

WESTMEATH COUNTY COUNCIL

Monthly Management Report

May 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: April 2017*)

Planning:

Monthly Report May 2017		
Development Management:	Month	Year to Date
No. of planning applications received	44	263
No. of planning applications granted	49	180
No. of planning applications refused	2	13
Number of pre-planning meetings held	10	66
Planning Enforcement:		
No. of complaints received	10	47
No. of sites inspected	44	263
No. of warning letters issued	5	43
No. of enforcement notices issued	6	15
No. of prosecutions initiated	0	1
No. of convictions secured	0	0
No. of cases closed	7	31

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

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

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

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

Housing: (Monthly Report)

Westmeath Housing Services Management Report, May 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 lodged with Dept for Stage 1 Approval.</p> <p>DHPC&LG Stage 2 Approved – Arcadia, Athlone (€6.7m) – 33 units – Stage 3 application lodged with Department.</p> <p>DHPC&LG Stage 4 Approved –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replacement dwelling at 16 Ennell Court (€0.21M) - Contract awarded to M. Bracken & Sons Ltd. • St. Laurence’s Tce., Mullingar (€2.01m) – 9 units - Contract awarded to TH Contractors Ltd. <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 • Ennell Court – 20/30 units in phase 1. <p>2.1.4 Acquisitions Programme 2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11 purchases completed to 31/5/2017. • 8 further in progress (contracts received or returned) • 9 Sale agreed • 1 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 – Nominations made to Clúid re Tenancies. Interviews by Cluid concluded, formal tenancies to be signed.</p>

	<p>Tuath – 2 x 4 bed units at Cluain Mullen, Castlepollard – expected to become operational May 2017 – nominations made to Tuath re Tenancies.</p> <p>Tuath has made an application to the Dept for a further 9 units at Farran under the CALF/P&A.</p> <p>2.3 Traveller Accommodation</p> <p>2.3.1 Blackberry Lane Redevelopment Toilet block upgrade completed. Consultation with residents ongoing re upgrade of group housing.</p> <p>2.3.2 Traveller households housed to date 2017 – 5.</p>
3. Housing Supply – Land Use Planning	<p>3 Housing Supply – Land Use Planning</p> <p>3.3 Progressing SEA and AA screening for a number of sites, as agreed with Members.</p> <p>3.2 LIHAF Application for Lands at Brawney, Athlone approved by Dept.</p>
4. Housing Supply – Mortgage to Rent	<p>4 Housing Supply – Mortgage to Rent</p> <p>4.3 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>5.3 Planned Maintenance – survey of existing stock to commence 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 June 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 We 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 provisional Regional Budget allocation of €880,000 for 2017.</p> <p>7.4 Tendered for review of emergency accommodation services in the Region.</p>

Westmeath Housing Services Management Report, May 2017 – Statistics			
Housing Need Assessment			
No. of approved applications at 01 Jan 2017			1979
No of approved applications at 31 st May 2017			2035
RAS and Leasing			
	RAS	LEASING	
No. of contracts at 1 Jan 2017	559	244	
No. new contracts 1 Jan and 31 st May 2017	101	1	
No of contracts terminated to 31 st May 2017	72	4	
No. of Contracts at 31 st May 2017	588	241	
HAP			
	Month	Year to Date	
Number of Sign Ups	33	131	
Last 5 Week Trend - Avg. Weekly Tenancy sign ups		10 per week	
Housing Allocations (Social Units)			
Total Vacant Dwellings 1 Jan 2017			12
No. of Casual Vacancies 1 Jan to 31 st May 2017			21
No. of offers made to 31 st May 2017			7
No. of Tenancies agreed to 31 st May 2017			24
No. of Vacant dwellings at 31 st May 2017			9
House Grants			
Current Budget Allocated for 2017	€1,197,989		
	No. of Grants Approved YTD	Value of Grants Approved	
Housing Grant for People with a Disability	72	714,971.50	
Mobility Aid Grants	36	149,683.00	
Housing Aid for Older People	86	427,252.00	
Totals	194	1,291,906.50	
PRTB Inspections			
No. of dwellings inspected 01 Jan to 31 st May 2017			168
No. of non compliance letters issued 01 Jan to 31 st May 2017			151
No. of Improvement Notices issued 01 Jan to 31 st May 2017			0
No. of Prohibition Notices issued 01 Jan to 31 st May 2017			0
Loans			
Loan Type	Applications Received YTD	Applications approved to 31 st May 2017	Loans paid out to 31 st May 2017
Construction/Purchase	19	6	1
House Improvement	0	0	0
Mortgage to Rent Applications			
No. of new Applications 2017 to date			2
No of applications concluded 2017 to date			1
Incremental Tenant Purchase Scheme			
No. of Applications received from 1 st Jan to 31 st May 2017			14
No. of Applications approved from 1 st Jan to 31 st May 2017			9
No. of House Sales Completed from 1 st Jan to 31 st May 2017			5
Repairs and Maintenance 2017			
Repair requested logged to 31 st May 2017			783
Repairs carried out to 31 st May 2017			409
No. of outstanding repair requests as at 31 st May 2017			277
Homelessness			
	Midlands	Westmeath	
No. of persons accommodated in Emergency Accommodation at 31 st May 2017	79	17	

Public Lighting : (Monthly Report)

Public Lighting Management Report for May 2017			
Number	Item	Totals	Overall %
1	Total Number of Public Lights as of May 2017	12600	
2	Number of lights out at the end of May 2017	109	0.87%
3	Number of faults reported in May 2017	122	
4	Number of repairs carried out in May 2017	105	86%

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

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

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

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

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

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

Signed:

Date: 9th June 2017



Pat Gallagher
Chief Executive