesduff, Ballyhaise, Killeshandra and Cavan Town, where the impressive St Brigid's Terrace, phase one saw 20 apartments completed in the town centre. Further to that, significant progress was made in advancing a further nine schemes, comprising 212 housing units, through the planning and design phases.

In addition to new-build social housing, Cavan County Council continued to explore all available options to increase social housing supply during the year, with a particular focus on combatting



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil

Annual Report

dereliction. On that front, 64 social houses were renovated and returned to the council's housing stock, while the Council also supported many homeowners to return derelict properties to use through the Croí Cónaithe Vacant Properties Refurbishment Grant. By year's end, we had supported the complete restoration of 107 properties since the scheme began in 2022, with 415 applications approved in principle.

2025 also saw the substantial completion of the N55 Corduff South of Killydoon Realignment Scheme, Section B, a fantastic €31m carriageway that extends for 3.7km between Ballytrust and Mullahoran, south of Killydoon, delivering a significantly improved standard of road for all users. This follows on from the recent completion of Section A of this scheme, providing a combined 6.9km of drastically improved journeys for over 5,000 vehicles daily, eliminating significantly enhancing safety and connectivity along this key national route.

Another key strategic route, the N3 Virginia Bypass, saw further progress made as detailed designs were published in Q3. This is a nationally significant project and one that requires a great deal of planning and consultation as our staff navigate the complex process that accompanies an infrastructure project of this scale, but it is one that will have a significant impact in terms of safety, improved connectivity, and on the environment when complete.

This was also a year of great progress on Cavan County Council's capital programme, in particular with regard to our suite of regeneration projects taking place across the county in Kingscourt, Cavan Town, Cootehill, Bailieborough, Ballyconnell, and Ballyjamesduff.

In October, Cavan County Council secured €792,000 to support the development of a major regeneration project in Main Street, Bailieborough, while in December the tender process got underway for the Kingscourt Town Centre regeneration, a multi-million Euro project, funded to the tune of €10.9 million under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund (RRDF) that will transform the town core.

Significant progress was also made on St Michael's Hall in Cootehill, which received over €6m in RRDF funding, and progressed through the planning and design phases during the year, while in September, Cavan County Council signed contracts with local firm Sandar Construction for the delivery of the redevelopment of the former Percy French Hotel in Ballyjamesduff into a community hub, a project that was supported through the allocation of €7,651,195 in RRDF funding.

The Abbeylands Cavan project, too, moved forward in 2025 with enabling and clearance work continuing with a view to starting construction in 2026 in what promises to be a truly transformative project for this historic town quarter.

In February, in a significant boost to West Cavan, Taoiseach Micheál Martin announced a multi-



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil

Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

million investment in the Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark. In tandem with the ongoing development of the Shannon Pot Discovery Centre, where construction continued apace in 2025, this investment will further position the Geopark as a global centre of sustainable tourism and a must-visit destination for domestic and overseas visitors alike.

Alongside housing, Climate Action is undoubtedly the defining issue of our time – the growing instability of our weather, with more frequent and severe storms throughout the winter months, while global temperature records are shattered each summer, cannot be ignored. Cavan County Council is committed to reducing its own emissions, and further, to act as a leader in the community, a catalyst for change across the county.

From our investment in Active Travel to encourage more sustainable commuting, to our retrofitting of our housing stock, or our promotion of biodiversity initiatives, as outlined in our Biodiversity Plan 2025-2030 which councillors approved in December – Climate Action permeates all of our work. Climate Action Week, which took place in October, was an excellent showcase of our efforts in this area and an opportunity for Cavan County Council to engage with the community and promote more sustainable practices.

There are, of course, many more achievements and successes listed in this report than I can discuss here. Cavan County Council delivers over 980 services to the community on a daily basis. To deliver such a diverse array of services to the public at such a consistently high level is no small task, and would not be possible without the dedication, skill, and cooperation of our staff for whose efforts I and my colleagues on the senior management team are grateful.

I wish too, to acknowledge our Cathaoirleach during 2025, Cllrs TP O'Reilly and John Paul Feeley, who represented the county with great energy and distinction at home and abroad. I'd like also to acknowledge their fellow councillors, who provide a vital link between the executive and the community. Their willingness to make difficult decisions in order to ensure continuity of service and vital match funds for our capital programme is testament to their dedication to improving our county.

Finally, I'd like to thank the people of Cavan for their ongoing cooperation, for their engagement with our services, and for the pride they take in their community. Cavan is a truly special place to live, and I look forward to continued success as we strive together to enhance quality of life for all in the years to come.

Le gach dea-ghuí
Eoin Doyle,
Chief Executive

Municipal Districts and their Elected Representatives

Bailieborough-Cootehill Municipal District

Bailieborough-Cootehill Municipal District Elected Members		
 <p>Cllr Carmel Brady Fine Gael</p>	 <p>Cllr Clifford Kelly Fianna Fáil</p>	 <p>Cllr Niall Smith Fianna Fáil</p>
 <p>Cllr Adrian Rogers Aontú</p>	 <p>Cllr Stiofán Conaty Sinn Féin</p>	 <p>Cllr Val Smith Fine Gael</p>

Cavan-Belturbet Municipal District

Ballyjamesduff Municipal District Elected Members		
 <p>Cllr Áine Smith Fianna Fáil</p>	 <p>Cllr Brendan Fay Non Party</p>	 <p>Cllr Damien Brady Sinn Féin</p>
 <p>Cllr John Paul Feeley Fianna Fáil</p>	 <p>Cllr Niamh Brady Fine Gael</p>	 <p>Cllr Patricia Walsh Fianna Fáil</p>



Ballyjamesduff Municipal District

Ballyjamesduff Municipal District Elected Members		
 Cllr Noel Connell Sinn Féin	 Cllr Philip Brady Fianna Fáil	 Cllr Shane P O'Reilly Independent Ireland
 Cllr T.P O'Reilly Fine Gael	 Cllr Trevor Smith Fine Gael	 Cllr Winston Bennett Fine Gael

Meetings of Local Authority

Meeting	Number of meetings held in 2025
Monthly, Reconvened and Special Meetings of the Plenary Council	12
Ballyjamesduff Municipal District Meetings	6
Bailieborough-Cootehill Municipal District Meetings	8
Cavan-Belturbet Municipal District Meetings	5
Annual General Meeting	1
Annual Budget Meeting	1
Corporate Policy Group Meetings	11
Housing, Community, Social Inclusion & Corporate Services Strategic Policy Committee	2
Economic, Enterprise & Planning Strategic Policy Committee	4
Transportation, Infrastructure & Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee	2
Climate and Biodiversity Action & Environment Strategic Policy Committee	2
Cultural Development, Irish Language & Sport Strategic Policy Committee	2
Audit Committee	4

Conferences, Seminars, Events Attended by Elected Members



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil

Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Conference / Seminar / Event	Location	Purpose	Number Attended
Celtic Conferences	Clonakilty, Co. Cork	Corporate Governance	5
Celtic Conferences	Clonakilty, Co. Cork	The Evolving Role of AI in Public Relations	2
Patrick MacGill Summer School	Glenties, Co. Donegal	Summer School	4

Training Availed of by Elected Members

Title of Training	Body that Provided Training	Location	Number attended
Module 1 An overview of Wind Energy	Association of Irish Local Government (AILG)	Fairways Hotel, Dundalk / Newpark Hotel, Kilkenny	12
Module 2 Embracing Equality	Association of Irish Local Government (AILG)	Falls Hotel, Ennistymon/ Clayton Hotel, Galway	14
Module 3 Emergency Response	Association of Irish Local Government (AILG)	The Radisson Blu, Sligo/ The Rose Hotel, Tralee	6
Module 4 Planning 2025	Association of Irish Local Government (AILG)	The Radisson Blu, Cork/ The Hillgrove Hotel, Monaghan	11
Module 5 Local Authority Finance and Budget Process	Association of Irish Local Government (AILG)	Arklow Bay Hotel / Horse & Jockey Hotel, Tipperary	12
Module 6 Overview of the evolving planning context	Association of Irish Local Government (AILG)	Ravenport Resort Hotel, Wexford / Radisson Blu Hotel, Athlone	9
SPC Training	Association of Irish Local Government (AILG)	Midlands Hotel, Portlaoise	4
Annual Conference	Association of Irish Local Government (AILG)	Limerick Strand Hotel	10
Autumn Seminar	Association of Irish Local Government (AILG)	Arklow Bay Hotel, Wicklow	14
Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly	Association of Irish Regions (AIR)	Radisson Blu, Athlone	3
Spring Training Seminar	Local Authority Members' Association (LAMA)	Kilford Arms Hotel, Kilkenny	13
Autumn Training Seminar	Local Authority Members' Association (LAMA)	Amber Springs Hotel, Gorey	16



Public Authorities and Other Bodies Elected Members are represented on

Cavan Monaghan Education and Training Board	Brendan Fay, Áine Smith, Clifford Kelly, Winston Bennett, Carmel Brady, Niamh Brady, Damien Brady
Health Service Executive Regional Health Forum, Dublin North East	John Paul Feeley, Áine Smith, Trevor Smith
Cavan Local Sports Partnership Board	Brendan Fay, Damien Brady, Niamh Brady, Patricia Walsh, Niall Smith
Northern & Western Regional Assembly	Áine Smith, Trevor Smith
Irish Central Border Area Network (ICBAN)	Patricia Walsh, Adrian Rogers, Winston Bennett
Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Limited	Adrian Rogers
Association of Irish Local Government (AILG)	Philip Brady, Winston Bennett, Carmel Brady
Local Authority Members' Association (LAMA)	Clifford Kelly
Cavan Local Community Development Committee	Clifford Kelly, T.P. O'Reilly, Val Smith
Cavan Local Community Safety Partnership (from 8 th December 2025)	Brendan Fay, Clifford Kelly, Niall Smith, T.P. O'Reilly, Carmel Brady, Damien Brady, Niamh Brady
North East Regional Drugs Task Force	Carmel Brady, Noel Connell
Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee	John Paul Feeley, Patricia Walsh, Damien Brady, Trevor Smith
Age Friendly Alliance	Niall Smith, Carmel Brady
Local Monitoring Committee (Rural Water Programme)	Philip Brady, Winston Bennett, T.P. O'Reilly, Damien Brady
County Cavan Heritage Forum	Áine Smith, Clifford Kelly, Brendan Fay, Stiofán Conaty, Trevor Smith
HSE Cavan/Monaghan Suicide Prevention Steering Group and Community Implementation Group	Sarah O'Reilly, T.P. O'Reilly
Cavan PEACE Partnership	Clifford Kelly, Patricia Walsh, Niall Smith, Val Smith, Trevor Smith



Payments to Members of Cavan County Council in 2025

Annual Expenses Allowance (travel, subsistence and miscellaneous expenses)	€58,534.79
Representational Payments (Salary)	€569,677.03
Local Representation Allowance	€50,662.28
Cathaoirleach / Leas Cathaoirleach Allowances (including Municipal Authorities)	€42,774.76
Chairpersons of Strategic Policy Committees	€31,050.00
Travel, Subsistence for attendance at Conferences, Seminars	€6,754.66
Travel, Subsistence for attendance at Training Events	€48,866.32
Travel, Subsistence for attendance at events abroad	€2,856.16

Strategic Policy Committees

Economic Development, Enterprise & Planning	Climate, Biodiversity Action & Environment
<p>Cllr Winston Bennett Chair Cllr T.P. O'Reilly Cllr Val Smith Cllr John Paul Feeley Cllr Brendan Fay Cllr Adrian Rogers Richard Moeran – Agriculture & Farming Darragh Elliott – Development & Construction Connie Whelan – Business & Commercial Michael Lynch – Community & Voluntary</p>	<p>Cllr Philip Brady Chair Cllr Winston Bennett Cllr Carmel Brady Cllr Áine Smith Cllr John Paul Feeley Cllr Brendan Fay Seamus Dolan – Agriculture & Farming Malachy Magee – Business & Commercial John O'Hare – Environment & Conservation Reuben Jaiwardene – Community & Voluntary</p>
Housing, Social Inclusion & Corporate Services	Transportation, Infrastructure & Emergency Services
<p>Cllr Val Smith Chair Cllr Niall Smith Cllr Patricia Walsh Cllr Niamh Brady Cllr Trevor Smith Cllr Noel Connell Ian Sexton – Trade Unions Paul Elliott – Development & Construction Carol Beattie – Social Inclusion Carol Smyth – Community & Voluntary</p>	<p>Cllr Trevor Smith Chair Cllr T.P. O'Reilly Cllr Patricia Walsh Cllr Philip Brady Cllr Damien Brady Cllr Clifford Kelly Andrew Leddy – Agriculture & Farming Peter Fitzpatrick – Development & Construction Orla McGahon – Business & Commercial Pearce Whelan – Community & Voluntary</p>



Cultural Development, Irish Language & Sport

Cllr Clifford Kelly **Chair**

Cllr Niamh Brady

Cllr Carmel Brady

Cllr Niall Smith

Cllr Áine Smith

Cllr Stiofán Conaty

Dr. Fiona O'Hanlon – Business & Commercial

Elizabeth Wilson Higgins – Social Inclusion

Lorraine Teevan – Community & Voluntary

Michael Goldrick – Environmental & Conservation

Political Donations

The Local Elections (Disclosure of Donations & Expenditure) Act, 1999 (as amended) requires that Elected Members of Local Authorities furnish donation statements to their Local Authority by 31st January each year giving details of donations received by them in the preceding twelve-month period. No single political donations exceeding €600 in value were declared by the elected members for the period 1st January 2024 to the 31st of December 2024 as per donations statements submitted by each elected member by the 31st of January 2025.

The Corporate Plan 2024 - 2029

The Corporate plan was adopted in February 2025 and outlines the Local Authority's strategic framework for activity during the lifetime of the Council. (It is adopted in accordance with section 134 of the Local Government Act 2001 as inserted by section 49 of the Local Government Act 2014).

Extensive research and public consultation was undertaken for the development of this new corporate plan.

Our Values

The focus of Cavan County Council is to deliver a quality service to the citizens of Cavan in an efficient, accountable and transparent way. The following core values will inform and underpin our decisions:



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil

Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Collaboration and Teamwork	Cavan County Council will work together, in collaboration with service users, communities and stakeholders, through meaningful engagement to achieve better service delivery and better outcomes for all.
Human-centric and Customer Focused	Cavan County Council will place the needs of our citizens, customers and staff at the heart all decisions and services, to enhance customer experience, improve the delivery of services and improve quality of life in County Cavan.
Accountable and Transparent	Cavan County Council will work with the Elected Members and staff to ensure that the organisation operates with good governance and will be open and transparent in all aspects of our work and the delivery of services to the public.
Equality and Inclusion	Cavan County Council is committed to fostering an environment where everyone has equal access to opportunities, accessible services, and decision-making, ensuring that diversity is embraced and inclusion is at the heart of everything we do.
Innovative and Creative	Cavan County Council will strive to find new and creative solutions to challenges, embracing innovation to improve services, drive positive change, and enhance the lives of all residents.
Leadership and ambition	Cavan County Council will lead with integrity and vision, inspiring positive change and fostering an environment where ambitious goals are set and achieved for the benefit of the county.

The Strategic Objectives identified in the Corporate Plan are as follows:

Strategic Objective 1	Placemaking – Making Cavan a great place to live, work, invest and visit
Strategic Objective 2	People – Strengthening our communities
Strategic Objective 3	Economy – Promoting Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development
Strategic Objective 4	Climate Action – Succeed in mission to implement Climate Action Plan
Strategic Objective 5	Collaboration – Local, Regional and All Island collaboration
Strategic Objective 6	Our Council – Provide an efficient and effective Local Authority

In accordance with section 134 (9) (a) of the local Government Act 2001 Cavan County Council is required to prepare an Annual Progress Report on the implementation of the Corporate Plan This annual review was carried out and presented as part of the budget report submitted to the members at the time of the statutory budget meeting. The annual progress report included reports by the various departments and is supplemented by the Annual Service Delivery plan and the chief executives' monthly reports. The report highlighted progress made during 2025 and also sets out progress made in relation to commitments set down by the Council's Corporate Plan for the period 2024-2029.



Management Team



Eoin Doyle
Chief Executive



Paddy Connaughton
Director of Services



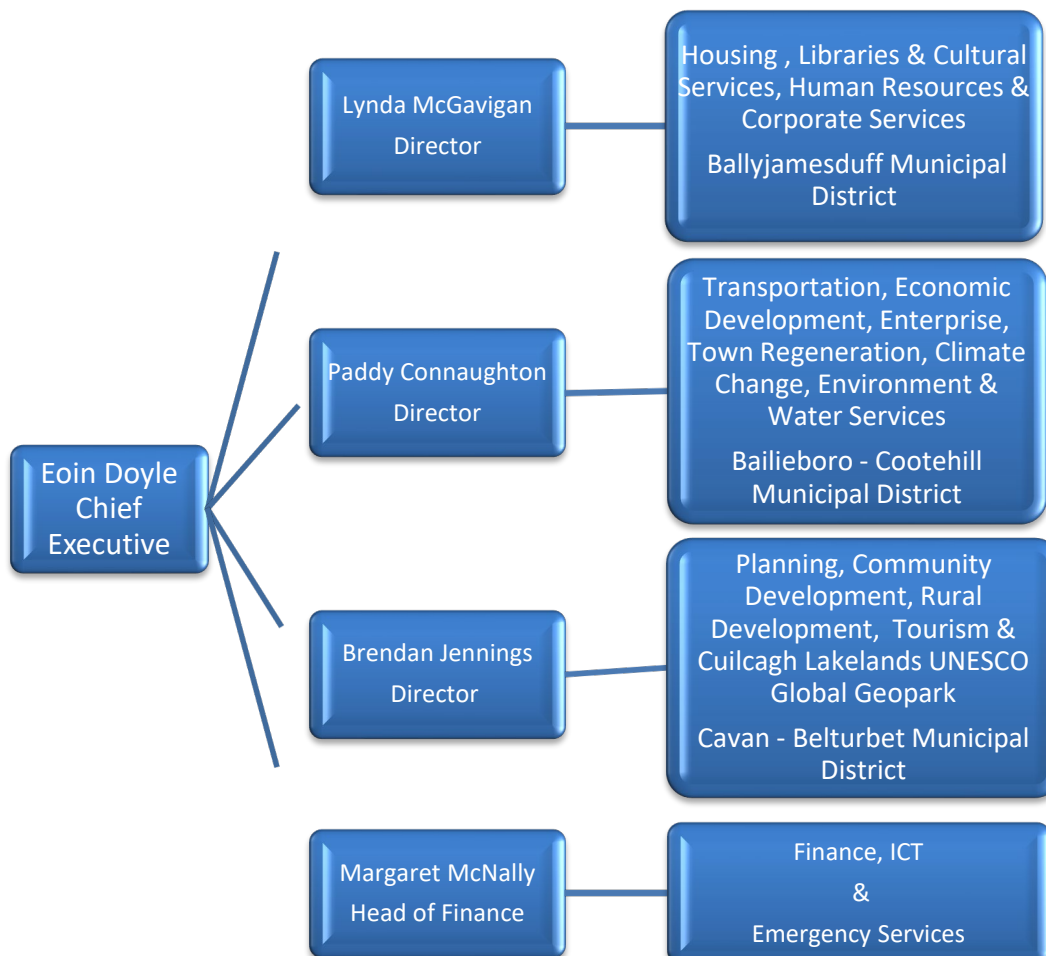
Brendan Jennings
Director of Services



Margaret McNally
Head of Finance



Lynda McGavigan
Director of Services





Human Resources & Corporate Services, Housing, Libraries & Cultural Services,

Human Resources & Corporate Services

Human Resources

The Human Resources Department is responsible for the delivery of all aspects of the human resources function which includes the recruitment, selection, and organisation of staff, training and development, staff welfare, industrial relations, performance management and development, workplace partnership, equality and diversity and superannuation. On 31st December 2025, 498 staff and 111 retained firefighters were employed by the Council.

Recruitment

During 2025 the Human Resources Department finalised competitions advertised at the end of 2024 and also organised a further 34 separate competitions for various posts within the Council. The 2025 competitions attracted 1,091 applicants and a significant number of employees have been appointed as a result of these competitions, including new employees joining the organisation and, in many cases, existing employees attaining promotion.

Gender Pay Gap Report

In December 2025, the Council published its Gender Pay Gap Report, the fourth such report to be commissioned by this local authority. The Gender Pay Gap calculates the percentage difference between the average earnings of males and females irrespective of their role. The Gender Pay Gap is not the same as equal pay. Employment Equality legislation provides for equal pay for like work. All male and female employees in the local government sector are paid equally for work that is the same or similar or for work of equal value, therefore this report does not examine equal pay. Rates of pay within the sector are agreed through national wage agreements negotiated regularly between employers and staff representatives. Most employees are paid according to an incremental salary scale.

Organisations are asked to select a 'snapshot' date in the month of June. The reporting period is the 12-month period immediately preceding and including the snapshot date. For local authorities, the snapshot date is 30 June 2025. Organisations have six months to prepare their calculations, before reporting six months later during December 2024. By way of comparison, in terms of gender balance on 30th June 2024 61% of Cavan County Council's employees were male and 39% were female, and this remained the same in 2025.



In 2025, the Mean Gender Pay Gap shows that on average, females are paid 0.55% less than males. The Median Gender Pay Gap shows that the median rate of pay for females is 10.44% higher than the median rate of pay for males.

More detailed information in relation to part-time employees, pay band quartiles etc. is outlined in the [Gender Pay Gap Report](#) which is available on the Council's website [ccc-gender-pay-gap-report-2025.pdf](#) or on request from the Human Resources Section.

Staff Welfare

Work/Life Balance Options

We are conscious of the need for staff to balance their working and domestic lives. Employees have access to a wide range of schemes that aspire to assist employees achieve a proper work life balance. Schemes include parental leave, force majeure leave, work sharing, shorter working year and career breaks.

Blended Working

In accordance with national guidelines for the public sector, blended working arrangements were also introduced in 2022. Blended working is a combination of office based/on-site and remote working which can be undertaken at home, in a hub or alternative office-based location.

Blended working, where consistent with the organisational needs of the local authority and where a role is deemed suitable, enables a local authority (subject to certain criteria) to offer a choice to an employee of the location where their role will be undertaken. Whilst this does not change the nature of the role or the substantive duties to be carried out by the employee, it will require all employees to be more flexible in the undertaking of their duties both in the remote and office-based environment.

It was a matter for each Council to develop its own Blended Working Policy, consistent with the sectoral national framework. The policy has considered the functional and operational needs of the Council, having due regard to national and sectoral policy to ensure consistency. This consistency reflects in the application of blended working to grades, roles, and functions across the sector and takes into account the individual service delivery models/process of each local authority.

Employees have the right to request the option of blended working within the policy of the Council. However, reflecting the nature of local government services, a significant proportion of the Council's services must be delivered within a specific workplace on a full-time basis and therefore, would not be suitable for blended working.

Employees availing of blended working will be required to attend the Council's work premises for



a minimum of 3 days per week and can therefore work remotely for a maximum of 2 days per week. The move to blended working does not, of itself, change existing hours of attendance. The application process opened in June 2022, and blended working arrangements were implemented from Monday 3rd October 2022. To date, 159 employees are currently availing of blended working arrangements.

Learning & Development

A comprehensive Learning & Development Programme was delivered in 2025 to enable staff carry out their role in a confident, competent manner and contribute effectively to the overall vision of the organisation and the accomplishment of its goals and objectives. Staff training was delivered via 44 online courses and 191 in-person courses, with specific emphasis on health & safety and mandatory organisational training needs. Cumulatively, training was provided to 1,003 indoor staff and 290 outdoor staff. Support continued to be provided to staff wishing to pursue further education study programmes.

In 2025, an Employee Financial Wellness Programme was offered to staff, and 273 staff took part in the Programme with 80 staff availing of one-to-one Guidance Clinics.

A total of 379 staff took part in Lunchtime talks in 2025.

Performance Management and Development System (PMDS)

Performance Management and Development System (PMDS) is the mechanism used to support and improve performance at individual, team and organisational levels and is a means of engaging, supporting and developing individual staff members. The competency framework, is an integral part of our PMDS process, ensuring staff have the skills, knowledge and aptitudes to work effectively. During 2025 a significant review of our PMDS processes was undertaken with the aim of launching in 2026 a new online system for office-based staff and a streamlined hard copy system for site-based staff. These processes will be supported by new guidance and training for managers Performance Management and Development System in Cavan County Council is driven by the Senior Management Team.



Corporate Services

Freedom of Information (FOI)

The Freedom of Information Act came into effect on 21 April 1998. The current Freedom of Information (FOI) legislation was enacted and applied to local authorities in October 2014. The 2014 FOI Act provides that every person has the following legal rights to:

- access official records held by Government Departments or other public bodies as defined by the Act.
- have personal information held on them corrected or updated where such information is incomplete, incorrect or misleading.
- be given reasons for decisions taken by public bodies that affect them.

Freedom of Information (FOI) Statistics 2025

Cases brought forward from 2024:	2
Number of applications received	55
Number of applications granted	37
Number of applications part granted	6
Number of applications refused	9
Withdrawn/Dealt with outside FOI	1
Ongoing requests	4

Data Protection

Data protection is a fundamental right provided for under Article 8 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. This right ensures that every individual is entitled to have their personal data protected, processed fairly and lawfully, and made available to them upon request. Individuals also have the right to request that inaccurate personal data be corrected without delay.

Rights of Individuals Under Data Protection Legislation

Under data protection legislation, members of the public are entitled to the following rights:

- The right to be informed about how their personal data is used
- The right of access to their personal data
- The right to rectification of inaccurate or incomplete data
- The right to erasure (the “right to be forgotten”)
- The right to restrict processing of their personal data



-
- The right to data portability
 - The right to object to the processing of their personal data
 - Rights in relation to automated decision-making and profiling

Data Protection Obligations of Cavan County Council

As a Data Controller, Cavan County Council is legally obliged to comply with the data protection principles, they are as follow:

- Process personal data lawfully, fairly, and transparently
- Collect personal data only for specified, explicit, and legitimate purposes, and not process it in a manner incompatible with those purposes
- Ensure that personal data is adequate, relevant, and limited to what is necessary for the stated purpose
- Keep personal data accurate and up to date, and to rectify or erase inaccurate data without undue delay
- Retain personal data no longer than is necessary where it permits the identification of individuals
- Protect personal data by implementing appropriate technical and organisational security measures
- Be able to demonstrate compliance with all data protection principles
- Respond appropriately and within statutory timeframes to requests from individuals exercising their data protection rights, including Subject Access Requests

Data Protection Statistics 2025

- Subject Access Requests received: 6

Council Meetings and Elected Members

Corporate Affairs has responsibility for the administration of plenary Council meetings, Corporate Policy Group meetings and provides support to the Cathaoirleach and the Elected Members in carrying out their functions and duties.

Tgi kugt'qHGrgevqtu

The Electoral Reform Act 2022 is a fundamental strengthening of our electoral system and processes, and it will make them more streamlined, effective, inclusive and resilient into the



future. Under the new Electoral Reform Act 2022, the processes of producing a draft, final and supplement registers have been replaced by a single live and continuously updated register. This means that the same process is in place all year around and electoral records can be updated at any time up to fifteen days before an electoral event. The most significant change to the electoral register process lies in the move from fixed statutorily imposed deadlines for updating electoral register to continuous or rolling registration which can now be done online or through a form. From the age of sixteen years, one can apply to be added to the Pending Electors List, and the registration system will record the elector as pending until they reach the eligible voting age of eighteen years. Once they reach eighteen the registration system will automatically update their status to active.

Cavan County Council participated in a national data cleansing project to prepare for migration to a centralised electoral database called Voter.ie which will improve data accuracy and accessibility for millions of electors. Cavan County Council engaged in various promotional initiatives throughout the year as well as media campaigns in order to promote [checktheregister.ie](https://www.checktheregister.ie)

Currently, 62,085 voters are registered in County Cavan with Bailieborough Cootehill Municipal District having 21,261, Ballyjamesduff Municipal District having 21,484 and Cavan Belturbet Municipal District having 19,340.

Promotion of the Irish Language

Cavan County Council continued to fulfil the requirements of the Official Languages (Amendment) Act, 2021.

- A staff officer was appointed in July with Irish Language responsibilities to oversee matters in relation to the obligations in the Official Languages Act.
- A staff survey was carried out with 110 staff showing interest in participating in Irish Language courses. Irish Language courses were procured for staff at beginner and intermediate level. Courses are due to commence in early 2026 and it is proposed to offer approximately 40 staff places on these courses.
- A survey was carried out on the Council's public signage at the Corporate Headquarters; it is envisaged that work will commence in 2026 to comply with our obligations under the Official Languages Act.
- Irish language adverts were placed in newspapers and magazines in accordance with Section 10a of the Official Languages (Amendment) Act 2021, as well as continuing to meet other requirements of the Act.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil

Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

The Council also promoted the use of the Irish language through the following events and scholarships in conjunction with Cavan Libraries.

Cavan Library Service delivered an extensive and varied Irish-language programme for all ages for Seachtain na Gaeilge 2025. A strong focus was put on social activities, including interactive events such as Scrabble, Bingo, Scavenger Hunts and Craft workshops with all ran via the medium of As Gaeilge. The Pop-up Gaeltacht event and the 'Cúpla Focail agus Cupán Tae' social gatherings, encouraged informal and social use of the Irish language which were designed to make language learning a fun and enjoyable activity. In 2025 the focus of Cavan Libraries was not solely on the two weeks of Seachtaine na Gaeilge, but also to focus on building on the work done by library staff to incorporate Irish Language events into the standard calendar of events for the service.

Throughout the year, Cavan Library service delivered a comprehensive programme of events to support language learning:

- The regular Club Leabhair (book clubs) and Ciorcal Comhrá (conversation circles) to build confidence and regular usage. Each group works with the language capabilities of its members and helps them to progress in their knowledge via social interaction and lessons where requested (Ciorcal Comhrá).
- The Gaeltacht Scholarship programme 2025 was expanded this year to give immersive language opportunities to both young people and adults. This initiative was supported by Cavan County Council, Ghlor Bhréifne and Coláiste Sheosaimh.
- Delivery of free Irish-language workshops in libraries countywide to support Leaving Certificate students, in preparation for the Oral Irish examinations.
- Support young children through Scéalaíocht (Storytime sessions in Irish) to foster early engagement with the language.
- Mo Chéad Fhocail, a themed Book Display featuring the new collection of As Gaeilge Board Books to provide family-focused activities that support language development in the home.

Learning is further enhanced by the provision of free access to a range of As Gaeilge learning tools and digital language supports that ensure inclusive access from the early years to adults, including:



- Irish-language collections (books, eBooks, audiobooks) to support both fluent speakers and learners.
- Families and schools can access the Libraries LOTE4Kids, an online service, providing picture books and storytelling in multiple languages including Irish, that encourages shared reading at home and at school.
- Adults can access the Library's Transparent Language online learning platform that supports self-directed learning for all languages including Gaeilge.

Through the year the Library Service supports an Irish Language programme that has a community and cultural Impact:

- Delivery of the initial lecture in the Gaeilge Bhréifne Series by local author and Gaelgoir Seán Ó hUltacháin.
- Work in partnership with schools and community groups to strengthen local Irish-language networks.
- Promote Irish culture, literature, and heritage through events and displays.
- Provide bilingual signage in library spaces, reinforcing Irish as a living, everyday language.
- Irish language and culture programming throughout the year including Bealtaine, Heritage Week, Children's Book Festival.

Customer Service Desk

The Customer Service Desk provides a vital front-facing service, acting as the first point of contact for members of the public seeking information, assistance and access to Council Services. Staff manage a wide spectrum of enquiries across multiple Council Divisions, providing accurate information and directing customers to the appropriate services where necessary. The team engages with the public through multiple communication channels, including face-to-face, telephone calls and email correspondence.

A key responsibility of the Customer Service Desk is processing payments on behalf of the majority of Council Departments, ensuring transactions are handled accurately and in accordance with Council Procedures.

In addition, the Customer Service Desk is responsible for logging Housing Maintenance Repair Requests, monitoring progress and updating repeat requests. The team also manages the



raising of purchase orders for service suppliers and stationery, supporting the efficient operation of Council Services.

In an environment where many members of the public are experiencing economic and personal challenges, the team is committed to delivering an efficient, professional and empathetic service. By responding to diverse and often complex queries, the team strive to resolve issues promptly while ensuring that customers feel supported, respected and informed throughout their interactions with the Council.

Overall, the Customer Service Desk plays a vital role in maintaining positive public engagement with the Council by delivering responsive, efficient and customer focused services.

Housing

Delivery of the Housing Capital Programme

Funding for the construction of new social housing schemes, the acquisition of houses for use as council owned social housing, and other capital grant aid comes from the Social Housing Investment Programme. The 2025 Capital Funding Allocations received from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage were as follows:

• New Build Programme	€ 23,940,965
• Acquisition Programme	€ 386,552
• Part V Purchases	€ 820,779
• Energy Retrofit	€ 256,363
• Voids Programme	€ 462,000
• Housing Adaptation Grants to Council Houses	€ 164,222
• Traveller Accommodation Programme	€ 332,686
• <u>Planned Maintenance</u>	<u>€ 150,029</u>
TOTAL	€ 26,513,596

By the end of 2025, another 74 “new build” social housing units were completed under the Council’s “Housing for All” Programme:

- 20 Units at St Brigid’s Terrace, Cavan
- 10 Units at Lisaturrin, Kingscourt
- 8 Units at Portaliffe, Killeshandra
- 7 Units at Páirceanna an Bhaile, Ballyhaise

- 6 units at Woodlands, Ballyjamesduff.
- 6 Units at Cavan Road, Errigal, Cootehill
- 6 Units at Cnoc na Rí, Kingscourt
- 3 Units at “The Duckin Stool”, Belturbet
- 3 Units at Taoibh Coille, Yew Park, Virginia
- 3 Units at Kilnavara Heights, Cavan Town.
- 2 Units at Main Street, Killeshandra.



St. Brigid's Terrace, Cavan – Phase 1



Lisaturrin, Kingscourt



Portaliffe, Killeshandra

In addition, at the end of 2025, 11 schemes for 141 new units were under construction.

- 45 Units at Páirc na Teile, Bailieborough
- 20 Units at St Brigids Terrace, Cavan
- 13 Units at Chapel Lane, Town Centre, Cootehill
- 11 Units at Pairc na Cairéal, Cootehill
- 10 Units at Coolkill, Kilnaleck
- 9 Units at Ashgrove Court, Ballyjamesduff
- 9 Units at Widows Row, Belturbet
- 8 Units at Main Street, Kilnaleck
- 7 Units at “The Palais”, Holborn Hill, Belturbet
- 5 Units at Barrack Road, Kilnaleck
- 4 Units at Drumbarlow, Belturbet



Páirc na Teile, Baileborough



Páirceanna an Bhaile, Ballyhaise



St. Brigid's Terrace, Cavan – Phase 3



Significant progress was made during 2025 on 9 other schemes for 212 units:

- 64 Units at Swellan Lower, Cavan
- 44 Units at Lios na Rí, Munnilly, Cootehill
- 32 Units at Railway Road, Swellan Upper, Cavan Town
- 20 Units at Crossdoney Road, Ballinagh
- 20 Units at Kells Road, Kingscourt
- 12 Units at Derrylurgan Court, Ballyjamesduff
- 10 Units at Clankee Court, Shercock
- 7 Units at Kilnavara Lane, Cavan Town
- 3 Units at Aughnaskerry, Cavan Town

Management, Maintenance and Refurbishment of Housing Stock.

Housing Construction Section is responsible for the maintenance of the Council's stock of 2252 housing units. A sum of €1,566,000 was allocated in the Council Budget 2025 for response maintenance to council houses.

The budget allocation is used for day-to-day repairs such as:

- Heating Issues.
- Plumbing Issues.
- Electrical Issues.
- Roof Repairs.
- Window repairs - fair wear and tear only – (tenant responsible for broken windows).
- Door repairs – fair wear and tear only.
- Stove repairs.
- Repairs to demountable dwellings.

Programme of Works to Vacant Housing Units

A funding allocation of €484,000 was received from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for the completion of improvement works on 44 vacant houses. This allows for funding up to an average value of €11,000 per property per claim.

With the addition of this funding and own resources funding the refurbishment of 64 vacant houses was completed in 2025.



Vacant House Before



After

Croí Conáithe (Towns) Fund - Vacant Properties Refurbishment Grant

This scheme was launched in July 2022, it was expanded in November 2022 and again in May 2023. The following expansion of the scheme came into effect on 01 May 2023:

- 1) The inclusion of one property which will be made available for rent, by the owner, in addition to one grant for a property which will be the principal private residence of the owner.
- 2) Changing the property eligibility date, which is currently pre-1993 for the build date, to include vacant and derelict properties built up to and including 2007; and
- 3) Increasing the current maximum grant rates from €30,000 to €50,000 for vacant properties and from €50,000 to €70,000 for derelict properties.



Vacant Properties Refurbishment Grants from 01 July 2022 to 31 December 2025:

- | | |
|---|-----|
| • Total number of Applications received to date | 525 |
| • Number of Applications to provide further information | 32 |
| • Number of Applications approved in principle to date | 415 |
| • Works completed and Applicants Paid | 107 |



Adaptation Works for Disabled Persons & Improvement Works in Lieu Scheme

Funding of €164,222 was received from the Department of Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage with co-funding of €18,247 from the Council which allowed for the completion of adaptation works to 21 council houses for tenants with a disability.

Inspection of Private Rented Accommodation:

Housing Section carries out inspections on private rented accommodation to assess compliance with the Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) Regulations 2019.

447 private rented dwellings were the subject of at least one inspection for compliance with the Regulations during 2025, with a total of 539 inspections carried out.

Summary of Social Housing Needs Assessment 2025

The annual Summary of Social Housing Needs Assessment was carried out on 3 November 2025. As part of this process 216 files were reviewed and 60 applications were closed due to unreturned forms, over the income threshold or voluntary withdrew applications.

At 31st December 2025 a total of 1160 households qualified for social housing support. 592 of these were already in receipt of support and were seeking a transfer from existing council or HAP tenancies leaving the total nett need for social housing support in the county at 568. 565 social housing applicants completed a housing assessment interview.

The housing department received 475 social housing applications in 2025.

Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)

HAP plays a vital role in the delivery of affordable housing to the residents in the County. It is a form of social housing support whereby the Council provides financial assistance to people who are qualified renting in the private rented sector. There was a total of 347 active tenancies on 31st December 2025.

Cavan County Council provide a HAP Place Finder Service. The service provides guidance and financial support to those households who find themselves in homelessness or with impending homelessness. 30 social housing applications were processed through this service and prevented from entering homelessness. A total of €61,204 was paid for rental deposits/rents in 2025.



Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)

RAS is a social housing initiative that seeks to help individuals who have long-term housing need to seek accommodation through the private rental sector. The Department of Housing have issued updated guidance in relation to RAS in an effort to promote the scheme as a means of an accommodation solution for those exiting homelessness and/or have a disability. In 2025 there were 19 new RAS tenancies created. At 31st December 2025 there were 329 active RAS tenancies (private and approved housing body).

Leasing of Property

In 2025 a total of 292 active lease agreements were in place with both private landlords and Approved Housing Bodies under the social housing leasing scheme. All of these are rented by the Council to qualified applicants on its waiting list.

Mortgage to Rent Scheme

At 31 December 2025, 55 homeowners were successfully housed in this scheme. Activity in this area continues to increase which is beneficial for homeowners who are at risk of losing their homes and becoming homeless. There were 11 applications completed in 2025.

Loans and Tenant Purchase

The Council continued to offer loans to first time buyers under the Housing for All Local Authority Home Loan Scheme. In 2025, 31 loan applications were received. 3 loans were paid out totalling €368,800

13 tenant households purchased their houses under the Tenant (Incremental) Purchase Scheme in 2025.

Differential Rent Scheme 2025

The Differential Rent Scheme 2025 came into effect on 1st November 2025, and a full tenant rent review commenced. On 24th November 2025, rent review letters issued to 2156 households. Revised rent charges will be applied from 4th April 2026. A total of €7.8m in rental income was received in 2025.

National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022-2027



The National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022 – 2027 was launched in January 2022. Developed under the guiding principles of Housing for All, the government’s National Plan for Housing to 2030, the strategy seeks to facilitate disabled people to live independently with the appropriate choices and control over where, how and with whom they live. Working together with the relevant Agencies the Council seeks to meet the objectives and the targets set out in the Local Strategic Plan for Housing People with Disabilities 2022-2027. A review of this Plan took place in 2024 to ensure it meets the requirements of the National Implementation Plan which was recently launched by the Minister. A Mental Health Housing Action Team and Disability Housing Action Team has been established to arrange for both the accommodation needs and the support packages to enable disabled people to live independently if they so wish.

Homelessness Provision

The housing department dealt with 215 homeless presentations in 2025. A total of 69 adults and 42 children were provided with temporary emergency accommodation. 155 presentations were prevented from entering emergency accommodation through sourcing various other types of accommodation either through the private rental market, HAP place finder, accommodation sharing, local authority housing or leasing. Cavan County Council have service level agreements with Dublin Simon and the Peter McVerry Trust to deliver on programmes for homeless prevention, accommodation solutions and support for housing applicants with complex needs.

Private House Grants

There are three types of grants provided by the council: Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability Scheme, the Mobility Aids Housing Grant Scheme and the Housing Aid for Older People Scheme. The schemes are designed to help people remain living in their homes when they are no longer suited to meet their needs. A total of €3.958 million was spent on 455 grant applications in 2025.

In 2025 the Private Housing Grants scheme temporarily paused due to the high volume of applications and funding commitments. The scheme remained opened to Medical Priority 1 applications and all committed approvals in the scheme were honoured.

Traveller Accommodation Programme

The Local Traveller Consultative Committee consists of Elected Members, Traveller representatives, and County Council officials. The Traveller Accommodation Programme 2025-



2029 was finalised and adopted by Cavan County Council in December 2024. The target provision of 25 units of standard social housing support during the course of the new Programme (2025-2029) is to be achieved through the allocation of newly built, leased and any vacancies which may arise in both the Council and Approved Housing Bodies stock. In 2025, 11 traveller households were accommodated through various social housing supports.

Estate Management Programme

The Estate Management Programme includes pre-tenancy training, tenant engagement, estate enhancement and resident association supports.

A total of 197 offers of accommodation were made in 2025 in respect of local authority units. 156 of these offers were accepted and 41 were refused (21%). A total of 156 pre-tenancy training sessions were completed in 2025 prior to tenant receiving keys to their local authority properties.

161 complaints of anti-social behaviour were received in 2025, 153 of which were dealt with and closed by 31st December 2025. The Council regained possession of 7 abandoned properties.

Cavan County Council's Tenant Liaison Officers work with residents of local authority estates supporting them in their efforts to improve the living environment of social housing areas through a number of supports that include information, guidance, referral to PPN, site visits, coffee mornings and grants.

The annual estate grant scheme continued in 2025, and grants were awarded to 77 resident groups who applied for and submitted plans for improving the appearance of their estates.



Cloneary, Templeport, Winner of Blooming Beautiful Award 2025



Tycusker, Arva, Future Planning Award 2025



Seangharrai, Ballinagh, Special Recognition Award 2025



O'Raghallaigh Park, Cavan, Special Recognition Award 2025

Cavan County Council hosted its Cavan County Estate Awards on Monday 15th September 2025. The awards are an initiative of the Housing Department designed to support and acknowledge the work of resident groups in housing estates in Cavan.

Officially opening the ceremony, Cathaoirleach of Cavan County Council, Cllr John Paul Feeley, hailed those in attendance for their exemplary dedication to improving their locality.

“This day is your day, an opportunity for us as councillors and council staff to show our appreciation of your efforts. It can be easy to just look after your own home, but you see the bigger picture, and go the extra mile to take care of the place you live in. Your community mindedness doesn't go unnoticed, and it is greatly appreciated.”

Chief Executive Eoin Doyle echoed those sentiments, congratulating those present on their dedication to their community and also highlighting the role of Cavan County Council's Tenant Liaison Officers and, indeed, the entire Housing team, who, he noted, were exceptionally dedicated and among the most impactful of local authority staff in terms of the positive effect their work had on people's daily lives.



Cavan County Estate Awards 2025



Highfield Rd, Cavan, Community Participation award 2025

Playgrounds

There are 27 existing playgrounds and 8 outdoor gym areas in County Cavan and Cavan County Council is responsible for the maintenance and insurance of these.

A sum of €159,028 was allocated in the Council Budget 2025 for the general maintenance, repairs and grant match funding of council playgrounds.

In addition, three playgrounds were refurbished in 2025.



Kingscourt Playground Universal Carousel (Dormant Fund).



Killymooney Playground (DCEDIY)



Killyconnan Playground (CLÁR)

LIBRARY SERVICE

A Welcoming and Inclusive Service

Cavan Library Service continues to develop library spaces and services that are accessible to all. We strive to improve our buildings, by introducing new technology, furniture and equipment to support our work with marginalised, socially excluded, and disadvantaged communities.

Cavan Library Service secured funding through the SláinteCare Healthy Communities programme to create a new accessible and engaging sensory space in Bailieborough Library.



Cavan Library Service continued to roll out national and local literacy initiatives such as *Right to Read* which is primarily aimed at children and families, and *Skills for Life*, which supports adult literacy. *Right to Read* encourages the development of literacy, engaging with library users to foster a love of reading for pleasure with targeted activities to support Spring into Storytime, Summer Stars and Children's Book Festival. *Skills for Life* is a new nationwide library initiative which aims to empower adults by providing inclusive learning opportunities, including free workshops, book collections, online resources, and one-to-one support accessible to all adults. Such programmes highlight libraries as lifelong learning hubs & trusted spaces for education & personal growth.

The Healthy Ireland at Your Library programme, part of the national Healthy Ireland strategy, aims to improve public health and wellbeing by promoting a holistic approach to "Eat Well, Think Well, Be Well." Funded by the Department of Health, the programme has supported the development of a core collection of books and resources, recommended by health clinicians and experts. Through a range of resources and innovative event programming, Cavan Libraries offer engaging, accessible spaces for people of all ages and are a go-to place for information and services of every kind including health literacy. In 2025 Cavan Library Service coordinated events on health and wellbeing countywide. All presentations were facilitated by experts and covered a wide range of topics including men's and women's health, mental health, nutrition, and physical health.

Age Friendly Services

A very vibrant Reminiscence group meets regularly in Johnston Central Library, providing a platform for older library members to share their memories and experiences of life in Cavan in years gone by. Bridge and Scrabble clubs provide further social opportunities for our older members, and along with the Activator Poles initiative exemplify the library service's commitment to promoting lifelong learning, social inclusion, and well-being within the community. Cavan Library Service regularly attend public information events to highlight the valuable services available for all members of our community.

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

Cavan Library Service acknowledges the important role of the many partners we work with in



delivering our annual programmes, including Cavan County Council's Community and Enterprise Section, Climate Action Team, Culture and Creativity Team, Cavan Sports Partnership, and external agencies such as Cavan/Monaghan ETB, the HSE and many more.

ONLINE ENGAGEMENT

Social media is utilised to maximum effect to highlight the range of online services freely available through the library service, which has seen strong usage of e-books and e-audiobooks, online newspapers, magazines and language and other training courses.

National Promotions

Cavan Library Service participated in a number of national library initiatives during 2025 to promote and highlight the range of services available at your local library. During February 2025, Cavan Libraries encouraged everyone to take part in 'Ireland Reads', a national reading campaign, aimed at promoting the power of reading for enjoyment and wellbeing. A National Public Libraries Open Day was held on September 27th with Cavan libraries hosting a range of events and demonstrating resources and new technologies.

Local Studies - Preserving and Promoting Cavan's Heritage

Cavan Library Service plays a central role in recording and preserving the life of our communities. The Local Studies Dept continues to develop a collection of unique and valuable material, along with delivering a programme of activities which highlight the collection. Community groups and individuals made numerous donations of Cavan material which will now be made available to the wider public. The Library Service delivered a number of lectures in 2025, including the ever-popular Autumn Lecture Series, which forms parts of Cavan County Council's Commemorations Programme. A highlight of the programme was the launch of the re-issued Glangevlin Prayer Book, which contained prayers in Irish first collected in Glangevlin in 1921. This new edition was edited by Dr. Nollaig Ó Muraíle (University of Galway) who contributed a new bilingual introduction which explains the background of the book and its publication and what it can tell us about the form of Irish spoken in Glangevlin and West Cavan in the 1920s. Cavan County Council published the new edition as part of the Decade of Centenaries Programme funded through the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media. Shortlisted for Chambers Ireland award.



Launch of the re-issued Glan Prayerbook in Glangevlin. PHOTO: Adrian Donohoe

Cavan Monaghan Science Festival

The 10th Cavan Monaghan Science Festival, a collaboration between Cavan and Monaghan County Councils, delivered a wide-ranging programme of events to an adult audience primarily, focusing on the theme of ‘Then, Today, Tomorrow’.

Groups were invited to co-host events with us in their own communities and this proved very successful with events being held in Bailieborough, Virginia, Ballyconnell, Swanlinbar, Belturbet, Lough Sheelin, Dowra and Ballyjamesduff, providing a wide geographical spread to the festival. This year’s programme was developed by Cavan Library Service and Creative Cavan and showcased council initiatives such as Cavan Connects. Cavan Library Service continues to develop greater working partnerships through the programme this year. The festival also included a school’s programme with a number of school events taking place across the county. The week of activities commenced with the Family Day in Cavan Institute, with over 700 in attendance.



Cheese Making Class at Corleggy Cheese, Belturbet, as part of Cavan Monaghan Science Festival 2025

PHOTO: Cavan Library Service

Creative Cavan Programme

Creative Cavan delivered a diverse programme in 2025 under the Creative Ireland framework, supporting artists, communities, and partners across County Cavan and the border region.

Key initiatives included the Creative Cavan Open Call Grants, enabling local creative projects, and the *Art of Life – Shared Island Project*, a cross-border health and wellbeing programme evaluated by RCSI and recognised nationally. Shortlisted for Chambers Ireland award.

Creative Cavan also delivered Cruinniú na nÓg on Saturday 7th June, providing a wide range of free creative activities for children and young people across the county, with a strong focus on inclusion and accessibility.



Presentation of commissioned Art of Life Image to An Taoiseach Micheál Martin at the Creative Ireland Shared Island Conference in November 2025. PHOTO: Creative Ireland Programme Office

Total Funding to Support Delivery of Creative Cavan Programme in 2025

Programme	Total Amount €
Creative Communities (Core) Funding	191,064.12
Health and Wellbeing (Shared Island)	97,219.54
Cruinniú na nÓg (Core)	30,000.00
Cruinniú na nÓg (Night Time Economy)	3,000
Cruinniú na nÓg (Shared Island)	20,685.58
Total Creative Cavan (Creative Ireland) 2025	€341,969.24



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



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an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Total Funding Received to Support Library Programming 2025:

Programme	Total Amount €
Right to Read - Little Library Book Bags Promotion	2,006.73
Skills for Life Total	4,282.30
Healthy Ireland at your Library	3,589.90
Commemorations	13,824.90
Monaghan CC - Science Festival	21,500.00
Solas - Literacy	2,800.00
Glor Bhréifne (Gaeltacht scholarships)	1,000.00
Community & Enterprise Grant (Gaeltacht scholarships)	900.00
SláinteCare	5000.00
Total Funding	€54,903.83



In accordance with **Section 6** of the **Arts Act 2003** local authorities may provide financial assistance for the purpose of: (a) Stimulating public interest in the arts, (b) Promoting knowledge, appreciation and practice of the arts, or (c) Improving standards in the arts within its functional area.

Cavan County Council Arts Office is guided by **Inclusivity and Ambition: A Strategy for Cavan Arts 2018 – 2023**.

The Priorities for Arts Are:

- Audience Development
- Diversity
- Infrastructure



Framework Agreement Cavan County Council and the Arts Council 2019 to 2026 shared priorities.

1. Supporting Artists
2. Young People and the Arts
3. Reaching More People

The role of the arts office facilitates artists and communities to make great artwork in County Cavan. This work includes advising, networking and partnering with local, regional and national stakeholders. The arts office recognises the crucial role of professional artists in the development of the arts and the value that creative communities bring to the lived experience of citizens of the county.

Funding

Cavan County Council is the primary source of funding for arts development with annual revenue support from the Arts Council in 2025 of €83,000.

The Specialist Staffing Scheme Awarded by the Arts Council enabled the continued appointment of a p/t Assistant Arts Officer (May 2026) and p/t Arts and Health Manager (November 2025). The Arts and Health Manager has a second 2.5 p/t contract for the Culture and Health project to end 2028.

Arts Programme

1. ARTS AWARDS AND BURSARIES

2025

	Awarded	Requested	Allocated
Arts Development Award	56 (41)	€104,069.75	€52,234.00
Emerging Artist	22 (17) Awards	€34,710.00	€25,118.00
Professional Artist Awards	41 (32) Awards	€127,110.19	€76,088.00
Total Awarded			€153,440

Artists Supported 17 Emerging + 32 Professional = 49 Total €101,206

Awards under the Arts Act were approved by the Members of Cavan County Council.



Shercock Town

2. CORE ARTS FUNDING



Cruit Éireann – Ed Reavy Festival

In 2025, Cavan Arts Office Core Arts Funding supported a broad spectrum of activity across the county, from community groups and emerging artists to established professional practitioners. Investment enabled the delivery of diverse projects including public murals, theatre productions, music and multi-disciplinary arts programming as standalone events or embedded into local festivals, ensuring a significant county-wide reach. This funding approach reflects our ongoing commitment to accessibility, artistic development, and sustained cultural engagement across all communities in Cavan.



Cavan Arts Festival 2025

Credit Sarah Hardy

3. CREATIVE IRELAND





2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil

Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

The Shāred Island element of the Creative Ireland Programme 2023–2027 awarded €250,000 to *Dance Connects in Rural Border Regions*, following an application by the Arts Office and Creative Cavan. The 24-month project commenced in 2024 and continued into 2025/2026. It is funded through Creative Ireland’s Creative Communities Shared Island initiative.

Dance Connects brings together the local authorities of Cavan, Monaghan and Fermanagh & Omagh, working with diverse dance communities across professional, amateur, community and commercial practice, including contemporary, jive/country, line and social dance, Sean-Nós, hip hop/urban, Scottish Country and Flamenco. The project also partners with researchers Dr Victoria Durrer (School of Art History and Cultural Policy, University College Dublin) and Prof Aoife McGrath (School of Arts, English and Languages, Queen’s University Belfast), combining dance practice-as-research with social science methodologies.

A key public outcome of the project was *Moving Through and Around*, an interdisciplinary exhibition engaging audiences with rural border dance practice through sculpture, sound, video, photography and movement capture. The exhibition developed in 2025 opened at Strule Arts Centre, Omagh, in July 2025, and forms part of a wider touring programme continuing into 2026, with a planned presentation at Ramor Arts Centre scheduled for February.

Alongside the exhibition programme, the project has delivered significant digital research outputs, including a cross-border dance databases and an interactive GIS map charting dance activity, sites and networks across the rural border region. This GIS map went live in 2025 as part of the Dance Connects project website hosted by Queen’s University Belfast, making publicly accessible spatial research developed through the project and supporting long-term knowledge sharing and policy development.

Click here: [Dance Connects | Dance Connects](#)

4. ARTS AND HEALTH



Arts and Health Manager Cavan Co. Co. Elisha McCaffrey and
Art Therapist Kim Doherty, Turku Finland European Conference, Sept. 2025

2025 Progress Report Update

In January and February 2024, the Arts Office focused on the development and submission of an application to Culture Action Europe under the CultureAndHealth Platform (2024–2028). This application was successful, with €155,000 secured in EU funding, supplemented by €38,750 from Cavan County Council, positioning Cavan Arts as Ireland’s lead partner within a consortium of 15 organisations across 13 European countries.



Project Objective

To support and promote emerging European artists working in the interprofessional space of culture, health, care and social sectors, while strengthening the role of culture in health and wellbeing policy and practice at local, national and European levels.

Project Aims

The CultureAndHealth Platform aims to:

- Provide direct financial support for artist-led projects bridging culture and health
- Build and strengthen artists' professional capacities through training and peer learning
- Enable international mobility and European cooperation
- Increase artist visibility, networking and showcasing opportunities
- Raise awareness of the role of culture in health and wellbeing
- Support artists over four years across Europe

Delivery and Progress in 2025

National Open Call (Ireland)

In 2025, Cavan Arts delivered Ireland's first national CultureAndHealth Platform open call, administered through the Cavan County Council Consultation Portal.

- Six emerging artists were awarded funding of €4,000 each
- Projects were delivered across Ireland, based in Co. Cavan and others undertaken nationally
- Supported projects focused on arts & health practice within healthcare, social care, education and community settings

Capacity Building and Training

Throughout 2025, a programme of in-person and online training, CPD and peer-learning events was delivered for local, national and European artists, contributing to the platform's wider European targets.

These activities supported artists to develop skills in:

- Interprofessional working
- Evaluation and evidence-informed practice



-
- Digital skills, creating safe space
 - Arts and health
 - European collaboration and mobility
 - Child protections training

European Engagement and Visibility

Cavan Arts actively participated in European consortium meetings, online launches and knowledge-sharing exchanges, ensuring that practice and learning from County Cavan informs wider European discourse on culture, health and wellbeing, while also bringing European best practice back to local artists and organisations.

Parallel Arts & Health Development (Local)

Cavan Monaghan Arts and Health Forum continued to meet throughout 2025 with members from Cavan Co. Co., Monaghan Co. Co., the HSE and other representative bodies locally and regionally.

As part of Ireland's participation in the CultureAndHealth Platform, the Arts & Health Manager, Cavan County Council, travelled to Finland in 2025 to participate in European partner activities. The visit included presenting Cavan's arts and health practice and learning to international peers, sharing approaches to interprofessional working between culture, health and social care, and contributing to knowledge exchange with European artists, cultural organisations and policy stakeholders. Insights gained through this engagement are informing ongoing programme development locally and strengthening Cavan's role within the wider European Culture & Health network.

5. ARTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Youth Arts, Creative Youth & Education Partnerships – 2025

In 2025, Cavan Arts continued to prioritise youth voice, creative participation and professional artist engagement with young people, working in partnership with education, youth and community services across County Cavan and the wider Cavan Monaghan region.

Cavan Monaghan Youth Arts Bursary 2025

Cavan Arts collaborated with Monaghan Arts Office, NYCI and Cavan–Monaghan ETB through the Cavan Monaghan Youth Arts Bursary 2025, which supports youth-led arts projects delivered in non-formal education settings with professional artists.

- Six bursaries of €1,600 were awarded (three to County Cavan and three to County Monaghan).
- Supported projects enabled young people aged 10–25 to engage in short creative processes across a range of artforms.
- The scheme supported both youth participation and artist development, particularly for artists working within youth contexts.
- Projects were delivered across youth services, community settings and education-linked programmes and concluded in late 2025, with learning shared through the Cavan Monaghan Youth Arts Hub.

Creative Youth Partnerships & Education



Throughout 2025, Cavan Arts worked closely with the Cavan Monaghan Education and Training Board (CMETB) and the Local Creative Youth Partnership (LCYP) Coordinator, supporting alignment between arts programming and youth arts priorities. This included:



-
- Collaboration with artists working in youth services and education settings across County Cavan
 - Supporting, where possible, training and capacity-building initiatives for artists engaging with young people
 - Contributing to shared objectives around access, inclusion and quality artist-led youth arts practice

Music Generation Cavan / Monaghan: Youth Music Highlights

Cavan Arts continued to support and collaborate with Music Generation Cavan/Monaghan, led by CMETB in partnership with Cavan County Council and Monaghan County Council. Music Generation Cavan/Monaghan continued to demonstrate strong and sustained programme engagement throughout 2025, delivering inclusive, high-quality music education across both counties through an extensive network of schools, hubs and outreach initiatives. Participation remained steady, supported by

- 16 Musician Educators
- Engaging 3,038 children weekly in schools
- 112 in hub activities such as choir, traditional music and harp ensemble
- 186 in ensembles and orchestras, contributing to an overall annual reach of 12,048 children.

The programme operated across 20 schools in Cavan and 23 in Monaghan, delivering 38 primary school sessions, as well as activity in childcare settings, special education and post-primary contexts.

A key highlight of the year was the development of the Music Generation Cavan/Monaghan Cross-Border Orchestra, supported by the Shared Island Initiative and presented in partnership with Belfast TradFest and Dublin's St. Patrick's Festival, featuring a 106-piece youth orchestra performing newly arranged works by Michael Rooney, celebrating the music of Máirtín O'Connor in major performances in Dublin and Belfast. Throughout the year, MGCM delivered an ambitious programme of activity, including festival performances, collaborative projects, early years initiatives, national showcases and community engagement, with notable events such as the Music on Wheels tour, Cavan Town Hall showcase, Harp Ensemble performances, Deep Ravine cross-community project, sensory theatre residencies, and participation in national and



international festivals.

These projects demonstrated the scale, quality and impact of long-term creative investment in young people through music education and performance.

Youth & Community Partnerships

Cavan Arts continued to engage with and support youth and community organisations, including:

- including Cootehill-based foróige projects, supporting creative engagement through artist facilitation, workshops and partnership initiatives.
- Art initiative for young people through workshops.
- Culture Night programming had a number of events focussed on youth arts engagement.

6. CULTURE NIGHT 2025

Culture Night Cavan 2025, organised by Cavan County Council Arts Office in collaboration with cultural partners, artists and communities, took place on Friday 19 September 2025 and delivered one of the largest and most ambitious Culture Night programmes.

Events took place across 16 towns and villages, increasing both geographic reach and local participation. Locations included Cavan Town, Bailieborough, Ballinagh, Ballyconnell, Ballyjamesduff, Belturbet, Blacklion, Castlerahan, Cootehill, Corlough, Dowra, Kildallan, Killeshandra, Milltown, Mullagh and Virginia. This represented a further expansion in rural delivery and ensured high-quality cultural experiences were accessible across the entire county.



Mischu Bachu Street Fest Culture Night 2025

Programme Highlights and New Developments

A major new addition in 2025 was Townhall Street Fest, Cavan Town, a family-friendly, car-free cultural hub running throughout the afternoon and early evening. Street Fest featured circus, dance, live music, visual art, workshops and pop-up performances, creating a highly visible and festive centre for Culture Night activity in the town and attracting strong footfall across all ages.

The wider programme comprised a record number of events county-wide, with particularly strong attendance reported across rural venues and community-led initiatives. Activities included:



-
- Street circus, dance and live music across multiple locations, including bluegrass, jazz, classical, folk and contemporary performance
 - Theatre and storytelling for adults, young people and families, including professional touring work and locally developed productions
 - Visual arts exhibitions, installations and open studios, many of which remained open beyond Culture Night as part of extended exhibition runs
 - Workshops and participatory events, including clay, textiles, zine-making, embroidery, sound and art therapy
 - Heritage-based programming, including guided tours, talks, placenames research, and site-specific performances in historic buildings
 - Arts & health and inclusive events, including dementia-friendly and intergenerational programming
 - Cross-border and intercultural activity, reflecting shared histories, languages and contemporary voices
 - Dementia friendly music performance at Lisdarn Unit for the Elderly.

A strong emphasis was placed on local artists and community groups, alongside professional practitioners, ensuring Culture Night continued to support artist and celebrate local identity.

Attendance, Reach and Impact

Culture Night 2025 recorded exceptionally high attendance, with record numbers at multiple venues across the county, particularly in community centres, heritage sites and libraries.

Feedback from local promoters highlighted strong family participation, increased footfall in town centres on the night and high engagement in rural locations.

Cavan Town once again acted as a focal point, with Townhall Street Fest, Townhall Arts Centre, libraries, hospitality venues and public spaces hosting a dense programme from afternoon through late evening.

Investment and Artist Support

Culture Night continues to be a cornerstone of Cavan Arts' annual programme, and the scale, ambition and attendance achieved in 2025 mark another step forward in cultural participation and public engagement across the county.



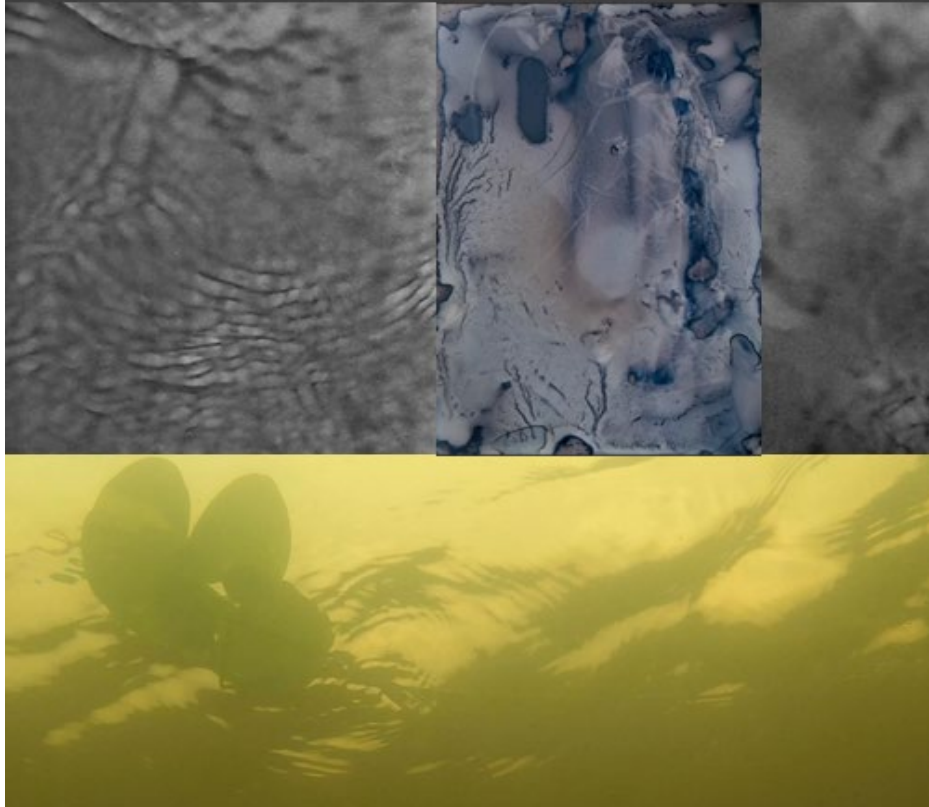
7. COLLABORATION

Working collaboratively, particularly across the cultural, environmental and community sectors, continued to be central to the work of the Arts Office in 2025. Building on research and relationship-building initiated in 2024 through the Arts Council's Invitation to Collaboration programme (led by Wexford County Council and Roots for the Future Arts Collective), the Arts Office progressed this work in 2025 through a Public Art-funded residency by artist Sinéad Curran, focused on Blacklion and the Upper Lough MacNea landscape.

In 2025, Sinéad Curran returned to County Cavan under a Cavan Arts Office Public Art Residency in West Cavan, expanding her earlier climate research into a deeply embedded, socially engaged project titled *Breathnú Draíochta (Vanishing Veins)*. The residency involved sustained engagement with the Blacklion community, working collaboratively with arts and non-arts partners to explore climate change, wetlands loss, biodiversity, water systems and cultural memory in a border landscape at the heart of the UNESCO Global Geopark. Sinéad's work combined public engagement, craft, photography, ecology, folklore and citizen-science methodologies, with a strong emphasis on collective care, knowledge-sharing and place-based listening. Activities included workshops, walks, heritage and science events, cross-border gatherings, and a significant Culture Night 2025 programme in Blacklion, and Heritage Week was developed in collaboration with local groups including Blacklion Tidy Towns, local artists, heritage and biodiversity partners, and community organisations.

Sinéad Curran Breathnú Draíochta | Vanishing Veins

Final Report Cavan Arts Office Residency 2025-26



Support from the Arts Office enabled the artist-in-residence to work in a way that was deeply embedded, interdisciplinary and locally responsive, while contributing to wider learning around arts-led approaches to climate awareness and environmental stewardship.

Outcomes and Legacy

The residency demonstrated how Public Art investment can support long-term, research-based collaboration, translating environmental urgency into meaningful public engagement. It strengthened relationships between artists, communities and Local Authority departments, and informed ongoing conversations about the role of artists in climate action, policy awareness and



biodiversity planning. The work also contributed to sustained cultural activity in Blacklion, extending beyond Culture Night into Heritage Week, Science Week and seasonal community gatherings, and laying the foundations for future cross-sector collaboration and climate-focused artistic practice in County Cavan.

The Townhall Artist Liaison enabled a very ambitious and far-reaching program of exhibitions, studio awards and capacity building for the arts community in association with the arts office and Townhall Arts Centre. Including the Border Biennale Exhibition July – August 2025 funded by PeacePlus. This exhibition featured the work of local, national and international artists. The studio awards were through open call advertised and managed by the arts office. An independent panel advise on the exhibition program.

Exhibitions ran throughout 2025 in Ramor Arts Centre administered and managed by the Ramor Arts Centre team

Ongoing partnership working with Creative Cavan, libraries, community services and regional arts organisations

Representation of Cavan Arts at regional, national and European events, conferences and sector meetings

Communications and promotional support for artists and events (website, social media, press)

8. Reporting

The arts office reports to Emma Clancy, County Librarian, the Housing, Corporate and Cultural Affairs Special Policy Committee and Lynda McGavigan, Director of Services.

9. 2025 Staff Structure

Arts Officer, Karina Lynch Charles, Rhonda Tidy, Public Art Officer, Arts and Health Manager p/t, Elisha McCeffrey, Olga Brady, Clerical Officer.



County Museum

During 2025, Cavan County Museum continued to play an important role as one of Cavan County Council's core service areas, engaging visitors through a variety of interactive and immersive experiences and affirming a pride of place in the local community. Our new Museum Curator, Ann Gerety Smyth, was appointed in August 2025. Visitor Numbers remained steady for the first half of the year with 3933 recorded to the end of June 2025, despite the closure of the WW1 Trench Experience, in October 2024 which was completely renovated and reopened in the Summer of 2025. Visitor Numbers grew in the latter half of 2025 compared to the same period in 2023 and 2024 and continue to do so. Visitor numbers from July to December were 6817, resulting in a total of 10750 for 2025. These visitors were made up of Museum visitors 57.5% (which includes Oversea Visitors 15.8%), School Groups 18.2%, Other Groups 14.3%, Events 9.7% and Outreach 0.3%.

As custodians of Cavan's historical collection and a major tourist attraction for the county, museum staff work together to ensure our visitors have an exceptional experience, and we strive to deliver an engaging, informative and varied programme of events annually to schools and the public.

In 2025, the Museum participated in several national celebrations, including Culture Night, Heritage Week and Cruinniú na nÓg and supported many County Cavan projects. For the newly established National Holiday of Brigid's Day the collaborative project of Bringing St. Brigid's Cloak to Life which involved artists and poets, primary and post primary students, supported through Cavan Arts Office, Cuilcagh Lakelands Global Geopark, Creative Cavan and Creative Ireland culminated in a memorable exhibition in Cavan County Museum. A drop in Brigid's Cross Workshop complimented this event.



Brigid' Cloak

Photo Credit: Adrian Donohue



Councillor Trevor Smith, Morag Donald, Catherine McGuinness, Bee Smith and Teresa Tracey

Photo Credit: Adrian Donohue

Heritage Week saw the launch of The Courageous Men of Cavan Exhibition, an Open Day of the Museum, Tales from the Trenches tour and storytelling, Public Tours of the reopened Trenches and a lecture on the Irish Foundations of Cavan Placenames. St. Clare's NS History club had a Museum Takeover Day for Cruinniú na nÓg with students making presentations on areas of interest to them in the museum and giving tours. The Museum's Culture Night launched the animation "The Speaking Horse of Cuilcagh" by Margaret McKenna with a talk by Morag Donald and storytelling by the Breffni Yarnspinnners.



Launch of the Courageous Men of Cavan Exhibition



Launch of Courageous Men of Cavan Exhibition, Deputy Brendan Smith, Richard Gilroy, Catherine McGuinness, Caroline Clarke, Sally-Ann Duffy, Lynda McGavigan, Emma Clancy, Sharon Howe, Councillor Winston Bennet, Cathaoirleach of the Ballyjamesduff Municipal District Trevor Smith Trevor Smith.

Photo Credit: Adrian Donohue

Photo Credit: Adrian Donohue



Daniel Downey, Ann Gerety Smyth, Lynda McGavigan, Cathaoirleach of Cavan County Council John Paul Feeley, Margaret McKenna, Marion Dempsey, Deputy Brendan Smith, Morag Donald, Sharon Howe

Photo Credit: Adrian Donohue

The Museum continued to be a site of lifelong learning in 2025 with the Evening Lecture Voice of Deities, new research by Ancient Music Ireland in March and the Annual Arthur Griffith lecture



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

delivered by Mairead McGuinness in April. The Museum also hosted book launches in September and October. Well attended exhibitions celebrating local creators were held throughout the year including Kevin Sweeney, Elena Duffy and Sandra Coote and a community meeting on a future project collaborating the work of Kim Gaffney, Colette Kearney, Barry O'Reilly and Jago Studios. Community Workshops, Coffee mornings and Drama were also part of the scheduling for 2025 including the CCLD Soap Making Workshop and Green Ribbon Coffee Morning, Cavan Art and Health Forum workshops, Climate Action Week Drama Performance of "*What are we eatin' anyways?*" Along with these activities supporting the community, the Museum continues to maintain the much loved and traversed Nun's Walk which is used daily by local walkers and visitors to the playground and is a key part of the interpretation of the biodiversity of the area through the information panels along the path.



Caroline Walsh, Councillor Trevor Smith, Councillor Niamh Brady, Councillor Winston Bennet, Catherine McGuinness, Emma Clancy, Lynda McGavigan, Mairead McGuinness, Cathaoirleach of the Ballyjamesduff Municipal District T.P. O'Reilly, Councillor Carmel Brady
Photo Credit: Adrian Donohue

The relaunch of the World War 1 Trench Experience in September increased the education and visitor numbers in the last quarter of the year and so maintained our annual education programme numbers. 1952 pupils from all over the country visiting the Museum to engage with our collections and stories. Group tours have also been a healthy part of Museum life, as we welcomed 1540 group visitors from multiple different groups and organisations in 2025.



Official Relaunch of the World War 1 Trenches Cathaoirleach of the Ballyjamesduff Municipal District Trevor Smith with Cathaoirleach of Cavan County Council John Paul Feeley at the Launch
Photo Credit: Adrian Donohue

Photo Credit: Adrian Donohue

The Museum holds Accreditation under the Heritage Council's Museum Standards Programme for Ireland. Cavan County Museum was one of the earliest entrants to the programme, which ensures Museums meet set standards across a range of sections, including conservation, exhibitions, archives and many more. Successful retention of our Accreditation demonstrates the standards of excellence shown by the work of the Museum. Museum staff are active in the Local Authority Museum Networks and took part in Continued Professional Development through the MPSI Autumn Training Program of 2025.

The Museum also made significant investment in our conservation programme, how we care for the building and the collection. Thanks to significant grants from the Heritage Council's Stewardship Fund (€25,473.13) and the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media's 2025 Regional Museum Exhibition Scheme (€14,923.25), the Museum had the opportunity to develop the display and conservation standards in the Museum, working on elements such as our archive storage facilities and the creation of a disaster store, essential parts of the work we do in caring for our unique and special collection. This funding also provided for a new professional introduction video which is displayed in the Boat Room of the Museum and is available online in English and Irish and is an excellent promotional tool for international and domestic visitors.

Our continued demonstration of excellence in maintaining Museum standards and the continued investment in our collections and exhibitions mean Cavan County Museum holds its reputation as one of the finest Local Authority Museums in Ireland.



TOWNHALL ARTS CENTRE / RAMOR ARTS CENTRE



Mission Statement 2025

Townhall Arts Centre and Ramor Arts Centre aim to impact and enable. Impact our audiences and enable our artists by encouraging, nurturing and developing an interest and participation in the arts in the county. This is done by presenting a varied program of performances by professional artists in all the art-forms together with encouraging and facilitating professional theatre companies, youth arts, community based amateur groups and individual artists to develop projects and showcase them in each venue.

The two Cavan Arts Centres have recently undergone important restoration, refurbishments and rebranding. With a strategic Countywide Arts plan from the Cavan Arts Office, the Arts Centres are in a position to undertake a whole new chapter in their development, working in unison under the one management team to create 'happening places' where art is accessible and beneficial to everyone.

Our aim is to continue "Forging connections between the arts and the public" with our Arts Centre's being, public facing, professionally managed, building based organisations. They will support the creation, presentation and mediation of the arts across a range of arts practices by supporting professional, collaborative, voluntary and amateur arts practice. Ramor Arts Centre is home to Livin Dred Theatre Company which over the past seventeen years has worked in partnership with the venue to incubate, develop and produce top quality professional theatre, which has toured both nationally and internationally. It is our aim to grow this partnership with Livin Dred as we embark on the next chapter of our evolution.

Ramor Arts Centre and Townhall Art Centre aim to IMPACT our audiences and visitors so they will leave feeling that they have been in the presence of the spiritual, the emotional and the



intellectual. Our aim is that they come away enriched through the experience the venues present, thus inspiring them to stay connected and explore these 'happening places' on their doorstep on a regular basis. We understand to achieve this we must ensure the highest quality artwork and events are programmed in our venues across the artforms. The events that we will host will be wide and varied and should meet the interests of all genres, cultures, ages, and interests.

Ramor / Townhall Art Centre's Staff 2025

Venues Manager Padraic McIntyre

Deputy Manager Narissa Cosgrove

Marketing Manager Annetta Lovett

Technical Manager Paddy Farrelly

Assistant Technical Manager Shane Carroll

Box Office Frances Brady, Liz O'Hanlon, Emma O'Brien Anna Marie Galligan

Front of House / Coffee Bar Helen Foy

Front Of House / Caretaker Aisling Fay



Artistic Quality & Development of the Arts

The events we host are wide and varied and aims to meet the interests of all genres, cultures, ages, and interests.

In Cavan Town there is a more multicultural population to be catered for and a larger student population to be targeted and we aim to have events that will appeal to these demographics. In both centres we aim to have arts events across all genres and artforms which will appeal to and attract different nationalities, age groups, religions and genders living in Cavan into our venues.

Although Townhall Cavan's doors have only opened in September 2021, and Ramor reopened after the building of the new library in June 2023 we ran a hugely successful programme of



events in 2024 across all the artforms, music, theatre, dance, comedy, visual arts, opera and pantomime. Some of the Irelands best known names, across the genres visited us in 2025. Audiences' responses were excellent in both turnout and reaction to our programme in 2025.

Professional Development Opportunities

Cavan Arts Centre's remain committed to ensure high-quality professional development opportunities for practising artists and arts professionals. We feel we are now in a much stronger position to deliver on these commitments with a much better physical infrastructure in place across both buildings. Townhall Cavan has three studio spaces on the top floor of the building which are ideal working locations for artists or arts professionals across a wide range of artforms. These studios are all serviced by a lift which means inclusivity of all artists. Several Residencies occurred in these studios in 2024 with artists having the studio for 3 months together with a payment. The third studio is a Multimedia Suite, with capabilities for design, visual art, animation, video editing, sound/music recording and editing, radio broadcasting, 3D printing and laser cutting. Townhall Arts Centre also has a large meeting/rehearsal/workshop room located on the second floor.

The newly renovated Ramor Arts Centre gives us huge opportunities to engage, work with and develop professional opportunities for artists and arts professionals which much more space and a purpose-built studio.



Key Goals For 2027

For both Townhall Arts Centre and Ramor Arts Centre, we have identified the following strategic priority areas and their related key goals, which we are committed to implementing (or



achieving) over the next few years.

- Artistic Programming – Something for Everyone, our theatres are for you. The events that we will host will be wide and varied and should meet the interests of all genres, cultures, ages, and interests. We want our venues to be professional, collaborative, and yet a place where volunteers and amateurs alike all feel like they belong here.
- Diversification – Showcasing a wider variety of events which will lead to a more diverse audience
- Partnerships and Collaboration
- Sustainability – Customer Retention, Cross, Link & Up-selling.
- Organisational Effectiveness

A major key goal for us is to expand our customer target market to reach those areas we are lacking in by focusing on culture, youth and disadvantaged audiences.

Activity Description 2025

The Ramor & Townhall Arts Centre enjoyed a stellar year with over 130 events taking place all the artforms, music, theatre, dance, comedy, visual arts, opera and pantomime.

Commercial Programme

Our Commercial programme are successful high-profile acts which attracts customers and raises the profile of the Venues nationally. Cavan Arts Venues hosted a number of high-profile commercial acts in 2025 including; Jason Byrne, John Lydon, Al Porter, Emma Doran², ABBA Forever and Blind Boy.



Sharon Shannon performed at both Ramor & Townhall Arts Centres in 2025.

Community Arts Programme

Community Arts has been and remains a huge part of what Cavan Arts Venues do in our local area. The Venues continued to collaborate with local music and drama groups, creating and developing relationship with groups and their audiences. Now in their 76th year, Cavan Three Act and One Act Drama Festival were hosted in Townhall Arts Centre Cavan in March and November respectively. Several community groups used our facilities for both meetings and workshops.

Hoodwink Productions performed their All-Ireland winning production of Wildling at both venues.

Professional Theatre Programme.

We held 12 professional touring theatre shows in Ramor & Townhall in 2024. Livin Dred theatre Company with their production of Playboy of The Western World, Quintessence with Belfast Girls, Hubcap with Mary's Hopes and Dreams and Little Women by Hotbuckle Theatre.



Belfast Girls professional theatre production of performed at Ramor Arts Centre in 2025.



Children and Teenagers Theatre Programme

Home to POD Youth Theatre, Ramor Arts Centre has always advocated for voice of the young person in the arts. With weekly workshops for children and young adults (8-18years old). Both Art Venues programme consciously to cater for developing mind and tastes, featuring Local school, Virginia College performed both Summer & Christmas Shows at Ramor Arts Centre, Joe the Magician and Ceol Connected with The Land of One Hundred Little Hills.

Townhall & Ramor Arts Centre Gallery

Mater & Infinity at Townhall Gallery Matter and Infinity is a solo show by Dani Gill, exploring memory, water, lineage, the real and the ephemeral. Working with water, text, and sculpture, the work explores what it means to exist in, and between universal planes, the fractured nature of memory, and how we understand our physical state.

‘The Land’ An exhibition by Collette Kearney at Ramor Arts Centre Collette who hails from Mounthugent Co. Cavan. Colette studied at Limerick School of Art & Design where she specialised in Fine Art Painting. Following a number of years working in the mural and commercial art field Colette has returned to her Oil Painting roots with this exhibition centralised on the Irish Landscape.

Exhibition Cavan Arts Festival, Cavan Arts presents STILL IMPRESSIONS Print

Exhibition by Stephen Johnston Stephen Johnston was born in 1987 in Co. Antrim, Ireland. In 2010, he graduated from the University of Ulster in Belfast with a BA in Fine and Applied Arts. After graduating, Johnston had his first major solo show, Perceptions, at Art Tank in Belfast, Northern Ireland (2011). He has enjoyed early success in his career, winning various awards including the De Veres Art Award, the Towry Award for best from Northern Ireland at the NOAC, and the KPMG Young Artist Award. Johnston paints full-time from his studio in Ireland. He has exhibited work in Belfast, Dublin, and London, including at the Saatchi Gallery. He also exhibits in Paris and Brisbane, Australia. Additionally, Johnston frequently participates in international open academy exhibitions, competitions, and group shows.

EJECTMENTS: An Exhibition of Paintings by Dymphna Headen Dymphna Headen became interested in workhouses and the Famine while serving on a committee to preserve one of the last remaining workhouses at Bawnboy, in County Cavan. During famine times, thousands of



people were evicted from their homes when they could not pay their taxes under the Poor Laws. These evictions were termed “ejectments” at the time. Some of those evicted died in ditches, while others emigrated or were forced into the Poorhouse. Dymphna’s work in this exhibition depicts the conditions in the Poorhouse or Workhouse, where many of these individuals had to go. The interiors of Bawnboy Workhouse in County Cavan inspire the artworks.

Visual Art. Celebrating the Landscape Exhibition by Jim McPartlin The Ramor Theatre is proud to present a new exhibition by local artist Jim McPartlin, marking his first solo show in the beautifully refurbished exhibition space. Renowned for his evocative interpretations of the Irish landscape, McPartlin’s work captures the quiet drama and beauty of our local surroundings with a distinctive and heartfelt style.

His new work showcases a new direction in his artistic journey, as he unveils a collection of floral and figurative pieces alongside his landscape work. The result is a vibrant and deeply personal body of art that reflects both his love of his adoptive county and his evolving creative vision.

McPartlin’s paintings have resonated with audiences across the region and beyond. Now, the intimate setting of the Ramor Theatre offers the perfect venue to experience the texture, colour, and emotion of his latest work up close.

Transportation, Climate Change, Environment, Waste Management, Water Services, Economic Development, Enterprise, Town Regeneration

Roads & Transportation

Cavan County Council is responsible for the maintenance and improvement of all National, Regional and Local roads within the County. In total, Cavan County Council is responsible for the maintenance of more than 3,000km (1,880 miles) of public road annually.

As a land locked county with a reliance on the road infrastructure, the roads area is an integral part of delivering key strategic objectives contained within the Cavan County Council Corporate plan.



These objectives are contained within our Annual Service Plan and help shape our objectives for the year ahead.

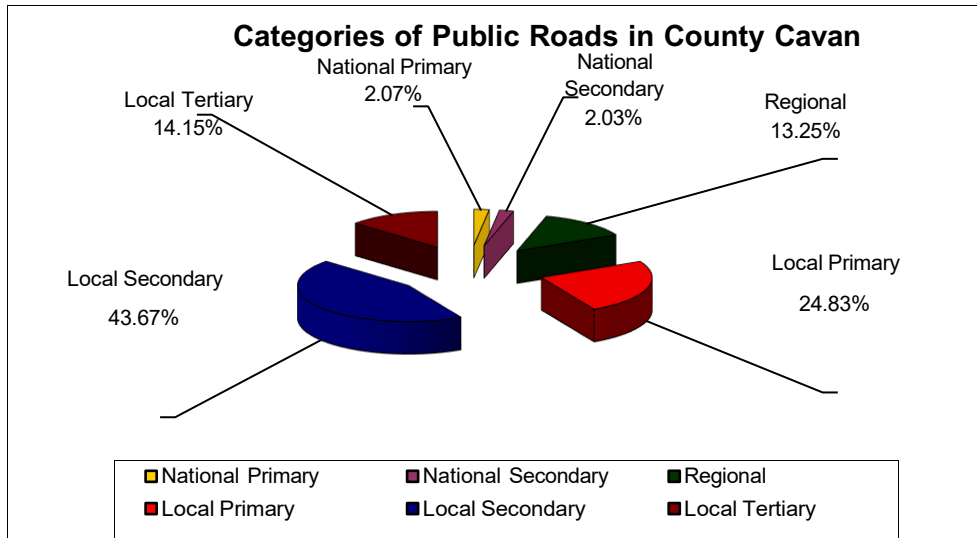
Strategic Objective 1	Placemaking – Making Cavan a great place to live, work, invest and visit
Strategic Objective 2	People – Strengthening our Communities
Strategic Objective 3	Economy – Promoting Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development
Strategic Objective 4	Climate Action – Succeed in mission to implement Climate Action Plan
Strategic Objective 5	Collaboration – Local, Regional and All Island collaboration
Strategic Objective 6	Our Council – Provide an efficient and effective Local Authority

Cavan Road Network Classification

The total estimated value of the road network in the County is over €1.1billion, with the Regional and Local Road network accounting for €1 billion of this total. There are a total number of 779 road bridges (span greater than 2 metres) in the county.

Category	Road Type	Length (Kilometres)
National	National Primary	62.21
	National Secondary	61.07
Non-National	Regional	399.14
	Local Primary	747.83
	Local Secondary	1315.08
	Local Tertiary	426.03
Total		3011.36

The total length of public roadway in County Cavan is 3,011km.



Funding

Funding for the improvement and maintenance of public roads in Cavan comes primarily from three sources. Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) provides funding for National Roads with the Department of Transport (DOT) providing funding for the Regional and Local Road Network. Technical and administrative backup for this funding is provided by the TII as required. Cavan County Council provides a substantial annual allocation from own resources towards the upkeep of the Local and Regional Road Network. Additionally, from 2021 the National Transport Authority (NTA) provides funding for Active Travel projects across the county within urban areas.

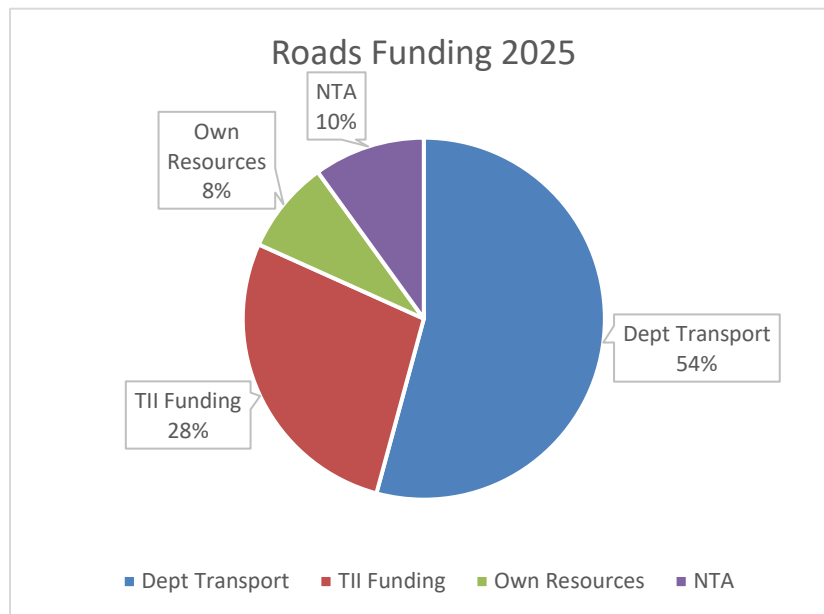
2025 Funding Allocations

The table below shows the funding allocated by each funding source at the start of 2025.

Road Category	Funding Source	Initial Allocation
National Roads	Transport Infrastructure Ireland	€9,739,633
Non-National Roads	Department of Transport (DOT)	€ 19,193,150
Non-National Roads	Cavan County Council	€2,942,379
Active Travel	National Transport Authority	€3,525,000
		€35,400,162

Cavan County Council Contributions

At the start of 2025, Cavan County Council provided €2.92 million of its own resources towards the Maintenance and Improvement of the Non-National Roads Network (Local and Regional Roads). This demonstrated the Council's ongoing commitment to maintaining its roads network.



Additional Allocations

During 2025 Cavan County Council was able to avail of additional funding as follows:

Source	Category	Allocation
Transport Infrastructure Ireland	Pavement Emergency Works, Ordinary Maintenance Defects	€697,430
Department of Transport (DOT)	Additional RI money	€311,000
		€1,008,430

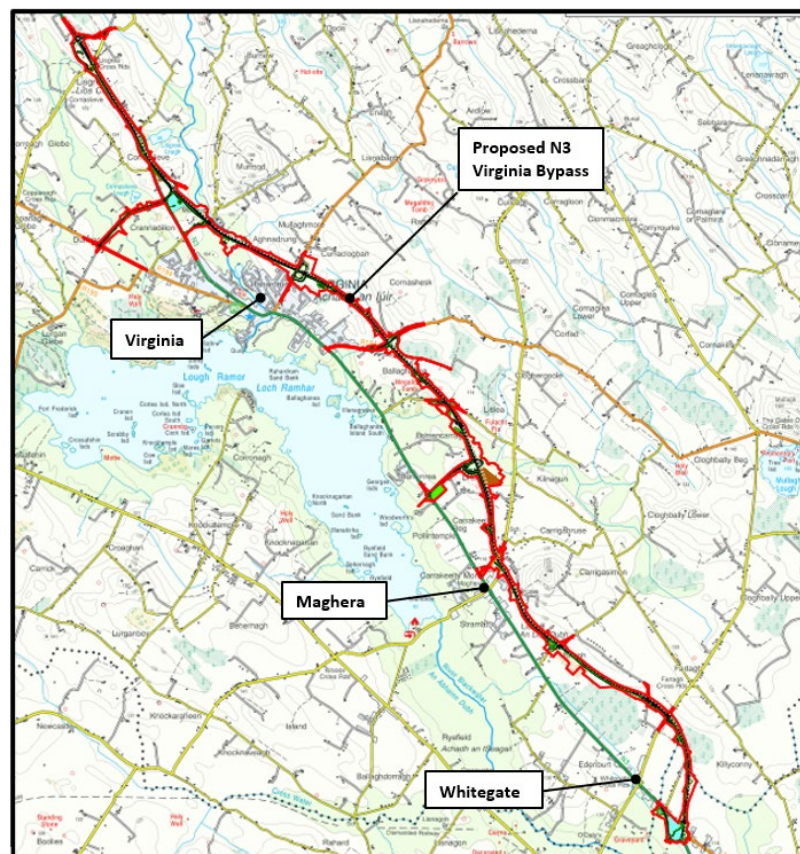
National Roads

The National Primary Road network consists of the N3 and N16. The N3 is the Dublin/Enniskillen/ Ballyshannon Road; the N16 is the Sligo/Enniskillen Road. The National Secondary network consists of the N54 Cavan/Monaghan Road between Butlersbridge and the County Boundary at Leggykelly, the N55 Cavan/Athlone Road and the N87 from Staghall Roundabout, Belturbet to the Border at Swanlinbar.

MAJOR SCHEMES

N3 Virginia Bypass

The N3 Virginia Bypass scheme is being developed as a hybrid multi-modal transport solution which comprises road, Public Transport (bus) enhancements, demand management, active travel facilities and transport park and share hubs (mobility hubs). The active travel facilities, incorporating pedestrian and cycle facilities, will be provided along the length of the Scheme with connectivity, where feasible, to existing footways and walking routes along the scheme. The transport park and share hubs (mobility hubs) will provide for safe parking to safe bus stops and facilitate more carpooling for longer onward journeys, with Electric vehicle charging also being investigated. The scheme will greatly improve safety on the N3, reducing congestion, noise and air pollution in Virginia and the settlements of Maghera and Whitegate, while providing a consistent route cross-section with an improved journey time and travel efficiency for national road traffic.





2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Virginia Bypass – September 2025 update – Developing Design

The proposed scheme comprises a 14.4 km (approx.) Type 2 Dual Carriageway, similar to the N3 Kells Bypass. The development includes two link roads and proposes the introduction of an HGV/axle weight restriction through Virginia Town, with exemptions for local deliveries. The Scheme is being developed in a phased approach in accordance with Transport Infrastructure Irelands Project Management Guidelines and is currently in Phase 3, Design and Environmental Evaluation. An update on the developing design (see above) was advertised on the Project Website in September 2025.

Ongoing design development includes refinement of the alignment, structures, active travel infrastructure, Park and Share facilities, side road arrangements, drainage systems (including a proposed watercourse diversion), and environmental barriers, among other elements.

Environmental validation surveys have been undertaken throughout 2025 and will continue into 2026. These surveys ensure that the most current and up to date on flora and fauna presence, distribution, and habitats is available. This information will inform the Environmental Assessments and support the preparation of statutory documentation prior to submission for planning approval.

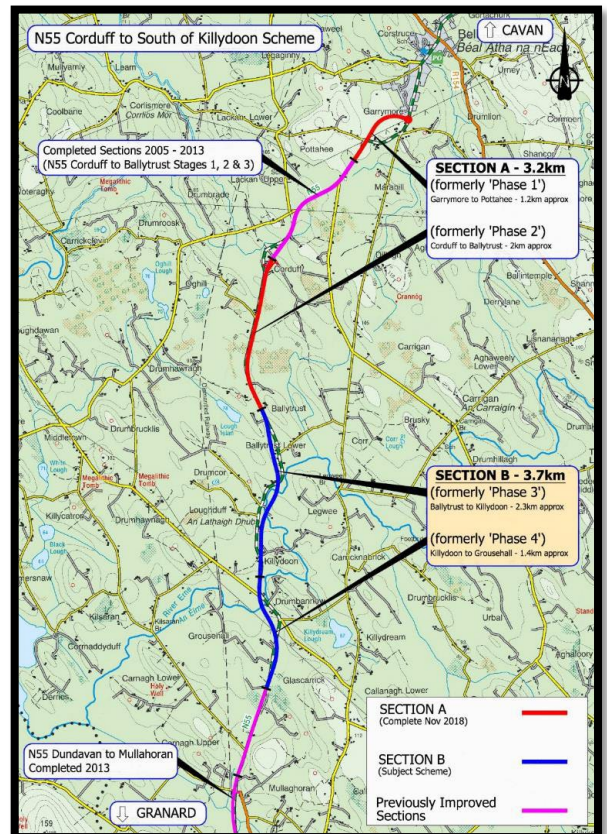
Minor Improvement Schemes

N55 CORDUFF TO SOUTH OF KILLYDOON, SECTION A

Section A, which involved a 3.2 km realignment of the N55 at two distinct locations to the south of Ballinagh, reached substantial completion in late 2018 with the Defects Certificate issued in November 2023.

Throughout 2025, Cavan County Council continued to liaise with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) and the appointed consultants, Roughan & O'Donovan, to progress the remaining deliverables associated with the Handover and Close-Out Phase of the project (Phase 7 of the TII Project Management Guidelines). The Final Statement Report and Project Closeout Report were submitted to TII for review in Q1 2025. Following this review, TII issued comments requiring significant revisions to ensure compliance with updated TII standards and documentation requirements.

Cavan County Council worked closely with the Consultant during 2025 to address these revisions. The updated documentation, which had been under detailed review in late 2025, was finalised to incorporate all comments received from TII. The revised deliverables were subsequently reviewed by Cavan County Council and forwarded to TII for further review and comment ahead of making the formal submission. Subject to TII feedback, it is anticipated that the Phase 7 approval process will be





2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

completed, and the project formally closed out, in Q2 2026.

N55 Corduff to South of Killydoon, Section B

Section B comprises a 3.7 km realignment of the N55 immediately south of Section A. Having achieved Substantial Completion in late 2024, the Scheme has now advanced to Phase 7 (Close-Out & Review) of the TII Project Management Guidelines, with close-out activities commencing in parallel with the completion of remaining construction works. Substantial Completion was certified in December 2024, ahead of the contractual date.

The Contractor returned to site during 2025 to complete the agreed outstanding works. These works included:

- Completion of the Killydoon Village Loop Walk, incorporating footpath construction, public lighting, fencing, and landscaping;
- Accommodation works at one affected property;
- Completion of items arising from the Stage 3 Road Safety Audit; and
- Snagging of completed works.

Minor landscaping and residual snagging items remain outstanding and are scheduled for completion in early 2026. The original Defects Notification Period was extended in accordance with the Contract due to the extent of instructed and outstanding works undertaken in late 2025. A revised Defects Notification Period now applies, and the penultimate payment certificate has been issued with the appropriate adjustment to retention.

RPS Consulting Engineers continue to provide supervision services and are liaising with Cavan County Council on the preparation of the Phase 7 (Close-Out & Review) deliverables. Compilation of the required documentation is progressing in parallel with the completion of remaining construction activities.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Land and property acquisition associated with the CPO continued to advance. One case remains to reach signed agreement (Case 11). Case 07, which had been subject to a lengthy and protracted negotiation process, was successfully concluded in December 2025, and signed agreements have now been received, enabling conveyancing to progress.

Cavan County Council submitted a funding application to TII in 2025 to address damage to the residual road network arising during construction. The approved works included pavement renewal, minor drainage improvements and junction repairs. These works were undertaken during September 2025 and were fully completed in early October, reinstating the former N55 route to an appropriate standard.

N55 Section B – Scheme Progress Photographs

Right: View south from the northern
scheme tie-in at Ballytrust



Left: View of Killydoon Traffic Calming Works in
progress

N3 Dublin Road Roundabout Scheme



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

RPS Consulting Engineers have been appointed to progress the N3 Dublin Road Roundabout Scheme through phases 1, 2 and 3 of the Project Management Guidelines. RPS Consulting Engineers are our Technical Advisors for the scheme and are currently working on phase 2, Option Selection.

N55 Ballinagh Relief Road

The N55 Ballinagh Traffic Relief Scheme continued to progress during 2025. The Scheme, which completed Phase 0 (Strategic Assessment Report) in 2023 and secured TII approval to proceed to Phase 1, is being advanced by Sweco Ireland Ltd., appointed in September 2024 to deliver Phases 1–4 of the TII Project Management Guidelines under a 45-month commission.

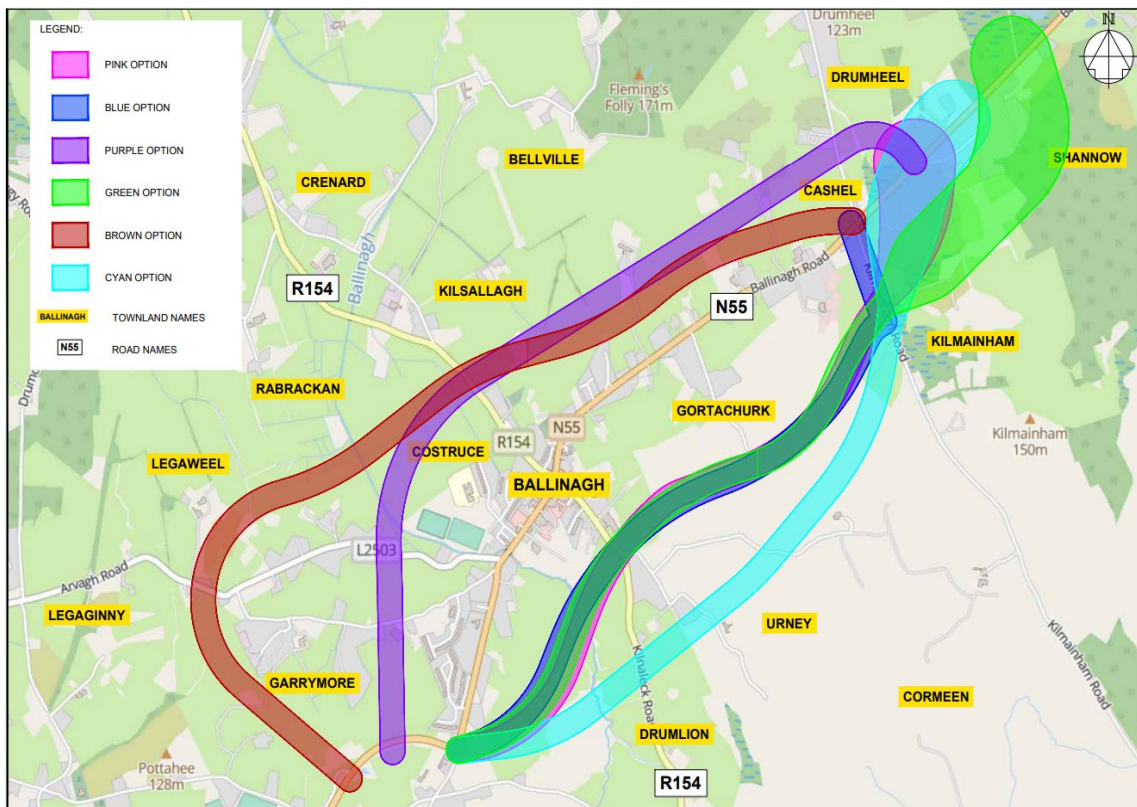
During 2025, Phase 1 (Concept and Feasibility) progressed to completion. Key activities included the preparation of the Project Execution Plan, completion of the Constraints, Risks and Opportunities Study, appraisal of high-level strategic options, and the development of the Feasibility Report. Cavan County Council completed its review of the draft deliverables during mid-2025, and the Phase 1 documents were formally submitted to TII and subsequently approved, allowing the Scheme to advance to Phase 2 (Options Selection).

The Scheme entered Phase 2 in mid-2025. Six strategic route options identified during Phase 1 were taken forward for further detailed assessment. Work undertaken included analysis of traffic survey data and development of the initial traffic models; preparation of background and methodology for the Options Report; and preliminary development of alignment designs for the emerging options. Sweco also commenced the environmental assessment components of Phase 2, including extensive site walkovers covering environmental, ecological, drainage and geotechnical disciplines. Over 50 landowners were contacted in connection with these surveys to support data collection across the study area.

Public and stakeholder engagement formed a significant element of the 2025

programme. An initial round of public consultation was undertaken during Q3 2025 to inform the baseline understanding of local issues within the Study Area. Fourteen submissions were received and reviewed as part of the option development process. A second round of consultation commenced in November 2025, during which preliminary route options were published online for public feedback. This phase also included an in-person consultation event in Ballinagh Community Centre. Twenty-two submissions were received during this period and are being considered as part of the Stage 2 option assessment process.

The Scheme remains on programme, with Phase 2 expected to be completed in mid-2026. Work in 2026 will include the finalisation of the Stage 2 option assessments, workshop review with CCC and TII, and the potential shortlisting of options for progression to Stage 3 of the Options Selection process.



Above: Phase 2 Preliminary Route Options for N55 Ballinagh Traffic Relief Scheme.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

National Road Safety Schemes

Virginia – Carrakeelty More Safety Scheme.

This safety scheme incorporates online improvement works, junction improvements and minor road widening. RPS consultants are currently progressing this scheme through Phases 3 to 7 of the Project Management Guidelines. Landowner agreements were completed in 2025 which allowed for progression of the scheme. RPS consulting engineers submitted a design report to TII, and it was approved. The construction contract was tendered in November 2025 and subject to TII approval and funding, will be awarded in Q1/2026, with construction expected to commence in Q2 2026.

Cavan Crystal – Kilmore Roundabout Safety & Pavement Scheme.

This scheme incorporates the installation of new footpaths, raised Cycle Lanes, New Bus bays and safety improvement works that would benefit cyclists, pedestrians, and motorists from the Cavan Crystal Hotel to the Kilmore Hotel.

RPS consultants completed this scheme to Phase 2 of the Project Management Guidelines. Clandillion Civil Consulting have been appointed to progress this scheme through Phase 3 (Public Consultation) to Phase 7 (Construction) of the Project Management Guidelines.

The scheme design is currently being finalised and will be submitted to TII for approval. Once approved, the project will progress to the planning and CPO phase (if required), during which the public will have an opportunity to make submissions. Subject to successful advancement through planning, approval of the CPO, TII approval and funding - construction works are envisaged to commence in 2027.

National Road Pavement Overlay Schemes

The following pavement overlay schemes were completed at different stages during 2025 on both National Primary and National Secondary Roads within County Cavan as follows. In addition to this, there was also several Emergency

Works Schemes and HD28 sites completed.

Road Number	Scheme	Status
Pavement Schemes (National and Secondary)		
N3	Pollamore to Kilmore Roundabout Pavement Scheme	To be completed as part of Cavan Crystal – Kilmore Roundabout Safety
N87	North of Bawnboy and Swanlinbar (North & South)	Substantially complete August 25
Emergency Works Schemes (Mini PARR Schemes)		
N03	Cootehill and Ballyhaise Road Ramps	Substantially complete Oct 25
N03	Killygrogan	Substantially complete Nov 25
HD28 Sites		
N03	Cavan bypass along Cootehill road Junctions	Substantially complete Oct 25
N03	Billis	Substantially complete Nov 25
N87	Ballyhugh to Greaghrahan	Substantially complete Oct 25
Geo App Sites		
N03	Maghera, Virginia & Killygrogan	Completed spring / summer 25
N55	Corduff	Completed September 25
N03	Dublin Road, Cavan	Completed November 25



Above: HD28 pavement works on the N3 Cavan Bypass



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Np Retrofit Fencing 2025

TII allocated €55,000 for retrofitting of existing concrete/timber rail fencing along national routes with a revised fence type of a tensioned wire mesh restraining system. These systems are recommended for along clear zones on sections of the national road network where the 100 km/h speed limit applies.

Cavan County Council identify several sites along the N3 to be complete which were submitted to TII for funding and subsequently approved. Works commenced in October with completion due by early November 2025.



Above Before and after on the N3 at Poles

REGIONAL & LOCAL ROADS

Road Works Programme

A grant of €19,193,150 was allocated to Cavan County Council during 2025 for the improvement and maintenance of Regional and Local roads in the county and this figure includes for Bridge Rehabilitation, Low-Cost Safety Schemes. Works generally consisted of drainage improvement, strengthening with granular and macadam materials and surface dressing. The 2025 RWP was delivered through the three Municipal Districts.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council



Strategic Regional & Local Roads

R188 EAST WEST ROAD (FROM DUNDALK TO SLIGO): - RATHKENNY

The Department of Transport notified the council in late December 2023 that the strategic assessment report (SAR) prepared by the Road Design Office had been accepted and approved the progression of the project to Options Selection stage. Following further discussions with the DOT, the Roads section prepared a consultants brief to bring the project to Preliminary Business Case stage incorporating the feedback received from the SAR report and utilising the new Department of Transport Regional and Local Roads -Appraisal Guidelines.

A Consultants Brief was prepared together with Tender Documents and a procurement competition for consultants was advertised on eTenders on 1st September 2025 with a closing date for receipt of tenders of 7th October 2025.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

SPECIFIC IMPROVEMENT GRANT

L3504/R191 Canningstown Bridge Widening And Junction Improvement Project

In October 2024, Cavan County Council submitted a Specific Improvement Grant (SIG) application to the Department of Transport. The proposed project is a bridge rehabilitation/widening project incorporating junction safety improvements and addressing bridge hydraulic capacity issues at this junction located within Canningstown Village. The application was successful, and Cavan County Council received an allocation of €100,000 in 2025 to advance the project.

Cavan County Council tendered for Design Consultants in February 2025 with a return date of 14th March 2025. Tenders were returned and assessed, and Design ID Consulting Engineers from County Down were appointed on 21st August. The preliminary design stage commenced on 24th September 2025 and is ongoing.



Above: Canningstown Bridge and Junction

Regional & Local Road Safety Schemes

Cavan County Council were notified of an allocation of €390,000 in 2025 that will allow for the completion of eight Low-Cost Safety Schemes across the county.

These projects are as follows.

- R194 L3020 Rantavan, Mullagh, Co. Cavan
- R165 Greaghagibney, Stradone, Co. Cavan
- R178 Enagh East /Lisnabantry, Virginia, Co. Cavan
- R199 Church Street, Killeshandra, Co. Cavan
- R202 Corratillan, Corlough, Co. Cavan
- R192 Mullaghard, Shercock, Co. Cavan
- R188/R165 Tullyvin, Rathkenny & Corravogy, Cootehill, Co. Cavan
- R198/L1514 Farnham Road & Golf Links Road Cavan



Above: R178 Enagh East /Lisnabantry, Virginia
(Postponed to 2026 due to Uisce Eireann works)



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Regional & Local Road Bridge Projects

Cavan County Council were notified of an allocation of €697,000 in Grant Allocations for Regional & Local Road Bridges for 2025. There were 12 number Department of Transport bridge rehabilitation schemes proposed for this funding together with bridge inventory and maintenance inspections on a further 100 bridge structures. The proposed bridge rehabilitation schemes are as follows:

- L2029 Drumsivney Bridge,
- L5501 Kilnacranagh Bridge,
- R198 Corranea Bridge,
- R191 Gallon Etra Bridge,
- R201 Derrygeeraghan Bridge,
- L6531 Cornafean Bridge,
- R188 Clonconor Bridge,
- L1030 Arderry Bridge,
- L6530 Drumcoghill Lower Bridge,
- L6010 Barragh Bridge,
- R178 Glasleck Bridge,
- R194 Mullagh



Above: Mullagh Bridge Before and After works

Cavan County council also used own resources funding to complete bridge repairs to Drumgor bridge L1530, Corglass bridge L3514, Mullaghboy bridge L1012 and Susie's Elbow bridge R200. Own resource funding was also used to devegetate 19 number bridges throughout the county.

Mullaghboy Bridge

On Monday, 21st July significant damage occurred to Mullaghboy Masonry Arch bridge due to an extreme rainfall event that occurred the previous day, Sunday 20th July. The bridges structural elements including part of the bridge deck had been washed downstream as a result of a severe flooding surge rendering the road impassable. The Road Design Office deemed that the original structure could not be salvaged and would need full replacement.



Above: After Flood Damage

Cavan County Council prioritised these works to ensure as little disruption to the public as possible by procuring a suitable bridge replacement design to meet the required increased capacity criteria.



Bridge replacement works commenced on 1st August. Box culverts were installed on 13th August which offer increased hydraulic capacity compared to existing bridge structure and ancillary works are currently ongoing. The road was reopened to traffic on Wednesday 27th August at 6pm operating under a one-way shuttle system controlled by

traffic lights. All remedial works are now substantially complete. The project was jointly funded by Cavan Council and the Department of Transport.

Above: At Substantial Completion

Climate Change Adaptation And Resilience Works

Cavan County Council received an allocation of €520,000 under the Climate Change Adaption and Resilience Works Fund for 2025 for 4 projects across the county.

Community Involvement Schemes

Cavan County Council received an allocation of €513,150 for Community Involvement in 2025 with the applicants providing 10% of the overall cost of the works. The allocation provided allowed for the completion of 5 schemes across the county.

Local Improvement Schemes

Cavan County Council received an initial allocation of €519,476 from the Department of Rural and Community Development for Local Improvement Schemes in 2025. This allocation allowed for the completion of drainage, surfacing, and associated civil works to 9 schemes across the county. An

additional allocation of €662,498 was received in August allowing for a further 9 lanes to be completed in 2025.



Above: LIS works at Togher before and after

Road Maintenance

Ongoing maintenance of the road network is critical in maintaining the investment of improvement works of previous years. The table below shows the value of maintenance works carried out during the year on each road type.

Road Category	Kms	Maintenance Costs 2025
National Primary	62	932,166
National Secondary	61	181,397
Regional	399	1,418,206
Local	2489	5,375,533
Total	3011	7,907,302

National Road Maintenance

During 2025 Cavan County Council received €697,430 in funding for maintenance of the national primary and secondary network in Cavan under the Winter Maintenance, Route Lighting, Ordinary Maintenance and Route Defects programmes.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Regional & Local Road Maintenance

In 2025 the DOT provided an allocation of €2.382 m in the form of a Discretionary Grant and €2.374m in Surface Restoration Grants specifically for the maintenance of the Regional & Local Road network. Cavan County Council provided an additional €1.74m from its own resources for the same purpose. The principal maintenance operations included drainage and surface repair work.

Winter Maintenance

Cavan County Council treats a designated 640km of the Road network as part of its Winter Maintenance Service which accounts for 20% of the entire network. A Winter Service Response Plan and maps of the salting routes are posted on the Council's Website for public viewing. The National Road Network is prioritised as it carries the greatest volume of traffic and caters for higher speeds. Winter Maintenance is carried out as a pre-treatment based on forecast conditions.

Public Lighting

Cavan County Council provides and maintains Public Lighting to a total of 29 towns and villages. Throughout the year the Council upgraded sections of the lighting infrastructure within each of the three Municipal Districts, including the use of LED technology which reduces the energy and maintenance costs and decreases carbon emissions.

84% of Cavan County Councils public lighting stock has been updated with LED fittings to date.

Active Travel

In 2025 Cavan County Council's Active Travel initiatives significantly advanced sustainable transport, improved accessibility, and enhanced safety across the county. These efforts focused on integrating walking, cycling, and other non-motorised travel options into everyday life, promoting healthier lifestyles, reducing emissions, and creating more connected communities.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Active Travel Measures 2025

In 2025, Cavan County Council received €3,000,000 from the National Transport Authority (NTA) to deliver Active Travel projects across the county. An additional €500,000 was provided for the Bus Stop Enhancement Programme, bringing the total funding dedicated to Active Travel enhancements to €3,500,000 million.

A total of 17 project schemes were funded in 2025, with several schemes continuing from 2024 into 2025.

Projects Delivered

Communities across Cavan benefited from significant Active Travel investment in the county's pedestrian and cycling network. This investment supported the construction of new footpaths, upgrades to existing routes, improvements to cycling facilities, and the installation of additional pedestrian crossings at key locations. A total of 17 Active Travel and Safe Routes to School projects were delivered or progressed, strengthening connectivity, safety, and accessibility for residents, schoolchildren, the general public and commuters across the county.

In 2025, Active Travel design work in Cavan was progressed through a dual-track approach, with projects either developed in-house by Cavan County Council's Active Travel Team or delivered through external consultants. This approach ensured that resources were used efficiently while allowing more complex or specialist schemes to benefit from consultant expertise. Several projects in 2025 focused on enhancing both pedestrian and cycling networks, including:

Projects at Design – In-house Design

These projects were designed directly by Cavan County Council's Active Travel Team:

- Cootehill - Station Rd, Active Travel Scheme
- Cavan Town - Loreto school to Town Active Travel Scheme
- Cavan Town - Footpath Link to Farnham N.S



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

- Cootehill Town - Cavan Street/Road
- SRTS R2 St Michael's N.S., Cootehill
- SRTS Round 3: Saint Patrick's National School
- Bus Stop Enhancement Programme

Projects at Design – Consultant Led

These projects were advanced with the support of external engineering consultants due to their scale, complexity, or specialist requirements:

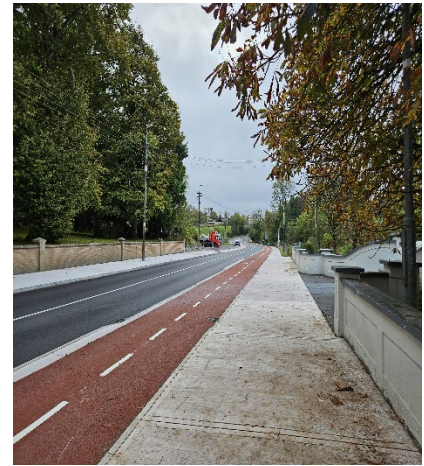
- Virginia - Rampart River Footbridge
- Cavan Town - Urban Greenway Phase 2
- Cavan Town - Local Transport Plan
- Cavan Town - Bus Station to Hospital, Active Travel Scheme
- Cootehill - SRTS R1, St Aidan's Secondary School
- Kingscourt - Urban Greenway/Permeability Link
- Market St Junction Baileborough Town
- Cavan Town Centre Active Travel Connections

Station Road, Cootehill Town

The works delivered a comprehensive upgrade along the R190 between Cootehill Livestock Mart and St. Michael's Church to improve safety and encourage active travel. The scheme included the construction of new footpaths and segregated two-way cycle lanes to provide safe and accessible routes for pedestrians and cyclists. Junctions were tightened where necessary to enhance pedestrian safety, and existing crossings were upgraded to ensure safer access across the road.

Traffic calming measures, such as road narrowing, were introduced to reduce vehicle speeds and create a safer environment for all road users. In addition, storm drainage along the route was improved to manage surface water effectively. These enhancements aimed to promote walking, cycling, and

scooting to schools and within the community, thereby improving physical health and wellbeing.



Above: Station Road before and after

Bus Station to Cavan Hospital Active Travel Scheme

Cavan County Council (CNCC) has engaged design services through the NTA Consultants Framework to deliver a project aimed at improving cycleways and footpaths between Cavan General Hospital, the roundabout, and Cavan Town Bus Station. Tobin Consulting Engineers were awarded the contract and are progressing with preliminary design work. The scheme will include new footpaths and a dedicated cycle track along the R212 and R198, significantly enhancing connectivity between the hospital, surrounding residential and commercial areas, and the town centre. It will also provide a direct link to Phase 1 of the Cavan Urban Greenway (completed in 2020) and integrate with the planned Phase 2.

Loreto school to Cavan Town Active Travel Scheme

Section 2 of the scheme was completed in quarter 1 2025, delivering a continuous and safe active travel corridor from John Sullivan Nursing Home to the junction at St. Felim's Hospital. These works included new footpaths, dedicated cycle lanes, and upgraded pedestrian infrastructure, significantly

improving connectivity and safety for all users.

Section 3 of the Active Travel Scheme represents the continuation of the upgraded walking and cycling corridor from the L-2012 junction out to Cullies Roundabout on the R212. This section was completed in December 2025 and extends the improvements delivered in Section 1 (completed in 2023), creating a longer, safer, and more coherent active-travel route for students, residents, and commuters travelling between Loreto College, Cavan Institute, surrounding residential areas, and the town centre.



Above: Completed Section 3 Works

Cootehill Town - Cavan Street/Road

The works included the construction of new infill footpaths along Cavan Street in Cootehill, completing missing pedestrian links and creating a continuous, safe, and accessible walking network throughout the area. These improvements enhance connectivity to local amenities, workplaces, and residential areas, supporting increased use of active and sustainable travel modes.

A key component of the scheme was the upgrade of the Cavan Street / R188 Cavan Road junction, where junction-tightening measures were introduced to shorten pedestrian crossing distances, reduce vehicle speeds, and improve overall safety for vulnerable road users. The works also incorporated the installation of a raised pedestrian crossing, delivering a traffic-calming priority crossing point at this busy junction.



Above: Completed Junction Works

Cavan Town - Footpath Link to Farnham N.S

The works included the construction of a new footpath to provide a safe walking route from the Cavan Town environs to Farnham National School, along with the installation of speed ramps to help reduce vehicle speeds in the vicinity of the school. The roundabout was reconfigured to improve traffic flow and safety, and a pedestrian crossing was introduced to ensure safe access across the road. In addition, public lighting was upgraded to enhance visibility for both pedestrians and drivers, and new road markings were applied to further aid in traffic control and safety.



Above Completed Roundabout Works



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



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County Council

Cavan Urban Greenway

Phase 2 of the Cavan Urban Greenway will create a walking and cycling trail connecting Phase 1 of the Greenway at Cavan General Hospital to Farnham Road to Cavan town centre. This shared-use path will be approximately 3 to 4 meters wide, and will include landscaping, lighting and signage.

The consultant is advancing Phase 3, with ground investigations currently underway. Structural engineers are developing design solutions for the high embankment section along the old railway line through the mart and preparing drawings to finalise the preliminary design, including the proposed entry point at R198 Hospital Road.

OCSC will provide a provisional timeline for the Part 8 Planning process, which is currently targeted for Q2 2026. At the same time, environmental specialists are conducting screening and a full suite of surveys to inform planning and design. CNCC is actively engaging with landowners to agree on the proposed route and secure necessary approvals.

Cavan Local Transport Plan

DBFL Consulting Engineers (DBFL) were commissioned by Cavan County Council (CCC) to conduct an Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA) for Cavan Town. This assessment is aligned with the Cavan County Development Plan and the Cavan Town Local Area Plan, focusing on guiding the town's growth towards a more compact, self-sustaining model, in line with national, regional, and local planning policies. The key aim of the Cavan Town Local Area Plan is to improve the town's planning, urban design, and infrastructure, contributing to the town's goal of becoming a "Low Carbon Town Centre.". The ABTA will lead to the development a Local Transport Plan (LTP) for Cavan Town.



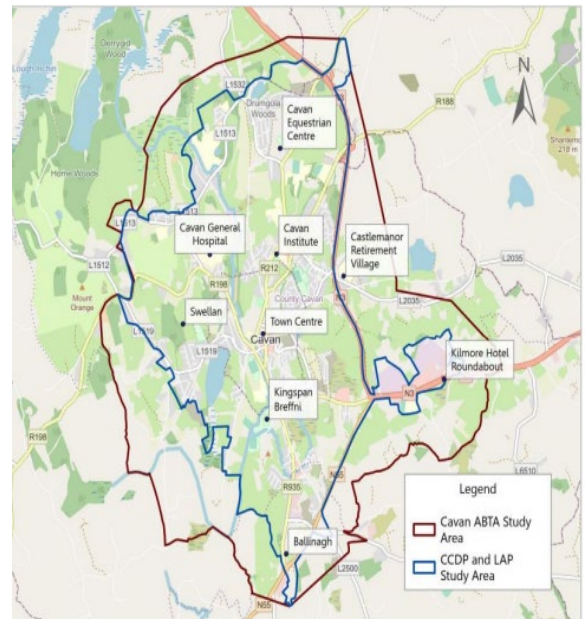
2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



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an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

During 2025, DBFL finalised a base transport model using current traffic flow data and surveys which was used to forecast future traffic growth, assess the impact of land use scenarios, and evaluate potential road network interventions. This led to the development of a draft Local Transport Plan which was submitted to the National Transport Authority (NTA), Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII), and relevant environmental agencies for review and feedback.

A presentation on the draft LTP was given to elected representatives in December 2025 with the intention of commencing public consultation in quarter 2 2026.



Above: Cavan Town ABTA Study Area

Kingscourt Town Permeability Link to Navan-Kingscourt Greenway

Cavan County Council, in partnership with the National Transport Authority (NTA), is advancing the Kingscourt Town Permeability Link to the Navan and Kingscourt Greenway, currently in Phase 3 – Preliminary Design, according to the NTA project lifecycle. The project aims to create a safe permeability link for pedestrians and cyclists between Navan to Kingscourt Greenway and Kingscourt Town. It also supports climate action goals by promoting walking and cycling for both residents and visitors.

The scheme will enhance pedestrian and cyclist facilities within Kingscourt Town and between the town and the Greenway, encouraging Greenway users to visit. A topographical survey and geological investigation have been completed, and consultants are now developing the preliminary design in Phase 3.



Above: Emerging Preferred Route

Safe Route To Schools Programme

The Active Travel initiative has been supporting the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) programme in Cavan, focusing on improving safety around schools through upgraded and additional infrastructure. These projects aim to enhance the safety and accessibility for students by creating safer environments for walking and cycling to school.

SRTS Projects in Cavan:

- Cootehill – St. Michael's N.S (SRTS R2)
- Cootehill Town – St. Aidan's Secondary School
- Shercock Town – St. Aidan's National School
- SRTS Round 3 - Killygarry NS. HSRR
- SRTS Round 3 - Mullahoran NS. HSRR



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

St. Michael's National School Cootehill

The Safe Routes to School (SRTS) scheme for St. Michael's National School in Cootehill was completed in 2025. The project included the installation of new footpaths, upgrades to pedestrian crossings, and the implementation of traffic calming measures to improve safety and accessibility for students and the wider community. The majority of works in the vicinity of the school were carried out during the summer school holidays to minimise disruption.



GREENWAYS

Sligo Leitrim Northern Counties Railway (Slncr) Greenway

Leitrim County Council are the lead authority for the development of the 56Km Sligo Leitrim Northern Counties Railway (SLNCR) Greenway project from Sligo to Enniskillen in Co. Fermanagh. ARUP consulting engineers were appointed to the project by Leitrim County Council in September 2022.

The project received Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) approval for all Phase 2 deliverables during the summer and is currently in Phase 3 - Design and Environmental Evaluation. The preferred route corridor was published on the 8th of October and is available to view on the project's website at www.slncr-greenway.com

Cavan Greenway

The proposed Cavan North West Greenway will connect Cavan Town to the proposed Ulster Canal Greenway in Monaghan/Fermanagh and to the proposed Cavan Leitrim Greenway at Aghawillin in County Leitrim.

In March 2025, Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) formally approved the Phase 0 deliverables and granted permission to advance to Phase 1 of the TII Project Management Guidelines (PMG). On the same date, TII also authorised the Council to initiate the procurement process for the appointment of technical consultants to progress the project through Phases 1 to 4.

In line with this approval, Cavan County Council published tender documents on



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

the eTenders platform in June 2025 with the tender process concluded by the end of the year. Cavan County Council formally requested approval from TII to award the contract which was rejected in quarter 1 2026 due to budgetary constraints.

Road Safety

A new national Road Safety Strategy from 2021-2030 Vision Zero was finalised by the Department of Transport and due and published December 2021. The publication of the strategy will require the development of a new Road Safety Action Plan by the council; guidelines were issued to all local authorities in April 22. The plan will be prepared by the Cavan Road Safety Working Together Group, which is a multi-agency, multi-disciplinary group to ensure a co-ordinated, collaborative, and consistent approach to improving safety for all road users.

The Cavan Road Safety Working Together Group will include members from Cavan County Council, The Fire Service, The RSA, The TII, An Garda Síochána, The HSE, The Ambulance Service and The Cavan Monaghan Education & Training Board. The CRSWTG had 3 meetings in 2025 at which a number of issues were discussed.

Vision zero has set ambitious targets of a 50% reduction of road deaths by 2030. For the 2021–2030 strategy, seven Safe System priority intervention areas have been identified some of which we will have a key impact on deliverables:

- Safe roads and roadsides: To improve the protective quality of our roads and infrastructure.
- Safe speeds: To reduce speeds to safe, appropriate levels for the roads being used, and the road users using them.
- Safe road use: To improve road user standards and behaviours in line with traffic legislation, supported by enforcement.
- Safe and healthy modes of travel: To promote and protect road users engaging in public or active transport.

Kingscourt Town Centre Regeneration Scheme

The scheme was announced as one of the successful applicants from the 5th call for Category 1 funding from the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF) in May 2024 and was granted €10,897,812.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

A match funding contribution from Cavan County Council of €1,210,868

has also been committed making available a total of €12,210,868 for the scheme to proceed with the final stages of its development.

This project intends to redevelop Kingscourt's town centre through the following measures:

- the creation of a new Community Library through the refurbishment of the prominent former National Irish Bank building on Market Square
- provide a redesigned Market Square in the town centre which will bring back its historic function.
- refurbish the vacant former Bank of Ireland building on Main Street to create a multi-functional Remote Working Hub
- provide a redesigned Main Street between the Market Square and the Kells Road Roundabout, which will include sympathetic road infrastructure tailored to suit the needs of Kingscourt's residents and businesses.
- create a new off-street carpark to provide 126 new car parking spaces.
- undergrounding of all overhead utilities and façade painting of all buildings through the town core to greatly improve the general aesthetics of the street and address dereliction.
- creation of a new access to the Rocks Rd which creates the potential for backlands developments such as housing or commercial use.



Above: Project Overview

In Q3 2025 Cavan County Council received a Letter of Offer in Principle for this grant and a funding agreement between the Dept. of Rural and Community Development & the Gaeltacht (DRCDG) and Cavan County Council (CCC) was put in place to enable the scheme to progress following a due diligence process on the scheme proposals undertaken by the DRCDG.

The project team for the remaining stages of the scheme have been procured and were appointed to their role by the authority in Q4 2025. Tobin Consulting Engineers are the team lead, ER and PSDP for the remaining project stages and the team will provide complete Engineering and Architectural services to deliver the project.

Currently the team are progressing Stage iii of the Capital Works Management Framework (CWMF) which is Tender action, Evaluation and Award of the Construction stage works contracts. The project will be delivered in two parts under separate contracts running concurrently:



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
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Cavan
County Council

- **Contract 1:** The Public Realm Enhancement component of the project. This contract is expected to take 12 months to complete.
- **Contract 2:** The Library Creation and Remote Working Hub Creation components of the project. This contract is expected to take 18 months to complete.



Cavan Town Flood Relief Scheme

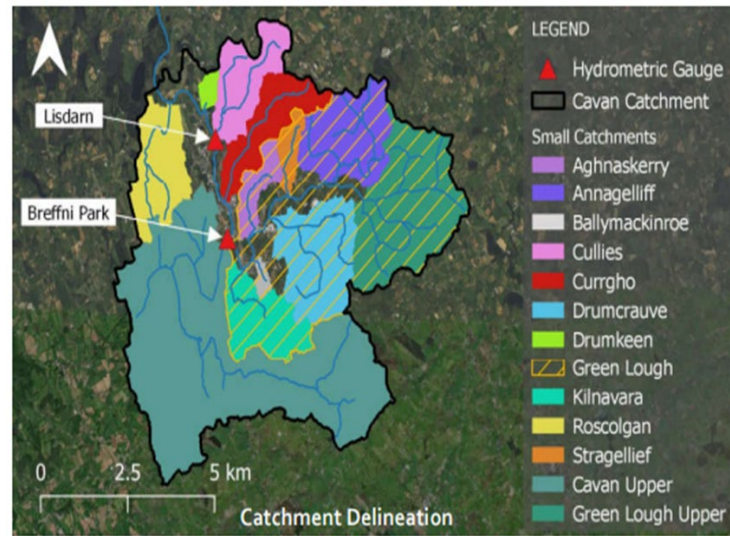
The project is currently developing the first of five scheme stages. Stage I, Option Assessment, Scheme Development & Design is anticipated to conclude in Q2 2027. Stage II of the process, Planning/Development Consent will follow with a submission for Part 10 planning to An Board Pleanála anticipated in Q4 2027.

To date in progressing Stage I of the scheme an opening Public Consultation has been held, all Topographical, Hydrometric, Drainage and Utility surveys have been completed, Baseline environmental surveys including an Invasive Species Management Plan and an invasive species treatment programme have been undertaken, Hydrological & Hydraulic modelling of the existing scenario and the production of Hydrological & Hydraulics Reports have also now been completed.

Ayasa, the schemes engineering and environmental consultants have begun the options development phase of the scheme. This initially involves the review of all potential flood relief measures to identify a list of potential viable measures which could be implemented in Cavan Town to provide the required level of flood protection for 1 in 100-year flood events.

Hydraulic modelling will be carried out in 2026 to assess the effectiveness of different flood defence measures. Measures under consideration include flood defence walls, earthen embankments and the provision of upstream storage areas.

The various measures will be assessed in relation to their technical, social, environmental and economic benefits to identify the best flood defence scheme to be implemented.



Above: A map of the catchments within the Cavan Town scheme area.

Strategic Policy Committees

One of the main objectives of Better Local Government was to enhance Local Democracy and as a result Strategic Policy Committees were set up. These provide a new forum for Elected Representatives of the Council and Representatives of Community and State Organisations to work together to develop new policies and review old ones. Each Committee is chaired by a Member of the Council and is serviced by a Director of Services. There were three SPC meetings in 2025, May, October and December.



Environment, Waste Management and Climate Change

Environmental Services

Cavan is a predominantly rural county with numerous rivers and lakes it is therefore no surprise that the issue of water quality demands significant attention. Water quality can be impacted by industrial and commercial discharges, farming practices, discharges from urban wastewater treatment plants and wastewater treatment systems serving one-off housing. The Environmental Services Division play a vital role in the source protection of our many drinking water supplies public, group and private across the County. The Environmental Services Division also deal with other environmental issues, including on site wastewater treatment inspections, air pollution, air licences, planning applications and environment specific bye-laws. We monitor energy consumption and drive sustainable energy practices and reduced energy consumption within Cavan County Council.

Climate change is now recognised as a global challenge with policy responses required in terms of both mitigating the causes of climate change and in adapting to the now inevitable consequences of our changing climate. Action at local level is vitally important to help reduce the risks and impacts of climate change across communities. Cavan County Council has prepared the Local Authority-Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 to set out how the local authority can help tackle climate change and promote a range of mitigation, adaptation, and other climate action measures, to help deliver on the national climate obligations and the Government's overall National Climate Objective.

The Waste Management and Enforcement element is responsible for the prevention, management and control of waste under Irish and EU legislation. It also manages Environmental Awareness and Education, the Dog Warden Service, and maintenance of vested burial grounds.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

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A. The number of households, which availed of a 3-bin service offered by a licensed operator at 31/12/2025.

18582

B. The % of households within the local authority that the number at A represents (based on agglomerations > 500).

64.7% of households

In order to compile this information, data was obtained directly from the National Waste Collection Permit Office.

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The following indicators will be presented in the performance indicators report:

T guwnu

C	The opening number of cases carried forward from the year end 2024:	46
D	Total number of pollution cases in respect of which a complaint was made during 2024:	396
E	Number of pollution cases closed from 1/1/2024 to 31/12/2024:	390
F	Total number of cases on hands at 31/12/2025:	52

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Nlwgt'r qmwkqp'G5<'

A1. The % of the area within the LA that when surveyed in 2025 was unpolluted or litter free
A2. The % of the area within the LA that when surveyed in 2025 was slightly polluted
A3. The % of the area within the LA that when surveyed in 2025 was moderately polluted
A4. The % of the area within the LA that when surveyed in 2025 was significantly polluted
A5. The % of the area within the LA that when surveyed in 2025 was grossly polluted



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

The data is not available the data will be made available by Tobin Consulting Engineers directly to the LGMA.

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This data is supplied by An Taisce: The National Trust for Ireland

- The percentage of schools that have been awarded/renewed green flag status in the two years to 31 December 2025: 28.74 %
- Schools which attained a Green Flag for the first time in 2025: 0
- Schools which renewed their Green Flag in 2025: 13
- Schools which held a Green Flag from 2024 and therefore do not require renewal until 2026: 12

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1. The cumulative % of energy savings achieved by 31/12/2025 relative to baseline year (2009)

Data is not yet available.

Tgxkgy

Data is not yet available.

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- Does the local Authority have a FTE climate action officer: Yes
- Does the local Authority have a FTE climate change coordinator: Yes
- Does the Local Authority have a climate action team? Yes

Tgxkgy

The appointment of climate change roles took place in 2023.

River & Lake Monitoring

Nearly 550, river and lake samples were taken across County Cavan during 2025 by Environmental Services Section field staff. These inspections were undertaken in accordance with the Water Framework Directive National Monitoring Programme. The results of analysis from these samples, combined with other biology,

ecology & hydromorphology data available to the EPA, is used to classify the water quality of the rivers and lakes for the purposes of the Water Framework Directive. There are a number of different types of pressures on water quality including urban waste water, agriculture and forestry. Pressures on water quality are diverse and most of the “at risk” waterbodies are subject to more than one pressure. Much of the work we do to improve water quality is not readily apparent. It can take a long time for the water quality in lakes in particular to show improvement. However, given the systems in place, we expect to be able to show steady continuous improvement in the coming years until we achieve good status for all our waters.



Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems

The Water Services (Amendment) Act was enacted in 2012, to protect ground and surface water quality (particularly drinking water sources) from the risks posed by



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

malfunctioning domestic water treatment systems. All owners of premises connected to a domestic wastewater treatment system were required to register their systems by February 2013. A National Inspection Plan (NIP) set out the inspection requirements on a national basis and prioritises the inspection selection on the basis of pollution risk.

Environmental Services Section staff have been trained and have undertaken inspections of wastewater treatment systems in accordance with the NIP. 34 full domestic wastewater assessments were carried out in 2025 in County Cavan.

Water Pollution

During 2025, staff from the Environment Section responded to 45 water related complaints. The investigations relating to these complaints resulted in various forms of enforcement action being initiated. In some cases no further action was required upon investigation and the file was closed or referred to another Section of the Council for inspection. Where enforcement action was deemed necessary due to a discharge of polluting matter or a risk of pollution to waters taking place, the following actions may have been taken depending on the scenario encountered on site by the Inspector –

- Advisory letter
- Warning letter
- Section 12 Notice (Water Pollution Acts)
- Section 3 Notice (Water Pollution Acts)
- Cross Report to the Department of Agriculture

Discharge Licences

Inspectors from the Environment Section monitored 58 discharge licenced facilities during 2025. This involved inspections associated with these facilities. These licences provide control over effluent discharges to ground and surface waters, which includes rivers & lakes. These licences place responsibility and accountability on the discharger/licence holder. Cavan County Council is responsible for controlling the discharge of effluent to waters through licensing. The licences include



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

appropriate pollution control conditions as well as emission limit values on the discharge.

Air Pollution Acts & Regulations (Solvents/Decopaints/PVE/Smoky Coal)

During 2025, there were 2 active Air Licences operating in the County, Inspectors attended the sites to establish if the operators were complying with their licence requirements.

During 2025, staff from the Environment Section responded to 17 air and noise related complaints.

The Solvents Regulations deal primarily with emissions from dry cleaning establishments across County Cavan. Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) are emitted as gases from certain solids or liquids. They include a variety of chemicals, some of which may have short and long-term adverse health effects. These regulations are in force to reduce emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) into the environment, especially through controlling, preventing and reducing emissions to air. This is because VOC releases can have negative impacts on human health and the environment. The operators have assessments carried out and if all is in order, they apply to Cavan County Council for Certification. The Certificates can be issued for up to 3 years if the operator is adhering to the regulations. Shorter time frames may be imposed if non compliances have to be resolved. There were three facilities with the required Certificates in place at the end of 2025.

The Decopaints Regulations, make it an offence to operate a vehicle refinishing or repair installation without a valid certificate of compliance. Motor factors and paints suppliers also need to comply with these regulations as it is an offence to place non-compliant vehicle refinishing products on the market. The procedure for Certification is similar to that of the Solvent Regulations. There were five facilities with the necessary Certificate in place at the end of 2025.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Petrol Vapour Emission Regulations (PVE's) are relevant if a company deals with liquid and gas fuels, such as petrol stations, then there is a need to obtain a petroleum vapour emissions (PVE) certificate from Cavan County Council. An assessor undertakes an assessment when fuel is being delivered. The findings of same are submitted to Cavan County Council. If all is in order a Certificate can be issued. 33 facilities had the necessary Certificate in place at the end of 2025.

Smoky Coal Regulations are also referred to as the Air Pollution Act (Marketing, Sale, Distribution and Burning of Specified Fuels) Regulations 2012 (as amended). There is a ban on the burning of smoky coal and certain other fuels in County Cavan which came into effect on 31st October 2022.

During 2025, investigations were ongoing across County Cavan on fuel supplied for sale in the County, this included inspections of solid fuel suppliers and merchants. Adherence to these regulations will ultimately improve air quality and public health, as well as helping to protect those who are vulnerable to respiratory problems.

Air monitoring station and data - An ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station was installed in 2020 located at the rear of Cavan Courthouse, Farnham Street, Cavan Town. Reports are produced and distributed of the results from this air quality monitoring station. The system measures and transmits the air monitoring data in real-time with graphical results presented on the EPA website at:

<https://www.epa.ie/air/quality/data/cn/pm/>, the air monitoring data captured by the monitoring station will be used to evaluate air quality.

Farm Inspections & the Nitrates Regulations

Agriculture plays an important part in the economic and sustainable growth of County Cavan. In order for this to continue, the agricultural community has to ensure that various obligations regarding the law and the environment are applied. Cavan is predominantly a rural County; therefore, one of the potential sources of pollution to our rivers and lakes can be poor agricultural practices. The Nitrates Regulations or GAP (Good Agricultural Practice) Regulations are enforced in County



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Cavan. These Regulations provide statutory support for good agricultural practice to protect waters against pollution from agricultural. 152 farm inspections were allocated by the EPA to Cavan County Council under the National Agricultural Inspection Programme (NAIP) for 2025.

Since 2024 two Assistant Scientists have been recruited to implement the National Agricultural Inspection Programme for Cavan.

By year end 2025, 162 initial farm inspections and 42 outfarm GAP farm inspections were completed.

Furthermore, 51 agriculture inspections were completed in 2025. These inspections arose from 2025 agriculture complaints, follow-ups to previous years ongoing complaints and follow-ups to previous years NAIP inspections.

Public Drinking Water

Drinking water from small private schemes and group water schemes are monitored. This is done to ensure that the schemes are producing water that meets the highest standards with regard to public health, and to ensure that drinking water complies with the relevant regulations.

Border Energy Unit

The Eastern and Midlands Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) is made up of a number of sub regions. The Border Region Sub Region authorities are Cavan County Council, Monaghan County Council, and Leitrim County Council. The Border Region Sub Region Authorities of Cavan County Council, Monaghan County Council and Leitrim County Council have come together to work in partnership as a proposed Border Energy Unit.

The mission of the Border Energy Unit is for the local authorities to work collaboratively with the SEAI to delivery energy efficiency projects in the region. Cavan County Council acts as lead local authority for the Border Energy Unit with the aim to continuously improve energy efficiency and the decarbonisation of its assets and



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

services. Cavan County Council aims to meet the prescribed objectives and targets for 2030.

Cavan County Council, in its capacity as lead local authority, and the other LAs and SEAI have agreed to collaborate on the delivery of a Pathfinder Programme for Border Sub Region.

The shared objectives are to develop a scalable model for energy and emission management and retrofit investment in the Unit Authorities' building stock to achieve national policy targets.

As part of the Pathfinder Programme, the local authorities will manage the progression of the energy and decarbonisation agenda including:

- Implementing and Progressing energy efficiency and decarbonisation upgrades
- Maintaining and developing further a collaborative approach for energy efficiency across each Local Authority in the region
- Establishing and Embedding Energy Management in each Local Authority across the region
- Developing a programme of retrofit works comprising capital works and centrally Coordinated

For the Energy Unit and Retrofit Programme the Annual Commitment shall be funded on a 50/50 basis between the Unit Authority (coordinated by Cavan County Council under the SLAs) and SEAI. In 2025 Cavan County Council progressed work with the appointed Design Team. This relates to the energy upgrade of 5 of Cavan County Council's buildings (significant energy users).

Energy Management

Across the entire organisation the Council's Energy Manager undertakes the following



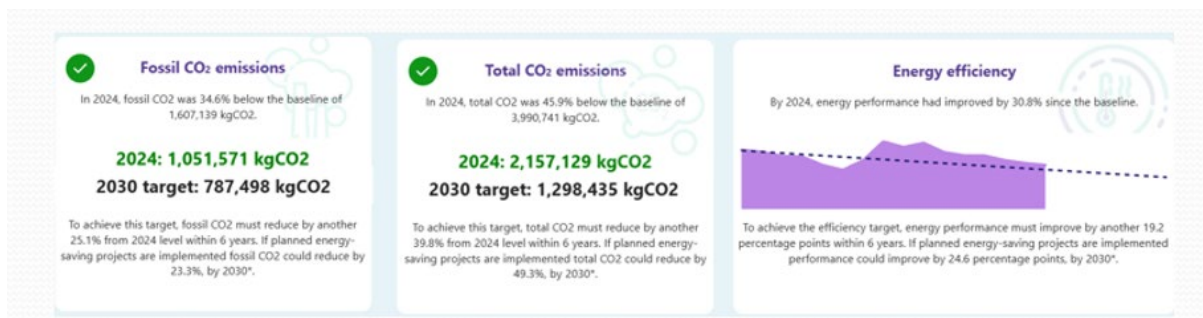
2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

- Update and reporting on Cavan County Council's Energy Reduction Targets
- Ensuring Cavan County Council's energy supply complies with the Office of Government Procurement national contracts.
- Establishing and maintain procedures to monitor energy consumption
- Providing guidance and advice on energy regulations and statutory requirements.
- Raising awareness to improve energy efficiency
- Encourage sustainable energy practices
- Support energy efficiency improvement projects

Cavan County Council's target is a 50% improvement in energy efficiency by 2030. Based on the Monitoring and Reporting submissions to SEAI for 2024, Cavan County Council has made a 30.8% improvement to energy efficiency since the baseline period of 2001-2005. The public sector report for 2025 has not been published to date and this is why the 2024 data is utilised as it is the most up to date verified data available.



The Energy Manager reports the annual energy consumption and related data to the SEAI in accordance with deadlines imposed each year.

All electricity consumed by Cavan County Council is procured in accordance with the National Procurement Service tender and this is administered by the Energy Manager. The current electricity contract for non-domestic buildings is with *Energia* who supply over 60 sites operated by Cavan County Council which include office



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



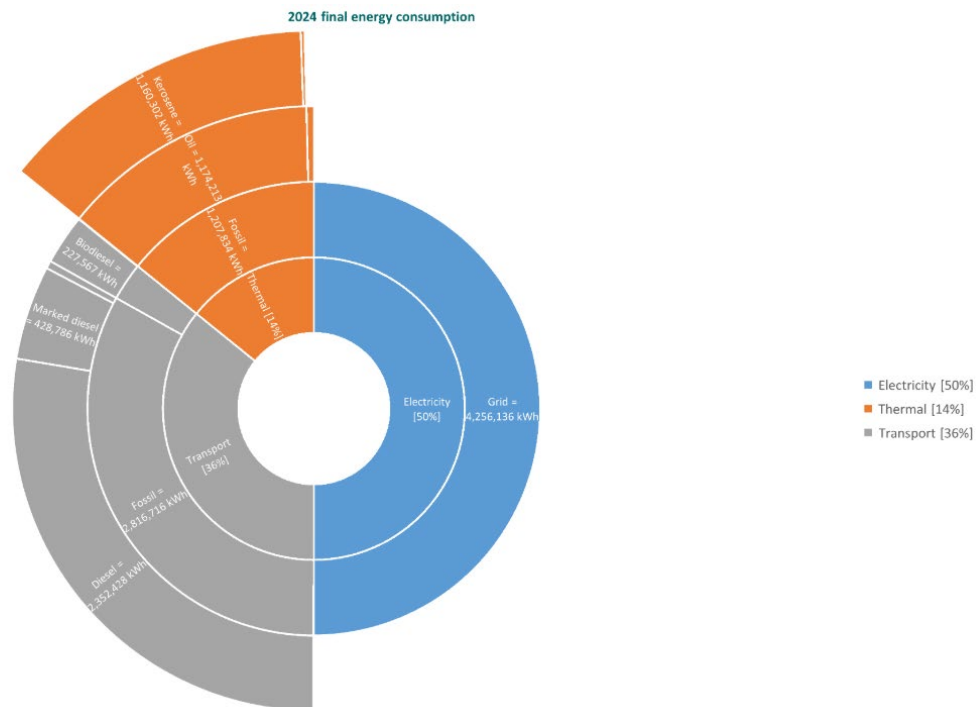
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Cavan
County Council

buildings, libraries, waste management facilities, recreational facilities, fire stations, museum, theatres, etc.

The Public Lighting electricity supply contract is also administered via the Office of Government Procurement with *Energia* supplying the electricity to the public lights under Cavan County Council's control. >80% of public lighting inventory in Cavan is now upgraded to LED.

Cavan County Councils energy consumption during 2024 which resulted in a spending of nearly **€1.2 million** is detailed in kilowatt hours in the table below:

Energy Type	Energy Consumption 2024	Energy Consumption 2023
	kWh	kWh
Electricity	6.478.358 ↓	4,286,964
Thermal	3.429.: 56 ↑	926,823
Transport	5.268.6; : ↓	3,513,508
Total Energy Consumed	: .732.68; ↓	8,727,294





2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
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Cavan
County Council

Cavan energy consumption:

- Electricity (Buildings & public lighting) – 50% (51% CO2 emissions)
- Transport – 36% (35% CO2 emissions)
- Heating (Buildings) – 14% (14% CO2 emissions)

Some of the Significant Energy Actions during 2025 include

- Energy Monitoring and Reporting submitted to SEAI in accordance with deadlines for 2024 energy consumed.
- Architect/Building M&E Services Led Design Team Consultancy Services progressing 5 deep energy retrofit projects for the Local Authority Energy Pathfinder programme undertaken by Cavan County Council on behalf of the three-border unit local authorities (Cavan, Monaghan & Leitrim). This work will progress the necessary deep energy retrofits to Cavan County Council's significant energy users in line with the SEAI Pathfinder support programme.
- Cavan managed the SEAI Pathfinder recoup from SEAI for 2025 on behalf of Cavan, Monaghan & Leitrim
- Cavan County Council Energy Engagement Strategy implemented.
- Seasonal messages to staff regarding energy efficiency implemented.
- Energy actions for inclusion in all Annual Service Delivery Plans/Business Plans.
- Ongoing monitoring of bills and ongoing requests for meter readings within CCC. Liaising with relevant staff re. payments/approval system ongoing.
- Energy upgrades by the Council's Housing Section on 8 houses within Cavan County Councils housing stock to a B2 energy rating.
- Ongoing allocation of sites in accordance with the National Procurement Service winning tenders as new sites come online.
- >80% of public lighting stock upgraded to energy efficient LED lights. The programme replaces lights that are failing and new works with LED lighting. Work was also undertaken through active travel also.
- Participation in the OPW Optimising Power at Work and the SEAI Reduce Your Use campaign has seen energy efficiency improvements by staff including a >30% improvement in energy efficiency in the Cavan Courthouse building which is one of our headquarter buildings during 2025.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil

Annual Report



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an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

- Cavan County Council's Energy Team continue to support staff across all Sections towards the 2030 targets on behalf of the organisation.

Actions Planned for 2026

- Complete SEAI Energy Efficiency Performance Monitoring and Reporting for 2025 in accordance with new deadlines imposed.
- Embed new energy monitoring of bills for specific facilities into the Agresso system
- Report on energy efficiency progress to Senior Management Team.
- Energy Policy update and align same with the formation of the new Energy and Carbon Management Working Group. This includes LACAP requirements.
- Liaise with OPW regarding Optimising Power at Work programme.
- Support and input to the Climate Action Team.
- Ongoing Implementation of the energy engagement strategy.
- Raise staff awareness and improve energy efficiency using seasonal messages.
- Out of hours audits
- Review of monthly bills, compare and disseminate information
- Maintain procedure for monthly monitoring of energy usage
- Maintain procedure for frequent meter reads
- Annual Service Delivery Plans – include energy actions on Section Plans.
- Support the various building operators in relation to energy management and opportunities e.g. Museum, fire services, MD's, etc.
- Public lighting upgrades.
- Continue to allocate new sites in accordance with National Procurement Service winning tenders Progress the Pathfinder Programme.
- Progress the Border Energy Unit.
- Investigate further regional opportunities for energy saving and energy efficiency projects in conjunction with neighbouring local authorities.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



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Cavan
County Council

Erlo cvg'Cevlqp'Ecxcp"

2025 marked a significant year for Cavan County Council's Climate Action Section having adopted and implemented the first iteration of the Local Authorities Climate Action Plan. This comprehensive plan outlines 197 targeted actions to be delivered up to 2029 across five key strategic themes:

- Governance & Leadership
- Built Environment & Transport
- Natural Environment & Green Infrastructure
- Community Resilience & Transition
- Sustainability & Resource Management

In 2025 actions have been on-going on the planning, development and implementation of ambitious initiatives to reduce carbon emissions across the organisation, enhance climate resilience and provide guidance and support to local communities, businesses and stakeholders to drive collective climate action. The Climate Action Team continues to collaborate across all services and functions within the organisation and with wider business, community and environmental representatives within the County to enable and deliver improved climate resilience and positive climate action.

Reporting, Monitoring and Feedback are key components to successful attainment of the actions as outlined in the Climate Action plan. At the end of December 2025, 68 actions were complete, 77 were in progress and 52 had not yet commenced with updates provided to both Council and the Eastern and Midlands Climate Action Regional Authority (CARO).

The Climate Action team wishes to acknowledge the support of Council's internal sections and functions, wider business, community, voluntary stakeholders and statutory partners in the delivery of the Climate Action Plan. Some notable achievements from 2025 are outlined below:

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- Environmental Services



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



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Cavan
County Council

In partnership with the Environmental services section, the climate resilience has been embedded into waste strategies:

- Litter Management Plan 2025–2028: The council developed and sought public submissions for a new plan which links litter prevention with broader environmental goals.
- 2025 Catchment Support Fund: Launched to provide funding for non-governmental organisations working to improve water quality across the county.
- Continued Initiatives: Ongoing support for the Green Kilometre Scheme, native tree distribution (400–500 trees annually), and water refill station installations in schools.

- **EqwpeklHrggvF gectdqpkucvqp'cpf 'Rwdrlé'GX'Ej cti lpi 'lplcutwewtg<**

Funding was secured to progress a concept proposition relating to decarbonisation of the Council Fleet and deployment of Public EV Charging Infrastructure throughout the County.

Led by a Cross-sectional Team, the objective of this project is to substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Cavan County Council’s municipal fleet through a technically feasible and economically responsible decarbonisation pathway. Anticipated additional benefits will include improved operational efficiency through reduced fuel dependency and lower maintenance costs, strengthened internal capacity through staff training and updated fleet management practices.

- **Fkutlev'J gcvlpi 'l'Hgcukdkrk**

The Climate Action Plan supports the creation of a low-carbon and climate-resilient county and this included the development of low carbon energy efficient solutions including heating networks. Funding was secured via the Climate Action Regional Authority (CARO) to progress a feasibility study on a District Heating Scheme for Cavan which has been progressed in collaboration with the Housing Section. A detailed Heat Mapping Master planning Study has been undertaken to identify suitable settlements, with Cavan town being the preferred option. Secondary feasibility stages are well advanced with review and Identification of Preferred Heat



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Sources, Stakeholder Engagement, Heat Demand Profile Development, Infrastructure development and techno-economic modelling– to better understand the economic viability of the proposed scheme, with respect to the technical aspects have all been successfully undertaken.

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Under phase 2 of Strand 1: Building Low Carbon Communities funding from Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment (DCEE), Cavan County Council (CCC) has an allocation of €439,000 to work in partnership with communities, large and small, rural and urban, to build low carbon communities in a considered and structured way.

Funding is for investment in community projects in partnership with local non-profit community groups for small, medium and large scaled projects that address the following five themes:

- Community energy
- Travel
- Food and waste
- Shopping and recycling
- Local climate and environmental action

Applications for funding under Phase 2 of the CCAP opened for applications on 28th October and closed on 23rd December 2025. In the lead up to, and during the application period, community engagement and awareness campaigns were undertaken to promote the fund and encourage community groups to apply. 30 applications were received. The allocation of this funding is due for announcement in Q1 2026.



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A diverse series of events were planned and delivered as part of Climate Action Week from 13th – 18th October 2025 with 600 attendees across 15 events. This included internal staff engagement and public engagement events across households, community groups and businesses including:

- Community Climate Action Fund – Two Online Information Session delivered
- Clothing Repair Workshop with Michelle Power of Wren & Mabel in Virginia Library
- Story Time for Kids - Special Like Me Workshop with Emma Murphy held in Johnston Library
- Fast Fashion Workshop held with Transition Year student in St Claire's college Ballyjamesduff
- Seed Saving Workshop with Anna Browne of Big Sky Flowers held in Market House Ballyconnell
- Walktober - Cavan County Council Staff Walk.
- The Cottage Market Cavan 'Open Hour' promoting the Local Green Box, Meet the Producer and Demonstrations



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

- No-Dig Preparation for Next Season Workshop delivered by Therese Johnston at Fairgreen Community Garden
- Walk and Talk on Killyconny Bog
- County Wide Litter Pick
- Cuilcagh Lakelands Geopark Event, Stories Under the Stars in partnership with Geological Survey Ireland, Cavan Bat Group, Armagh Observatory and Planetarium and Geopark Ambassadors

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- Businesses within the DZ continue to be supported through Cavan County Council Local Enterprise Office in adopting energy-efficient technologies through the Green Business Support Scheme.
- A 'Decarbonisation Cavan event was held on Tuesday 14 October 2025, showcasing opportunities for Industry, Businesses and Homes to learn about funding, retrofitting solutions and success stories in decarbonising and sustainability locally.

DECARBONISING CAVAN

An opportunity for Industry, Businesses & Homes to experience funding, retrofitting solutions & success stories in decarbonising & sustainability

PRESENTATIONS TO INCLUDE:

- ✓ Decarbonising learnings from Mannok & Kyte Powertech
- ✓ Derelict housing, home energy retrofit grants & supports
- ✓ Business & Industrial Decarbonisation grants & supports
- ✓ Energy & Sustainability Consultancy Expertise
- ✓ Meet your local suppliers

Date
14TH OF OCTOBER

Time
5:00PM - 8:30PM

Location
HOTEL KILMORE

www.cavancoco.ie/decarbonising

Energy Efficiency Rating Scale:
A (Green), B (Light Green), C (Yellow-Green), D (Yellow), E (Orange), F (Red-Orange), G (Red)

Logos: Cavan, Climate Action Cavan, Cavan, Kyte Powertech, Mannok



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



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Cavan
County Council

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A number of climate related education and citizen science initiatives were delivered collaboratively; some notable examples include:

- In October 2025, a series of 6 Clothing Repair workshops were delivered across each MD area to promote textiles repairs. A further 3 workshops were held in November with all being well attended.
- Biodiversity Nature Kits were developed and distributed to schools within the County as part of Biodiversity Week in May.
- As part of Active Travel Week, staff, in partnership with Green-Schools, St. Felim's National School and An Taisce, a successful Scoot to School Morning was held, promoting active travel and sustainable commuting. Over 30 students, along with parents and guardians, took part in the event by scooting and cycling from Cavan Institute Car Park to St. Felim's N.S., demonstrating the growing momentum behind climate-friendly travel options for local families.
- On-going collaboration with Environmental Services team regarding Green Schools Programme and Climate Action
- In partnership with Waste Management section and Cottage Market Cavan, interactive information stands were hosted at Food Festivals in June and December. Several thousand people attended these events.

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Several events and initiatives were conducted in 2025 to raise awareness and understanding of climate matters. Some of those which are particularly worthy of note are:

- Climate Action Team in collaboration with Cottage Market Cavan piloted a 'Local Green Box initiative' providing an opportunity for staff to supporting local growers and producers with localised pick-up point within Johnston Library. This initiative was well received and it is presently on-going for any staff member to avail of.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
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Cavan
County Council

- Progression towards the formation and operational of a cross-departmental Green Team was on-going. The objective of which would be to raise awareness and understanding of climate matters and to promote and encourage positive climate action initiatives within the organisation. It is envisaged that an inaugural Green Team meeting will be held in Spring 2026
- In October 2025, a Local Food Drama Performance of '*What Are We Eatin' Anyways*' developed by the Cottage Market Cavan in collaboration with Cavan Arts Office was held in the Johnston Library highlighting a range of Climate related themes, was very well received. A public event was later held in Cavan County Museum.

Climate, Biodiversity Action & Environment Strategic Policy Committee Ogo dgtu'qHUtcvgi le'Rqrle{ 'Eqo o kugg

Cllr. Philip Brady, Cathaoirleach,
Cllr. Aine Smith,
Cllr. Brendan Fay,
Cllr. Winston Bennett,
Cllr. Carmel Brady,
Cllr. Philip Brady,
Malachy Magee, Business & Commercial,
Reuben Jaiwardene, Community & Voluntary,
Seamus Dolan IFA chairman.

Oggvpi u'J grf

Three meetings were held in 2025. May, October and December.

Vqr leu'cpf 'kuwgu'f kuewuugf 'lperwf gf

- Litter Management Plan 2025-2028
- CCTV deployment
- Heritage Plan 2025-2030
- Biodiversity Action Plan 2025-2030



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

- National Agricultural Inspection Programme
CCTV Update
ADI Programme Update
Litter Management Plan Update
Climate Action – Annual Implementation/Progress Report
Multistorey Carpark Update
Traffic & Parking Byelaws

Y cuig'Ocpci go gpv'Gphqtego gpV'cpf 'Gpxkqpo gpvcn'Gf wecvqp'cpf " **Cy ctgpguu**

Cavan County Council's Environmental Services is responsible for the prevention, management and control of waste under Irish and EU legislation. It also manages Environmental Awareness and Education, the Dog Warden Service, and maintenance of vested burial grounds.

Y cuig'Ocpci go gpv'Hcekkwgu

Ekkle'Co gpk' 'Egpvtgu

Cavan County Council are responsible for 3 No. Civic Amenity Centres (CACs) located at Corranure, Bailieborough and Ballyconnell. CACs are facilities where the public can dispose of their household waste and contain collection points for a wide range of materials including paper, cardboard, plastic, timber, garden waste, DIY waste, glass, and metal, waste electrical goods, batteries, textiles, waste oil and household hazardous waste for recycling.

Dtlpi 'Egpvtg'Pgwy qtm

There are now 32 No. Recycling Bring Centre locations throughout the County. Bring Centres allows the public to deposit plastic bottles, glass jars and bottles, aluminium and tin cans and textiles for recycling. The Council have undertaken upgrade, and improvement works at a number of locations in 2025 which include extensive upgrades at Blacklion and Corlough. All works were funded by and completed as part of our 2025 Anti-Dumping Initiative.



Corlough Bring Centre after upgrade

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30 Vcempñ "kngi crñ'y cuvg"cevkkwgu"cpf "Owñk'Ci gpe{ "Ukwu'f'Qr gtcvqtu"qh' Eqpegtp

To include Targeted Inspections and follow up enforcement actions of unauthorised collectors and site operators using intelligence from waste data flows, complaints and other available data

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To include Inspection of soil recovery sites to ensure only appropriate materials accepted

50 Gpf "qhñkñg'Xgj lergu'cpf 'Ogvñu

To include taking all necessary steps to resolve non-compliant issues

60 Jqwugj qrf 'cpf 'Eqo o gtekrñY cuvg

To include focus on waste acceptance at authorised facilities to help combat misclassification of wastes and ensure waste acceptance criteria are complied with.

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To include EPA and Local authorities continuing to identify, inspect and monitor all obligated producers under existing compliance schemes having regard to sectoral and local issues

Y cug'Ego r rēpw

Roadside litter, illegal dumping and abandoned vehicles are the most prevalent types of complaints. Throughout the year the Council participated in multiple awareness campaigns to highlight the detrimental impact these activities have on our communities and to encourage behavioural change including:

- Community Wardens provided information at a stand at the Kingscourt Community Development Craft & Trade Fair in November 2025."
- As part of Climate Action Week, Environmental Services participated in the further distribution of Brown Kitchen Food Caddy's and supplemented this with information on reducing Food Waste and Food Waste Recycling with Council Staff internally.
- Through our Anti-Dumping Initiatives, we provided a series of Bulky Waste Drop Off days (30th June – 20th July 2025) in Corranure/Ballyconnell/Bailieborough.
- Continued to ensure our website was updated with the most current information relating to awareness campaigns and initiatives such as National Tree Week, National Spring Clean and Dog Fouling.
- Supported National Campaigns such as the initiative ran by the ERP on Free Electrical Recycling. 2nd collection days took place in 2025. 21st June at The Mart in Ballyjamesduff and 13th September at Lidl Car Park, Ballinagh Road, Cavan. 17,810kg and 15,590kg respectively was collected at these locations. The Free Electrical Recycling campaign was widely advertised on our social media platforms and in The Anglo Celt.



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These Bye- Laws came into force in 2019 and place obligations on waste producers in households and commercial premises regarding storage, presentation, segregation of waste, contamination prevention and demonstration of proof that their waste is disposed of by an approved waste collector or brought by the waste producer to an authorised waste facility. These Byelaws apply to all households, apartments and commercial premises. To manage waste correctly there must either be:

- Have a contract in place with an authorised door-to-door waste collector.
- Have a bin sharing agreement in place ensure that the account holder has provided you with proof of agreement.
- Demonstrate regular use of an authorised waste facility e.g. civic amenity site.




Find out more at www.mywaste.ie

Details of the Byelaws and general household waste management obligations were advertised in the Anglo Celt as part of our Anti-Dumping Initiative awareness campaign.

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As part of the 2025 Anti-Dumping Initiative, Cavan County Council completed 7 No. projects which focused on:

- Prevention Measures
- Abatement measures
- Education and awareness measures
- Enforcement measures

Two of the larger projects focused on the upgrade of our Bring Centre Network and hosting a series of Bulky Waste and Waste Drop Off period of 3 weeks at the Corranure Civic Amenity Site, Ballyconnell and Bailieborough. The attendance



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



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Cavan
County Council

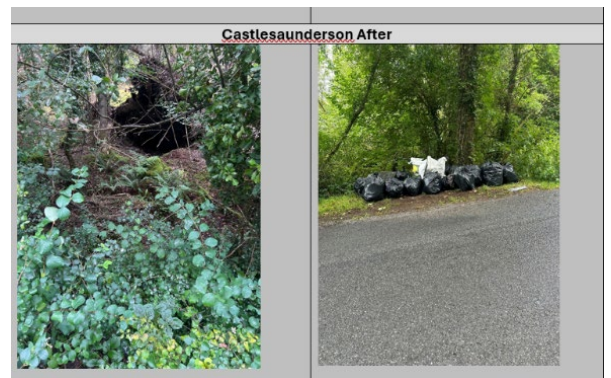
over the 3-week period 30th June – 20th July was incredible, with the Bulky Waste Drop Off Days taking in over 83 tonnes of household waste and some 880 mattresses dropped off.

ITEM	New price (incl. 50% reduction)
Single mattress	€7.50
Double mattress	€10
Single bed (incl. mattress)	€30
Double bed (incl. mattress)	€35
Small wardrobe	€5
Large wardrobe	€7.50
Armchair	€5
Couch	€9.00
Three piece suite	€17.50
Carpet (sitting room)	€7.50
Carpet (hallway)	€12.50
Bath	€6
Sink	€1.50
Toilet (incl. pan)	€1.50
Electrical goods (domestic)	FREE

At Cottanure, Ballyconnell, and Ballisborough Civic Amenity Centres
Normal Opening Hours: 9am-4.30pm, Monday to Friday | 9am - 12.30pm Saturdays
www.cavancocouncil.ie/recycling

Ukg'Ergcp'wr u

A site-specific clean-up was undertaken near Castle Saunderson. The site was located on a local road near this popular tourist destination. Illegal dumping had occurred down a steep embankment heavily covered in vegetation, making it unsafe and unsuitable for community wardens to access. The clean-up addressed significant accumulations of public waste, including household items, plastic materials, glass and food waste and was undertaken by an authorised waste collector.



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2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

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Cavan County Council continued to support education and awareness initiatives around litter management and recycling in schools. E.g. Picker Pals Programme. The ADI funding provided Picker Packs containing litter-picking tools, storybooks, music, and classroom activities to 28 Classrooms inspiring approximately 670 primary school children and their families, totalling approximately 1680 people, to volunteer and litter pick as part of the Picker Pals Programme.

Throughout secondary schools' awareness of the impact that fast fashion is having on the environment was also targeted through the 'Relove Fashion' competition, along with supporting participation in the 'Lets Fix Fashion' programme carried out in collaboration with An Taisce. The Let's Fix Fashion campaign is an innovative, action-focused programme designed to tackle the environmental and social impacts of the fast fashion industry. Each of these initiatives separately reached approximately 6000 students via the 12 Secondary schools/youth reach programmes participating.

CpvkNkwgt'('Cpvkl tclhkl tcvu

Grant monies were paid to 16 No. Tidy Towns Groups amounting to €16,026.16 for projects completed in 2025 this was part funded by the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications.

Promotion of the Green Schools Programme

The Green Schools Programme is an environmental education programme run by An Taisce in partnership with local authorities, designed to promote long term whole school action for the environment which is led by the students with involvement from the wider community. Cavan County Council continue to promote the programme each year and consult with all schools across the County on a regular basis and provide information, support and other resources to as many schools as possible. The following 13 Schools were awarded a Green Flag, for the 2024/2025 academic year, at the regional awards ceremony held in Athlone, Co. Westmeath May 2025.





2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
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Cavan
County Council

Theme	Account Name (School/Group) (Account)	Total
Biodiversity	Ballinamoney N.S	1
	Castlerahan N.S	1
	Holy Family School	1
	Killinkere N.S	1
	Milltown N.S	1
Biodiversity Total		5
Travel	Cabra Central N.S	1
	Crossreagh N.S	1
	Drumcrave N.S.	1
	St. Felim's N.S	1
	St. Patricks College Cavan	1
	St. Patrick's National School	1
Travel Total		6
Water	St. Mogue's College	1
	The Model National school	1
Water Total		2
Grand Total		13

The local authority provided financial assistance to An Taisce for the administration of the programme and arranged for the assessments to be carried out.

Kluj 'Dwulpguugu'Ci clpuvNkwgt''DCN'CPw/Nkwgt'Ngci wg

Cavan Town featured in the IBAL Anti-Litter League in 2025 finishing in 19th place out of 40 towns in the 1st round results, “Clean to European Norms” and 19th place out of 40 towns in the 2nd round results and ranked also as “Clean to European Norms”. This is testament to the collaborative approach by the Council and Cavan Tidy Towns.

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The National Litter Pollution Monitoring System provides an accurate picture of litter pollution across the county and accurately measures changes over time. The System developed by the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) and Tobin Consulting Engineers requires local authorities to carry out annual surveys to determine the extent, composition and causes of litter pollution in the locations assessed.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



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Cavan
County Council



Examples of 2 No. locations
surveyed
Main St. Virginia (L),
Cavan Town (R)



The data obtained enables us to provide more effective litter management planning and assess the effectiveness of the objectives set out in our Litter Management Plan 2026 – 2028 and ensure we allocate the appropriate resources to tackle the issues faced locally by litter pollution.

Pcvtqpcr'Ur t'ipi 'Ergcp

Traditionally, the National Spring Clean Campaign runs throughout Ireland during the month of April and in recent years it has gone from strength to strength in County Cavan. In support of this campaign, Cavan County Council have encouraged Schools, Tidy Towns Committees, Local Community Groups and Resident Associations throughout the County to become involved in clean-up projects in their area. Bags, gloves, litter pickers and high-vis vests were among the items provided to groups to assist in their clean ups. Groups from all over the county participated in the campaign and large amounts of roadside litter was collected. In 2025, approximately 114 No. groups registered with An Taisce with over 2,435 people involved in clean ups. The Council provided supplementary litter picking equipment and signage to groups who needed additional supplies and disposed of all waste collected.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

National Tree Week

Planting more trees is the most efficient way of removing carbon from the atmosphere and combatting climate change. This annual campaign encourages people to plant more trees and get involved in local activities happening in their area. In 2025, 289 native trees were supplied free of charge to 11 No. community/voluntary groups, schools and individuals.



Dog Fouling Awareness Initiatives

Environmental Services continues to place significant emphasis on developing measures to deter dog fouling and to make dog owners aware of their responsibilities. Bag dispenser units and/or combi bin/bag dispensers that had been installed throughout the County. We continue to fund the provision of bags for these dispensers and oversee a maintenance schedule for each Municipal District. Community Wardens also continue to work closely with voluntary groups such as Tidy Towns to highlight the issues of dog fouling

Cavan County Council in partnership with Cavan Credit Union ran a Dog Fouling Awareness Campaign in 2025. The campaign was aimed at school children aged 5 – 12 across each Municipal District. Local schools were encouraged to take part in a Dog Fouling Art Competition to help raise awareness of the importance of keeping our communities clean and safe. The awareness campaign was supported by the Anti-Litter Grant and promoted via all Council social media platforms.



Rctnpi

The Parking Service in County Cavan is committed to modern, high-quality parking management. With kerbside space in high demand, the Council works to balance the needs of residents, visitors, businesses, deliveries, and people with disabilities. The

key goal is to keep traffic moving safely while preventing obstructive parking and ensuring good access for all road users.

To improve customer service parking machines now offer the convenience of coin, contactless, and chip-and-PIN payment options within Cavan Town, with full maintenance and facelift programme for older machines is planned for 2026. Parking across the county is monitored by three Parking Wardens. Pay-and-Display operates in Cavan Town, while other towns provide free or 2-hour restricted parking. Fines were issued to offending drivers throughout 2025.

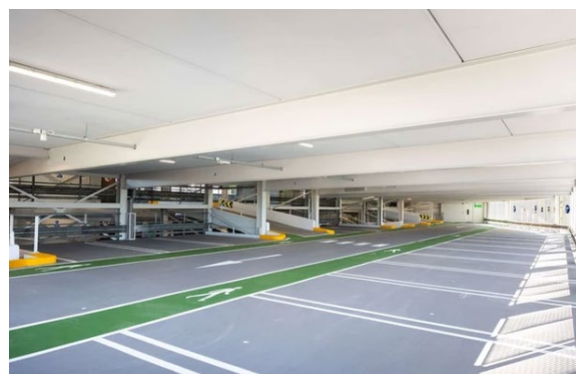
Ownership & Management

On 3rd June 2025, following a €4M investment to modernise and improve safety and accessibility, the Cavan Town Multi-storey Carpark reopened. The refurbishment works included structural strengthening, installation of energy-efficient lighting, a fully monitored CCTV system across all levels, and the addition of two new high-speed lifts.

The upgraded carpark now features wider, more accessible parking spaces along with dedicated pedestrian walkways, automatic doors, improved signage, and number plate recognition technology.

Enhanced safety measures include an expanded and actively monitored CCTV network covering all parking floors, lift lobbies and lift interiors, as well as modern motion-sensor LED lighting for improved visibility.

Parking charges are set at €0.40 per hour, with a daily cap of €2 for stays of five hours or more. A weekly rate of €10 and an annual rate of €365 are also available.





2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

To support local businesses and encourage people to shop local at Christmas Cavan County Council opened up its Off-Street Parking (public car parks only) to shoppers offering free car parking over the festive period.

Water Services

2025 saw Cavan County Council Water Services Section continue the transition of the Water Services function to Uisce Éireann, (formerly Irish Water). Cavan County Council Water Services Department has been to the forefront of shaping and delivering an operating framework to ensure that we as a County and Nation are best positioned to avail of the opportunities presented by the changing circumstances.

From 1st January 2014 delivery of water and wastewater services became the responsibility of Irish Water, (now Uisce Éireann). The year 2025 marked year 12 of that scenario which was initially actioned under a 12-year Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Uisce Éireann for the delivery of the services. This SLA has now been replaced by a Master Cooperation Agreement (MCA) and associated Support Services Agreement (SSA).

Water is considered a 'social good' and activities related to water services support the three aspects (economic, social, and environmental) of sustainable development. The objectives of the section working on behalf of Uisce Éireann is to:

- provide an adequate water supply of sustainable quality for domestic, industrial, agricultural, and other users.
- provide sewerage facilities for the safe and adequate disposal of sewage and other waterborne wastes.
- provide the infrastructure to support the above objectives.
- provide an efficient and responsive service to customers at all times.
- plan for future growth and development.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

- deliver all of the above at the most economic cost and minimum charge to customers.

There are 16 Public Water Schemes in the County of which 7 are being supplied by Private Group Water Schemes. There are 26 public wastewater treatment plants in the County.

Framework for Future Delivery of Water Services

In February 2022, the government published a **Water Sector Transformation Policy Paper, Uisce Éireann – Towards a National, Publicly Owned, Regulated, Water Services Utility**. The paper referenced the process facilitated by the Workplace Relations Commission (WRC)-

The outcome of this engagement of all relevant stakeholders with assistance of WRC was the Framework for Future Delivery of Water Services, (published in June 2022), which outlined the future plan and timescale of the transition of the Water Services function from the Local Authorities to a Single Public Utility. It also addressed staff issues relating to the future delivery of water services.

Implementation of this framework is ongoing requiring partnership and collaboration between the parties at local, regional, and national level, while maintaining the continued safe delivery of water services by Uisce Éireann and local authorities throughout the transition period.

The effective date for transfer of direct management of water services function to Uisce Eireann in Cavan County Council was September 6th, 2023. Uisce Eireann have now assumed the direct management of the water services function in respect of public water supplies and wastewater collection & treatment networks.

Performance Indicators

Sampling and testing of all Public Water supplies and effluent discharges from



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

wastewater plants is overseen by the Cavan County Council using Uisce Éireann's Laboratory Framework. Cavan County Council also oversee the monitoring of Group Water Supplies.

The following are the compliance figures for the Public Water Supply Schemes, (Data for 2025 as per Uisce Éireann).

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Compliance	98.9%	98.9%	99.4%	99.3%	99.7%	99.5%	99.4%	98.2%

Water Services Infrastructure Capital Works

Early Contractor Involvement (ECI) - Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP)

Capital Upgrade Projects

Under Uisce Éireann's Capital Investment Plan 2020 – 2024, Wastewater Treatment Plant Sites at Bailieborough, Ballyjamesduff, Kingscourt, Cootehill, & Virginia were identified for upgrade due to failings on discharge limits and hydraulic capacity.

Ballyjamesduff WWTP

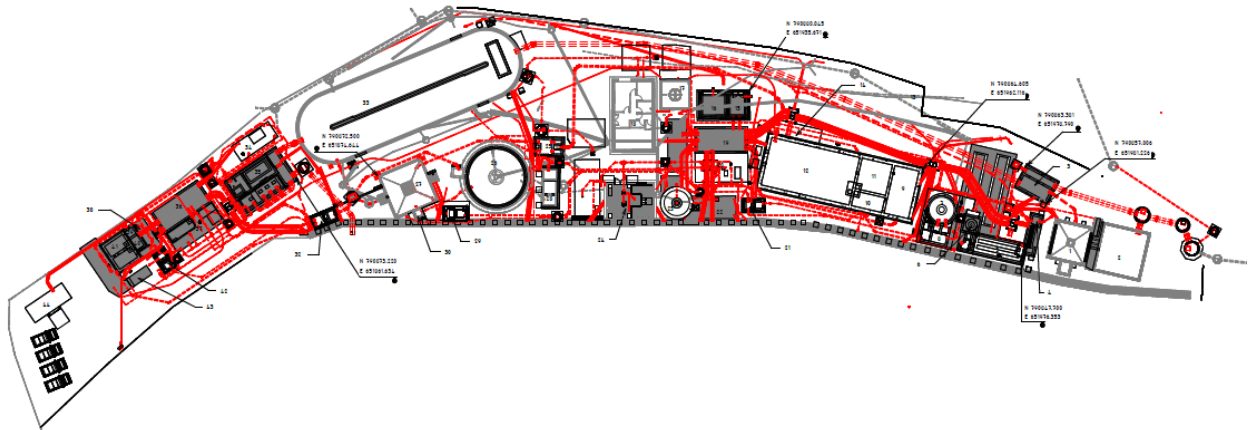
Project Scope

Increase current capacity from 2,200 PE to 5,200 PE based on a 25-year design horizon.

Progress

Planning Application was submitted in 2022. Notification of decision to grant was issued earlier in November 2022 with full planning permission for the Project granted in January 2023. The Project reached a significant milestone in March 2024 with construction commencing.

At present the guideline/estimated completion date for Ballyjamesduff WWTP as provided by UE / Project Team is Q2 2027.



Proposed Site Layout Upgraded Ballyjamesduff Wastewater Treatment Plant



Decking at Inlet & Grease Chamber



Electrical Panels in control room

Virginia WWTP

Project Scope

Increase current capacity from 2,000 PE to 6,000 PE based on a 25-year design horizon.

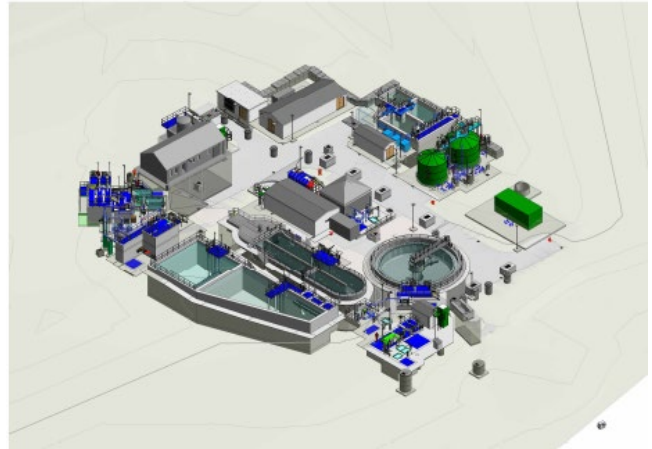
Progress

Planning Application was submitted on 5th December 2022. Notification of decision to grant was issued earlier in October 2023 with full planning permission for the Project granted in November 2023. The Project reached a significant milestone in June 2024 with construction commencing.

At present the guideline/estimated completion date for Virginia WWTP as provided by UE / Project Team is Q2 2027.



**Perspective of Inlet Works
Pumping Station**



**Perspective of Upgraded Wastewater
Treatment Plant**





Overhead Aerial View illustrating progress achieved at Virginia WWTP site during 2025



Installation of new outfall pipe from treatment plant

Cootehill, Bailieborough & Kingscourt WWTP Upgrades

As part of the ECI portfolio of projects Cavan County Council Local Authority Capital Office has been engaged with Uisce Eireann in progressing significant plant upgrade works for Cootehill, Bailieborough and Kingscourt WWTPs.

Project Summaries – Current Estimated Timelines

Bailieborough WWTP – Project Details

- Existing design PE – 2,500 (currently serving an estimated 3,390)
- Proposed PE – 5,500
- Planning submission date – July 2025
- Planning Granted - October 2025
- Estimated Construction starts – Q3 2026
- Substantial Completion (estimated) – Q1 2029



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Kingscourt WWTP – Project Details

- Existing design PE – 2,400 (Estimated current load 3,388)
- Proposed PE – 5700
- Anticipated Planning submission date – Q2 2026
- Contract Signing – Q4 2026
- Substantial Completion (estimated) – Q1 2029

Cootehill WWTP – Project Details

- Existing design PE – 2,756 (Estimated current load 3,353)
- Proposed PE – 5,200 with sludge processing
- Anticipated Planning submission date – Q2 2026
- Contract to be signed – Q4 2026
- Substantial Completion – Q1 2029
- Proposed WWDL date – After planning application submission
- Contract to be signed – Q4 2026
- Substantial Completion (estimated) – Q1 2029

Ballinagh WWTP

An upgrade to Ballinagh has now been added to the above list of Projects. This is at an initial stage with a feasibility study to be prepared which will highlight options. In the interim it is proposed to provide short term solution via modular plant.

Mullagh WWTP

An upgrade project is also in train for Mullagh WWTP. Further details will be provided in coming months.

Drinking Water Infrastructure Investment County Cavan

The National Water Resources Plan (NWRP) is Uisce Éireann's plan to identify how to provide a safe, sustainable, secure and reliable water supply to customers both



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

now and into the future whilst safeguarding the environment. The NWRP sets out how supply and demand for drinking water will be balanced over the short, medium and long term. It is a 25-year strategy to ensure we have a safe, sustainable, secure and reliable drinking water supply for everyone. Following on from the public consultation on Phase 1 NWRP draft Framework Plan and associated environmental reports, the submissions and observations received from public consultation have been taken into consideration, and the NWRP Framework Plan updated. The NWRP Framework Plan has now been adopted. Following on from this UÉ has produced 4 No. Regional Water Resource Plans. Water Supply to County Cavan are covered under the *Regional Water Resources Plan (RWRP) North West Region* and *Regional Water Resources Plan (RWRP) Easter-Midlands Region*. Again, both of these plans have been adopted. These plans will evolve into identified infrastructural development across the region.

Cavan Rural Water Update

Subsidy Payments to Group Water Schemes

The process by which subsidy payments are made to group schemes has been updated in recent years.

Subsidy payments in the amount of **€6,329,036** were issued to schemes in 2025.

Multi-Annual Rural Water Programme (MARWP)

MARWP 2019 - 2021.

The **Multi-Annual Rural Water Programme 2019-2021** was launched on February 8th, 2019, and all projects bar two are now complete. Completion of the remaining two is imminent. Submissions were made for funding towards fifty-one specific projects on behalf of 27 Schemes or scheme bundles, totalling **€2,107,016.35**.

MARWP 2024 - 2026.

On January 17th, 2024, Minister Darragh O' Brien announced the launch of the Multi Annual Rural Water Programme 2024 to 2026. Cavan County Council received submissions from Group Schemes, and these were submitted to Dept., with funding



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

sought for 133 specific projects in the amount of €18,518,525.09.

The task of evaluating the submissions and making recommendations for funding is ongoing with an Independent Expert Panel at National Level. The Expert Panel's recommendations are scheme and project specific.

The initial allocations were announced by Dept. in November 2024 with a further tranche of allocations in July 2025.

To date the total level of funding allocated to Cavan Group Water Schemes under MARWP 2024-2026 is **€1,939,232**.

Cavan County Council continues to engage with various GWSs and the Department in regard to a number of submissions for substantial funding, which continue to be evaluated by expert panel. Further significant allocations are anticipated for 2026.

MARWP 2027 - 2029.

The next cycle of the Multi Annual Rural Water Programme which will cover the three-year period 2027 to 2029 is due to be launched in 2026. The Dept. hope to open the programme to requests for funding in June 2026 with a closing date for same in September 2026. Cavan County Council will engage with all schemes on this new MARWP in the coming months.

Well Grants

Well grants totalling **€330,150.48** have been issued to applicants to date, with **€66,135** of that issued in 2025. These amounts have been recouped in full, from the Department.

Revised Lead Remediation Grant

The funding scheme has been in existence since 2016 and in 2023, The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage revised the eligibility.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

There have been minimal claims to date with no grants issued for lead remediation in 2025.

Operation & Maintenance Contracts – Group Water Schemes

Of the 24 Private Group Water Schemes in Cavan 23 are operated under Operation & Maintenance, (O & M), Contracts. There is one scheme currently operating their plant independently. One further scheme has a stand-alone O & M contract in place. The other 22 schemes are engaged in contracts which were deployed as ‘bundled’ contracts to cover East Cavan, West Cavan and Southwest Cavan. These O & M contracts which were initially executed as 20-year contracts are now at an end or approaching the end of contract period. In the short term these contracts will be extended until Q3/Q4 2028 approximately. The Dept. has previously engaged consultants to identify the appropriate contract model/format for new contracts going forward and subsequently to prepare tender packages which can be deployed in order to complete in procurement for next set of contracts. The Dept. is hopeful that this initial phase will be complete in during 2026 and that the process of putting new O & M contracts can be rolled out with a view to having these in place in regard to the Cavan schemes by late 2028. Early 2029. It is anticipated that the next phase of O & M contracts will be for a ten-year duration.

Town Centre First

Killeshandra:

The Killeshandra Town Centre First Plan was finalised in October 2025. The Plan includes five key projects based around the following themes:

1. Lakes, Nature and Recreation,
2. Streets and Public Spaces,
3. Business Skills and Enterprise,
4. Culture Identity and Tourism
5. Social Community and Wellbeing.

The projects identified reflect the community’s aspirations, concerns, priorities and

draw together the core ideas that emerged through workshops, surveys and stakeholder dialogue. Together these projects form a practical framework for realising the shared vision for Killeshandra's future. The next step is further development of the key transformative projects in the plan so as to maximise funding opportunities as they become available.



Town and Village Renewal Scheme (TVRS)

Killeshandra Town Team were awarded €299,250 under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2025. Funding under the scheme will go towards revitalising Killeshandra with a town-wide paint scheme, new public spaces and amenities, modern wayfinding, and lighting in various locations throughout the town.

Funding of €240,000 was provided to Cavan County Council under the 2025 Building or Land Acquisition Measure to cover the full cost of purchasing Stuarts' Shop. It is one of 33 projects across the country that were awarded over €6.7 million in funding under this measure. This funding is supporting the purchase of vacant or derelict buildings, or land in towns and villages which will be used in the future to provide multi-

purpose community spaces in line with the aims of the Town and Village Renewal scheme.



Stuart's Shop, Main Street Killeshandra, identified as a key town centre site for redevelopment into a Community Hub under the Town Centre First Plan and which was purchased under the TVRS Building or Land Acquisition Measure

Funding of €50,00 was also secured for Stuarts' Shop under the TVRS Project Development Measure. This funding will be used to appoint a multidisciplinary team to undertake a study including structural, heritage and end use considerations in order to maximise the potential use of the property and find the best possible sustainable outcome for this landmark, main street building.

Bailieborough:

In March 2025 an application under the fourth call of the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund, Category 2 funding stream, was finalised, submitted to DRCD for consideration and was subsequently approved in October 2025. The total project cost is €880,000 with €792,000 in funding approval. Cavan County Council will



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

provide the match funding. The project elements which have been developed as a direct result of Bailieborough's Town Centre First Plan include the following:

- Extensive public realm works on Main Street Bailieborough.
- Development of an innovation/sandbox, hub and enterprise pods on the site of the former Town and County Pub.
- Improved connectivity/linkages from Main Street to Tesco via alleyway at Town and Country pub
- Development of a Green Lung/Multipurpose Community Area to the rear of properties on Main Street Town and Countryside)
- Development of an inclusive, intergenerational outdoor amenity areas (adjacent to Tesco).

The tender process to secure the multidisciplinary design team will commence in Q2 2026 and it is envisaged that it will take approximately 15 months to complete the detailed design for this project from date of tender publication. Following on from completion of the detailed design, Cavan Co Council will await the announcement of RRDF Category 1 Funding and will submit an application for the completion of capital works under this funding scheme.

DS3 Project

The DS3 Project (Digital Services, Supports and Spaces) was officially launched on 4th November 2025. The aim of this PEACEPLUS Project is to improve Digital/ICT awareness and skills in rural communities through training, mentoring and engagement with ICT solutions. The project is aimed in particular at business communities (SME's and Micro's) and civic society (community and voluntary organisations).

The project is supported by the PEACEPLUS Programme, managed by the SEUPB (Special EU Programmes Body). The Lead Partner in the project is ICBAN and the project partnership comprises Cavan, Sligo and Leitrim County Councils, Mid Ulster District Council, South Regional College and Ulster University. Associate partners include Armagh City Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council, Donegal and Monaghan Co Councils as well as the Western Development Commission



DS3 Project Partners attending the project monthly meeting hosted by Cavan Digital Hub in May 2025

The DS3 Project will include the following:

- Development and delivery of a digital skills mentoring programme.
- Development of 2 cross border mobile Digital Hubs/Fab Labs
- Development of 3 Smart Place Frameworks

The most exciting elements of the DS3 project are two cutting edge Mobile Labs specialising in digital fabrication and multimedia. These labs will travel across towns, villages, schools and businesses offering hands on access to the latest digital and creative technologies.

Economic Development

In early 2025 work commenced on the development of a new 10-year Economic Strategy for County Cavan. The aim of the strategy is to set out a roadmap for inclusive, sustainable growth in Cavan, build on our existing strengths, address persistent challenges and align key stakeholders to take coordinated action. The development of the strategy was overseen by the Economic Development, Enterprise & Planning SPC



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

The Strategy focuses on six key sectors:

1. Agrifood and Agri Tech
2. Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering
3. Construction
4. Environment Sector (Renewables and Bioeconomy)
5. Digital
6. Tourism (Experiential and Regenerative)



Throughout the year extensive stakeholder engagement took place and feedback from the engagement shaped the goals and actions

As well as focusing on key sectors the strategy is also organised around five key pillars.

1. Economic Diversification and Promotion
2. Business Ecosystem and Cluster Development
3. Skills Education and Talent Retention
4. 'Growth Infrastructure' Development
5. Community, Inclusion and Sustainable Development

The sectors in the new strategy provide a focus for investment of time and resources while the pillars serve as the operational framework that integrate and enhance growth, resilience and our core capabilities.

In conjunction with the development of the Economic Strategy a new Economic Leadership Forum and specialist working groups will be established. The Forum will comprise key business leaders from across the county and their role will be to



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

provide overall strategic oversight, policy alignment and resource direction. It is envisaged that the new Economic Strategy will be launched in Q2 2026.

Kansas Delegation

In August 2025 Cavan County Council played host to two officials from Kansas Department of Commerce, Laurie Pieper Assistant Director, Global Resources, International Division and Randi Tveitaraas Jack, Deputy Director, International Division. They travelled to Ireland as part of a delegation from Kansas for the Aer Lingus College Football Classic taking place in the Aviva on 23rd August and while here availed of the opportunity to explore mutual trade opportunities between Ireland and Kansas.

Cavan Digital Hub played host to the officials where they met with a number of local enterprises including, TRAVE, Nualách and IO Agri. They were presented with a hamper of produce from the Created in Cavan Network. Following on from this they met with representatives from Lakeland Dairies and rounded of their visit to Cavan with a tour of Kingspan's IKON Innovation Centre in Kingscourt.



Officials from Kansas Department of Commerce, Laurie Pieper and Randi Tveitaraas Jack receive a warm welcome from Cathaoirleach of Cavan County Council, Councillor John Paul Feeley, Oireachtas members, and staff from Cavan County Council and Cavan Local Enterprise Office in Cavan Digital Hub in August 2025.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Cootehill Enterprise Park

Cavan County Council, under the Rural Regeneration & Development Fund, were successful in completing the first phase of development of industrial lands, owned by Cavan County Council, in Cornacarrow, Cootehill. A new access road and services was completed and the first company, PQE Engineering Ltd, have completed their premises and held an official opening in 2025.



Cootehill Enterprise Park

Further progression by the Local Authority in relation to the provision of sites for local enterprises continued during 2025 as part of the next phase of development within the enterprise park. It is expected that this will result in opportunities for additional job creation over the next two years.

Cavan Digital Hub

An initiative of Cavan County Council, funded by the Regional Enterprise Development Fund under the Upper Shannon Erne Future Economy Project in partnership with Leitrim and Longford County Councils, and the Town & Village Renewal Scheme and Cavan County Council, Cavan Digital Hub opened in June 2019. Cavan Digital Hub has been operating successfully for the past 6 years. The Local Enterprise Office is represented on the board of the Digital Hub, providing an enterprise and strategic focus and provides ongoing support to the digital companies operating from the Digital Hub.



Spanning 5 floors with a total floor space of 13,000 sq. ft, Cavan Digital hub provides a range of hot desks, dedicated desks, private offices and meeting rooms, as part of an overall work solution for digitally focused companies. Clients based out of the facility include digital start-ups, established small-to-medium technology businesses and larger firms embracing a hybrid and regional working ethos and seeking a local base in Cavan. The firms specialise in all areas of the digital spectrum including



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

artificial intelligence, software development, digital services and web solutions.

At the start of 2025, Clubspot, one of the original digital start-ups moved out of the Cavan Digital Hub as they had taken on additional staff and due to their ongoing expansion plans moved to a new premises in Stradone. This fulfils the objective of Cavan Digital Hub facilitating digital start-ups and job creation.

Cavan County Council Economic Partnerships & Collaborations

Cavan County Council partners with a number of agencies, including IDA Ireland, with the aim of creating opportunities for employment, expansion of existing business and making County Cavan an attractive place for inward investment. A very successful collaboration by the Local Authority with IDA Ireland led to the construction of a New Advanced Building Solution at the IDA Business Park in Killygarry which was completed in 2025. The Cavan Advanced Building Solution has a gross floor area of 37,536 square feet.



Picture at the New IDA Ireland Facility in February were Paddy Connaughton, Director of Service Cavan County Council, Cathaoirleach Cllr John Paul Feeley, Eoin Doyle, Chief Executive Cavan County Council, Conor Craven, Head of Enterprise, Local Enterprise Office, Gillian Madden, Senior Enterprise Development Officer, Local Enterprise Office.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE (LEO)

Local Enterprise Office Cavan (LEO Cavan) plays an important role in facilitating and promoting sustainable economic growth and enterprise.

We aim to promote entrepreneurship, foster business start-ups and develop existing micro and small businesses to drive job creation and to provide accessible high-quality supports for new business ideas.

We act as a catalyst and advocate for the establishment of a best practice enterprise culture among start-ups and small business, promoting enterprise and self-employment as a viable career option among the wider population, across all sectors of industry.

We ensure that the promotion and provision of our services and supports are accessible to all citizens within the community, providing equality of opportunity to all and most importantly, we put the customer at the centre of our work and align our performance to meet our commitment under the LEO Customer Service Charter.

As part of Cavan County Council, we play a significant role in the economic activities of the Local Economic & Community Development, the County Development Plan, and the Economic, Enterprise & Planning Strategic Policy Committee. Our involvement is important in respect of the local authority's ambitions to provide suitable economic infrastructure and an appropriate enterprise focused environment for businesses to start and scale in the County.

2025 presented a new set of challenges for businesses. Some of the main challenges were the shortage of labour coupled with high energy and raw material costs, along with issues in relation to supply chain management.

Our role as the first point of contact for new entrepreneurs, and a supportive, knowledgeable contact for established entrepreneurs, comes with a responsibility to





2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

deliver the right supports and provide the right guidance and direction, to ensure entrepreneurs with the greatest potential are encouraged and nurtured to start and scale successful, sustainable, and viable businesses, driving job creation and growth in our counties and regions.

The challenges of encouraging and nurturing quality start-ups remain a key priority for us, particularly in certain sectors such as information technology, which are not as strong as other more traditional industry sectors in County Cavan. As a LEO, we will strive to promote entrepreneurship through many platforms and collaborations, strengthening our involvement in Cavan Digital Hub, as a key incubator for digitally focussed start-ups. Adopting a streamlined and joined up approach to informing, encouraging, and creating green start-ups and maximising opportunities for existing businesses in this sector, will be required on a regional basis, as well as on a county level.

Delivery of relevant management capability development programmes for existing business owners and Start Your Own Business Programmes are critical to preparing entrepreneurs that can succeed and compete in the domestic and international marketplace of the future.

LEO Cavan also held a Succession Planning Event to make business owners aware of the financial and legal implications of ignoring the future of the business.

Networks and clustering are recognised as a positive enabler of helping SMEs to take advantage of the opportunities it provides in terms of collaboration, best practice learning and collective business advancement. A key focus for us going forward will be to try and encourage building clusters of businesses that can work together to seek out business opportunities, increase their knowledge and take advantage of new emerging areas of business growth globally. The Cavan Women in Business Network is one of the largest in the country at promoting female entrepreneurship.

We will continue to prioritise assisting existing businesses to expand and grow as they

look to compete domestically and internationally. Our training and mentoring programmes on offer will be a critically important intervention to those particular businesses over the coming year. Promoting and highlighting enterprise and entrepreneurship as widely as possible is supported by national LEO initiatives such as Local Enterprise Week, The National Enterprise Awards and The Student Enterprise Awards Programme.



Winners of the Cavan County Enterprise Awards 2025: Declan & Amanda Sharkey, Fire Doors Ireland Ltd, Sandra Coote, Crafts of Ireland; Joshua Ajayi, Paydai Technologies Ltd; Tommy Farrelly, Tommy Farrelly Pressure Washers; Sean, Irene & Aideen Donegan, Mixer Sauces; Aaron McIntyre, Cootehill Precision Engineering; together with Elected Members, Cathaoirleach TP O'Reilly, Eoin Doyle, Chief Executive, Cavan Co Council; Brendan Jennings, Director of Service Cavan Co Council and Local Enterprise Office team Cavan.

The LEO's requirement to localise and adapt their offering to meet local needs, reflects the different geographic and socio-economic profiles of our counties and regions.

LEO Cavan will strive to deliver the most appropriate supports to meet the needs of the business community in County Cavan, whilst forging strong collaborative partnerships and stakeholder engagement to strengthen the economic potential of our county and its attractiveness as a location to start up and grow a business.

LEO Cavan plays an important role in promoting sustainable economic growth, enterprise, and tourism. We aim to promote entrepreneurship, foster business start-



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

ups, and develop existing micro and small businesses to drive job creation and provide accessible high-quality supports for new business ideas. We act as a catalyst and advocate for the establishment of a best practice enterprise culture among start-ups and small business, promoting enterprise and self-employment as a viable career option among the wider population, across all sectors of industry.

We work collaboratively with key enterprise and strategic stakeholders including business and community groups, to promote a strong enterprise focused environment contributing to the county achieving its economic potential. LEO Cavan engages proactively on the Regional Enterprise Plan Steering Committee and collaborates with key stakeholders such as Enterprise Ireland, IDA, CMETB, Failte Ireland, Skillnets and LEOs in our Region, to identify possible leveraging of funds to further enhance the region as a location for business investment and growth.

LEO Cavan is a member of The Upper Shannon, Shannon-Erne, and Border (USSEB) Destination and Experience Development Plan (DEDP) Forum. This is a five-year sustainable tourism plan for Cavan, Leitrim, and Roscommon north of, and including, Roscommon Town (the 'Destination'). It represents a multi-stakeholder approach to sustainable tourism development and unlocking the economic potential of the sector.

At a cross border and European level, the LEO is fully engaged in a number of activities aimed at stimulating and supporting enterprise and economic activity. LEO Cavan successfully partners and collaborates with other LEOs and Local Authorities in the region in the delivery and roll out of initiatives and programmes aimed at providing value added supports and services to its client base.

Throughout 2025 LEO Cavan continued to promote the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN) to facilitate linkages and potential business partnership and trading opportunities across the EU.

LEO Cavan contributes to the Council's corporate plan objectives to maximise



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

investment and improve the county's infrastructure to stimulate development opportunities for job creation and enhanced quality of life. The LEO collaborates with colleagues and stakeholders (on the development of enterprise incubation space and planning for future enterprise and industrial developments that will encourage and support enterprise start-ups and expansion in the County.

Developing initiatives such as Cavan Digital Hub is an example of LEO Cavan's contribution on the objective to promote the development of stronger towns and villages to enable them act as key drivers of economic, social and community development across the county.

The continued phased development of Cootehill Enterprise Park as a viable location for local business expansion, coupled with future enterprise park developments in Virginia and other key strategic county locations, addresses the infrastructural gap and provides a critical pathway for our business community to grow and scale.

Innovation, efficiency, value for money and a high standard of customer service remain a key priority for LEO Cavan. LEO staff are fully committed to the Local Enterprise Office Customer Service Charter which ensures quality service delivery at all times to the customer.

All LEO operations are governed by the LEO Procedures Manual in partnership with Enterprise Ireland to ensure consistent best practice in the delivery of LEO supports. LEO Cavan works with Internal Audit, Health and Safety and Procurement sections to ensure compliance at the highest operational level with all requisite procedures, processes, and legislation, as determined by the Council's Corporate Plan.

The LEO strategy for communication ensures an inclusive, open, and accessible platform for communicating the services and activities of the LEO locally, regionally, and nationally thus promoting the County as a location for new business and economic activity.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Key Strategic LEO Enterprise Activities 2025

- Local Enterprise Week took place from 3rd to 7th March 2025. This National Initiative saw a hybrid approach with a variety of online and in person events being held across the LEO Network. LEO Cavan’s in-person launch event was focused on digitalisation with John O’Shanahan, Lean BPI being the guest speaker. A further in-person event was held around the need to improve sustainability and was led by Stephen Tripp, Tripp Consult. The events were well attended with business owners learning both the need and benefit of digitalisation and “going green” for their businesses.
- In 2025, LEO Cavan approved the following supports:

Support	Number	Amount Approved
M1 Financial Support	21	€421,101
Green for Business	41	€90,774
Energy Efficiency Grant	24	€207,383
Digital for Business	22	€46,494
Grow Digital Voucher	6	€21,193
Lean for Business	10	€60,885
Training Programmes	61	1,150 participants
Mentoring	304	

- The LEO held a series of successful *Lunch & Learn* events across Co. Cavan during 2025, drawing strong attendance from business professionals in Bailieborough, Kingscourt, Cootehill, Virginia, Ballyjamesduff, Cavan, Belturbet, and Ballyconnell. These sessions provided a valuable platform for local entrepreneurs, SMEs, and business leaders to connect, share insights, and explore the wide range of supports available to help their businesses grow.

The Lunch & Learn series not only fostered networking but also reinforced the importance of accessible, localised business support. Plans are already underway to expand the initiative further, building on the momentum and positive feedback received.



LEO Lunch & Learn Event in Johnston Library, Cavan in June 2025

- The winner of the County Cavan Enterprise Award 2025, Fire Doors Ireland from Virginia went on to represent Cavan at the National Enterprise Awards Final in the Mansion House, Dublin in June. They achieved further success at these awards as the regional winner in the North East Region.



Conor Craven, Head of Enterprise, Local Enterprise Office; Alan Dillon, Minister of State at the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment with special responsibility for Small Businesses and Retail and the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications with special responsibility for Circular Economy; Declan & Amanda Sharkey, Fire Doors Ireland winning the NorthEast Regional Award in 2025; Kieran Commerford, LEO Network Chairperson.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

The Cavan Student Enterprise Awards 2025 showcased the remarkable creativity and entrepreneurial spirit of young people across the county. Held in the prestigious Slieve Russell Hotel in March, the event brought together over 150 students from local secondary schools, from over 300 initial competitors, all eager to present their innovative business ideas. After months of hard work and competition, 48 teams earned their place in the county final, where they pitched their enterprises to a panel of judges.

The overall Senior Category Winner was Triple C Crafts (Baillieborough Community School), a team that impressed with their unique handmade wood products and strong business acumen. Their win highlights the talent and dedication nurtured through the Student Enterprise Programme, which continues to be a vital platform for fostering future business leaders.

The awards ceremony was a celebration of teamwork, creativity, and ambition, and it reflected the vibrant entrepreneurial culture growing among Cavan's youth.





2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Throughout 2025, CWBN has solidified its position as one of Ireland's foremost women's business networks. With standout gatherings aligned with International Women's Day, National Women's Enterprise Day, and a festive Christmas Fair, the network delivers unparalleled visibility, support, and growth for local women entrepreneurs. Anchored by strong LEO Cavan collaboration and a dynamic member base, CWBN continues to expand its presence across County Cavan and beyond. It continues to deliver strategic learning, high-profile exposure, and economic opportunity for members. From digital business techniques to seasonal product showcases, 2025 has confirmed CWBN's role as a cornerstone for women entrepreneurs across County Cavan—and a model for similar networks nationwide.



National Women's Enterprise Day held 16th October 2025 – Margaret McKeon Boyle, coordinator of Cavan Women in Business Network on behalf of Local Enterprise Office Cavan; Belinda O'Neill, Be inspired to Be; Sammy Leslie, Castle Leslie; Sandra Coote, Crafts of Ireland; Gillian Madden, Senior Enterprise Development Officer, Local Enterprise Office, Senator Pauline Tully

LEO Cavan organised a very successful Succession Planning Event in The Kilmore Hotel on 4th November. The event was attended by over 50 Business People from across various sectors around the county. The event was chaired by Joe O'Reilly, Boost Your Sales and they heard from Solicitor Fergal McManus, Mercantile Solicitors and Tax Advisor Neil Phair, Phair & Co Tax Advisors about the importance of planning for the future of their business.



Attendees at the Succession Planning Event in November 2025

The Cavan/Dublin Business Network delivered two high-calibre events in 2025, hosted at Chartered Accountants House in April and Matheson LLP in October, connecting Cavan entrepreneurs with Dublin's business ecosystem. With prominent speakers at both events, startup showcases, and strong LEO backing, both events enhanced professional links, business visibility, and growth opportunities between Cavan and the capital.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council



Pictured at the Cavan Dublin Business Networking Event in October, Thomas Coyle, Quotes for It, Aiden McKenna, Regional Director for the Americas, Enterprise Ireland, Robert Maloney Derham, Partner at Matheson, Caroline Ashe Brady, Director Kore Insulation & Kore Retrofit. Oliver McAllister, Chief Financial Officer, Lakeland Dairies, Neil Phair, Phair & Co Tax & Business Advisors, Conor Craven, LEO Cavan, John Potter, Quotes for It, Eoin Doyle, Chief Executive, Cavan County Council.

Created In Cavan

The 2024-2027 Food & Drink action plan was launched April 2024 with the vision 'To be a leading county in Ireland known for its successful local food and drink ecosystem through accessibility, sustainability, commerciality and collaboration' delivered through a stakeholder owned network which excel at 'inter member support' with the delivery of commercial business opportunities, knowledge sharing and unique food tourism experiences.

Created In Cavan network membership increased by 9% to 68 members in 2025

The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine under the Rural Innovation and Development Fund (RIDF) Agri-Tourism measures awarded Cavan County Council €10,000.00 to support the completion of the selected projects within the action plan:



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

- To deliver a “Created In Cavan Consumer Awareness Campaign”.
- To further develop the producer directory (handbook) & distribute to the hospitality industry within the County.
- To hold a Street Food Festival in Cavan Town, to highlight the quality food & drink producers in the County.
- To work with Cootehill Chamber on incorporating a street Christmas Food Market showcasing our wonderful producers.
- To hold monthly cluster session, to support network members in key areas such as Brand Development, Market entry strategies, pricing techniques, export opportunities & scaling for growth.
- Production of vertical videos to promote our network members.
- To deliver the ‘Created in Cavan’ National Schools Programme.
- To attend The Virginia & Gifted shows en masse under the one umbrella ‘Created in Cavan’.

All projects were successfully completed in 2025.

The Summer & Christmas markets in Cavan Town were held in conjunction with the Cottage Market, with over 6,000 people attending the Summer event
Burren Bites A Taste of Time event took place in Cavan Burren Park, offering guests a unique blend of natural heritage, music and culinary excellence. The experience included a guided tour led by a knowledgeable Geopark Ambassador, who brought the stunning landscapes and rich archaeological of the Burren to life.

The Blás na hEireann awards took place in Dingle on Friday 3rd October, with 9 producers winning awards. Ice Cream Treats was recognised for ‘Best In Cavan’ award.



Pictured at the Blás na hEireann Irish Food Awards, Dermot Gallagher, LEO Cavan, Gerry Sheridan, Proprietor Ice Cream Treats, Lisa Clarke, Ice Cream Treats, Artie Clifford Blás na hEireann, Conor Craven LEO Cavan.

A “Created In Cavan” Showcase & Neven Maguire Cookery demonstration took place in Hotel Kilmore on Wednesday 19th November. With over 400 people in attendance, the event was an opportunity to raise the Network’s profile while supporting local charity CUAN Cavan Cancer Support Centre.

Cavan Craft Network

The “Cavan Craft Collective” consisting of 16 local makers was officially launched on Monday 10th November by Cathaoirleach John Paul Feely, signalling a new vision for the craft sector in the county. This initiative aims to foster collaboration among makers and position craft as a strategic driver of economic development in Cavan.

The network’s ambition is to build a strong collective identity for Cavan craft makers, encourage collaboration and knowledge sharing, and expand market reach through joint marketing and promotional activities.

It also seeks to develop skills and innovation through training and mentoring programs while positioning Cavan craft strategically within regional economic plans.



Pictured at the Cavan Craft Collective launch held 10th November by Cathaoirleach Cllr John Paul Feeley Cavan County Council.

Planning, Community Development, Rural Development and Tourism, Cuilcagh Lakelands and

Planning

Introduction

The Planning Department is responsible for implementing the Planning and Development Acts 2000 as amended and the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as amended. The work of the Planning Department encompasses the following areas:

- Forward Planning
- Urban Regeneration and Development Fund
- Development Management and other Statutory Functions
- Derelict sites and Dangerous Structures
- Taking in Charge of Housing Estates



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

- Unfinished Housing Estates
- Development Contributions and Bonds
- Development Compliance/Enforcement:
- Heritage
- Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee
- Planning Performance Indicators

Forward Planning

In 2025, the Forward planning section focused on the delivery of the objectives of the Cavan County Development Plan 2022-2028 incorporating a Local Area Plan for Cavan Town. Consultants continued progress on the following projects which are key objectives of the development plan – the Burrencarragh Masterplan, Landscape Character Assessment and Renewable Energy Strategy.

The Progress Report on the achievement of the objectives in the County Development Plan was completed in early 2025. This included monitoring of housing statistics for both urban and rural areas and monitoring of commercial applications. The Progress Report also included updates on projects approved and developed across the County. Monitoring of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) that was carried out as part of the development plan process was also completed and formed part of the documentation of the Progress Report. The Progress Report and SEA Monitoring report were presented to Elected Members in February 2025.

The Forward Planning Team continued to work alongside The Active Travel Team for the preparation of their (Area Based Transport Assessment) ABTA for Cavan Town.

Continuous monitoring of the development plan was carried out by the Forward Planning Section throughout 2025, including monitoring of approved development types, development locations and housing (urban, rural and brownfield sites).

The Forward Planning Team worked alongside the Regeneration Officer to engage a consultant to prepare a Masterplan to the rear of Farnham Street Cavan town.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

In July 2025 the Government issued National Planning Framework Implementation: Housing Growth Requirements-Guidelines for Planning Authorities issued under Section 28 of the Planning and Development Act 2000. The purpose of these guidelines was that since the adoption of the Revised NPF in April of 2025 there was a need for development plans to be updated to reflect the requirements of the NPF in respect of housing. The Housing Growth Requirement for County Cavan adopted in the 2022 Development Plan of 666 houses per annum has not altered in these Guidelines, however the requirement for additional provision of up to 50% over and above the housing growth requirement needed to be reflected in the County Development Plan. Work commenced on the requirements of these Guidelines. In October, the Forward Planning team invited submissions from landowners identifying lands that are suitable for being zoned for residential use and are capable of contributing to the acceleration of housing delivery. In December 2025, a Chief Executives report was presented to the Elected Members including the recommendation as to how the Planning Authority intends to secure the housing delivery objectives of the new Guidelines through a proposed variation of the Development Plan. This included a review of the adopted development plan and the level of activity for residential development on zoned lands across the County.

Residential Zoned Land Tax

The Forward Planning Team continued works arising from legislation introduced in 2022. The Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT) was introduced by Section 80 of the Finance Act 2021 and is contained in Part 22A of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997 (TCA 1997). It is an annual tax which is calculated at 3% of the market value of land that is within its scope. The overall aim of the RZLT is to bring underutilised land forward for residential development. Mapping of the land which satisfies the relevant criteria is undertaken by the planning authority, while management of the RZLT, including liability, payment and enforcement, will be undertaken by the Revenue Commissioners.

The role of the Planning Authorities in 2025 was to prepare maps that showed the residential and mixed-use land that the tax will relate to (i.e. zoned and serviced land

for Residential lands and ‘vacant and idle’ lands for Mixed-Use/Town Centre zoned lands).

The Annual Draft Map went on public display on 1 February 2025 to the 1 April 2025 inviting submissions on the map. The 2025 consultation period also allowed for requests for the re-zoning of land to the Planning Authority. The Planning Authority notified the landowners of retention or removal of their land from the 2026 annual draft map by 1 July 2025 with the appeal period on or before 1 August 2025.

The Planning Authority received 7 submissions within the timeframe for public consultation of the annual draft map. Two rezoning requests submitted were not considered in the interests of proper planning and sustainable development. Two of the submissions were recommended for exclusion from the map and three of the submissions were recommended for inclusion on the map. There were no appeals to An Coimisiún Pleanála.

Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF)

Abbeylands Phase 1



Concept Image (subject to change)

The Abbeylands Phase 1 Part VIII planning application was ratified by the Municipal District Councillors in April 2023, and the Council employed an architect led multi-disciplinary integrated design team to deliver the project through to completion. The Abbeylands site is a national monument and there are protected structures on the site of regional and national importance. The Council concluded an Enabling Works contract on the site which included the demolition or stabilisation of structures on the site, initial archaeological exploration and site investigations carried out under National Monuments and National History Museum oversight and Ministerial licence.

The project is currently at latter stage of a two-stage restricted process European-wide eTender, with the Council in the process of seeking decision gate 2 stage Department approval prior to award of contract.



Concept Image (subject to change)

Subject to final Department Decision Gate funding approvals, it is anticipated that the main works contract will be awarded end Q2 2026 and main construction works to commence in Q3. The project has a 2/2.5-year construction delivery timeline with completion anticipated in mid-late 2028.



Concept Image (subject to change)

This transformative project involves the construction of a new multi-functional public plaza fringed by a new state-of-the-art business development hub office facility with community function, a new state-of-the-art community service building, restoration and repurpose of historic structures on the site and associated works, is to act as a catalyst for activation of development to back-lands in the centre of the town establishing a new cultural and business quarter for all.

Development Management

Planning Applications

The Planning Section received 832 No. planning applications in 2025, a c.14% increase in the number of applications received in 2024. The majority of the above applications related to developments such as housing developments, single dwellings, extensions/alterations to existing dwellings, domestic garages, industrial/commercial development, school extensions, agricultural development and retention of existing works. 2 No. applications were received for Large-scaled Residential Development (LRD) which is a development of 100 or more houses with



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

1 No. application granted permission for 134 No. residential units and 1 No. application at Further Information Stage.

Additionally, the Planning Authority handled 53 No. applications for written declarations of exempted development and 12 No. applications for certificates of exemption from the requirements of Part V of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended.

There were 15 No. decisions of the Planning Authority appealed to An Bord Pleanála/An Coimisiún Pleanála with 13 No. (86.67%) of the determinations of the Board/Coimisiún confirming the decision made by the Planning Authority and 2 No. modifying the decision made by the Planning Authority. The Planning Authority also received 2 No. applications for Extension of Duration during the year.

ePlanning

The planning permission process is moving towards a paperless and environmentally friendly model where applicants have 24/7 access to their planning applications.

The Local Government Online Planning Portal was designed to streamline the application process for planning permission across all local authorities in Ireland. The online portal is easy-to-use and moves the process into an environmentally friendly one that is also user-friendly.

Anyone can register their own account, submit documents online with their application and submit further documentation at a later stage if necessary. People can view previously submitted applications on their dashboard, as well as the status of applications quickly and easily.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Hard copies of planning applications are still accepted by the Planning Section and we received 60 No. “paper” applications in 2025 which accounted for approximately 7% of all applications received during the year.

Derelict Sites

There are many strands of work by which the derelict sites section manages, which is considerable in size. These duties include but are not exclusive to the following, collection of data on dereliction around the County, processing of files according to the legislation, following up on executive orders, erection and posting of notices, correspondence with owner(s) and members of public, commissioning and pursuing estate agent valuations, progressing CPO documentation including newspaper notices, prescribing and commissioning works required to stabilise property for market, calculation of levies and accounting on Agresso and many other such detailed tasks. The Council are steadily building on existing knowledge, and in the process of developing their derelict sites section, so as to proactively respond to dereliction in the County.

The application of the Derelict Sites Act is confined to ministerial prescribed urban areas within the County.

At end of December 2025, there were 84 properties on the derelict sites register in County Cavan. This number is constantly in flux as more properties enter the register and some leave the register as dereliction is addressed by owner(s).

The Derelict Sites team are continually working their way through the towns and villages with over 1000 live files of recorded dereliction being monitored. The Council are actively following up with property owners under the legislation with thousands of notices issued to property owner(s).

As a result of this, the Council expect the numbers of properties on the derelict sites register to continually increase. The Council are also seeing positive reactivation and address of dereliction by owner(s) in many instances. The Council also see the direct



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil

Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

increase in applications for Chroi-Conaithe grants in areas where notices have been served.

In addition to the Derelict Sites Office based within the Planning Business Unit, the process benefits significantly from cross functional collaboration between other council sections e.g. Housing, Chroi-Conaithe team, Community & Enterprise, Town Regeneration Office, Municipal Districts, GIS officer. The Council have an ongoing cross-sectional working group quarterly meeting entitled the 'Property Activation Team (PAT)' with a target aim to reactivate vacant and derelict properties across the County. This cross-sectional group includes housing & housing construction, town regeneration, vacant sites, derelict sites and planning. This group meet on a quarterly basis to report in on progress, to share relevant information and coordinate response. The Council, subject to funding availability and other factors, may decide to compulsory purchase particular properties in the towns and villages that have been identified by other sections as suitable for community and other uses.

URDF Call-3

The Urban Regeneration Development Fund (URDF) Call-3 has a €3.5million allocation for Cavan town (core only), with a Department pre-approved list of 37 properties that the Council are actively following. This is a self-reciprocating fund aimed at reactivating vacancy and dereliction in the Cavan town core.

The Council have actively been pursuing properties/property owner(s) of these 37 identified vacant and derelict properties, using powers under the Derelict Sites Act 1990 (as amended) and the Housing Act 1966 (as amended), with the aim of challenging dereliction and vacancy, and attempting to achieve reactivation of these properties.

The number of properties that have received section 8(2) notice (initial notification) is at 33, with 21 properties having proceeded to section 8(7) stage (i.e. entry onto the Derelict sites register).



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

There are 4 properties at the acquisition stage. The Council have proceeded with acquisition by agreement on three properties with contracts due to be completed on these shortly, whilst a fourth property is the subject of a compulsory acquisition. The Council have reached 'sale-agreed' on a further property. The Council will be assessing these for minor works to be carried out so as to present these back to market for sale and reactivation in the coming months. A number of properties have been identified which the Council anticipate moving towards compulsory purchase order (CPO).

The number of properties to which activation has already occurred because of the Council's interactions with the owners since the beginning of the scheme is 14. The Council have prepared a further list of properties in wider core areas of the town for application to the Department for inclusion on the Call-3 scheme.

Taking in Charge of Housing Estates

There are currently 244 housing estates in the county. 89 estates have been taken in charge under section 180 of the planning and development act 2000 as amended. There are 37 valid applications currently awaiting processing. It is intended to take estates in charge on a continuous basis as resources allow, until all historical estates are Taken in Charge.

Unfinished Housing Estates

In 2010 there were 156 estates in Cavan on the Departments Unfinished Estate Register. There are currently 2 estates remaining on the register and the proposal is to address these in 2026. This has exceeded the recommendation outlined in Managing and Resolving Unfinished Housing Developments, where it is proposed to annually reduce this by 25% min. 2016 saw the focus move towards bond drawdown and completion of smaller outstanding works in these estates by the council and this is still the focus going forward. The Team continues to monitor the status of all unfinished estates, and work with financial institutions and developers to resolve outstanding issues in these estates.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Development Contributions and Bonds

The 2017 Development Contribution scheme came into effect on planning applications granted on or after 1st January 2017. This contribution is attached to applications granted in the County and in accordance with the adopted scheme. A number of exemptions and reductions are available including a 10% reduction where development contributions are paid in full within 6 months of lodgement of commencement notices and certain exemptions apply.

A total of €1.408m (€1.394M net of Irish Water deductions) was collected in development contributions. €321,750 of the total development contributions received during 2025 was in respect of applications under the Temporary Waiver of Development Contributions.

The Development Contribution Team continue to pursue outstanding development contributions by issuing invoices as commencement notices are lodged and following up on existing accounts to ensure payments are being made. Permissions granted since 2004 where no commencement notices have been lodged are also being checked to establish if development has taken place and payment of development contribution is being sought where appropriate.

The date for the completion of development works on qualifying houses under the waiver scheme was extended from 31 December 2025 to 31 December 2026. This completion date applies to all qualifying houses commenced since the introduction of the scheme, including those that have already commenced prior to the extension of the levy waiver and water charge refund arrangements.

Cavan County Council approved a total of 193 applicants for the Temporary Waiver of Development Contributions. The scheme terminated for commencements after 31st December 2024.

A new Development Contribution scheme 2026-2030 was prepared and adopted at the December Council meeting. It comes into effect from 01/01/2026.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Bonds

Cavan County Council requires certain developers before their development is commenced, to lodge with Cavan County Council a cash deposit, a bond of an insurance company or other security to secure the provision and satisfactory completion and maintenance until taken in charge by the said Council of roads, footpaths, sewers, watermains, drains, public open space, public lighting and other services required in connection with the development. This is coupled with an agreement empowering the said Council to apply such security or part thereof for the satisfactory completion or maintenance as aforesaid of any part of the development. This is to ensure the satisfactory completion of the development.

Cavan County Council collected €299,165 in respect of Bonds in 2025.

Development Compliance/Enforcement

The Enforcement Section opened 102 new cases which were subject to complaints for the 2025 calendar year. The Section closed 56 cases during the same period.

Of the closed files:

- 64% (or 36 cases) were resolved because these were 'statue barred', or were deemed to be 'Exempted development' and no Warning Letters were issued;
- A total of 16% of the files (or 9 cases) were closed as a result of negotiations with the Planning Authority.
- 20% (11 cases) were closed following the issue of Warning Letters or an Enforcement Notice.

Heritage

2025 saw another busy year for Cavan Heritage Office with a wide and varied programme of work promoting all aspects of Cavan's heritage. The Heritage Office continues to ensure that the unique and diverse heritage of County Cavan is conserved, sustained and above all cherished and celebrated by the people of the county. Cavan Heritage Office continued to provide a county-wide service,



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

implementing European, National and Local heritage policies where applicable. In addition to policy implementation, the Heritage Office promoted a range of projects and activities which enabled communities to actively engage and participate with our heritage. During 2025 the Heritage Office witnessed a continued interest in heritage as people throughout communities in County Cavan continue to embrace and actively engage with heritage.

The Heritage Office receives an annual funding allocation from the Heritage Council. This funding allows the Heritage Office to target specific projects which fulfil actions contained within the Cavan County Heritage Plan and which have a long-term lasting impact on the heritage of the county.

In December 2025, Cavan County Heritage Plan and Cavan Biodiversity Action Plan 2025 – 2030 were adopted by the Elected Members. These Plans will guide the work of Cavan County Heritage Office for the next 5 years.





2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Cavan Golden Ways

Another very successful year for the Cavan Golden Ways and with the number of communities participating.

County Cavan has approximately 2,400 km of primary, secondary and tertiary roads. Rural roads and lanes are part of the fabric of the countryside. As well as transport links these roads and their surroundings are home to a wealth of physical heritage in terms of their natural and vernacular features, such as Hedgerows, Walls and Gates. There is also a vast cultural heritage associated with the communities that live and have lived along these roads, in terms of place names, fieldnames, local characters, stories and traditions, giving each road its unique character. The Cavan Golden Way is an initiative of the Heritage Office of Cavan County Council to support and promote communities who have identified sections of rural road.

In 2025 Cavan Heritage continued to work with Golden Way Communities on a project entitled 'Golden Communities along Cavan Golden Ways'. This project entailed visual artists and poets working with and responding to Golden Way Communities and their heritage along golden ways creatively.

In 2025 Ecologist, Heather Bothwell, Local Historian, Oliver Brady and photographer Isabe Rofe worked with the local National School in Bawnboy. Trail cameras were installed along The Line Golden Way and children had the opportunity to work with the above experts in discovering their nearby heritage and viewing creatures caught on camera along their Golden Ways.

Creatives and the Ecologist continue to work with Golden Way Groups throughout the County. Golden Way Groups continue to respond to the beauty along the Golden Ways and work with Ecologist, Heather Bothwell to deliver actions of Biodiversity Plans for Golden Ways.



The Line Templeport Golden Way

Historic Graveyards Network

The Historic Graveyard Network has grown in success since its inception in 2017. Expansion of the network has taken place with the number of Council-owned historic graveyards participating in the network increasing. The aim of the network is to improve access to these sites, help undertake essential repairs and provide directional and interpretive panels. Projects this year included working with various historic graveyard groups to improve access and to clear vegetation following best biodiversity practice. The Historic Graveyards Network participated in a workshop led by facilitators to identify future work programme. In addition, a number of groups, part of the Historic Graveyards Network participated in Heritage Week 2025.



Cavan Tidy Towns, Annagelliffe Historic Graveyard



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Placing Heritage at the Heart of Communities

This project was funded by the Heritage Council as part of an awareness raising campaign to promote the heritage of County Cavan. One such project was 'Where We Belong – Series 5'. The podcast is an initiative of Cavan County Council's Heritage Office and is supported by the Heritage Council. Hosted by Savina Donohoe and directed by Alan Bradley, the series brings listeners into warm, in-depth conversations with individuals whose lives and work reflect the spirit, resilience and heritage of Cavan. Through personal storytelling, reflection, humour, and insight, each episode preserves voices and experiences that might otherwise be lost, creating an accessible archive for present and future generations.

The Heritage Office commissioned a podcast series with four episodes focusing on local heritage heroes throughout the county. A very special sporting heritage episode captures the memories of Cavan GAA players Ray Carolan, Gabriel Kelly, Cormac Cahill, Phil 'Lightening' Murray and the sadly recently deceased Tom Lynch who competed in matches at London's Wembley Stadium between 1958 and the early 1970s. Filled with camaraderie, laughter and vivid recollections, the conversation preserves an extraordinary chapter in Cavan sporting history. Since the recording of this episode, Tom Lynch has passed away, making his contribution all the more poignant and underscoring the importance and urgency of recording living heritage while these voices and memories can still be shared. The episode stands as a lasting tribute, and it is especially meaningful that his first-hand recollections of those remarkable days were captured and preserved.

<https://open.spotify.com/show/6qMnW0meuwxllsJbfcKMAU>

<https://f.io/V0MrnSmy>



Community Monuments Fund

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage established the Community Monuments Fund in 2020. The Community Monuments Fund invests capital in our valuable archaeological monuments to safeguard them into the future for the benefit of communities and the public. In 2025 Cavan County Council was awarded CMF Funding for Enagh Windmill & Lime Kiln.



Enagh Lime Kiln

National Biodiversity Action Plan Funding

In 2025 Cavan Heritage Office accessed funding through the National Biodiversity Action Funding (Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage) to undertake Cavan Wetland Survey, Cavan Barn Owl Monitoring and Conservation, National

Mayfly Survey of Ireland: contributing to the IUCN Red Listing, Cavan Swift Survey Phase II and Invasive Alien Species.



Invasive Species Event at Lough Sheelin, Heritage Week 2025

Heritage Week 2025

Heritage Week 2025 was successful with many groups throughout the county embracing their local heritage.



Heritage Week 2025

Built Heritage 2025

The Heritage Office continues to promote the conservation and management of our built heritage in County Cavan. In addition to reviewing and updating the record of protected structures and associated works, the heritage office provides advice and informs policy to the Planning Department. The general public are also assisted in management of Built Heritage. The Heritage Office of Cavan County Council were awarded monies under the Built Heritage Conservation projects and Historic Structures Fund.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council



BHIS and HSF 2025

Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee

The Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning SPC met on four occasions in 2025. The SPC members are listed below:

Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning SPC	Nominating Pillar
Cllr Winston Bennett	Chair
Cllr TP O'Reilly	Cavan County Council
Cllr Val Smith	Cavan County Council
Cllr John Paul Feeley	Cavan County Council
Cllr Brendan Fay	Cavan County Council
Cllr Adrian Rogers	Cavan County Council
Richard Moeran	Agriculture & Farming
Darragh Elliott	Development & Construction
Connie Whelan	Business & Commercial
Michael Lynch	Community/Voluntary
Brendan Jennings	Cavan County Council
John Donohoe	Cavan County Council
Nicholas O'Kane	Cavan County Council
Caroline Brady	Cavan County Council
Conor Craven	Cavan County Council
Angela Fitzpatrick	Cavan County Council
Paddy Connaughton	Cavan County Council



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil

Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Planning Performance Indicators

P2: No./% of Planning decisions confirmed by <i>An Bord Pleanála</i>	
Number of LA planning decisions which were the subject of an appeal in 2025	15
% of the determinations at A which confirmed decision made by the LA	13 (87%)
P3: % of Planning Enforcement cases closed as resolved	
Total number of planning cases referred to or initiated by the local authority investigated	102
Total number of cases that were closed during 2024	56
% of cases at B dismissed under section 152(2), Planning and Development Act 2000 or were closed because statute barred or an exempted development	36 (64%)
% of cases at B resolved to the LA's satisfaction through negotiations	9 (16%)
% of cases at B that were closed due to enforcement proceedings	11 (20%)
Total number of planning cases being investigated at 31/12/2025	654
P4: Cost per Capita of the Planning Service	
The 2025 Annual Financial Statement (AFS) Programme D data divided by the population of the LA area per the 2022 Census	Cost per capita €27.06



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil

Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Rural Development and Tourism

The Rural Development and Tourism Department was established 2025, on foot of the establishment, by the DRCDG, of Capital Delivery Teams in each local authority. The Department is responsible for overseeing the delivery of DRCDG schemes, deliver projects funded by DRCDG and report to the DRCDG on same as well as developing projects for submission for funding under the various schemes.

The Rural Development and Tourism Department co-ordinates other initiatives and programmes including PEACEPLUS, Town and Village Renewal, ORIS, CLÁR, Community Recognition Fund, Community grants, Community Activities Fund and the Tourism Office.

Large Capital Projects:

Cavan Regional Sports Campus (LSSIF)

This project is to develop a regionally significant sports facility on lands situated to the Southwest of Cavan Town, in the vicinity of Kingspan Breffni and the Royal School.

- The project received €1,047,001 in funding from Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media under Stream 1 funding to develop a design and achieve planning approval.
- Planning design was submitted to ABP on the 11th of March 2024, and planning was granted on the 1st November 2024.
- On 4th November 2024 Cavan County Council was awarded a sum of €19m under LSSIF Stream 2, the second highest grant recipient in Country.
- PeacePLUS grant aid of €15.036 million was awarded to the project on the 16th of October 2025.
- Detailed Design and tender pack nearing completion is nearly completion and is due to be published early in 2026 (Subject to departmental gateway approval)
- Several advance works contracts have either been completed or are currently underway including vegetation clearance, mammal relocating, habitat

creation, geophysical surveys/investigation, ground investigation and ESB undergrounding.

- Should the project receive full executive approval to proceed, works will commence in the summer of 2026.

Ballyconnell Market House RRDF

This project entails the renovation and redevelopment of the former Market House in Ballyconnell as a Community, Remote Working and Tourism hub. The overall renovation of the Market House will act as a catalyst for the economic and community regeneration of the greater Ballyconnell and West Cavan border region. The project received €1,200,742 in funding from the Department of Rural and Community Development under the Rural Regeneration Fund. Construction works are completed.



Ballyconnell Market House - Community, Remote Working & Tourism Hub



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



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an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

- **Ballyjamesduff Community and Enterprise Hub RRDF**
This project involves the redevelopment and refurbishment of the iconic former Percy French Hotel and site, located in the centre of Ballyjamesduff. The redeveloped town centre building will be transformed into a Community and Enterprise hub, including remote working hub, office space, community room / conference room and café. The project received €7,651,195.20 in funding from the Department of Rural and Community Development under the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund. An Architect led design team for proposed Construction Works Stages has been appointed. A consultant was also appointed and has carried out an independent assessment of the building functioning strategy and needs analysis. The contractor for the construction works has been appointed, and construction works commenced in November 2025. Estimated completion date September 2027.
- **Saint Michael's Hall, Cootehill RRDF**
The project involves the refurbishment and extension of the iconic St Michael's Hall and site, located in the town centre of Cootehill. The redeveloped building will be transformed to provide a multifunctional community space of excellence, including an upgraded and refurbished event/arts theatre space. The project received €6,248,330.10 in funding from the Department of Rural and Community Development under the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund. An Architect led design team for proposed Construction Works stages has been appointed. Stage 1 Tender for the conservation, refurbishment and extension contractor has concluded and 6 contractors have been shortlisted. The Stage 2 Tender will be published in April 2026, with works due to commence in June/ July of 2026. Estimated completion date July 2027.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil

Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

CLÁR

CLÁR is a targeted investment Programme for rural areas that aims to provide funding for small infrastructure projects in area that experience disadvantage.

Measure 1: Support for Schools/Community Safety measures

Measure 2: Outdoor Community Recreation Facilities

Measure 3: Community Wellbeing Supports:

(a) Community Gardens and Allotments

(b) - Mobility and Cancer Care Transport

In 2025 Cavan County Council submitted 15 projects to the Department for approval and subsequently received an allocation of €652,359 in respect of 9 Projects under Measure 1.

Cavan County Council received approval for the following CLÁR 2025 Schemes

- Ballyconnell Community Playground- Upgrade existing playground 100,000
- Bailieborough Community Playground- Upgrade of existing playground and equipment . €100,000
- Cornafean GFC- Upgrade of existing Dressing Room- €65,000
- Kingscourt tars GAA – Refurbishment of walkway - €65,000.
- Kingscourt Harps AFC- New spectator stand for Kingscourt Harps-€65,000
- Mullagh Tourism and Community Development- €65,000.
- St Aidans GAA Templeport- Upgrade of gym equipment - €65,000.
- St Felims National School (The Vale) Bailieborough Co. Cavan- Development of a MUGA -€65,000
- Cavan Burren Park- Development of a Sensory Trail €62,359.

These schemes are ongoing and due for completion in June 2027.

Below are photos of St Ernans Church Kingscourt (upgrade of car park) completed under CLAR 2024 and St Aidan GAA Templeport completed under Clár 2025 scheme (upgrade of gym)



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council





2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Cavan Co Council PEACEPLUS Local Authority Action Plan (LAAP)

Having received and accepted our letter of offer from SEUPB Cavan County Council have now commenced the work of implementing this exciting, varied, and challenging plan, which supports vital peace-building work in the county over the next four years.

The co-designed action plan is a comprehensive and varied programme of actions that deliver on the themes of PEACEPLUS for communities across Cavan and indeed on a cross-border basis, and the depth and quality of projects contained therein will accrue many benefits for the people of Cavan and our neighbouring cross border neighbours for the next four years.

Funding of €4,334,408 has been secured to deliver 28 projects across three themes: Community Regeneration and Transformation, Thriving and Peaceful Communities, and Celebrating Cultural Diversity.

Under these three diverse themes, the plan will see delivery of seven capital projects, and a further 21 projects that tackle issues such as education inequality among traveller youth, climate change, and biodiversity loss, among others.

Projects to be delivered in the 3 themes listed below:

Theme 1: Local Community Regeneration and Transformation: (capital projects) X7

Project Name	Ballyconnell Community Centre
Project Name	Co Cavan Rugby Club
Project Name	Kingscourt Community Development Association
Project Name	Lavey Community Group
Project Name	Virginia Rugby Football club
Project Name	Bailieborough Men's and Hens Shed
Project Name	Cootehill Town Team – Former BOI building



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Theme 2: Thriving and Peaceful Communities:

6 Theme 2 PEACEPLUS TENDERS have been awarded, and delivery is progressing on target by external delivery agents.

TITLE
T2 Biodiversity & Climate change action through Education
T2 Post Primary Schools Coaching and Mentoring Programme
T2 Border Biennale 2025
T2 Active Citizens Youth Project
T2 Share and Grow Project
T2 Cross Border Farming Communities

Community Grants Scheme

The Community Grants Schemes aim to encourage organisations and groups to implement projects in their local community which will help to improve the quality of life for the local citizens and enhance the sense of community in the county. The purpose of the scheme is to provide low level support to projects which may not have received funding from other sources.

In 2025 each of the 3 Municipal Districts were allocated funds to eligible projects as follows:

- Bailieborough/Cootehill Municipal District – 17 Projects- €98,500
- Ballyjamesduff Municipal District – 26 Projects -€120,000
- Cavan/Belturbet Municipal District – 16 Projects- €120,000

Community/Festival Grant Scheme

The community grants scheme aims to encourage organisations and groups to implement projects which will enhance the quality of life for local citizens. The purpose of the scheme is to provide support to projects which may not receive funding from other sources and grant are to a maximum value of €2,000 for Community and Voluntary Schemes.

In 2025 a total of €44,000 was allocated to 59 Community Groups under this funding stream.

Community Recognition Fund 2024

Cavan County Council was awarded overall funding of €1,155,190 which was awarded under three tranches in respect of 13 capital projects throughout the county.

The projects are progressing and the deadline for completion of all projects under this funding is October 2026.



Upgrade of gym equipment at Cavan Leisure Centre which was funded under the Community Recognition Fund 2024

Local Enhancement Programme 2025.

In 2025 a total of 110 groups Community groups received grants totalling € 164,165 which was funded by the Department of Rural & Community Development & the Gaeltacht. This funding was for small and medium capital costs and also to support groups with running costs within their community.

Town and Village Renewal Scheme

The 2025 Town and Village Renewal Scheme is designed to support the



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

revitalisation of rural Ireland by focusing on stimulating town centre economic and social regeneration.

Successful projects under the 2025 Town & Village Renewal Scheme were announced by Minister Calleary on 22nd December 2025. €949,250 was awarded for the following projects in Co. Cavan.

Main Scheme:

- Killeshandra: Revitalising Killeshandra with a town-wide paint scheme, new public spaces and amenities, modern wayfinding, and atmospheric lighting to create a vibrant hub where residents and visitors can connect and thrive. €299,250
- Kingscourt: The Kingscourt Active Recreation Hub will address the local shortage of outdoor community interactive spaces by providing a town centre multipurpose active play and sports facility for everyone in the community. €300,000
- Mullagh: The community of Mullagh is Integrating and Welcoming through a refreshed painting of the Main Street buildings, improved community outdoors spaces, more attractive pedestrian movement and welcoming entry points into the village. €300,000

Project Development Measure:

- Killeshandra: Study to consider the redevelopment of 'Stuarts Shop' in Killeshandra's town centre into a mixed-use cultural and visitor hub. €50,000

These schemes are ongoing and due for completion in July 2027.

ORIS Scheme 2025

Cavan County Council received funding approval in August 2025 in respect of Measure 1 projects outlined below for 2024/2025.

- Ballyconnell Canel – Upgrade of trail at Ballyconnell Canel- funding of €40,000
- Castle Saunderson – upgrade of trails – funding of €34,763.00

- Cavan Trails Promotion- marketing and promotion – funding of €30,420.00
- Dowra Island Walk- Upgrade works to Trail- funding of €40,000
- Giants Leap and Tullygobblin Trails- Upgrade to Trail- Funding of €40,000
- Maintenance of Cuilagh Geo park Sites – upgrade of trails- funding of €37,890
- Cavan Local Development Company received 3 approvals under Measure 1
- Castle Lake Loop- upgrade of trail at Castle Lake- Funding of €40,000
- Moneycashel Heritage Trail- upgrade of Trail- funding of €40,000
- Mullahoran Walking Trail- upgrade of Trail – funding of €40,000
- Under Measure 4 – Project Development Measure Cavan Local Development Company received funding of €44,100 in respect of Loughanleagh & Muff Heritage Trails Development Feasibility study investigating potential of reintroducing the ‘Lake of the Cures.
- Under Measure 3 – Cavan County Council was granted funding of €500,000 in respect of Development of a Greenway Hub in Kingscourt with car parking and seating.

In 2025 Cavan County Council in conjunction with Coillte completed the Natural Play Area in Dun an Ri Forest Park which received funding of €451,292.00 under ORIS 2021. Please see a photo of the completed playground.





2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Cavan County Council also completed the upgrade of the Pedestrian Bridge in Killykeen Forest Park in 2025 which received funding of €323,130 under ORIS 2020.



Below are photographs of the streetscape enhancements completed in Shercock funded under the Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2023.





2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council





Heritage Trail completed in Ballyconnell funded under the Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2022

Town & Village Revitalisation Plans

Cavan County Council commissioned Gaffney & Cullivan Architects in association with Tyréns, urban renewal specialists, to complete Town & Village Revitalisation Plans for twenty towns and villages in County Cavan. The plans will act as a catalyst to bring improvements to the towns of County Cavan and will provide a template for the revitalisation and development of each town. The towns and villages included are Cavan, Virginia, Bailieborough, Ballyjamesduff, Cootehill, Kingscourt, Belturbet, Mullagh, Ballyconnell, Ballinagh, Ballyhaise, Shercock, Killeshandra, Arva, Kilnaleck, Swanlinbar, Butlersbridge, Blacklion, Gowna and Dowra.

Significant progress was made on the implementation of improvements contained in these plans throughout 2025.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Tourism

Cavan Tourism develops things for visitors to do, manages the This is Cavan! brand, markets the county as a tourism destination and supports the business tourism trade. Tourism in Cavan supports 3200 jobs and generates €95M for the local economy annually. There are over 3000 tourism beds in County Cavan.

In partnership with Failte Ireland, Cavan Tourism is delivering out on the **Destination Experience Development Plan** for the Upper Shannon and Shannon Erne Border area (which includes Cavan, Leitrim and North Roscommon). This plan is a long-term strategy for tourism development across the northern section of Ireland's Hidden Heartlands.

Product Development

Eight bike repair stations were installed across the county in 2025 at the following locations: Trivia House, Swanlinbar; Tullydermot Falls; Bawnboy; Stray Sod, Drung; Killeshandra Lakeshore; Con Smith Park; Killykeen Forest Park.

Concept plans for the further development of the experience at Belturbet Heritage Railway Station were developed, these plans will ensure that funding can be sought at the first available opportunity.

Two new walking trails were opened in Ballyhaise – a river Annalee trail (2.8km) and a trail through Oakwood Forest (5.3km) representing an investment of €220,000. A new 6km trail (€105,000) to the top of Bruse Mountain was developed and opened, providing spectacular views across the region.



New panel and view from the top of Bruse Mountain

Marketing

Visits by social media influencer Chris Connelly and Roz Purcell, amongst others visited Cavan in 2025.

The following guides are in print and circulated quarterly to tourism businesses in County Cavan:

- County Cavan Angling Guide
- This is Cavan! Discovery Map
- County Cavan Trails Guide
- This is Cavan! Visitor Guide
- This is Cavan! Calander 2025

Merchandise

In addition, merchandise such as tote bags, jackets, badges, mugs, keyrings, pens and pencils were produced.



Merchandise produced by This is Cavan!

Digital Media

Four online campaigns were delivered in 2025, promoting events and special offers in Cavan, including a series of videos featuring businesses and competitions, across Facebook, YouTube and Instagram promoting County Cavan. A monthly ezine is distributed, the county events calendar is updated, and new blogs are uploaded monthly. This is Cavan! is active on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and TikTok. Metrics and statistics were very positive.

- Across social media, This is Cavan! had 5.8M views and reached over 1.4M people
- Audience interaction increased fourfold to 41K engagements
- Followers increased by 5.3K
- The website recorded just under 95K visits, approximately 10,000 visits per month
- International audiences accounted for a share with over 11K coming from the UK and over 5K coming from the US.

Advertising

County Cavan featured in the following publications in 2025 - Spirit of Ireland magazine, Hotpress Travel Feature, Belfast Telegraph, The Irish Post, Irish News and on Northern Sound and Q102. A full-page ad and editorial promoting County Cavan was published in the Celtic Media 'Your Ireland' tourism supplement.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

This is Cavan! was a sponsor and stakeholder in Cavan Tourism & Business Awards 2025. This is Cavan! also attended the Holidayworld Show and the Virginia Show.

Website

The tourism website www.thisiscavan.ie continues to be maintained and invested in. The site receives approximately 10,000 unique visits per month.

Tourism Trade

Cavan Tourism coordinated and hosted the attendance of ten Cavan tourism businesses at Holidayworld Show in January 2025 in the RDS under the This is Cavan! banner. Attendees included the Cuilcagh Lakelands Geopark, Cavan County Museum, Farnham Estate Hotel, Cavan Crystal Hotel, Slieve Russell Hotel, Cavan Adventure Centre, Cabra Castle, Breffni Arms Hotel and the Bailie Hotel.



Cavan Tourism businesses at the Holidayworld Show in the RDS in January 2025

Cavan Tourism conducted a business trade survey in December 2025. In summary the trade reported a very positive and successful summer and are generally optimistic and confident about 2026.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Community Development Section

The Department of Community, Enterprise and Tourism is responsible for the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) which co-ordinates the implementation of the community elements of the Local Economic and Community Plan and manages the coordination and oversight of key community development programmes such as SICAP, LEADER, the Community Enhancement Programme, Healthy Ireland and Sláintecare. The Section's work is guided by key strategic frameworks, including the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2024–2029, the Age Friendly Strategy, the Healthy Ireland Framework and the County Sports Plan 'Active Cavan'.

Within the Community Development Section, Cavan Sports Partnership works to promote inclusive, accessible and lifelong participation in sport and physical activity. The Healthy Ireland and Sláintecare programmes are also delivered, to support the wellbeing of people living in the County. The Local Authority Integration Team has responsibility for supporting the social and cultural integration of new communities into Cavan. Responsibility for the new Local Community Safety Partnership also sits within the section, where work is commencing on developing the partnership and a new county Local Community Safety Plan. The Section also supports and funds the Public Participation Network, an independent network of community and voluntary groups in County Cavan that has a remit for improving engagement with citizens. The Social Inclusion function facilitates a range of interagency and multi-stakeholder structures that respond to social exclusion challenges and deliver coordinated responses to the needs of communities across the county. It is also closely involved with the Cavan Children and Young People's Services Committee and the Local Connecting for Life Suicide Prevention plan.

Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

The Cavan Local Community Development Committee was established under the Local Government Reform Act 2014 for the purposes of developing, coordinating and implementing a coherent and integrated approach to local and community development. The functions of the Local Community Development Committee are



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

set out under Section 128A of Local Government Reform Act 2014. They are as follows:

- Prepare and adopt the community elements of the 6 year Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP).
- Implement or arrange for the implementation of the community elements of the LECP.
- Coordinate the management and oversee the implementation of the programmes that have been approved either by the local authority or by agreement between the LCDC and other public bodies.

2025 was another busy and productive year for Cavan LCDC and its subgroups, who continued to meet and deliver on the community element of the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) throughout the year. LCDC members were kept informed of progress being made through regular presentations and updates. The LCDC managed, implemented and collaborated in relation to a number of public funded programmes under its remit including the Community Enhancement Programme. Cavan LCDC also focused on the delivery of the LEADER and SICAP programmes ensuring targets were met and spend was progressing.

Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP)

The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2024-2028 provides funding to tackle poverty and social exclusion at a local level through local engagement and partnerships between disadvantaged individuals, community organisations and public sector agencies. SICAP 2024-2028 is the successor programme to SICAP 2018-2023, which was the successor programme to SICAP 2015-2017. Delivery is overseen and managed by Cavan LCDC.

SICAP also prioritises local engagement and partnerships, between SICAP Programme Implementers, disadvantaged individuals, community organisations and public sector agencies. It is a multi-faceted programme that provides supports to respond to individual and community needs, aiming to ensure that beneficiaries receive quality, tailored supports, while also allowing flexibility to adapt actions to local need. It enables bottom-up approaches within the framework of a national



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

programme which provides targets, performance indicators and requirements.

The total budget for SICAP in Cavan in 2025 was €1,164,135. This included funding of €165,407 for Supports for New Arrivals being provided under the SICAP programme. The programme is co-funded by the Irish Government, through the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, and the European Social Fund Plus under the Employment, Inclusion, Skills and Training (EIST) Programme 2021 -2027. The Programme Implementer, Cavan County Local Development Company achieved both its two key performance indicators (KPI's) for 2025 and ensured that the programme and services were delivered within the financial parameters approved by the LCDC.

There are 2 goals under the Programme:

Goal 1: Supporting Communities -To support communities and target groups to engage with relevant stakeholders in identifying and addressing social exclusion and equality issues, developing the capacity of Local Community Groups, and creating more sustainable communities.

Goal 2: Supporting Individuals - To support disadvantaged individuals to improve the quality of their lives through the provision of lifelong learning and labour market supports.

SICAP 2024-2028 has twelve specific 'target' groups to ensure it is a targeted and focused programme. Only people who are from one or more of these groups are eligible for support under the programme. The target groups are: People living in disadvantaged communities, People impacted by educational disadvantage, People living in jobless households or households where the primary income source is low-paid and/or precarious, People who are long-term unemployed, People with a criminal history, Refugees, International Protection Applicants, People with Disabilities, Heads of One-parent Families, Travellers, Roma or Island residents. Cavan County Local Development Company reached and exceeded KPI targets for 2025 as detailed in the following table:



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

	Annual Target 2025	Actuals Target achieved	Percentage achievement
Number of local community groups assisted under SICAP (KPI 1)	37	41	111%
Total number of disadvantaged individuals (15 years old & upwards) engaged under SICAP on a one-to-one basis (KPI 2)	424	611	144%

Cavan LCDC agreed that the Local Priority Target Groups for SICAP 2024-2028 would be: 'People living in households that are jobless or low-paid and/or precariously employed', 'People living in communities impacted by disadvantage', and 'People with Disabilities'. Engagement with all three of the local priority target groups in 2025 achieved in excess of the 2028 programme target.



Rialtas na hÉireann
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Arna chomhchistiú ag
an Aontas Eorpach
Co-funded by the
European Union



Social Inclusion &
Community Activation
Programme



pobal
government supporting communities

“The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) is co-funded by the Irish Government, through the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht and the European Union through the European Social Fund Plus under the Employment, Inclusion, Skills and Training (EIST) Programme 2021 -2027.”

Tá an Clár um Chuimsiú Sóisialta agus Gníomhachtú Pobail (SICAP) cómhaoinithe ag Rialtas na hÉireann, tríd an Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail agus Gaeltachta, agus Ciste Sóisialta na hEorpa Plus faoin gClár Fostaíochta, Cuimsiú, Scileanna agus Oiliúna (EIST) 2021 -2027.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

LEADER Programme

The Local Community Development Committee acts as the Local Action Group [LAG] for the LEADER Programme 2023-2027 with a funding allocation of €6,400,000 for Cavan LAG. The LAG met a total of 8 times over the course of the year with meetings held in person with the option to connect remotely for those who could not attend the venue.

As of 31st December 2025, the funding under the 2023-2027 Programme had commitments amounting to a total of €1,634,424.57 for projects across the various themes. There was a total of 103 Expressions of Interest on hand as of 31st December 2025.

Rural Infrastructure, Rural Tourism and Recreation and Enterprise Development are the sub-themes with the highest numbers of projects.

A Targeted Call took place during September and October 2025.

Targeted Call 2025.

Targeted Call:	Call for communities, SME's or private individuals to engage consultants/experts to undertake analysis and development research (prepare feasibility studies) to assist applicants to prepare proposals for climate-based mitigation or adaptation actions.
Theme:	Theme 2: Sustainable Development of the Rural Environment & Climate change Mitigations and Adaptations
Sub Theme:	Local Objective 3.1: Sustainable development of the rural environment
Strategic Action:	3.2.1 Training and capacity building to increase the knowledge, skills and capacity regarding climate change

There are two key forms of climate action; mitigation which seeks to prevent climate change and adaptation which seeks to respond to the impacts of climate change.

Overall Budget for the Call:	€150,000
Maximum Level of Funding:	Up to €15,000 per project
Minimum Level of Funding:	€5,000.00.
Maximum Rates of grant aid:	90% for community applicants. 75% for private sector / SME applicants.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Healthy Ireland Fund Healthy Cavan



Healthy Ireland Fund (HIF) Round 4 is progressing positively and has been extended by 12 months, to run from 2023-2026. The approach is evidence based, and outcome led. A HI Local Strategy (HIFLS) 2023-2025 is in place, to prioritise project outcomes based on local data/need in collaboration with local stakeholders.

Two focussed outcome indicators for Cavan were agreed by local stakeholders:

- 1) Increase in % of adults & Children meeting Physical Activity Guidelines.
- 2) Decrease in prevalence of age standardised heavy episodic drinking.

All initiatives/actions over the course of Round 4 will be directed towards these outcomes.

Healthy Ireland Round 4 – Examples of Healthy Cavan funded initiatives in 2025.

- **Teach Oscail FRC:** Counselling for people effected by addiction and for those living with someone struggling with addiction. Facilitated talks on alcohol related issues & Personal Health and Fitness. Community Activities.
- **Cavan Sports Partnership led Physical Activity** - Funding of €29,000 was provided to Cavan Sports Partnership (CSP). Projects including Learn to Swim for Children with additional needs and isolated families, Summer Sports Inclusion Programme, Badminton Coach, GAA All-Star projects, Club development grants; New Club start-up grants, Gym & Swim project; FAI Football Rapid Camp.
- **Cross-Border Wellbeing Workshops** - a varied and engaging 2 days of cross border wellbeing workshops and networking for older people from Cavan and Fermanagh. Workshop 1 focused on a holistic view of health and how creating a positive outlook and setting life goals can help to improve all aspects of health and wellbeing. Workshop 2 focussed on 2 specific areas of health – the importance of good sleep and the importance of good nutrition.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

- **MaCYSS:** Delivery of several initiatives towards Outcome 2 - Decrease in age standardised heavy episodic drinking. – key activities including Alcohol and the Adolescent Brain Animation Project, Parent targeted Digital Campaign and workshops series.

**The Healthy Ireland Fund supported by the Department of Health, the
Department of Children and Youth Affairs**



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Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme (SHCP)

The Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme (SHCP), led by the Department of Health in partnership with the HSE, Local Authorities and community organisations, aims to address health inequalities by improving access to health and wellbeing supports in 24 target areas nationally. County Cavan was selected as one of the designated programme areas.

The overarching objective of SHCP is to improve population health outcomes and enhance quality of life, with a focus on prevention, early intervention and community-based approaches. Following the successful completion of the initial three-year pilot phase, the programme was extended for a further five years, reflecting positive outcomes and continued strategic alignment with Sláintecare objectives.

Under Round 4 of the SHCP Seed Funding, a total allocation of €75,000 was made available to support locally identified health and wellbeing initiatives. Projects were developed and implemented by the Sláintecare Healthy Communities Local Development Officer, in collaboration with community groups, statutory agencies and voluntary organisations. Programme delivery and key initiatives include:



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Planet Youth – Increased Leisure Time Initiative: The Planet Youth Increased Leisure Time Initiative entered its third year of delivery, expanding into SHCP target areas including Cavan Town, Bailieborough, Belturbet, Ballyjamesduff and Cootehill. The initiative provided structured, safe and accessible leisure opportunities for young people, supporting positive youth development and healthy lifestyle behaviours.

Cavan Monaghan Connects: The Cavan Monaghan Connects website was developed and launched in June 2025. The platform provides a central, accessible source of evidence-based information and signposting to services and initiatives supporting mental health and wellbeing across Counties Cavan and Monaghan.

Early Learning Initiative (ELI): Year One of a two-year pilot Home Visiting and Parent Support Programme was delivered in 2025. The programme supported parents to enhance children’s social, language and cognitive development, contributing to improved readiness for school and long-term educational outcomes. To-date 10 families had engaged with the programme.

Badminton and Swimming Coaching Programme: A targeted programme of sport and physical activity opportunities was delivered across selected SHCP areas, focusing on disadvantaged communities and marginalised groups. The initiative aimed to increase participation levels, reduce access barriers, and support the development of sustainable pathways into physical activity and sport.

Library Services – Sensory Equipment Enhancement: A Magic Table, an interactive projection-based sensory unit, was installed in Bailieborough Library. The equipment supports sensory engagement, cognitive stimulation and social interaction, benefiting children and adults with autism, sensory needs and dementia. This investment enhanced existing sensory provision and strengthened the library’s role as an inclusive community wellbeing space.

Bailieborough Creative Hub – Community Wellness Day: A Community Wellness Day was held on Saturday, 10 May 2025, promoting a holistic approach to wellbeing. The event supported participants to engage with their physical, emotional, mental and spiritual wellbeing through a structured programme of activities.

Handball Wall – Tullacmongan Family Resource Centre: A handball wall was constructed adjacent to the Tullacmongan Family Resource Centre, providing an



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

accessible recreational facility for children and young people from surrounding housing estates.

Social Inclusion

The role of the social inclusion section is to improve services for marginalised citizens and to work on an interagency basis to address poverty and exclusion in the county. Significant areas of social inclusion activity during 2025 included:

- Further development of the Cavan Age Friendly Programme and Supports for Cavan Older People's Council
- Co-ordination of and support for County Cavan Traveller Interagency Group and Cavan Monaghan Drug & Alcohol Forum and their subgroups.
- Membership of and collaboration with the Local Connecting for Life suicide prevention steering committee, led by the HSE.
- Collaboration with Cavan Disability Network and board membership of Cavan County Childcare Committee.

Age Friendly Programme

The foundation of the programme's structure is the local Age Friendly Alliance and local Older People's Council, working collaboratively with the support of a national shared service office. The local Age Friendly Programme Manager is the principal contact point for all Age Friendly activity in the county and facilitates linkages both internally within the local authority, and with all external stakeholders, especially Alliance members.

Since its establishment, the Cavan Age Friendly programme has made significant progress in improving key areas of infrastructure, services, and communication for older people in Cavan. Consultation with older people in development of age friendly strategies ensure that actions undertaken are aimed at addressing issues affecting older people. Cavan Age Friendly have to date implemented two Age Friendly Strategies, the first from 2013 to 2016 and the second from 2017 to 2019. In July 2022 Cavan Age Friendly Programme launched its 3rd Age Friendly Strategy 2022-2024. Development of a new Age Friendly Strategy will take place during 2026. Weekly drop-in information sessions are organised throughout the year these are



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

held in the Events Space in Johnston Central Library on Monday mornings - topics covered are varied and in 2025 included lawn bowls for beginners, sports taster sessions, a walking history tour of Cavan town, falls prevention with the HSE, Climate Action information session, Crime prevention talks and creativity workshops. Cavan Older People's Council Executive Committee members accompanied by Cavan Age Friendly staff visited the Wayfinding Centre in Glasnevin on 10th March 2025. The Wayfinding Centre provides a safe indoor environment which replicates the real-world experience of using public transport. The group received a very informative presentation on the Wayfinding Centre and they in turn shared information on Age Friendly initiatives and the work that Age Friendly programmes and Older People's Councils do with staff in the centre.

In May 2025 a walkability audit on Cavan General Hospital was carried out by Cavan Age Friendly on supported by Age Friendly Ireland, Cavan Older People's Council, Cavan Disability Network and HSE staff. The report of the findings of the audit was sent to the HSE who are responsible for its implementation.



Pictured at the Age Friendly Walkability audit of Cavan General Hospital are staff from Cavan County Council and Age Friendly Ireland, representatives from Cavan Older People's Council and Cavan Disability Network accompanied by HSE staff.

Further activity during 2025 included the hosting of an Older People's Council

Information Roadshow in Ballyconnell in June and the Annual General Meeting of Cavan Older People's Council took place in October. At the AGM the large audience heard presentations on various topics including both the Local and National Age Friendly Programmes, Cavan Sports Partnership activities and took part in a Chair Yoga session. Members of Cavan Older People's Council Executive Committee performed a drama piece which was written by Bob Gilbert, Cavan's Age Friendly Ambassador which highlighted the issue of elder abuse in its various forms. This was followed by a discussion with audience members on the issues raised.



Sunday, 15th June was World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, and to help draw attention to the issue, Cathaoirleach of Cavan County Council Cllr John Paul Feeley was joined by Cavan Age Friendly Ambassador Bob Gilbert, fellow elected representatives, and members of Cavan Age Friendly Alliance and Cavan Older People's Council. PHOTO: Lorraine Teevan

Cavan Age Friendly worked with the Road Safety Officer in Cavan County Council, An Garda Síochána and the IFA in organising a Road Safety Event for Older People 'Safe Journeys Ahead' which took place in Farnham Estate Hotel on Monday 20th October 2025.

Throughout 2025 Cavan Age Friendly continued to partner with Creative Cavan and



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

various other agencies and organisations on the delivery of the Creative Ireland funded 'Art of Life' project. This project explored a range of creative approaches to facilitate end-of-life discussions within communities through music, art, and facilitated conversations. The purpose was to gently highlight the importance of planning ahead for future health and social care needs of people aged 55+, including end-of-life treatment care and legacy issues.

Traveller Interagency Group

Community, Enterprise and Tourism co-ordinates the Cavan Traveller Interagency Group (TIG). This is a statutory group that provides an interagency response to social exclusion issues among the Traveller community. Cavan County Council also supports a community development service provided by Cavan Traveller Movement [CTM].

Some of the key areas of work during 2025 included:

- The Cavan Traveller Interagency Group chaired by Chrissie O'Sullivan from Cavan Traveller Movement met quarterly during 2025 and the Health & Education subgroups met regularly throughout the year.
- Cavan County Council provide a funding contribution to Cavan Traveller Movement for delivery of a community development programme for Travellers in County Cavan.
- A Dialogue Day organised by Social Inclusion was held on 1st April facilitated by the Traveller Mediation Service. This provided an opportunity for participants to engage in informal dialogue on issues of concern, with the aim of building understanding, and enhancing cooperation – representatives from An Garda Síochána, Cavan County Council, Cavan Traveller Movement, Cavan Traveller Primary Health Care, Tusla, the HSE and CMETB attended.
- Cavan County Council funded Virginia College's, Bailieborough Community School's & St Clare's Primary School Ballyjamesduff's participation in the Irish Traveller Movements Yellow Flag Initiative. This is a practical programme that supports primary and secondary schools to become more inclusive of all cultures and ethnicities, celebrate diversity and challenge racism and discrimination.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Drug and Alcohol Forum

The Drug and Alcohol Forum was established in 2016 as an action under the Cavan Local Economic and Community Plan in response to a documented concern about substance misuse in the county. Since then, the multi-agency group has been meeting regularly and is committed to tackling the issue of drug and alcohol misuse at a local level. The Drug and Alcohol Forum provides networking opportunities for relevant services and implements a work plan. Approximately 25 organisations are represented ranging from HSE services, public sector agencies, drug and alcohol services, youth, community and family support services.

The Drug & Alcohol Forum Prevention & Education subgroup Teacher Training Seminar was held in the Hotel Kilmore, Cavan on the 10th December. The Seminar was free to attend and invitations were extended to Principals, Vice Principals, Guidance Counsellors and School Completion Staff from all post primary schools and Youthreach centres in both Cavan and Monaghan. Speakers included An Garda Síochána, Emer Mulligan (HSE Connecting for Life), students from Breifne College, Cavan and Shaun Burke Principal of DLS College in Castlebar. The seminar enabled attendees to connect with like-minded educators, share best practices and build a network of support within the education community.

Local Authority Integration Team

The Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT) was established in Cavan County Council in 2024. It is a core function within each local authority in Ireland, founded to support the effective integration of migrants and refugees into local communities in line with the national principle of “Integration from Day One”. The LAIT provides structured information, advice, and guidance to individuals including International Protection applicants, Refugees, Programme refugees and Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection.

The LAIT acts as a central coordination and signposting mechanism. LAITS support access to mainstream statutory services, community and voluntary organisations, and



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

other local supports across areas such as health, education, training, employment, social welfare, and community participation.

The Team works collaboratively with internal local authority departments and external stakeholders to promote a joined-up and consistent approach to integration. Through this collaboration, the team helps to strengthen local integration structures and ensure supports are accessible and responsive to individual needs.

In addition, through direct engagement with service users and partner organisations, the LAIT identifies emerging needs, service gaps, and barriers within existing provision. This informs local planning and contributes to improved service coordination, development, and policy responses.

In May 2025, responsibility for International Protection and Integration functions transferred from the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to the Department of Justice. This transfer, effective from 1 May 2025, included responsibility for International Protection Accommodation Services (IPAS), integration policy, and related supports, and was intended to strengthen alignment between immigration, asylum processing, and integration functions at national and local levels. Also, in 2025, the International Protection Bill was introduced to replace the International Protection Act 2015 as part of Ireland's implementation of the EU Migration and Asylum Pact. The Bill aims to update the international protection framework by streamlining procedures and strengthening system efficiency, while maintaining Ireland's international protection obligations.

Community Integration Forum

The community Integration Forum is chaired by the Director of Services on a monthly basis. The working group continue to drive meaningful change by promoting collaboration, championing inclusion and strengthening community networks across the county of Cavan. Through this initiative, Cavan County Council reaffirms its commitment to building an inclusive society where everyone is given the opportunity to thrive. Members of the Community Integration Forum include: Tusla, An Garda Síochána, Cavan Community Local Development, Family Resource Centre,



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Education Training Board, Health Service Executive and Travel Free Ireland- Local Link, Citizens Information Service.

Statistics

Temporary Protection:

In January 2025, there were 430 Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection accommodated in State-provided accommodation across 24 centres in the county. Over the course of the year, these numbers declined as a result of centre closures and the subsequent relocation of individuals and families, the majority of whom moved to locations outside of Cavan. By year end, the number of Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection in State-provided accommodation had reduced to 278, including 112 children.

International Protection Applicants:

International Protection Applicants in Cavan, figures remained largely consistent throughout 2025. In January 2025, there were 156 International Protection Applicants accommodated in the county, including 22 children. During the fourth quarter of the year, the closure of one centre resulted in a reduction in numbers, with 124 applicants remaining by year end, inclusive of 12 children.

Outreach/Clinics

To promote community integration and inclusion, we deliver outreach and clinics across accommodation centres, public spaces such as libraries, and online platforms. Our work is needs-led and shaped directly by feedback from the cohorts we support, accommodation centre staff, and members of the Community Integration Forum. This approach ensures our services remain effective and responsive to the evolving needs of those we support. Some of the presenting needs were in regard to accessing mental health support services, migrant health clinics for those without access to GP services, securing school placements for children, education, training, employment and financial supports as well as promotion of social inclusion within their local communities.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil

Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Collaborative initiatives and Programmes

During the reporting period, a range of collaborative initiatives were delivered in partnership with statutory and community organisations. These included:

- Health and wellbeing activities such as a community soccer tournament, yoga classes and aqua aerobics in collaboration with Sports Partnership and Healthy Cavan.
- Information sessions delivered by ETB Adult Guidance Service, Cavan Connects STEM workshops, AkiDwA women's health and supports information session.
- A four-week parenting programmes delivered in partnership with Tusla and the ISPCC.
- A morning with Katriona O' Sullivan – 4th February 2025. This event focused on Katriona O'Sullivan's lived experience of adversity, trauma, and recovery, highlighting themes of resilience, personal development, and social inclusion.
- Safe, Seen and Supported - 8th of April 2025. To mark World Refugee Day, guest speaker Manizha Khan shared her personal journey as a refugee and her experience of successful integration in Ireland. This was followed by an information session delivered by AkiDwA on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), aimed at raising awareness and promoting safeguarding.
- Your Community Your Services, 18th November 2025. This event provided an opportunity to showcase local services in Cavan and promote pathways to integration through employment, education, and training, supporting greater community engagement and inclusion

Cavan Sports Partnership (CSP)

Cavan Sports Partnership (CSP) is an initiative of Sport Ireland with the aim of increasing participation in sport and physical activity throughout the county. Key objectives include increasing participation, building capacity of people, clubs and communities, and fostering strong partnerships.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Funding

Allocation	Amount	Description
Sport Ireland	565864	Funding to support implementation of Operational plan and strategic plan actions. Salary, Operating costs, communication and marketing. Club development grant, safeguarding 1-3, Women in sport funding, Programme, campaign and event funding, ESF+ officer and Sport 4 empowerment programme. Dormant account; Community hub, Volunteer supports and Equality diversity and inclusion projects.
Stakeholder funding	76000	Funding to implement actions, plans and campaigns. HSE, Health Cavan, Bike week, Age& opportunity, CYPSC, NGB.
Infrastructure	40500	Outdoor swimming infrastructure, Dormant accounts: Social inclusion development project
Total	682364	

In 2025, Cavan sports partnership organised and delivered **495 targeted programmes and initiatives**, engaging **12,671 Participants** across wide range of ages, abilities and backgrounds. The delivery reflects CSPs continued commitment to increasing participation, improving access and supporting lifelong engagement in sport and physical activity.

- **Inclusion: 36 inclusive programmes, camps and events** were delivered supporting **1,152 people with a disability**. Participants engaged in 16 inclusive sport and Physical opportunities including Swimming, Badminton, soccer, Gaelic games, Rugby, Sailing, Martial arts, Tai chi and more.
- **Active adults: 764 adults 50+ years** of age engaged with **37 programmes** helping participants stay active and socially engaged within local communities
- **Children & young people:** CSP continued its strong relationship with local preschool, primary and secondary schools as well as supporting clubs, communities and organisations. Over **6,060 participants** engaged in **50+ initiatives** including balance bike, multiactivity schools programme, HERmoves, promoting participation, awareness and leadership opportunities.
- **Women in sport:** A total of **1,381 participants** enjoyed a variety of sport and physical activity programmes such as strength, Yoga, Pilates, Cycling, self-defence, boxing, basketball and Dance. CSP also delivered a Female leadership programme and national campaigns HERmoves, HERoutdoors and women in sport week.

- **Community programmes: 2,816 participants**, Men on move, Intro to parkrun, Water activities; Kayaking, canoe, paddleboarding and National campaign Bike week.
- **Sport 4 Empowerment:** Delivered by the ESF+ innovation officer the programme supported **498 participants** from Ethnic minority groups, disadvantaged communities, Youth at risk and people with a disability using sport as a tool for inclusion and empowerment.
- **Education & Training:** CSP supported **335 participants** across **22 training & Education opportunities** including Safeguarding 1,2,3, First Aid, Club development programme, Autism in sport, Disability awareness, Female leadership programme, Coaching teenage girls, NGB training in Basketball, Table tennis, Badminton, Soccer and Swimming.
- **Partnerships:** CSP continued strong collaboration working with National governing bodies of sport and supporting a cofunded sports development officer with Swim Ireland and Badminton Ireland. CSP will welcome the addition of a Cavan Walking for all officer, a PeacePlus funded initiative delivered in partnership with Outscape.

Xcessible programme: CSP achieved bronze award in 2025. This is a national inclusive programme designed for National Governing Bodies of sport and Local sports partnership to positively and meaningful provide opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in sport and physical activity.



Grants: €11,729 was awarded to 46 sports clubs and community through an equipment grant. **€25,000** was allocated to 4 outdoor swimming infrastructure projects in Arva, Barnagrow, Virginia and Killeshandra. Participation nation funding 3v3 basketball courts and biodiversity projects were delivered in Con smith park, Cavan and Morrissey Park, Belturbet.

Strategic Plans: CSP supported the development of the Cavan Local Sports Plan

and Outdoor recreation plan 2025-2030, local authority-led action from the National Sports Policy. This five-year plan, launched in 2025 aims to map sports participation, activity, and infrastructure development across Cavan, ensuring a comprehensive, whole-council approach to supporting sport and physical activity.



Comhairle na nÓg

A revised Service Level Agreement was signed between Cavan County Council and Monaghan Youth Federation CLG (T/A Youth Work Ireland or YWI). This relates to their facilitation of Cavan Comhairle na nÓg from 1st January 2026 to 3rd March 2027, being the end of the current tender period.

The Comhairle Annual Youth Conference (AYC) 2025 took place on 11th of November in the Cavan Crystal Hotel. 9 post primary schools in Co. Cavan participated. 15 new members were recruited from the AYC for 2026.

The issues identified by Cavan Comhairle at the AYC in 2025 were:

1. The lack of transport services and infrastructure and
2. The lack of facilities / leisure options for young people in Co. Cavan.

Pride of Place Competition 2025

The Pride of Place Competition recognises community-led initiatives that demonstrate positive social, cultural and environmental impact across the island of

Ireland. The 2025 Awards Ceremony took place on 7 November 2025 in Limerick. County Cavan was represented across a number of categories:

1. **Climate Action and Biodiversity:** Bailieborough Community SMART Garden & Biodiversity Corridor (Killann Parish Green Group)
2. **Community Tourism Initiative:** The Bailieborough Bridewell Visitor Centre (Bailieborough Development Association)
3. **Urban Neighbourhoods and Housing Estates:** Drumnaveil Estate, Cootehill (Drumnaveil Residents Association)
4. **Inclusive Communities:** Kingspan Breffni: age friendly tours of stadium and museum, disability accessibility as well as family friendly autism space. (Cavan County GAA Health & Wellbeing Committee)



Cavan County GAA Health & Wellbeing Committee was awarded First Place in the Inclusive Communities Category, representing a significant achievement and national recognition for inclusive community practice.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark



Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark

Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark is jointly managed by Cavan County Council and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council under a Memorandum of Understanding. The Geopark Committee is made up of elected representatives and senior management from both Councils who meet on a quarterly basis with an AGM held annually in June. After a revalidation process in July 2023, the Geopark was in 2024 ratified through Global Geopark Networks Council as retaining its UNESCO Global Geopark status until March 2028. Revalidation of the UNESCO Geopark accreditation will take place in Summer 2027.

Since its designation as a UNESCO Global Geopark, Cuilcagh Lakelands Geopark has become a leading example of how natural heritage can drive sustainable regional development. The Geopark has successfully combined environmental conservation, sustainable tourism growth, education, and community engagement into a cohesive model of rural regeneration showcasing regenerative tourism and conservation.

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In early 2025 the Taoiseach announced a Shared Destination project which included the €6m investment into Cuilcagh Lakelands Geopark which will see interpretation and trail developments across Fermanagh and Cavan which will expand and connect the trail network throughout the cross-border region further elevating the area as a leading regenerative tourism destination.

The funding will enable the delivery on key interventions identified in the Cuilcagh Masterplan including new visitor amenities at Glangevlin for which concept plans are tendered



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council



Shared Island Destination Projects Launch

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The first-ever Burren Bites: A Taste of Time took place at Cavan Burren Park in June 2025. This unique food trail experience offered an immersive journey through the stunning landscapes, stories, and flavours of Cuilcagh Lakelands Geopark. Participants enjoyed a guided walk through one of Ireland's most remarkable prehistoric sites, accompanied by Geopark Ambassadors who shared insights into its rich geology and archaeology. Along the trail, guests were treated to a six-course tasting menu created in collaboration with over 20 local producers from Cavan and Fermanagh. Live traditional music added to the atmosphere, blending culture and nature in a truly memorable way. With strong support from local Councils, communities, and visitors, Burren Bites marks a milestone in the Geopark's tourism offering, celebrating local food, heritage, and place.



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The Geopark continued to contribute to and participate in key stakeholder events in 2025 showcasing the region including;



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

- Shared Island Dialogue Event – Dublin Castle
- Irish Sea Cooperation Belfast Symposium & Regenerative Tourism session
Belfast Symposium
- FODC Tourism Conference – Tourism through a Regenerative Lens
- Irish UNESCO Global Geoparks Forum in Burren and Cliffs of Moher Geopark
- AVEA (Association of Visitor Experiences and Attractions) Conference
- Irish Association Adventure Tourism Conference
- Northern Ireland Tourism Alliance (NITA) Conference
- Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Tourism Conference

Shannon Pot/Cavan Burren Park Discovery Centre

The Geopark continues to work in partnership with Fáilte Ireland under their Platforms for Growth: A Programme for Tourism Investment (2019-2022) for Platform 1: Immersive Heritage and Cultural Attractions in developing and delivering a world class visitor experience in West Cavan in the northern region of Ireland's Hidden Heartlands (IHH) at Shannon Pot Discovery Centre and Cavan Burren Park.

Work on the new Visitor Centre at the Shannon Pot has reached an exciting milestone, with the project now entering an advanced stage of construction. Once complete, the Visitor Centre and upgraded trails will provide an enriched and welcoming experience for all who visit this treasured natural landmark. The commercial plan for the operation of the centre has commenced and the interpretation design and fitout is currently being developed. The Designated Activity Company was established for Shannon Pot with the Board of Director appointed in June 2025.

The project has received funding of €7.4m from Fáilte Ireland as well as €2.6m in match funding by Cavan County Council. The attraction will incorporate an exhibition, along with reception, café, retail shop, public amenities and a new 500-metre walking trail. Once complete, the project is expected to drive over €30m visitor spend and attract over 600,000 visitors by 2036, while creating 10 new jobs in the region as well as supporting many ancillary jobs and businesses in the region.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council



Shannon Pot DAC Board of Directors



Shannon Pot Discovery Centre

Geopark Regenerative Tourism Network 2025 Programme

In 2025 the Geopark launched the fourth Sustainable and Regenerative Tourism Training Programme welcoming a further 11 businesses from across Cuilcagh Lakelands Geopark to participate in this engaging and informative programme. The 14-week programme, includes modules on energy and water management, Leave No Trace, biodiversity, accessibility and sustainability storytelling. On successful completion of the programme, participants joined the Geopark's established Regenerative Tourism Business Network. This initiative offers access to Ireland's leading Regenerative Tourism Business Network and work towards establishing their carbon footprint as well as creating tailored Sustainability Action Plans whilst learning from industry experts.



Geopark Regenerative Tourism Network - 2025

Cuilcagh Lakelands Geopark Ambassador Programme 2025

Cuilcagh Lakelands Geopark, successfully launched the 2025 Geopark Ambassadors Programme in November recruiting 20 new participants for an 8-week training programme. This blended learning experience, delivered both online and in-person included expert-led modules on UNESCO Global Geoparks, local heritage, accessibility and inclusion, event management, and tour guiding. Participants visited key Geopark sites learning from other heritage-focused initiatives and social enterprises across the island of Ireland. Ambassadors gained a deeper understanding of the Geopark's unique built, natural and cultural heritage, and the skills needed to communicate this effectively to those who live and visit the Geopark, to ensure it is cherished and preserved for future generations to enjoy. Ambassadors are local champions who share the stories, heritage and beauty of the landscape.



Funded Projects 2025

Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Fund continues to fund trail and recreation amenity development across the Geopark. Cuilcagh Lakelands Geopark, in partnership with Cavan County Council, is delighted to have been awarded significant funding through the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) to enhance outdoor amenities across the region, with the Geopark playing a central role in improving trail infrastructure, promoting heritage, and expanding access to nature. The funding reflects the Geopark's commitment to accessible sustainable recreational infrastructure, community engagement, and environmental stewardship. Some examples of ORIS projects funded in 2025 include;

- Upgrade and extension to existing riverside trail at Ballyconnell Canal
- Upgrades to two trails in Castle Saunderson Demesne - the Castle Trail and Jetty Trail
- Upgrades to Giant's Leap and Tullygobban Trails in Cavan Burren Park
- Upgrade and enhancement of existing Geopark sites

Turbet Island, Belturbet Upgrade

The Geopark funded an enhancement in trail provision at Turbet and links to Belturbet Heritage Railway Station. Improvements included upgraded fencing, interpretation and trail surface. Turbet Island is a key site within Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark



Shared Island Civic Society Fund



Shared Island Civic Society Funding Launch of Community Led Regenerative Tourism Model

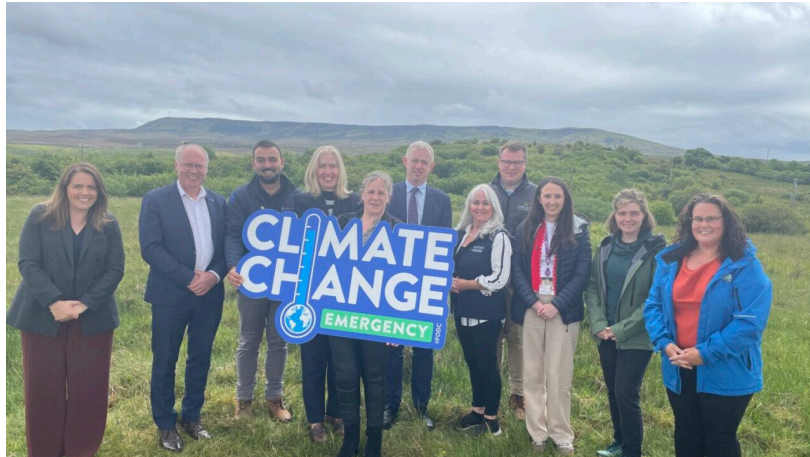
The Geopark in partnership with Ballyhoura Development CLG secured €25,000 in funding under the 2025 Shared Island Civic Society Fund. The funding will support Connecting Tourism Communities: a cross-border initiative aimed at strengthening collaboration between tourism communities, networks and organisations. The project is rooted in the principles of community-led regenerative tourism and seeks to build lasting North–South civic relationships through shared learning.

Earlier in 2025 as part of phase one of the project, community and tourism business representatives from across the Geopark participated in a shared learning journey exchange with a focus on engaging sustainable tourism communities.

This collaboration facilitates learning exchanges between tourism and social

enterprise businesses in both regions, exploring themes and best practice examples of sustainable and regenerative tourism.

Cross Border Shared Island Scoping Peatland Project Launch



Peace Plus Peat Plus Project

The Geopark is a partner in a major €19.2 million cross-border project to restore peatlands, enhance biodiversity and combat climate change. The PEAT+ Project is led by nature conservation charity Ulster Wildlife and is funded by PEACEPLUS, a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB). Delivery partners alongside Cuilcagh Lakelands Geopark and Fermanagh & Omagh District Council in the project include Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon District Council; Atlantic Technological University (ATU) Donegal; Crichton Carbon Centre; Newry, Mourne & Down District Council; Mourne Heritage Trust; and RTÉ; along with associate partners NI Water and National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS). The project will deliver large-scale peatland restoration across Northern Ireland and the border counties of Ireland on 19 priority sites over the next three years and will include innovation and research along with promoting the heritage of our peatlands.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Finance, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Emergency Services

Finance

The provision of accurate and timely financial information in respect of all Council services and ensuring appropriate effective internal control procedures are in place. The Finance Department plays an important role in the support and delivery of services. It deals with the financial management and financing of the Authority's operations, both of a revenue and capital nature, across all Service Divisions.

The primary objectives are to:

- Achieve the financial objectives of the Council's Corporate Plan
- Provide and promote the best financial management and practices throughout the Council.
- Manage the financial affairs of the Council.
- Ensure that statutory and financial accounting principles which apply to all County Council financial transactions are complied with.
- Ensure that adequate internal controls are in operation to safeguard the assets of the Organisation and ensure the accuracy and reliability of the accounting records.
- Ensure that value for money is achieved throughout the Organisation.

Loans

In 2025 Cavan County Council had 134 loans to customers, which resulted in mortgage payments of €491,974. Cavan County Council continued to proactively engage with customers who have found themselves in unsustainable arrears positions.

Payroll Function

Payroll involves the processing and payment of wages including deduction of P.A.Y.E., P.R.S.I., other statutory, non-statutory deductions and completion of all relevant returns.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

In 2025 payroll managed payments to over 550 individuals which included full and part time staff, retained firefighters, elected members and pensioners. The total cost of payroll was 41.1m.

Rates

A total of 2,479 Rate Demands were issued for the year 2025 which resulted in a total levy of €19,700,677. The effective valuation in Co. Cavan in 2025 was €79,668,779 and the multiplier set by the elected members for 2025 was 0.2432. An amount of €17,585,775 was receipted in respect of commercial rates for the year ending 31st December 2025. The overall collection percentage for commercial rates was 84% for the year-ending 31st December 2025.

The Small Business Rates Incentive Scheme was introduced during 2022. The Scheme is a credit of 5% of the annual rates liability for all businesses who pay their annual rates liability by 31st October each year or have complied with an agreement to discharge their rates liability in full by 31st December 2025. The discount is applied to the rate account at the end of the financial year which will result in a credit on the customer account. There is no application process for this incentive.

The objectives of the Scheme are:

- To reduce the operational overheads of businesses in County Cavan.
- To provide a cash flow advantage to businesses that pay the annual Commercial Rates Liability early.
- To provide a targeted support for the SME sector in relation to Commercial Rates.
- To demonstrate the Council's commitment to the economic development and regeneration of County Cavan.

The incentive applied to businesses in County Cavan who have an annual Commercial Rates Liability of less than or equal to €10,000 per rated property for



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

2025. An amount of €151,377.07 was paid out under the Scheme in respect of 1,356 rated properties.

Procurement

Our Mission Statement

“To ensure that Cavan County Council’s Procurement function is discharged with probity, transparency, and accountability, adheres to EU/National Law and National guidelines, and operates in the most efficient and effective way to support value for money purchasing while achieving the required standards to deliver quality services to the citizens of County Cavan”.

Procurement

The Council’s procurement function continues to operate in accordance with the principles and proper foundation of the current Corporate Procurement Plan 2023 – 2025 (Version 2) which was launched in April 2023, while also remaining intrinsically linked to the principles and strategic objectives of the organisation’s Corporate Plan. The Corporate Procurement Plan Strongly promotes the use of Sustainable Public Procurement practices through the appropriate and suitable use of Social Considerations and Green Public Procurement measures.

The New Version of the Councils Procurement Procedure Manual (Version 9) came into effect from the 01/01/2024. The manual provides guidance to staff on the day-to-day procurement operational issues and is updated in line with the new OGP Public Procurement Guidelines for Goods and Services Version 3.

The roll out of the new eTenders system continued into 2024. The Procurement Officer and members of the Central Tendering Administration Unit (CTA Unit) continued to manage the new system and administer tender competitions through it as well as managing the old eTenders portal.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

The CTA Unit completed the process of archiving all the tender competitions on the old eTender portal to secure council electronic folders. The old eTender portal is due to be closed for good in May 2025. (This deadline was extended from May 2024).

The councils proposed Green Public Procurement Strategy was drafted and is awaiting the outcome from the DPENDR Consultation process currently underway to replace Circular 20/2019 in light of the DECC Green Public Procurement Strategy and Action Plan 2024-2027 document. It is envisaged that the Councils Draft GPP Strategy will have to be amended in line with the relevant outcome and then presented to the SMT and CE for further consideration.

New EU Procurement Thresholds came into effect from 1st January 2024 and are revised every 2 years.

The New EU Thresholds are:-

- €221,000 ex VAT for (Goods) Supplies and / or Services
- €5,538,000 ex VAT for Works

During 2024, substantial challenges also remained in respect of supply difficulties and delays, price inflation, increase in fuel and energy costs etc. Throughout the year the Procurement Officer and Members of the CTA Unit continued to champion procurement protocols and procedures and provided management and staff with the relevant procurement advice and support as and when required.

Procurement guidance and training was provided to council staff through various support tools, updated Procurement Procedure Manual and Procurement Training/Information Tutorial videos. In addition to this the Procurement Officer delivered inhouse procurement training to staff members across various Sections and Departments. The Procurement Steering Group also continued to hold their quarterly meetings online throughout the year.

The Procurement Officer continued to manage Cavan County Council's new electronic



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Quarterly Public Procurement Monitoring Report App, which is used to provide the Chief Executive with a quarterly report on the procurement compliance of all Departments within the organisation.

Procurement assistance was provided to all Departments and Sections throughout the Organisation. In 2024 - **196** Procurement Competitions were advertised by the CTA Unit. This was a **10%** decrease on the previous year. **121** of these were through the etenders portal (**49** Quotation Competitions and **72** Tender Competitions) and a further **75** Tender Competitions through the Supplygov system.

Continued compliance with The Public Spending Code

In 2024 the Procurement Officer also coordinated, compiled and submitted the Cavan County Council's Quality Assurance report for 2023 to the National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC) as required under the Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform.

The report noted that the checklists completed by Cavan County Council showed a high level of compliance with the Public Spending Code and the in-depth checks carried out on a selection of projects / programmes revealed no major issues which would cast doubt on the Council's compliance with the Code.

Cavan County Council's report coordinated by the Procurement Officer contained: -

- An inventory list for 2023 (totalling **€977,824816.96**) identified **143** Projects / Programmes (**40** Current Expenditure and **103** Capital Expenditure), whose expenditure / estimated lifetime cost exceeded €0.5m.
 - Out of the **143** Projects/Programmes: -
 - **31** projects / programmes were being considered in 2023.
 - **104** projects / programmes incurred expenditure in 2023.
 - **8** projects / programmes ended in 2023.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

- A summary of all procurements above €10m listed **2** projects, however there were **no** new projects in 2023.
- A completed set of checklists (7 in total) for the whole organisation based on **18 samples** taken across the organisation, representing **30%** of the total value of relevant expenditure in the 2023 inventory list.
- A summary of the Internal Auditors in-depth checks representing: -
 - **1%** of the total value of all Current (revenue) Expenditure projects / programmes identified in the Inventory list for 2023 and
 - **28%** of the total value of all Capital Expenditure projects / programmes identified in the Inventory list for 2023. (The Average % over the 3-year period (2021-2023) of Capital Projects / Programmes selected for In-Depth Check(s) (based on value) was **12%**).

Internal Audit

Internal Audit provides an independent appraisal function charged with conducting reviews on the policies, plans, procedures and performances of the organisation. The prime objective is to assess the adequacy and effectiveness of the internal controls within Cavan County Council. The role of Internal Audit contributes to the economic and efficient use of resources and is very much a core element of good corporate governance which is pivotal to achieving the main priorities of the Council's Corporate Plan.

The core control areas examined include:

- Accounting and management systems
- Compliance with internal controls
- Adequacy and integrity of the financial data produced
- Compliance with laws and regulations
- Exposure to fraud and / or corruption
- Effective use and safeguarding of assets
- Economic, efficient and effective use of resources



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

It is the policy of Cavan County Council to maintain and support a professional Internal Audit function in accordance with the Internal Audit Charter. All Council's activities and services fall within the remit of Internal Audit function. The Internal Auditor reports directly to the Chief Executive and the Audit Committee on a quarterly basis.

Value for Money

Local Authorities including Cavan County Council operate in an environment that requires accountability and transparency of all management decisions taken. The Council must ensure that all services operate in an economical, efficient and effective manner with an increased emphasis placed on achieving Value for Money and maximising performance levels throughout the organisation.

Annual Audit Plan 2025

The Annual Audit Plan for 2025 as approved by the Executive of the Council sets out specific audit reviews to be undertaken based on the availability of staff resources and the potential risks identified by the Directors of Service, the Audit Committee the Local Government Auditor and risk areas highlighted by the LGIAN.

As the priorities of the Local Authority evolve Internal Audit's work practices and audit techniques ensure it operates in the most professional and effective manner possible to provide maximum audit coverage and assurance to Senior Management and the Audit Committee.

Internal Audit Work - 2025

During 2025 the audit work programme incorporated control inspections in the Motor Tax Office, the Customer Service Desk and Cavan Town Hall.

Specific audits reviews covered the Council's, Creative Ireland Programme, Leo Services, Planned Maintenance & Void Programme, Low Value Purchase Card Procedures, Local & Regional Road's OR Maintenance Programme for 2024, Super Annuation Schemes- LGSS & SPS, Community Recognition Funding Programme,



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Fixed Assets Register Procedures, Annual Review of SICAP- the Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme for 2024 as managed by the Programme Implementor on behalf of the LCDC.

As part of the Annual Public Spending Code In-depth Review Process two capital project and one revenue expenditure programme were assessed. These included - the Ballyjamesduff Community & Enterprise Hub Capital Project with an estimated project cost of approx. €10m, the Housing Capital Housing Programme- Pairc Na Teile, Bailieborough with projected expenditure of approx. €14m and the Current Revenue Expenditure Programme E07- the Waste Regulations, Monitoring & Enforcement Programme with expenditure incurred as per the AFS €1,571,875.

Internal Audit also undertook the necessary Article 48 Leader Funding Checking Procedures on behalf of the Council covering eighteen project applications valued at €1,136,860 and 16 expenditure claims amounting to €641,474.

Various audit requests from the Local Government Auditors were processed with the effectiveness of Internal Audit considered as a key factor in the Local Government Auditor's assessment of the controlled environment of the Local Authority.

Audit Committee

The Local Government Reform Act 2014 provided statutory effect to the Action Programme for effective Local Government and re-stated the legislative provisions relating to audit committees.

The Audit Committee has an independent role in advising the Council on financial reporting processes, internal control, risk management and audit matters as part of the systematic review of the control environment and governance procedures of Cavan County Council.

The current Audit Committee was established by resolution upon nomination by the Corporate Policy Group of the Local Authority and following consultation with the



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Chief Executive. Their term of office commenced on 1st June 2024 and will terminate on 31st May 2029.

The (AC) Audit Committee members are as follows:

<i>June 2024 – May 2029</i>
• Sonia McEntee (Chairperson)
• Gerard Kelly
• Sean Corcoran
• Cllr Carmel Brady
• Cllr Philip Brady

The Audit Committee met on four occasions in 2025. They have a crucial role in the governance framework of Cavan County Council, particularly in the context of scarce resources, risk management, and public sector accountability.

During the year the committee met with the Chief Executive Mr Eoin Doyle and various line managers to discuss a broad range of issues. Areas of priority included the Annual Budgets and Financial Statements, the Internal Audit Charters, the Annual Internal Audit Work Programme.

Internal Audit Overview

Internal Audit is proactively working with management to provide assurance that the existing internal controls and processes are sufficient to optimise the objectives set out in the Corporate Plan. This annual report highlights some of main activities performed by Internal Audit in 2025 that were key to identifying and addressing any significant risks facing the Council.

As always Internal Audit is committed to responding to the changing demands of Cavan Local Authority and will endeavour to optimise its governance contribution to the organisation in accordance with the Strategic Internal Audit Plan.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Based on the audit reviews undertaken reasonable assurance was provided to all relevant stakeholders that the operations and governance structures of the organisation incorporate best management practices, value for money principles, accountability and transparency that ensures maximum efficiencies are achieved.

Motor Taxation

Cavan County Council's Motor Tax Section is responsible for:

- Issue of Vehicle Licence
- Issue of duplicate Registration Books, Receipts and Trade Plates for motor traders
- Processing change of ownerships and refunds.
- Issuing S103's and CT53's Certificates

There was little change in the number of public attending the Motor Tax Office in 2025 to conduct their business. This was reflected in the revenue intake of €3,041,205 reporting a small decrease of €19,920 on 2024 figure (€3,061,125).

Breakdown of income and transactions:

Category	Total Transactions	Total Income
Vehicle Licences	14,008	€2,708,065
Trade Licences	66	€23,298
Miscellaneous Receipts	1,819	€19,404
Arrears	3,399	€290,438
Total	19,292	€3,041,205

Motor Tax Online:

In addition, 77,061 transactions were processed online. The Motor Tax Online Service is available to owners of private cars, motorcycles, agricultural tractors, exempt vehicles, motor caravans and commercial vehicles for renewal. Customers are encouraged to avail of the online service by logging onto www.motortax.ie.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil

Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Service Indicators

M.1 Number & Percentage of Motor Tax Transactions	2025
Number which are dealt with over the counter	15,529
Number which are dealt with by post	3,112
% which are dealt with over the counter	83.30%
% which are dealt with by post	16.70%
M.2 Time Taken to Process Motor Tax Postal Applications	
Number which are dealt with on the same day as receipt of the application	3065
Number which are dealt with on the 2nd or 3rd day from receipt of application	19
Number which are dealt with on the 4th or 5th day from receipt of the application	2
Number which are dealt with in over 6 days from receipt of the application	26
% which are dealt with on the same day as receipt of the application	98.48%
% which are dealt with on the 2nd or 3rd day from receipt of the application	0.61%
% which are dealt with on the 4th or 5th day from receipt of the application	0.07%
% which are dealt with in over 5 days from receipt of the application	0.84%
M.4 Public opening hours	
Average number of opening hours per week	27.5



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil

Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Information and Communications Technology (ICT)

The ICT (Information and Communication Technology) Section reports to the Head of Finance & IT and provides Information and Communication Technology (ICT) services for Cavan County Council and is also a key driver in process improvement across the organisation.

During 2024 the IT Dept worked on several key infrastructure, systems, digital and security projects. We also continued to provide user support to our workforce in the new hybrid working environment. Calls to our IT support desk increased by over 13% on 2025 figures and represents the tenth successive year for an increase in requests.

Geographic Information Systems.

The Council's Geographic Information System (GIS) continued to enhance our range of geospatial data and to support the business areas with the provision of mapping related technologies:

- New GIS map viewer implementer.
- Dataset upgrades to Taking in Charge, Property Activation, biodiversity and National LPIS.
- Extended use of GIS dashboards to assist decision makers.

Network Infrastructure.

The Council's network infrastructure is essential to the delivery of services, and the IT Department is responsible for maintaining the availability and security of all ICT systems and services. Projects in this area included:

- Replacement and implementation of UPS on main infrastructure.
- Infrastructure installation at Lynton House.
- Telephony upgrade at LEO & CITC offices and town car park.
- New asset management system for IT assets implemented.

Digital Communities.

The section continued to play a major role in the promotion of the digital inclusion, skills development and adoption of digital tools in the community. During 2025, some notable projects and work completed



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

included:

- BCP National VEX Robotics Competition and Robotics workshops in local schools.
- Hosted AI & VR workshops
- Produced virtual walk through for Upper Lavey graveyard.
- Cavan Connects Innovation Conference held in Town Hall.

Digital Transformation

The Digital Transformation Team is responsible for delivering the organisation's digital transformation programme, which aims to improve processes, enhance efficiency, and create better experiences for both staff and citizens. In 2025 we delivered:

- Online system for Peace V Projects to increase efficiency & reporting.
- Lead local authority on online solution for Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant.
- Rapid application deployment as part of storm response.
- Tender completed for new online forms and CRM system to facilitate digital service delivery and better overall citizen experience.

ICT Security.

The cyber security function protects the Council's ICT systems, data, and network infrastructure by monitoring threats, managing vulnerabilities, and responding to security incidents. It also promotes good security practices across the organisation, ensuring users follow policies and procedures that keep systems and citizen information secure.

- CIS Controls security gap analysis conducted.
- External and internal penetration tests carried out.
- Secure access management system for third parties implemented.
- Cyber security awareness training and simulated phishing attacks delivered to all staff.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Operations.

The operational area of the IT Dept is responsible for the day-to-day technical support to all staff users and elected members of Cavan County Council. Notable tasks completed in 2025 were:

- Ongoing programme of software and firmware upgrades.
- Review of mobile phone administration, policies and connections.
- Upgrade of CORE, iPlan, iHouse & iReg systems.
- 5,794 Support requests logged.
- New AI controls and policy implemented. AI awareness training conducted.
- Upgrade of all Windows 10 systems

Fire Service

Cavan County Fire Service provides a critical statutory emergency response to communities across the county through our ten retained fire brigades. Operating on a 24-hour basis, 365 days per year, our 111 firefighters responded to over 700 incidents, including fires, road traffic collisions, alarm activations, ambulance assists, severe weather incidents and supports to local authority outdoor crews. Our service also provided for cross-border assistance to neighbouring fire authorities, while we also supporting cross-border fire safety initiatives and campaigns.



CN18 Belturbet Station Officer, John Flynn attended the launch of the national campaign. Northern Ireland Fire Service (NIFS) and National Directorate for Fire and Emergency management (NDFEM) aiming to enhance fire safety in the home



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

In addition to the frontline response, the Fire Service also plays a central role in fire prevention, community fire safety and the planning for major emergency management on behalf of Cavan County Council. Our service operates in accordance with national fire services policies, as set out in Keeping Community Safe, and as per the major emergency management framework, with policy oversight from the National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management (NDFEM).

On 1 July 2025, a new Chief Fire Officer was appointed, bringing over 25 years' experience from other Fire Authorities. The appointment strengthened our strategic leadership role across fire operations, fire prevention, training, emergency planning, major emergency coordination and building control.

Throughout the year, the Fire Service played a role in collaborating and coordinating a response to a number of significant severe weather events during 2025, including Storm Éowyn, Storm Amy and Storm Bram. Emergency response activities included the activation of Cavan County Councils Severe Weather Assessment Team (SWAT) meetings. These meeting ensured that Met Éireann alerts were monitored and that responses were prioritised to ensure the deployment of resources to high-risk locations. Operational activities included clearing fallen trees and debris, implementing of traffic management and road closures, flood response and pumping operations, and supporting community welfare measures.

A proposed multi-annual capital investment programme for the period 2026–2030 was also submitted to the NDFEM, identifying priority projects to modernise fire stations, improve firefighter welfare and strengthen operational readiness. This included a proposal for an extension and upgrade of Kingscourt Fire Station. Fleet investment was also advanced, with capital funding secured for new fire service vehicles to replace ageing appliances. An 8,000-litre refurbished water tanker was also commissioned, enhancing firefighting capability.

Training and competency assurances remained central to our service delivery and to ensure firefighter safety. Firefighters completed over a thousand training days, across locally delivered and nationally accredited programmes, ensuring compliance with national standards and operational readiness. Training focused on Breathing Apparatus

certification, Emergency Services Driving Standard (ESDS), road traffic collision, pump operations, chainsaw use and transport incident management. Peer support and mental wellbeing initiatives were also provided.



Cathaoirleach, Cllr John Paul Feeley together with Director of Service, Margaret McNally congratulated firefighters on completing a QQI Level 6 Pump Operators course.

Fire prevention and community risk reduction strategies continued as core elements of service delivery. Community fire safety engagement was expanded through school and youth group visits, fire station open days, national fire safety campaigns and other targeted initiatives aimed at vulnerable persons. These activities complement our emergency response functions by reducing risk, promoting safe behaviours and enforce prevention as a shared responsibility.



September: Kingscourt Fire Brigade representatives (CN13) delivered a fire safety awareness workshop, with a live demo to approximately 500 students at Coláiste Dún an Rí, Kingscourt.



CN11 promoting fire safety and careers in the Fire Service in St. Patrick's College, Cavan.

A range of premises including public houses, hotels, restaurants, community halls, clubs, petrol stations and other licensed buildings were inspected during the year as per legislative requirements. While ensuring that such buildings are maintaining their own fire safety standards it is also worth noting that a significant update, applicable to new buildings, on fire safety building regulations came into effect on 1st May 2025. The updated Technical Guidance Document – B (Fire Safety) reflects significant changes

in how buildings are designed and constructed, noting the increased use of modern construction methods and innovative materials.

Civil Defence

Cavan's Civil Defence is a voluntary-based emergency and community support organisation who operates under the auspices of Cavan County Council and form part of a national Civil Defence service, under the policy oversight of the Department of Defence. The service provides a vital capability at local level, supporting our communities and our partnering Principal Response Agencies (HSE and An Garda Síochana) before, during and after emergency events.

The core role of Civil Defence is to assist the statutory emergency services by providing humanitarian, welfare, medical, search, logistical and support functions, while also delivering a range of community-based services that enhance resilience and preparedness. This locally delivered, nationally coordinated model ensures a consistent and effective emergency support capability aligned with national emergency management arrangements.



November 2025: Secretary – General of Department of Defence Jacqui McCrum acknowledged and thanked the CDO and Volunteers for their sustained commitment to their communities

In 2025, Civil Defence marked 75 years of service in Ireland, a significant milestone reflecting the long-standing contribution of volunteers to public service and community resilience. This anniversary was commemorated through a range of local and national events, highlighting the continued relevance and professionalism of the organisation.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council



September: 48 Volunteers along with Cathaoirleach John Paul Feeley and Director of Service, Margaret McNally attend a function in NUI Maynooth to mark the 75th Anniversary of Civil Defence in Ireland. Commemorative Medals were presented to the Volunteers by Minister of State at the Department of the Taoiseach, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Department of Defence, Thomas Byrne T.D. & The Secretary General at the Department of Defence Ms. Jacqui McCrumb

In 2025, Cavan's Civil Defence strong complement, of approximately 80 trained volunteers, demonstrated their exceptional commitment to our local communities by supporting emergency responses, public events and vulnerable individual's county wide. In the recovery phase of Storm Éowyn (January 2025) Civil Defence activated its Community Hub, providing welfare and humanitarian support to affected communities. Welfare checks on vulnerable persons, the provision of hot food and shelter, and direct support to emergency coordination teams was provided. In total, over 160 other operational and community support duties were also completed. These included blood transfusion clinics, medical cover for major sporting and cultural events, patient and wheelchair transport, missing person searches, flood response operations and cross-county assistance to other Civil Defence units.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council



In line with national Civil Defence priorities and emerging operational needs, Civil Defence in Cavan continued to strengthen its specialist capabilities during 2025. This included the enhancement of drone operations, with the delivery of a Matrice 4TD drone, strengthening our aerial search and situational awareness capabilities. Boat operations were further developed through powerboating certification, supporting flood response and water-based incidents, while continued investment in emergency medical and cardiac first response training enhanced the organisation's ability to provide early intervention care.



Building Control Authority

The Building Control Authority's primary function is to safeguard the health, safety and welfare of people in and about buildings by promoting and monitoring compliance with the Building Regulations and associated legislation. In delivering this statutory role, the service contributes to the development of safe, accessible, sustainable and high-quality buildings, in line with national building control objectives.

Cavan County Council delivers its Building Control function as part of the national shared-service model for building control and construction product market surveillance, working in close partnership with the National Building Control and Market Surveillance Office (NBCMSO) and the other 30 Building Control Authorities.



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

This collaborative approach supports a consistent, robust and standardised system of building control across the State and promotes a culture of compliance among building owners, designers, builders and certifiers.

Throughout the year, a steady level of building control activity was maintained, reflecting ongoing residential, commercial and public development across the county. The Building Control Authority continued to work closely with the Fire Authority and the Planning Department to ensure integrated oversight of development proposals and completed buildings. Joint inspections with the Fire Service and engagement with design and construction professionals strengthened regulatory compliance, improved inter-agency co-operation and supported knowledge sharing across services.

In line with the national mission to promote compliance with the Construction Products Regulation, Cavan County Council remained actively involved in the national construction products market surveillance programme. This work was undertaken in conjunction with the NBCMSO and other Local Authorities.

Through inspections, enforcement where necessary, guidance to stakeholders and participation in national oversight and market surveillance programmes, the Building Control Authority continued to support a culture of compliance and accountability within the construction sector.



September 2025: On-site Building Control inspection, in conjunction with the National Building Control Office (NBCO)



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil

Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Appendices

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Cavan County Council - AFS2025 Un-audited (28.04.2026)

SUMMARY OF REVENUE EXPENDITURE AND INCOME ACCOUNT 2025

	2025 €'000	2024 €'000
Expenditure (A)	113,142	109,191
Receipts		
State Grants	62,688	59,813
Good & Services	18,093	19,063
Commercial Rates	19,701	17,622
Other Local Authorities	258	306
Local Government Fund	12,403	12,386
Total Income (B)	113,143	109,191
(Deficit)/Surplus (B-A=C)	1	0
Opening Revenue		
Balance as at 1st January (D)	1,744	1,744
Closing Revenue		
Closing Balance as at 31st December (C+D+E)	1,745	1,744

Revenue Expenditure 2025

	€'000	% of total Expenditure
Housing and Building	22,742	20.10%
Road, Transport and Safety	32,579	28.79%
Water Supply and Sewerage	11,551	10.21%
Development Incentives and Control	12,944	11.44%
Environmental Services	13,824	12.22%
Recreation and Amenity	9,645	8.52%
Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare	678	0.60%
Miscellaneous	5,589	4.94%
Transfer to Capital	3,591	3.17%
Total	113,142	100.00%



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil

Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

Revenue Income 2025

	€'000	% of total Income
Housing and Building	23,331	20.62%
Road, Transport and Safety	22,921	20.26%
Water Supply and Sewerage	10,832	9.57%
Development Incentives and Control	6,739	5.96%
Environmental Services	5,437	4.80%
Recreation and Amenity	3,217	2.84%
Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare	521	0.46%
Miscellaneous	8,043	7.11%
Rates	19,701	17.41%
Local Government Fund	12,403	10.96%
Total	113,143	100.00%

SUMMARY OF CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND INCOME ACCOUNT 2025

	2025 Expenditure €'000	2025 Income €'000
Programme Group		
Housing and Building	37,091	31,746
Road, Transport and Safety	13,306	10,736
Water Supply and Sewerage	323	323
Development Incentives and Control	3,564	3,987
Environmental Services	2,461	2,209
Recreation and Amenity	7,368	5,630
Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare	0	0
Miscellaneous	2,810	5,426
Total	66,923	60,055

	2025 €'000
Opening Balance (Debit)/Credit as at 1st January	23,864
Expenditure	66,923
Income	60,055
Transfers to Revenue	1,737
Net Transfers from Revenue Account	4,952
Closing Balance (Debit)/Credit as at 31st December	20,211



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council

An Roinn Tithíochta,
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta
Department of Housing,
Local Government and Heritage



CAVAN COUNTY COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF INTERNAL FINANCIAL CONTROL (SIFC)

Introduction

I, Eoin Doyle, Chief Executive (CE) of Cavan County Council am responsible for the annual financial statement (AFS), prepared by the Head of Finance, in accordance with the accounting code of practice issued by the Minister under section 107 of the Local Government Act, 2001.

I certify that the unaudited financial statements of Cavan County Council for the year ended 31 December 2025, are in agreement with the books of account and have been prepared in accordance with the accounting requirements of the Minister of Housing Local Government and Heritage. They are currently being audited by the Local Government Auditor. The Audit is expected to conclude by June 2026.

The AFS is subject to external audit, by an auditor of the Local Government Audit Service, whose purpose is to form an independent opinion of the accounts and state whether the annual financial statement presents *fairly the financial position* of the local authority and of its income and expenditure for the period in question, and whether the transactions of the audited body conform with the statutory or other authorisation under which they purport to have been carried out.

The AFS reports on the day-to-day activity of Cavan County Council in the form of the Statement of Comprehensive Income & Expenditure, summarised by Division. The Statement of Financial Position outlines Cavan County Council's overall financial position as of the 31st of December 2025.

The *Statement of Comprehensive Income* represents expenditure and income on the day-to-day running of Cavan County Council.

The key sources of income for Cavan County Council are as follows:

	2025 €	2024 €
Goods & Services	18,093,414	19,063,151
Grants & Subsidies	62,687,738	59,813,313
Contributions from other Local Authorities	258,648	306,442



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council



Rates	19,700,677	17,622,406
Local Property Tax	12,402,993	12,385,685

Activity on the Income and Expenditure account for 2025 is as follows:

	2025 €	2024 €
Income	113,143,470	109,190,997
Expenditure	109,552,086	105,854,179
Transfers to Capital/Reserves	3,590,519	3,336,517
Exceptional Item	-	-
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year	865	301
Prior Year Adjustment	-	-
Opening Revenue Reserve	1,744,512	1,744,211
Closing Revenue Reserve	1,745,377	1,744,512

The *Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet)* represents the total financial activity of the council for the year together with comparative year figures as appropriate.

The statement includes assets and liabilities as follows:

- Assets both recently constructed/purchased and historical assets
- Work in progress and preliminary schemes- mainly roads and housing
- Long Term Debtors – housing loans
- Current Assets- including Stock, Debtors, Cash at bank
- Current and long term liabilities- mortgage and non-mortgage loan borrowings
- Various Reserves/Balances

The Net Assets of Cavan Council at the end of 2025 total €1,741,372,818 and are as follows:

	2025 €	2024 €
Fixed Assets	1,637,671,994	1,614,121,797
Works in Progress	86,618,881	64,501,615
Long Term debtors	23,184,877	19,154,353
Current Assets	47,243,905	46,192,990



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council



Current Liabilities	22,148,574	17,569,711
Net Current Assets/ (Liabilities)	25,095,331	28,623,279
Creditors (Amounts greater than 1 year)	31,198,266	27,426,100
Net Assets/(Liabilities)	1,741,372,818	1,698,974,943

A *Statement of Funds Flow* was introduced as part of AFS 2011. While the guidance of International Accounting Standard 7 Statement of Cash Flows has been followed, the business of local authorities is substantially different to most private sector organisations and therefore some minor changes to the format have been agreed to ensure the data displayed is meaningful and useful within the local government sector.

System of Internal Financial Controls

As CE of Cavan County Council, I acknowledge my responsibility for ensuring that an effective system of internal financial control is maintained and operated by Cavan County Council. This responsibility is exercised in the context of the resources available to Cavan County Council. Also, any system of internal financial control can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions authorised and properly recorded, and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or would be detected in a timely manner. Maintaining the system of internal financial controls is a continuous process and the system and its effectiveness are kept under ongoing review.

Financial control environment

As CE of Cavan County Council, I confirm that a financial control environment containing the following elements is in place:

- Financial responsibilities have been assigned at management level with corresponding accountability.
- Reporting arrangements have been established at all levels where responsibility for financial management has been assigned.
- Formal procedures have been established for reporting significant control failures and ensuring appropriate corrective action.
- There is an Audit Committee which as part of its work programme regularly review the internal financial control system.
- Procedures for all key business processes have been documented.
- There are systems in place to safeguard the assets.

Administrative Controls and Management Reporting

As CE of Cavan County Council, I confirm that a framework of administrative procedures and regular management reporting is in place including segregation of duties and a system of delegation and accountability and, in particular, that:

- procedures for key business processes have been documented
- there are systems aimed at ensuring the security of the ICT systems



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council



- there are systems in place to safeguard the assets of the local authority and
- there are appropriate capital investment control guidelines and formal project management disciplines in operation.

Procurement compliance

Cavan County Council ensures that there is an appropriate and ongoing focus on good practice in tendering and purchasing and that procedures are in place to ensure compliance with all relevant procurement guidelines.

Internal audit and Audit Committee

As Chief Executive, I can confirm that Cavan County Council has an internal audit function with appropriately trained personnel, which operates in accordance with a written charter. Its work is informed by analysis of the financial risks to which Cavan County Council is exposed and its annual internal audit plans are based on this analysis. I am satisfied that there are procedures in place to ensure that the reports of the internal audit function are followed up.

I can confirm that Cavan County Council has an effective Audit Committee which carries out an annual effectiveness review of their activities. I can also confirm that an Audit Committee is in place in accordance with the requirements of Section 122 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended).

The statutory functions of audit committees as set out in section 59 and 60 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 are as follows:

- to review financial and budgetary reporting practices and procedures within the local authority that has established it;
- to foster the development of best practice in the performance by the local authority of its internal audit function;
- to review any audited financial statement, auditor's report or auditor's special report in relation to the local authority and assess any actions taken within that authority by its chief executive in response to such a statement or report and to report to that authority on its findings;
- to assess and promote efficiency and value for money with respect to the local authority's performance of its functions; and
- to review systems that are operated by the local authority for the management of risks.

I recognise that the audit committee plays a crucial role in the governance framework of local authorities, particularly in the context of increased public sector accountability. They have an independent role in advising the Council on financial reporting processes,



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council



internal control, risk management and audit matters as part of the systematic review of the control environment and governance procedures of the local authority.

I acknowledge the Audit Committee's role in the risk management process and in the continuing review of the control environment and governance procedures in Cavan County Council.

Risk and control framework

Cavan County Council has implemented a risk management system which identifies and reports key risks and the management actions being taken to address and, to the extent possible, mitigate those risks.

A corporate risk register is in place which identifies the key risks and evaluates and grades them according to their significance. The register is reviewed and updated by the Management Team on a regular basis. There is also a risk register in place for each service division and these are also reviewed and updated on a regular basis.

The outcome of these assessments is used to plan and allocate resources to ensure risks are managed to an acceptable level. The risk register details the controls and actions needed to mitigate risks and responsibilities for the operation of controls are assigned to specific staff.

As Chief Executive, I confirm that key risks and related controls have been identified and processes have been put in place to monitor the operation of those key controls and report any identified deficiencies.


The Statement of Internal Financial Control will be included in the draft Annual Report submitted to Council Members and thereafter included in the published Annual Report prepared and adopted by the Council by 30 June 2026.

Signed by:

Dated:



Chief Executive



4th June 2026



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
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Cavan
County Council



Governance Statement

[For transitional use only in advance of full implementation of the Code]

Purpose

The purpose of this governance statement is to provide relevant information on the governance structures and governance arrangements within the local authority including on council, committees, senior management and related areas. It demonstrates our commitment to effective governance, recognises key legislative and good governance requirements and affirms the Council's compliance with the Local Government Code of Governance obligations. Good Governance Fundamentally, good governance in the local government sector and wider public sector is about delivering priorities, achieving objectives, behaving with integrity and acting in the public interest, in ways that are consistent with legal, regulatory and government policy obligations. Governance refers to the framework of rules, relationships, systems and processes by which the local authority is directed, controlled and held to account and whereby authority within an organisation is exercised and maintained. It encompasses authority, accountability, stewardship and leadership, direction and control. Good Governance Principles

CORE PRINCIPLE 1 - Good governance means focusing on the purpose of the authority, on outcomes that deliver sustainable economic, community and wider societal benefits and on implementing a vision for the local authority.

CORE PRINCIPLE 2 - Good governance means promoting and demonstrating public service values through upholding high standards of conduct and behaviour.

CORE PRINCIPLE 3 - Good governance means members and officials working together to achieve a common purpose within a framework of clearly defined functions and roles.

CORE PRINCIPLE 4 - Good governance means developing the organisational capacity and the leadership capability and competencies of members and officials to operate effectively and fulfil the purpose of the organization.

CORE PRINCIPLE 5 - Good governance means taking well-informed and transparent decisions and managing risks and performance.

CORE PRINCIPLE 6 - Good governance means engaging openly and comprehensively with local people, citizens and other stakeholders to ensure robust public accountability.

CORE PRINCIPLE 7 - Good governance means actively contributing to the furtherance and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by delivering on the priorities and actions within the Climate Action Plan and the provisions of the Climate Act



2025 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Annual Report



Comhairle Contae
an Chabháin
Cavan
County Council



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Cavan
County Council

Our Commitment to Good Governance

As the Cathaoirleach/Mayor and Chief Executive of the council, and on behalf of the elected members, management and staff we confirm that;

1. We have adopted the governance principles as the fundamental bedrock and philosophy on how we operate as a governing body and as an executive.
2. The Local Government Code of Governance has been adopted and the extent to which the Council is in compliance with the Code has been reviewed and assessed.
3. The Statement of Internal Financial Control is submitted by the Chief Executive to the Elected Members and to the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee reviews the SIFC and provides an assurance on an annual basis to the Elected Members. Mechanisms are available to the Audit Committee to notify the Elected Members of any issues that arise outside of the normal annual reporting.
4. Compliance with legal and regulatory obligations are acknowledged and adhered to.
5. There is clarity of roles and responsibilities based on the reserved and executive functions and based on committee terms of reference.
6. Codes of Conduct and ethics declarations for members and employees are in place.
7. Procedures are in place for the making of protected disclosures in accordance with section 21(1) of the Protected Disclosures Act 2014 and confirmation that the annual report required under section 22(1) of the Act has been published.
8. The Council and Committees review their own performance on a periodic basis.
9. We have instituted appropriate governance oversight arrangements in respect of subsidiary, associated and related companies.
10. As part of our commitment to effective oversight and accountability, we have developed and continue to enhance our overall assurance framework utilising external and internal assurance sources to ensure good performance as part of our governance culture.


Cathaoirleach


Chief Executive

02/06/2026
Date

2/6/26
Date

