

Comhairle Contae an Chabháin Cavan County Council

Annual Report 2022 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil 2022





Mission

A Council that leads and collaborates with all to drive and shape a better future for our County

Vision

A progressive, vibrant county which is smart, connected, innovative, inclusive and sustainable





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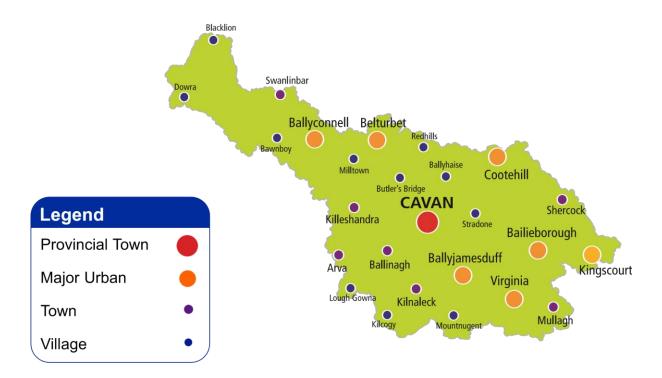




Our County

County Cavan has a population of 81,201 (2022 census). It is predominantly a rural county although in recent years there have been significant population increases in its main urban centres. The County is characterised by drumlin countryside dotted with many lakes and small hills. The North West of the County is sparsely populated and mountainous with many areas of high scenic landscape. It is also home to a number of international tourism attractions including the Shannon Erne Waterway and the Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark.

The M3 has improved access to our County with the County Boundary south of Virginia now less than an hour from Dublin. Cavan Town is also strategically located and is acknowledged as a gateway to and from Northern Ireland. Cavan Town was designated as a Hub Town in the National Spatial Strategy.







Cathaoirleach's Address

It has been a real privilege to serve, since June of 2022, as Cathaoirleach of Cavan County Council, succeeding one of the most experienced and capable members of our Council, Councillor Clifford Kelly.



On the day of my nomination to the Chair, I expressed the hope that this year, coming as it did after the restrictions of the Covid-19 pandemic, would be a year of reengagement, when we all, as a Local Authority, as individuals and as communities, re-engaged with each other and sought to leave behind the restrictions on movement that had held us apart for so long.

Serving as Cathaoirleach gives a wonderful opportunity to see the magnificent work undertaken by volunteers the length and breadth of our County as they seek to improve services and facilities in their communities. This work is aided by many dedicated, hardworking officials of Cavan County Council who pursue every avenue for the good of our County and to whom we are indebted.

Their work, in conjunction with the communities and local Councillors, is hugely important across every sphere of activity, whether it be dealing with the challenging situation pertaining to our roads infrastructure, working with businesses big and small to create better opportunities for employment and enterprise in our County, working to regenerate our towns and villages, develop our tourism infrastructure and in particular to meet the huge challenge of providing homes for our growing population. Examples of this work have been recognised nationally at various awards ceremonies such as National Enterprise, Pride of Place, LAMA and Age-Friendly Alliance Awards.





Conscious of the Global Cavan Family, I was anxious to take the opportunity to meet with as many of our diaspora as possible. It was an honour to lead the delegation from our County to visit Würzburg, Germany, for the annual *Kilianifest* in honour of St. Killian, celebrating the important links between our County and Country and that part of Germany, based on the missionary work of Cavan native St. Killian. We also visited with our friends in Kürnach with whom we have such close ties for the last number of years.

Other visits during the year have included those to Cavan-Monaghan Township, Ontario, and Rochester, New York where, together with the Mayor of Rochester we formalised the 'Sister City' Partnership with the elected Chief Executive of Monroe County, Adam Bello. It was incredible to see how the life of Colonel Patrick O'Rorke, a native of Cornafean, is celebrated in Rochester, he having been the first person from there to graduate West Point. We also visited Boston, Massachusetts and New Haven, Connecticut, the home of the Knights of Columbus founded by Blessed Michael McGivney, whose parents came from Co. Cavan. The Knights of Columbus are one of the largest fraternal organisations in the US with many other international links.

As part of the St. Patrick's Day celebrations, we marked the 175th anniversary of the formation of the Cavan P & B Association New York. They still do incredible work bringing together the Cavan community in New York and surrounding areas. We can be very proud of St. Mary's Brass Band, Kingscourt and the Cavan UN Veterans Group who participated in 2023 St. Patrick's Day Parade in New York. We also had the opportunity to meet with Cardinal Timothy Dolan, Archbishop of New York, who can trace his ancestry to West Cavan, and we travelled to Vermont to meet with the Irish Caucus in the Vermont State House, Montpellier.

As our diaspora in the US and UK move to second and third generations and beyond, we must intensify work to maintain their links with our county and country.





The Annual Report is an opportunity to set out the achievements of the Council and highlight important initiatives within the county.

One such success story is our participation in the activities of the Shared Island Unit established by the then Taoiseach Micheál Martin, TD, who came to Cavan to make a significant announcement of funding for Local Authorities throughout the country. Our strategic location in the Border Region ensures that we have a unique opportunity to foster the main aims of the Shared Island Initiative, in particular further developing the all-island economy, deepening North/South cooperation, and benefiting from investment in the North-West and border regions, fostering constructive and inclusive dialogue and a comprehensive programme of research to support the building of consensus around a shared future on the island.

The Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Geopark is an example of that cross-border collaboration. It is a particular success-story within our County. We can look forward to commencing construction on the new Discovery Centre at the Shannon Pot and Phase 2 of the Cavan Burren Park later in 2023.

Abbeylands in Cavan Town, the largest regeneration investment in the region with funding announced by Darragh O'Brien TD, Minister for Housing, Heritage & Local Government, has obtained Part VIII planning approval. When completed, it will be transformative for the town, as will other similar investments in our towns and villages which are at various stages of preparation at this time.

We also completed the protracted process to adopt the County Development Plan for 2022-2028. Given the significance of the document it requires an 'all of Council' approach. The lead role in preparing this huge document, having it adopted and following through on it, falls to the Planning Section who completed this herculean task.





From a cultural and historical point of view, the on-going work of the Arts Office in promoting creativity in our County is incredible. The *Cavan Arts Festival* is now on a national stage which, together with the many cultural events the length and breadth of our County, provides a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the creativity around us. We are fortunate to have many creative artists, across multiple disciplines, who are Cavan natives and others who have chosen to make Cavan their home and artistic base.

Through our theatres, libraries, archive, and county museum we showcase our best, conserve our history and develop a better understanding of our past. The addition this year of the Dolphin Collection to our county archive is a prime example of this important work.

The County Council plays an important role in acknowledging the achievements of individuals and groups from our County and this year we have had the opportunity to celebrate incredible sporting achievements of teams and people from our County, groups who have given great service to our County such as An Garda Síochána, the ICA and others and those who have attained high office in various organisations such as the Reverend David Nixon, President of the Methodist Church in Ireland and Michael Hanley, Retiring Chief Executive of Lakeland Dairies. We also provide a vehicle to recall historic events such as the 80th anniversary of the tragic fire in St. Clare's Orphanage in Cavan Town, the 50th anniversary of the Belturbet Bombing, and the death of John Joe O'Reilly who is now so fittingly commemorated in the Market Square in our County Town.

It has been my privilege to work with all Councillors as we all seek to advance our County. As Cathaoirleach, I have tried to emphasise the role and mandate of the Councillor within a system that, unfortunately, seeks to lessen the position and create obstacles for elected representatives to advocate on behalf of our constituents.





In the early days of 2023 our colleague, Councillor Sean Smith died. He served on Cavan County Council for over forty years. His dedication to his work throughout that long service is an example to us all.

Whilst there are many challenges, Cavan continues to flourish and this Local Authority can, rightly, be proud of the important role that we play in the life of our County.

Anois, agus mé ag cur críoch le mo théarma mar Chathaoirleach Chontae an Chábháin, ba mhaith liom buíochas a ghabháil le mo Chomchomhaireleoirí Contae a thogh mé agus a thug tacaíocht dom le linn mo thréimhse. Ba mhaith liom buíochas a ghabhail leis na baill foirne agus na h-oifigigh as a ndúracht agus ndílseacht.

Mar Chathaoirleach, bhí sé mar phréibléid deis a bheith agam cuairt a thabhairt ar bhailte agus sráidbhailte Chontae an Chábháin. Ba mhaith liom mo bhuíochas a ghabháil le ceannairí pobail, grúpaí pobail agus ghnáthdhaoine ar bhuail mé leo agus mé ag teacht agus ag imeacht chuig ocáidí. Chomh maith, ba mhaith liom buíochas a ghabháil le mo theaglach agus mo bhean chéile, Niamh agus le mo mhátháir Patsy. Mar fhocal scoir, ba mhaith liom buíochas a ghabháil le m'athair Eddie a thug seirbhís dhílis do Chomhairle Contae an Chábháin agus a spreag mé le freastal ar mo chontae le seirbhís agus dílseacht.

Councillor John Paul Feeley, Cathaoirleach



Chief Executive's Address

Tá an-áthas orm Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Chomhairle Contae an Chabháin do 2022 a chur i láthair.

I am delighted to introduce the Annual Report of Cavan County Council for 2022.



2022 was a year in which much was accomplished, as the majority of Covid-19 restrictions were lifted and society as a whole began to move on from what was a tremendously difficult, traumatic, and disruptive two years for so many.

I was immensely proud of the way our staff maintained vital services during the pandemic, and it was equally gratifying to see the progress that was made throughout 2022 as the shackles of pandemic restrictions were lifted.

The year saw the preparation and approval of the Cavan County Development Plan, incorporating a Local Area Plan for Cavan Town 2022-2028. This is a landmark document for the county which guides sustainable future development with a focus on the places we live, the places we work, and how we interact with these places while protecting our environment.

Continuing Cavan County Council's recent excellent track record of securing large-scale capital investment, the council was successful in getting approval for funding of €6.9 million for the redevelopment of the former Percy French hotel in Ballyjamesduff, to provide for a remote working hub and community facilities, which was announced by Minister Heather Humphreys in November under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund.





2022 saw work on another major capital project, the Abbeylands Regeneration project, funded under the Urban Regeneration Development Fund, advancing to the next stage with the appointment of consultants to prepare a Preliminary Business Case (PBC).

Under the Shared Island Local Authority Funding 2022, Cavan County Council in partnership with Fermanagh and Omagh District Council through Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark, was awarded €150,000 in funding for a Cross Border Masterplan for Cuilcagh, and €250,000 for a shared heritage project involving Castle Saunderson and Castle Caldwell.

2022 saw Cavan County Council make great strides in delivering on our ambitious housing targets under the Government's 'Housing for All' plan with 43 new build social housing units completed, which 16 units received Stage 4 approval and progressed to construction, 79 units received Stage 2 approval and progressed to Part 8 Planning, and 32 units received Stage 1 approval.

In addition, the Council completed the acquisition of six houses and returned 63 vacant council houses to use.

Approved Housing Bodies delivered 55 new build social housing units at Drumalee Manor, Cavan, at Rampart View, Virginia, at the Gallops, at Loreto Wood, Cavan and at St. Killians, Mullagh. In total, 2022 saw 309 households supported through the various social housing options available.

A total of €1,691,655 was spent on 191 grants private housing grants in 2022 which was over the allocated amount and additional funding was approved by the Department. The total committed expenditure at the end of the year was €3,958,558.

The efforts of council staff were rightly honoured during the prestigious LAMA All-Ireland Community and Council Awards, held in Dublin's Crowne Plaza Hotel on Saturday, 9 April, where Cavan County Council took gold in the 'Best Emergency Response Team' category for Cavan Civil Defence's work throughout the Covid-19 pandemic.





Cavan County Council also received the Silver award for Communications and Marketing in the 'Best Connected Council' category for its hugely successful inaugural 'Cavan Day' 2020 celebration, while the third win of the night was a Bronze award for Cavan County Library Service for their Covid-19 book delivery service, which provided a vital outreach to isolated and cocooning individuals during the lockdown periods of the pandemic.

The third annual Cavan Day celebration took place on Saturday, 24th September. Once again, this virtual event was a great success, with thousands of Cavan people and friends of Cavan at home and abroad taking to social media to celebrate the Breifne County and its people. This year's event featured the widest reach yet, with a total social media reach of 12.7 million recorded.

High profile personalities to join in the celebrations included Taoiseach Micheál Martin TD, who recorded a special video message from the UN in New York, Tánaiste Leo Varadkar, Chef Neven Maguire, Minister for Finance Paschal Donohoe, and Cavan GAA Captain Raymond Galligan.

Cavan Day arose first came to be when the planned Cavan Calling celebration scheduled for 2020 was cancelled due to Covid-19. It was with great excitement, then, that we revealed plans to host an 'in-person' Cavan Calling celebration in Cavan in July 2023, with highlights to include a concert spectacular from The Boomtown Rats on 'Cavan Day' 2023, which takes place on 29th July.

Cavan is blessed with a uniquely engaged and dynamic community and voluntary sector, and our Community, Enterprise, and Tourism section once again worked with local and national stakeholders to deliver results on behalf of communities across the county.

Under the CLAR investment programme, Cavan County Council received an allocation of €616,057.63 in respect of 14 projects.





Cootehill was honoured at the prestigious Pride of Place community awards. The town took top spot in the 'Town with a Population between 1000 and 2000 category. Judges praised the community spirit amongst the residents. Funding of € 298,990 was allocated to 43 community groups in 2022 under the Municipal Discretionary Fund and a total of €24,500 was allocated to 34 groups under the Community and Voluntary Grant Scheme

The new fire station in Ballyjamesduff was handed over to Cavan County Fire Service on 16th December 2022 and will become operational in early 2023, completing a long-term programme to modernise all ten fire stations in the county. I am pleased that our dedicated retained firefighters all now have accommodation that reflects the skill and commitment they bring to the role, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Twenty civil defence volunteers travelled to Croke Park in November 2022, to receive Covid 19 medals from the Minister Simon Coveney, together with volunteers from around the country. In December, the rest of the volunteers who were involved in the Covid response received their medals along with those receiving long service medals of 10, 20, 30, and 40 year service at a local ceremony in the Hotel Kilmore.

Early in 2022 Cavan Library Service introduced a new Library Management System which is operational throughout the national library network.

The Council secured two tranches of funding from the Department of Rural and Community Development for Local Improvement Schemes in 2022. With the high level of funding in tranche two we had the 5th highest allocation in the country outlining Cavan's commitment to the delivery of this scheme. With the total allocation of €1,273,457 received in 2022, a total of 25 lanes, providing Drainage, Surfacing, and associated civil works were completed. This funding provides vital investment in the rural communities of County Cavan.





Funding was allocated in the sum of €3,421,445 from the NTA for Active Travel projects in 2022. There were 32 project schemes in total, some of the schemes have been completed or are well underway. A number of the schemes will be continued into 2023.

The N55 Corduff to South of Killydoon, Section B project saw significant progress made in 2022 and the Contract was awarded to December 2022, while the planning and design stages of N3 Virginia Bypass project continued to advance throughout the year.

As part of the ongoing Planning and Design of the Virginia By-Pass scheme a Traffic Survey was completed in October 2022 while Site Investigation and Topographical Survey works commenced on site in late 2022. Various other Environmental Surveys were also commenced and will continue into 2023.

The Water Services Major Capital Section is working in collaborative partnership with Irish Water's Wastewater ECI team to progress design submissions in consultation with VEOLIA Water Ireland. A major milestone for the Virginia Project was reached with the submission of planning application in December 2022 with various other aspects relating to the project continued to progress during 2022.

The planning application for the Ballyjamesduff WWTP upgrade Project was submitted and a notification of decision to grant was issued in November 2022.

In May 2022 the museum ran a hugely successful Storytelling Event, which included traditional music, singing and storytelling and which celebrated our Irish culture and traditions. The main storytelling event, held on the evening of Friday 27th May, which received fantastic positive feedback from all who attended.

In 2022 Townhall Cavan presented some top-class touring productions by Arts Council funded companies including Directions Out Theatre Company production of 'Halycon Days', Decadent Theatre Company's 'Blackbird', Big Guerilla's 'Victor's Dung', Glass





Mask Theatre's 'Pop Tart Lipstick', and Once Off Productions' 'Aran agus Im'.

High-profile music acts performing at Townhall in 2022 included The Fureys, Seán Keane, Don Mescall, Tommy Fleming, and Jack L. The theatre also collaborated with Cavan Arts Festival to host a sell-out performance by one of the world's most critically acclaimed bands, Villagers.

Preliminary Monitoring and Reporting data for 2022 demonstrates Cavan County Council has achieved a 29.5% improvement in energy efficiency from the baseline (2001-2005).

During 2022 the Human Resources Department organised 41 separate competitions for various posts within the Council. These competitions attracted 583 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.

The above represents a flavour of the work done and challenges met during 2022, of which further details are available in this report. I wish to extend my sincere thanks to each and every member of staff for their hard work, skill, and dedication, and also to acknowledge the support of the elected members, and the many external stakeholders with whom Cavan County Council collaborates on a daily basis.

The progress made in 2022 represents cause for great optimism and has laid the foundation for even greater success in 2023 and beyond. I look forward to witnessing the fruits of these labours as we continue to strive for a better Cavan for all.

Le gach dea-ghuí, Tommy Ryan, Chief Executive





Municipal Districts and their Elected Representatives

Bailieborough-Cootehill Municipal District

- Carmel Brady, Fine Gael
- · Aiden Fitzpatrick, Fianna Fáil
- Clifford Kelly, Fianna Fáil
- Paddy McDonald, Sinn Féin
- Sarah O'Reilly, Aontú
- Val Smith, Fine Gael

Cavan-Belturbet Municipal District

- Madeleine Argue, Fine Gael
- Brendan Fay, Non Party
- John Paul Feeley, Fianna Fáil
- Peter McVitty, Fine Gael
- Sean Smith, Fianna Fáil
- Patricia Walsh, Fianna Fáil

Ballyjamesduff Municipal District

- Winston Bennett, Fine Gael
- Philip Brady, Fianna Fáil
- Craig Lovett, Fianna Fáil
- Shane P O'Reilly, Independent
- T.P. O'Reilly, Fine Gael
- Trevor Smith, Fine Gael





Meetings of Local Authority

Meeting	Number of meetings held in 2022
Monthly, Reconvened and Special Meetings of the Plenary Council	12
Ballyjamesduff Municipal District Meetings	7
Bailieborough-Cootehill Municipal District Meetings	7
Cavan-Belturbet Municipal District Meetings	7
Annual General Meeting	1
Annual Budget Meeting	1
Corporate Policy Group Meetings	11
Housing, Community, Social Inclusion and Corporate Services Strategic Policy Committee	2
Economic, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee	4
Transportation, Infrastructure & Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee	0
Climate and Biodiversity Action & Environment Strategic Policy Committee	2
Cultural Development, Irish Language & Sport Strategic Policy Committee	4
Joint Policing Committee	4
Audit Committee	4

Conferences, Seminars, Events Attended by Elected Members

Conference / Seminar / Event	Location	Purpose	Number Attended
Celtic Conferences	Clonakilty, Co. Cork	"Housing for all"	2
Parnell Society Ivy Day Symposium	Woodenbridge Hotel, Co. Wicklow	"New Beginnings"	2
Celtic Conferences	Clonakilty, Co. Cork	"Innovation in Solar Energy Technology"	4





Training Availed of by Elected Members

Title of Training	Body that Provided Training	Location	Number attended
"Elected members personal safety and risk assessment" Module 1	Association of Irish Local Government (AILG)	Silver Springs Hotel, Clayton, Co. Cork	5
"Climate Action – The Role of Local Government" Module 2	Association of Irish Local Government (AILG)	Hillgrove Hotel, Monaghan	5
"Finalising your Development Plan – Key steps and requirements from the Development	Association of Irish Local Government (AILG)	Hodson Bay Hotel, Co. Roscommon	5
Plan Guidelines" Module 3		Avalon House Hotel, Co. Kilkenny	6
"Local Authority Audit Committees and the Governance and Oversight of elected members" Module 4	Association of Irish Local Government (AILG)	Allingham Arms Hotel, Bundoran, Co. Donegal	8
"Disability and Inclusion" Module 5	Association of Irish Local Government (AILG)	Radisson Blu Hotel, Sligo	3
	(ALCO)	The Brehon Hotel, Killarney	9
"Data Protection – What Councillors Need to Know" Module 6	Association of Irish Local Government (AILG)	Newgrange Hotel, Navan, Co. Meath	4
Annual Conference	Association of Irish Local Government (AILG)	Inishowen Gateway Hotel, Buncrana, Co. Donegal	11





Comhairle Contae an Chabháin Cavan County Council

Autumn Seminar – "Celebrating Local Government"	Association of Irish Local Government (AILG)	Knightsbrook Hotel, Trim, Co. Meath	10
Finance and Development	Irish Council for Social Housing	Radisson Blu Hotel, Sligo	3
Autumn Training Seminar	Local Authority Members' Association (LAMA)	Four Seasons Hotel, Coolshannagh, Monaghan	9

Public Authorities and Other Bodies Elected Members are represented on

Cavan Monaghan Education and Training Board	Clifford Kelly, Sean Smith, Patricia Walsh, Brendan Fay, Sarah O'Reilly, Madeleine Argue, Carmel Brady
Health Service Executive Regional Health Forum, Dublin North East	Aiden Fitzpatrick, Craig Lovett, Trevor Smith
Cavan Local Sports Partnership Board	Brendan Fay, Paddy McDonald, Craig Lovett, Patricia Walsh, Madeleine Argue
Northern & Western Regional Authority	Sean Smith, Craig Lovett
Irish Central Border Area Network (ICBAN)	Patricia Walsh, Clifford Kelly, Winston Bennett
Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Limited	Paddy McDonald
Association of Irish Local Government (AILG)	John Paul Feeley, Shane P O'Reilly, Peter McVitty
Local Authority Members' Association (LAMA)	Clifford Kelly
Cavan Local Community Development Committee	Clifford Kelly, Aiden Fitzpatrick, T.P. O'Reilly
County Cavan Joint Policing Committee	Sarah O'Reilly, Shane P. O'Reilly, Clifford Kelly, John Paul Feeley, Carmel Brady, Peter McVitty, Madeleine Argue, Paddy McDonald,





	Patricia Walsh, Aiden Fitzpatrick, Philip Brady, Craig Lovett, Brendan Fay, Trevor Smith, T.P. O'Reilly
North East Regional Drugs Task Force	Aiden Fitzpatrick, Carmel Brady
Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee	John Paul Feeley, Patricia Walsh, Trevor Smith, Madeleine Argue
Age Friendly Alliance	Brendan Fay, Carmel Brady
Local Monitoring Committee (Rural Water Programme)	John Paul Feeley, Sean Smith, Winston Bennett
County Cavan Heritage Forum	Brendan Fay, Aiden Fitzpatrick, Shane P. O'Reilly, T.P. O'Reilly
HSE Cavan/Monaghan Suicide Prevention Steering Group and Community Implementation Group	Sarah O'Reilly, T.P. O'Reilly

Payments to Members of Cavan County Council in 2022

Annual Expenses Allowance (travel, subsistence and miscellaneous expenses)	€53,173.69
Representational Payments	€473,334.66
Local Representation Allowance	€73,530.00
Cathaoirleach / Leas Cathaoirleach Allowances (including Municipal Authorities)	€42,000.00
Chairpersons of Strategic Policy Committees	€30,000.00
Travel, Subsistence for attendance at Conferences, Seminars	€5,090.35
Travel, Subsistence for attendance at Training Events	€26,219.13
Travel, Subsistence for attendance at events abroad	€6,614.78





Strategic Policy Committees

Economic Development, Enterprise & Planning	Climate, Biodiversity Action & Environment
Cllr John Paul Feeley Chair	Cllr Philip Brady Chair
Cllr Peter McVitty	Cllr Madeleine Argue
Cllr Sarah O'Reilly	Cllr Winston Bennett
Cllr Winston Bennett	Cllr T.P. O'Reilly
Cllr Aiden Fitzpatrick	Cllr Shane P. O'Reilly
Cllr Carmel Brady	Cllr Craig Lovett
Thomas Rogers (Agriculture & Farming)	Fintan McCabe (Environment
Jim McGaughran (Development &	/Conservation)
Construction)	Barry Wilson (Community/
Tom Brady (Business & Commercial)	Voluntary)
Stanley Nwaneri (Community & Voluntary)	Joe Brady (Agriculture)
Housing, Social Inclusion and Corporate Affairs	Transportation, Infrastructure and Emergency Services
Cllr Val Smith Chair	Cllr. Sean Smith Chair
Cllr Val Smith Chair Cllr Paddy McDonald	Cllr. Sean Smith Chair Cllr Peter McVitty
Cllr Paddy McDonald	Cllr Peter McVitty
Cllr Paddy McDonald Cllr Clifford Kelly	Cllr Peter McVitty Cllr Sarah O'Reilly
Cllr Paddy McDonald Cllr Clifford Kelly Cllr Patricia Walsh	Cllr Peter McVitty Cllr Sarah O'Reilly Cllr Trevor Smith
Cllr Paddy McDonald Cllr Clifford Kelly Cllr Patricia Walsh Cllr Trevor Smith	Cllr Peter McVitty Cllr Sarah O'Reilly Cllr Trevor Smith Cllr T.P. O' Reilly
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Cllr Paddy McDonald Cllr Clifford Kelly Cllr Patricia Walsh Cllr Trevor Smith Cllr Madeleine Argue Leanne Coyle (Community/Voluntary)	Cllr Peter McVitty Cllr Sarah O'Reilly Cllr Trevor Smith Cllr T.P. O' Reilly Cllr Brendan Fay Padraigh J Young (Agriculture &

Cultural Development, Irish Language & Sport

Cllr Clifford Kelly **Chair**Cllr Philip Brady
Cllr Paddy McDonald
Cllr Craig Lovett
Cllr Val Smith

Cllr Shane P O'Reilly

Michelle Duffy Rudden (Business & Commercial)
Evija Nwaneri (Environment / Conservation)
Grainne McPhillips (Social Inclusion)
Mary B Duffy (Community / Voluntary)





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 political donations were declared by the elected members for the period 1st January 2022 to the 31^{st of} December 2022 as per donations statements submitted by each elected member by the 31st of January 2022.

The Corporate Plan 2019 -2024

The Corporate plan was adopted in February 2020 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).

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.

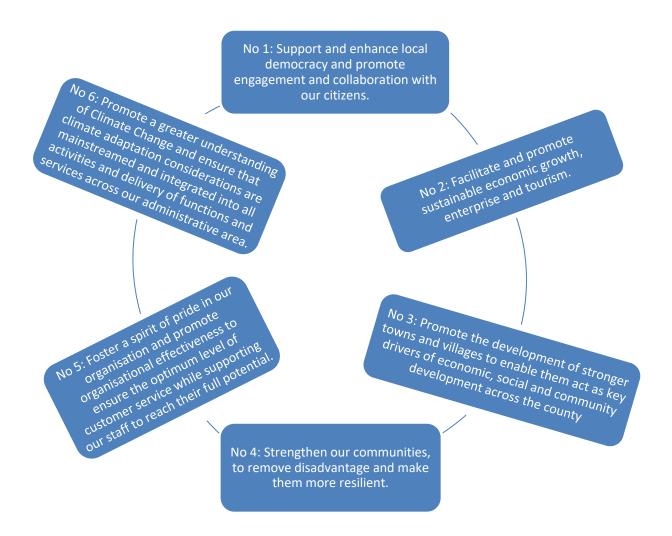
The following core values will inform and underpin our decisions:

Local Democracy:	Promote and support greater community involvement while recognising
	and respecting the democratic mandate of the elected members and their
	role in providing representation and civic leadership in the county
Quality Customer	Commit to delivering a high-quality service which meets the changing
Service	needs of our customers
Integrity	Maintain proper standards of integrity in the performance of our duties
Progressive	Strive continuously for improvements in all that we do to promote an
	innovative and forward-thinking organisation
Sustainability	Deliver our services in accordance with the principles of sustainability,
	respecting our natural resources and safeguarding the environment for
	future generations.
Equality	Commit to improving equality of opportunity for everyone and to
	promoting a culture of wellbeing, inclusion and respect for all.





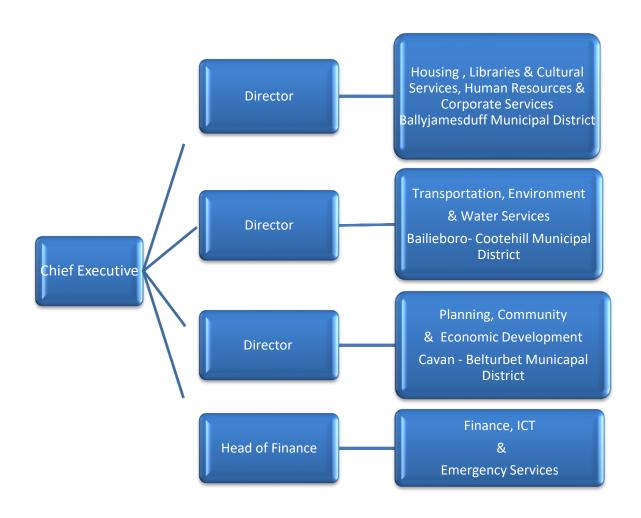
The Strategic Objectives identified in the Corporate Plan are as follows:



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 2022 and also sets out progress made in relation to commitments set down by the Council's Corporate Plan for the period 2019-2024.



Management Team





Eoin Doyle Director of Services



Paddy Connaughton Director of Services



Brendan Jennings
Director of Services



Margaret McNally A/Head of Finance





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 2022 446 staff and 88 retained firefighters were employed by the Council.

Recruitment

During 2022 the Human Resources Department organised 41 separate competitions for various posts within the Council. These competitions attracted 583 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 2022, the Council published its Gender Pay Gap Report, the first 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,





which for local authorities, the snapshot date is 30 June 2022. Organisations have six months to prepare their calculations, before reporting six months later during December 2022.

On 30th June 2022 62% of all Cavan County Council's employees were male and 38% were female. The Mean Gender Pay Gap shows that on average, females are paid 2.01% less than males. The Median Gender Pay Gap shows that the median rate of pay for females is 8.31% 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 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, 72 employees are currently availing of blended working arrangements.

Staff Newsletter

In 2021 we reintroduced a staff newsletter, which proved very popular amongst employees and continued on a regular basis throughout 2022. The newsletter provides information to staff on Council activities and also information on health and wellness issues, as well as updates on retirements, new staff joining the organisation etc.

Wellness Programme

The Council initiated a Wellness Programme for staff which not only promotes the Council's employee assistance programme, but also encouraged employees to participate in Council organised free talks and workshops on issues such as mindfulness, men's and women's health promotion, physical activities, parenting advice etc. throughout 2022.

In 2022 the Council also offered all employees and elected members the opportunity to participate in a comprehensive health screening programme. Health screenings were arranged in a number of locations throughout the county and proved very





successful, with 286 participants in total.

NOAC Performance Indicators

Human Resources is required to complete performance indicators in respect of sick leave. Statistics for 2021 and 2022 are as follows:

% of working days lost to sickness		
	Certified Sick Leave	Uncertified Sick
2021	1.94%	0.12%
2022	3.58%*	0.19%

^{*}The increase in certified sick leave was due to a number of employees absent on long-term sick leave during 2022.

Learning & Development

A comprehensive Learning & Development Programme was delivered in 2022 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 164 online courses and 358 in-person courses, with specific emphasis on health & safety and mandatory organisational training needs. Cumulatively, training was provided to 974 indoor staff and 538 outdoor staff. Support continued to be provided to staff wishing to pursue further education study programmes.

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, now embedded in the organisation for both Senior and Middle Managers, is an integral part of our PMDS process. Performance Management and Development System in Cavan County Council is driven by the Senior Management Team.





Corporate Affairs

Customer Service Desk

The Customer Service Desk is the first point of contact for the Council's customers both in-person and by telephone, and staff working in this area deal with queries in relation to all aspects and sections of the Council. Due to Covid-19 restrictions and social distancing requirements in 2020 the Customer Service Desk moved to the events space on the ground floor of the Farnham Centre, but towards the end of 2022 after Covid-19 restrictions were lifted it was relocated back to its permanent location on the second floor of the Farnham Centre.

In recent years the Customer Service Desk has adapted and introduced new systems to provide an increasing number of services to customers who wish to conduct their business remotely or from the comfort of their home rather than in-person. An increasing number of customers now make payments to the Council not only online but by telephone. Similarly, the number of telephone calls to the Customer Service Desk has increased over the Covid-19 period and in 2022 staff at the Customer Service Desk dealt with 43,956 calls.

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 2022:

Cases brought forward from 2021: 6

Number of applications received: 65

Number of applications granted: 40

Number of applications part granted: 7

Number of applications refused: 18

Withdrawn/Dealt with outside FOI: 6

Data Protection

GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018 came into effect in May 2018. As a Data Controller Cavan County Council is legally obliged under legislation to:

- Process it lawfully, fairly, and in a transparent manner;
- Collect it only for one or more specified, explicit and legitimate purposes, and do not otherwise use it in a way that is incompatible with those purposes;
- Ensure it is adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary for the purpose it is processed;
- Keep it accurate and up-to-date and erase or rectify any inaccurate data without delay;
- Where it is kept in a way that allows you to identify who the data is about,
 retain it for no longer than is necessary;
- Keep it secure by using appropriate technical and/or organisational security measures;
- Be able to demonstrate your compliance with the above principles; and
- Respond to requests by individuals seeking to exercise their data protection rights (for example the right of access).

Data Protection Statistics 2022: Subject Access Requests 7





Council Meetings and Elected Members

Corporate Affairs has responsibility for the administration of plenary Council meetings and provides support to the Cathaoirleach and the Elected Members in carrying out their functions and duties. In 2022 following the pandemic, Council meetings returned to the Council Chamber, with online facilities available for those who could not attend in-person.

The Council received visits from H.E. Vincent Guerénd, Ambassador of France to Ireland and also a delegation from Monroe County, New York, and hosted Cathaoirleach's and Civic receptions to honour the Irish Nurses and Midwives Organisation, Reverend David Nixon, Cavan Senior Football Team, Cavan County Camogie Teams, An Garda Siochána and Leona Maguire.

Register of Electors

Corporate Affairs has responsibility for the compilation of a rolling register under the Electoral Reform Act 2022. The main changes to the process include:-

- Continuous registration this means that the same process is in place all year round and your record can be updated at any time (up to 15 days before an electoral event)
- Use of PPSNs in the process in addition to enabling quick and easy online registration, the use of PPSNs will enable basic identity data checks to protect integrity of the register. It will help local authorities ensure that the register is accurate and that everyone is registered once. The data sharing involved in the cross-check with the Department of Social Protection is provided for in the Electoral Reform Act.
- People will be responsible for registering and maintaining their own information,
 registration authorities will continue to work with their communities to maintain
 and manage the register with a view to ensuring it is complete and accurate.
- The Electoral Commission will have an oversight role in respect of the electoral register and local authorities will report to it on the work they have done each year to manage and maintain the register.





Even if you are already registered you need to add your PPSN, date of birth and Eircode. You can now update your details through www.checktheregister.ie
You can now register to vote if you are aged 16 and over, but you will not eligible to vote until you are 18. By registering at the age of 16, it means that your local authority will be able to move you to the live electoral register once you reach the age of 18.

Citizenship	Type of election at which eligible to vote
Irish Citizens	All Elections and Referenda
British Citizens	Dáil and Local Elections
Other EU Citizens	European and Local Elections
Non-EU Citizens	Local Government Elections only

of Electors
ľ

Bailieborough-Cootehill 20,263
Ballyjamesduff 19,911
Cavan-Biotarget 17,706
Total 57,880





HOUSING

2022 was an extremely busy year for Cavan County Council's Housing Service. The provision of good quality, affordable accommodation presents challenges, but also opportunities for the county and significant funding has been provided for the delivery of housing solutions for those in need.

Following the launch of the Government's 'Housing for All – a New Housing Plan for Ireland' which sets out its housing plan to 2030 the Council continues to work towards the actions contained in each of the four pathways set out to achieve its objective.

The principal work areas for the Housing Services in 2022 were:

- Delivery of the Housing Capital Programme
- Summary of Social Housing Assessments 2022
- Management of the Housing Assistance Programme (HAP), Rental Accommodation Scheme, Local Authority Home Loan Scheme, Incremental Tenant Purchase Scheme and Social Leasing Scheme
- Operation and management of the three Housing Grant Schemes
- Mortgage to Rent
- Housing, Social Inclusion & Corporate Services Strategic Policy Committee review and development Housing Policies
- Homelessness/Tenancy Sustainment and Housing First Initiative implementation
- Anti-Social Behaviour complaints
- Implementation of Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024
- Management and Maintenance/Refurbishment of Housing Stock
- Corporate Building Projects





Delivery of the Housing Capital Programme

Funding for the construction of new social housing schemes and the acquisition of houses for use as council owned social housing comes from the Social Housing Investment Programme.

The 2022 Capital Funding Allocations received from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage were as follows:

(i) Housing Construction Programme	€ 10,225,378
(ii) Housing Acquisition Programme	€ 1,539,316
(iii) Voluntary Housing Bodies - CAS & CALF Funding	€ 2,718,756
(iv) Voids Programme	€ 583,000
(v) Energy Retrofit Programme	<u>€ 577,334</u>
Total	€ 15,643,784

In 2022, 43 new build social housing units were completed by Cavan County Council:

- 2 units at Kilnavara Heights, Cavan
- 6 units at Eanach Lao, Butlersbridge,
- 15 units at Flemings Place, Ballinagh,
- 20 units at Black Ridge, Ballyconnell.



New Housing at Eanach Lao, Butlersbridge





New Housing at Flemings Place, Ballinagh

16 units received Stage 4 approval and progressed to construction:

- 13 units at Elm Park, Cavan.
- 3 units at Fairymount Close, Kingscourt.

79 units received Stage 2 approval and progressed to Part 8 Planning:

- 47 units at Páirc na Teile, Bailieborough.
- 20 units at St. Brigids Terrace, Cavan.
- 9 units at Widows Row, Cavan
- 3 Units at the Duckin Stool, Belturbet

32 units received Stage 1 approval:

- 8 units at Portaliffe, Killeshandra,
- 11 units at Ashgrove Court, Ballyjamesduff,
- 13 units in Kilnaleck.

In 2022, Approved Housing Bodies delivered 55 new build social housing units:

- 17 units at Drumalee Manor, Cavan,
- 5 units at Rampart View, Virginia,
- 22 units at the Gallops,
- 7 Units at Loreto Wood, Cavan and
- 4 Units at St. Killians, Mullagh.





In addition, the Council completed the acquisition of 6Nr. houses in 2022.

Summary of Social Housing Support 2022

The annual Summary of Social Housing Support was carried out on 1 November 2022. A total of 1036 households qualified for social housing support. 576 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 460.

229 new applicants were met face to face in 2022 and a further **257** applications were reviewed because of change in circumstances or as part of Housing Needs Assessment.

In 2022 a total of 309 households were supported through the various social housing options available.

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 395 active tenancies on 31st December 2021.

Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)

The RAS Scheme continued to operate in a very challenging environment. Many landlords sought to terminate the tenancies as they wished to sell their properties and given the limited availability of alternative properties resources concentrate on the provision of alternative solutions for these tenants. Despite this the total active tenancies at year end were 475 (incl. Approved Housing Body).

Leasing of Property

A total of 160 active lease agreements are 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

On 31 December 33 homeowners were successfully housed in the scheme. Activity in this area continues to increase which is beneficial for homeowners who are at risk of losing their homes and becoming homeless.

Loans and Tenant Purchase

The Council continued to offer loans to first time buyers under the Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan Scheme. In 2022, 1 loan was paid out with a further 5 finally approved and 2 approved in principle. Seven tenant households purchased their houses under the Tenant (Incremental) Purchase Scheme in 2022 and 8 letters of offer were issued.

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 €1,691,655 was spent on 191 grants in 2022 which was over the allocated amount and additional funding was approved by the Department. The total committed expenditure at the end of the year was €3,958,558.

Grant	Number	Amount
Housing Adaptation Grant for people with a Disability	83	€1,049,973
Housing Aid for Older People Scheme	81	€483,190
Mobility Aids Grant Scheme	27	€158,492
Total	191	€1,691,655

Traveller Accommodation Programme

The Council continued to address the targets agreed as adopted in the Traveller Accommodation Programme (TAP) 2019 - 2024. The targets set out in the





Programme up to 2022 have been achieved. At the end of 2022, a total of 130 traveller households were in receipt of social housing support.

Specific funding of €150,000 was made available out of the Traveller Fund for the refurbishment and retrofitting of traveller accommodation in 2022 and works were nearing completion at the end of the year.

Anti-Social Behaviour Complaints

A total of 145 complaints were received in 2022, 108 of which were dealt with and closed. The Council regained possession of 8 unlawfully occupied properties without taking legal action and 1 other following legal action. 8 cases have been referred to the law agent for further action.

Management, Maintenance and Refurbishment of Housing Stock.

Since 2018, the number of houses added to the housing stock is 208 and the current total number of council owned housing units is 2138. It is the responsibility of Housing Construction Section to ensure our housing stock is maintained and that essential repairs are carried out. Funding for this purpose is provided in the annual Budget and comes from the Council's own resources.

A total of €1,191,596 was expended in 2022 on response maintenance, which covers the day-to-day problems in our stock such as heating and plumbing issues, electrical faults, window repairs, door repairs, stove repairs, repairs to wastewater treatment systems etc.

Programme of Works to Vacant Housing Units

Funding of €583,000 was received from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for the completion of improvement works on vacant houses. In total, 63Nr. vacant council houses were returned to use in 2022.





Adaptation Works for Disabled Persons & Improvement Works in Lieu Scheme

Funding of €214,609 was received from the Department of Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for the completion of adaptation work to 21 council houses for tenants with a disability and 2 council houses with a severe overcrowding issue.

Energy Retrofit Programme

This new programme provides for a significant upscaling in the level of funding available and focuses on ensuring that the fabric of the home is upgraded, and an energy efficient heating system provided.

In 2022, the Council received funding of €577,334. In total, retrofit work was completed on 20Nr.houses – ten vacant houses and ten tenanted houses.

Inspection of Private Rented Accommodation

The Section carries out inspections on private rented accommodation to assess compliance with the Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) Regulations 2019. In 2022, 342 private rented dwellings were the subject of at least one inspection for compliance with the Regulations.

CORPORATE BUILDING PROJECTS

New Civic, Cultural and Library Services Centre, Virginia

Housing Construction Section is providing Project Management services for this project which is currently under construction adjacent the Ramor Theatre.





Proposed Front Elevation from the Main Street

The scheme comprises;

- An integrated civic services centre incorporating a new library, civic space, and additional theatre space.
- A new three storey building comprising a main library, meeting rooms and exhibition areas which can be used by the library and theatre, for tourism promotion and a range of other events. The complex has been designed to provide a high level of multifunctional and flexible space.
- The ground floor of the new building will primarily consist of the main library space, which will contain the Juvenile and Young Adult Lending Library and other public library facilities.
- The first floor of the new building will be the adult library area and a study area but it will also be versatile and capable of being converted into a multi-use space. In addition, there is a large meeting room which can be used by the community.
- The lower ground floor of the new building will be a multipurpose exhibition and/or studio space which will be shared by the library and theatre but could also be used for community events. This space has large sliding doors opening out into a new civic plaza with a stepped terrace – an ideal outdoor events space.





- The former Parochial House adjacent the theatre, will be transformed to provide a box office for the theatre, office space and a Digital Suite with interactive tourist information system.
- The existing Ramor Theatre will be upgraded and linked to the new theatre box office space and library, through the construction of a shared foyer which will provide access to the Civic Services Centre and will link the three elements. In addition, the customer facilities will be greatly enhanced by the construction of a "wrap around" upper foyer, new customer toilets and improvements to provided full accessibility to the upper foyer for people with disabilities.

The scheme is due for completion in Q2'2023.

Playgrounds

There are 27 existing playgrounds and 7 outdoor gym areas in County Cavan and Cavan County Council is responsible for their maintenance. In 2022, with Clár and SlaintéCare co-funding, improvement works were also carried out to five playgrounds in Killeshandra, Ballyjamesduff, Belturbet, Cavan and Cootehill





Cootehill Playground Before and After





Libraries and Cultural Affairs

Cavan Library Service

Rebuilding Our Services

Cavan Library Service has worked diligently since re-opening fully in 2022 to provide safe spaces in our libraries in a post-pandemic environment. A degree of restrictions remained in place throughout the first quarter 2022, and library services worked hard to rebuild the service offering, footfall and usage statistics. Quality event programming has been central to these efforts, which was strengthened by the return of the County Library's Events Space toward the end of 2022, providing an exceptional community space for talks, workshops, class visits and exhibitions. Cavan Library Service adopted a blended approach to event programming in 2022, with key local and national festivals such as Culture Night in September and Cavan Monaghan Science Festival in November being celebrated in libraries and in schools, and also in an online setting.

Library Developments

A key priority for Cavan Library Service in early 2022 was the introduction of a new Library Management System which is operational throughout the national library network. To further support the rebuilding of our services, and to ensure a vibrant online presence, Cavan Library Service also introduced a new library website, in collaboration with our colleagues in the I.T. Department. Social media was utilised to maximum effect to highlight the range of services available, including the wealth of resources freely available online, including e-books and e-audiobooks, online newspapers, magazines and language and other training courses.

In February 2022 the Russian invasion of Ukraine prompted a mass movement of Ukrainian citizens to seek refuge. Cavan Library service responded to the needs of the Ukrainian community in Cavan through a variety of initiatives, including the provision of resource material and programming to support this new community.

During February 2022, Cavan Library Service encouraged everyone to take part in 'Ireland Reads', a national reading campaign, aimed at promoting the power of reading for enjoyment and wellbeing.





Work on the new library and cultural civic centre in Virginia made significant progress in 2022.

Ongoing Library Initiatives

Cavan Library Service continued to roll out national initiatives such as *Right to Read*, *Healthy Ireland at your Library* and *Work Matters at the Library*, employing a hybrid approach of in-person and online events. '*Right to Read*' supports the development of literacy, and Cavan Libraries continued to engage with parents and young adults via social media to encourage reading for pleasure with online activities to support *Spring into Storytime* and *Summer Stars* and *Children's Book Festival*. Cavan County Council has consistently achieved an annual national Right to Read Award since 2017. Our branch libraries play a central role in supporting local community activities by providing venues for events, such as Cootehill Library hosting a play and musical concert and Bailieborough Library hosting a local photographic exhibition as part of Culture Night.

Children's Book Festival 2022

Cavan County Library Service has been organising Children's Book Festival events in October for many years, and it remains a central focus of the annual programming calendar. The aim is to spread the enjoyment of books and reading among children in local primary schools, by encouraging children in the county to visit their local libraries, and most of all, to get the chance to meet authors and enjoy the art of storytelling! With additional funding provided by the Local Live Performance Programming Support Scheme Phase IV 2022, funded through the support of the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, Cavan Library Service delivered a bumper line-up of author visits, storytellers, drama workshops, and puppet shows. The programme which included sessions as Gaeilge, and a special sensory session, was offered to all primary schools in the county, and the response was most enthusiastic. Primary school children from the surrounds of Ballyconnell, Arva, Belturbet, Cavan, Cootehill, & Bailieborough had an opportunity to visit local branch libraries in the county, or alternatively receive a visit from some of the visiting professional storytellers and authors, thus promoting children's literature, encouraging children to read, and to use their local branch library on a





regular basis! It was the perfect opportunity to offer 'live performances' to children who were confined to online activities for the most part of the last couple of years.



Caption: Senior Infant class pupils from St. Michael's N.S. in Cootehill enjoying a Vroom Town session in Cootehill Library during Children's Book Festival. PHOTO: Cavan Library Service

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 Arts Office, the Cavan Culture and Creativity Team, Cavan Sports Partnership, and external agencies such as Cavan/Monaghan ETB, the HSE and others.

Creative Cavan

Cavan Library Service plays an integral role in the coordination of the Creative Ireland programme for the county and 2022 highlights include the eagerly anticipated return of an in-person *Cavan Arts Festival* in May and *Cruinniú na nÓg* in June. *Cruinniú na nÓg*, a national day to celebrate creativity among children and young people, took place on Saturday 11th June with a blend of in-person and online fun, activities planned and delivered in collaboration with Monaghan County Council and the Local Arts in Education Partnership.





Decade Of Centenaries 2012-2023

Cavan Library Service, working in partnership with the Cavan Culture and Creativity Team, coordinates the Decade of Centenaries programme on behalf of Cavan County Council. The Decade of Centenaries funding has supported a variety of valuable initiatives including the continued engagement of a Historian in Residence, resulting in a strong programme of in-person and online activity with schools and the wider public. The 2022 Autumn Centenary Lecture Series, coordinated by Cavan Library Service and the Historian in Residence, took place in libraries and in the County Museum, and was also made available to access online. Cavan County Council, working with the Cavan Monaghan Garda Division, delivered a wonderful Garda Centenary Event at Cavan County Museum on Culture Night.

Cavan Library Service successfully applied for Dormant Account Funding to continue work with marginalized, socially excluded, and disadvantaged communities, including a creative programme of self-exploration by a group of individuals recovering from addiction.

Staffing Developments:

The following staff retired from Cavan County Library Service in 2022:

Patricia Appleby, Cootehill Branch Library; Anne O'Reilly, Bailieborough Branch
Library; Patricia McCorry, Loughan House Prison Library; Mary Prior, Johnston
Central Library. All are wished good health and happiness in their retirements.

Tom McCormick was appointed to the role of Clerical Officer in May 2022. Catherine
Lee was appointed to the role of Executive Librarian in October 2022.

County Council Library Services Award 2022

Cavan County Library Service provides a vital service in the heart of every community it serves with each branch serving as civic spaces, open and welcoming to all.

Lama Awards 2021

Cavan County Council received three awards from three categories at the prestigious LAMA All-Ireland Community and Council Awards, held in Dublin's





Crowne Plaza Hotel on Saturday, 9 April. Cavan County Council took gold in the 'Best Emergency Response Team' category for Cavan Civil Defence's work throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. The Council also secured a silver award for Communications and Marketing in the 'Best Connected Council' category for its hugely successful inaugural 'Cavan Day' 2020 celebration. The third win of the night was a Bronze award for Cavan County Library Service for their Covid-19 book delivery service, which provided a vital outreach to isolated and cocooning individuals during the lockdown periods of the pandemic. Originally scheduled to take place in November 2021, the event was postponed due to Covid-19. The awards, which are hosted by the Local Authority Management Agency, recognise, and celebrate community and councils working together. They provide an opportunity to highlight and celebrate the work done within our communities, to reward our unsung heroes and recognise the phenomenal contribution they've made to our lives.

Cavan Day 2022

The third annual Cavan Day celebration took place on Saturday, 24th September, 2022. Once again, this virtual event was a great success, with thousands of Cavan people and friends of Cavan at home and abroad taking to social media to celebrate the Breifne County and its people.

This year's event featured the widest reach yet, with a total social media reach of 12.7 million recorded through BrandMentions social media monitoring platform. This means that posts from Cavan Day were viewed by people almost 13 million times over the course of the campaign.

High profile personalities to join in the celebrations included An Taoiseach Micheál Martin TD, who recorded a special video message from the UN in New York, where he highlighted Cavan's special connection with that city on the 75th anniversary of the Cavan footballers' All-Ireland win in the Polo Grounds. Tánaiste Leo Varadkar, Chef Neven Maguire, Minister for Finance Paschal Donohoe, Cavan GAA Captain Raymond Galligan also posted Cavan Day mentions.

The success of Cavan Day, however, did not lie in celebrity involvement, but in the





participation of the global Cavan family, the Cavan people and friends of Cavan across the world who have made and continue to make significant contributions to the social, cultural, and working life of their communities at home and abroad.

Cavan Day also saw the broadcast of a special concert by renowned Cavan singer John O'Grady ('The Night Joe Dolan's Car Broke Down') from the Riverfront in Virginia.

The climax of Cavan Day was the long-awaited launch of the Cavan Calling 2023 Diaspora Homecoming Festival, which will now take place from 26-30 July 2023.

A special teaser video, which showcases all that County Cavan has to offer to those visiting for Cavan Calling was aired, which attained over 30,000 views in the first week of airing.



Caption: Cathaoirleach of Cavan County Council, Cllr John Paul Feeley, Chief Executive of Cavan County Council, Tommy Ryan, and Cavan County Librarian and Cavan Day Coordinator Emma Clancy pictured at Killykeen Forest Park launching Cavan Day 2022, which takes place on Saturday, 24th September. PHOTO: Lorraine Teevan.





Arts

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:

- Artistic
- 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

Funding Received

Cavan County Council is the primary source of funding for arts development with annual revenue support from the Arts Council.

The Specialist Staffing Scheme Awarded by the Arts Council has been split over two part time posts, a p/t Arts and Health Manager and a p/t Arts Officer. Elisha McCaffrey was appointed to the Arts and Health post in November 2022.





Arts Programme

1. Local Live Performance Programme Scheme Funding (LLPPS)

The Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport, and Media (TCAGSM) provided funding to Local Authorities under the Local Live Performance Programme Scheme to assist producers, artists and cultural providers to continue recovery of the sector post Covid 19. In total 612 individual performers were supported under this fund through 115 events in conjunction with communities and artists throughout County Cavan. A total of €286,000 was provided and managed through the Arts Office.

2. Arts Awards and Bursaries provided by Cavan County Council

Awards Act Grant Applications 2021 and 2022 Comparison

2021	Received	Successful	Allocated
Arts Development	18	10	€12,578
Emerging Artist	9	6	€7,300
Professional Artist	23(24)	11	€21,759

2022	Received	Successful	Allocated
Arts Development	18	13	€18,338.50
Emerging Artist	19	8	€14,514.73
Professional Artist	14	9	€20,145

Awards under the Arts Act were approved by the Members of Cavan County Council. The level of applications by comparison to 2021 shows a growing confidence within the arts sector and a welcome indication of resilience.





3. Public Art

Maintenance

Maintenance of site-specific public artworks continued with the re-instatement of the Hero's Return at the Aghalane Bridge, Belturbet. Work to re-site 'The Arch of Peace' by Imogen Stuart on Farnham Road and the restoration of sculptural works by Joey Burns on the Dun a Ri art trail commenced.

Re-Imagining

The collaborative project with the School of Engineering, Purdue University, Indiana, USA, artist Joey Burns and Cavan County Council on reworking of the 'Yellow Bittern' harp sculpture, into an interactive sculpture was significantly advanced. This innovative reworking of the traditional work through the application of custom designed technology will be located at the Virginia Library and Ramor Theatre in 2023.

The River Residency with artists Vicky Isley and Paul Smith known as boredomresearch, as part of the Museum of Mythological Waterbeasts, a partnership project with lead partner Limerick Arts Office, Tipperary, and Clare County Council Arts Office and curators Ormston House culminated in an exhibition. A short, animated film entitled the Cavanoids Dance, inspired by the Shannon Pot opened at Townhall, Cavan in September 2022. Visitors to the work included Cllr. John Paul Feeley, Members of Cavan County Council and An Taoiseach, Micheál Martin.

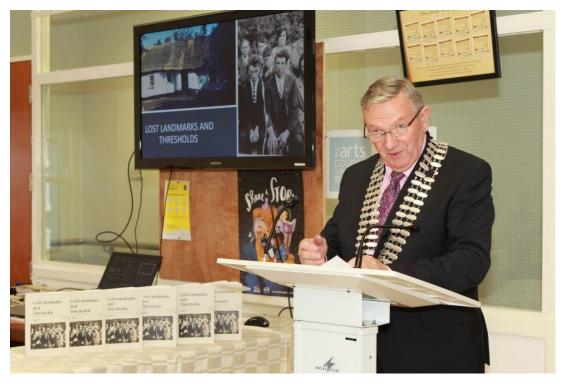
4. Creative Ireland

The Creative Ireland Programme continued to support the arts to reach communities of place and interest.

The second anthology by the Older People's Council 'Lost Landmarks and Thresholds', edited by Anthony J Quinn was launched at Bailieborough Library in May 2022.







Cllr Clifford Kelly, Cathaoirleach at launch of Lost Landmarks Bailieborough Library May 2022.

Photo copyright Adrian Donohoe

'Under the Briars', a new play by award winning Cavan playwright John McManus premiered at Shercock Hall, it was directed by Paddy Farrelly and produced in association with Townhall, Cavan.

Alan James Burns, a visual artist working in audio, video and performance was supported in his ongoing work to develop the 'Waking Walls', an ecological lament.

5. Arts and Health Programme

Cavan Monaghan Arts and Health Forum with lead partner Cavan County Council Arts Office.

Continuing Professional Development Programme

 a. Julie Aldridge and Kim Doherty presented on Transformation, Cavan County Museum, June 9, with bespoke soundscape by Daragh Slacke and Con Horgan.





- b. Camille Donegan and Sean Burns Augmented and Virtual Reality at Cavan County Museum, 18 and 19 August.
- c. Creativity Through A Trauma Lens with Julie Murphy, Conaty Centre, 25

 November

Peer Support Networking Days took place at Townhall, Cavan, 1 July, Cootehill Library, 8 July, Dowra Courthouse, 15 July, Bailieborough Library, 22 July.

The Clickers Club founded by Dr Claire Murphy and Charlene Tully, Day Hospital produced 'The Life of Reilly Film' with Colm Mullen premiered at Cavan Arts Festival, 19 May.



The Clickers Club image May 2022 Copyright The Clickers Club and Colm Mullen

Voices Of Culture 2021-2023

Kim Doherty, Mental Health Ireland represented Cavan Monaghan Arts and Health Forum at the Voices of Culture Dialogue on culture, health and education at the European Union and the European Commission. Kim Doherty presented on the Create to Connect project.

6. Arts and Young People

Cavan County Council continue our partnership approach with Cavan Monaghan Education Training Board and Monaghan County Council in the delivery of arts to young people through the Local Arts and Education Partnership, Music Generation and the regional hub with National Youth Council of Ireland.





7. Culture Night

30 multidisciplinary arts events taking place in 10 towns and villages and one online event. Events took place with communities in Dowra, Belturbet, Drumlane, Cavan, Ballyjamesduff, Bailieborough, Lough Oughter, Virginia, Shercock and Mullagh.



Danielle McDermott, Cllr. John Paul Feeley, Cathaoirleach and Annetta Brides at Culture Night,
Jackie O Neill Studio, Cavan. Copyright Lorraine Teevan

Events included Raquel Montero Calero, Spanish and contemporary dance artist with a provocative audio-visual performance, Anna Wiercioch solo exhibition on the railings on Farnham Street capturing the diversity of Cavan citizens in 2022, a self-guided heritage walk of Ballyjamesduff in various languages accompanied by a street festival experience. A special evening of circus events entitled 'Street Life' was programmed by Circus Performer/Producer Kim McCafferty. This event was the featured photograph by Lorraine Teevan on the Irish Times front page of 24 9 2022 and was one of the Irish Times Top 10 Picks for Culture Night 2022.





8. Shared Island Action Research

The Arts Office took part in a research project funded by the Irish Research Council New Foundations Scheme under the Shared Island Initiative entitled Building Capacity for Cultural Industries, Towards A Shared Island Approach. Over a series of workshops, the project partners led by Dr Victoria Durrer (UCD) and Dr Aoife Mc Grath (QUB), Arts Council, ACNI and other dance and theatre experts explored experiences of the performing arts (dance and theatre) across the island of Ireland. The full report is published on www.cavanarts.ie.

9. Reaching Out

April 2022 Followers	April 2023 Followers
375	1,283

Increasingly responsive messaging on social media platforms continues to grow our following and reach.

10. Collaboration

Collaborations include the Oblivion exhibition by Aideen Barry programmed at Townhall, Cavan.

The Determinator by John McManus performed by Charles McGuinness and produced in conjunction with Townhall, Cavan.



Aideen Barry Artist at Oblivion Exhibition at Townhall, collaborative work. Copyright Lorraine Teevan





Reporting

The arts office reports to the Housing, Corporate and Cultural Affairs Special Policy Committee and regularly to Emma Clancy, County Librarian and Eoin Doyle, Director of Services. We work closely with Cultural Partners including Cavan Arts Venues, Townhall and Ramor, Cavan County Museum and Cavan Libraries.

2022 Staff Structure

Danielle McDermott, Clerical Officer, Annetta Brides, Assistant p/t, Elisha McCaffrey, Arts and Health Manager p/t, Rhonda Tidy, Public Art Manager and Catriona O'Reilly, Arts Officer.

County Museum

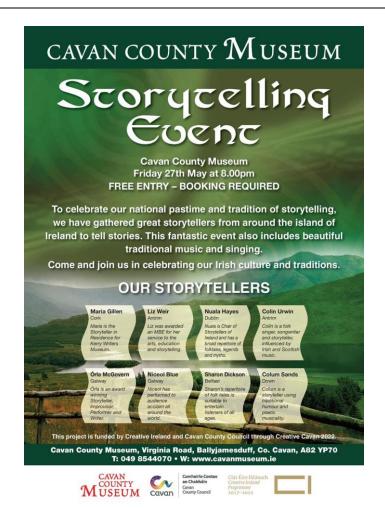
Following two years of Covid restrictions, 2022 marked the museum being fully open and operational again. This brought the opportunity to restart popular events and programmes, and also to look at ways to attract and interact with new audiences.

Storytelling Event

In May 2022 the museum ran a hugely successful Storytelling Event, which included traditional music, singing and storytelling and which celebrated our Irish culture and traditions. The main storytelling event, held on the evening of Friday 27th May, attracted over 120 attendees, and received fantastic positive feedback from all who attended. Running in conjunction with the main public event were a series of events which engaged with local schools; some 80 pupils attended these events over the course of 2 days. This programme of storytelling events was possible thanks to funding received from Creative Ireland.







Poster for the Storytelling Event

Eden Gallery Exhibitions

Eden Gallery exhibitions restarted in the Museum in October of 2022, launching with an exhibition of art by the Ukrainian community in County Cavan, with the pieces acting as reflections and reactions to the ongoing war in Ukraine. Ukrainian school children in Cavan contributed pieces showing their thought, feelings and experiences of the war, and Ukrainian artist Misha Bachu produced original works in the Ukrainian colours of yellow and blue for the exhibition. The end of exhibition was marked with an evening of cultural celebration, with a concert of traditional Irish and Ukrainian music. The concert had a fantastic turnout, with many Cavan locals and Ukrainian nationals coming together to attend.





Artist Misha Bachu with some of his pieces on display during the Ukrainian art exhibition.

Photo credit – Adrian Donohoe Photography

In December 2022, local artist Kim Gaffney undertook the museum's first solo art exhibition of the year, with her exhibition "The Four Seasons", which took inspiration from the wildlife and nature of County Cavan. The exhibition was very popular and received great feedback from both the public and also from local media, including the Anglo-Celt and Northern Sound.



Artist Kim Gaffney with some of her pieces from her "The Four Seasons" exhibition.

Photo credit – Sonja Smith Photography





The Eden Gallery is fully booked for exhibitions going in to 2023, and all at the museum look forward to continuing to work with and support local artists through this gallery.

The Whispering Chair

October 2022 saw Cavan-based theatre group Livin' Dred produce and perform 'The Whispering Chair', supported through Creative Ireland. The story, written by local playwright Tara Maria Lovett, was inspired by a piece of furniture from the museum's collection and the events of the Decade of Centenaries. This full-scale theatre production followed a successful reading of the play at the museum for Culture Night 2020.



Publicity poster for 'The Whispering Chair' production

3 performances were held for the general public, with a strong audience turnout for each. Funding received from Creative Ireland allowed the production to also be presented at no cost to several local schools; some 300 students from a variety of schools had the opportunity to watch and engage with the play. Feedback from the general public and schools was very positive, and the opportunity to work and engage with Cavan creatives for the production was fantastic.





Culture Night

The museum took part in the county's annual Culture Night programme, with an event celebrating the 100th anniversary of An Garda Síochána. The evening was a great success, with a strong turnout from the local community and beyond. The event included military vehicles and weapons displays from the Irish Military Vehicles Group, information stands and displays from the O.N.E and local Garda divisions and some traditional music to accompany the evening. Some 100 people visited the museum over the course of the evening, which was a great success.



Part of the celebrations for the 100th anniversary of An Garda Síochána during Culture Night.

From left to right: Cathaoirleach of Cavan County Council John Paul Feeley, Garda Lisa

Stephens, Sgt. Seamus Bruen, Garda Maria Glennon, Museum Curator Holly Roche and Chief

Executive of Cavan County Council Tommy Ryan

Photo credit - Lorraine Teevan

Alongside the events and exhibitions mentioned above, the museum also continued to be a strong tourist attraction within the county, welcoming over 10,000 visitors in 2022. Although this figure is down from pre-Covid figures, the museum team was delighted to see a positive bounce back following 2 years of disrupted opening. Our





education programme also continued to see a return in numbers, with nearly 2,000 pupils from over 50 different schools visiting the museum to engage with our collections and stories. Group tours also started to return, although at a slightly more delayed pace, but the museum was still pleased to welcome over 500 group visitors from 18 different groups and organisations in 2022. The museum team has continued to work together to make the museum a central tourist attraction for the county.

Ramor Theatre, Virginia/ Cavan Town Hall

Mission Statement 2022

Ramor Theatre/Townhall Cavan are Arts Centers run as direct functions of Cavan County Council. Both Arts Centres aim to encourage, nurture and develop 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 both inside both venues aswell as off site performances.

Ramor Theatre opened its doors in September 1999 and since then it has been the central hub of the cultural and artistic life in County Cavan being the only professional performance space in the county. The recently refurbished Townhall Cavan opened in September 2021.

Townhall Cavan is located in the historic building in the heart of the principle county town with a population of 10,000. It is the vision of Cavan County Council that the two venues will work side by side under one management team to ensure an overall vision for the arts for the County of Cavan as a whole.

It is envisaged that geographically Ramor Theatre will be a creative hub which will serve East Cavan and Townhall Cavan will serve Cavan Town and west of the county through the widespread network of smaller venues in this part of the county.





The Ramor Theatre is home to Livin Dred Theatre Company which over the past sxteen years has worked in partnership with the venue to incubate, develop and produce top quality professional theatre, which has then gone to tour both nationally and internationally.

Ramor Theatre is currently undergoing renovations, with the addition of a new state of the art library been build next door to the Ramor which will also see Arts Centre getting new bar, foyer, dressing rooms together with new studio/rehearsal space. All Ramor Theatre/Townhall Cavan's work will take place in the one venue at Townhall Theatre, Cavan until this work is complete in April 2023.

Following discussions with The Arts Council it was decided following advice from Head of Venues that 2022 application was the time for Ramor - Townhall Cavan to apply for funding under the one umbrella as it runs under same dictorate of Cavan County Council and has the same management team.

Ramor Theatre Virginia/Townhall Cavan Staff

Venues Manager Padraic McIntyre
Technical Manager Paddy Farrelly
Marketing Manager Lisa Gaffney
Box Office Frances Brady
Box Office Trina McCann
Front of House/Coffee Bar Helen Foy
Caretaker/Cleaner Aisling Farrelly

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. For example, following our own review in 2018 of our audience needs, we introduced special arts events for children with additional needs in the Ramor Theatre. This was a resounding success, and we hope to introduce this also to Townhall Cavan.





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. We aim to have arts events across all genres and artforms which will appeal to and atteract different nationalities, age groups, religions and genders living in Cavan into our venues.

Although Townhall Cavan's doors have only opened in September 2021, we ran a hugely successful programme of events in 2022 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 2022. Audiences responses were excellent in both turnout and reaction to our programme in 2022. As well as performances in the Townhall itself, Townhall brought a number of shows off-site including John McManus' play "Under the Briars" to St. Patrick's Hall Shercock as part of Culture Night 2022 and MAM by Teach Damhsa to Mullahoran GFC Centre.

Professional Development Opportunities



Townhall Cavan and Ramor Theatre continue to be 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. A number of residencies took placein these studios in 2022 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. The iMac Core Suite also has capabilities for XR (Extended Reality - AR,VR, etc.), design (3D, technical and graphics) and visual arts and can function with related software and technology such as Adobe Suite, Solid Works, VR headsets, 3D projection, etc. It also has Windows capabilities. Also the 3D printing and laser cutting technology can be moved around the building to accommodate group workshops. Townhall Cavan also has a large meeting/rehearsal/workshop room located on the second floor.

Ramor Theatre which is currently under renovation as part of the new Virginia Cultural and Civic space which sees a modern library building been build alongside the current theatre building. This will give huge opportunities for us 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 2022

For both Townhall Cavan & Ramor Theatres, 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 2022

Commercial Programme



Our Commercial programme is events run by Townhall Cavan which are successful high-profile acts which attracts customers and raises the profile of the theatre nationally. Townhall Cavan hosted a number of high profile commercial acts in 2022 including, The Dubliners Show, The FUREYS, The Illegals featuring Niamh Kavanagh, Sean Keane, Don Mescall and Thomas Gabriel, Four commercial acts all music performed, Tommy Flemming, Jack L, Strings and Things, Pilgrim St, and ABBA.



Community Arts Programme



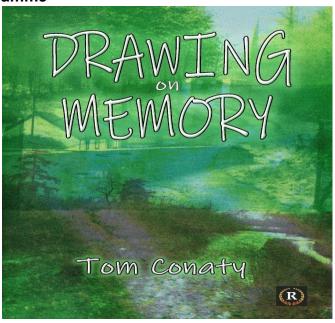
Community Arts has been and remains a huge part of what Townhall Cavan does in our local area. Townhall Cavan continued to collaborate with local music and drama groups and continue to create and develop relationship with both them and their audiences. Townhall Cavan One Act and Three Act Drama Festival was hosted in Townhall Cavan in November and March respectively, Aisteori Munchille performed The Power Of Darkness by John McGahern while local band The Savage Hearts launched their album. A number of community groups used our facilities for both meetings and workshops.

Professional Theatre Programme

In 2022 Townhall Cavan presented some top-class touring productions by Arts Council funded companies including Directions Out Theatre Company production of Halycon Days, Decadent Theatre Company Blackbird, Big Guerilla's Victors Dung, Glass Mask Theatre's Pop Tart Lipstick, Once Off Productions, Aran & I'm.

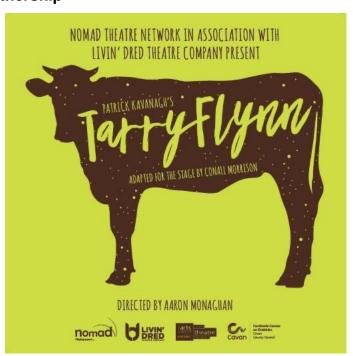


Literature Programme



In order to fill a void in Literature programming identified by Townhall Cavan management the venue has joined the Literature Audience Development Scheme, and the Live network to host a number of events including National Poetry Dayand Drawing on Memory by Tom Conaty.

Livin Dred Partnership







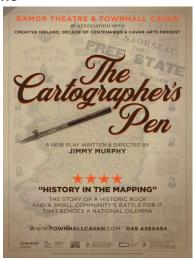
Townhall Cavan together with Ramor Theatre continued their working relationship with Livin Dred Theatre Company throughout 2022 giving them administrative and marketing assistance along with payment towards their production of Danti-Dan by Gina Moxley and Tarry Flynn by Patrick Kavanagh both of teched, previewed and opened at Townhall Cavan, before engaging on Nationwide tours.

Childrens Theatre Programme



Childrens Theatre continues to be very important to us at Ramor Theatre and Townhall Cavan and we hosted numerous shows both by Touring Professional Companies and Local Youth Drama Groups. Shows included Gonzo Youth Theatre with two productions Brainstorm and Schoolyard Courtroom, Backstage Theatre's production of Luminaria, Joe The Magician, Roscommon Arts Centre production of An Ant Called Amy, Creative Voices I AM TREE. In November 2022 we hosted together with Cavan Library Service Lullaby Leaf a captivating Fun-filled immersive theatre experience for young children with special needs.

Teenage Theatre Programme







Ger Carey returned to Townhall Cavan on a number of occasions with his show Psycho Spaghetti aimed at Transition Years. Also our own In-house professional of The Cartographer's Pen produced in association with Decades of Centenaries and Creative Ireland did matinees to Secondary School students bring the history of the participants along the border to life for history students.

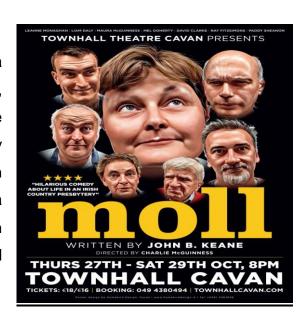
Visual Arts Programme



Townhall Cavan has a small but beautiful versatile art and exhibition space. In 2022 we ran a number of visual arts exhibitions. Crossing the Salt by Gabhann Dunne which ran from April to June in our galley space as did Josie's Shop by Margot Quinn. Aideen Barry's exhibition oblivion ran in the main auditorium from 2nd August until 15th September.

In-House Productions

In 2022 Townhall Cavan produced a number of In-house productions, one professional production, The Cartographers Pen by Jimmy Murphy, one amateur production Moll by John B Keane and Cinderella pantomime performed by both children and adults from around Cavan Town.







Workshops

In 2022 there were a number of workshops and classes held in Townhall Cavan including Beginnings An weekly Acting class for six week led by James O'Donnell, Ladies Arts Classes for six weeks led by Deirdre O'Reilly, Song writing and recording workshop led by Evan Walsh & Darragh O'Reilly and Music Generation run a weekly kids choir her in Townhall.



Ladies Morning Art Class

Townhall, Cavan Town,
Thursday Mornings 11am-12.45pm
Four Week Term
Thursday 21st & Thursday 28th April, Thursday 5th & Thursday 12th May



Art materials supplied (paint, paintbrushes & palettes)
No previous painting experience required.
Suitable for beginners & all levels. Cost €90.
Contact the Townhall to book a space.

*Booking is essential & spaces are limited to ensure one to one guidance & attention.



This Ladies art class provides an opportunity to socialise and connect with others within a warm & welcoming creative space.

Each class will begin with a cup of tea/coffee; you will then be guided through the painting process by your Art Teacher, Deirdre and encouraged each step of the way.

Each participant will complete an acrylic painting on canvas.





Transportation, Climate Change, Environment and Water Services

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 in excess of 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.

- 1. Supporting Communities
- 2. Stimulate Sustainable Economic Activity
- 3. Protect & Enhance Natural Environmental Resources
- 4. Plan and Develop Infrastructural Capacity
- 5. Promote a Positive Image of Cavan County Council and the County
- 6. Good Governance and Building Organisational Capacity

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

Cavan Road Network Classification

The total length of public roadway in County Cavan is 3,011km with an estimated value of over €1.1billion, with the Regional and Local Road network accounting for €1 billion of this total.





Category		Length (Kilometers)	% of total
National	Primary	66.95	2.23
	Secondary	61.69	2.05
Sub total		128.64	4.28
Non National	Regional	399.06	13.32
	Local Primary	735.43	24.53
	Local Secondary	1,335.66	44.56
	Local Tertiary	399.1	13.31
Sub total		2,869.25	95.72
Total		2,997.89	100

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. The National Transport Authority (NTA) from 2021 onwards is tasked with providing funding for Active Travel projects across the county within urban areas.





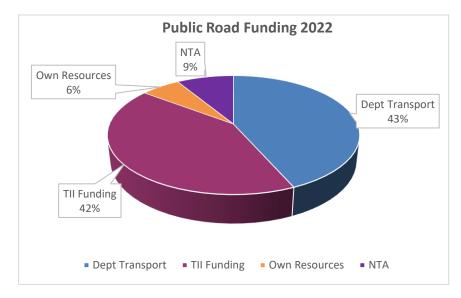
2022 Funding Allocations

The table below shows the funding allocated by each funding source at the start of 2022.

		Initial
Road Category	Funding Source	Allocation
National Roads	Transport Infrastructure Ireland	€ 16,239,512
Non National Roads	Department of Transport	€ 16,809,860
Non National Roads	Cavan County Council	€ 2,326,379
Active Travel	National Transport Authority	€3,371,445
		€38,747,196

Cavan County Council Contributions

At the start of 2022, Cavan County Council provided €2.32 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 2022 Cavan County Council was able to avail of additional funding as follows

Source	Category	Allocation
Transport Infrastructure Ireland	Pavement, Ordinary Maintenance,	€1,181,841
	VRS	
Department of Transport	Patcher Funding	€100,000
Dept. of Rural & Community	Local Improvement Schemes	€1,273,457
Development		
		€2,555,298

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

Virginia is the last remaining town on the N3 National Route from Dublin to the NI Border which has not been bypassed.

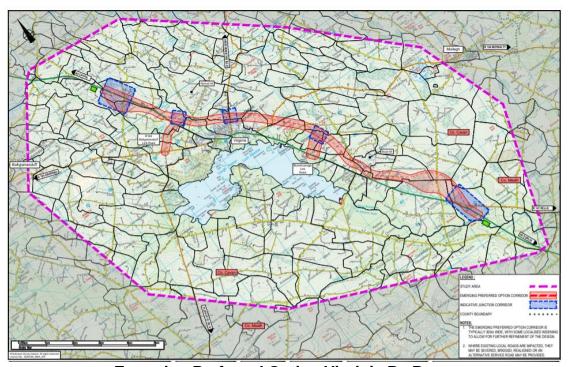
Cavan County Council have appointed JB Barry Transportation as Technical Advisors to provide all engineering, environmental, economic and appraisal services required to deliver this project through the planning and design phases.

The N3 Virginia Bypass scheme is to be 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, were 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 EV charging facilities. 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.



Emerging Preferred Option Virginia By Pass.

The scheme is currently progressing through Phase 2 Options Selection. Public Consultation No 1 was held in March 2020 advertising the scheme study area, constraints, and initial options. A 2nd Public Consultation advertising the shortlisted options was held in November 2020. This Consultation was held online due to the Covid-19 restrictions in place at that time. A third Public Consultation advertising the Emerging Preferred Option was held in August /September 2021. This third Consultation was also held online but interested parties or stakeholders could arrange "In Person" meetings or telephone calls with the Project Team during the Consultation





period. It is envisaged that a Preferred Option for the scheme will be established in Quarter 1, 2023.

As part of the ongoing Planning and Design of the scheme a Traffic Survey was completed in October 2022 while Site Investigation and Topographical Survey works commenced on site in late 2022. Various other Environmental Surveys were also commenced and will continue into 2023. These Investigations and Surveys will be used to inform Phase 3 (Design and Environmental Evaluation) of the scheme.



Left: Percussion Borehole Rig





Minor Improvement Schemes

N55 Corduff to South of Killydoon, Section A

Section A, which involved a 3.2km realignment of the N55 at two distinct locations to the south of Ballinagh, reached substantial completion in late 2018. The Contract remains in the Handover Phase. CCC continued to liaise with the Consultant and





Contractor during 2022 in an effort to resolve all outstanding issues relating to defects and snagging items and contractual matters, with a view to closing out the Contract in 2023.

N55 Corduff to South of Killydoon, Section B

Section B, between the townlands of Ballytrust and Mullahoran, involves a 3.7km realignment of the N55 immediately south of Section A. The Scheme has seen significant progression through 2022. RPS Consulting Engineers, appointed in February 2020, for the provision of Consultancy Services for Phases 5, 6 & 7 of the TII's Project Management Guidelines, have progressed the Scheme through Phase 5 (Enabling & Procurement) being the first of the Construction/Implementation Phases of the TII's Project Management Guidelines.

Having received TII approval to go to Tender for the Main Construction Contract, CCC ran a Tender competition commencing in Q2 of 2022. 4 no. valid Tenders were received by the tender deadline of Friday, 08th July 2022 and following the Tender Assessment process the successful tenderer was identified. The updated scheme budget (Minor Project Estimate at Tender Award (TC3) was subsequently submitted and approved by TII in September 2022.

Phase 5 deliverables were updated in compliance with the latest TII publications to take account of the approved Scheme Budget. The project has reached the TII's Phase 5 Approval Point (Approval to Award and progress from PMG Phase 5 to Phase 6). A formal request for approval to award the contract was submitted to TII on 07th October 2022 with formal approval being received in November. The Contract was awarded to Clare Civil Engineering Ltd in December 2022 with works commencing on site in January 2023.

Cavan County Council took possession of the CPO lands in late 2020 following issue of Notice of Entry on affected landowners. The associated land and property acquisition processes have progressed during 2022 with further settlement terms reached. By the end of 2022 75% of all cases had reached formal agreement with

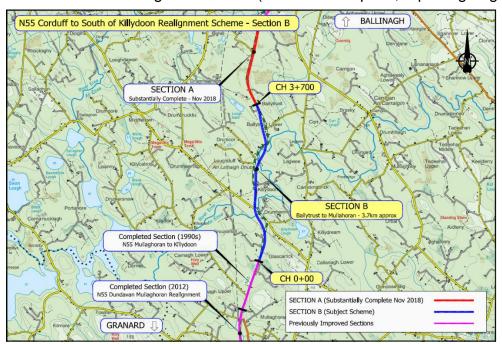




conveyancing underway or being closed out while negotiations continued in the outstanding cases.

In preparation for a Main Construction Contract, a number of Enabling Works Contracts have been advanced or completed including the following:

- Boundary Fencing (complete)
- Site clearance (complete)
- Supplementary Ground Investigation (complete)
- Proof Topographical surveys (complete)
- Utility/Service Diversions (ESB temp diversions complete, Eir diversions agreed)
- Advance Archaeological Services (fieldwork complete, reporting ongoing)



Location Map of N55 Corduff to South of Killydoon Realignment, Section B





Aerial view of the boundary fencing of the route of the proposed road alignment, close to the existing N55 alignment at Ballytrust lower and Legwee.

N3 Dublin Road Roundabout Scheme

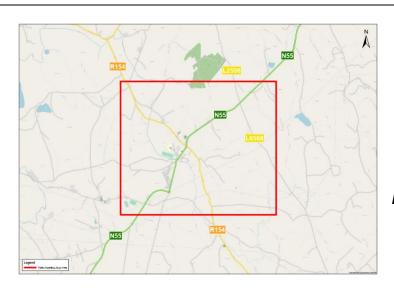
RPS Consulting Engineers have been appointed to progress the N3 Dublin Road Roundabout Scheme through phases 1, 2 and 3 of the Project Management Guidelines. RPS Consulting Engineers are our Technical Advisors for the scheme and are currently working on phase 2, Option Selection. An updated traffic survey was completed at the end of April and is currently being analysed by the consultants.

N55 Ballinagh Relief Road

A funding allocation from TII was secured in 2022 to commence the planning of the N55 Ballinagh Relief Road Scheme. A tender was prepared for the engagement of consultants to undertake the preparation of a Strategic Assessment Report (SAR) which is the first stage in the project lifecycle.

Roughan & O'Donovan Consulting Engineers were appointed in late July 2022 and the completed report was submitted to the TII in November 2022. Pending approval of the SAR, Cavan County Council will make a request to TII to progress the Scheme to Phases 1-4 of the Project Management Guidelines, to commence the planning and design phases in 2023.





Indicative Study Area for the N55 Ballinagh Relief Road.

National Road Safety Schemes

Virginia Main Street (Public Realm)

A Preliminary Design for Phase 2 of the N3 Virginia Main Street HD15 Scheme was completed in late 2018 following consultations with Municipal District Councillors, the Town Team, the Development Association, and the public. In 2019 approval was received from the TII to appoint Roadplan Consulting Engineers to the scheme to progress it through Part 8 Planning, Detailed Design, Tendering and Construction.

Part VIII Planning for the Virginia Traffic Calming and Pavement Scheme was approved by the Councillors in the Ballyjamesduff Municipal district in 2020. Construction Contract for the works was signed with Sammy Wilkins and Sons on 23rd June 2021 with the undergrounding of services commencing on this scheme on the 28thJune 2021.

Footpath paving works commenced in May 2022 and were substantial complete on the main street by the end of 2022 with all works to be completed by quarter 1 2023.





New Roundabout at Junction of N3 and Ballyjamesduff Road in Virginia.

Virginia - Carrakeelty More Safety Scheme.

This safety scheme incorporates online improvement works, junction improvements and road widening. RPS consultants are currently progressing this scheme through Phase 3 – Phase 7 of the Project Management Guidelines. The scheme also involves the widening of Ballaghanea bridge.

There is likely to some timeline delays to this scheme as environmental screening has shown there is a requirement to carry out a Natura Impact Statement. When completed this will be submitted directly to An Bord Pleanála for approval. Road subsidence on the N3 close to the Lakeside Manor hotel has now been repaired. Tendering of the main scheme will await the decision of ABP.





Embankment and road repair on N3 at Lakeside Manor Virginia.

Cavan Crystal - Kilmore Roundabout Safety & Pavement Scheme.

This scheme involves the installation of a new carriageway pavement, footpaths, raised Cycle Lanes, New Bus bays and safety improvement works that will benefit both 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.

Clandillon Civil Consulting were appointed in 2022 to progress this scheme through Phase 3 (Public Consultation) – Phase 7 (Construction) of the Project Management Guidelines. Work has commenced on the detailed design for the scheme, and it is intended to go to part 8 planning with this project in early 2023.

N55 Cashel Cross Safety Scheme

JB Barry consultants are currently designing a safety scheme at this location which will involve the alteration of two local road junctions and the introduction of two right turning lanes. It is hoped to tender this scheme in quarter 1 2023.





N3 Drumsillagh Annagh and Drumcrow Safety Scheme

Roadplan consulting engineers completed the design of a safety scheme at this location in 2022 which will involve the introduction of right turning lanes at these 3 local road junctions. A tender for the scheme was issued at the end of 2022 with construction due to commence in 2023.

Lisduff N3

Funding for safety scheme has been secured from TII. The Preliminary Design Report (PDR) has been approved by the TII. It is proposed to install a right turning lane at this location in conjunction with a pavement overlay scheme. The tender for the overlay scheme was issued in November 2022 with a view to awarding the tender in quarter 1 2023 subject to TII approval.

N54 Cloverhill

Sight distance improvement works are currently being designed for this location. Subject to funding it is intended to carry out proposed works in 2023.

National Road Pavement Overlays Schemes

There are currently twelve pavement overlay schemes at different stages of progression on both National Primary and National Secondary Roads within County Cavan as follows;

Road	Scheme	Status
Number		
N3	Virginia Town Pavement Scheme	Substantially complete
N3	Lisgrea Cross Pavement Scheme	Substantially complete
N3	Whitegate to Maghera Pavement Scheme	Tendered November 2022
N3	Pollamore to Kilmore Roundabout Pavement	To be completed as part of
	Scheme	Safety Scheme in 2023.
N16	Blacklion Town Pavement Scheme	Complete
N55	Ballinagh Town Pavement Scheme	Substantially complete and
		defects rectified.





N55	Ballinagh (North) & N87 Bawnboy	Substantially complete
N55	Moynehall to Pollamore Roundabout Scheme	Substantially complete
N87	Gartaquill to Mullaghduff Pavement Phase 1	Substantially complete
N87	Gartaquill to Mullaghduff Pavement Scheme Phase 2	Substantially complete
N55	Cavan to Longford Border Pavement Scheme N55	Design Stage
N55	Kiilydoon to Ballytrust Pavement Scheme N55	Design Stage





Completed Footpath and Pavement Works on N87 Gartaquill to Mullaghduff
Pavement Scheme Phase 2





Completed surfacing works on N3 at Lisgrea.





NP/NS Retrofit Fencing 2022

TII allocated €50,000 in 2022 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. A section of the N3 at Carragho, Drumhillagh and Lavey was identified as a suitable location to retro fit approximately 850 meters of this new fencing system which commenced in November 2022.

Vehicle Restraint System (Safety Barriers) Programme 2022

TII allocated €380,000 for the repair and installation of new barriers along all national routes. These locations were identified, designed, and tendered with works commencing in November 2022. It is envisaged that work will be completed in quarter 1 2023.

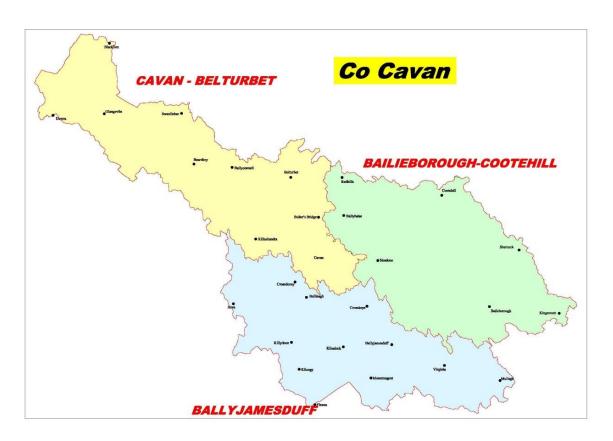
Regional & Local Roads

2022 Road Works Programme

A grant of €16,809,860 was allocated to Cavan County Council during 2022 for the improvement and maintenance of Regional and Local roads in the county this includes the figure for Bridge Rehabilitation, Speed Limits in Housing Estates, Low-Cost Safety Schemes. Works generally consisted of drainage improvement, strengthening with granular and macadam materials and surface dressing. The 2022 RWP was delivered through the three Municipal Districts.







Strategic Regional & Local Roads

East West Road (from Dundalk to Sligo):

An allocation of €50,000 was received in 2022 to commence work on the development of a project on a section of this route on the R188 at Rathkenny. A tender for the appointment of consultants to develop a Strategic Assessment Report (SAR) for the scheme was completed in November 2022 with the appointment of Consulting engineers Roughan and O' Donovan. Work commenced on the development of the SAR in December and it is anticipated that it will be submitted to the Department for approval in early 2023.

Specific Improvement Grant

R194 Derrylea Bridge Project

Cavan County Council were allocated €50,000 in 2021, for preparation of design and contract documents for Derrylea Bridge widening and improvement works. Malachy Walsh and Partners were appointed in 2021 as the consultants for the scheme.





The proposal for this project was to widen the structure on the upstream and downstream sides. This would allow for the provision of a two-way carriageway and one number footpath, catering for all vehicles and vulnerable road users at this location.

Part VIII planning for the scheme was approved by Councillors in the Ballyjamesduff MD and an allocation of €500,000 was provided by the department in 2022. A tender competition was completed in May 2022 and the successful contractor commenced work in June. The project reached substantial completion in November 2022.





Derrylea Bridge Widening Works

Assan Bridge Project

Malachy Walsh and Partners were appointed in 2021 as specialist bridge consultants for L3028 Assan Bridge project. Assan Bridge is located 6km NNE of Ballyjamesduff on the L3028 at the crossroads with the L3005 (going south) and the L3545 (going north) has a Eirspan condition rating of 3. These roads link the N3 with the R165 at Grousehall and is used as a diversion route when the N3 is closed for emergencies.

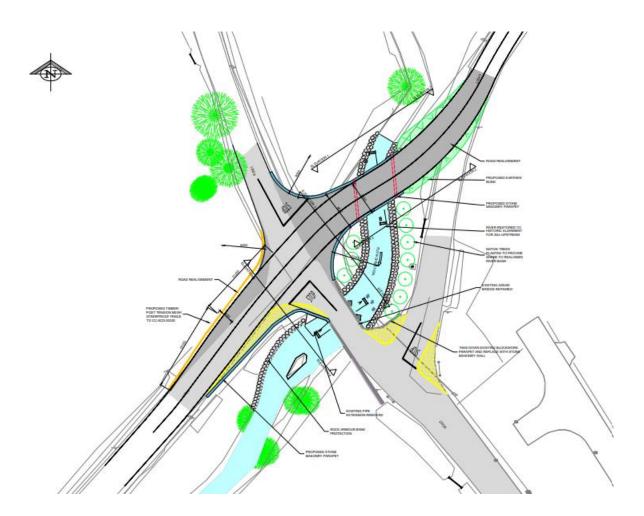
Flooding has been an issue at this location and a number of options were considered by the consultant, with the preferred option being the construction of a new two-way bridge and the realignment of the existing road and junctions. The provision of the two-





way bridge will greatly enhance road safety at this existing pinch point where there has been multiple single vehicle collisions with the parapet walls on both sides of the existing bridge.

Site Investigation was completed in October 2022 and Part 8 planning for the scheme was published in December 2022.



Assan Bridge Proposed Layout

Regional & Local Road Safety Schemes

Cavan County Council received €300,000 in Department of Transport Grant Allocations for 8 No. Low-Cost Safety Schemes in 2022. The schemes are as follows;





- Rathkenny Bends on the R188 Cavan to Cootehill Road. The scheme involves localised route treatment to include Provision of warning signage, improved road surface and markings.
- R205 Ballyconnell Ballinamore Road, Local Road Junction improvements with Regional Road at Killycluggan and
- R197 Kingscourt to Carrickmacross Road at Cabra. Provision of improved road surface & markings, at this entrance location on a busy Regional Road.
- R154 Kilnaleck Mountnugent Rd. Localised Route Treatment to include Provision of warning signage, improved road surface and markings.
- R191 Cootehill Bailieboro Road, Sharpes Bend. Localised Route
 Treatment to include Provision of warning signage, improved road surface
 and markings. Kerbing to demarcate corner and junction edge.
- L1533 Old Butlersbridge Road. Traffic calming measures including chevrons and road markings and high friction surface.
- R178 Bailieboro to Virginia Road at Enagh House Pub. Hedge Clearance and localised widening of road at dangerous bend in collaboration with MD Office.
- R199 Killeshandra-Ballinagh Rd at Breffni Balloons. Localised Route Treatment to include Provision of warning signage, improved road surface and marking





Completed LCSS Works at Old Butlersbridge Road





Regional & Local Road Bridge Projects

Cavan County Council received €685,250 in Grant Allocations for Regional & Local Road Bridges in 2022. There were16 number DOT allocated bridge remedial schemes proposed. The bridge remedial schemes were as follows: - L7504 Moher Bridge, R188 Cullentragh Bridge, R201 New Bridge, R212 Ballyhaise Bridge, L7595 Greaghnafarna Bridge, L7024 Billis Bridge, R200 Bellavalley Lower Bridge 2, L3525 Dingins Bridge, L76091 Leiter Lane Bridge, L1511 Urney Bridge, R199 Croaghan Bridge, R194 Yellow Bridge, L1533 Aghadrumgullin Bridge, R194 Finaway Bridge, L3526 Corrawaddy Bridge and L1522 Butlers Bridge.

Bridge Restoration Works for Billis Bridge, Ballyhaise bridge and Corrawaddy bridge did not proceed in 2022 due to a substantial increase in construction costs. The remaining 13 Bridge Restoration Projects were all completed by the end of 2022.

Moher Bridge L7504 (Before Rehabilitation Works & After Rehabilitation Works)







Dingins Bridge L3525 (Before Rehabilitation Works & After Rehabilitation Works)





Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Works

Cavan County Council received an allocation of €505,000 under the Climate Change Adaption and Resilience Works Fund for 2022. The projects that received funding included Ricehill Culvert, Keadue Lane Phase 1, Crosskeys Phase 2, L2503 Corlismore, Dingins Gowna and N3 Pollamore. Works were completed on all of the projects with the exception of Ricehill Culvert which requires further investigation and option development.

The council received approval from the department to substitute Phase 2 of the Keadue Lane project for Ricehill to allow for the completion of the entire scheme in 2022. In addition, an allocation was received from the NTA to allow for the installation of a footpath and public lighting in tandem with the culvert works. The project was substantially completed by the end of 2022.





Completed Works on Keadue Lane

Community Involvement Schemes

Cavan County Council received an allocation of €513,150 for Community Involvement Schemes with the applicants providing 10% of the overall cost of the works. There were 4 schemes successfully completed in 2022.

Local Improvement Schemes

Cavan County Council applied for and secured two tranches of funding from the Department of Rural and Community Development for Local Improvement Schemes in 2022. With the high level of funding in tranche two we had the 5th highest allocation in the country outlining Cavan's commitment to the delivery of this scheme.

- Allocation 1 €371,140
- Allocation 2 €902,317





With the allocation received in 2022 Cavan County Council completed a total of 25 lanes, providing Drainage, Surfacing, and associated civil works. This funding provides vital investment in the rural communities of County Cavan.





Above: Completed LIS project

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.

		Maintenance
Road Category	Kms	Costs 2022
National Primary	62	377,287
National Secondary	61	224,297
Regional	399	1,160,600
Local	2489	5,332,400
Total	3011	7,094,584





National Road Maintenance

During 2022 Cavan County Council received €601,584 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.

Regional & Local Road Maintenance

In 2022 the DOT provided an allocation of €2.4m in the form of a Discretionary Grant and €2.3m 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 530km of the Road network as part of its Winter Maintenance Service which accounts for 18% 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 on the basis of 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.

68% of Cavan County Councils public lighting stock has been updated with LED fittings as of the end of 2022. Cavan County Council is currently working in partnership with the RMO on a regional basis to achieve a full LED retrofit programme which we anticipate will be tendered in 2023. SSE Airtricity Utility Solutions Ltd is the Council's Maintenance Contractor for public lighting and Energia provide the supply of unmetered electricity.





Active Travel

Background

As part of the National Development Plan the Government is firmly committed to encouraging the use of walking, cycling and other active travel methods and this has been reflected in the active travel budget.

Active Travel is generally defined as travelling with a purpose using your own energy such as walking or cycling to work, school or to shop. The National Transport Authority (NTA) has been tasked with the implementation of the active travel programme and has developed a 5 year national walking and cycling infrastructure plan to underpin its delivery.

The role of the Active Travel Team is not just to build cycle lanes or provide safe routes to school but work to change behaviour and create a vision of our towns and villages where active travel is the primary means of travel so everyone can safely and easily avail of walking and cycling facilities.

The Active Travel team at Cavan County Council was set up during the year with the aim of expanding and improving the cycling and walking infrastructure in Cavan. It is a multi-disciplinary team covering engineers, technicians and administrative staff. There are four roles in the Active Travel team in Cavan with all roles funded by the National Transport Authority. The NTA also provide funding for all the Active Travel schemes.

Active Travel Measures 2022

Cavan County Council received €3,421,445 from the NTA for Active Travel projects in 2022. There were 32 project schemes in total, some of the schemes have been completed or are well underway. A number of the schemes will be continued into 2023.





Projects Delivered

Some of the schemes in 2022 included upgrades to the pedestrian network: Communities across Cavan benefitted from Active Travel investment in the county's pedestrian network. New footpaths were constructed, existing footpaths upgraded and additional pedestrian crossings provided at various locations.

- R162 L6624 Tullymongan Pedestrian Crossing, Cavan Town
- N87 Public Lighting from Ballyconnell Town to Slieve Russell Hotel
- L1045 Ballyconnell to Ballyheady Trail
- L1534 Kilnaglare Upper, Butlersbridge, footpath extension
- Keadue Lane tie-in with Cavan Urban Greenway Phase 1
- R162 Dublin Road, Kingscourt footpath and public lighting extension
- Junction Tightening at Clara Lane L2032/L6061, Cootehill
- New Pedestrian Crossing Ardkeen Housing Estate, Cavan
- Junction Tightening & Pedestrian Crossing New Road, Bailieborough
- New Pedestrian Crossing & Footpath Ballyjamesduff Virginia Road R194
- New Pedestrian Crossings, Footpaths & School Drop Off Zone –
 Mountnugent National School
- New Footpath & Public Lights Redhills Village
- New Public Lights Chapel Lane, Kingscourt
- New Footpaths Cullies, Cavan
- New Footpaths & Pedestrian Crossings Loreto School Entrance/St
 Christophers Hospice Entrance
- New Pedestrian Crossing Outside Centra Supermarket and Service Station in Belturbet
- New footpaths, Pedestrian Crossings & Public Lighting Mullagh
- Public lighting Shercock Road, Kingscourt





Projects Underway

- Permeability Link between St. Marys N.S. to the new GAA grounds, Arvagh Town
- Active Travel Scheme in Ballyhaise Village new footpaths, pedestrian crossings and junction tightening
- New footpaths, Junction Tightening, Pedestrian Crossings & Public Lighting
 Swellan, Cavan Town
- New footpaths & Pedestrian Crossing Ballyjamesduff Road, Virginia
- New footpaths, Junction Tightening & Public Lighting Shercock
- Public lighting Mill Lane, Belturbet
- New Pedestrian Crossing Arvagh
- New Pedestrian Crossing Kilcogy

Projects Underway Progressing to 2023

- Cavan Town Area Based Transport Assessment
- Safe Route to Schools Programme St Marys National School, Virginia and
 St. Aidan Secondary School, Cootehill
- Light Segregation Scheme, Cavan Town Design Stage
- Cavan Urban Greenway Phase 2 Design Stage
- L1512 Drumelis Footpath to Farnham N.S Design Stage
- R198 Drumelis Footpath Cavan General Hospital Entrance to Cavan Golf
 Club Entrance Design Stage
- Bailieborough Town Market Square junction and R190/R191 Design Stage
- Station Road, Cootehill Design and Pavement Enabling Works Design Stage
- River Blackwater Footbridge, Virginia Design Stage
- Active Travel Crossdoney Village Scheme Design Stage
- detailed design for junction tightening at Bailieborough Road, Kingscourt (Dun na Ri lane to Main Street).





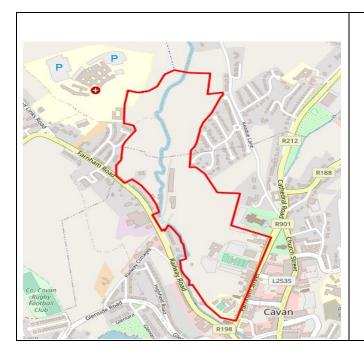
Cavan Urban Greenway

A consultant has been appointed for Cavan Town Urban Greenway to extend the length of it and bring it up to Part 8 Planning stage. A website has been launched www.cavanurbangreenway.ie to give the general public an opportunity to have their say.

This route development will form part of a regionally significant greenway in so far as it will link up with other proposed greenways that will traverse Monaghan, Fermanagh and Leitrim.

The proposed Cavan Urban Greenway Phase 2 will be a walking and cycling trail which will connect the newly built greenway at Cavan General Hospital to Farnham Street in Cavan town centre and/or Railway Road / Farnham Road. The greenway will be a shared use surfaced path, provided for leisure and visitor use alike. It is expected to be approximately 3m to 4m wide and incorporate landscaping, signage and associated amenities.

It will provide for a first-class recreational experience for people of all ages and abilities that will serve the local community and attract tourism to the region. The greenway will be developed in accordance with the Code of Best Practice for National and Regional Greenways and will seek to integrate with and enhance the existing natural and built features of the area it passes through.



Study Area for Cavan Urban

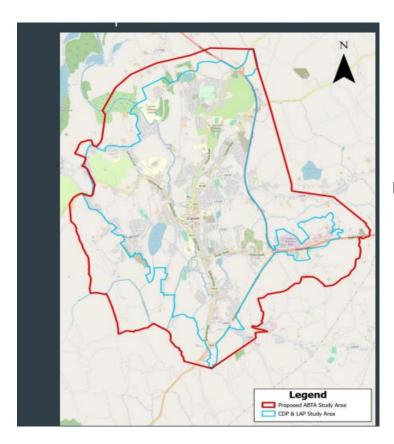
Greenway





Cavan Town Area Based Transport Assessment

DBFL Consulting Engineers (DBFL) have been commissioned by Cavan County Council (CCC) to undertake an Area Based Transport Assessment (ABTA) for the town of Cavan. The project will help underpin the future growth of Cavan as a more compact, self-sustaining town as envisaged by national, regional, and local planning policy frameworks.



Left – Study Area for Cavan Town ABTA

Safe Route to Schools

Active Travel has been supporting the Safe Routes to School programme in Cavan. Indicative plans are being worked on that will deliver safety improvements through upgraded and additional infrastructure outside schools.





SRTS Schools

- St. Mary's National School, Virginia Town
- St Aidan's Secondary School, Cootehill Town

Safe to Schools Programme - St. Marys National School Virginia

Safe to Schools Programme – St. Marys National School Virginia – Provision of new footpaths, pedestrian crossings, traffic calming measures and upgraded school drop off zone. Design completed in 2022 with construction planned for school summer holiday period in 2023.

2022 Active Travel Schemes

Tie-in to Cavan Urban Greenway from Keadue Lane

Provision of a combined footpath / cycleway linking Keadue Lane to the completed section of the Cavan Town Urban Greenway. This project provided a very worthwhile link between the existing Greenway and Cavan Town.







New Road, Bailieborough outside the Model School



Provision of a new pedestrian crossing, footpaths and junction tightening traffic calming measures







R162 Dublin Road Kingscourt

Provision of new concrete footpaths, a pedestrian crossing, public lighting, and a masonry retaining wall structure. This project was substantially completed in November 2022.



Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994 Approval

Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994 empowers a Roads Authority to provide traffic calming measures in respect of public roads in their charge.

Section 38 Schemes Approved in 2022

- St. Marys N.S. Virginia
- Ballyhaise Village Phase 1

Greenways

Cavan Leitrim Railway Greenway

Cavan County Council in partnership with Waterways Ireland were awarded funding under Measure 3 of the Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure Scheme in 2017. The project involved the development of a 5.5km recreational cycling and walking trail from the town of Ballyconnell, to Bellaheady Bridge, primarily along the Shannon-Erne





Waterway on the banks of the Woodford River. This section of the project is now complete.

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 Blacklion. An allocation of €500,000 was awarded to the project under the Carbon Tax Fund 2020 to enable the project to be brought through the required statutory process.

ARUP consulting engineers were appointed to the project by Leitrim County Council in September 2022 and commenced work in October on Phase 1 - Concept and Feasibility which includes defining a study area, identifying constraints, first public consultation and development of options.

Cavan Greenway

Cavan County Council successfully obtained funding of €175,000 in 2021 and €150,000.00 in 2022 for the Cavan Railway Greenway, which will connect Cavan Town to the proposed Ulster Canal Greenway in Monaghan/Fermanagh (at Gortnacarrow), Castle Saunderson and to the proposed Cavan Leitrim Greenway at Ballyconnell. This funding will be used to progress this project through Phase 0(Scope and Pre-Appraisal), Phase 1(Feasibility) and Phase 2(Option Selection). Tenders for Consultants were issued at the end of 2020 and was awarded in May 2021 to O'Connor Sutton Cronin Consulting Engineers.

A non-statutory public consultation took place in the Seven Horse Shoes Hotel in Belturbet on Friday 10th June and in the Hotel Kilmore on Tuesday 14th June from 2pm to 8pm each day in relation to the Constraints Study and route options. The consultants are currently progressing on the selection of an emerging preferred route option.





Above: Proposed Route Options

Road Safety

A new national Road Safety Strategy from 2021-2030 Vision Zero was finalised by the Department of Transport and published in Dec 21. 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.

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 Integrated Design Team led by Tobin Consulting Engineers were appointed in September 2021 to commence work on the Kingscourt Town Centre Regeneration Scheme.

The team consists of Urban Design and Planning Lead - Cunnane Stratton Reynolds, architectural concept design lead - Niall Smith Architects, Architectural Conservation Professionals to deal with structures with historical significance and Moore Group to deal with Archaeological and Environmental inputs.





Stage I of the scheme, Project Inception & Development of Feasibility Options, was completed in Q3 of 2022 and involved the following:

- Create design initiatives for the Market Square and Main St, between the Rocks Rd and Carrickmacross Rd roundabouts, that will provide an increase in the civic space available to the local community.
- Identify suitable properties for the provision of a new public building, a community library and a new off street carpark location - all easily accessible to the town centre.



- Complete all necessary site survey works and inspections
- ➤ Coordinate and complete site investigation works including slit trenches, trial pits, boreholes within the areas under consideration.

As part of Stage I a cultural heritage impact assessment of the proposed scheme has been completed which outlines the Mitigation Measures and Residual Impacts of the design initiatives which have been developed.

Also completed during stage I was an Architectural Heritage Impact Assessment Report. The report was prepared following a request by the client to undertake an Architectural Heritage Impact Assessment in conjunction with the proposed works for the regeneration scheme in Kingscourt Town Centre.

A Public Consultation event which presented the developed options was held in June 2022 which afforded local community & businesses the opportunity to have their say on the proposals. Feedback from the event and consultation with local stakeholders has been used in the development of those preliminary designs.





The Part VIII planning for the project was published in December and is due for completion in quarter 1 of 2023.









The Kingscourt Town Centre Regeneration Scheme will aim to improve both the economic and physical landscape of the town. It will create a focal point for increased activity and footfall, provide valuable space for new business in the town core & potentially open up back lands for development. In addition, the scheme will make best use of civic space available and will improve the quality of life of residents and visitors to the town.

Cavan Town Flood Relief Scheme

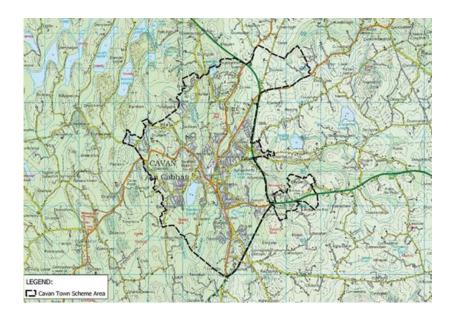
The Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) Programme, the largest ever flood risk study carried out in the State, culminated with the launch in 2018 of 29 flood risk management plans which propose 118 new outline flood relief projects on top of 42 major projects already completed and 33 major schemes within the





existing capital works programme of the Office of Public Works (OPW). A flood relief scheme for Cavan Town was included in this initial phase of implementation.

Cavan County Council are acting as lead agency on the management and delivery of the proposed flood relief scheme for Cavan Town. A steering group, comprising of representatives from the Office of Public Works and Cavan County Council was established in 2021 to progress the Scheme.



Above: Cavan Town Scheme Area

Byrne Looby Consulting Engineers were appointed by Cavan County Council in May 2022 to provide the Engineering & Environmental Consultancy and PSDP Services for this Scheme. Stage I - Identification and Development of a Preferred Scheme has commenced and its expected timeframe for completion is 24 months.

A Public Consultation Day was held on the 13 September 2022 at Hotel Kilmore, Cavan. The aim of the event was to inform stakeholders and the general public of the overall plan for the Scheme and to gather information from the public about their experiences of flooding in Cavan Town.





To date the project team has completed the collection of existing data for use in the development of the Scheme and is finalising a report on the information received at the public consultation day. In addition, tenders were prepared for channel, topographic, CCTV and drainage surveys within the study area and were advertised at the end of 2022.

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.





Environment, Waste Management and Climate Change Environmental Services Section

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 Section play a vital role in the source protection of our many drinking water supplies public, group and private across the County. The draft River Basin Management Plan was published in 2021 with the Minister inviting submissions, observations, and comments on the proposed plan by March 2022. Once the River Basin Management Plan is finalised, likely in 2023, this will be the cornerstone for the protection, improvement, and sustainable management of Ireland's water environment to 2027. The Environmental Services Section also deal with other environmental issues, including on site wastewater treatment inspections, noise and 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. Actions from the Cavan Climate Change Adaptation Strategy were undertaken in 2022 and this strategy will develop the process of adaptation planning in Cavan County Council. It is the first step in increasing knowledge and understanding our changing climate, growing resilience, and enabling effective responses to the threats posed by climate change. Gathering the evidence for the development of the Climate Action Plan (LACAP) began during 2022. This process commenced with the development of the baseline emissions inventory for the County as well as the undertaking of the Climate Action Risk Assessment which will inform the LACAP process.

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, Veterinary Service and maintenance of vested burial grounds.

NOAC 2022 Review and Targets for 2023 Waste/ Environment /Climate Change (E1 to E7)

E1: Households with access to a 3 bin service

- A. The number of households, which availed of a 3 bin service offered by a licensed operator at 31/12/2022.
- B. The % of households within the local authority that the number at A represents (based on agglomerations > 500).

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

Review

The target for 2022 was to improve the % of households, within County Cavan that are covered by a licensed operator providing a 3 bin service by 10% in 2022. However the criteria has changed slightly to 'The number of households, which availed of a 3 bin service offered by a licensed operator at 31/12/2022'.

The figures obtained from the National Waste Collection Permit Office but not published by NOAC yet indicate a figure of 54%.

A waste collector operating in Cavan has been directed by the National waste collection permit office(NWCPO) to take a number of measures including in relation to brown bin collections this is currently on appeal this has gone to Judicial Review and is expected to be before the courts in 2023.





Target

Improve the number of households, which availed of a 3 bin service offered by a licensed operator by 10% in 2023.

E2: No. of environmental pollution complaints closed

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

Results

Α	Total number of pollution cases in respect of which	415
	a complaint was made during 2022:	
Α	Number of pollution cases closed from 1/1/2022 to	472
	31/12/2022:	
Α	Total number of cases on hands at 31/12/2022:	47
	The opening number of cases carried forward from	104
	the year end 2021:	

Explanatory Notes:

- A. The data is to be based on the number of cases rather than the number of complaints made in respect of the same incidence of pollution. For example; 3 complaints from 3 different members of the public about a single incident of pollution constitutes and is to be counted as one case whereas 2 complaints about separate pollution incidents occurring at the same location can be counted as 2 cases where both incidents are dealt with by the local authority.
- B. The figures to be provided are the total pollution case numbers and a breakdown into the different types of pollution is not required.
- C. The opening case figure plus new cases should equal the total number of cases closed plus cases carried forward to 2021.





Review

The target for 2022 was to reduce the number of pollution cases of all types that were not finalised at 31/12/2022 to 15% or less of the total number of pollution cases in respect of which a complaint was made during 2022. The figure achieved is 11% so the target has been achieved.

Target

The target is to maintain the number of pollution cases of all types that were not finalised at 31/12/2023 to 15% or less of the total number of pollution cases in respect of which a complaint was made during 2023.

E3: % of LA area within the 5 levels of litter pollution Litter pollution E3:

A1. The % of the area within the LA that when surveyed in 2020 was unpolluted or litter free A2. The % of the area within the LA that when surveyed in 2020 was slightly polluted A3. The % of the area within the LA that when surveyed in 2020 was moderately polluted A4. The % of the area within the LA that when surveyed in 2020 was significantly polluted A5. The % of the area within the LA that when surveyed in 2020 was grossly polluted

The data will be submitted by Tobin Consulting Engineers directly to the LGMA from the data for the 2022 National Litter Pollution Monitoring System Report that should be ready for publication in mid- 2023.

Results

The figure achieved is not known as the results are supplied by Tobin consultancy and published in the NOAC annual report which is not yet available

Review

The target was that the area within County Cavan that, when surveyed, that cumulatively Moderately, significantly or grossly polluted, is 20% or less. The figure achieved is not published yet however the 2021 target was achieved.





Target

The target is that the area within County Cavan that, when surveyed, in 2023 is that cumulatively Moderately, significantly or grossly polluted, is 20% or less.

E4: % of schools that currently hold and have renewed their green flag status.

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

A. The % of schools that have been awarded/renewed green flag status in the two years to 31 December 2020

In order to compile this information, data will be obtained directly from An Taisce: The National Trust for Ireland.

Please note the following data is obtained from An Taisce:

A. The % of schools that have been awarded/renewed green flag	23%
status in the two years to 31 December 2022	
Schools which attained a Green Flag for the first time in 2022	2
Schools which renewed their Green Flag in 2022	6
Schools which held a Green Flag from 2021 and therefore do not	12
require renewal until 2023	

Review

The target was to increase the percentage of schools that have been awarded green flag status to 30% in 2022. The target was not achieved however the application and subsequent awarding of green school flags is very dependent on individual teachers and head teachers

Target

Increase the % of schools that have been awarded/renewed green flag status in the two years to 31 December 2022 to 30% in 2023





E5: Energy Efficiency

A. The cumulative % of energy savings achieved by 31/12/2021 relative to baseline year (2009)

Review

SEAI has noted that for 2020 and 2021, the Covid-19 pandemic had a profound impact on energy use and activity across the public sector. The energy efficiency performance figures are unlikely to provide an accurate reflection for local authorities for these years. As a result, data for this indicator was not provided for this report.

Target

Incrementally increase cumulative % of energy savings to achieve 2030 targets

E7: Climate Change

- Does the local Authority have a FTE climate action officer: No
- Does the local Authority have a FTE climate change coordinater: No
- Does the Local Authority have a climate action team? Yes

Review

The target was to examine the appointment of a climate change officer in 2022. The positions of Climate Change officer and Climate Change Coordinator were advertised in 2022.

Target

Appoint FTE Climate change officer in 2022 FTE and climate action coordinater FTE





Environment

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 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.

Environment staff have been trained and have undertaken inspections of wastewater treatment systems in accordance with the NIP. 30 inspections were carried out in 2022 in County Cavan.





Smoky Coal Regulations

<u>Smoky Coal Regulations</u> 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 2022, investigations were ongoing across County Cavan on fuel supplied for sale in the County. Varying levels of compliance were encountered. 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. Cavan County Council successfully applied for and received approval for a €20,000 grant allocation from the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications to undertaken County wide inspections of solid fuel suppliers and merchants during 2022.

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. Quarterly 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 the ban impact on air quality.

Cavan Monaghan Science Festival

2022 was the seventh year of the Cavan Monaghan Science Festival. Cavan and Monaghan County Councils again joined forces hosting a range of events during November 2022. Some events were held online/virtual and some in person. The objective was to stimulate and sustain the interest of all in science, technology, engineering, arts and math (STEAM) by producing an exciting and educational festival. One of the festival's key successes was developing in-house, curriculum-linked, STEAM workshops, including a 'CSI Water' workshop which explored water sampling and pollution investigation techniques, developed by Cavan County Council's Environment section. Furthermore, the return of the family fun day which launched this year's programme of events was welcomed. The family fun day was hosted in St





Mogue's College in Bawnboy with participants provided with events from the EPA, Cuilcagh Lakelands Geopark, Environment Section staff, Inland Fisheries Ireland, Cavan Civil Defence, Ballyconnell Fire Services, Lego Mindstorms as well as various Science Shows.

In the festival's inaugural year approximately 9000 participants attended events across the two counties. The festival attracted more than 18,000 attendees in 2022, from preschool children to adults. This rapid growth is a clear measure of the appetite for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Maths (STEAM) subjects across the two counties.

Climate Change

The Cavan Climate Change Adaptation Strategy was adopted in 2019. The local authority adaptation strategy aims, to ensure a proper comprehension of climate change, to bring forward the implementation of climate resilient actions, and to ensure that climate adaptation considerations are mainstreamed and integrated into all functions of Cavan County Council.

In the face of climate change this adaptation will allow Cavan County Council improve effectiveness and maintain staff welfare and allow for the continuing delivery of services and functions across the administrative and geographical area of County Cavan.

Perhaps the most important elements of the Adaptation plan are the adaptation actions identified in order to enhance the capacity of Cavan County Council to adapt to climate change impacts and to address priority climate risks in the context of projected climate change.

One of the climate actions begun in 2022 and which is being led by Cavan County Council was the development of a border energy unit

Border Energy Unit

The Eastern & Midlands 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 services. Cavan County Council aims to meet the prescribed objectives and targets for 2030.

Cavan County Council, in its capacity as lead local authority, entered into Service Level Agreements with each of the Unit Authorities viz Monaghan County Council and Leitrim County Council in 2022 and has also entered into an MoU(memorandum of Understanding) with the SEAI in 2022. The LAs and SEAI have agreed to collaborate on the delivery of a Pathfinder Programme for Border Sub Region in 2023, 2024 and 2025.

The shared objectives are to develop a scalable model for energy and emission management and retrofit investment in the Unit authorities' building stock in order 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.

Climate, Biodiversity Action & Environment Strategic Policy Committee Members of Strategic Policy Committee

Cllr. Philip Brady, Cathaoirleach,

Cllr. Madeline Argue,

Cllr. Winston Bennett,

Cllr. T.P. O'Reilly,

Cllr. Shane P O'Reilly,

Cllr. Craig Lovett.

Fintan McCabe, Environment/Conservation.

Barry Wilson, Community/Voluntary.

Joseph Brady, Agriculture/farming Sector.

Meetings Held

Two meetings were held during 2022. On the 17th May 2022 and 9th of December of which was a joint meeting with the, Economic, Enterprise and Planning SPC on Monday 29th March, 2021, 4 p.m. – Held remotely on Microsoft Teams.

The other was held on Tuesday, 13th July 2021, 10.00am –remotely on Microsoft Teams.

Topics and issues discussed included

- Aquatic Invasive Alien Species impact on County Cavan
- Cavan County Council Energy Report 2021
- Climate Action Update
- Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure
- Cavan County Council Civic Amenity Sites (CACs) & Bring Centre Network (BCN)
- Waste Management/Enforcement Update





- Farm Surveys
- Solid Fuel Regulations Work
- Traffic Management Update
- Bring Centre Network (BCN)

Energy Management

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

- 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 PROVISIONAL Monitoring and Reporting submissions to SEAI for 2022, Cavan County Council has made a 29.5% improvement to energy efficiency since the baseline period of 2001-2005.

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 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. There are over 7000 public lights which have

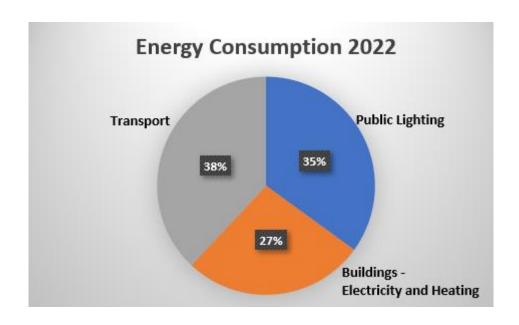




to be supplied with electricity (80% of energy cost) and have to be maintained (20% of energy cost). There is an existing public lighting maintenance contract in place with Airtricity Utility Solutions Ltd (AuS). Public lighting makes up 63.25% of electricity consumed by Cavan County Council in 2022. The improvement in energy efficiency which occurred during 2022 is most significantly attributed to the replacement of public lighting across the County with energy efficient LED lights.

Cavan County Councils energy consumption during 2022 which resulted in a spending of over €1.8 million (during 2021 it was just under €1.2 million) is detailed in the table below:

	Energy	Energy Consumption	
Energy Type	Consumption 2021	2022	
	kWh	kWh	
Electricity	4,369,209	4,325,171	
Thermal	678,122	514,243	
Transport	2,874,907	3,016,130	
Total Energy Consumed	7,922,238	7,855,543	







Some of the Significant Energy Actions during 2022 include

- Energy Monitoring and Reporting submitted in accordance with deadlines for 2021 energy consumed.
- Preliminary Monitoring and Reporting data for 2022 demonstrates Cavan County Council has achieved a 29.5% improvement in energy efficiency from the baseline (2001-2005).
- MOU signed with SEAI and Cavan County Council. SLA signed with Leitrim
 and Monaghan County Council's with Cavan County Council operating as
 the Lead Authority. SEAI commit to providing 50% funding for Capital
 Projects that meet the criteria of the Pathfinder scheme, where the focus is
 on Deep Retrofit and Renewable Heat to decarbonise the building stock in
 order to achieve the 2030 objectives.
- Cavan County Council Energy Engagement Strategy implemented.
 - 1. Monthly meter readings for headquarter buildings ongoing.
 - 2. Seasonal messages to staff regarding energy efficiency implemented.
 - Energy actions circulated to all Heads of Section for inclusion in all Annual Service Delivery Plans/Business Plans. Establish and improve on procedure for monthly monitoring of energy usage
 - 4. Energy Team meetings held and associated actions ongoing.
 - 5. Ongoing monitoring of bills and ongoing requests for meter readings within CCC. Liaising with relevant staff re. payments/approval system ongoing.
- Ongoing engagement with Cavan Sustainable Energy Groups.
- Energy upgrades by the Council's Housing Section on 20 of Cavan County Councils housing stock.





- Ongoing allocation of sites in accordance with the National Procurement Service winning tenders as new sites come online.
- 72% of public lighting stock upgraded to energy efficient LED lights.
- OPW Optimising People @ Work Programme ongoing since 2018. The Cavan Courthouse building has improved energy efficiency by 38% against a benchmark nationally of 25% since the 2018 baseline year.
- Input to Local Economic and Community Plan regarding energy activities, focus on linkages with SEC's.
- Liaise with Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) and the Climate Action Officer/Team. Regional Climate Action Local Authority Group (Monaghan, Cavan & Leitrim) established with climate/energy activities progressing from same.

Actions Planned for 2023

- Complete SEAI Energy Efficiency Performance Monitoring and Reporting for 2022 in accordance with deadlines imposed.
- Additional requirements for Monitoring and Reporting to SEAI relating to staff travel to be captured and returned.
- Report on energy efficiency progress to Senior Management Team.
- Energy Policy update & ratification by SMT, undertaken in 2021. Review in 2023 and circulate to all staff. Display at Customer Service Desk once review completed.
- Liaise with OPW regarding Optimising Power at Work programme.
- Maintain the Energy Team.
- 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 & disseminate info





- Maintain procedure for monthly monitoring of energy usage
- Maintain procedure for frequent meter reads
- Maintain Energy Team Meetings & Actions.
- Annual Service Delivery Plans include energy actions on each Sections Plans.
- Staff survey on energy webinar topics
- Support the various building operators in undertaking expert energy audits
 e.g. Museum, fire services, MD's, etc..
- Support Community & Enterprise Section by providing information on all types of funding available for communities/groups/individuals.
- Cavan Sustainable Energy Committees input to committee actions where possible, investigate opportunities for community grants and establish linkages to CCC projects
- Liaise with SEAI and CARO to co-ordinate school events/workshops with primary & post primary schools in Cavan during Science Week.
- Public lighting upgrades maintain progress of LED upgrades.
- Continue to allocate new sites in accordance with National Procurement Service winning tenders
- Progress the energy efficiency projects identified in the energy audits undertaken on the 5 sites in 2021 in conjunction with regional local authority climate action sub-group.
- Investigate further regional opportunities for energy saving and energy efficiency projects in conjunction with neighbouring local authorities.





Signing of the MOU (SEAI) and SLA (Monaghan and Leitrim County Council's) with Cavan County Council for Pathfinder support towards.

In 2020 the Programme for Government set new targets for the public sector and these targets have been reinforced in the government's Climate Action Plan 2021. The targets include:

- 51% Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 2030
- 50% improvement in energy efficiency by 2030
- Prohibition of new fossil fuel heating systems in public buildings after
 2023

Waste Management, Enforcement and Environmental Education and Awareness

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, the Veterinary Service and maintenance of vested burial grounds.

Waste Management Facilities

Civic Amenity Centres

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.

Bring Centre Network

There are now 31 No. Recycling Bring Centre locations throughout the County with the construction of a new Bring Centre in Mountnugent in 2022. 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 2022 which include extensive upgrades at Munterconnaught, Shercock and Swanlinbar. New informational signage was also installed at Bring Centres in Redhills, Killeshandra, Glangevlin and Corlough. All works were funded by and completed as part of our 2022 Anti-Dumping Initiative.



Upgraded Bring Centre, Swanlinbar

National Waste Enforcement Priorities for 2022

National Waste Priorities for 2022 included:

- 1. Tackling illegal waste activities and Multi Agency Sites of Concern
- 2. Construction & Demolition Waste
- 3. ELV and Metals
- 4. Household & Commercial Waste
- 5. Producer Responsibility Initiatives and additional local priorities





Waste Complaints

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:

- The 2022 Gum Litter Taskforce awareness campaign which was launched in Virginia.
- Food Waste Awareness Campaigns held in March and July 2022 which involved social media campaign and our Community Wardens hosting an information day in Cavan Town.
- For "Reuse Month" in October 2022 we ran a radio campaign focusing on single
 use plastics and fast fashion whilst also publishing an informational article in
 the Anglo Celt's "Green Supplement".
- We promoted the EPA's "Smart Garage Guide" which deals with the main day to day operations of a typical garage providing best practice options on waste, water and energy.
- Through our Anti-Dumping Initiatives we provided a series of Bulky Waste and Hazardous Waste Drop Off days in Corranure and also ran an awareness campaign promoting our waste presentation Bye-laws.
- As part of the Council's upgrade of our website, we updated and improved content to improve customer service and provide a user-friendly experience in accessing information.





County of Cavan (Segregation, Storage and Presentation of Household and Commercial Waste) Bye-laws, 2019.

These Bye- Laws came into force on 13th December 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 Bye-laws 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.

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

Anti-Dumping Initiative

As part of the 2022 Anti Dumping Initiative, Cavan County Council completed 4 No. projects which focused on prevention and abatement measures and increased education and awareness measures. The two larger projects focused on the upgrade of our Bring Centre Network and hosting a series of Bulky Waste and Hazardous Waste Drop Off Days at the Corranure Civic Amenity Site. We received unprecedented attendance across the 3 days with the 2 Bulky Waste Drop Off Days taking in over 99 tonnes of household waste and the Hazardous Waste Drop Off Day





taking in just under 26 tonnes of waste. Overall attendance across the 3 days was almost 900 No. households.



Paint collected on the Hazardous Waste Drop off day

Education & Awareness measures included assisting our Green Schools Programme by working in partnership with VOICE Ireland to provide the "Picker Pals" education programme to 24 No. primary schools and various environmental awareness campaigns throughout the year.

Solar Compacting Bins

Eight new Solar Powered Compacting Bins were installed at strategic locations across the County which were funded by the Litter Infrastructure Support Grant Scheme and Outdoor Summer Scheme funded by the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment and the Department of Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government respectively. The compacter bins are equipped with built in software to alert staff when the bins are full to reduce littering around bins and optimise the management of litter bins in towns and villages.







Bin installed at Lavey Strand



Bin installed at Cuilcagh

Anti-Litter & Anti-Graffiti Grants

Grant monies was paid to 14 No. Tidy Towns Groups and 1 No. primary school amounting to €11,601.71 for projects completed in 2022 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 challenges faced by schools because of COVID-19 continued into 2022 with a substantial number of schools deferring their Green School applications to 2023. The following 8 No. Schools were awarded a Green Flag for the 2020/2022 period under the following themes:





- Litter & Waste: Theme (2): Model School, Bailieborough and Colaiste Dun an Ri, Kingscourt
- Water Theme (1): Cabra Central NS, Kingscourt
- Travel Theme: (1): Scoil Naomh Bhrid, Ballyconnell
- Biodiversity Theme (2): Corlurgan NS, Cavan and St. Patrick's NS, Blacklion
- Global Citizenship Energy (2): St. Joseph's NS, Kingscourt and Belturbet Boys
 NS

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

Irish Businesses Against Litter (IBAL) Anti-Litter League

Cavan Town moved up the rankings in the IBAL Anti-Litter League in 2022 finishing in 3rd place out of 40 towns in the 1st round results and 7th place out of 40 towns in the 2nd round results and ranked as "Cleaner than European Norms". This is testament to the collaborative approach by the Council and Cavan Tidy Towns and shows significant improvement on the 26th place finish (round 1) and 17th place finish (round 2) in 2021.

National Litter Pollution Monitoring Surveys

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.

The data obtained enables us to provide more effective litter management planning and assess the effectiveness of the objectives set our in our Litter Management Plan 2021 – 2024 and ensure we allocate the appropriate resources to tackle the issues faced locally by litter pollution.







2 No. locations surveyed - Halton Amenity Park, Cootehill (L), Abbeylands, Cavan (R)

National Spring Clean

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 2022, approximately 60 No. groups registered with An Taisce with over 1,900 people involved in clean ups between March and July. The Council provided supplementary litter picking equipment and signage to groups who needed additional supplies and disposed of all waste collected.





National Tree Week

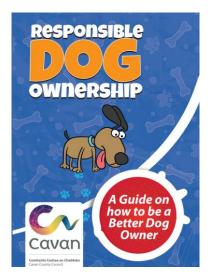
Planting more trees is the most efficient way of removing carbon from the atmosphere and combatting climate change.

This annual campaign encourages people to plant more trees and get involved in local activities happening in their area. In 2022, 490 native trees were supplied free of charge to 28 No. community/voluntary groups, schools and individuals.



Dog Fouling Awareness Initiatives

Environmental Services places significant emphasis on developing measures to deter dog fouling and to make dog owners aware of their responsibilities. Over 100 No. bag dispenser units and/or combi bin and bag dispensers have been installed along known dog walking routes with new locations being added each year. We also fund the provision of bags for these dispensers and oversee a maintenance schedule for each Municipal District. Community Wardens also work closely with voluntary groups such as Tidy Towns to highlight the issues of dog fouling.



Responsible Dog Ownership leaflet





Water Services

Cavan County Council Water Services Section continues to adapt to challenges of what is still a relatively new operating environment in collaboration with Irish Water. Cavan County Council Water Services Department is 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. The year 2022 marked year 9 of a 12-year Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Irish Water for the delivery of the services.

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 Irish Water 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.
- 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

Paper, Irish Water – Towards a National, Publicly Owned, Regulated, Water Services Utility. The paper referenced the process facilitated by the Workplace Relations Commission (WRC)_τ which has been ongoing with a view to assisting the parties to devise a mutually agreed operational framework to replace the Service Level Agreements. The government asked the parties to engage to agree a framework for a stable operating structure for the future delivery of water services.

Meetings were ongoing since July of 2021 between the representatives of the management side (CCMA,LGMA, DHLGH and Irish Water) and the trade unions under the auspices of the Workplace Relations Commission and a final meeting was held on the 20th of June 2022.

The outcome of this engagement was the Framework for Future Delivery of Water Services, 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.

The process leading to this SPU continued to move forward during 2022 and is expected to culminate in the transition of the management of the water services function to Irish Water during 2023 with the expected milestone for the cessation of Local Authority involvement in this services by 31st December 2026.

Performance Indicators

Sampling and testing of all Public Water supplies and effluent discharges from wastewater plants is overseen by the Council's Environment Section utilising Irish Water's Laboratory Framework.





Performance indicators for the section relate to compliance with the Drinking Water Regulations 2014.

The following are the compliance figures for the Public Water Supply Schemes.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Compliance	99.3%	98.9%	98.9%	98.9%	99.4%	99.3%	99.7%

Capital Works

Irish Water Capital Investment Plan 2020 – 2024

Wastewater

52 wastewater treatment plants identified across the country for upgrade due to failings on discharge limits and hydraulic capacity.

Cavan Sites currently included;

Bailieborough, Ballyjamesduff, Kingscourt, Cootehill, & Virginia WWTP's

Feasibility Study reports (Atkins) were completed for the above-named sites in late 2019 and have continued to progress through various stages in the interim, (Planning, Design, EIA, EIS etc.).

Current Status Virginia & Ballyjamesduff WWTP's

The Water Services Major Capital Section is working in collaborative partnership with Irish Water's Wastewater ECI team to progress design submissions in consultation with VEOLIA Water Ireland (VWI). A major milestone for the Virginia Project was reached with the submission of planning application in December 2022.

Various other aspects relating to the project continued to progress during 2022.





The planning application for the Ballyjamesduff WWTP upgrade Project was submitted and a notification of decision to grant was issued in November 2022.

Current Status Cootehill, Bailieborough & Kingscourt WWTP's

During 2022 CCC LA Capital Office was advised that that similar (PCI stage) preliminary design works would now be progressed for Cootehill, Bailieborough and Kingscourt with the finalised Project scopes for these WWTP locations to be agreed and reviewed in ongoing consultation with CCC LA Capital Office.

Other Capital projects which progressed in 2022 included:

Shankill – Billis Mains Rehab Project

The works to include the decommissioning of approximately 3,620m of existing 9inch main laid in private land. In order to complete this work 1,855m of 125mm pipe were placed in the public road. The works commenced on November 2021 and were completed 1st March 2022. Directional drilling technique was considered to be the most suitable method of placing the pipe, with sensitive areas close the 300mm main being open cut.

The section of works was along the L2035-0 from its junction with the L6035-0 in the townland of Stragelliff to its junction with the L6035-0 and L60362-0 in the townland of Billis.

Works included the transfer of all existing service connections off the old 9inch pipe to the 125mm PE pipe. The existing 9inch pipe was capped off at both ends and no longer used. The reasons for removal and replacement of this 9inch SI pipe were due to



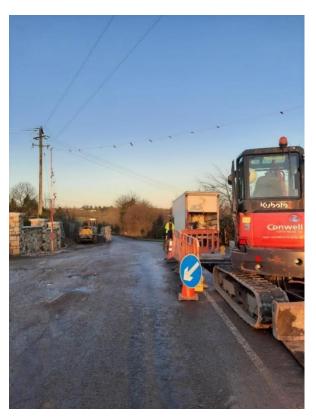


- 1. Quality issues (the lining of the old 9inch pipe was causing the water to be orange in colour).
- 2. Watermain was completely in private property and not accessible.
- 3. Bursts
- 4. Leakage issues.



125mm HDPE pipe installation by directional drilling at Shankill Billis







Works on Shankill - Billis Mains Rehab Project in progress

CFC, (Coagulation, Flocculation & Clarification) Project - Works progressed in 2022 at Cootehill.

The existing concrete clarifier structure in Cootehill was defective and leaking. The concrete tank material was crumbling and spalling badly. It was decided by Irish Water to replace this clarifier tank with a new stainless steel clarifier tank, which could take 40 cubes per hour through put. A new contact tank was built to cater for adequate chlorine contact time (Ct) and forward feed pumps to this contact tank were installed.

A new automatic poly make system and pumps were installed to aide coagulation in the new clarifier. Works commenced on the replacement of the suction inlet pipes at the lake/raw water intake about June 2020. Trial holes were dug in July/August 2021. Civil works on site commenced October 2021 and work was ongoing at the end of 2022.













Works on CFC Project at Cootehill Water Treatment Plant in progress

Carrickmacross Road, Shercock, Watermain Rehab Project

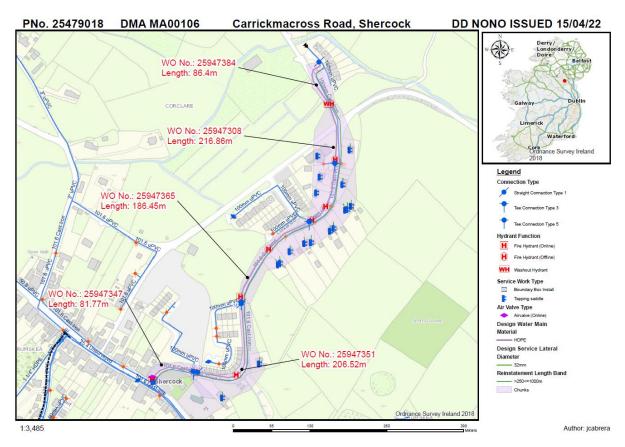
This scheme involved the rehab of approximately 757metres of 100mm Cast Iron watermain and all associated assets. The new main is 125mm PE watermain. The installation method is to be a combination of open cut and directional drilling. The





proposed new main was laid first, disinfected, pressure tested, swabbed and flushed out before the existing Cast Iron main was decommissioned.

The new 125mm OD PE watermain was laid from main street Shercock out the Carrickmacross road for a distance of 540 meters. Work commenced on the 13th June 2022 and was completed by the 22nd July 2022.



Map showing extent of works on Carrickmacross Road, Shercock, Watermain Rehab Project

Cavan Rural Water Update

The **Multi-Annual Rural Water Programme 2019-2021** was launched on February 8th, 2019. Submissions were made under 7 different Measures. Submissions were made for funding towards 51 specific projects on behalf of 27 Schemes or scheme bundles. An Expert Panel was established to review all submissions. Notification of





allocations were issued by the Department on 14th October 2019.

The final total allocation for Cavan in relation to the 2019-2021 programme was €2,107,016.35. These allocations are both scheme and project specific. Allocations were received for 23 of these projects, (covering 17 schemes or scheme bundles).

All schemes allocated funding under **MARWP 2019-2021** are contacted every 6-8 weeks to ascertain an update on the various projects. A report is then prepared & returned to the Department. It is noted that many of the projects were at a standstill or slowed down significantly as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Ten schemes have completed projects under this programme and payments totalling €773,985.75 have been issued.

MARWP 2022-2025. It is expected that details of this scheme will be announced in Q2 2023, however at this juncture there is no indication that the programme will be significantly different from the current programme. It has been agreed that Council Staff, the Schemes and NFGWS will come together again once the new programme has been announced to ensure that Cavan's schemes make the strongest cases possible for the next allocation process.

In advance of the full roll out the Department has sought submissions under Measure A8 for the provision of Wastewater Collection and Treatment needs of settlements without access to Public Waste Water services. The closing date for submissions was September 15th, 2022. Cavan County Council has made a submission for funding under this element of MARWP 2022-2025 for Milltown. An independent Expert Panel will provide a report on all applications received and based on this report, recommendations for funding to the Minister will be made.

Multi Annual Rural Water Programme – Measure 8 - Well Grants applications continue to be submitted and there has been an increase in the number of applications since the announcement of an updated well grant fund scheme.





Well grants totalling €180,416.85 have been issued to applicants under MARWP 2019-2021, with €73,000.38 of that issued in 2022. These amounts have been recouped in full, from the Department.

Revised Lead Remediation Grant

has been in existence since 2016 and The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage have revised the eligibility criteria for The Domestic Lead Remediation Grant Scheme with effect from 1 December 2022 and is being administered by Cavan County Council on behalf of the Department.

The aim of the grant is to assist households with the cost of replacing lead pipes and fittings within the boundaries of the property. The grant is available if you receive a water supply from either a public or private water supplier.

The cost of works must exceed €750. The level of grant aid available is determined on the basis of 100% of the approved cost of the works, subject to a maximum of €5,000.





Planning Community and Economic Development

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 & Dangerous Structures
- Taking in Charge of Housing Estates
- Unfinished Housing Estates
- Market Surveillance
- Development Contributions and Bonds
- Building Control
- Development Compliance/Enforcement:
- Heritage
- Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee
- Planning Performance Indicators

Forward Planning:

The year 2022 saw the final stage in the preparation of the Cavan County Development Plan incorporating a Local Area Plan for Cavan Town 2022-2028. During this stage, Material Amendments were placed on public display inviting written submissions and observations on same. Following this public consultation, a Chief





Executives Report on the submissions received on the Material Amendments was prepared. This report was reviewed and considered by the Elected Members who then adopted the Plan at a Special Council Meeting on 30th May 2022.

The Cavan County Development Plan incorporating a Local Area Plan for Cavan Town 2022-2028 came into effect in July 2022. The plan comprises of a Written Statement, Book of Maps and Environmental Reports which includes a Natura Impact Statement, Strategic Environmental Assessment and Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. A total of twenty-six Appendices also accompanies the Written Statement. A full and comprehensive review of the Record of Protected Structures for the County and sixteen new completed Architectural Conservation Areas are incorporated into the new plan. An Economic Strategy was also prepared for the County in addition to a Cavan Town Assets and Projects Overview.

The Forward Planning Team have now commenced works on achieving the development objectives of the Development Plan 2022-2028.

Residential Zoned Land Tax

The Forward Planning Team initiated works arising from new 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 2022 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). These draft maps, which identified land considered to be in scope for the tax measure, were put on display from 1 November 2022 to 1 January 2023.

Work on this legislation will continue in 2023 and will require yearly updates to maps for lands that meet the relevant criteria.

Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF)

2022 saw work on the Abbeylands Regeneration project advancing to the next stage with the appointment of consultants to prepare a Preliminary Business Case (PBC) as required under the Public Spending Code - Stage 2 of the Project Lifecycle. During the course of the PBC, costs were revised upwards to take account of inflation with the project cost now estimated at just under €25m.

A new Senior Executive Architect was appointed in July 2022 to manage and drive the project forward.



Phase 1 of the Abbeylands Masterplan provides for the construction of a Business Development / Remote Working Centre (1483m²), a Community Services Centre (939m²), the refurbishment of two structures on the site and stabilisation of other, all of which are to be framed around a new central civic space with pedestrian links to





surrounding streets. At year end, Part VIII planning documents were being finalised for submission with a view to securing a decision in early 2023.



Tender documents for the appointment of consultant multi-disciplinary design team to carry Phase 1 from CWMF Stage (ii) Design through to Stage (v) Handover were also being prepared and it is anticipated that the design team will be appointed Q2 2023 with initial site works commencing in Q3 2023.

Development Management and other Statutory Functions:

The Planning section received 536 planning applications in 2022. The majority of applications related to developments such as industrial, rural enterprise, housing schemes, agricultural, commercial, single dwellings, extensions to existing dwellings, domestic garages and retention of existing works.

There were 9 decisions of the Planning Authority appealed to An Bord Pleanála with 6 (66%) of the determinations of An Bord Pleanála confirming the decision made by the Planning Authority.

There were also 9 applications for Extension of Duration during the year.





Significant progress was made during 2022 on the progression of the introduction of e-Planning to Cavan County Council. A lot of work took place in the updating and preparation of documents for online use, changes to procedures, procurement of necessary IT equipment etc., in preparation for the introduction in early 2023. Planning Applications will be submitted online by applicant and/or agent as well as submissions on online and hard copy applications. The e-Planning system is expected to bring increased efficiencies for the Planning Department, agents and general public. Hard copies of planning applications will still be accepted.

Derelict Sites & Dangerous Structures:

The derelict sites register is continuing to be updated to identify underutilised and derelict properties within prescribed urban areas, so as to encourage and facilitate their repair and re-use. The Council will continue to use its statutory powers, where appropriate, to facilitate this and will consider such buildings and lands for inclusion in the Register of Derelict Sites.

On 31st December 2022 there were.

- Fourteen properties on the Derelict Sites Register with 1 property entered onto the register during the calendar year.
- Eight properties were removed from the register during the calendar year.
- Eight section 8 (2) warning letters issued, seven of these have either works carried out or correspondence received with follow up inspection pending.

Taking in Charge of Housing Estates:

A Taking in Charge policy was written and adopted for Cavan in 2007 as directed by the Minister John Gormley. This policy was revised in 2016 and the revision adopted by the elected members. The revisions were for clarification and to create a more user-friendly document. This document was again revised in 2020 to reflect new legislation introduced in 2018.





There are currently 238 housing estates in the county. 64 of these estates have been taken in charge. 12 were adopted in 2012, 24 were adopted in 2017, 12 were adopted in December 2018, 9 were adopted in December 2020 and 7 were adopted in 2022. There are a further 12 ready for adoption in 2023. The remainder are constructed in excess of 12 years. 21 estates have had their public lighting upgraded to LED. 4 applications for Taking in Charge have been received in 2022 and these are added to the 48 already on the list. 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 2023. 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 toward 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.

Market Surveillance

Any person or company, manufacturing an item for sale on the European market, including the Irish market, must comply with the Construction Products Regulations (CPR) 2013. This means the product must be tested and certified as fit for its intended purpose. It is then issued with a CE number and the manufacturer must attach a Declaration of Performance (DOP) for the purpose of ensuring consistency across all member states.

Article 40 of the CPR requires each Member State, to designate a notifying authority, that shall be responsible for setting up and carrying out the necessary procedures for the assessment, and notification of the bodies, to be authorised to carry out third-party





tasks in the process of Assessment and Verification of Constancy of Performance (AVCP) for the purposes of the CPR, and for the monitoring of those notified bodies.

In the case of Ireland, the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government is the designated notifying authority under the CPR. The <u>Irish National Accreditation</u> <u>Board</u> undertakes accreditation and monitoring of all notified bodies in Ireland. The notified bodies are the testing houses which have been awarded notification status by the notifying authority.

The market surveillance authority for building products is the Building Control Authority for the county where the product was manufactured, as set out in S.I.225/2013.

Development Contributions and Bonds

This 2017 Development Contribution scheme came into effect on 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 also available including a newly introduced 10% reduction where development contributions are paid in full within 6 months of lodgement of commencement notices exemptions apply). A total of €1.306m (€1.226m net of Irish Water deductions) was collected in 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.





Building Control

May 2014 saw the introduction of the Building Control Management System or BCMS. This is an online system for registering and managing all building applications. The title BCMS was changed in 2017 to BCMP (Building Control Management Project). The CCMA set up 3 regional authorities, as follows:

Building Control	Local Authorities
Regions	
Greater Dublin Area /Eastern and Midland Region	Dublin City, Fingal, South Dublin, Dun-Laoghaire Rathdown, Meath, Louth, Kildare, Wicklow, Longford, Westmeath, Offaly, Laois (12)
Northern and Western Region	Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim, Cavan, Monaghan, Mayo, Roscommon, Galway City, Galway County (9)
Southern Region	Clare, Limerick, Tipperary, Kilkenny, Carlow, Wexford, Kerry, Cork City, Cork County, Waterford City and County (10)

Each region has one representative on the BCMP project board. The Northern and Western Region continues to be represented by Donegal County Council (Senior Executive Engineer over Building Control).

The Building Control Department offer advice and guidance to agents and users of the system as well as conducting site inspections to ensure compliance and accuracy of information submitted. During 2022, Cavan County Councils Building Control Section processed 220 Notices and 74 Certificates of Compliance on Completion (CCC). This total is made up of:

- 0 invalidated Commencement Notices;
- 76 validated Commencement Notices with Documentation (long form);
- 45 validated Commencement Notices without Documentation (short form);





- 80 validated Commencement Notices (Opt Outs);
- 19 validated 7 Day Notices.

Of the 74 CCC's processed, 0 were invalidated.

In addition, during 2022, the Building Control Department processed 53 Fire Safety Certificate applications, and 37 Disability Access Certificate applications.

The Planning Department continues to regularly monitor and inspect developments to ensure that buildings are constructed in accordance with the relevant Planning Conditions and Building Regulations.

Development Compliance/Enforcement:

The Enforcement Section opened 88 new cases which were subject to complaints for the 2022 calendar year. The Section closed 23 cases during the same period. Of the closed files:

- 70% (or 16 cases) were resolved because these were 'statue barred', or were deemed to be 'Exempted development' and no Warning Letters were issued;
- A total of 8% of the files (or 2 cases) were closed as a result of negotiations with the Planning Authority.
- 22% (5 cases) were closed following the issue of Warning Letters or an Enforcement Notice.

There are 467 open cases being investigated and these include the preceding years.

Heritage

2022 saw another busy year for Cavan Heritage Office with a wide and varied program of work promoting all aspects of 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, 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 2022 the Heritage Office witnessed an ongoing interest in all aspects of heritage as people in communities 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.

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 Ways is an initiative of the Heritage Office of Cavan County Council to support and promote communities who have identified sections of rural road.

In 2022 Cavan Heritage worked 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.





Deerpark Golden Way, Virginia



Waterloo Golden Way, Grousehall

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 the publication of guidelines for managing biodiversity in historic graveyards, digitising of historic burial registers (now available as a resource on Cavan Heritage website), preparation of site conservation plans, minor works and repairs and community monuments funding.





Church Street Graveyard, Cootehill





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 2022, Cavan County Council was awarded €128,000 for four projects, Moneygashel Cashel, St. Mogue's Island, Moybologue and Drumlane Abbey.

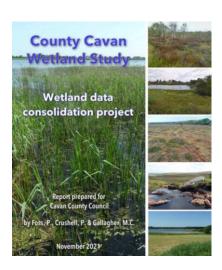


Drumlane Abbey CMF



Moybologue Promotional Leaflet

Cavan Wetlands Survey



In 2022 Cavan Heritage Office accessed funding of €45,000 through the Heritage Council and the National Biodiversity Action Funding to undertake a County Cavan Wetlands Study Phase II Mapping Project, engagement with communities throughout County Cavan and a study to investigate invasive species, Nuttall's Waterweed in Cavan's lakelands.

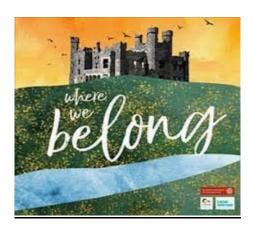




Placing Heritage at the Heart of Communities

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 2'. The Heritage Office commissioned a podcast series to look at all aspects of Cavan's Heritage from ecology, lakelands and bogs, local heritage and history (remembering the big snow in Cavan). The project was very successful and streaming globally meant that both locals and those far away could spend some quality time in Cavan through the world of sound!

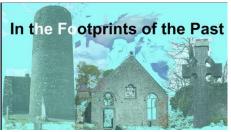
https://open.spotify.com/show/6qMnWOmeuwxIIsJbfcKMAU https://f.io/V0MrnSmy



Heritage Week 2022

Heritage Week 2022 was hugely successful with many groups throughout the county embracing their local heritage. 2022 saw a mix of online projects and heritage events. Cavan Heritage Office promoted a very successful project entitled 'In the Footprints of the Past' depicting the Heritage of Drumlane Abbey, St. Mogue's Island and the Church of the Rath Killeshandra through creative mediums including animation, visual art and film. This project was funded through Creative Ireland Funding.











Built Heritage 2022

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 successfully drew down €96,000 for Built Heritage Conservation Projects and €103,000 under Historic Structure Fund.





Woteraghy Mill, Lacken

Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee:

The Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning SPC met on four occasions in 2022. The SPC members are listed below.

Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning SPC	Nominating Pillar
Cllr John Paul Feeley	Chair
Cllr Peter McVitty	Cavan County Council
Cllr Sarah O'Reilly	Cavan County Council
Cllr Aidan Fitzpatrick	Cavan County Council
Cllr Winston Bennett	Cavan County Council
Cllr Carmel Brady	Cavan County Council
Thomas Rodgers	Agriculture & Farming
Jim McGaughran	Development & Construction
Tom Brady	Business & Commercial
Stanley Nwaneri	Community / Voluntary





Comhairle Contae an Chabháin Cavan County Council

Planning Performance Indicators:

P1: New Buildings Inspected		
Total number of new buildings notified to the local authority	185	
Number of new buildings notified to the local authority in 2022 that were the subject of at least one on-site inspection during 2022		
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 2022	9	
% of the determinations at A which confirmed decision made by the LA	6 (66%)	
P3: % of Planning Enforcement cases closed as resolved		
Total number of planning cases referred to or initiated by the local authority investigated	88	
Total number of cases that were closed during 2022	23	
% of cases at B dismissed under section 152(2), Planning and Development Act 2000 or were closed because statute barred or an exempted development		
% of cases at B resolved to the LA's satisfaction through negotiations	2 (8%)	
% of cases at B that were closed due to enforcement proceedings	5 (22%)	
Total number of planning cases being investigated at 31/12/2022	467	
P4: Cost per Capita of the Planning Service		
The 2022 Annual Financial Statement (AFS) Programme D data divided by the population of the LA area per the 2022 Census	Cost per capita 20.70	





Community, Enterprise and Tourism

The Department of Community, Enterprise and Tourism is responsible for the Local Community Development Committee, Implementation and development of the Community Pan, LEADER, Town and Village Revitalisation, Clár and Oris Projects, Rural Development Funding Programmes, Social Inclusion, Cavan Drug and Alcohol Forum, Age Friendly County Programme, Peace IV Programme, Comhairle na nÓg (Junior Council), Community and Voluntary Grants, Community Activities Fund, Cavan Sports Partnership, Cavan Food Strategy 2017-2022, Healthy Cavan, Slainte Healthy Communities Programme the Tourism Office. The Department 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. It is 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 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.
- Ensure effectiveness, coordination, consistency and the avoidance of duplication between publicly funded local and community development programmes.





 Optimise resources for the benefit of local communities and improve the efficiency with which publicly funded local and community development resources are used.

2022 was another successful year for Cavan LCDC and its subgroups. At the beginning of 2022 Covid19 was still present and having an impact on the way services were being delivered. Then in March war broke out in Ukraine and Cavan began to host displaced Ukrainian people who are being sent to the county with little or no advanced notice. The Ukrainian Community Response Forum was set up and has met every 2 weeks from April to December. This Interagency forum's purpose is to co-ordinate services and to assist displaced Ukrainians who come to the county. Cavan LCDC's focus for 2022 was primarily on the delivery of the Community Plan of the LECP as well as the delivery of LEADER and SICAP, in particular ensuring targets were met and spend was progressing. Progress reports have been presented to the LCDC on a regular basis on the delivery of actions in the LECP. The LCDC managed, implemented and collaborated in relation to a number of public funded programs under its remit including the Community Enhancement Program and the Social Enterprise Capital Grants Scheme. The committee functioned in an effective and professional way throughout the year with members demonstrating an understanding of their role and a commitment to the tasks in hand. An annual report on 2022 LCDC activity was prepared and submitted to the Department in accordance with Section 128(b) of the Local Government Reform Act 2014.

Cavan LCDC held 7 meetings in 2022. There were several changes in membership of the LCDC during 2022 and meetings were held in a blended format with some members attending in person and some online. There continued to be excellent engagement at LCDC meetings by both statutory and non-statutory members.

LCDC members were provided with various presentations from members and external bodies to increase familiarity with sectors of work and improve opportunities for networking and service enhancement. Presentations included:





- Placing Heritage at the Heart of the Community Presentation by Ms Annmarie
 Ward, Heritage Officer, Cavan County Council
- Peace Plus Programme Update Presentation by Ms Jane Crudden, Peace
 Programme Manager, Cavan County Council
- Response to Ukrainian Crisis being provided under SICAP Presentation by Ms Hazel Leahy, Cavan County Local Development
- Update on Planet Youth Presentation by Mr Ste Corrigan, Co-ordinator, Cavan
 Children & Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC)
- Cavan Food Strategy Presentation by Ms Patricia Smith, Food Strategy Coordinator, Cavan County Council.
- Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme Presentation by Ms Sinead Tormey, Sláintecare Healthy Communities Development Officer
- Healthy Ireland Fund Round 4 Presentation by Mr. Steven Ormsby, Healthy
 Cavan Co-ordinator

SICAP

- The Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) is a key intervention for harder to reach groups. Delivery is being overseen and managed by Cavan LCDC. SICAP aims to address poverty, long term unemployment and social exclusion through local engagement and partnerships between disadvantaged individuals, community organisations and public sector agencies. The Department of Rural and Community Development extended SICAP funding agreements for a period of 12 months up to 31st December 2023 so the current programme covers the term 2018-2023. In Cavan the SICAP Programme implementor is Cavan County Local Development (LDC).
- Each year the SICAP Annual plan sets out actions aimed at helping local community groups to build capacity, promote engagement, building stronger communities, and promote participation and collaboration. The LDC also supports individuals through provision of personal development and well-being supports, providing lifelong learning opportunities, supports for those seeking employment as well as and self-employment opportunities.





- The challenges posed by the delivery of the response under SICAP to newly arrived Ukrainian Nationals have been huge. Cavan is now home to a large number of Ukrainian people who have been displaced by the outbreak of war and their needs are many and varied. The Ukrainian people coming to Ireland have had their identity stripped without any ability to prepare for it. Attention is given to their immediate needs for food, clothing, and accommodation but mental health supports are also very important as are supports such as the provision of English language classes and social activities. The LDC have continued to deliver the SICAP programme in 2022 to a high level despite this additional challenge which was completely unforeseen when the Annual Plan for 2022 was being prepared.
- Despite the challenges faced the SICAP targets set for 2022 were achieved and surpassed.

	Annual Target 2022	Actuals Target achieved	Percentage achievement
Number of local community groups assisted under SICAP (KPI 1)	36	47	131%
Total number of disadvantaged individuals (15 years old & upwards) engaged under SICAP on a one-to- one basis (KPI 2)	405	697	172%
Achievement of % KPI from Disadvantaged areas	18%		52.10%





Healthy Cavan

All actions under Phase 3 of Healthy Ireland funding were completed by 31st March 2022. Final total expenditure under Phase 3 was €269,662.

In May 2022, Cavan County Council received an initial allocation of €40,000 to fund Healthy Cavan Initiatives from 1st June to 31st December 2022. The purpose of this allocation was to allow for delivery of priority Health and Wellbeing initiatives, and to support the planning/application process relating to HIF 2023-2025.

A new Healthy Cavan Co-ordinator came into post on 12th October 2022.



Healthy Ireland Phase 4 - Healthy Cavan funded initiatives in 2022

- Refurbishment of the Shanette building at Cavan Bowling Club –
 completed in February 2023, Healthy Ireland 2022 Funding (€7.5k) assisted
 Cavan Sports Partnership in transforming the existing Shanette into a modern,
 fully accessible and welcoming community space. The Shanette will act as a
 multi-purpose facility to accommodate numerous community and sporting
 groups.
- Procurement of Healthy Cavan Mass Race Signage Funding of €473 was
 used to purchase 25 different Km distance signs and 13 arrowed signs. These
 mass participation signs will be primarily used for running events organised and
 delivered by Cavan Sports Partnership.
- Procurement of a Magic Table 360 Projector for use by Cavan Library Services (including 24 months access to the Happiness Programme Service Package (Funding €5,000) The table will initially be located in the Johnston Central Library and can be moved to other branches. The Magic Table is an interactive tool that uses games, music, visuals and other content to engage and stimulate the user. The content challenges people living with dementia, autism and sensory issues to connect through touch, sight and





sound. Library Staff have been trained in its use and it is anticipated that the table will be of immense benefit to the Community.

- Procurement and provision of Ukrainian literature by Cavan Library Services Cavan Library Service is actively engaged in developing library support services for Ukrainian nationals who have been re-settled in County Cavan. The library, as a neutral and safe space, is ideal for providing information and supports to newly arrive refugees. Promoting reading skills and assisting in people's development, learning and social interaction can impact positively on their mental health and help them to integrate better into the Community. €3,000 funding was provided for this initiative.
- Ukrainian Support Initiatives led by Cavan County Local Development Healthy Ireland funding of €19,000 was provided to CCLD to assist in the delivery of a number of initiatives to support Ukrainian people who were accommodated in the County following the outbreak of war. These included Art Therapy Sessions, Provision of Afterschool and Saturday School, Halloween and Christmas Workshops, and a St Nicholas Christmas Concert and Party. Funding was also used for specific hardship cases These included Provision of school uniforms, stationery and IT for Ukrainian children attending school locally. There were issues identified with some local schools who would not allow admittance of new pupils without full school uniforms and associated learning equipment. Without intervention this would have meant exclusion for some children who arrived in Cavan with limited financial means.
- Funding of €4,700 was used for the Procurement of a Facilitator to assist with developing, drafting and agreeing HIF Phase 4 Local strategy, outcomes and outputs, activity workplans and application completion Venture International Limited facilitated 2 consultation sessions with Local Implementation partners. Sessions took place on 5th and 12th December 2022. Venture produced a report on the outcomes from both sessions. The Online application for 2023-2025 HIF, along with a local strategy document and 2023 activities workplan, has to submitted to Pobal by 27th January 2023.





• Department of Health/Healthy Ireland Period Dignity Pilot 2022 - In 2022, as part of the Healthy Ireland/Department of Health's Period Dignity Pilot Project, €12k funding was utilised by Cavan County Council to install free sanitary product dispensers at 17 publicly accessible buildings across the County. In addition, a weekly delivery of free products (12 weeks) was supplied to all premises up to 31st December 2022 - a total of 3,451 free period products.

TOWN	PREMISES/FACILITY
Killeshandra	FOCUS - FRC
Cavan Town	Teach Oscail FRC
Cavan Town	Courthouse Public Toilet
Virginia	Courthouse Public Toilet
Cootehill	Hub - Ulster Bank Building
Cavan Town	Tullacmongan FRC
Bailieborough	Bexcourt Community Centre
Belturbet	Youth Hub
Arva	Library
Bailieborough	Library
Ballyconnell	Library
Ballyjamesduff	Library
Belturbet	Library
Cavan	Library
Cootehill	Library
Kingscourt	Library
Virginia	Library

 These services help support women, including teenagers, travelling communities, ethnic minorities, women living in poverty, victims of Domestic Abuse, women with disabilities or with long term medical condition.





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 2022 included:

- Further development of the Cavan Age Friendly Programme
- Supports for Cavan Older People's Council
- Co-ordination of and support for Cavan Traveller Interagency Group and Cavan Drug & Alcohol Forum.
- Support for the Local Connecting for Life suicide prevention steering committee,
 led by the HSE.
- Support for the Children and Young People's Services Committee, led by TUSLA.
- Collaboration with Cavan Disability Network on projects funded by the Disability
 Awareness and Participation Fund Social Farming, Train the Trainer for
 Disability and Equality Awareness Training and the compilation of a directory
 of accessible community facilities in the County.
- The Planet Youth project is continuing the Social Inclusion Officer is a member of the Implementation Team. The report on the data collected as part of the first survey was launched in June 2022. A second Planet Youth survey is being planned for 2023.

Age Friendly Programme

The Cavan Age Friendly County Programme is steered by Cavan Age Friendly Alliance which is made up of the main public sector agencies, older people's representatives and other organisations.

Notable age friendly activity in 2022 included:

 Cavan Older People's Council Drop-in sessions took place online throughout the year with guest speakers on a variety of topics from nature and creative writing to bladder and bowel health.





- Older People's Council Information Roadshows were held in Bailieborough and Cavan Town in June 2022. There were guest speakers on a number of topics including Healthy Eating, Crime Prevention, Genealogy, Health & Wellbeing and Social Prescribing. Everyone present had the chance to take part is a Chair Aerobics class and visit the information stands hosted by the many agencies who were in attendance at both events.
- Various online courses were delivered to members of the Cavan Older People's Council in conjunction with the ETB.
- Age Friendly Programme supported the Arts Office in the delivery of Phase II
 of the Lost Landmarks Initiative, funded through Creative Ireland. The Lost
 Landmarks Volume II book was launched in May 2022.
- Those who took part in the Cavan Age Friendly Business Programme in Cavan Town, Virginia, and Cootehill and 3 businesses in other towns and achieved the official 'Age Friendly Business' designation were presented with their Age Friendly Charters at an event in July 2022.
- The Cavan Age Friendly Strategy 2022 2024 was launched by the Cathaoirleach Cllr John Paul Feeley in July 2022.
- Cavan Age Friendly worked with Neighbourhood Network to deliver the 'Community Time Capsule' Programme within the County.
- The Annual General Meeting of Cavan Older People's Council was held in October 2022. A new Executive Committee for the Older People's Council was elected at the meeting. The Executive Committee will represent the voice of older people in Cavan, supporting the work of the Cavan Age Friendly Programme.
- 26 Nursing Homes / Social Care Groups / Day Care Centres / Older People's
 Groups are taking part in the Stirring Memories 'Parlour Songs' initiative
 organised by Cavan Age Friendly Programme with funding by Healthy Cavan.
 The aim of the initiative is to engage with older adults to encourage them to tell
 their stories and reminiscence on their favourite daytrips, or nights out at wellknown landmarks in years gone by, using music to bring back memories.





- Cavan Age Friendly Programme worked on a Creative Ireland/ Age Friendly Ireland Initiative in conjunction with the other Age Friendly Programmes in the North Region (Donegal, Leitrim, Sligo, Mayo & Monaghan). A joint workshop with Monaghan Age Friendly was held in September 2022 and representatives from Cavan Older People's Council attended a pageant in the Museum of Country Life in Turlough Park in Mayo.
- Cavan Age Friendly Programme collaborated with An Garda Síochána and funded 100 LED Candle lights which were distributed as part of an information pack to older adults on the Gardaí's older people's register under their Community Engagement Unit - Community Safety Initiative.



Members of Cavan Older People's Council Executive Committee pictured with Chief Executive Tommy Ryan, Cathaoirleach Cllr Paul Feeley and staff members from Cavan County Council at the launch of the Cavan Age Friendly Strategy 2022-2024.

Photo Sheila Rooney





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 supports a community development service provided by Cavan Traveller Movement [CTM]. Some of the key areas of work during 2022 included:

- The Cavan Traveller Interagency Group met regularly during 2022. The (TIG) and its three subgroups (Education, Employment & Health) worked with consultant Niall Crowley on the review and strategy planning for Cavan Traveller Interagency Group 'Promoting New Models of Development within the Traveller Community'. This project was funded by the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.
- Cavan County Council funded Virginia College's participation on 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. In
 September 2022 Bailieborough Community School also received funding and
 commenced the Yellow Flag Programme.

Drug and Alcohol Forum

The Cavan Drug and Alcohol 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 Cavan 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.

During 2022, quarterly meetings of the Drug and Alcohol Forum took place. The Drug and Alcohol Forum worked on the preparation of a new Action Plan for the period 2022-2024.





County Cavan Joint Policing Committee (JPC)

The function of the Joint Policing Committee is to serve as a forum for consultations, discussion and recommendations on matters affecting the policing of the Local Authority's administrative area. County Cavan Joint Policing Committee met four times over 2022. The Property Marking Initiative continues to be rolled out within the County in collaboration with An Garda Síochana's Community Engagement Unit. 6 events took place over 2022 in conjunction with various community groups.

LEADER Programme

The Local Community Development Committee acts as the Local Action Group [LAG] for the LEADER Programme 2014-2022. 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 2022 all funding under the 2014-2022 Programme had commitments amounting to a total of € 9,558,115.20 for projects across the three themes of the programme. The Transitional Programme with an additional €20 million nationally extended the timeframe of the programme from 2020 to 2022. The key focus of the Transitional Programme is on building capacity within communities which have not received LEADER funding to date.

The Transitional Programme aims to support job creation, foster and encourage entrepreneurship, and support projects which address the climate agenda, digital transformation and encourage rural communities to build on their existing strengths and assets.

The next leader Programme was announced, funding of €6.4 million was allocated to Cavan and the programme will run from 2023-2027. Cavan LAG submitted an expression of Interest in December 2022 which was successful and a Local Development Strategy has to be submitted by 14th July 2023 to the Department.

Four examples of projects completed in 2022 which benefitted from funding across the programme are detailed below.





1. Drumgoon Community Centre Co-Op Society Ltd

The community group applied for funding to upgrade aspects of community facilities for stage productions; theatre space with new curtains, rails, lighting and amplification. This project will help secure employment and encourage visitors to the centre. The upgrade will enhance an already very strong committee and further encourage and develop local groups to use the community space.



2. Ramor Water sports Club

The community group applied for funding to add additional facilities & extend their marina to allow a greater number of berthing facilities to attract increased visitor numbers & make the facility as accessible as possible to the local community. The





project includes the provision of 38 additional spaces for boats to meet the needs of their various water sports users on Lough Ramor & improve disabled access with inclusion of a ramp.





Corlough GAA

The community group applied for funding for Installation of lighting in the unlit sections of the walking track at Corlough GAA Grounds. The group will set up walking groups to promote health & wellbeing in the community and for visitors.









3. Bailieborough Shamrocks GAA & Community Centre

The community group applied for funding for 2 projects.

Project 1: tarmacadam large car park used by all community groups, fully line paint all spaces.

Project 2: complete a multi-function community room for use by several community groups. This involves installation of plumbing, heating, electrical services, air conditioning, flooring, fittings, sanitary, kitchen ware. The facility will provide a very much needed multi-functional room for use by several local community groups.





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 2022 Cavan County Council submitted 15 projects to the Department for approval and subsequently received an allocation of €616,057.63 in respect of 14 Projects under Measures 1. These schemes are ongoing and due for completion in mid 2023.





Below is a photo of upgrade works to Killeshandra Playground which was completed under CLAR 2021& also upgrade of lighting at Ballymachugh GAA under the CLAR programme 2023.



Killeshandra Playground





Ballymachugh GAA- upgrade of lighting to LED Lighting

Comhairle na nÓg

- The Comhairle AGM 2022 took place on 27th of October in person in the Cavan Crystal Hotel. 10 of the 11 post primary schools in Co Cavan participated.
- Youth Work Ireland delivered Cavan Comhairle na nOg on behalf of Cavan Co Council.
- Cavan Comhairle na nOgs working Topic for 2023 is Mental Health

PEACEPLUS PROGRAMME (2021-2027)

Co-designed local Community PEACE Action Plans

PEACEPLUS is a new funding programme designed to support peace and prosperity across Northern Ireland and the border counties of Ireland, building upon the work of the previous PEACE and INTERREG Programmes. The design reflects the importance of peace-building activity, but also the importance of actions that will contribute positively to the economy, building prosperity and adjusting to the new environment and challenges we face.





Each Local Community Peace Partnership will develop a priority action plan for their individual area, which combined will form an overall PEACE Plus Action Plan for each of the 17 local authority areas in the region. Actions within the localised plans will span the range of social, environmental, and economic interventions included within the PEACEPLUS Programme.

However, principally, the Local Authority PEACEPLUS Co-designed action plans will be centred around three core themes:

- Community regeneration and transformation.
- Thriving and peaceful communities; and
- Celebrating culture, diversity, and inclusion.

This **objective** will enable and empower local community partnerships to selfdetermine and deliver priority projects on a cross community basis; which will result in improved local services and facilities; and make a significant and lasting contribution to peace and reconciliation across the region.

To Date

Cavan Co Council PEACEPLUS Partnership has been established.

- The stage 1 consultations are completed and were advertised in the local paper, on the council website and social media sites and to all groups registered with the Cavan PPN. The Cavan Cathaoirleach did a live radio interview on the consultation process to gain as wide an audience as possible.
- An online survey was created and advertised in the local paper, on the council website and social media sites and to all groups registered with the Cavan PPN.
- The consultations sought the views of people living in the three MD areas of Cavan, diverse communities of interest as well as public, private and community sectors.





 Investment Area 1.1. (Local Authority Action Plans) will be one of the first Calls to open. This call will give local authorities 3 to 6 months to submit their Action Plans.
 The current indication is that the PEACE Programme will be open for application in May 2023.

Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme

The Slaintecare Healthy Communities Programme (SHCP) is one year in existence in Cavan. The Programme's Local Development Officer targets five different communities within Cavan. These areas are Cavan, Belturbet, Bailieborough, Ballyjamesduff and Cootehill. The role of the Local Development Officer is to support and work with the local communities alongside the many community and statutory groups in the designated areas and work with strategic partners to ensure that the communities are sustainable places to live, where everyone has access to the things they need, to enjoy good health. The Local Authority role is to help address the wider determinants of health which are the non-medical factors that influence health outcomes i.e., the conditions in which people are born, grow, work, live, and age. As part of this, increasing awareness of the determinants of health across the Local Government sector across areas of influence within local government e.g., elected members, engineers, planners etc. is important. The role also is an enabling one - working with other stakeholders at a local level to tackle health inequalities and tackle such issues on an intersectoral basis through collaboration with initiatives with shared objectives such as Age Friendly, Local Sports Partnerships, and Community Groups. This activity offers a solid platform to align health outcomes on a county-wide basis through contributing initiatives and new ways of working to the wellbeing element within the Local Economic & Community Plans which are currently being progressed in the Local Authority.





 The Sláintecare Healthy Communities Enhancement Funded projects which was used to upgrade outdoor physical activity areas and playgrounds totalling €250,000 were completed in 2022.

Seed Funding

- A once off sum of €75,000 "the Seed Money" was made available in 2022 to support the delivery of the Programme. The Local Development Officer engaged with the communities within the Programme Area and, where appropriate, local NGO's and other groups who are active within the communities in working to address the wider determinants of health, to identify how the Seed Money may best be used in relation to the delivery of the Programme. The following is a breakdown of the seed fund:
 - Tullacmongan Playground: Upgrading of Playground and new sensory equipment - €40,000.
 - Leisure centre bowling green / Shanette: Provide services (electrical, water and waste) to existing clubhouse at bowling green so that community groups can use the facilities for health and wellbeing Programmes - €10,000.
 - Cootehill Community Hub: Install and equip kitchen on ground floor for healthy eating programmes and general use for community groups who use the space - €16,744.
 - Cavan Library Services: Purchase portable Magic Table 360 projector and subscription to the Happiness Programme to deliver an interactive service to those with cognitive impairment in the library environment. Develop a collection of Ukrainian language eBooks, and audiobooks for adults and children to support their recreational, educational, and information needs - €8,256.
- A promotional video for SHCP in conjunction with the HSE was completed for the official launch of the Programme.





Minister Hildegarde Naughton visited Johnston Central Library for a demonstration on the new portable Magic Table 360 projector.

Pride of Place Competition 2022

This competition celebrates communities as hundreds of unsung heroes from across the Island of Ireland. Pride of Place Awards night for 2022 took place on Saturday 21st January 2023 in the Clayton Hotel, Burlington Road, Dublin 4.

Five groups entered the competition details as follows:

Category

- Population 1000-2000 Le Chéile Cootehill (Cootehill Town Teams)
- Creative Place Initiative Created in Cavan
- Community Wellbeing Initiative The Stronger Programme (Cavan GAA)
- Community Resilience 'Supports and Services to keep on top of your mental health' (Comhairle Na Nóg)
- Community Tourism Initiative –The Killeshandra Camino





Le Cheile Cootehill Community Hub won in their category.

Cootehill was honoured at the prestigious Pride of Place community awards on Saturday evening in Dublin. The town took top spot in the 'Town with a Population between 1000 and 2000 category. Judges praised the community spirit amongst the residents.

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.

Grant funding of € 298,990.00 was allocated to 43 community groups in 2022 under the Municipal Discretionary Fund and a total of €24,500 was allocated to 34 groups under the Community and Voluntary Grant Scheme





Festival Grants 2022

The main purpose of the Festival & Events Grants Scheme is to provide financial assistance to groups and organisations engaged in festivals or events at a local level. The emphasis of the scheme is on providing funding for a diverse range of projects thus ensuring that the limited financial resources available are used to the maximum benefit of the community at large.

Grant funding of €12500 was allocated to 13 community groups in 2022.

Community Activities Fund 2022

Community Activities Fund was launched in November 2021 and Cavan County Council received 269,514.00 under this scheme. The closing date for receipt of applications to the Department was 28th February 2022.

The grant The Community Activities Fund will support groups, particularly in disadvantaged areas.

- With their non-pay running costs such as utility bills (electricity costs, refuse charges, heating charges) or other non-pay operating costs for example rental/lease costs, insurance bills.
- Groups will also be able to use the funding to carry out necessary repairs and improvements to their facilities, purchase equipment such as tables and chairs, tools and signage, laptops and printers, canopies and training equipment etc.

A total of 96 groups received funding under this fund for various projects throughout the County Cavan

NOAC Service Indicators	2021	2022
Percentage of local schools involved in the local Youth Council/Comhairle na n-Óg scheme	100%	100%
Number of organisations registered with the Public Participation Network	320	309





Cavan Public Participation Network (Cavan PPN)

Cavan Public Participation Network was established in July 2014 and now includes 345 registered groups as part of its network. There is a committee of 12 community representatives who form the Secretariat of the Cavan PPN, with 37 representations being fulfilled on 17 boards and committees. These representations come from the three themed sectors of Environment, Social Inclusion and Community/Voluntary and three geographic sectors of Cavan-Belturbet, Ballyjamesduff and Bailieborough-Cootehill Municipal Districts.

Cavan PPN assists in networking weekly community news and events with the publication of E-Newsletters and social media updates. The PPN also arranges training sessions and active representation on a variety of bodies.

A full and comprehensive internal audit and external review of the governance of the PPN was completed in 2021 and work has been completed on the implementation of the audit and review recommendations to strengthen the governance of the PPN with a full re-registration of the membership groups in 2022.

Cavan Sports Partnership (CSP)

In 2022, Cavan Sports Partnership organised and delivered a wide range of training courses, workshops and targeted physical activity programmes for all ages, abilities and sporting types, with over 10,000 actively engaged across the year.

Cavan Sports Partnership allocated a total of €79,235 to 98 local clubs, which is a 20% increase on 2021. To support the Ukrainian community in Cavan, €5,523.59 was awarded to 5 groups through the Discretionary Account Funding to provide physical activity opportunities.

Cavan Sports Partnership secured €285,571 Sport Ireland core funding for 2022 for staff, communications and programmes, while a further €57,600 was received under the Covid 19 Grant Support Fund and €25,000 HSE participation programme funding. Through the Dormant Accounts fund, €132,000 was received in 2022 to continue the work of Activity Hubs, Disability Capital Programme, Bailieborough Urban Outdoor Initiatives, Training & Volunteer supports.

Cavan Sports Partnership were delighted to launch the installation of communication boards at 13 playgrounds across the county during National Go All Out Week in July.





This project was delivered in partnership with Cavan County Council and in collaboration with InterAcT, Trinity College Dublin and Inclusion Ireland, funded through Dormant Accounts funding.

Operation Keep Well was delivered in 10 communities in 2022 – Belturbet, Mullagh, Kilnaleck, Gowna, Cavan Gaels, Lacken, Denn, Mullahoran, Templeport and Shercock, with 722 participants while virtual programmes were provided to 124 people.

National Bike Week took place in June, 14 events were delivered across 8 different locations, with 291 participants attending events for all ages and abilities.

A successful Walking Month of June' was hosted to support Community Walking groups and organisations with 19 Community Led Walks throughout the county, 7Activator programmes, Orienteering and a Teen Wellbeing Waddle and Woodlands for Health. A total of 750 people participated in walks throughout this initiative.

Marathon Kids initiative commenced in 16 primary schools in the 'Operation Keep Well' areas whereby all 534 pupils ran a marathon (26 miles) over the duration of the 8 week programme. The Daily Mile programme was delivered in 28 primary schools throughout the county, with over 3,000 pupils walking or running a mile every school day for 6 weeks.

Secondary and Third level Rounders Teacher Training was delivered to teachers from 5 secondary schools. A blitz took place in Breffni Park in March where teams from St Bricin's, St Aidan's, The Royal School, Breffni College and Cavan Institute participated. Walk to Wellness commenced in the Royal School with 40 pupils taking part.

The Sports Inclusion programme provided 10 programmes for people with a disability, with activities for all ages, including Golf, Hockey and Soccer, with 401 participants. In addition, a new G.A.A All Stars programme was delivered in conjunction with Cavan G.A.A through CSP Grant scheme which involved 6 clubs delivering a 10 week programme to 81 children.

The Active Adults 50+ programme delivered 31 activity programme including 5 online





programmes, Outdoor Activator, Lawn Bowls for Women and Leisure Cycling, with 611 people taking part.

Men on the Move was delivered at 4 locations in 2021, Ballyjamesduff, Killeshandra, Lacken and Virginia with106 participants in total. Men on the Move is a National initiative which is funded by the Health Service Executive (HSE).

Her Outdoors took place in August, which is a national campaign to promote outdoor activities for women and girls. In Cavan 8 programmes were delivered including Kayaking, stand up paddle boarding and open water swimming with 238 participants.



Women in Sports







Club Support Communications Board

Town and Village Renewal Scheme

Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2022 was launched by the Department of Rural & Community Development on 27th May, providing funding for projects that supports our rural towns and villages to be more attractive and sustainable. The focus of the 2022 scheme is to renovate derelict and vacant buildings in our town centres and give them a new purpose.

Five towns successfully secured funding in the sum of €1,047,490 under this scheme; Cootehill was awarded €500,000 for the development of the former Bank of Ireland building, funding awarded for streetscape enhancements in Ballyconnell of €142,810 and Virginia of €129,440. Mullagh was awarded €225,240 for the enhancement of the public amenity at Mullagh's Sports Centre grounds and €50,000 for a project development measure in Ballinagh. Works under the Town and Village renewal schemes will be completed in 2024.

An additional €400,000 was approved under the new Building Acquisition Measure for the purchase of 2 properties – the former Bank of Ireland building in Cootehill and the





former B&F Stores/ Market House Ballinagh.

Funding of €49,950 was approved to fund marketing campaigns targeted at attracting remote workers and mobile talent to Co Cavan.

Minister Humphreys has approved €100,000 funding to enhance the shopfronts and streetscapes in Ballyconnell under the 2022 Streetscape Enhancement Measure.



Projects completed in Belturbet funded under the Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2020



Town Teams

Under Action 8.1a of the Local Economic Community Plan, Cavan Co Council, as Lead Partner, committed to establishing 'Town Teams' in a number of towns throughout the County. Town Teams are now in place in Cavan, Cootehill and Virginia and all are progressing a number of actions. The needs, aspirations and vision of the local communities is at the core of the Town Plans.

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 2022. An internal cross-departmental working group was established to oversee implementation of the Town & Village Revitalisation Plans and to co-ordinate efforts across the local authority in revitalizing towns and villages across the county, mainly by maximizing funding under the RRDF, Town and Village and other schemes for projects that seek to improve and bring life and activity back into town centers.

Food Strategy

The 2017 – 2022 Cavan Food Strategy aims to promote a more coordinated and collaborative approach to the development of the 'Cavan Food Product'. The implementation of the actions set out in the strategy are strengthening our current food initiatives, encouraging new activity and supporting all those involved in the food sector in Cavan.

The External Working Group consisting of representatives from industry including chefs, producers and the educational sector together with staff members from Cavan County Council met, both remotely and in person, throughout 2022 to progress actions that were identified as priorities of the Cavan Food Strategy.

The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine under the Rural Innovation and Development Fund (RIDF) Agri-Food Tourism measures awarded funding to part finance initiatives in 2022 supported by Cavan County Council including:

- A Street Food Festival was held in Cavan Town in June 2022 celebrating
 Cavan produce, highlighting the quality food and drink industry in the County.
- Cootehill Christmas Markets were held in November 2022 showcasing the wonderful Cavan produce.
- A pilot schools programme is being run in 2022 with a number of primary schools in the County. This programme is being delivered between March to June 2022. This will be an educational piece to help children understand where their food comes from, local produce, nutrition and food preparation. The





programme will create awareness of the Cavan Food Network and the Created In Cavan branding.

- A recipe book has been complied using local produce that could be used for educational and promotional purposes. This book also showcases the Cavan Food story. This book is being finalised in 2022 and will be printed and launched in June 2022.
- The calendar of events for 2022 was launched on Thursday 26th May in the Oak Room. The calendar included a variety of events which took place from 18th June right up to the end of October highlighting the work of Cavan Food Network and the 'Created in Cavan' brand.
- The Created in Cavan Schools Young Cook of the Year 2022 competition was held in conjunction with Cavan Institute and CMETB in May 2022. 5 schools competed with TY students from each school cooking dishes using local produce from the Created In Cavan Network.
- Seasonal markets were held in the Summer, Autumn and Christmas in conjunction with the Cottage Market in Cavan town. These were all very successful events with great feedback from vendors and customers alike.



The Cottage Market Christmas Food Markets on Townhall Street, Cavan
Photo by Mian Photography





- The Blas na hÉireann awards took place in Dingle on Friday 30th September.
 Cavan producers performed very well at these national food awards with seven local producers winning a total of 17 awards Gold, Silver and Bronze over various categories.
- The Chef Safari Tour took place on Tuesday 4th October where a group of Commis Apprenticeship Chef students from Cavan Institute visited Sean Nua Farm, Sheridans Cheesemongers, Crafts of Ireland and Inis Escargot.



Presentation of the 2022 Blas na hÉireann awards to our local producers are (left to right): Tara Humphreys, LEO Cavan; Lisa Clarke, Ice Cream Treats; Christian Kodric, Vanilla Bean Patisserie; Paul Farrelly, Drummully Boxty; Brendan Jennings, Director Of Services Cavan County Council; John Paul Feeley, Cathaoirleach Cavan County Council; Tommy Ryan, Chief Executive Cavan County Council; Anthony Lyons, Liffey Meats; John Donohoe, Cavan County Council; Gene McEnroe, Manor Farm; Dylan Carleton, Carleton Cakes; Marianne McDonald, Food Strategy Co-ordinator Cavan County Council.

Photo by Adrian Donohoe





Tourism Strategy

Cavan Tourism continues to implement the Cavan Tourism Strategy 2017 – 2022 which aims to increase things to do in the county, length of stay and visitor spend. Tourism in Cavan supports 3200 jobs and generates €95M for the local economy.

Funding / Product Development

Deerpark Forest

Upgrades to signage and interpretation in Deerpark Forest, Virginia took place. New benches and four new panels highlighting the heritage assets in the forest were installed, with funding secured through LEADER Cooperation. Four conservation assessments on the heritage assets in the forest are completed.





New benches and signage in Deerpark Forest, Virginia

Dun an Rí Forest Park

A new Masterplan for Dun an Rí Forest Park was completed in 2022. The plan was funded through LEADER Cooperation and delivered by Cavan County Council in partnership with the Paul Hogarth Company and Coillte, after an extensive consultation process. Separately, progress was made on the project to deliver a new natural play area in the forest park. The Paul Hogarth Company have also been appointed to design the play area.

Ballyconnell to Bellaheady Recreational Trail

The 5.5km Ballyconnell to Bellaheady Recreational Trail, a partnership venture between Cavan County Council and Waterways Ireland, was officially opened in March 2022 by Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys





TD, Cathaoirleach of Cavan County Council Councillor, Clifford Kelly, and Chief Executive Officer of Waterways Ireland, Mr John McDonagh. The project received €684,289 in funding from the Department of Rural and Community Development under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme. Additional match funding was provided by Cavan County Council and Waterways Ireland.



Launch of Ballyconnell - Ballyheady Recreational Trail in February 2022

Cavan Town Wayfinding

A new wayfinding strategy and tourism signage plan for Cavan town was finalised in 2022. The strategy was delivered by Cavan County Council in partnership with Placemarque Design. The manufacture and installation of the new signage will take place in 2023.

Crover Shore, Lough Sheelin, Mountnugent

A landscape architect consultant, Park Hood, was appointed to deliver a study on the future development of Crover Shore (Kit's Pier) at Lough Sheelin, Mountnugent. The study will provide plans for the future development of the site. Public consultation took place in Crover House Hotel in 2022.

The Columban Way

A tender was published regarding "The Provision of Feasibility Study of the All-Ireland Columban Way". Cavan is a partner in this project with nine other local authorities.





€200,000 of Shared Island funding has been secured to deliver the study.

This is Cavan! website (www.thisiscavan.ie)

Heather Humphreys T.D. officially launched the new This is Cavan! website in 2022. The site was delivered by Cavan County Council in partnership with Aura Internet at a cost of €20,000.

Guides and Merchandise

Cavan Tourism continued to produce and distribute a range of maps and guides. These include a new Walking Guide; Angling Guide; visitor map; Guide to County Cavan and a new '*Three Days in Cavan*' guide. In addition, merchandise such as tote bags, jackets, badges, mugs, keyrings, pens and pencils were produced.







Merchandise produced by This is Cavan!

Advertising

County Cavan featured in the following publications in 2022: Ireland of the Welcomes; Ireland Central; Belfast Telegraph; Irish Independent and Spirit of Ireland magazine. A full-page ad and editorial promoting County Cavan was published in the Celtic Media 'Your Ireland' tourism supplement and a radio advertising campaign ran on LMFM in the summer months.

'Buachaillí Ón Éirne' which was shot in Cavan in May/June 2021, aired on BBC2 Northern Ireland in March 2022 and featured Lough Gowna, Killeshandra, Crossdoney and Lough Oughter.





Cavan Day

A successful Cavan Day took place in September. Cavan Tourism supported the creation of a promotional ad and video for the launch of Cavan Calling.

Digital Media

Octave Digital Media were appointed to deliver three social media campaigns and several competitions and promotions throughout 2022. Two new videos promoting the outdoors in Cavan and the angling product in Cavan were produced in 2022 at a cost of €12,500.

Tourism Trade

A steering group comprised of representatives of the tourism industry in Cavan was established in early 2020. This group met frequently throughout 2021 and 2022 creating a valuable forum for the local authority and industry to network and engage throughout the pandemic.

A tourism business trade survey took place in in December 2022. In summary the trade reported a very positive and successful summer and are generally optimistic and confident about the future.

A successful tourism industry networking event took place in the Hotel Kilmore in April 2022 with over 40 members of the tourism trade and other stakeholders in Cavan attending.





L-R: Tara Brady, Cuilcagh Lakelands Geopark, Tina O Dwyer, the Tourism Space, Joanne Hayes, Cavan County Tourism Officer, Grainne O Connor, Cuilcagh Lakelands Geopark

Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark





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. A project manager was appointed for the project in 2022. The proposals are currently at final stages of design with an integrated led design team appointed in mid-2022 to include architectural, environmental and archaeological services, Quantity Surveyor and Interpretative consultants. An interpretative strategy for the proposal is currently being





devised. The Geopark coordinated and delivered initial consultation events for the proposals with local communities in Glangevlin, Swanlinbar and Blacklion in June 2022. Part 8 planning is due to be submitted in Q2 OF 2023.



Artist impression of proposed interpretative centre at Shannon Pot

Geopark Engagement

The Geopark's programme of events has expanded significantly with emphasis on utilising existing Geopark Guide and ambassador network in the delivery of these events. Events were held as part of Heritage Week and Science week and 2022 saw the introduction of the Geopark Summer Camp at Cavan Burren Park. The Geopark Ambassador and Business representatives continue to grow with regular events and information evenings facilitated by the Geopark.

Delivery of formal and informal education programmes, Geopark Ambassadors Programme operation, attendance at community, tourism, conservation, cultural events also grew with easing of restrictions. Typically, between 60-80 public engagement events are held each year in the Geopark, delivered by the Geopark Team, our Geopark Ambassadors or Geopark Partners. Over 4,000 people attended Geopark events in 2022.

Social Media platforms continues to grow with an active Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and You Tube account for the Geopark @cuilcaghlakelands #cuilcaghlakelands





Facebook: 24k followers, Instagram: 2283 followers, Twitter: 2515 followers

Our performance metrics over the past year are as follows:

- Impressions reached 3.5m. A 130% increase on the year before.
- Engagements reached 95k. A 120% increase on the year before.
- Link clicks onto our website reached 17.5k from our social media channels. An increase of 470%.
- Geopark audience grew by 29% over the last year across all channels.

Data Loggers are located at 26 of 52 Geopark sites. During 2022 665,000 people were recorded as utilising Geopark sites. For many sites this figure is calibrated for vehicle counters and therefore it is likely that the figure is much higher.

A total of three Geopark Committee meetings took place in 2022 with attendance from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council elected representatives and Cavan County Council elected representatives committee members, senior management from both councils and Geopark Manager.

Funding Allocations

Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark was awarded funding in 2022 for the following projects;

Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Fund 2022

- Upgrade of 7km of a waymarked walking route in West Cavan on the lowlands of Cuilcagh Mountain which celebrates Sean Eamoinn Ruairi and the last Gaeltacht area of Cavan - €33,000
- Upgrade works to Clough Oughter viewing point at Rann Point to include provision for accessible paths, trail furniture, information panels and entrance feature to allow interpretation of local heritage, biodiversity at this designated Geopark site - €37,000
- Upgrade works to the existing amenity area at Garvagh Lough including





resurfacing of the existing parking area, landscaping, installation of accessible furniture and information panels at this designated Geopark site - €20,000

 Geopark Marketing Plan – To implement a set of marketing actions designed to promote the range of outdoor recreation opportunities available within Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark. - €22,050

Clár 2022

- Upgrade works to the existing amenity area at Brackley Lough, Bawnboy including creation of new changing facilities, Native planting, installation of accessible furniture and visitor, welcome and information signage at this designated Geopark site - €50,000
- Upgrade works to the existing amenity area at Lough MacNean, Blacklion including creation of new changing facilities - €44,328

Shared Island Local Authority Funding 2022

Under the Shared Island Local Authority Funding, Cavan County Council in partnership with Fermanagh and Omagh District Council through the Geopark were awarded funding for the following projects;

- A Cross Border Masterplan for Cuilcagh realising the conservation, tourism, recreational and natural value of this Shared Landscape - €150,000
- Our Shared Heritage, Where We Belong (Castle Saunderson/Castle Caldwell) - €250,000

•

The national funding announcement by An Taoiseach Micheál Martin took place in Cavan in September 2022.





Shared Island Funding Announcement, Cavan, September 2022

Rural Development Programme Cooperation 'Cuilcagh Experience'

The completion of the LEADER Co-Operation Project, a collaboration between Cavan Local Action Group and Fermanagh and Omagh Local Action Group took place in 2022.

Funding provided for a new website and a complete rebrand exercise for the Geopark. The project also funded capital elements in Cavan such as enhanced tourism recreational facilities and interpretation at key Geopark sites including Tullydermot Falls, Altachullion Viewpoint, Bellavally Gap and Cuilcagh Lowlands Walk. The final strand of this project was a pilot Sustainability Training Programme aimed at businesses operating in the Geopark. This delivers on a key objective of the Geopark, which is to educate and engender a sense of community ownership of our surroundings. This project recognised the great potential of this region for delivering sustainable tourism. This will be further explored through the recent announcement of Shared Island funding for a Cuilcagh Mountain Masterplan.





Launch of Cuilcagh Rural Development Programme 'Cuilcagh Experience' Project,
October 2022

Geopark Business Sustainability Programme 2022

With a growing market of visitors looking for more sustainable options whilst travelling, the focus to provide sustainable tourism is becoming a key priority for many local businesses.

Having successfully piloted a Business Sustainability Training Programme in 2020 with 8 local businesses participating, Cuilcagh Lakelands UNESCO Global Geopark has recently awarded certificates in the second round of the programme.

The Geopark awarded twelve local businesses who participated in the programme certification that they have completed the Business programme. The Business Sustainability Training Programme is a framework that allows businesses located within Cuilcagh Lakelands Geopark to come together to build a sustainable tourism offering, achieve cost savings through reductions in waste, water and energy consumption and benefit from becoming a member of the Geopark Business Network.

The training programme is highly practical providing businesses with the tools to establish baseline information and benchmark standards in the areas of energy, water, and waste management.

This comprehensive 10-week programme covered the below topics:

Energy Conservation & Energy Management





- Biodiversity and Tourism in the Geopark
- Water Conservation & Water Management
- Leave no Trace
- Waste Management
- Accessible and Inclusive Tourism
- Marketing the Geopark Together
- Building sustainability into the Geopark Visitor Experience

The programme encouraged increased engagement between businesses and Geopark Team whilst connecting business to business – enhancing sustainability and regenerative tourism. The Sustainability Training Programme is aimed at businesses operating in the Geopark. This delivers on a key objective of the Geopark, which is to educate and engender a sense of community ownership of our surroundings. Businesses are central to what we do in the Geopark and are the cornerstone of regenerative tourism which places people at the centre of the tourism product.



Geopark Business Sustainability Programme Accreditation Ceremony, October 2022





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, based in Cootehill, are at the advanced stages of completing construction.





Cootehill Enterprise Park

Expressions of interest have been received for a further four serviced sites from existing local industrial manufacturing companies with expansion plans spanning from 2021 to 2024. This will form part of the second development phase of the lands, requiring the construction of additional access roads and services, in order to maximise the potential of the park to facilitate four new business expansions over the next three years, and unlock a further two serviced sites for future development.





Cavan Digital Hub

Cavan Digital Hub marked its three-year anniversary in June 2022 with over 100 skilled digital and technology roles now being supported out of the facility. Approximately 78 workers are based in the facility with a further 26 remote roles employed by its clients across the globe.



Spanning five 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. The project was developed by 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. It continues to foster and support the digital sector in the county.

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. Many of the start-up businesses and established SME's are also clients of the Local Enterprise Office Cavan. The firms specialise in all areas of the digital spectrum including artificial intelligence, software development, digital services, and web solutions. IDA-backed US analytics and communications firm, Public Relay, one of the initial client members, expanded its footprint from 2 to 24 staff, growing to occupy the Hubs spacious top floor suite. The average start-up member has grown from one staff member to six staff members in 24 months. 80% of clients are predicting further growth and expansion in 2023.

Cavan Digital Hub is also an active participant of the Connected Hubs initiative, funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development, and welcomes approximately 20 digital nomads per month seeking hot-desk facilities, many of which are aspiring digital entrepreneurs taking their first steps.





Other supports and services available to clients of the Hub include strong links and connectivity to LEO Cavan, and Co-Connect initiatives, a range of networks and continued collaboration with The Hive in Carrick on Shannon and Co:Worx in Edgeworthstown.

Cavan Digital Hub will continue to build partnerships with key stakeholders and industry across the North-East region and beyond, keen to strengthen its position as the primary Digital Hub facility in county Cavan. It will continue to seek to align its offering in line with the changing demands both remote and hybrid working models, providing optimum resource planning for employers and employees in the region.



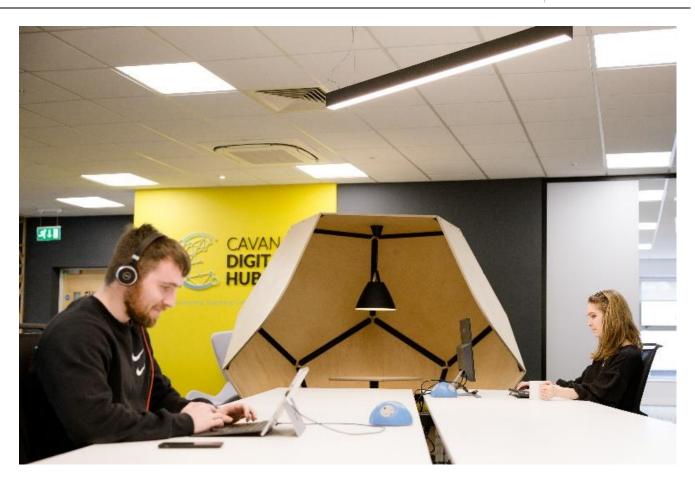
Minister of State for Business, Employment and Retail, Damien English, was joined at Cavan Digital Hub by Minister for Social Protection and Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys, to launch the North-East Regional Enterprise Plan (REP) to 2024, February 2022.

Back Row Left to Right: Brendan Smith T.D. for Cavan/Monaghan; Richard Hanlon, Chair of the North-East Steering Committee; Cllr Clifford Kelly, Chairperson Cavan County Council; Brendan Jennings, Director of Service, Economic Development, Planning. Community & Tourism

Front Row Left to Right: Heather Humphreys, Minister for Social Protection and Rural and Community Development; Damien English T.D. Minister of State for Business, Employment & Retail; Niamh Smyth T.D. for Cavan/Monaghan.















Advance Planning, IDA Park Killygarry

Cavan Digital Hub (DAC) Ltd, Cavan County Council and IDA Ireland have come together, in a collaborative effort, to provide a pathway to attract and retain investment in IDA Park, Killygarry and to prepare an application for an Advance Planning Permit on a selected site in Killygarry Park, for the development of an Advanced Technology Building (ATB). This application was successful and paves the way for future partnership opportunities in the future. Cavan County Council partners with a number of agencies, including the IDA, with the aim of creating opportunities for employment, expansion of existing business and making County Cavan an attractive place for inward investment.

To attract new FDI to the county along with other indigenous investment, there is a need for a sufficient supply of high-quality, marketable, serviced lands and premises. The availability of such sites and the future requirement for same, is key to the future economic development of the county and indigenous and foreign investors are a critical element requiring a collaborative, streamlined approach in sourcing and developing appropriate lands and premises.

Food Enterprise Centre

Cavan County Enterprise Fund have secured planning permission to erect a fully serviced Food Enterprise Centre at Killgarry Park. This centre will incorporate administration areas and warehouse storage, access via newly proposed service road, newly proposed parking, signage, landscaping, boundary treatments, bicycle shelter, connection to public sewer, surface water, watermain and utility services and all ancillary works.





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, our role is expanded in terms of the broader economic development agenda, and in particular, we contribute and play a significant role in economic activities of the Local Economic & Community Development Plan, the County Development Plan, and the Economic, Enterprise & Planning Strategic Policy Committee. Our involvement is important in the context 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.

2022 presented a new set of challenges for businesses. While still trying to recover from the COVID19 pandemic they were now faced with the war in Ukraine, the energy and cost of living crisis. We have maintained an adaptive approach to our services, holding some in person and some online, depending on the need of the clients. This ability to adapt to the changing needs of our clients has allowed us to continue providing much needed support to our local businesses.

Providing supports and services under the four core overarching objectives of the





LEOs remains as important in the years ahead, as it does in 2023. However, strategically, we must now focus and tilt our offering on preparing businesses for the low carbon economy, SMART digitisation, export readiness, LEAN practices, and clustering for growth, in an effort to reset our businesses' mindset to look forward with ambition and optimism.

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

LEO Cavan's strategic priorities for the next four years will build upon a well developed, solid, LEO client portfolio relationship, as we endeavour to work with those clients to increase their capability and capacity as business owners, which continues to be a critical driver and predictor of a business's growth and success. The development of their pathway from the LEO to Enterprise Ireland is a key priority and one that informs the supports and interventions most appropriate to their journey on that pathway.

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. This will be explored through the Regional Enterprise Plan Committees which provides much opportunity for strategic project development to address regional and





county imbalances.

Building resilience and future proofing a business must feature in our armoury as a vital thought process for business owners and future entrepreneurs. 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.

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. The LEOs have considerable expertise in facilitating and managing networks as it provides a structured means, particularly in rural counties, of business owners coming together to learn, exchange best practice and support each other. 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 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.

We will continue to prioritise assisting existing businesses to expand and grow and face the challenges presented by the War in Ukraine, 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.

LEO Cavan, as a key section of Cavan County Council, plays an important role in facilitating and promoting sustainable economic growth, enterprise, and tourism. 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.

The LEO works collaboratively with key enterprise and strategic stakeholders including business and community groups, in an effort to promote a strong enterprise focused environment contributing to the county achieving its economic potential. Our collaborative approach to developing and strengthening joint partnerships with key agencies and stakeholders to deliver additional value-added programmes and/or interventions for our clients was a key part of our strategy for 2023. The Co-Innovate Programme, a partnership led by InterTrade Ireland and the six LEOs in the Border Region, continued to provide opportunities for innovative SMEs to access research and development supports. More than 50 Cavan businesses have been participating on this programme since its commencement in 2017.

LEO Cavan engages proactively on the Regional Enterprise Plan Steering Committee and welcomes the opportunity to collaborate with key stakeholders such as Enterprise Ireland, IDA, CMETB, Failte Ireland and LEOs in our Region, to identify and investigate possible leveraging of funds under upcoming Competitive Calls to further enhance the region as a location for business investment and growth.

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 2022 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 continues to promote the development of Cavan Digital Hub and the rollout of its objectives. Cavan Digital Hub was established to encourage employment opportunities in the digital sector, where individuals and companies with a digital focus can network and grow within a community of support & creativity. The objectives are to promote the digital economy in Cavan and its environs, to offer flexible work solutions to companies, to provide incubation space for digital start-ups to scale & grow, to facilitate co-working, peer to peer networking and collaboration. LEO Cavan continues to work collaboratively with the Upper Shannon Erne Future Economy (USEFE) partnership, particularly in promoting and fostering the remote working agenda across our county and region. We will continue during 2023 to support Cavan Digital Hub in its endeavours to adapt its marketing focus and strategy in line with COVID 19 government restrictions and the future working world as we move towards the phased reduction of restrictions and economic recovery post COVID. LEO Cavan continues to support Cavan Digital Hub in securing new tenant businesses as well as collaborating on joint events and programmes for the benefit of businesses located in the Hub.

LEO Cavan contributes to Cavan County Council's corporate plan objectives to maximise 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. Through joint partnership of Cavan County Council, IDA Ireland and Cavan Digital Hub have secured planning for the construction of an Advanced Technology Building in IDA Business Park, Killygarry which further demonstrates the commitment by Cavan County Council to build a solid foundation for future foreign and indigenous investment in our county.

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 which has been developed by the Enterprise Ireland Centre of Excellence in collaboration with the LEO Network. The Procedures Manual has been prepared to ensure consistent best practice in the delivery of LEO supports and will be reviewed annually. It is available for inspection by the level above the Body in the Financial Management and Control Cascade i.e., Certifying Authority, Managing Authority, the European Social Fund and European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Financial Control Units, the Internal Audit Units, the European Commission, or its agents.

LEO Cavan is committed to working with Internal Audit, Health and Safety and Procurement sections in Cavan County Council to ensure our compliance at the highest operational level with all requisite procedures, processes, and legislation, as determined by Cavan County Council's Corporate Plan and Governance Review.

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.

The LEO Network has formal protocols in place with MicroFinance Ireland, Credit Review Office, Department of Social Protection, Revenue Commissioners, National Association of Community Enterprise Centres, Education & Training Boards, Bord Bia and Failte Ireland, which govern dissemination of information, information signposting and inter-agency referrals. LEO Cavan has both formal and informal engagement with these agencies and works closely to assist and support job creation at county level.

Providing supports and services under our core objectives for the next four years must now focus on preparing businesses for the low carbon economy, digitisation, export readiness, LEAN practices, and clustering for growth, in an effort to reset businesses' mindset to look forward with ambition and optimism.

Key Strategic LEO Enterprise Activities 2022

- The eighth Local Enterprise Week took place from 6th to 10th March 2022. This National Initiative saw a new hybrid approach with a variety of online and in person events being held across the LEO Network. LEO Cavan hosted a regional event focusing on sustainability and green business, "Preparing your Business for a Low Carbon Future". During Local Enterprise Week events hosted by LEO Cavan had over 170 people in attendance.
- In 2022, LEO Cavan approved €234,926 in Measure 1 financial assistance to eight businesses.
- Under the LEO Trading Online Voucher Scheme, LEO Cavan approved a total of seventeen vouchers, valued at €36,118.50.
- Over the course of 2022, 51 enterprise related training programmes and network events/seminars were delivered (both virtually and in person) by LEO Cavan and attended by 760 participants availing of knowledge-based learning and information.





- In 2022, 185 business owner / managers received one-to-one mentoring.
- Seven businesses availed of the LEAN for Micro and Green for Micro programmes in the year, 2022.
- The winner of the County Cavan Enterprise Award 2022, Aine's Chocolates, went on to represent County Cavan at the National Enterprise Awards Final.

FINANCE, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY 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

The Council had 161 loans, which resulted in mortgage payments of €395,000 during 2022. During 2022, Cavan County Council have continued to proactively engage with customers who have found themselves in unsustainable arrears positions.

Provision of Payroll Function

This service involves the processing and payment of wages and salaries for all staff including deduction of P.A.Y.E., P.R.S.I., other statutory and non-statutory deductions and completion of all relevant returns. There are approximately 500 employees on Cavan County Council's payroll. In addition to this, the Payroll function processes payments for the Council's Pensioners and Elected Members. Total payroll costs were €30.0m in 2022.

Rates

A total of 2,483 Rate Demands were issued for the year 2022 which resulted in a total levy of €18,335,641.26. The effective valuation in Co. Cavan in 2022 was €82,929,178 and the multiplier set by the elected members for 2022 was 0.2211. An amount of €15,730,073 was receipted in respect of commercial rates for the year ending 31st December 2022. This represented an 83% collection percentage of commercial rates for 2022.

To alleviate the impact of Covid 19 on eligible businesses during 2022 the Government announced a further 3-month rates waiver scheme for the hospitality sector. A total waiver amounting to € 544,253.73 was processed by the Rates Department for eligible businesses in Co. Cavan.

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 the annual rates liability by the 31st October each year or have complied with an agreement to discharge their rates liability in full by 31st December 2022. 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 2022. An amount of circa €120,423 was paid out under the Scheme in respect of over 1,150 rated properties.

In the area of Non-Principal Private Residence (NPPR) Charges an amount of €449,396.10 net of central Bureau charges was collected for year ending 31st December 2022.

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 remains intrinsically linked to the principles and strategic objectives of the organisation's Corporate Plan. Cavan County Council's





Corporate Procurement Plan puts in place the principles and proper foundation on which the Council's procurement function operates.

During 2022, while COVID 19 restrictions were removed, a number of new challenges came about, 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 Central Tendering Administration Unit (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 and the provision of 3 online Procurement information videos in respect of Cavan County Council's Corporate Procurement Plan and Procurement Procedure Manual. In addition to this the Procurement Officer delivered inhouse procurement training to over 25 staff members across various Departments such as Community and Enterprise, The Local Enterprise Office, Roads and Housing Construction. 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 Quarterly Public Procurement Monitoring Report App, which is used to provide the Chief Executive (CE) with a quarterly report on the procurement compliance of all Departments within the organisation.

The Procurement Officer, Health and Safety Officer and the Council's Stores Department under the guidance of the Senior Management Team continued to work closely in procuring staff (PPE) to combat COVID – 19.

Procurement assistance was provided to all Departments and Sections throughout the Organisation. In 2022 - **192** Procurement Competitions were advertised by the CTA Unit. **91** of these were through the etenders portal (**39** Quotation Competitions, **51**





Tender Competitions and 1 Request for Information) and a further 101 Tender Competitions through the supplygov system.

Continued compliance with The Public Spending Code

In 2022 the Procurement Officer also coordinated, compiled and submitted the Cavan County Council's Quality Assurance report for 2021 to the National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC) as required under the Department of Public Expenditure and Reforms **Public Spending Code**.

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 2021 (totalling €755,731,382.92) identified 123 Projects /
 Programmes (31 Current Expenditure and 92 Capital Expenditure), whose
 expenditure / estimated lifetime cost exceeded €0.5m.
 - o 123 Projects/programmes: -
 - 43 projects / programmes were being considered in 2021.
 - **73** projects / programmes incurred expenditure in 2021.
 - 7 projects / programmes ended in 2021.
- A summary of all procurements above €10m,
- A completed set of checklists (7 in total) for the whole organisation based on 18 samples taken across the organisation, representing 8% of the total value of relevant expenditure in the 2021 inventory list.
- A summary of the Internal Auditors in-depth checks representing: -
 - 6% of the total value of all Current (revenue) Expenditure projects / programmes identified in the Inventory list for 2021 and





3.2% of the total value of all Capital Expenditure projects / programmes identified in the Inventory list for 2021. (The Average % over the 3-year period (2019-2021) of Capital Projects /Programmes selected for In-Depth Check(s) (based on value) was 18%).

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

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 2022

The Annual Audit Plan for 2022 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.

The long-term impact of the Coronavirus (COVID 19) has brought many changes to the operations, services and work environment of the Local Authority. Although challenging Cavan County Council has proven to be very resilient in this regard. As the priorities of the Local Authority changed Internal Audit embraced new remote work practices and audit techniques that ensured the continued rollout of audit services 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 - 2022

During 2022 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 Differential Rent Scheme, the Traffic Fines System as operated during 2019, the Town & Village Renewal Scheme for 2020, the CLÁR Programme (Ceantair Laga Árd-Riachtanais) in 2020, an IA Overview of the Climate Change Adaption Strategy 2019-2024 & Energy Strategy & Action Plan 2018-2021, an Overview of the Active Travel Programme, the Operations of the Haulage Company-Soil Agreement at Corranure Landfill, the Annual Review of SICAP- the Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme for 2021 as managed by the Programme Implementor on behalf of the LCDC and the Regulatory Public Spending Code Indepth Reviews on 1) the Proposed Capital Project- Cavan Railway Greenway with an estimate lifetime cost of €20 million. 2) the Multi Annual Rural Water Programme 2019 - 2021 with an estimate lifetime cost of €1.7 million. 3) the Administration of Group





Water Schemes & Private Well Installations C05 Revenue Expenditure Programme for 2021 with annual expenditure totalling €4.3million.

Internal Audit also undertook the necessary Article 48 Leader Funding Checking Procedures on behalf of the Council covering 13 project applications valued at €883,779.70 and 43 expenditure claims amounting to €2,214,219.09.

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 Chief Executive. Their term of office is concurrent with that of the elected Council which commenced on 1st June 2019 and will terminate on 31st May 2024.

The (AC) Audit Committee members are as follows:

New	AC June 2019 – May 2024
•	Sonia McEntee (Chairperson)
•	Con Dolan
•	Sean Corcoran
•	Cllr Madeleine Argue
•	Cllr Clifford Kelly





The Audit Committee met on four occasions in 2022. 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 Tommy Ryan 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 and Council's Annual Performance Indicators.

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 2022 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.

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 License
- 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 an increase in the number of public attending the Motor Tax Office in 2022 to conduct their business. This was reflected in an increase in revenue intake of €3,048,954 reporting an increase of €480,948 (18.7%) on 2021(€2,568,006).

Breakdown of income and transactions:

Category	Total Transactions	Total Income
Vehicle Licences	13,540	€2,733,118
Trade Licences	66	€23,298
Miscellaneous Receipts	1,574	€14,655
Arrears	3,038	€277,883
Total	18,218	€3,048,954

Motor Tax Online:

In addition, 69,449 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.





Service Indicators

M.1 Number & Percentage of Motor Tax Transactions	2022
Number which are dealt with over the counter	13,283
Number which are dealt with by post	4,083
% which are dealt with over the counter	76.49%
% which are dealt with by post	23.51%
M.2 Time Taken to Process Motor Tax Postal Applications	
Number which are dealt with on the same day as receipt of the application	3824
Number which are dealt with on the 2nd or 3rd day from receipt of	202
application	
Number which are dealt with on the 4th or 5th day from receipt of the	7
application	
Number which are dealt with in over 5 days from receipt of the application	50
% which are dealt with on the same day as receipt of the application	93.66%
% which are dealt with on the 2nd or 3rd day from receipt of the	4.95%
application	
% which are dealt with on the 4th or 5th day from receipt of the	0.17%
application	
% which are dealt with in over 5 days from receipt of the application	1.22%
M.4 Public opening hours	
Average number of opening hours per week	27.5





Information and Communications Technology (ICT)

The ICT (Information and Communication Technology) Section reports to the Head of Finance & IT and is responsible for managing the organisations ICT infrastructure, websites, software applications, GIS systems and digital transformation initiatives. This includes local (LAN) and wide area (WAN) networks, combined of wired and wireless links which enable voice and data communications for the organisation. During 2022 the IT Dept worked on a number of key infrastructure, systems, digital and security projects. We also continued to provide user support to our workforce in the new hybrid working environment. Our support desk processed an average of 350

Geographic Information Systems.

calls per month during the year.

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:

- Mapping of derelict sites and vacant buildings.
- Ongoing support to pollution complaints system.
- Amendments for maps for CDP
- Migration of data to updated server.
- Mapping for Cavan Greenway/Active Travel/Flood Relief Scheme
- New online mapping portal on Council website.

Network Infrastructure.

The Council's network infrastructure is vital to service delivery and the IT Dept work to ensuring the availability and security of ICT systems and services. Projects in this area included:

- New primary link installed at Moynehall offices.
- On-going migration, upgrades and decommissioning of legacy systems and servers.
- Ongoing rollout of new PCs and laptops.
- EduRoam WiFi access in Libraries.





- System backup and restore.
- Provisioning new servers and hardware
- Extension of WiFi network.
- Migration of legacy comms equipment to SD-WAN infrastructure.

Digital Transformation

The Digital Transformation function focuses on delivering the National Broadband Plan in Cavan, progressing the actions in the Digital Strategy and increasing mobility and digital awareness of council staff. Providing better services to the public and involving citizens in digital transformation is also a priority.

- · Official opening of BCP sites in Cavan.
- Digital Training courses for older people.
- IOT upgrades at BCP sites.
- Internal CMS migrated to Azure.
- Connected Cavan Website launched.
- New Cavan Diaspora website launched.
- New Council Website launched.
- New Library website launched.
- New GDPR compliant cookie solution deployed.

ICT Security

ICT security ensures the safety and security of our data and systems and is one of the most critically important functions of the IT Department. IT security includes the technologies, processes, and practices designed to protect networks, devices, programmes, and data from attack, damage, or unauthorised access.

- Penetration testing carried out on network.
- CIS gap analysis improvements.
- New backup solution for Microsoft cloud estate.
- New online Cyber security training introduced.
- Upgrade to website content filter system.
- Email Security enhanced DMARC of CavanCoCo.ie emails.





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.

- Upgrade to Library Management System.
- 180 laptops migrated to Windows 11.
- Upgrade of CORE, iPlan, iHouse & iReg and Agresso systems.
- Intranet redesign and migration to SharePoint online commenced.
- Ongoing commissioning and roll out of blended working equipment and training.
- 4268 support tickets completed.

Emergency Services



Members of Cavan County Emergency Services prepare to march in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in New York on 17th March 2022.

Cavan County Fire Service

Cavan County Council employed 89 retained Firefighters in 10 fire stations located around the County at the end of 2022. During 2022, three Firefighters retired from the Fire Service.



Service Indicators

F1: Cost per Capita of the Fire Service

Cost per Capita of the Fire Service

€51.85

F2: Service Mobilisation

	Fire	Non-Fire
Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire		
brigades	5:26	6:26

F3: Percentage Attendance Times at Scenes

	Fire		Non-Fire	
	%	No.	%	No.
First attendance at the scene is within 10 minutes	34.91	59	21.24	65
First attendance at the scene is after 10 minutes				
but within 20 minutes	52.66	89	58.17	178
First attendance at the scene is after 20 minutes	12.43	21	20.59	63

Fire Service Call Outs

Type of Ca		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Chimney Houses	fires in	45	47	32	35	36	37	29	16
Other Building Fir	Domestic es	60	33	41	44	30	34	30	23
Other fires		28	47	45	47	39	36	32	38
Bog/Forest	Fires	17	17	39	18	9	34	6	11
Motor Vehic	cle Fires	28	19	20	21	16	10	24	20





Comhairle Contae an Chabháin Cavan County Council

Road Traffic Accidents	73	69	58	67	72	52	61	70
Flooding	16	4	14	11	28	28	9	18
Chemical Incidents	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	2
Special Services (Other)	218	244	338	377	261	335	213	240
False Alarm (Good Intent)	18	51	36	50	57	57	68	108
False Alarm (Malicious)	3	2	2	2	6	3	5	3
Total Calls	416	506	533	594	554	626	482	549

The Fire Service had 616 responses to 549 incidents in 2022, which is a 8.8% increase compared to the responses in 2022

Capital Programme

On 29th December 2020, The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage approved a new Fire Appliance for Cavan County Fire Service in the Capital Programme 2021 – 2023. On 23rd November 2022, Cathaoirleach of Cavan County Council, Cllr. John Paul Feeley handed over this new fire appliance to the crew of Kingscourt Fire Station.





Cathaoirleach of Cavan County Council, Cllr. John Paul Feeley handing over the keys to a new fire appliance to the crew of Kingscourt Fire Station.

The Construction of a new Fire station at Ballyjamesduff was identified in the 2016 – 2020 Fire Service Capital Programme as one of 16 new priority projects. This commitment was reaffirmed by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in the Fire Services Capital Programme 2021 – 2025 announced on 29th December 2020. On 18th February 2021, the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage granted approval to accept the tender of Sandar Construction Ltd., for construction of the new fire station. Contracts for the New Fire Station in Ballyjamesduff were signed on 14th June 2021 and the Contractor moved onto site on 22nd June 2021. The new fire station in Ballyjamesduff Fire Station was handed over to Cavan County Fire Service on 16th December 2022 and will become operational in early 2023.

An application for capital funding for upgrade works at Kingscourt Fire Station was submitted to the National Directorate for Fire & Emergency Management in October 2022.

Major Emergency Planning

The first Cavan County Council Major Emergency Plan under the 2006 Framework for





Emergency Planning was issued in September 2008 and the latest Plan was revised and issued at the start of 2016. The appendices to the plan were revised during 2019 to reflect staff changes. These will be revised again in 2023.

The Courthouse in Cavan is the Local Co-Ordination Centre in the event of a Major Emergency in the County.

During 2022, Louth County Council accepted the role of chairing both the Regional Steering and Regional Working groups. Regular meetings of these groups were conducted in 2022. Regional training for the role of Information Management Officer took place during 2022. Training is planned for the roles of On-Site Co-Ordinator and Media Liaison is planned for 2023. Members of staff from Cavan County Council continue to attend these courses.

The Cross Border Emergency Management Group developed a comprehensive Operational Plan for 2022 – 2025, the vision of which is to enhance cross border cooperation and resilience in emergency management and civil protection consistent with the principles underpinned in the framework documents of both jurisdictions, the Northern Ireland Civil Contingencies Framework and the Major Emergency Management Framework. This plan was launched at the Killyhevlin Hotel, Enniskillen on 8th March 2022 to a wide range of multi-agency partners from both sides of the border.

The launch of the plan was followed by a tabletop exercise which simulated a wildfire on both sides of the Cavan Fermanagh border. Participants were asked to form a multi-agency Tactical Co-ordination Group (TCG) and a Local Co-Ordination Group (LCG) in response to a series of injects and updates. Tommy Ryan, Chief Executive of Cavan County Council undertook the role of Chair of the Local Co-ordination Group. A report on the exercise was produced and its recommendations are under review.





Launch of the Cross Border Emergency Management Group's Operational

Plan for 2022 – 2025

Training

In 2022 dedicated training courses were provided in a wide range of potential activities that fire service personnel may encounter during the course of their employment, these included: Breathing Apparatus Refresher and Initial Wearers, Compartment Fire Behaviour, Signing, Lighting & Guarding, Emergency Traffic Management, Advance Driver Training in preparation for assessment by RSA Testers for compliance with the Emergency Services Driving Standards, Chainsaw Operator Refresher, Hydraulic Platform, Aircraft Incidents, Emergency Fire Responder, Health & Safety, National Directorate for Fire & Emergency Management Courses for both Junior & Senior Fire Officers.

A detailed review of Cavan County Fire Service's Emergency Traffic Management (ETM) procedures was undertaken in conjunction with Cavan County Council's Safety Office and a Signing, Lighting and Guarding (SLG) training provider.





Emergency Traffic Management training in Cavan Town.

Fire Prevention

Public houses, Hotels, restaurants, community halls, clubs and petrol stations are inspected each year in response to legislative requirements and the processing of applications for liquor licences, dance licences, club licences, dangerous substance licences and Gaming and Lottery Licences.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Cavan County Fire Service's community fire safety, primary schools and smoke alarm programmes were suspended for 2022.

Under the Building Control Regulations Fire Safety Certificates are required prior to the construction, extension or material alteration of most buildings excluding dwelling houses and agricultural buildings. A total of 49 Fire Safety Certificate Applications were received in 2022 with fees totalling €72,671.03.





Health and Safety

Internal consultations on the revised Fire Service Safety Manual were conducted during 2022. I final version will be present to the Senior Management Team for approval early in 2023.

The County Council has an Occupational Health Scheme and the Firefighters undergo medical examination under the National Firefighters Agreement. All vehicles are independently checked and tested to ensure that they are roadworthy.

St. Patrick's Day Parade, New York

In March 2022, 28 (current & retired) firefighters from Cavan County Fire Service joined their Colleagues from the National Ambulance Service and An Garda Siochana on a trip to New York. In total 38 Emergency Responders from County Cavan represented the county in the St. Patrick's Day Parade and marched under the banner of the Cavan P&B Association of New York. They also visited the following:

- FDNY Ladder Company 16 Engine Company 39
- 19th Precinct NYPD Upper East Side
- FDNY Rescue Company 2
- 9/11 Memorial
- FDNY Marine Company 1

Long Service Awards

On 17th November 2022, The National Directorate for Fire & Emergency Management presented Long Service Awards to seventeen members of Cavan County Fire Service. The event was held in the Knightsbrook Hotel, Trim.

- Four retired Firefighters received a medal bar for 40 years' service.
- Five Firefighters received a gold pin for 30 years' service.
- Eight Firefighters received a medal for 20 years' service.







Long Service Awards, Knightsbrook Hotel, Trim, on 17th November 2022.

Retirement of Fire Service Personnel

The following personnel left Cavan County Fire Service during 2022:

- Sean Farrelly, Firefighter, Bailieborough Fire Brigade, retired in April 2022, after almost thirty years of service.
- Dermot Conaty, Driver/ Mechanic, Ballyjamesduff Fire Brigade, resigned in May 2022, having given more than eleven years of service.
- Susan Hughes, Firefighter, Kingscourt Fire Service resigned after one year of service.

We thank Sean, Dermot and Susan for everything they did for Cavan County Fire Service and their forty-two years of commitment to the people of County Cavan.



Cavan County Civil Defence



Civil Defence Volunteers Receiving their LAMA Gold Award for Best Emergency Response Team of the Year 2021 in April 2022

Introduction

2022 started with the first four months continuing with Covid duties and it was into May before the Covid duties eased and thankfully stayed at a low level for the remainder of the year as training and community duties returned to near normality.

Duties

Cavan Civil Defence volunteers competed 470 taskings during 2022, (314 in the first four months).

Covid duties included transport of Covid positive patients for Cavan General and for the Dialysis unit and some transport for the test Centre in Castlesaunderson, assisting the Blood Transfusion Service and providing transport for people in the community to hospital appointments in Dublin and further afield at the request of community Nurses and of course delivery of library books to isolated people.





The Ukrainian Refugee Crisis also developed in March, and Cavan County Civil Defence had volunteers set up an emergency accommodation centre in Cavan Leisure Complex, and prepare bedding, toiletries etc. In the end, this accommodation was not used, and the volunteers stood down the facility and stored the items for future use. Cavan County Civil Defence were involved in provided transport for Ukrainian people from time to time.

The Summer and Autumn saw a return to more normal community duties, runs, walks, cycles, triathlons, football matches etc.



A Cavan County Civil Defence ambulance outside Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda

Staffing

In April Carmel Prior, who was Acting Assistant Civil Defence Officer (ACDO) was appointed as full time ACDO. Carmel is an experienced volunteer, and her work has enabled Cavan County Civil Defence to continue to deliver the level of service these challenging times require.





The new requirements of five minimum training standards for volunteers and the introduction of the Volunteer and Equipment Management System. (VEMS), has brought an increased workload for the CDO and ACDO and together with the effects of the Pandemic has caused a lot of the senior volunteers to step away, and we are currently recruiting new volunteers.

Training

Classes have recommenced with 13 classes operating in 11 venues around the county. Because of the Pandemic training had lapsed for many volunteers and there was a great effort needed by all instructors to bring the volunteers back into certification, but this was largely completed by year end.

14 new volunteers attended Induction Training for 7 evenings over the Summer of which 8 have completed the training and have gone on to join their local classes and have taken part in all activities and duties.

Boat training has continued throughout the year but with restrictions easing, proper on the water training has resumed.

Cavan County Civil Defence have continued to provide First Responder Training for community groups, and football clubs and St. Patricks College and the Royal School and Cavan County Council Staff.

Vehicles

The Department of Defence supplied us with a grant of €30,000.00 from the Dormant Funds Account, which funded a second-hand van type ambulance, (B Licence), that will replace an older model which we donated to Meath Civil Defence.





Cavan County Civil Defence volunteers demonstrate some of their equipment at an open day.

New Headquarters Building

The work on the new Civil Defence Headquarters got under way with the appointment of Rodney Brady, Building Contractor, who began the project in the last quarter of the 2022. Work is progressing well with a hand over date of end of August 2023.





Signing of Contracts for construction work on the new Cavan County Civil Defence
Headquarters Building

Awards

On the 31st of March 2022, Cavan County Local Development honoured Cavan County Civil Defence at their award ceremony, acknowledging our support and work with the Food Hub and Meals on Wheels.

In April 2022, Cavan Civil Defence received the LAMA gold award for Emergency Response Team of the Year 2021.

20 volunteers travelled to Croke Park in November 2022, to receive Covid 19 medals from the Minister Simon Coveney, together with Civil Defence Volunteers from around the country. In December the rest of the volunteers who were involved in the Covid response received their medals along with those receiving long service medals of 10, 20, 30 and 40 year service at a local ceremony in the Hotel Kilmore attended by the CFO Mr Noel O'Reilly Director of Service Margaret McNally and Cathaoirleach of Cavan County Council John Paul Feeley.





Civil Defence Volunteers who received Long Service Medals in December 2022

Conclusion

Cavan County Civil Defence continue to assist the People of the County and the Principal Response Agencies and the Volunteers continue to give freely of their time and expertise to deliver whatever assistance is required.

We have no words to express our gratitude to all the wonderful volunteers without whom we could not continue this service.





Comhairle Contae an Chabháin Cavan County Council

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Cavan County Council - AFS2022 Un-audited (27.04.2023)

SUMMARY OF REVENUE EXPENDITURE AND INCOME ACCOUNT 2022

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000
Expenditure (A)	87,100	84,016
Receipts		
State Grants	39,915	39,786
Good & Services	18,398	17,309
Commercial Rates	18,336	16,536
Other Local Authorities	289	224
Local Government Fund	10,163	10,161
Total Income (B)	87,100	84,016
(Deficit)/Surplus (B-A=C)	0	0
Opening Revenue		
Balance as at 1st January (D) Closing Revenue	1,743	1,743
Closing Balance as at 31st December (C+D+E)	1,744	1,743

Revenue Expenditure 2022

		% of total
	€'000	Expenditure
Housing and Building	11,432	13.13%
Road, Transport and Safety	28,282	32.47%
Water Supply and Sewerage	10,024	11.51%
Development Incentives and Control	8,560	9.83%
Environmental Services	8,118	9.32%
Recreation and Amenity	7,190	8.26%
Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare	727	0.83%
Miscellaneous	6,655	7.64%
Transfer to Capital	6,112	7.02%
Total	87,100	100.00%





Revenue Income 2022

	€'000	% of total Income
Housing and Building	12,321	14.15%
Road, Transport and Safety	20,839	23.93%
Water Supply and Sewerage	9,866	11.33%
Development Incentives and Control	3,868	4.44%
Environmental Services	1,710	1.96%
Recreation and Amenity	2,414	2.77%
Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare	645	0.74%
Miscellaneous	6,940	7.97%
Rates	18,336	21.05%
Local Government Fund	10,163	11.67%
Total	87,100	100.00%

SUMMARY OF CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND INCOME ACCOUNT 2022

	2022	2022
	Expenditure	Income
Programme Group	€'000	€'000
Housing and Building	17,173	17,948
Road, Transport and Safety	13,247	13,597
Water Supply and Sewerage	812	1,148
Development Incentives and Control	3,069	3,497
Environmental Services	1,553	1,602
Recreation and Amenity	6,186	3,497
Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare	0	0
Miscellaneous	2,959	1,350
Total	44,998	42,638
		2022
		€'000
Opening Balance (Debit)/Credit as at 1st		
January		22,135
Expenditure		44,998
Income		42,638
Transfers to Revenue		321
Net Transfers from Revenue Account	_	6,072
Closing Balance (Debit)/Credit as at 31st December	oer	25,525



