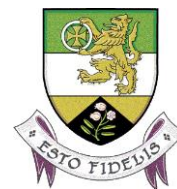


JUNE 2019

MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT



Do: Baill Comhairle Chontae Uíbh Fhailí

To: Each Member of Offaly County Council

Tuairisc mhíosúil bainistíochta a bhreithniú i gcomhair
tíonóil mí Iúil

Monthly Management Report for consideration at the July
2019 Monthly Meeting.

EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS:

A schedule of Chief Executive Orders is included with the
Council Agenda.

FINANCE:

Report to the 30th June 2019 – Appendix 1

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

RECYCLING ROCKET COMPETITION

Offaly Library Service has designed a “Make your own rocket
using recyclable materials” competition in celebration of the 50-
year anniversary of Apollo 11 landing on the Moon. The closing
date for the competition is 17th July 2019 at 5.00pm.

OFFALY CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION STRATEGY

A copy of the draft strategy and accompanying SEA and AA
screening reports may be viewed on the Councils’ website or
inspected during the period (4 weeks) from Wednesday 26th
June 2019 to Friday 26th July 2019 (both dates inclusive)

REGIONAL SPATIAL AND ECONOMIC STRATEGY (RSES)

The review of the Offaly County Development Plan 2014-2020
will commence on 31st July 2019, with submissions
/observations accepted from 31st July 2019 to 26th September
2019 inclusive either by post or on-line.

STREAM

Professors and researchers of universities affiliated with the
international LOFAR network together with Software
Developers and Data Analysts from companies operating within
the Midland Region will have the opportunity to use STREAM
Creative Suite. The Closing Date for Applications for Business
Development Manager is 12th August.

REPORT AT A GLANCE

Offaly Grand Canal Greenway

An allocation of €2.35m was announced
last week by the DTT&S under the
Strategy for the Future Development of
National and Regional Greenways, for
works to be undertaken to complete the
Offaly Grand Canal Greenway between
Tullamore and Daingean.

Community Involvement Schemes

The Department of Transport, Tourism
and Sport proposes to continue the
Community Involvement Scheme in 2020
and 2021. Local Authorities are invited to
apply to the Department for CIS funding.

Opportunities from Climate Change

One-day national conference taking place
on Wednesday 9th October 2019 in the
Tullamore Court Hotel is an initiative of
the Midlands Regional Transition Team in
conjunction with the Eastern & Midlands
CARO & Local Enterprise Office Offaly

FilmOffaly

Two major film productions were on
location at Charleville Castle,
approximate spend in Tullamore each
was over €500,000.00.

Cruinniu na NÓg

The Cruinniu na NÓg programme was a
huge success in Offaly. 877 children
attended the 19 events and 6 launches of
longer term projects undertaken as part of
this programme.

PLANNING

	To end June 2019	To end June 2018	Total 2018
Planning Applications	312	288	597
Extensions of Duration Applications & Assessments	7	4	13
Warning Letters and (Enforcement Notices) issued	6(0)	8(2)	41 (8)

Town and Village Renewal (TVR) Scheme Applications

The following applications for funding were submitted by Offaly County Council under the 2019 TVR Scheme:

Town/Village	Level of funding requested	Brief overview of proposal
Ballinamere	€100,000	Public Realm footpaths, lighting & drainage
Blundell Park, Edenderry	€200,000	Develop 22.5 acre site in centre of the town. Underground wires, provide pathways and play area and enhance area to encourage use by clubs etc. for activities
Clonbullogue	€48,000	Connecting footpath
Clonygowan	€100,000	Enhance Fair green in village centre - replace footpaths, provide parking area, play area, pollination bed
Crinkill	€100,000	Provide walking trail, village public realm, pedestrian crossing and wild garden
Kilmalogue, Portarlinton	€100,000	Public realm and enhancement of Kilmalogue as an opportunity site
Lusmagh	€100,000	Public Realm footpaths, lighting and enhancement of village
Mount Bolus	€100,000	Public Realm footpaths, lighting, green area, enhancement of village
Mucklagh	€100,000	Public Realm footpaths, upgrading of lighting, pedestrian crossing, village landscaping
Shinrone	€100,000	Phase 2 of public realm footpaths, undergrounding of services, village enhancement
The Green, Birr	€200,000	Public realm - upgrade footpaths & lighting, underground wires, provide trees/landscaping

Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES)

At the meeting of the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly (EMRA) of 3rd May 2019, the Members of the Regional Assembly agreed to make the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) for the Eastern and Midland Region, on the 28th June 2019, in accordance with section 24(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended. The review of the Offaly County Development Plan 2014-2020 will commence on 31st July 2019, with submissions /observations accepted from 31st July 2019 to 26th September 2019 inclusive either by post or on-line. Notices will be published in locally circulating newspapers and on-line. The notice will specify dates of public consultation sessions.

National and Regional Greenways Funding Allocation

Offaly County Council received notification on 21st June 2019, that application for funding of the Greenway from Tullamore to Daingean has been provisionally approved for €2.35million by the Department of Transport Tourism and Sport.

HOUSING

Housing Update

- There are 715 on the Housing Waiting List awaiting housing support at the end of June 2019.
- A further 855 tenancies are supported under the Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) Scheme. 15 new HAP tenancies were agreed in June 2019, with 8 exiting from the Scheme in the same period.
- Social Housing Needs Assessment 2019 is currently being completed and has to be returned to the Department by mid-August.

- At the end of June 2019 there were 25 single people and 14 families in emergency accommodation.
- 28 allocations to Local Authority units; 16 allocations to RAS/Leasing units; and, 6 nominations to Approved Housing Bodies were made in 2019 to date.

Housing Stock – Number, Maintenance & Repair

- 13 sales closed and a further 15 bids have been accepted in 2019 to date.
- 1,802 maintenance calls logged in 2019 to date.
- 69 Anti-Social Behaviour complaints were received to the end of June 2019.

Capital Update

Local Authority Direct Construction Projects

- Blundell Wood, Edenderry 33 units - under construction, delivery Q4 2019
- Chancery Lane, Tullamore 18 units - under construction, delivery date Q4, 2019
- Raheen, Clara – Stage 1 submission forwarded to the Department
- Church Street, Clara – Stage 1 submission forwarded to the Department for 3 OPD units
- Rectory Lands, Birr - Stage 1 submission to be progressed in 2019
- Banagher, Kylebeg 18 units - Stage 2 & Stage 3 submission 2019
- Beechgrove Belmont 7 units - Stage 2 & Part 8 Planning submission 2019
- Moneygall 2 units - Stage 2 & Part 8 Planning submission 2019
- Circular Road, Daingean 7 units - Stage 2 & Part 8 Planning submission 2019

Approved Housing Bodies Schemes

- Mid Offaly Housing Association: Mountbolus - 4 units under construction, delivery 2019
- Oaklee: Kearney's Field, Tullamore - 41 units progressing to tender documentation
- Oaklee: Clonminch, Tullamore - 19 units, Part 8 Planning listed on the July Council meeting agenda for consideration by the Elected Members
- Cluid Housing: Scurragh, Birr - 6 units under construction, delivery 2019
- Tuath: Killane Drive, Edenderry - 27 units, construction start August, 2019
- Sofia Housing: 32 units at Presentation Lands, Portarlinton, Stage 1 approval was received in January 2019 and their design team is appointed

Turnkey Developments

Existing turnkey schemes are as follows:

- Frankford, Kilcormac: 12 units - 11 units completed and tenants allocated with the final unit being finalised
- Cluainn na Spideoga, Cloghan: 6 units completed and tenants allocated
- MacGregor, Birr: 12 Units - started in Q4 2018, 4 units delivery Q4 2019 and 8 units delivery in 2020
- Walsh Island, Coolagarry, 4 units, department approval November 2018

Housing Grants

Departmental grant approval, in the sum of €1,244,948, was received in March 2019 for Housing Adaptation Grants; Housing Mobility Grants; and, Housing Aid for the Elderly. The Department, on 21st June 2019, notified the Council of an increased allocation in the sum of €284,042 thereby bringing the 2019 allocation to €1,600,000 and increasing Offaly County Council's

2019 allocation to €320,000. (Offaly's 2018 allocation was €1,443,397.)

131 grants have been allocated to date, i.e., 63 Housing Aid for the Older People, 13 Mobility Aid Grants and 55 Housing Adaptation Grants. A further 3 Disabled Persons Grants have been completed on Council stock in 2019.

ENVIRONMENT AND WATER

Environment

Waste complaints thus far 100. Litter complaints 496, this includes 156 clean-ups carried out by local groups. Seven files have been sent for legal action. We continue to work with Tidy Towns & Community Groups on the National Spring Clean Initiative. We provide groups with equipment to assist in the clean-ups and arrange collection of waste collected. Green school assessments have been completed & submitted to An Taisce & schools have been notified of the outcomes. In May 18 schools were awarded the green flag for their success in the Green Schools Programme.

Anti-Dumping Initiative

An amount of €63,500 has been allocated to the Council for this year. It is intended that these funds will be used for 2 clean-ups & a major public awareness campaign.

Water Quality

Water Framework Directive – River Water Monitoring Programme for 2019 is ongoing. This is co-ordinated by Offaly County Council as part of a national monitoring programme that is managed by the EPA. Section 4 – Discharge Licence Monitoring has commenced. Round one will be completed by the end of July. EPA recently published a report on Domestic Waste Water Systems inspections. Offaly have completed the required inspections under the National Inspections Plan with 33 inspections completed 2017/2018 at a 48% failure rate.

LAWPro**Clareen Catchment**

Catchment assessment is to commence 15th of July next. Teagasc ASSOP advisor will carry out a streamside event for farmers within the catchment on the 30th of July.

Gageborough Catchment

LAWPro along with Offaly County Council staff carried out pesticides sampling at 19 pre – selected monitoring locations along the Gageborough River on the 6th of June.

Water Services**Capital Projects**

The design and build contract for the major upgrade of the Tullamore and Birr Water continues to progress. Water Main Rehab: design for Clonin, Croghan and Newtown is progressing. Works are ongoing in Clonmullen Lane with Blundell Wood to follow. The Tullamore Drainage Area Plan 2018 will inform sewerage network upgrade going forward.

Consultants have been appointed to look at storm water design in Cloghan and Shinrone – this is at design stage at present. Ground Investigation is being completed in Cloghan and Shinrone for tendering purpose. Tendered in Q2 2019. Upgrade works at Banagher Water Treatment plant are complete, commissioning works are ongoing. Watermain Rehabilitation works are complete at Mucklagh, Screggan, Crinkle, Brosna South and Mountbolus. Tullamore Sewer Rehabilitation works are ongoing & nearing completion.

Rural Water Programme**Multi-Annual Rural Water Programme 2019 – 2021**

Decision on funding is expected in July 2019.

ROADS**Roads Programme 2019**

The Roads Programme 2019 is ongoing throughout the County with significant progress in our Road Improvement schemes. The Surface Dressing commenced on 27th May in the Birr area and is complete and is currently in the Edenderry area. The fleet will revert to the Tullamore MD thereafter

The TII Pavement schemes

Pavement works on the N52 Idle Cross is complete. Retexturing works in Birr, Kilcormac and on a number of the N52 Tullamore Bypass roundabouts is complete. Tenders for works on other pavement schemes within the county issued to tender this week i.e.

- N62 Sharavogue Pavement Scheme (c.€1.5m)
- N62 Derrinlough HD28 pavement scheme (c.€180k)
- N62 Galross Capital Maintenance pavement scheme (c.€190k)
- N62 Ballinahown HD28 Pavement scheme (c.€100k)
- N52 Tullamore Bypass HD28 Pavement repairs. Cloncollig & Charleville Roundabouts. (c.€80k)

Community Involvement Schemes

The Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport proposes to continue the Community Involvement Scheme in 2020 and 2021. Local Authorities are invited to apply to the Department for CIS funding. Potential schemes and applications should be discussed with the Area Engineers in the Municipal Districts on or before 11/July/19.

Offaly Grand Canal Greenway

Works are ongoing on additional elements of the Offaly Grand Canal Greenway as follows: -

- Pollagh to Tauran. Tenders have issued (ORIS - €250k)

- Ballycommon towards Kilbeggan. Part VIII. (ORIS - €250k)
- Tullamore urban link. At design stage.

An allocation of €2.35m was announced last week by the DTT&S under the Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways, for works to be undertaken to complete the Offaly Grand Canal Greenway between Tullamore and Daingean.

Offaly Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

Public Consultation commenced on 26th June 2019. A copy of the draft strategy and accompanying SEA and AA screening reports may be viewed on the Councils' website or inspected during the period (4 weeks) from Wednesday 26th June 2019 to Friday 26th July 2019 (both dates inclusive) at the following locations during normal business hours:

- Offaly County Council Main County Buildings, Tullamore
- Tullamore, Birr & Edenderry Municipal District Offices
- Offaly Libraries - Tullamore, Birr, Edenderry, Ferbane, Banagher, Clara, Daingean & Kilcormac

Submissions or observations may be made by e-mail to offalyadapts@offalycoco.ie or in writing to Offaly Climate Change Adaptation, Offaly County Council, Áras an Chontae, Charleville Road, Tullamore, County Offaly

LOCAL & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Local Community Development Committee

LCDC Community Enhancement Programme 2019: Payments are being transferred to groups who were allocated funds from this year's scheme.

Age Friendly Strategy

A Range of Bealtaine events took place in conjunction with the Arts Office, Offaly Older Person's Forum, Anam Beo & OLDC. The coordination group subsequently met to evaluate findings of events held, in order to plan for Bealtaine 2020. Offaly AF attended the "Active Retirement Ireland Summer



Expose" Members of Offaly Older Person's Forum attended training in Athlone. An Intergenerational Concert was held in the Áras on June 14th to showcase the progress of grandparents and their grandchildren who have been taking ukulele lessons together since January. This pilot program was sponsored by the Offaly Age Friendly Alliance.



Public Participation Network

Social Inclusion Site Visits with senior staff from the Dept of Rural & Community Development to Clara FRC, Kilcormac

Development Association and Birr Swimming Pool.



Community Wellbeing Vision Statement Workshops took place in Birr, Edenderry & Tullamore and were well attended.

Offaly PPN assisted at a DRCD Funding Information Evening. This was a Regional event and attracted people from Galway to Kilkenny and across Offaly too.

Community Watch Federation meeting took place to manage CCTV in communities across the county.



Bridie Costello-Hynes undertook training in Wales on Sustainable Green Development opportunities.

Comhairle na nÓg

Comhairle Na nÓg Executive members attend the 'Big Hello' event in Lough Boora Discovery Park. In addition to assisting Community Staff in supervising some of the Children's activities, the group conducted a survey to assist them in researching their 2019 Project 'Exam Stress and Anxiety'. The feedback was extremely valuable with 72% of respondents claiming to have suffered from Exam Stress with 55% stating that not enough was being done in schools to

alleviate this type of stress. The results will be collated and input in the final project for discussion at the 2019 Comhairle Na nÓg AGM.

The Offaly Comhairle Na nÓg Coordinator attended a National Networking event in Kilmainham, Dublin. The meeting was opened by Dr. Katherine Zappone, Minister for Children & Youth Affairs. Representatives of all 31 Comhairlí came together to discuss the issues affecting Young People and how Comhairle could be made to work better for Young People. Details of the Bi-Annual Dáil na nÓg trip were announced.

Pride of Place



This year Offaly County Council nominated Birr Tidy Towns, representing the Birr Municipal District; (in the Urban Neighbourhood category); St. Brigid's Social Club Cloneyhurke, representing the Edenderry Municipal District (in the Community Wellbeing Initiative category) and St. Colmcille's Community Centre Durrow, representing the Tullamore Municipal District (in the Population 300 – 1,000 category).



Judging for the three Offaly entries took place on 17th and 18th June. Mr. Donal

Connolly and Mr. William Beatty from Pride of Place had the difficult task of running the rule over the three entries.



Music Generation Offaly/Westmeath

Singfest Choral Residency – 5 consecutive days of music making from 22nd to 26th May, based in AIT and involving:

Primary School Big Sing Days: Over 1,000 participating primary school children over 2 days; Workshops delivered during morning to 3 groups of 100+ children; Afternoon session involved creating a massed voice children's choir; Pupils sang songs that they had been learning during MGOW sessions and 'new' material learnt on the day; Gala Concert: C.70 children and young people aged from 7 – 17 in 3 choirs; Performance involved children experiencing being accompanied by a band; The MGOW Schools Choir of c. 40 students again performed; Community Sing Day:

Involving c.160 adults and musicians; Secondary School SingOUT! Involving 7 secondary schools [c.200 pupils, teachers and musicians] – schools from Offaly, Westmeath, Galway and Roscommon.

Made successful application to Leargas for Erasmus+ funding towards a youth exchange with Ung I Kor – Advanced planning visit completed and first leg of exchange (Ireland to Norway) taking place August 6 – 10th, Bergen. Norwegians due to visit Ireland May/ June 2020



ARTS

FilmOffaly – Two major film productions were on location at Charleville Castle, approximate spend in Tullamore each was over €500,000.00. FilmOffaly Award Script writing workshops were held with the shortlisted candidates. Several queries were made for film location packages for potential future filming in Offaly.



Charleville Covered in snow in May.

Bealtaine

Creativity as we age - Four Bealtaine consultation days were held in partnership with PPN

Exhibitions: Veronica Nicholson – 36 Views of Croghan Hill funded under the Creative Ireland Programme – launch took place on May 2nd National Poetry Day. Veronica gave an artist talk to 10 participants of RehabCare learning facility.

Festivals: - Birr Festival of Music took place – this is funded under the Festival Arts Scheme

Arts Event Coordinator - (For Culture Night and Hullabaloo events) 5 invited, 3 applied, applications evaluated, awaiting response from successful candidate.

Mini Movie Programme – Call for facilitators for the Mini Movie Programme in Schools (Edenderry Area 2019). 2018 films were selected for the Fresh Film Festival earlier in the year.

Local Creative Youth Partnership (LYCP) – Participation and collaboration with consultant Karen Thompson (Dept of Education & Skills and the Creative Ireland Programme) with respect to research on a pilot project for the development of youth creative services in Offaly.

Culture Night: - Proposals received, evaluated. Application for match funding sent to the Department of Culture Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

Hullabaloo! Offaly's Children's Arts Festival: Proposals sought and received.

OFFLine Animation Residency – Funded under the Creative Ireland Programme – interviews for the residency took place in May and successful candidates were chosen, Keith Kavanagh and Carolina Larsson. Keith has recently returned from 2 years in New York city and is a native of Dunboyne. Carolina is from Sweden and works in the prestigious University of Lund.

Geashill Public Art: The selected artist Holger Lönze will shortly be contracted to develop the commission artwork, *Gallain Sciath*, a series of five circular relief sculptures that will provide a narrative to the battle of Geashill. These will be sited at Geashill Park and the project will include a community engagement element in the form of a public demonstration / talk on the prehistoric metalworking processes and charcoal pit furnaces to create replicas of archaeological artefacts. The health & Safety statement is currently being finalized, then the contract will be ready to sign.



Tullamore Community Art Centre

The Tullamore Community Art Centre board members made a presentation to the council meeting with regards the development of Arts Centre, this was received positively and it was agreed that the build phase of the project could commence.

SPORTS

Funding

€184,000 in funding secured for delivery of Healthy (Ireland) Offaly programmes from 1st July 2019 – 30th June 2021. Re-contracting procedures underway

Programmes

Staff of the Sports Partnership, the south Offaly sports hub and partner agencies (FAI and Leinster Rugby via their development officers) continue to deliver sport and physical activity programmes across the county.



*Bike Week
School
Cycle day
at High
Street NS*

Community Coaching Programme for Young Women



LIBRARY SERVICES

Cruinniú na nÓg

The Cruinniú na nÓg programme was a huge success in Offaly. This is a Creative Ireland initiative. 877 children attended the 19 events and 6 launches of longer term projects undertaken as part of this programme.

This initiative delivered 94.5 hours of programming which included Lego building workshops, Musical tots gatherings and



much more. The programme design reflected the many creative outlets in Offaly including animation, dance, music, art, sewing and map making. Offaly Library Service worked with key partners such as Music Generation

Offaly, The Royal Irish Academy of Music, Offaly Crafty, Kinnitty National School, Mercy Primary School, St. Mary's Secondary School, Banagher College, St. Rynagh National School and Birdwatch Ireland. These collaborations enriched the 2019 programme and brought new audiences both young and old to library venues throughout the County.

The 2019 Cruinniú na nÓg projects reflected the unique approach of the Creative Ireland team in Offaly, successfully optimising Arts, Heritage and Library synergies. The creative outputs of some remarkable projects will be on display and accessed by communities for years to come in public libraries around Offaly. These include a Swift Mosaic in Banagher Library, a Daingean landscape art piece in Daingean Library, Community Quilts in Birr and Edenderry Libraries and a music composition by Clara Youth Band.



Daingean Landscape project

Summer Stars 2019



Summer Stars is an annual national programme which promotes children's literacy and reading development. It takes place during the summer months and focuses on encouraging children to develop and continue the reading habit during their school holidays. The target for 2019 is to encourage 1,200 children to continue reading over their summer holidays. 45% of our target figure was reached before school holidays even started this year.

Research shows that reading over the Summer months reduces the effect of a 'Summer Slide'; the tendency for children to lose some of the literacy gains made during the previous school year. The Summer Stars programme provides support and encouragement through a suite of reading collections and FREE Summer events to ignite and sustain reader development. See full details at: <https://www.offaly.ie/eng/Services/Libraries/News/Summer-Stars-Reading-Programme-2019.html>

All registered children for the programme will be entered in a draw to win a bicycle, linking the importance of healthy activity and environmental consciousness to reading and library participation.

Recycling Rocket Competition

Offaly Library Service has designed a "Make your own rocket using recyclable materials" competition in celebration of the 50-year anniversary of Apollo 11 landing on the Moon. There are two age categories: 5-8 year olds & 9-12 year olds.

The closing date for the competition is 17th July 2019 at 5.00pm. All entries must be delivered to Tullamore Library. The OCC Environment department will have pop-up information stands promoting recycling at the rocket making workshops. There will be a whole host of events in Tullamore Library to mark this historic day.

My Open Library

There are now three library branches in Offaly providing the My Open Library Service. 3,582 people have registered for this service. With over 102,000 visits registered at the end of 2018. This pilot initiative is now rolling out to over 23 over libraries around Ireland.

LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE

Best Young Entrepreneur 2019 National title

Competing for Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur in the upcoming national final will be Dr. Emma-Rose Conroy of Euro Stallions (Ireland) Ltd from Durrow, Tullamore. Euro Stallions

(Ireland) Ltd is the first EU approved embryo collection centre in Ireland. The company also provides breeder and veterinary

supplies for equine reproduction including its own in-house developed fertility supplement.



Young entrepreneurs from Laois, Offaly, Kildare and Westmeath gathered in the Bloomfield House Hotel, Mullingar on Wednesday 12th June to compete for one of the country's most coveted titles – Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur. The winners were chosen from twelve finalists, shortlisted from almost 220 applicants in the competition which was launched earlier this year by the LEOs as part of a nationwide search to find "Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur (IBYE). 24 contenders (three from each Region nationally - one in each category) have been selected to compete for the national title of Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur on Sunday 15th of September 2019. A further €100,000 investment fund will be available to invest in the winners of the three categories at the national final - one of which will also be named as "Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur". The Offaly representatives at the Regional Final were: Dr. Emma-Rose Conroy, Euro Stallions (Ireland) Ltd (Offaly's Best Young Entrepreneur and Best Established Business Category Winner), Christina McLoughlin, Vove Media (Best Start Up Category Winner), Brian Darby,

Little Champions (Best Business Idea Category Winner)



The regional winners were: Best New Idea: Dr. Diane Cooper, True Fitness, Laois, Best Start-Up Business: Pierce Dargan, Equine MediRecord, Kildare, Best Established Business: Dr. Emma-Rose Conroy, Euro Stallions(Ireland)Ltd, Offaly



Upcoming Events and New Initiatives Exciting Business Development Manager Opportunity for STREAM Creative Suite in Birr

Offaly Innovation & Design Centre CLG is recruiting a Business Development Manager for STREAM Creative Suite, Birr, Co. Offaly. STREAM Creative Suite is a new



initiative – utilising big data from the I-

LOFAR radio telescope to deliver regional STREAM potential.

The I-LOFAR radio telescope provides a unique opportunity to access Big Data in real time. This data can be utilised for training purposes and for proving algorithms for many sectors. Professors and researchers of universities affiliated with the international LOFAR network together with Software Developers and Data Analysts from companies operating within or in cooperation with companies based in the Midland Region will have the opportunity to use STREAM Creative Suite – either through regular hot desk usage or through the establishment of a base there. Closing Date for Applications is 12th August 2019. See www.localenterprise.ie/offaly for further details.

Creating Economic & Business Opportunities from Climate Change

This one-day national conference will take place on Wednesday 9th October 2019 in the Tullamore Court Hotel. The delegate fee is €150. You can register your interest by emailing info@midlandsrep.ie. Full programme details will be available shortly. This conference is an initiative of the Midlands Regional Transition Team in conjunction with the Eastern & Midlands CARO & Local Enterprise Office Offaly.

ONE Network Summer Social Evening, 15 July

This year's Offaly's Network of Entrepreneurs' Summer outing takes place at Castle Barna Golf Club in Daingean.

The evening will start with a golf lesson and putting competition followed by a main course, dessert, tea and coffee. For those who don't fancy a round of golf there are bikes available to take a scenic cycle. Castle Barna Golf Club in Daingean is nestled along the banks of the Grand Canal, this 18-Hole Parkland course has matured into a most challenging & enjoyable course.

Registration and tea/coffee at 5:45pm with activities commencing at 6:15pm. Only €20

per person - pre-booking essential. If you have any queries or require any information, please feel free to contact ONE Network Co-ordinator Caroline Spollen on 087-8397729.

New Frontiers Phase 2 Open for Applications

New Frontiers is a programme aimed at supporting the establishment and growth of technology or knowledge intensive ventures that have the potential to trade internationally and create employment in Ireland. Phase 2 participants receive €15000 funding in addition to a range of other supports. Participants must be working full-time on their venture. They will engage in a series of interactive workshops and one to one supports addressing all aspects of accelerating the development of their business. They are provided with start-up facilities in the Midlands Innovation & Research Centre at AIT. If you have an innovative new product or service, contact the Local Enterprise Office Offaly. Closing date for applications is Friday 23rd August.

Innovation Vouchers - Open Call to Year End

The next call for standard vouchers will stay open on a continuous basis until year end 2019. Innovation Vouchers worth €5,000 are available to assist a company or companies to explore a business opportunity or problem with a registered knowledge provider. Please contact the Local Enterprise Office Offaly for more information.

LEO Outreach Offices: By Appointment

Birr: Thursday mornings
Edenderry: Tuesday afternoons
Ferbane: Wednesday mornings
Portarlington: First Wednesday morning of the month

Funding Opportunities

LEO Financial Supports

Priming, Business Expansion & Feasibility grants are available for eligible businesses. Local Enterprise Office Offaly offers a wide range of financial assistance to help you start

up your business or grow your existing business. We provide a free information and advisory service to new and existing entrepreneurs on all aspects of setting up and running a business. For further information, please visit www.localenterprise.ie/Offaly

E- Commerce Grants Available

Up to €2500 available to any existing business under Trading Online Voucher Scheme. Small businesses throughout Offaly can apply to the government for digital vouchers to the system in helping their businesses trade online. The objective of the scheme is to help small businesses grow their sales, exports and ultimately jobs. Businesses will be able to apply for grants of up to €2,500 (matched funding).

Microfinance Ireland loans

Contact us to discuss how LEO Offaly and Microfinance Ireland may be able to help start up and growing businesses. Apply through the Local Enterprise Office and avail of a 1% discount on standard lending rate & get free business mentoring.

Anna Marie Delaney, Chief Executive

Offaly County Council
Revenue Account Grant Income & Payroll Summary
To 30th June 2019

OFFALY COUNTY COUNCIL	Full Yr Budget 2019 €m	Preliminary Value to June 2019 €m	% Year To Date
Payroll costs	25.51	11.87	46.5%
Grants and Subsidies Income	26.87	7.27	27.1%

OCC to 30th June 2019

	<u>Rates</u> €m	<u>Rents</u> €m	<u>Loans</u> €m
Opening Balance Jan 1, 2019	2.21	0.92	0.39
Invoices/Adjustments	13.48	2.99	0.15
2019 Cash Collected to end of June	9.01	3.04	0.26
Closing Balance June 28th, 2019	6.68	0.87	0.28

2018 Cash collected to June

	9.59	3.00	0.23
% Collection at this point in 2018	94%	101%	112%

Bank Overdraft to 30th June 2019

Number of days Overdrawn in Bank year to date	76	42%
Interest and non conforming charges to June 28th 2019 YTD	€7,534	
Bank Administration and transactional charges to June 28th 2019 YTD	€25,862	