

# **WESTMEATH COUNTY COUNCIL**

## **Monthly Management Report**

### **July 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 July 2017		
<b>Development Management:</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>
No. of planning applications received	38	346
No. of planning applications granted	44	266
No. of planning applications refused	1	18
Number of pre-planning meetings held	40	145
<b>Planning Enforcement:</b>		
No. of complaints received	10	59
No. of sites inspected	16	306
No. of warning letters issued	4	51
No. of enforcement notices issued	1	16
No. of prosecutions initiated	2	3
No. of convictions secured	0	0
No. of cases closed	2	44

**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)**

<b>Westmeath Housing Services Management Report, July 2017 - Commentary</b>	
<b>AREA</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
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&amp;LG Stage 1 – Ennell Court Masterplan received Stage 1 Dept Approval.</p> <p>DHPC&amp;LG Stage 3 Approved – Arcadia, Athlone (€6.86m) – 33 units - Tender sought July 2017.</p> <p>DHPC&amp;LG Stage 4 Approved –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replacement dwelling at 16 Ennell Court (€0.21M) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Contract awarded to M. Bracken &amp; Sons Ltd.</li> <li>- Commenced on site July 2017 – 4 month contract.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• St. Laurence's Tce., Mullingar (€2.01m) – 9 units <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Contract awarded to TH Contractors Ltd.</li> <li>- Commenced on site June 2017 - 12 month contract</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>2.1.3 Advanced planning underway for projects at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• McCormack Park – 12 units;</li> <li>• Belvedere Orphanage, Tyrrellspass - 5-6 units;</li> <li>• Battery Heights - 6 units;</li> <li>• Ashdale (Site A) – 20 units</li> </ul> <p>2.1.4 Acquisitions Programme 2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16 purchases completed to 31/7/2017.</li> <li>• 3 further in progress (contracts received or returned)</li> <li>• 8 Sale agreed</li> <li>• 1 Offer placed</li> </ul> <p>2.1.5 CAS – DHPC&amp;LG approval received for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RESPOND (€0.75m) - Chapel St. Athlone – 4 units;</li> <li>• RESPOND (€0.09m) - Sarsfield Sq. Athlone – 1 unit;</li> <li>• Tuath (€0.8m) - Canal Ave. Mullingar – 9 units;</li> <li>• Tuath (€0.5m) – Farran, Mullingar – 3 units</li> <li>• Tuath (€0.7m plus CALF funding €0.7m) for approx 28 units</li> <li>• Muiriosa – Acquisition of 2 properties at Killucan and Scurlockstown, Delvin.</li> </ul> <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&amp;A.</p> <p>2.4 Traveller Accommodation</p> <p>2.4.1 Blackberry Lane Redevelopment Toilet block upgrade completed and consultation with residents 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-new 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 August 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, July 2017 – Statistics			
Housing Need Assessment			
No. of approved applications at 01 Jan 2017	1979		
No of approved applications at 31st July 2017	1748		
RAS and Leasing			
	RAS	LEASING	
No. of contracts at 1 Jan 2017	559	244	
No. new contracts 1 Jan and 31st July 2017	59	3	
No of contracts terminated to 31st July 2017	22	6	
No. of Contracts at 31st July 2017	596	241	
HAP			
	Month	Year to Date	
Number of Sign Ups	35	196	
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 July 2017	33		
No. of offers made to 31st July 2017	4		
No. of Tenancies agreed to 31st July 2017	33		
No. of Vacant dwellings at 31st July 2017	12		
House Grants			
Current Budget Allocated for 2017	€2,015,911.00 (€958,391 DOE + €1,057,520 ICR)		
	No. of Grants Approved YTD	Value of Grants Approved	
Housing Grant for People with a Disability	94	€ 896,116.50	
Mobility Aid Grants	41	€ 170,403.00	
Housing Aid for Older People	129	€ 554,602.00	
Totals	264	1,621,121.50	
PRTB Inspections			
No. of dwellings inspected 01 Jan to 31st July 2017	361		
No. of non compliance letters issued 01 Jan to 31st July 2017	276		
No. of Improvement Notices issued 01 Jan to 31st July 2017	0		
No. of Prohibition Notices issued 01 Jan to 31 <sup>st</sup> July 2017	0		
Loans			
Loan Type	Applications Received YTD	Applications approved to 31 <sup>st</sup> July 2017	Loans paid out to 31st July 2017
Construction/Purchase	22	8	4
House Improvement	-	-	-
Mortgage to Rent Applications			
No. of new Applications 2017 to date	4		
No of applications concluded 2017 to date	5		
Incremental Tenant Purchase Scheme			
No. of Applications received from 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan to 31st July 2017	18		
No. of Applications approved from 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan to 31st July 2017	12		
No. of House Sales Completed from 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan to 31st July 2017	4		
Repairs and Maintenance 2017			
Repair requested logged to 31st July 2017	1029		
Repairs carried out to 31st July 2017	543		
No. of outstanding repair requests as at 31st July 2017	353		
Homelessness			
	Midlands	Westmeath	
No. of persons accommodated in Emergency Accommodation at 31st July 2017	73	14	

**Public Lighting : (Monthly Report)**

Public Lighting July 2017		
	July	Year to Date
No of Faults Reported	273	1699
Faults Fixed	238	1582

**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:



David Hogan

Deputy Chief Executive

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> August 2017

