# March 2019

# MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT



Do: Baill Comhairle Chontae Uíbh Fhailí

To: Each Member of Offaly County Council

Tuairisc mhíosúil bainistíochta a bhreithniú i gcomhair tionóil mí Aibreán.

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

# **EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS:**

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

## **FINANCE:**

Report to the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 – (Appendix I

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

# **REGISTER OF ELECTORS**

The closing date for the receipt of Special/Postal applications is 28th April 2019 and the closing date for receipt of Supplement applications is 7th May 2019.

#### LOCAL ELECTION CANDIDATE NOMINATIONS

Completed nomination papers may be delivered to Mary Flynn Kenny in person by the candidate or his/her proposer at her office, from 10am on the 27th day of April, 2019 until 12 noon 4th of May 2019.

#### **SPORTS PARTNERSHIP**

Offaly Sports Partnership's AGM takes place on Monday, 29th April 2019

# **PREPARE YOUR BUSINESS FOR CUSTOMS WORKSHOP 9TH MAY**

FREE workshop in the Tullamore Court Hotel on the 9th May covering how export & import customs procedures

# **REPORT AT A GLANCE**

# National Community Weekend

Members of the LCDC approved a recommendation from the Sub-Committee to allocate bursaries and were informed that the events taking place over 4th-6th May 2019 are to be known nationally as "The Big Hello". The main Offaly event will take place in Lough Boora Parklands on Sunday 5th May 2019 with activities including food, art exhibits, music, arts and crafts, games and sporting activities for all the family. The event management plan for the day is currently being prepared with extensive marketing and promotion to take place over the coming weeks.

# Comic Con

Tullamore library will host the first Comic con on Saturday 18th May. This will include a number of stalls, cosplay competition for adults, children and families, Viking Reenactment group from Rhode, workshops, game stations and much more. The library will open from 10am – 5pm for this event.

# **ENVIRONMENT / WATER SERVICES:**

#### Litter and Waste complaints 2019

Waste complaints thus far 55, Litter complaints 250, this includes 77 clean-ups carried out by local groups. 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 for consideration. Schools will be notified of the outcome in the coming weeks. The Litter Management Plan will be considered by the Councillors at the April meeting.

#### Water Quality

Water Quality staff continue to participate in the Water Framework Directive Operational Committees in both the Eastern & Midlands Region, and also the South East Region. The implementation of the River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018-2021 is progressing with the LA Shared Services Catchment Assessments Teams commencing work on the ground in the Priority Areas for Action (PAA). The Silver River catchment in Kilcormac will be assessed by the Catchment Assessment Team.

#### WATER SERVICES Capital Projects

Works in Mountbolus and Brosna South are completed. Works are ongoing in Crinkle. The design and build contract for the major upgrade of the Tullamore and Birr Water is progressing. Design for Clonin, Croghan, Blundelwood, Clonmullen Lane & Newtown is progressing. 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. This is planned to go out to tender in Q2 2019. works Upgrade at Banagher Water Treatment plant are complete, commissioning works are being agreed and implemented.

Watermain Rehabilitation works are reaching completion at Mucklagh and Screggan. Works have commenced in Crinkle and Mountbolus with Brosna South to commence in January.

Belmont Rising Main is completed; this will reduce tankering costs into the future.

Tullamore Sewer Rehabilitation works have commenced & 505 of the works have been completed to date.

#### **Rural Water Programme**

Submission for funding for the 3-year period 2019 - 2021 has been submitted to the

Department for consideration, details of same are listed in table:

Multi Annual Rural Water Programme 2019-2021						
Measure		Costs €	2019	2020	2021	
1.	Source Protection	61,440	31,440	30,000	0	
2.	Public Health	495,800	279,800	216,000	0	
3.	Enhancement of Existing Schemes	1,999,554	669,918	485,918	843,718	
6.	Community Connection Networks	1,050,000	390,000	330,000	330,000	
7.	Innovation & Research	20,000	20,000	0	0	
Total		€3,626,795	€1,391,158	€1,061,918	€1,173,718	

## **HOUSING:**

#### **Rebuilding Ireland Offaly Target 2019**

2019 Offaly Target for Social Housing is 326, i.e., 136 Build, Acquisition and Leasing units and 190 HAP and RAS units

Local Authority Target 2018-2021	Offaly		TOTAL TARGET 2019
Build, Acquisition & Leasing Target 2018-2021		437	40,713
Target 2019 - Build, Acquisition, Leasing		136	10,000
Target 2019 - Build	88		(6,545)
Target 2019 - Acquisition	28		(1,325)
Target 2019 - Leasing	20		(2,130)
Target 2019 - HAP & RAS		190	17,360
Target 2019 - All SH delivery streams		326	27,360

# **Capital Update**

**Local Authority Direct Construction Projects** 

- Blundell Wood, 33 Units under construction, delivery date summer 2019
- Chancery Lane, 18 Units currently under construction, delivery date Q4, 2019
- Raheen Clara Stage 1 submission to be progressed in 2019
- Rectory Lands Stage 1 submission to be progressed in 2019
- Banagher, Kylebeg 18 Units, construction to start 2019
- Beechgrove Belmont, 7 Units construction to start 2019
- Moneygall, 2 Units construction to start 2019

• Circular Road, Daingean, 7 Units -Design Consultants appointed and site investigations complete

## **Approved Housing Bodies Schemes**

- Mid Offaly Housing Association: 4 Units Mountbolus under construction, delivery 2019
- Oaklee: Kearney's Field, 41 Units public consultation held in Q4 2018, Part VIII issued in February 2019. Closing date for submissions or observations was Friday, 29th March 2019 and the Chief Executive Report will be presented to the Council at the April Council meeting.
- Oaklee: Clonminch 19 Units Part VIII to be advertised in April 2019
- Cluid Housing: Scurragh, Birr, 6 Units under construction, delivery 2019
- Tuath: Killane: Drive, Edenderry 27 Units, Stage 4 re-submission in April 2019
- Sofia Housing: 32 Units at Presentation Lands, Portarlington, Stage 1 approval was received in January 2019 and their design team is appointed

#### **Turnkey Developments**

Existing turnkey schemes are as follows:

- MacGregol, Birr, 12 Units, started in Q4 2018
- Walsh Island, Coolagarry, 4 Units, approved November 2018, delivery Q4 2019
- Cluainn na Spideoga, Cloghan, 6 Units, under construction, completion due in April
- Frankford, Kilcormac, 12 Units, allocations are currently being progressed

#### **Housing Grants**

Departmental approval was received on 11<sup>th</sup> March advising that Offaly County Council's 2019 grant for Housing Adaptation Grants; Housing Mobility Grants; and, Housing Aid for the Elderly is  $\in 1,244,948$  of which  $\in 248,990$  must be from the Council's own resources. (Offaly's 2018 original allocation was  $\in 1,203,009$ , and later raised to  $\in 1,443,397$ )

# **ROADS:**

The Road Works Programme for 2019 was presented at the Council meeting of 25th March 2019. The 2019 budget of €14.63m includes €2.96m from the TII for National Roads, €9.88m from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport for Regional and Local Roads and €1.79m in own resources. The Roads Section and three Municipal Districts will deliver the programme in 2019.

## LOCAL & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

#### The Local Community Development Committee

(LCDC) met on 14th March 2019. Agenda items included the Rural Development LEADER Programme 2014-2020, National Community Weekend and Local Migrant Integration Strategy.

#### Local Migrant Integration Strategy

It was agreed by the members that the LCDC would lead the development of a Local Migrant Integration Strategy for Offaly. It is anticipated that this Strategy will be completed by June 2019 and forwarded to the members of Offaly County Council for final adoption at the July 2019 monthly Council meeting.

#### National Community Weekend

Members of the LCDC approved a recommendation from the Sub-Committee to allocate bursaries and were informed that the events taking place over 4th-6th May 2019 are to be known nationally as "The Big Hello". The main Offaly event will take place in Lough Boora Parklands on Sunday

5th May 2019 with activities including food, art exhibits, music, arts and crafts, games and sporting activities for all the family. The event management plan for the day is currently being prepared with extensive marketing and promotion to take place over the coming weeks.

## Age Friendly Strategy

The Age Friendly Alliance Meeting was held on March 7th Updates were given from Offaly Sports Partnership, Local Link Laois/Offaly, HSE, An Garda Siochana, OLDC and the Offaly Older Persons Network. Projects highlighted included the Intergenerational Programme in conjunction with Music Generation Offaly Westmeath; Bealtaine Festival and the Offaly Explorer venture in conjunction with Local Link. The Offaly Older Person's Forum Housing Showcase took place on 4th April 2019 in the Darmagh Centre, Tullamore. Offaly Co. Co. staff from the Housing & Community & Culture were in attendance.

#### **Public Participation Network**

The Green Offaly Environmental Trust Consultations took place in Birr, Ferbane, Tullamore & Daingean. These were well attended with considerable interest in the Environment in terms of Community sustainability. The results of Community Planning took place in Lusmagh with OLDC, Offaly PPN & Offaly Co. Co staff in attendance. Discussions took place with the arts office to ensure Bealtaine events take place this year and with a view to planning towards a larger project in 2020. The Community Watch meeting was facilitated with good attendance and the establishment of the establishment of a Community Federation to manage CCTV in communities across the county.

#### Comhairle na nOg

The Executive met on 27th March and decided on their 2019 Project under the theme 'Promoting Positive Mental Health – Dealing with Exam Stress and Anxiety'. 4

members of the executive attended a Consultation Day on Reform of RSE (Relationships and Sexuality Education) in schools on 13th March in the Department of Children & Youth Affairs. The Comhairle Coordinator and PPN Resource Worker are currently exploring the possibility of running a certified Leadership Skills Training course to be delivered by Youthwork Ireland, in conjunction with Laois and Offaly Public Participation Networks which will could be jointly funded by Comhairle and PPN.

#### OFFALY SPORTS PARTNERSHIP (OSP) Announcements / Congratulatory notes / Events, etc.

Leinster Rugby blitz for post primary girls launched 6th March; and played 13th March in Edenderry Rugby Club. All Ireland SPORTSHALL Athletics day took place on Wednesday, 27th March in AIT. Offaly Sports Partnership's AGM takes place on Monday, 29th April 2019

At its recent meeting, Offaly Sport Partnership extended congratulations to the following sportspeople in Offaly on their recent successes: -

Shane Lowry, Damien Breslin (Special Olympian, swimming), Oisin Feery (Sepcial Olympian, kayaking) and Mark Sadler (special Olympian, athletics) on their success at the Special Olympics World Games in Abu Dhabi

# Funding

Department of Children & Youth Affairs call for capital applications made with applications to be submitted by 12th April. Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport closing date for receipt of Large Scale Sports Infrastructure Scheme funding proposals is 17th April.

#### Programmes

Staff of the Sports Partnership (Community Sports Development Officer and Sports Inclusion Development Officer), the south Offaly sports hub and partner agencies (FAI and Leinster Rugby via their development officers) continue to deliver sport and physical activity programmes for children, young people, people with disabilities, adults, older adults and the least active across the county.

Programme reports on the Integrated Academy for Athletics Performance and the Healthy Ireland funded daily 20 min physical activity programme in schools are currently being finalised and will be available for publication in the coming weeks.

The Sport Ireland Dormant Account funded urban outdoor adventure project in Edenderry is underway. Equipment is currently being purchased, and introductory splash and dash programmes are ongoing with the aim of launching the Edenderry Canoe and Kayak Club in the coming weeks.

#### LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE

# Upcoming Events and New Initiatives Offaly's Network of Entrepreneurs (O.N.E.)

Offaly's Network of Entrepreneurs (O.N.E.) is free to join and is for anyone in business. If you are thinking of setting up your own business, you are also more than welcome. Benefits include: Members only Discount Card. Offaly's Network of Entrepreneurs is free to join. Next meeting 29th of April and the topic is "What is Social Selling? How can it deliver you results? The speaker is Greg Fry.

#### Prepare your Business for Customs Workshop 9th May

FREE workshop in the Tullamore Court Hotel on the 9th May covering how export & import customs procedures. This workshop will cover how export and import customs procedures on trade with 'Third Countries' apply, how tariffs work and the need to correctly classify your goods. There is now an urgent need to prepare your company for customs with this one-day interactive workshop. Regardless of a hard or soft Customs Brexit, goods to/from the UK or transiting through the UK, will be subject to strict compliance and documentation requirements.

# Meet the Buyer on the Street at LIT, 23nd May 2019

The event will see small food and drink producers, supported by the Local Enterprise Offices, showcase their best products, giving buyers the unique opportunity to taste excellence in Irish food and drink. The exhibitors will display their produce along The Street of the Limerick Institute of Technology, allowing buyers attending to taste delicious products from up and down the country. Expressions of Interest for a subsidised stand to be submitted by Wednesday 10 April.

#### **Get Business Brexit Ready**

Local Enterprise Office Offaly has a range of supports to help Offaly businesses to address issues and maximise potential opportunities; Brexit Loan Scheme Information Pack - Eligible businesses can now apply for the €300 million Brexit Loan Scheme. The Brexit Loan Scheme, which was announced in the 2018 budget, will provide affordable financing to businesses that are either currently impacted by Brexit or will be in the future. The Scheme, which will be delivered by the Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland (SBCI) through commercial lenders will make €300 million available to eligible businesses with up to 499 employees at an interest rate of 4% or less.

- Brexit Mentor Programme
- Lean for Micro
- Co-innovate summary
- The Enterprise Europe Network
- Technical Assistance for Micro Exporters
- Trading Online Voucher Scheme
- MFI Micro Finance Ireland loan
- Training and Management Development

**LEO Outreach Offices: By Appointment** Birr: Thursday mornings Edenderry: Tuesday afternoons Ferbane: Wednesday mornings Portarlington: First Wednesday morning of the month

#### Funding Opportunities LEO Feasibility Grant Call

Feasibility grant towards prototype development & research available - Next closing date 30th June. Feasibility/Innovation Grants are designed to assist the promoter with researching market demand for a new product or service and examining its sustainability. It includes assistance with innovation including specific consultancy requirements, private specialists, design. prototype and development. Feasibility grant towards prototype development & research available.

#### LIBRARY SERVICES

#### **Spring into Storytime**

April is the month for the national initiative of Spring into Storytime. There will be storytelling sessions in all 8 branches around the county. This is part of the Right to Read programme. The launch of the programme will be in Banagher on Thursday 11th April. Each small branch will have one storytime session- Banagher, Daingean, Ferbane and Kilcormac. Clara will host two storytime sessions and Birr, Edenderry and Tullamore will host four during the month of April

#### **Tradfest Tullamore**

The library will be hosting a family day on Sunday 14th April as part of the new festival – Tradfest Tullamore. The library will open as part of the programme with events and music for all the family. The library will be open to the public from 11am – 2pm on Sunday for this event.

#### **Healthy Ireland**

There is free CPR training in five library locations during April and May. There are 3

time slots per location and max of 30 people per session.

Ferbane Tullamore Birr Clara Edenderry

2nd April 3rd April 9th April 26th April 13th May.

The training is provided by the Irish Heart Foundation – Hands for life as part of the Healthy Ireland initiative and the Healthy Offaly Plan 2018-2022.

#### Bealtaine 2019

The Library, Arts officer and the PPN officer are organising a number of events for Bealtaine. These events include the launch of the Tovertafel or Magic Table in Tullamore. The Tovertafel is a fun care innovation that connects older people in the late stage of their dementia journey with each other and with their surroundings, all the while stimulating movement. The beautiful games were developed specifically for the target group and can be played both independently and under supervision.

#### **Comic Con**

Tullamore library will host the first Comic con on Saturday 18th May. This will include a number of stalls, cosplay competition for adults, children and families, Viking Reenactment group from Rhode, workshops, game stations and much more. The focus is to demonstrate the local interest and talents to the Animation and Comic or Graphic Novels scene. The library will open from 10am – 5pm for this event.

# **CORPORATE SERVICES**

#### Hungarian Ambassador Visit

The Hungarian Ambassador to Ireland, His Excellency István Pálffy and his wife Mrs. Judit Toth visited Offaly County Council on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019. The Ambassador was greeted by Cathoairleach Danny Owens, Mr. Sean Murray Director of Services, Mr. Declan Conlon, Head of Finance and Mary Flynn Kenny, A/Senior Executive Officer. His Excellency was brought on a tour of Lough Boora and the Tullamore Dew Heritage Centre.



#### **Register of Electors**

The Register of Electors 2019 / 2020, published on 1st February 2019, became the Live Register of Electors on the 15th February 2019. The closing date for the receipt of Special/Postal applications is 28<sup>th</sup> April 2019 and the closing date for receipt of Supplement applications is 7<sup>th</sup> May 2019.

#### **NOTICE OF ELECTION**

An election of members for each of the local electoral areas of Offaly County Council is about to be held. Nomination papers may be obtained during the usual office hours. A person may nominate himself/herself as a candidate or may, with his/her consent, be nominated by a proposer who is registered as a local government elector in the local electoral area of the local authority for which he/she proposes to nominate the candidate.

A nomination paper from a candidate of a registered political party must have a certificate of political affiliation attached which must be produced to me with his/her completed nomination paper. If no certificate is attached, the candidate must, before the latest time for receiving nominations, either-

• secure 15 assents to the nomination by way of statutory declarations by local government electors registered in the relevant local electoral area (forms available from me or the registration authority), or

• make a deposit of €100 (deposit may also be made on the candidate's behalf).

Completed nomination papers may be delivered to Mary Flynn Kenny, Returning Officer in person by the candidate or his/her proposer at any time when she is at her office, from 10am on the 27th day of April, 2019 until 12 noon on the last day for receiving nominations 4<sup>th</sup> May 2019.

# Anna Marie Delaney, Chief Executive

# Draft Consolidated Revenue Account Income & Expenditure Summary by Service Division To 31st December 2018

		Expenditure €	Income €	
Housing & Building		14,101,854	13,564,610	
Road Transport & Safety		20,888,447	15,815,753	
Water Services		5,580,572	5,324,781	
Development Management		8,240,706	4,505,577	
Environmental Services		8,194,021	2,072,693	
Recreation & Amenity		3,906,957	502,006	
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare		593,814	212,607	
Miscellaneous Services		8,164,269	3,580,862	
Local Government Fund / GPG		0	7,656,288	
Gross Rates Income		0	16,996,876	
		69,670,640	70,232,053	
Deficit reduction to 31st December 2018			561,413	
Budget deficit reduction to 31st December 2018			550,000	
OCC to 31st March 2019	Rates	<u>Rents</u>		Loans
	€m	€m	-	€m
Opening Balance Jan 1, 2018	2.21	0.81		0.39
Invoices/Adjustments	13.69	1.32		0.09
2019 Cash Collected to end of March	1.11	1.35		0.12
Closing Balance March 31, 2019	14.79	0.77		0.36
2018 Cash collected to March % Collection at this point in 2018	0.66 168%	1.28 106%		0.10 121%
Bank Overdraft to 31st March 2019	-	1		

Number of days Overdrawn in Bank year to date	41	46%
Overdraft Interest and non-conforming charges to March 31st 2019 YTD	€5,470	
Bank Administration and transactional charges to March 31st 2019 YTD	€12,363	