



To the Mayor and members

## Monthly Management Report – April 2017

The following sets out the information relating to the monthly management report for March 2017 for noting by the members at the council meeting on Monday, 24 April 2017.

### Financial Reports

#### Report for inclusion in March 2017 Monthly Management Report

The Annual Financial Statement (AFS) for year ended 31 December 2016 has been prepared and will be presented to Council at the April meeting. The AFS will then be submitted to the Local Government Auditor Mr Maurice O'Neill for audit. When the audit is complete the report will be presented to the Members and the Audit Committee.

#### Requirements and progress in respect of the introduction/roll out of Government Policy through the local government system.

Commercial Rates demands issued to ratepayers in February.

#### Rates Revaluation

As part of its ongoing programme to revalue all commercial properties within the State, the Valuation Office is conducting a revaluation of all commercial properties throughout County Kildare to come into effect for the year 2018.

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of March Proposed Valuation Certificates were issued to ratepayers in Kildare. The certificate states the Proposed Valuation (Net Annual Value) for each property. Ratepayers have 40 days from the date of issue of the proposed valuation certificate to make representations to the Valuation Office. The Valuation Office can be contacted at [Reval2017@valoff.ie](mailto:Reval2017@valoff.ie) or by telephoning 01 8171033.

**Summary attached.**

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## Housing Department

### Activity Levels

The following outlines the number of applications processed in Q1 2017 in a number of service areas across the department compared with the same period in 2016 (where available):

#### Social Housing Applications

	Q1 2017	Q1 2016
Existing housing file updates	418	116
Transfer Requests	29	32
New valid applications	553	314
Mortgage to Rent Applications	7	n/a
Refusals	7	64

#### House Purchase Loans

	Q1 2017	Q1 2016
Applications Received	25	12
Approvals Issued	12	7
Value of loans approved	€1,383,290	€980,6713

#### Tenant Purchase Scheme 2016

	Q1 2017	Q1 2016
Applications Received	13	N/A
Ineligible	3	N/A
Approvals Issued	10	N/A

#### Housing Grants

	Q1 2017		Q1 2016	
	Received	Approved	Received	Approved
Housing Adaptation Grant	120	56	117	69
Mobility Aids	3	0	5	0
Grant Housing Aid for Older Persons	73	25	79	24



### Differential Rents Assessments Undertaken

	Q1 2017	Q1 2016
LA Rents	1130	282
HAP Rents	108	N/A

### Housing Maintenance

Property Upgrades	Q1 2017	Q1 2016
Vacant House Turnarounds	37	22
New House Purchases	22	26

Valid Response Maintenance Repairs	Q1 2017	Q1 2016
Number of Repairs logged	1518	N/A

Energy Upgrade Programme	Q1 2017	Q1 2016
Number of Upgrades carried out	64	62

Window & Door Replacement	Q1 2017	Q1 2016
Number of replacements	64	0

### Homeless Presentations

	Q1 2017	Q1 2016
Cases	242	151
Adults	331	193
Children	370	223
Single Parents	74	70
Single Males	66	10
Single Females	21	28
Couples	78	43



## Capital Programme

Location	No. of Units	Status April 2017
Highfield/The Paddocks, Kilcock	19 units	Construction commenced on site December 2016. Contractor: Kercon Construction. Construction programme: 11 months.
Athgarvan Road, Newbridge	13 units	Approval Stage 4 received Q1 2017
Dominican Priory, Athy	7 emergency accommodation units and 1 staff accommodation unit	Work commenced in November 2016. Will be completed before end April 2017.
Tankardsgarden, Newbridge	4 units	Tender for design team services to be issued to the National Framework Agreement for Architect Lead Design Team Services administered by the Office of Government Procurement.
St. Patricks Park Rathangan Remedial Works (Phase 1)	Refurbishment of 23 Units	Lot 1 (4 units): Works commenced on site in January 2017. Contractor: Noonan Construction Ltd. Construction programme: 15 weeks.
St. Patricks Park Rathangan Remedial Works (Phase's 2 & 3)	Demolition of 21 units, refurbishment of 19 units, construction of 16 units.	Resident information session held 2 March 2017. Part VIII to follow.
Dunmurray Rise Kildare [Phase 3]	32 units	Part VIII on display 28 February 2017 to 11 April 2017. Submissions by 28 April 2017. Shortlist of contractors to be completed by April 2017. Tender process: June 2017.
Anne Street Prosperous	12 units	Part VIII on display 14 March 2017 to 2 May 2017. Submissions by 19 May 2017. Shortlist of contractors to be completed by April 2017. Tender process: July 2017.
Beechgrove, Rathangan	18 units	Part VIII to be launched April 2017.
Rathasker Road, Naas	50 units	Part VIII to be launched May 2017.
Athgarvan Village	30 units	Tender for the appointment of consultants complete. Design Team Consultants appointed. Design proposals currently being prepared.
Dominican Lands Athy	25 units	Approval Stage 1 application submitted to DHPCLG in December 2016.
Ardclough Road, Celbridge		Feasibility Investigations to be undertaken.



### Approved Housing Body Schemes

Flinter's Field, Athy	35 units	Respond Housing Association – Part VIII to launch April 2017
Castlefen, Sallins	28 units	Tuath Housing Association – Part VIII to be launched in Quarter 2 2017.

### PPP Schemes

Craddockstown, Naas	74 units	Part VIII published 11 April 2017. Section 85 agreement approved at March council meeting.
Butterstream, Clane	80 units	Design Development stage. Part VIII to be launched in Q2 2017.

### Infill Schemes

Narraghmore	4 units	Stage 1 Approval received 23 March 2017
Newtown House	4 estimated	Feasibility Investigations in progress
Glandore, Athy		Feasibility Investigations in progress
Skenagun, Castledermot		Feasibility Investigations in progress

### Part V

Completed	2 units
In Progress	11 units
Appraisals approved from Department	13 units Maynooth 12 units Naas

### Acquisitions

Completed	21 units
In progress	14 units

A schedule of housing delivery for 2017 under the capital and current programmes of the Housing Strategy 2020 is attached at Appendix 1.



## Buy and Renew

The Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government has recently announced a Buy and Renew Scheme to support local authorities and approved housing bodies to purchase and renew housing units, in need of remediation, to make them available for social housing. The focus will be on older stock, in particular as part of a local authority's response in tackling dereliction and improving streetscapes in towns. It is intended that this scheme will complement the recently announced Repair and Leasing Scheme.

## Vacant Housing Repair and Leasing Initiative

Applications are now being invited for the Repair and Leasing Scheme. An advertisement has been placed in local newspapers [week commencing 10<sup>th</sup> April] and guidance notes and information have been published on our website. We will be delivering the scheme in association with Approved Housing Bodies and, in this regard, a number of AHBs, who are active in the county, have been written to in order to establish their interest in the scheme. Property owners, who are interested in the scheme, are asked to submit a completed application form by 21 April 2017. The maximum cost of repairs allowable under this initiative is €40,000. The property has to be vacant for at least 12 months prior to the date of application and all leases will be for the duration of 10-20 years. The lease payment is based on 80% (85% for apartments) of the current market rental rates for similar properties. A further adjustment to the lease payment is made to off-set the cost of the upgrade work until the cost of the work has been repaid.

## Rent Pressure Zones

The Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government signed an order designating Maynooth Municipal District as a Rent Pressure Zone (RPZ) from 30 March 2017. This is in addition to the municipal districts of Celbridge-Leixlip, Kildare-Newbridge and Naas which were designated as RPZ's from 26 January 2017. The first rent review in a RPZ can only take place 24 months after the time that the tenancy was established or the time the rent was last set. This first rent after this 24 month period will allow a maximum increase of 4% (2% per annum pro-rata for the period since the rent was last increased). Once this first review has taken place, subsequent reviews may take place annually, the permissible rent increase will be 4% per annum. Some exemptions apply, such as in circumstances where the property has not been let in the previous two years or where there has been a substantial refurbishment of the property.



## Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) Scheme – Inter-Authority Movement

The Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government issued a circular on 4 April 2017 outlining a change to the HAP scheme which will allow households eligible for social housing support the opportunity to avail of HAP in any local authority area, subject to current Social Housing Eligibility Bands. Movement will only be facilitated across local authorities with income bands that are equal or higher. As Co Kildare is in the highest income band, this means that households on Kildare County Council’s housing list can access rented accommodation with HAP support in the following areas in addition to Co Kildare; Cork City, Dublin City, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown, Fingal, Galway City, Meath, South Dublin and Wicklow. Households eligible for social housing in any county can now avail of HAP in Kildare. The tenant will continue to be dealt with by the local authority where they have been assessed as being eligible for social housing, however, the property will be dealt with by the county in which it is situated e.g. rent limits of the local authority where the property is situated will apply, inspections to be carried out by the local authority where the property is situated.

## Planning and Strategic Development

### • 1. Development Plans / Local Area Plans

- Clane Local Area Plan. The Chief Executive is preparing his report on the Material Alterations to the Draft Clane Local Area Plan
- Leixlip Local Area Plan. The Draft LAP for Celbridge is on public display from 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2017 to the 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2017 and submissions may be made during this period.
- Celbridge Local Area Plan. The Chief Executive prepared his report on submissions received to the Draft Celbridge Local Area Plan and this was issued to the members, on the 16<sup>th</sup> March, for their consideration.

### 2. Development Management

#### Number of planning applications received

	March	Year
2015:	112	1,192
2016:	142	1,376
2017:	136	349 (to date)

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### Planning applications decided: March 2017

Granted:	57
Retention:	15
Extension of Duration:	2
Refused:	19

### Planning applications of note granted: March 2017

**16/269 PME Donnelly Limited:** - Construction of 7 no. Bungalows at Walshestown, Newbridge.

**16/848 Solas Eireann Development Ltd:** Solar panel array at Confey, Leixlip

**16/1007 Renewable Energy Systems Ltd:** Temporary ground mounted solar photovoltaic farm at Milltown, Athy.

**17/58: Blackhall Racing Company:** Demolition of old stand and construction of three storey trackside stand and associated works at Punchestown Racecourse, Naas.

### New Applications of note received March 2017

**17/215 James Fagan:** 96 bed nursing home at Rathangan Demesne, Rathangan.

**17/338 Thoal Properties:** Two storey mixed use building consisting of 4 shop units, offices and 4 apartments in Athgarvan Village.

## 3. Building and Development Control –Taking in Charge

The public consultation process for the taking in charge of the 22 estates advertised in March is ongoing. The display period ends on 7<sup>th</sup>April 2017. Objections or representations may be made in writing to the Council in relation to the proposed taking in charge before 26<sup>th</sup>April 2017.

Building and Development Control will continue to engage with Irish Water in relation to completing the taking in charge of all estates which have been advertised. On receipt of consent from Irish Water, recommendations to take in charge the remaining estates will be finalised and listed for consideration for taking in charge by the members at the respective Municipal District meetings.





## Library and Arts Service

### **Library Development Programme**

*Strategies Actioned from: IDEAS REALISED: Spreading the Word...*

*Kildare County Council Library Services Development Plan 2015 - 2019*

### **Capital Projects and New Service Provision**

#### **Athy Capital Project**

Tender for the main contractor signed on 5th April, project completion end 2017. Capital stock purchasing for the new library is now complete.

#### **Naas Library Capital Project**

Tender documents are being sent out to the shortlisted successful bidders week commencing 10th April.

#### **National Book Tender**

As of March 15th Kildare Library Service will be changing their suppliers for library book and AV material in line with the outcomes of the National Library Book Tender Competition. The terms of the new agreements will provide Kildare Libraries with improved discounting models across all stock formats.

#### **Library Management System (LMS) - National Implementation**

All library authorities are now on a single shared Sierra LMS. The four Dublin authorities have re-merged with the national system. This provides access for Kildare patrons to a national catalogue and ability to order items nationwide.

#### **Library Management System (LMS) - Acquisitions API**

Kildare is currently testing the online ordering system of stock acquisitions for the whole country. We are working with two of the suppliers from the National Book Tender to process orders via the Sierra Acquisitions API. This will mean a much more efficient, real-time ordering on supplier websites for purchasing book and multimedia stock.



### **Review of National Library Public Library Policy**

The current policy 'Opportunities for All' is under review, Kildare staff have participated in consultation in Dublin and have delivered a public focus group in the area of Adult Learning to assist informing the new public library policy. Kildare staff also facilitated a regional staff consultation in Munster to explore future trends and objectives. Further consultations ongoing.

### **Child Protection**

The Arts Service organised training by Barnardos for arts facilitators and arts and library staff, who work with children and vulnerable adults. This initiative is part of our ongoing commitment to support artists working in community contexts

### **Music Generation**

The deadline for the application for Music Generation funding is May 2017. Extensive work is underway to inform the application. Two public information days/consultation days have been held, as well as a meeting with Comhairle na nOg and the Music Development Officer with Wicklow MG programme. A survey for musicians, music tutors and the general public has also been circulated. The Music Department of Maynooth University have expressed interest in supporting the application and are most keen to explore options to support the professional development of Music Generation tutors, alongside part time staff in the Music Department.

### **News and Highlights - March/April Library Programme of Events**

#### **Toys Technology and Training 2017 Programme**

This series of talks designed to offer support to children and adults with learning difficulties, disabilities or more significant needs, continues throughout 2017. Current talks include presentations from guest speakers Gareth Noble and Adam Harris, as well as talks on behavioural therapy, mental health issues, dyslexia, sensory processing, motor development, transitioning to secondary school and communication skills. This specialised lecture series can be accessed free of charge throughout the county.

#### **Discover Explore Learn - STEAM at your library**

This free programme aims to create an environment to explore, test, engage, inspire and provide an avenue for library members to experience science, technology, engineering, arts

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and maths (STEAM) at their local library. Tech Week takes place in April and children in the county will enjoy 3D scans, watch a 3D print created and see some ozbots robots with Tech Ceate. Whizz Kids will offer children the opportunity to programme their own animations and videogames while learning how games work and what goes on in the background.

### **'Let's Talk About Parenting' 2017 Programme**

A series of talks organised with support from the HSE, Tusla, Kildare Youth Service, Community Awareness of Drugs, Teach Tearmainn and Kildare County Childcare Committee. 19 talks took place this month in our 7 main libraries including 'First Aid for Parents', 'The Baby Sleep Solution' 'Positive Parenting' 'Parents Guide to the Leaving Cert' and 'Helping our Teenagers Chose Healthy Relationships'. All had high attendance rates.

### **Support to Secondary Schools Programme 2016/17**

This years programme is coming to an end with the final workshops in career guidance, robots, history, Shakespeare and graphic novels all taking place in April in secondary schools in Celbridge, Leixlip, Naas and Kildare.

### **Screen-writing and Creative Writing Workshops**

Three week creative writing workshops took place with Joanna Walsh, Writer in Residence at Maynooth University took place aswell as three week screen-writing workshops with Lindsay J Sedgwick, Screen-writer in Residence at Maynooth University.

### **Aontas Events**

The library service participated in Aontas Week providing mindfulness and yoga classes promoting adult life-long learning opportunities in their communities.

### **Home and Hobbies Month**

Leixlip Library hosted a month of workshops for adults on craft hobbies and home improvement which were all fully attended. Events included colour therapy, feng shui, decoupage, charcoal, pastel and watercolour painting.

### **Work Matters: Business & Employment Support Programme**

Maynooth Library has a "Drop in Service" in place as part of the national pilot of Work Matters and this service is being promoted to existing and new users. Maynooth Library is working with the Citizen's Information Board on future joint initiatives and is liaising with the

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Local Enterprise Office. An evaluation of the pilot is currently under way for the period January – March 2017. A 'how to' manual will be created following on from the results and it is hoped that the service will be rolled out nationally to support economic development and jobseekers.

A spring/summer series of workshops has commenced at Maynooth Library for 2017. These workshops cover topics such as confidence and self-empowerment, goal setting and motivation, decision making tools, effective communication, self presentation, resilience and wellbeing. A further set of workshops will be organised for the autumn/winter schedule.

### **Computer Classes for Naas Men's Shed**

Naas Library will facilitate computer classes for members of the Naas Men's Shed. The classes will be created with the requirements of the group in mind and classes will take place in Naas Library at a time to suit the group. These classes are taking place as a result of collaboration between Libraries and the Age Friendly Alliance.

### **eServices Roadshow**

The first visit from our eServices Team was Athy Library on Friday 7th April, followed by visits to Maynooth and Leixlip on Saturday 8th April to show the public how to access the various free Library eServices - such as eBooks, eMagazines, eLanguage and eComics - on their own tablets, smart-phones and other devices.

The new eServices brochure has now been printed and has been distributed to all our libraries for library patrons.

### **Older Wiser Laughter - OWL Programme**

The 2017 OWL Programme of Age Friendly events commenced in March. Events held during March and April included workshops on upstyling your old furniture, talks on growing your own vegetables and herbs and felt-making workshops.

### **Spring into Storytime**

The Literacy and Reading Development Working Group of the LGMA proposed that a national story-time initiative, 'Spring into Storytime', would be held in all authorities during the month of April this year. Every library in the county (and the country) will run a minimum of one story-time session during April under the 'Spring into Storytime' banner.



### **Easter Activities for Children**

Special activities to keep children busy and coming into libraries over the Easter break from school such as, 3 day musical theatre workshops, crafts and pottery. Three day 'Easter Coding Camps' will also be held for children aged 7-10 years and 11-13 years.

### **Seachtain na Gaeilge**

Workshops took place in Athy, Celbridge, Kildare, Leixlip, Maynooth, Naas and Newbridge libraries including amhráin faoi athrú aeráide le hEnda Reilly / bi-lingual workshop on climate change with songs from Enda Reilly and ceardlainn ealaíon dhá-theangacha le AnnMarie McCarthy / bi-lingual art /illustration workshop with AnnMarie McCarthy - both a big hit with primary schools.

### **Touch, Type, Read and Spell (TTRS)**

Classes continue in Celbridge, Leixlip, Naas and Newbridge libraries in TTRS - a typing, spelling and literacy programme aimed at children with dyslexia which is facilitated by library staff.

### **Creative Ireland**

The Kildare Creative Ireland Team is currently developing the Kildare 2017 Action Plan which will be launched nationally in May. The team are also working with the Naas Easter Parade Committee to deliver Kildare's Cruinniú na Casca event on Easter Sunday which will take place in Naas Town from 2pm - 6pm. Work is progressing towards the development of Kildare's Creative Ireland Strategy.

### **Kildare Decade of Commemorations**

The committee are currently organising an Irish Military Seminar for 9th-11th June 2017. This will be a national orientated seminar, but with a local twist. The seminar will be opened by the Mayor and the keynote address will be delivered by Brig. General Joe Mulligan, GOC of the Curragh. There will be a visit to the Rath of Mullaghmast on Sunday morning 11 June - in partnership with June Fest, Merrion Press, Ireland's Military Story and the Co. Kildare Federation of Local History Groups. It is hoped that this may become an annual seminar. A talk on 'Newbridge Republican, Irish Martyr - John Wallace' was given by James Durney, Historian in Residence. Plans for the 2017-2022 period are being worked on.



'Witness' the book on Kildare witnesses to the 1916 Rising book is expected to go to print shortly.

### **Local History, Genealogy and Archives**

Visits to schools at Piper's Hill and Rathangan regarding the Leaving Certificate 'Special Topic' were very successful. There was a presentation for Girls Primary School at the Curragh on 'Kildare and the Great Famine'.

Meetings were held with the Council of the County Kildare Archaeological Society and also the County Kildare Federation of Local History Groups and the Kildare County Council Historic Monuments Committee.

A talk on Bodenstown was given to the Timahoe Local History Group.

### **Arts Grants and Awards**

In recent years, the Arts Service has invested in capacity building and training of artists and community groups. Information sessions on 'How to Apply for a Grant' have also been offered across the county. As a result, the standard of grant application was very high in 2017. Additional funding was reassigned from other areas and the total awards this year were €74,200 (€55,420 in 2016). The grants were assessed by a selection panel in March and have been put forward for approval by Municipal Districts in April.

### **Film**

'Gridlock', shot on location and recipient of a Kildare film commission, was nominated for an Irish Film and Television Award (IFTA) for 'Best Short Film'. Caoilfhionn Dunne, who played the lead role in 'In View' was nominated for 'Best Actress'. One third of filming of 'In View' took place in Kildare Town and featured local actors and received supports from Kildare County Council. The IFTA's took place in the Mansion House, Dublin on April 8th.

### **Local Community and Development Committee (LCDC)**

The last LCDC meeting was held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017. Paul Lemass and David Dalton from the Department of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government attended the meeting.



### **A. Social Inclusion Programme (SICAP)**

Work is progressing to roll out the SICAP programme through County Kildare LEADER Partnership based on their 2017 plan.

### **B. Rural Development LEADER programme**

The first call for Expressions of Interest for LEADER funded projects focussing on tourism development closed on March 31<sup>st</sup>. The LAG is meeting on April 26<sup>th</sup> and applicants will be invited to prepare detailed plans.

### **C. Mental Health supports- Mojo men's pilot programme**

The launch of the evaluation of the Mojo pilot programme took place in the ETBI offices, Pipers Hill on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> of April by Minister McEntee at 1pm. It was a very successful launch.

The Mojo programme in Kildare is finishing this week. It was a highly successful programme. A Mini Mojo programme started in Kilcock three weeks ago and a full Mojo programme is scheduled for Celbridge.

### **D. Athy**

An Executive sub group met and are working on developing the next stage for discussion on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

***Next LCDC meeting: 24<sup>th</sup> May 2017***

## **Water Services and Environment**

### **WATER SERVICES**

#### **Major Capital Projects (Irish Water's Capital Investment Plan 2014-2016)**

- **Upper Liffey Valley**
  - **Osberstown Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Contract** - The plant was up-graded to 100,000 PE treatment capacity in May 2016. The final phase



(bringing the “liquid stream” treatment capacity to 130,000 PE) is currently being completed. The plant is currently being process proved until October 2017.

- **Osberstown Sewerage Sludge Treatment Facility Upgrade** – Irish Water intend delivering the Osberstown wastewater treatment plant ‘sludge stream’ works as part of an upgrade to the Osberstown Sludge Treatment Facility.
- **Contract 2A (Newbridge Eastern Interceptor Sewer)** – The Planning, Design and Procurement stage is under way. Planning permission has been granted to Irish Water for the Little Connell Pumping Station. The CPO is due to be published by Irish Water in Q1-2017. Short listing of contractors is being finalised by Irish Water. Tenders to market are due to issue by Irish Water in Q1/Q2-2017.
- **Contract 2B (Network)** – The Planning Design and Procurement stage is under way. Planning permission has been granted to Irish Water for the Monread and Clane Pumping Stations. The CPO is due to be published by Irish Water in Q1/Q2-2017. Short listing of contractors by Irish Water is ongoing. Tenders to market are due to issue by Irish Water in Q2-2017.
- **Lower Liffey Valley**
  - **Castlewarden to Ballygoran Pipeline and Reservoir Contract** – Operational.
  - **Ballygoran to Collinstown Watermain Contract** – Operational
  - **North Leixlip Sewerage Scheme** – Operational
  - **Leixlip Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Contract** – The plant upgrade to 150,000 pe treatment capacity has been commissioned. The plant is being process proved for 12 months until June 2017.
  - **Celbridge Road Network Reinforcement Project** - Consultants were appointed in April 2016 and are preparing a Design Review Report to address





sewerage network capacity constraints in the Celbridge catchment. Final route selection is at an advanced stage.

- **Kildare Town**
  - **Kildare Town Network Contract** – Works commenced on site in January 2016. Works are now substantially complete, commissioned and have been handed over to KCC Operations Section. The scheme has now entered a 12 month defects period.

### Minor Capital Projects

Irish Water have identified the Minor Capital Programme as a means of getting value for money and cater for investment drivers namely:-

- Drinking Water Quality
- Environmental Compliance
- Water and Wastewater availability – new developments
- Business efficiencies
- Asset condition and performance

Hence they have requested that Kildare County Council set up and lead a Minor Capital Team for delivery of such projects across the county. Kildare County Council has agreed a new Capital Project Team structure with Irish Water for the delivery of this programme over the next three years.

This is considered to be a positive development for the county as there is now an expectation that quite a number of minor capital projects will be given approval, in response to Kildare County Council's ability to deliver such schemes locally.

Many smaller treatment plants require up-grades for compliance purposes and to cater for future housing developments. In addition, schemes in water supply areas will improve service to customers and help contain our leakage levels.



A total of 22 schemes have currently been approved by Irish Water for progression by Kildare County Council Minor Capital Team. The estimated value of works is in the region of **€7 million**. Five of these schemes have been completed by the team and several others have been placed on long term hold by Irish Water. The following is a list of active schemes in this area:-

- **Allenwood to Kilmeague Mains Replacement** - Advance works at Allenwood Crossroads have been carried out in collaboration with KCC Roads & Transportation upgrade works to prevent the requirement of disturbing a newly laid tabletop ramp. Site Investigation works have been completed. Design works have been completed by KCC and it is now with Irish Water for the tendering process.
- **Allenwood Vacuum System Modification & WWTP Upgrade** - An engineering consultant is progressing design and site investigation works. The planning application is also being prepared by the Consultant. This is a combination of two ANBs.
- **Athy Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade** – A topographical survey and site investigation works have taken place. Design works and planning are being progressed by an engineering consultant. A Recommendations Report to construct an Inlet Balancing Tank has been prepared by the Consultant.
- **Kildare Town Backyard Services** – Part of the design for this scheme includes backyard services in Maynooth. The design is currently being finalised and will be ready for tender in mid-2017.
- **Coill Dubh WWTP up-grade** – is currently at commissioning stage.
- **Crophill, Castledermot Cast Iron Replacement** - Approval was received for the replacement of 500m of cast iron watermain. A contractor has been appointed and has completed the site investigation. Main contract to commence 10<sup>th</sup> April 2017.
- **Kilmeague Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade** – An Engineering Consultant has been appointed to progress design options in conjunction with the Athy Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade. A Recommendations Report has been



completed and treatment options are being confirmed prior to commencement of the tender process for improvement works.

- **Rathcoffey, Milltown and Calverstown WWTPs** – A Recommendation Report has been prepared by the appointed engineering consultant. KCC have progressed some minor manhole rehabilitation works to reduce network infiltration and a subsequent flow & load survey. The results of this additional flow & load survey will be used to help identify upgrade requirements.
- **Ladychapel Cross to Taghadoe Watermain** - KCC are preparing the design and tender documents to progress this new watermain scheme. An archaeological assessment will commence in April 2017.
- **Maynooth Watermains Rehabilitation** – A Consultant has been appointed to progress this scheme. A Contractor has been appointed for the works and is doing the site investigation. The main contract will commence by end of April. Advance works to remove lead services on the Dublin Road has been completed by KCC.
- **Monread Road Sewer Line Repair** - Approval was received for the replacement of a 900m of foul sewer pipe. The contractor has mostly completed the works.
- **Narraghmore Wastewater Treatment Plant** - Appointment of Contractors for improvement works at the treatment plant is ongoing.
- **Oak Park, Narraghmore** - Preparation of Tender Documents for improvement works at pumping station and new rising main to Narraghmore WWTP ongoing.
- **Rathangan WWTP** - Preparation of a Consultants Brief was prepared by KCC and has been submitted to Irish Water for tendering. The consultant will prepare a Condition Report and Recommendations Report identifying required upgrade works.
- **Red Bog Borehole Removal** - Approval was received to remove the Red Bog borehole source from operation and connection of the local network to the Poulaphuca Regional water supply. Works consist of the construction of a booster



pump and approximately 2.5 km of watermain. Design and site investigation tender documents have been prepared and are ready for submission to Irish Water for tendering. An ecological assessment is required prior to tendering to ensure the proposed works do not adversely impact on the surrounding environment. The ecological assessment is now complete.

- **Timolin WWTP** – Preparation works for a Part 8 planning application has been prepared by KCC and approval will be sought. The proposed upgrade will then be tendered out to Irish Water's MEICA lot 5 framework for new package wastewater treatment plant, subject to Part 8 planning approval.

Several Schemes have been progressed to completion by the KCC Minor Capital Scheme. The following is a list of completed or almost completed schemes:

- **Athgarvan Septic Tank Diversion** – Construction of a new foul sewer is now completed thereby eliminating the requirement of a communal septic tank with its associated groundwater pollution potential and maintenance works. Final road reinstatement has been carried out and all works have now been completed. Final Account review has been completed and agreed.
- **Ballitore WWTP** - Construction of access road and pipeline. All works have been completed on this scheme
- **Newhall Pumping Station Upgrade** – Works have been completed. Final Account Review ongoing.
- **Old Grange (Monasterevin) Watermain** – The new watermain has now been laid and all houses connected to the new main. All outstanding works have been completed and final account payment to be closed out.
- **Tankardsgarden Pumping Station Upgrade** - Works to replace pumps, control systems and flowmeters have been completed.



- **Newbridge Main Street Sewer Replacement** – Works required due to ongoing operational problems and blockages. Initial blockages have been cleared. The appointment of a consultant to design the works has taken place and design works are ongoing to allow for long term improvement measures.
- **Emergency Showers & Eyewash Stations** - The preparation of tender documentation for a county wide replacement at all water and wastewater treatment plants has been carried out.

The following non-Irish Water Schemes (**Unfinished Housing Estates**) have been progressed by KCC:

- **Cluain Dara, Derrinturn** – Construction of a pump station in the unfinished housing estate has been completed and commissioned. The scheme is now fully complete and Final Account being closed out.
- **Mill Brook, Timolin** - Construction of a pump station in the unfinished housing estate has been completed and commissioned. The scheme is now fully complete.
- **The Paddocks Crookstown** - Exploratory survey/design work is ongoing for the connection of this estate to the public foul sewer. Should this be feasible and at reasonable cost, it is then proposed to decommission the existing treatment system. The scheme is subject to funding being provided.

### Rural Water Programme

In 2016, the Department of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government (formerly Department of Environment, Community & Local Government) announced a multi-annual funding programme for 2016 - 2018. Kildare Rural Water Section's funding submission for the Rural Water Multi-Annual Programme has been prepared and submitted. This identified proposed upgrade works at various group schemes throughout the county for each of the years from 2016 to 2018 inclusive.

Kildare County Council Rural Water Section met with Ballindoolin GWS in 2016 with an aim to progress proposed network upgrade works. This scheme was identified as a "shovel ready" scheme in the Rural Water Programme funding submission for that year. The interim



grant funding allocation received allowed for the progression of works at Ballindoolin. The upgrading works for part of the Ballindoolin GWS were successfully completed in Q3-2016.

Taking in charge of group water schemes is now subject to approval of Irish Water and need to meet certain standard criteria. It is anticipated that several group water schemes will be taken in charge in 2017.

Works are proposed for 2017 at several group schemes, however confirmation of funding allocations for the Kildare Rural Water Programme have yet to be confirmed by the Department of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government.

### Flood Protection

- **Morell** – The final Feasibility Study, including the Cost Benefit Analysis, has received approval from the OPW subject to some minor changes, to which we have no objection. We have now submitted the Feasibility Study and outline planning strategy to the OPW. A formal submission will be made to An Bord Pleanála as soon as the OPW have approved funding for the scheme. A presentation was made by the Council to the OPW on the 10.2.2017 seeking funding approval and a positive outcome is anticipated. It is hoped that construction of this scheme will begin in late 2017/early 2018.
- **Ballymore-Eustace Scheme** – Complete.
- **Hazlehatch** – A meeting took place with Minister Canney and his officials on the 6.12.2016. The outcome was positive and it is hoped to progress the project by advertising for Consultants in Q2- 2017. In the interim, survey work will commence.
- **Dara Park** - Construction works and landscaping are now completed. The landscaping contract included the planting of 80,000 bulbs and over 100 trees. A certificate of substantial completion has been issued. Any snagging issues will be dealt with during the maintenance period. A detailed report was issued to the MD in this regard and a meeting will be arranged with local residents before further works commence. The snag list is currently being compiled with a view to carry out works in the coming weeks.



- **Oaks, Newbridge** - A solution to the flooding issues have been identified and a consultant has been appointed to carry out detailed design. It is hoped that construction of the scheme will begin in summer 2017 and will include co-operation from Water Services and the MD office. This will be subject to funding.
- **Johnstown** – complete.
- **Ardclough** – complete.
- **CFRAM Programme** - The final draft report was presented to the elected members at a special briefing held at 11.00 a.m. on Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2016 prior to full Council meeting.
- Draft plans for the South East Region (Barrow) were published on 18<sup>th</sup> September and the consultation period has now closed.
- Draft plans for the Eastern Region (Liffey) were published on 23<sup>rd</sup> September and the consultation period has now closed.
- The Draft Plans have identified flood management measures for the following towns:
  - Leixlip
  - Maynooth
  - Celbridge
  - Clane
  - Newbridge
  - Suncroft
  - Castledermot
  - Athy

A further study is recommended for both Hazelhatch and Naas. Once the Public Consultation period is completed and the submissions dealt with, the final plans will be sent to the relevant Minister for approval. They will then be sent back to the local authorities for adoption. Once adopted, we can apply to the OPW for funding of the schemes.



### River Cleaning & Drainage Channel Maintenance

This year's programme is now complete, with a significant number of channels cleaned, including 1.5km at Derrymullen, Allenwood and a pilot scheme on the Clonshambo, which aims to improve both flood protection and water quality. A meeting was held with representatives from Laois County Council to develop a co-ordinated approach to carrying out cleaning works on the River Barrow.

## ENVIRONMENT

- **Kilcock (Royal Canal)** – This facility has now re-opened.

### Cemetery Extensions

- **Staplestown** – complete
- **Ballybracken** – complete
- **Crookstown** – Works commenced.
- **Newbridge** – Complete.
- **Derrinturn** – Complete.
- **Lullymore** – Complete.
- **Churchtown** – Part 8 documents now being published and consultation is ongoing.
- **Athy (St Michael's new)** – Up-grade of car parking area now complete. Further works to internal roadways including resurfacing and kerbing have been completed. The unauthorised entrance has been blocked. A final phase of work is now proposed.
- **Rathangan** – land acquisition is currently being finalised and a draft design is now to hand. Part 8 process has commenced.





- **Leixlip** – land acquisition being examined.

**Dog Control** – Design details relating to the proposed upgrade of the pound at Ballytore have finally been agreed. Discussions are ongoing with the owner with a view to agreeing financial arrangements and progressing the matter to Part 8 stage. Design aspects have since been finalised subject to any conditions which might be imposed by the Chief Fire Officer. Discussions are also ongoing with ISPCA regarding possible amendments to Service Level Agreement as a result of the proposal. A further meeting with the ISPCA is scheduled for later this month.

**North Kildare Civic Amenity (Celbridge, Leixlip and Maynooth)** – The Environment Section has reviewed the suitability of sites within its ownership following an invitation for public expressions of interest. A preferred location is now being progressed at Kilmacredock Upper (beside existing road maintenance depot). Donnachadh O'Brien, Consulting Engineers, have been commissioned to prepare a preliminary design and layout. Draft proposals will be presented to the MD shortly.

**Emily Square Up-grade** – Two further consultation days have been scheduled as follows:

March 10<sup>th</sup> (with local businesses owners)

March 28<sup>th</sup> (as a wider public event)

It has also been necessary to commission an Appropriate Assessment.

**\*Tidy Towns** – The network proposed to enter into a partnership agreement with Kildare G.A.A. – further details to follow.

**Irish Business Against Litter** - Kildare Town has been voted the cleanest town in Ireland. This exciting result was achieved through the efforts of many associated with the town. It is a great boost to all towns and villages in the county and highlights the great work carried out by all concerned. The town also secured a prize of a sculpture to the value of €40K. Discussions are currently ongoing with the Tidy Towns Group regarding a range of proposed improvements with a view to taking full advantage of the momentum generated. A joint presentation on urban design/public realm was made to Newbridge and Kildare Tidy Towns Groups on 10<sup>th</sup> April.

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**Kerdiffstown** - Kildare County Council formally accepted responsibility for the management and remediation of the site on the 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2015. Project planning has now been completed and the Project Management phase has commenced. The local community and the Municipal District have been fully briefed. The project team is now fully in place and Jacobs International have been appointed to provide technical assistance for seven tasks including end-use definition, EIA, engineering supports, demolition of dangerous structures etc.

### **1. End Use**

- A presentation on the final decision of the end use was presented to Naas Municipal District on Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2016 where it was announced (subject to statutory consents) that the end use will be a park with multi uses pitches, change rooms, playground and walking/running tracks.

### **2. Preliminary Design/Planning/EIA**

- Outline design is now complete.
- A final site shape/formation has been completed with the inclusion of the end use design of the park
- A public consultation for the purposes of the EIA was held in Lawlors Hotel on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March from 6pm to 9pm, where a presentation by the Kerdiffstown Team was also given of the project and of the draft design. The feedback received was all positive with good engagement from the public.
- Environmental monitoring and background studies are complete for the Environmental Assessment but will continue to be monitored.
- Contact has been made with statutory bodies.
- The licensing and planning applications is almost finalised, it is currently being reviewed by KCC staff and will be ready for legal review mid-Q2 before submission at the end of Q2/early Q3.



- A CPO process will be commencing in tandem with the EIA and documents are currently being drafted. Discussions with the people who may be affected has commenced.

### **Energy Management and Climate Change**

The Energy Management Team continues to progress a range of initiatives. All in all, the Council has reduced its energy consumption by 14% since 2009. The remit of the team has now been widened to include Climate Change Adaptation and the data gathering phase is now well advanced. The Climate Adaptation Plan is now being progressed by the team, with input from the SPC.

### **Athy MD Initiatives**

- Subject to formalities, agreement has been reached with the owner of the Model School and KWETB regarding a proposal to converting part of the building (formerly VTOS) to an apprentice training centre. Design and tender documents have since been prepared. It is understood that the KWETB have secured funding in order that the project can proceed. In the interim, the model school is being transferred to public ownership
- Works will commence in the new Branch Library (St. Dominic's church) on 21<sup>st</sup> April.

### **Roads, Transportation and Public Safety**

#### **Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund (LIHAF)**

The formal announcement in regard to LIHAF funding has been made. Kildare County Council has received approval for €21.4 million for three projects: Naas Inner Relief Road, Maynooth Eastern Relief Road and Sallins Community Amenity project. The projects will now move toward the procurement of services and initial planning.

#### **Naas & Sallins Parking Bye-Laws**

Parking Bye-Laws for Naas & Sallins were on public display until 17th January 2017. The closing date for submissions was 8th February 2017 and the submissions are currently being assessed and site inspections are being carried out.



### **Proposed Parking Bye-Laws for Clane & Castledermot**

The drafting of Clane and Castledermot Parking Bye-Laws have been finalised in draft form and will be brought before the Members "in committee" prior to public consultation.

### **Traffic Management Study - Maynooth**

AECOM is continuing with the preparation of a Traffic Management Study for Maynooth. The consultants presented their draft recommendations to the MD members in February 2017 on a number of occasions. This has led to some delay. Provided the remaining public consultation can be completed in a timely manner the final report should be available in June.

### **Newbridge and Kildare Sustainable Projects**

Discussions are ongoing with the NTA in regard to agreeing funding and the scoping/project brief.

### **Brownstown / Curragh footpath and pedestrian crossing.**

The construction of a footpath between Brownstown and the Curragh Camp has been completed. The signalised pedestrian crossing has been commissioned. The ESB are due to commission the new public lighting standards in the coming weeks.

### **Overflow car park at GAA Grounds, Newbridge**

The contract to overlay the surface of the car park and to provide associated line markings and bollards has been completed.

### **Improvements to streets between Eyre St and Main St, Newbridge.**

The contract to carry out improvements to the streets between Eyre St and Main St. is due to be completed shortly. Repairs to crossing points along the footpath on Eyre Street were carried out in preparation for these improvement works.

### **Line markings contract.**

The contract to reinstate line markings and yellow boxes in Newbridge and Kildare Town has commenced.



### **St James's Lane (Cooper's Lane), Newbridge.**

The Municipal District Office has carried out a much needed clean up of the lane between Eyre Street and College Park.

### **Newbridge Link Road - Industrial Estate to Curraghgrange**

Construction is underway and is substantially complete. The closure of the nearby pedestrian access is also completed.

### **Maynooth Northern Outer Orbital Route**

Rathoath MD members approved the Part 8 for the section of the Outer Orbital Route which connects the Moyglare Road with the Dunboyne Road in Maynooth. The Developer that has proposed to construct this section of the MOOR is now awaiting the outcome of discussions with Irish Water in regard to Water and Waste Water capacity issues. Discussions were held with senior management from Irish Water in regard to the ongoing service issues across North Kildare on 15<sup>th</sup> February and we await the outcome of those discussions.

### **Athy Distributor Route**

Preliminary Design, Business Case and Draft EIS were submitted to DTTaS for approval. Approval from DTTAS has been received and the scheme will be published to An Bord Pleanala in April. Public notices will shortly advise of this approval and submission to An Bord Pleanala.

### **Carlow Road, Athy R-417**

The section of road between the Railway crossing and Coneyboro has now been totally completed. The road has been relined, landscaped and most accommodation works completed. A photo montage of the completed works is attached on Page 7.

The second section of this road is between the railway crossing and the rear of Emily Square. Drainage work is ongoing and footpaths and road overlay will shortly be completed. This work is financed through NTA and LPT.



## Road Improvement Works - Carlow Road, Athy



### Cowpasture, Monasterevin L-7059

The footpaths between the traffic lights at Super Valu and the bend in the road have been completed. The surface water drainage is ongoing. The surfacing should be completed in the near future. This work is financed through LPT.

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### **Dublin Road Corridor, Naas**

The Council has appointed the consultant for the detailed design and contract documentation preparation phase of this project. A project execution plan has been submitted to the NTA and is near agreement. Phasing of the project is agreed and preliminary contracts for surveys etc are ongoing.

### **NTA GDA Cycle Network Design (Naas)**

Three schemes are being progressed to Public Consultation Stage and this work is funded by the NTA. The routes are:

- Naas to Kill;
- Kilcullen Road, Naas; and
- Greenway from Newbridge Road (Naas) to Sallins train station along the route of the canal

The closing date for receipt of submissions for the Kilcullen Road, Naas Cycleway Part 8 was 16/12/16. The submissions report is being finalised by the scheme consultants for review by the Planning Section, before going before the Members of Naas Municipal District.

The Part 8 process for the Naas to Kill cycleway is planned to commence in May 2017.

The Greenway from Newbridge Road (Naas) to Sallins train station is planned to go to Part 8 in Q2 2017.

### **M7 Naas to Newbridge Bypass Upgrade, M7 Osberstown Interchange and R407 Sallins Bypass**

As Members are aware the M7 Naas to Newbridge Bypass Upgrade and R407 Sallins Bypass projects have been included in the Department of Expenditure and Public Reform Programme entitled "Building on Recovery - Infrastructure and Capital Investment 2016-2021". The Department of Transport Tourism and Sport (DTTaS) have agreed that both projects are to form one contract.

Contract documents were issued in December 2016 to the shortlisted pre-qualified contractors. This process is in preparation for award of the construction contract in Q2 2017 which remains subject to provision of funding from both funding agencies, DTTaS and



Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII). The construction contract duration is approximately 30 to 36 months.

Notices to Treat for the M7 Naas to Newbridge Bypass Upgrade, the M7 Osberstown Interchange and R407 Sallins Bypass were issued in December 2015. Land negotiations are continuing.

Advanced works/testing are underway in preparation for the main contract. This includes landowner accommodation works, archaeological testing, ground investigation, the Sallins Railway underbridge and the M7 hard shoulder strengthening (complete).

### **Royal Canal Greenway between Maynooth and Dublin County Boundary**

The Part 8 report for this scheme was approved at the October 2016 full Council meeting.

A procurement competition for the appointment of consultants is now complete and Atkins Consultants have been appointed. The project team has begun design preparation work.

This scheme will consist of the construction of a cycleway and pedestrian facility along the canal tow path. The scheme is 8.4km in length and will consist of a 2.5 to 3m wide shared walking and cycling facility.

### **Royal Canal Greenway - Maynooth to "The West"**

The construction of the KCC section of this Cycleway through Kilcock commenced construction on the 17th October 2016, and is nearing completion. Waterways Ireland has recommenced preparatory works on the section between Jacksons Bridge and Maynooth.

### **Replacement of the Machinery Yard**

The KCC Machinery Yard and Stores is currently located in Newbridge. It is proposed to relocate the machinery Yard and maximise the use of the existing site in Newbridge. The design services contract commenced in early April.

### **Celbridge/Leixlip MD**

Street Sweeping at the weekend is currently operational for a half day on a Saturday in both towns.





The road works programme has been agreed for 2017. This will involve the investment of €426,075 in road resurfacing and €45,000 in surface dressing. These works will mainly be carried out over the summer months when traffic is lighter.

The Members recently agreed the LPT for the district and have allocated €277,000 to transportation for improvements to the districts roads and footpaths.

### **Naas MD Drainage Works 2017**

The Naas MD has awarded a tender for minor improvement works to the drainage system at the following location within the Naas MD:

- L2007 – Ballyhays, Straffan (to construction by End April 2017)

### **Naas MD Road Improvement Works 2017 (Package 1-FRAMEWORK)**

The Naas MD included the following project in the Multiparty Framework Agreement for Road Resurfacing and Associated Minor Works for Kildare County Council (stage 2 process), which is now at tender stage:

- L2004 – Castlekeely - (At tender stage)

### **Naas MD Road Improvement Works 2017 (Package 2)**

The Naas MD has tendered the second package of road surfacing projects for 2017 and the works are to be awarded in the coming week:

- R410 – Blessington Road, Naas
- L6012 – Sherlockstown (LPT)
- L6038 – Crab Road (LPT)
- L6073 – Harristown Common (LPT)
- L6044 – Mullacash
- L2002 – Castlesize to Millicent Bridge
- L2991 – Morrell Avenue (Ramp)

### **Naas MD Road Improvement Works 2016 (Package 3)**

The Naas MD will commence the third package of road surfacing projects in Q2 2017:



## Naas MD Footpath Improvement Works 2017

The Naas MD will commence the development of footpath schemes within the Naas MD for 2017 including the LPT funded schemes in Q3 2017.

## Fire Service

### Incident Statistics for Kildare Fire Service

Operational Calls		
Station	Total Calls 2016	To date in 2017
Newbridge	446	91
Naas	484	100
Athy	262	65
Maynooth	319	64
Monasterevin	190	39
Leixlip	235	42
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1936</b>	<b>401</b>

Operational Calls 2017						
Station	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June
Newbridge	35	33	23			
Naas	39	29	32			
Athy	25	20	20			
Maynooth	30	16	18			
Monasterevin	12	18	9			
Leixlip	17	8	17			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>119</b>			

### Fire Safety

	No. Inspections	No. Premises Inspected
2016	127	107
2017	26	25

	No. Fire Safety Complaints
2016	19
2017	7

	No. Fire Safety Certificates
2016	154
2017	26



	<b>No. Planning File Comments</b>
2016	432
2017	123

### **Civil Defence**

In March 2017:

- Kildare Civil Defence assisted at 6 community events which included assisting at 4 St. Patrick’s Day Parades in Newbridge, Monasterevin, Clane and Athy;
- The Boat Crews were assisted the Gardaí in a search for a missing person in Monasterevin; and
- The Boat Crew also assisted the E.S.B. to gain access to Pylons in Pollardstown Fen.

### **Economic, Community and Cultural Development**

Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Quarterly Report for Q1 2017 attached outlining the activities and achievements across the LEO, Kildare during the first quarter of 2017.

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**P Carey**  
**Chief Executive**

**13 April 2017**

