

WESTMEATH COUNTY COUNCIL

Monthly Management Report

August 2017

(furnished to Elected Members in accordance with section 136(2) of the Local Government Act 2001 as inserted by section 51 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014)

[Notes: (i) some items will be reported on a monthly basis, others quarterly at end of March, June, September, December; (ii) form/content/frequency of elements of the report may evolve in future e.g. to best serve the Council's information needs, to co-ordinate with other reporting requirements, or under DECLG guidance/Ministerial regulation]

Chief Executive's Orders: Schedule advised monthly to elected members

Section Reports

Finance: Reported quarterly to Finance Committee of Council (*last report: June 2017*)

Planning:

Monthly Report August 2017		
Development Management:	Month	Year to Date
No. of planning applications received	56	402
No. of planning applications granted	39	305
No. of planning applications refused	1	19
Number of pre-planning meetings held	16	161
Planning Enforcement:		
No. of complaints received	13	72
No. of sites inspected	62	368
No. of warning letters issued	4	55
No. of enforcement notices issued	0	16
No. of prosecutions initiated	0	3
No. of convictions secured	0	0
No. of cases closed	2	46

Human Resources: Reported quarterly (*last report: June 2017*)

Community Development: Reported quarterly (*last report: June 2017*)

Local Enterprise Office: Reported quarterly (*last report: June 2017*)

Culture/Tourism/Recreation: Reported quarterly (*last report: June 2017*)

Housing: (Monthly Report)

Westmeath Housing Services Management Report, August 2017 - Commentary	
AREA	STATUS
1. Housing Supply – In Progress	1. Housing Supply – Schemes In Progress.
2. Housing Supply – Pre Planning	<p>2. Housing Supply</p> <p>2.1.1 Schemes approved</p> <p>DHPC&LG Stage 1 – Ennell Court Masterplan awaiting Stage 1 Dept Approval.</p> <p>DHPC&LG Stage 3 Approved – Arcadia, Athlone (€6.86m) – 33 units - 11 tender received and currently being assessed.</p> <p>DHPC&LG Stage 4 Approved –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replacement dwelling at 16 Ennell Court (€0.21M) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contract awarded to M. Bracken & Sons Ltd. - Commenced on site July 2017 – 4 month contract. • St. Laurence’s Tce., Mullingar (€2.01m) – 9 units <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contract awarded to TH Contractors Ltd. - Commenced on site June 2017 - 12 month contract <p>2.1.3 Advanced planning underway for projects at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • McCormack Park – 12 units; • Belvedere Orphanage, Tyrrellspass - 5-6 units; • Battery Heights - 6 units; • Ashdale (Site A) – 20 units <p>2.1.4 Acquisitions Programme 2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21 purchases completed to 31/8/2017. • 6 further in progress (contracts received or returned) • 3 Sale agreed • 2 Offer placed <p>2.1.5 CAS – DHPC&LG approval received for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RESPOND (€0.75m) - Chapel St. Athlone – 4 units; • RESPOND (€0.09m) - Sarsfield Sq. Athlone – 1 unit; • Tuath (€0.8m) - Canal Ave. Mullingar – 9 units; • Tuath (€0.5m) – Farran, Mullingar – 3 units • Tuath (€0.7m plus CALF funding €0.7m) for approx 28 units • Muiriosa – Acquisition of 2 properties at Killucan and Scurlockstown, Delvin.

	<p>2.2 Housing Supply – SHCEP/Leasing - Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs) – Clúid Housing – 6 x 2 bed units at Shannon Close, Excise Street, Athlone –Tenancies concluded.</p> <p>2.3 Tuath – 2 x 4 bed units at Cluain Mullen, Castlepollard – Tenancies concluded.</p> <p>Tuath has made an application to the Dept for a further 9 units at Farran under the CALF/P&A.</p> <p>2.4 Traveller Accommodation</p> <p>2.4.1 Blackberry Lane Redevelopment Toilet block upgrade completed and consultation with resident's ongoing re upgrade of group housing.</p> <p>2.4.2 Traveller households housed to date 2017 – 5</p>
3. Housing Supply – Land Use Planning	<p>3 Housing Supply – Land Use Planning</p> <p>3.1 Progressing SEA and AA screening for a number of rezoning's as agreed with Members.</p> <p>3.2 Agreement reached with Dept re. LIHAF funding for infrastructure at Brawney, Athlone.</p>
4. Housing Supply Mortgage to Rent	<p>4 Housing Supply – Mortgage to Rent</p> <p>4.1 Continuing to implement the Mortgage to Rent Scheme for local authority mortgage holders.</p>
5. Housing Maintenance/ Estate Management	<p>5 Housing Maintenance- county wide maintenance contract in place.</p> <p>5.1 Planned Maintenance – survey of existing stock ongoing to inform planned maintenance programme.</p> <p>5.2 Managing housing maintenance county wide, ensuring value for money while adhering to response times set in Tenant handbook.</p> <p>5.3 Energy Efficiency Phase 2 (installation of external insulation) due to be completed in Q4 2017.</p> <p>5.4 Revised Anti-social behaviour strategy adopted.</p>
6. Disability and Housing	<p>6 Draft National Disability strategic Plan received from Housing Agency January 2017.</p>
7. Homeless	<p>7 Homeless</p> <p>7.1 WCC continue to administer the homeless service within the County including implementation of devolved funding regime for the Midlands Region.</p> <p>7.2 The Midlands Regional Homelessness Forum meets each quarter – last meeting 8th June 2017.</p> <p>7.3 Received Regional Budget allocation of €800,000 for 2017.</p> <p>7.4 Tendered for review of emergency accommodation services in the Region.</p>

Westmeath Housing Services Management Report, August 2017 – Statistics			
Housing Need Assessment			
No. of approved applications at 01 Jan 2017		1979	
No of approved applications at 31st August 2017		1750	
RAS and Leasing			
	RAS	LEASING	
No. of contracts at 1 Jan 2017	559	244	
No. new contracts 1 Jan and 31st August 2017	74	3	
No of contracts terminated to 31st August 2017	26	6	
No. of Contracts at 31st August 2017	607	241	
HAP			
	Month	Year to Date	
Number of Sign Ups	33	229	
Last 5 Week Trend - Avg. Weekly Tenancy sign ups		7	
Housing Allocations (Social Units)			
Total Vacant Dwellings 1 Jan 2017		12	
No. of Casual Vacancies 1 Jan to 31st August 2017		37	
No. of offers made to 31st August 2017		37	
No. of Tenancies agreed to 31st August 2017		37	
No. of Vacant dwellings at 31st August 2017		12	
House Grants			
Current Budget Allocated for 2017	€2,015,911.00		
	No. of Grants Approved YTD	Value of Grants Approved	
Housing Grant for People with a Disability	113	1,105,113.50	
Mobility Aid Grants	46	186,303.00	
Housing Aid for Older People	145	634,470.00	
Totals	304	1,925,886.50	
PRTB Inspections			
No. of dwellings inspected 01 Jan to 31st August 2017		444	
No. of non compliance letters issued 01 Jan to 31st August 2017		343	
No. of Improvement Notices issued 01 Jan to 31st August 2017		0	
No. of Prohibition Notices issued 01 Jan to 31 st August 2017		0	
Loans			
Loan Type	Applications Received YTD	Applications approved to 31 st Aug 2017	Loans paid out to 31st August 2017
Construction/Purchase	24	8	4
House Improvement	0	0	0
Mortgage to Rent Applications			
No. of new Applications 2017 to date		3	
No of applications concluded 2017 to date		7	
Incremental Tenant Purchase Scheme			
No. of Applications received from 1 st Jan to 31st August 2017		20	
No. of Applications approved from 1 st Jan to 31st August 2017		12	
No. of House Sales Completed from 1 st Jan to 31st August 2017		4	
Repairs and Maintenance 2017			
Repair requested logged to 31st August 2017		1185	
Repairs carried out to 31st August 2017		616	
No. of outstanding repair requests as at 31st August 2017		408	
Homelessness			
	Midlands	Westmeath	
No. of persons accommodated in Emergency Accommodation at 31st August 2017	71	18	

Public Lighting : *(Monthly Report)*

Public Lighting August 2017		
	Aug	Year to Date
No of Faults Reported	176	1875
Faults Fixed	140	1722

Transportation: Reported quarterly *(last report: June 2017)*

Water Services: Reported quarterly *(last report: June 2017)*

Fire Service: Reported quarterly *(last report: June 2017)*

Litter Management: Reported quarterly *(last report: June 2017)*

Veterinary Service: Reported quarterly *(last report: June 2017)*

Building Control: Reported quarterly *(last report: June 2017)*

Signed:

Date: 11th September 2017



Pat Gallagher
Chief Executive