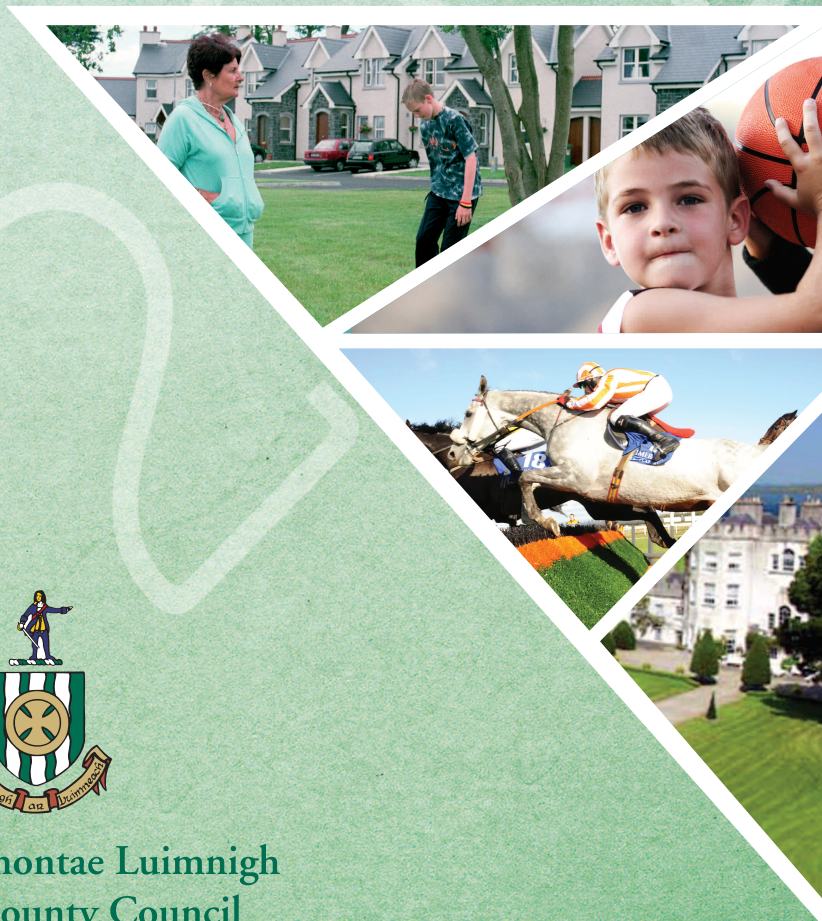


Annual Report 2010



Comhairle Chontae Luimnigh
Limerick County Council



Mission Statement

To enhance the lives of the people of County Limerick through the efficient delivery of accessible quality services with a focus on social inclusion and the promotion of sustainable balanced development.



Comhairle Chontae Luimnigh
Limerick County Council

Contents

Introduction by the Cathaoirleach / County Manager	1	Finance, Information Systems and Motor Taxation	49
		Finance	51
		Information Systems	54
		Motor Taxation	55
Members of Limerick County Council	3	Area Office Development	57
Council Members and Meetings	5	Adare/Castleconnell	58
Corporate Policy Group	5	Kilmallock	61
Committees of the Councils	5	Newcastle West	63
Strategic Policy Committee	5	Rathkeale	65
Representation on other Bodies	7		
Civic Receptions 2010	9	<i>Appendix 1</i>	
		Conferences/Seminars attended by the Members in 2010	67
Celebrating Community Events 2010	13	<i>Appendix 2</i>	
		Organisation Structure Chart	72
Service Reports	17		
Transportation and Water Services	18		
Roads	18		
Water Services	22		
Housing	24		
Community and Enterprise, Human Resources and Corporate Services	29		
Community and Enterprise	29		
Library	33		
County Arts Office	35		
Human Resources	36		
Corporate Services	37		
General Administration	37		
Freedom of Information	37		
Planning and Development	39		
Environment, Emergency Services and Consumer Affairs	44		
Environment	44		
Emergency Services	46		
Veterinary Services	46		
Civil Defence	47		

Introduction

Limerick County Council Annual Report 2010

Introduction by the Cathaoirleach and County Manager

Richard Butler
Cathaoirleach



Ned Gleeson
County Manager





We are happy to introduce the Annual Report of Limerick County Council for the calendar year 2010.

The delivery of high quality services for its customers remains one of the Local Authority's core objectives and is highlighted by the important work, which was carried out on behalf of the people of County Limerick during 2010.

The last 12 months were marked by the continuation and completion of numerous infrastructure projects throughout the County, none more significant than the Limerick Tunnel.

Construction work on the project, which commenced in August 2006 and for which Limerick County Council acted as lead authority through the planning phases, was completed over a month ahead of the scheduled completion date of September 2010. This €660m project provides improved access times for commuters to the various industrial estates, as well as access to outlying towns and to Shannon Airport, Galway, Dublin and Cork.

The M7 Nenagh to Limerick Motorway Project, for which Limerick County Council again acted as lead authority, was completed in September 2010. Progress was made on a number of other road projects including the M20 Cork to Limerick and N21 Adare Bypass.

The investment in water and wastewater infrastructure continued with further improvements being delivered in the area of drinking water quality.

In late December Limerick County Council staff, both indoor and outdoor, worked around the clock during the holiday period to ensure public water supplies affected by severe weather were restored.

In the area of environment, the Mungret Civic amenity centre received national recognition for its excellence as a recycling facility. Galbally also received national recognition after being named as one of the principal winners in Cooperation Ireland's Pride of Place Competition.

The continued difficult economic climate led Limerick County Council to renew its efforts to assist and facilitate enterprises in contributing to the local economy. The Business Support Unit (BSU) at Limerick County Council, guided by research completed by Masters Students from the Kemmy Business School, at the University of Limerick commenced work on the establishment of an online business directory aimed at supporting local businesses.

In the area of tourism the Council, through the County Limerick

Tourism Forum, contributed to the development of a dedicated tourism website (www.discoverlimerick.ie) for Limerick.

Despite the financial constraints it encountered as a result of the economic downturn, the Council maintained its core objective of providing a quality service to local communities across County Limerick.

The Council's new Fire Station in Kilmallock became operational in October. The €1.3m facility was completed on schedule and has enabled our Fire Service to be self sufficient in the Kilmallock Area for the first time.

In September the Council, along with the County Limerick Sports Partnership, Irish Heart Foundation and Irish Sports Council launched a new Slí na Sláinte in Castleconnell. In December Limerick County Library introduced an express checkout service for customers at its Dooradoyle branch, allowing the library to stay up to date and continue to be a technology leader in the community.

Limerick County Council, through the Limerick Integration Working Group, contributed to the launch of the Limerick City and County Integration Plan 2010-12 in March. The Council also ran a number of events during Social Inclusion Week in October, to create awareness and develop a greater understanding of social inclusion issues.

Furthermore, the Council hosted a wide range of activities and events to mark National Recreation Week 2010 in October, while Limerick County Comhairle na nÓg was held in November.

In the area of heritage, Limerick County Council through a grant from the Irish Walled Towns Network, progressed its important conservation work on one of Ireland's most historic town walls in Kilmallock.

The Annual Report for 2010 reflects the commitment to delivering vital services by all our Members, Management and Staff, both indoor and outdoor. The work carried out throughout the year has enabled the Council to deliver further, positive changes to the day-to-day lives of those who live and work in County Limerick.

The coming year again promises to be both challenging and exciting for Limerick County Council and its customers. Despite the obvious fiscal constraints facing the Council we are confident our 2011 work programmes will help contribute to the further economic, social and cultural development of County Limerick.

Members of Limerick County Council

Cathaoirleach
2010-2011



**Richard
Butler**

Leas -
Chathaoirleach
2010-2011



**Michael
Sheahan**

Adare Electoral Area



Rose Brennan
14 Park Avenue,
Adare
Co. Limerick (FG)

Castleconnell Electoral Area



John Egan
Abington, Murroe,
Co. Limerick (FG)



Richard Butler
Dooradoyle Road,
Dooradoyle,
Co. Limerick. (FG)



James Collins
Collins Bar,
Dooradoyle,
Co. Limerick (FF)



Noel Gleeson
Cullenagh,
Cappamore,
Co. Limerick. (FF)



Mary Harty
Corelish West,
Pallasgrean,
Co. Limerick. (FG)



**Patrick C.
Fitzgerald**
Anhid, Croom,
Co. Limerick. (IND)



Leonard Enright
Ballynrahan,
Patrickswell,
Co. Limerick. (FF)



Mary Jackman
5 Newtown,
Castletroy,
Co. Limerick. (FG)



Michael Sheahan
'Sona Villa', Old
Schoolhouse Road,
Monaleen, Co. Limerick. (FG)



Tomás Hannon
4, Dromore Rise,
Raheen,
Co. Limerick. (LAB)



Leo Walsh
Lower Raheen,
Ballyneety,
Co. Limerick.
(FG)



Brigid Teefy
Ballybricken,
Grange,
Co. Limerick.
(IND)



Eddie Wade
Cahernorry,
Drombanna,
Co. Limerick. (FF)



Kilmallock

Electoral Area

Newcastle

Electoral Area

Rathkeale

Electoral Area



Mike Donegan
21 Millmount,
Kilmallock,
Co. Limerick. (FF)



James Heffernan
Main Street,
Kilfinane, Co.
Limerick. (LAB)



Michael Collins
Ballinvallig,
Newcastle West,
Co. Limerick. (FF)



Francis Foley
2 Foxfield, Elliswood,
Killarney Road, Abbeyfeale,
Co. Limerick. (FF)



Stephen Keary
Clogh, Croagh,
Co. Limerick. (FG)



David Naughton
Ballysteen, Askeaton,
Co. Limerick. (FG)



Mike Houlihan
Bresheen,
Kilmallock,
Co. Limerick. (FG)



William O'Donnell
The Waterfall,
Bruff,
Co. Limerick. (FG)



Liam Galvin
Ballaugh,
Abbeyfeale,
Co. Limerick. (FG)



Patrick O'Donovan
Churchtown Road,
Newcastle West,
Co. Limerick. (FG)



John Sheahan
Ballyguilteneane,
Glin, Co. Limerick.
(FG)



Kevin Sheahan
Cloonreask,
Askeaton,
Co. Limerick. (FF)



Eddie Ryan
Castlereagh,
Galbally,
Co. Limerick. (FF)



Jerome Scanlan
Ballydonnell,
Feohanagh,
Co. Limerick. (FG)

Council Members and Meetings

There are 28 members on the Council
 7 members in the Adare Electoral Area
 7 members in the Castleconnell Electoral Area
 5 members in the Kilmallock Electoral Area
 5 members in the Newcastle Electoral Area
 4 members in the Rathkeale Electoral Area.

Council Meetings are normally held on the fourth Monday of each month (except August when there is no meeting) in the Council Chamber at County Hall. The full Council met on 20 occasions (excluding committee meetings).

Corporate Policy Group

The Corporate Policy Group (CPG) is a Committee of the Council consisting of the Cathaoirleach of the Council and the Chairs of each of the Strategic Policy Committees. Membership is as follows:-

Councillor Richard Butler

Cathaoirleach

Councillor Liam Galvin

Chairperson of the Planning & Development SPC

Councillor Mary Jackman

Chairperson of the Environmental SPC

Councillor Tomás Hannon

Chairperson of the Housing SPC

Councillor Kevin Sheahan

Chairperson of the Social, Cultural and Community Development SPC

Councillor Mike Houlihan

Chairperson of the Transportation and Infrastructural SPC

The CPG links the work of the different SPCs, acts as a type of cabinet and provides a forum where policy positions can be agreed for submission to the full Council for final decision. The CPG also monitors the performance of the local authority and plays a key role in preparing the budget. The CPG met on 8 occasions.

Committees of the Council

Strategic Policy Committees

Title	No. of Members	No. of Meetings
Housing	18	4
Transportation and Infrastructural	18	4
Planning and Development	18	5
Social, Cultural and Community Development	15	4
Environmental	15	5

Electoral Area Committees

Title	No. of Members	No. of Meetings
Adare Area	7	9
Castleconnell Area	7	9
Kilmallock Area	5	10
Newcastle Area	5	13
Rathkeale Area	4	16

Other Committees

Title	No. of Members	No. of Meetings
Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee	12	4
Rural Water Committee	14	3
Audit Committee Dec. 2009 Meeting cancelled due to severe weather conditions – meeting held in Jan. 2010	5	6
Joint Policing Committee	27	4

Strategic Policy Committees

Each Strategic Policy Committee comprises of elected Councillors and Sectoral Representatives, working together in a more participative form of democracy, thereby providing a more effective policy focus on the functions and activities carried out by Limerick County Council. Each SPC is supported in its work by a Director of Services. While each SPC formulates and develops policy, the final decisions will rest ultimately with the full Council.

Planning & Development SPC

Chairperson Members

Councillor Liam Galvin
 Councillor Stephen Keary
 Councillor Mary Jackman
 Councillor Mary Harty
 Councillor Jerome Scanlan
 Councillor John Sheahan
 Councillor Patrick O'Donovan
 Councillor Patrick C. Fitzgerald
 Councillor Michael Collins
 Councillor Eddie Wade
 Councillor Noel Gleeson
 Councillor Kevin Sheahan

Sectoral Representatives

Agriculture/Farming

Mr. Gerald Quain

Development/Construction & Business/Commercial

Mr. Tony O'Shea

Environment

Ms. Patti O'Neill

Community & Voluntary, including Conservation, Culture and Disadvantaged

Ms. Ann Gill, Mr. Charles Richardson & Mr. Seamus Hunt

Five meetings of the Planning & Development SPC including one meeting held jointly with the Housing SPC were held in 2010.

Items discussed included:

- Draft policy on maintenance of open spaces in housing developments
- The County Development Plan 2010 - 2016;
- The extension of the Serviced Sites Initiative to towns and villages with no sewage capacity
- Draft Mid-West Regional Planning Guidelines 2010-2022
- Draft Regional Retail Strategy
- "Smarter Travel Limerick" Project
- EPA Code of Practice – Wastewater Treatment & Disposal Systems serving single houses
- Designated Flood Areas
- The draft Joint Housing Strategy for the administrative areas of Limerick City and County Councils and Clare County Council 2011 – 2017.

Environmental SPC

Chairperson	Councillor Mary Jackman
Members	Councillor Leo Walsh Councillor Richard Butler Councillor Mary Harty Councillor Stephen Keary Councillor John Egan Councillor James Heffernan Councillor James Collins Councillor Michael Collins Councillor Mike Donegan

Sectoral Representatives

Agriculture/Farming

Mr. Eddie Scanlon

Development/Construction & Business/Commercial

Mr. Liam Garvey

Environment

Mr. Patsy Peril

Community & Voluntary/ including Conservation, Culture and Disadvantaged

Mr. Sean Hanley

Ms. Margaret Barkman

The Strategic Policy Committee for Environment and Emergency Services covers the policy areas of Waste Management, Recycling Initiatives, Environmental Awareness, Pollution Control, Litter Control, Horticulture, Health and Safety, Building Control, Veterinary Functions, Fire and Emergency Services, and the Shannon River Basin project.

Presentations were delivered to the SPC members on some of these issues at meetings held in March, April, June, and October, 2010. A special meeting was held on the 2nd December, 2010 to facilitate a presentation by the Shannon Protection Alliance on the proposed abstraction of water to serve the greater Dublin Region.

Items on the Agenda at meetings held in 2010 included:

- Presentation on the River Basin Management Plan for the Shannon International River Basin District
- Litter Report on Activities for 2009
- Draft bye-laws regarding the Presentation of Waste
- Control of Horses
- Farm Plastics
- IBAL Litter League results
- Advertising posters.

Housing SPC

Chairperson	Councillor Tomás Hannon
Members	Councillor Rose Brennan Councillor Richard Butler Councillor William O'Donnell Councillor Mike Houlihan Councillor David Naughton Councillor John Sheahan Councillor Brigid Teefy Councillor Eddie Wade Councillor James Collins Councillor Francis Foley Councillor Eddie Ryan

Sectoral Representatives

Development/Construction & Business/Commercial

Mr. Liam McArdle

Trade Union

Mr. Mike McNamara

Community & Voluntary, including Conservation, Culture and Disadvantaged

Ms. Caroline O'Callaghan, Ms. Alice McAuliffe, Mr. Jeremiah O'Connor & Ms. Ann Gill

The Housing SPC met on 4 occasions and items discussed included the following:

- Corporate Plan
- Housing Strategy Update
- Tenancy Enforcement/Anti-Social Behaviour
- Homeless Forum/Action Plan
- Regeneration Programme
- Policy on naming of Local Authority Housing Estates
- Presentation by C.E.O. of Limerick Regeneration Agency
- Consideration of Draft Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy.

Joint Meeting with Planning SPC:

- Update on proposed Joint Housing Strategy
- Consideration of Draft Mid-West Regional Homeless Action Plan

Social, Cultural and Community Development SPC

Chairperson	Councillor Kevin Sheahan
Members	Councillor Michael Sheahan Councillor Leo Walsh Councillor William O'Donnell Councillor John Egan Councillor David Naughton Councillor James Heffernan Councillor Patrick C. Fitzgerald Councillor Francis Foley Councillor Leonard Enright

Sectoral Representatives

Agriculture/Farming

Mr. John Walsh

Development/Construction & Business/Commercial

Mr. John Quinn

Community and Voluntary, including Conservation, Culture and Disadvantaged

Ms. Bernie O'Sullivan, Mr. Seamus Ryan & Mr. Donal Thurlow

The Social, Cultural and Community Development SPC held four meetings in 2010 in various locations around the County such as the Hospital Family Resource Centre, Askeaton Pool & Leisure Complex, Croom Mills and Kilmallock Area Offices.

Amongst the items on the work programme for 2010 were:

- Local Anti-Poverty Strategy
- Recreation Strategy and Action Plan
- Local Sports Partnership Achievements 2010
- FAI Development Officer
- Update on Joint City and County Economic Sub-Committee Actions
- Formulation of Integrated Arts Plan
- Scheme of Assistance to Community Playgrounds
- Update on Comhairle na nÓg Initiatives
- Consideration of Joint City and County Integration Plan for Migrants
- Formulation of Interagency Traveller Strategy & Action Plan

Transportation and Infrastructural SPC

Chairperson	Councillor Mike Houlihan
Members	Councillor Rose Brennan Councillor Liam Galvin Councillor Michael Sheahan Councillor Jerome Scanlan Councillor Patrick O'Donovan Councillor Tomás Hannon Councillor Brigid Teefy Councillor Leonard Enright Councillor Mike Donegan Councillor Eddie Ryan Councillor Noel Gleeson

Sectoral Representatives

Agriculture/Farming

Mr. Aidan Gleeson

Development/Construction & Business/Commercial

Mr. Seán Murtagh

Trade Union

Mr. Mark Quinn

Environment

Mr. John Dawson

Community & Voluntary, including Conservation, Culture and Disadvantaged

Ms. Joan O'Shea & Ms.Elizabeth Stanley

The Council's Transportation & Infrastructural Committee met on four occasions in 2010. Items discussed by the Committee included:

- Road Safety Plan
- Public Lighting Policy Review
- Smarter Travel
- Water Services Investment Programme.

Representation on Other Bodies

Association of County and City Councils

(formerly General Council of County Councils)

Councillor Brigid Teefy

Councillor Michael Sheahan

Councillor Jerome Scanlan

County Limerick Vocational Education Committee

Councillor Eddie Wade

Councillor Eddie Ryan

Councillor Mary Jackman

Councillor Rose Brennan

Councillor Liam Galvin

Councillor Mike Houlihan

Councillor Michael Sheahan

Councillor Jerome Scanlan

Councillor James Heffernan

Mid-West Regional Authority

Councillor Mike Donegan

Councillor Noel Gleeson

Councillor John Egan

Councillor Leo Walsh

Councillor William O'Donnell

Councillor Stephen Keary

Councillor Richard Butler

Operational Committee of Mid-West Regional Authority

Councillor Richard Butler

Councillor John Egan

Southern and Eastern Regional Assembly

Councillor Leo Walsh

Councillor Stephen Keary

Limerick Market Trustees

Councillor Richard Butler

Councillor Mary Jackman

Councillor Michael Sheahan

Councillor Leo Walsh

Councillor William O'Donnell

Councillor Tomás Hannon

Councillor Stephen Keary

Councillor James Collins

Councillor Eddie Wade

Management Committee of Limerick Market Trustees

Councillor Mary Jackman

Councillor William O'Donnell

Shannon Foynes Port Company

Councillor David Naughton

Library Association of Ireland

Councillor Michael Sheahan

Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances

Councillor Mike Houlihan

Local Authority Member's Association

Councillor Mary Jackman

National University of Ireland, Cork – Governing Authority

Councillor Eddie Wade

University of Limerick - Governing Authority

Councillor Michael Sheahan

Advisory Committee, Graduate Medical School, University of Limerick

Councillor Richard Butler

Adare Heritage Trust Ltd.

Councillor Richard Butler

Limerick County Enterprise Board

Councillor Michael Collins
Councillor Mary Harty
Councillor David Naughton
Councillor Jerome Scanlan

West Limerick Resources Ltd.

Councillor Michael Collins
Councillor Jerome Scanlan
Councillor Patrick O'Donovan
Councillor Stephen Keary

Ballyhoura Development Limited

Councillor William O'Donnell
Councillor Michael Sheahan

RCCN (Rural Community Care Network)

Councillor Jerome Scanlan
Councillor Stephen Keary

Hunt Museum's Trust

Councillor Mary Jackman

Regional Health Forum West

Councillor Kevin Sheahan
Councillor Rose Brennan
Councillor Richard Butler
Councillor Jerome Scanlan

Special Purpose Enterprise Company

Councillor Richard Butler
Councillor Mary Harty
Councillor Jerome Scanlan

Interagency Forum for Rathkeale Town

Councillor David Naughton
Councillor Stephen Keary

RAPID Action Implementation Team for Rathkeale

Councillor Stephen Keary

Limerick/Ballybrophy Rail Link Partnership Group

Councillor Mary Jackman
Councillor Michael Sheahan

County Rural Water Monitoring Committee

Councillor Eddie Ryan
Councillor William O'Donnell
Councillor Mary Harty

Audit Committee

Councillor Jerome Scanlan
Councillor David Naughton

Joint Policing Committee

Councillor Richard Butler (ex-officio member)
Councillor Kevin Sheahan
Councillor James Collins
Councillor Francis Foley
Councillor Mike Donegan
Councillor Patrick C. Fitzgerald
Councillor Leo Walsh
Councillor Mary Jackman
Councillor Jerome Scanlan
Councillor Liam Galvin
Councillor John Sheahan
Councillor John Egan
Councillor Stephen Keary
Councillor Patrick O'Donovan
Councillor Tomás Hannon

Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee

Councillor Mary Jackman
Councillor David Naughton
Councillor Tomás Hannon
Councillor Francis Foley
Councillor Patrick C. Fitzgerald

County Development Board

Councillor Richard Butler
Councillor Liam Galvin
Councillor Mary Jackman
Councillor Tomás Hannon
Councillor Kevin Sheahan
Councillor Mike Houlihan



Civic Receptions



1



2



Shane Geoghegan plaque unveiling 12/7/2010

1. At a Civic Reception in County Hall, Dooradoyle held on the 12th July 2011 Cllr Richard Butler, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council unveils a plaque dedicated to the memory of the late Shane Geoghegan, watched by Shane's parents Tom and Mary

Civic Reception for South Liberties GAA Club 26/4/2010

2. At a Civic Reception in the County Hall, Dooradoyle, Cllr David Naughton, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council presented a Scroll to Eamon Fitzgerald, Vice Chairman of South Liberties GAA Club in recognition of their achievement in winning the Munster Intermediate Club Hurling Championship 2009. Also in the picture are Cllr Eddie Wade, Cllr Leo Walsh, Cllr Patrick Fitzgerald and members of South Liberties GAA Club.

Civic Receptions 2010



Civic Reception for Blackrock GAA Club 26/4/2010

3. At a Civic Reception in the County Hall, Dooradoyle, Cllr David Naughton, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council presented a Scroll to George Douglas, Chairman of Blackrock (Kilfinane/Ardpatrick) GAA Club in recognition of their achievement in winning the Munster and All Ireland Junior Club Hurling Championship 2009. Also in the picture are Cllr William O'Donnell, Cllr Mike Donegan, Cllr Mike Houlihan, Cllr James Heffernan and members of Blackrock GAA Club.

Limerick County Council Civic Reception for ICA 25/5/2010

4. At the Limerick County Council, Civic Reception for the ICA in the Woodlands Hotel, Adare, were from left; Cllr Mary Harty, Eugene Griffin, County Secretary of Limerick County Council, Tina Knox, Administrative Officer, Corporate Services, Limerick County Council, Cllr David Naughton, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council, Josephine Cotter- Coughlan, Director of Services, Community and Enterprise, Corporate Services and HR, Limerick County Council, Cllr Rose Brennan, Cllr Mary Jackman, Anne Gabbett, Mungret, incoming President of the Limerick Federation of the ICA and Cllr Brigid Teefy.

5. Cllr David Naughton, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council presented a Scroll on behalf of the Limerick County Council and the people of County Limerick to Anne Marie Dennison, Abbeyfeale, National President of the ICA on the occasion of the Association's 100th Anniversary.



6



7



8

- Civic Reception for Limerick Ladies Football Team 5/10/2010**
6. Cllr Richard Butler, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council presents a scroll on behalf of Limerick County Council to the Limerick Ladies Junior Football Team in recognition of their success in winning the Ladies Junior Football All Ireland Championship 2010.
- Civic Reception for Blackrock GAA Club 26/4/2010**
7. Cllr David Naughton, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council presented a Scroll to George Douglas, Chairman of Blackrock (Kilfinane/Ardpatrick) GAA Club.

- Civic Reception for Limerick Ladies Football Team 5/10/2010**
8. Also at the Civic Reception for Limerick Ladies Junior Football All Ireland Champions were Cllr Michael Sheahan, Cllr Brigid Teefe, Cllr Leo Walsh, Tom Madigan, Sandra Larkin, Captain of the Limerick Ladies Junior Football Team, Cllr John Sheahan and Cllr Francis Foley.

Celebrating Community Events 2010



Kilmallock Fire Station officially opened in December by Michael Finneran, T.D.,
Minister of State for Housing & Local Services



Celebrating Communities

Local Communities come together celebrating events, bringing life to Limerick.

Every year local Limerick communities come together to organise and celebrate events, making Limerick a stronger community.

Limerick County Council acknowledge the effort and work required to run these. Featured are some events ran over the past year.

Community Events 2010



1



2



3



4

Ballylanders National School Wardens

1. Junior School Wardens – Ballylanders National School – winners of the Regional finals held in Rathkeale in May 2010

Launch of National Tree Planting Week 8-3-2010

2. Cllr David Naughton, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council, planting a tree at Ballysteen National School on 8th of March to officially launch National Tree Planting Week 2010

Lord Mayor of Birmingham Visit to County Hall

3. Councillor Michael Wilkes, Lord Mayor of Birmingham March 2010 on the occasion of his visit to County Hall with the Cathaoirleach, Councillor David Naughton

Special Olympics 9-6-2010

4. Special Olympics Torch hand over ceremony outside County Hall on 9th June 2010



5



6



7



8

Kilmallock Cycle Hub launch 25/4/2010

5. Cllr Michael Houlihan gets the cyclists off to a happy start at the launch.

6. Cllr Michael Houlihan gets a lift on the handlebars of Shannon Development's assistant CEO John King at the launch of the Kilmallock Cycle Hub outside the Limerick County Council's Kilmallock Area Office. Also in the picture are from left; Joe Costelloe, Kilmallock Cycling Club, Cllr Mike Donegan and Anthony Coleman, Community and Enterprise, Limerick County Council.

7. John King, Assistant CEO, Shannon Development, Cllr Mike Houlihan, Phelim Macken, Limerick County Sports Co-ordinator, Cllr Mike Donegan and Anthony Coleman, Community and Enterprise.

Community Alert Appreciation Certificates 1/11/2010

8. Cllr Richard Butler, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council, Martin Quinn, President of Muintir na Tire and Limerick County Councillors gathered at County Hall with members of County Limerick, Muintir na Tire Community Alert groups who received certificates of appreciation in recognition of their contribution to the Community Alert crime prevention programme.

Service Reports

Transportation & Water Services	18
Housing	24
Community and Enterprise, Human Resources and Corporate Services	29
Planning & Development	39
Environment, Emergency Services and Consumer Affairs	44

Limerick Tunnel



Transportation & Water Services

Paul Crowe
Director of Transportation
and Water Services



Roads

To provide and maintain a safe and effective transportation network for all road users, incorporating the principles of sustainable development and social inclusion.

Major Road Schemes

Adare Bypass

As mentioned in the following text, the statutory procedures for this proposed 8km southern bypass of the town of Adare was advertised in February 2010. A decision is awaited on this project following the completion of a joint oral hearing by An Bord Pleanála with the M20 Cork to Limerick project.

N21 Abbeyfeale to Adare

This scheme is approximately 40km in length and also includes for bypasses of Abbeyfeale and Newcastlewest. Further assessment works were undertaken in 2010 on the three route corridor options.

Limerick Tunnel Project

After many years of planning, design and construction, the Limerick Tunnel Project was officially opened by An Taoiseach, Mr Brian Cowen, on 27th July 2010. The Limerick Tunnel PPP Scheme comprises of 10km of dual carriageway including the 675 metres tunnel under the River Shannon. The Limerick Tunnel is a historic crossing of the River Shannon and is a key element in the national road infrastructure. The completion of this project sees the completion of the overall Limerick Southern Ring Road which connects all national roads converging on Limerick City and Environs in a southern bypass of the city.



Limerick Tunnel

M7 Nenagh to Limerick Motorway

This project was officially opened by Minister for Transport, Noel Dempsey TD on 28th September 2010. This project comprised the development of 28km of high quality dual carriageway built to motorway standard, with a single carriageway link to the main road at Birdhill, and the upgrading of 10km of the existing Nenagh Bypass to motorway standard. The completion of this 38km of motorway, in tandem with the adjoining Nenagh to Castletown scheme, sees the completion of a continuous Motorway / Dual Carriageway between Limerick and Dublin.

M20 Cork to Limerick

The proposed M20 Cork to Limerick Scheme comprises the development of approximately 80km of new motorway extending from Blarney, Co Cork to Patrickswell, Co Limerick.

The scheme includes the following;

- Nine grade separated junctions
- 80km of mainline
- 32km of national, regional, link roads and parallel roads
- 15km of local roads
- A motorway service area at Lissard, Rathduff, Co Cork.

The statutory procedures for the project were advertised in the local and National press at the end of February 2010 and had a closing date for submissions to an Bord Pleanala of 26th April 2010. An Bord Pleanala convened one oral hearing for both the above project and the proposed N21 Adare Bypass. This oral hearing was held in Charleville over 10 days during the month of July 2010. A decision from An Bord Pleanala is awaited on this scheme



M7 Nenagh to Limerick



Allaghaun Bridge Improvements



Opening of M7 Motorway

Main Road Works Programme 2010

Resurfacing works were carried out on the following National Roads in 2010 including the N21 at Barnagh, Croagh and Killarney Road, Abbeyfeale, N24 at Milltown to Clooncunna and on the N69 west of the Askeaton By-Pass.

Road Safety Improvements were carried out at the following locations:

- N20 at Cherrygrove Bend
- N24 Grange Cross
- N21 at Coolanoran
- N21 at Cullinagh
- N21 Pedestrian Crossing at St. Mary's Road, Newcastle West.

Specific Improvement Works

A grant of €1,035,000 was received for improvement works at five locations on Regional Roads in 2010. Among the works carried out were; Restoration of Allaghaun River Bridge at Abbeyfeale (R524) Pavement, footpath and drainage improvements at Castleconnell, Mungret, Rosbrien, Carrickerry and Feohanagh.

Low Cost Safety Improvements

A grant of €190,000 was received for Low Cost Safety Improvements at five locations in the County. The works involved road realignment, road markings and enhanced signage.

Surface Dressing & Reconstruction

The Council provided Surface Dressing on 24km of Regional Roads and 110km of Local Roads in 2010.

In addition re-construction works were carried out on 12km of Regional Roads and 65km of Local Roads in the same period.

Public Lighting

The Council continues to be responsible for the maintenance of over 11,000 public lights in the County.

In 2010 a contract was awarded to Bord Gais Energy for supply of electricity for public lighting in the County. It is anticipated that this will reduce the energy costs to the Council of these lights.



Regional Road Signposting

A grant of €150,000 was received in 2010 towards the programme to enhance Signage on Regional Roads in the County which resulted in works being completed on the following routes:

- R505 Doon – N24
- R506 Cappamore - Annacotty
- R512 Kilmallock - Limerick
- R513 Caherconlish – Mitchelstown

In addition the design of new signage schemes for R518 and other routes in the City Environs was undertaken.

Winter Maintenance

Once more Council staff were on duty prior to the Christmas and New Year period pre-treating and treating as necessary, all national route roads to keep them clear of ice during the freezing weather. Considerable commitment was also given to keeping Regional roads clear for commuting traffic. Snow clearance was also carried out where possible and where resources permitted to facilitate local events and occasions.

Road Safety

Lifesaver Project

Over 1200 second level students attended a further presentation of the Lifesaver Project in the South Court Hotel, Raheen in November 2010. The students received poignant, focused information and advice on the dangers and consequences of road traffic collisions.

A second strand of the Lifesaver Project entitled "Information Stop" and which entailed a visible interface between Gardai and road users took place at different locations throughout the County during the month of November. A Christmas card bearing a Road Safety message was presented to each motorist during the stop. The primary purpose of the exercise is to achieve an improvement in road use behaviour which it is hoped will lead to a reduction in road fatalities and serious injury collisions on County roads.

Junior School Warden Scheme

The annual Junior school warden regional finals were held in Rathkeale in May 2010 and the three Limerick schools participated together with schools from Kerry, Tipperary, Clare & Waterford. The Limerick schools did exceptionally well with the Ballylanders team once again claiming first place in the competition and St. Annes Girl's School, Rathkeale taking second place.

Cycling Safety Training

A total of 754 Primary School students throughout seventeen primary schools in the County participated in the Cycling Safety

& Skills programme in 2010. The programme which provides children with an understanding of cycling safety theory, bicycle care and practical bicycle safety is conducted on the schools grounds and planned to work into the school timetable. This programme which is subvented by Limerick County Council, also received support funding from the Road Safety Authority in 2010.

Horticulture

General Maintenance

In addition to maintaining scenic areas such as Clare Glens, Lough Gur, Monaleen Park, Adare Town Park, the Demesne in Newcastle West, Plassey Walk and roundabouts in 2010, the Council's Horticulture Section installed new seats, litter bins and drainage in the public park in Castletroy.

The Section also maintained the grounds of the Council Headquarters at County Hall as well as the Area Offices in Rathkeale, Kilmallock, Newcastle West and Annacotty.

Trees

Mr. David Naughton, Cathaoirleach, Limerick County Council launched National Tree Week in March which was jointly sponsored by O2 and Coillte, by planting an oak tree in Ballysteen National School.

As part of the promotion of National Tree Week, Community groups and schools were provided with 8,000 saplings to plant in various areas around the County during this week.

The Horticulture Section regularly inspects trees which show signs of damage and any considered dangerous are cut down. There were a number of such trees cut in 2010.

Grass Cutting/Weed Control

The Horticultural Section is responsible for cutting grass in large open space areas in Housing Estates as well as the use of Weedspraying chemicals by the Council. Only the most environmentally friendly chemicals are permitted. Examples of use of chemicals included the control of Giant Hogweed on Plassey Walk and the supervision of Ragwort control on the Southern Ring Road Motorway.

Local Government Service Indicators 2010 - Limerick County Council

R1: Road Restoration Programme

Indicator A – Restoration Programme

Road Category	Restoration Improvement (Kms)	Restoration Maintenance (Kms)	Category Total (Kms)
Regional	12	24	36
Local	65	110	175
Works Category Total	77	134	211
Restoration Programme Total (Kms)			211

Indicator B – Specific Improvement Grants

Length of Road constructed under Specific Improvement Grant 2010 (Kms)	4 Kms*
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* Mainly involved works on structures and accommodation works in 2010

Water Services

To ensure that the people of County Limerick have access to potable water, and to benchmark public water supplies against international standards. To progress towards the improved delivery of a municipal sewerage service to the people of County Limerick, with a view to achieving compliance with relevant standards.

During 2010, Limerick County Council's Water Services Department dealt with a number of severe weather events which included flooding and freezing weather conditions. Water Services staff worked on a continuous basis over a number of weeks to combat the extreme conditions, which these severe weather events posed, in particular over the Christmas periods in 2009 and 2010.

During the freezing weather conditions, service pipes into or within houses froze and in the most severely affected areas, alternative water supplies were provided in the form of stand pipes being made available at Council Area Offices or by placing water tankers in some towns and villages. An increase in leakage following the thaw continued to place pressure on water supplies.

Water Quality

In association with the Health Service Executive, Limerick County Council continues to strictly monitor its water supplies through the regular testing of water samples and the daily site sampling by caretakers of water supplies. Drinking water monitoring data is available to view on Limerick County Council's website where data for both public water supplies and private group water schemes is provided.

ISO 22000:2005

ISO, (International Organisation for Standardisation) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies. ISO 22000:2005 is intended to be applicable to all organisations in the food chain regardless of size or complexity. The standard specifies requirements for a food safety management system, where an organisation in the food chain needs to demonstrate its ability to control food safety hazards, in order to ensure that food is safe at the time of human consumption. Limerick County Council's Shannon Estuary Water Treatment Plant received the ISO 22000 Award during 2010.

Major Capital Schemes

The Council receives grant assistance from the DOEHLG under the National Water Services Investment Programme towards the costs of major capital projects. However the Council must fund a significant portion of the capital costs of the major schemes under this programme. There are a number of schemes in County Limerick which are being progressed under this initiative

and these include the following:

Sewerage Schemes

- Mungret and Kilmallock Sewerage Schemes, these projects are to be re-tendered and it is expected that they will commence during 2011.
- Preliminary Reports were completed during 2008 on projects to serve Askeaton, Foynes, Shanagolden, Glin, Athea, Dromcollogher, Hospital, Pallasgreen, Bruff and Montpelier. These Preliminary Reports have been submitted to the DOEHLG for approval.

Water Schemes

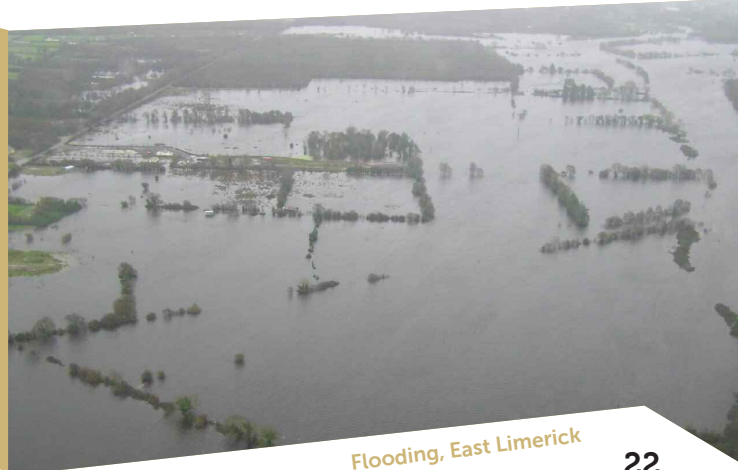
- The Council, in co-operation with Limerick City Council, is continuing to progress the development of trunk water mains systems into County Limerick. This will be facilitated by the upgrade of the City Council's water treatment plant at Clareville. Construction of a further element of Trunk Watermain proceeded during 2009 with the completion of the Patrickswell- Mount Earl section.
- Planning is being progressed to serve areas of East Limerick such as Caherconlish, Cappamore, Pallasgreen, Doon and Oola. A Preliminary Report for this project was completed and submitted to the DOEHLG.

Small Towns & Villages Initiative

The Small Towns and Villages Initiative adopted by the Council in 2003 promotes the economic development of the County's smaller population centre and is a partnership with the private sector. The developer provides water services infrastructure in excess of his/her development requirement, the Council then makes a financial contribution and grants the developer a specified period during which anybody else wishing to avail of a connection has to reimburse the developer on a pro rate basis depending on the number of connections. Thereafter the infrastructure is transferred to the ownership of the Council.



Kilmallock Treatment Plant



Flooding, East Limerick

Waste Water Discharge Regulations 2007

Limerick County Council has 47 Waste Water Treatment facilities. In accordance with the Waste Water Discharge Regulations 2007, it has made 24 applications to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for Waste Water Discharge Licences and 23 applications for Certificates of Authorisation. To date the EPA has granted 15 discharge licences and are assessing the remaining applications. All licences granted to date by the EPA are available to view on the Council's website.

Water Conservation Project

The Water Conservation Project continues to have a considerable positive impact on the delivery of water. The installation of districting metering by direct labour in conjunction with the Area Offices has been completed in the Annacotty, Rathkeale, Newcastle West and Kilmallock areas. The expansion of telemetry across the County has kept pace with the meter installation programme which has allowed for a more rapid response to situations as they arise both in terms of leakage control and plant/scheme operations. In particular, data gathered and available to responders was extremely valuable in the decision making process during emergency situations experienced throughout the year.

Rural Water Programme

During 2010, a total block grant allocation of €4.2m was allocated to the Rural Water Programme from the Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government. The following are some of the projects progressed during 2010:

- **Refurbishment Grants to Existing Water Supply Schemes**
During 2010, €219,000 was invested in refurbishment/upgrade of existing group water schemes.
- **DBO, DBO Variations & DBO Advance Works Projects**
The DBO main project has entered its operation and maintenance phase and is operating successfully. Variations to the main project which include the installation of a silt filter at Croagh and the connection of a new well for the Killeedy scheme are currently being completed. Advance works which include the universal metering of DBO schemes is also being progressed. During 2010, a total of €87,305 was spent on DBO related works.
- **Interim Works on Group Water Schemes**
Works such as the installation of chlorine monitors/alarms and source protection works were progressed in 2010 and a total of €33,352 was spent on these works.

- **Refurbishment and Takeover of Group Water Supply Schemes**

A total of €1.4m was spent on takeover projects and seven schemes were formally taken in charge by the Council.

- **Small Capital Schemes**

Projects under this heading are part funded by the DOEHLG with the remaining funds being provided by Limerick County Council. Works were undertaken on both small public water and sewerage schemes under this category. A total of €949,000 was spent on these works during 2010.

- **Subsidy to Group Water Supply Schemes towards operational costs**

The total value of grants paid under this action amounted to €799,000.

- **Grants for Individual Well Supplies**

Grants to the total value of €122,912 were paid out.

- **Rural Water Monitoring Committee**

Three meetings of the committee took place and this group plays an active role in monitoring the projects adopted under the rural water programme.

Burial Grounds

The Council encourages the work of the local burial ground committees by means of a grant each year. Over 110 groups who look after 176 burial ground received the grant in 2010. There is an awards scheme in place to highlight and reward groups who have shown particular commitment and initiative in following best practice in their work. A prize giving ceremony was held in County Hall on 2nd December, 2010. Guest speaker on the evening was Mr. John Arnold, Historian & Genealogist.

The winners of the Burial Ground Competition under the category of Ancient were as follows:

Rathkeale Area – Castletown Burial Ground, Annacotty Area – Towerhill Burial Ground,
Newcastle West Area – Killoughlethane Burial Ground and Kilmallock Area – Athlacca Burial Ground.

Athlacca Burial Ground, Kilmallock was also the overall winner in the ancient category.

The winners of the Burial Ground Competition under the category of Modern were as follows:

Rathkeale Area – St. Nicholas Burial Ground, Annacotty Area – Kilkeedy Burial Ground Extension,
Newcastle West Area – Calvary Burial Ground and Kilmallock Area – Patrickswell-Lough Gur Burial Ground.

Kilkeedy Burial Ground Extension, Ballybrown was also the overall winner in the modern category.



Killoughlethane Burial Ground:
Newcastle West Area Winner
– Ancient Category



Calvary Burial Ground:
Newcastle West Area Winner
– Modern Category



St. Nicholas Burial Ground:
Rathkeale Area Winner
– Modern Category



Kilkeedy Burial Ground Extension:
Annacotty Area and Overall Winner
– Modern Category

Residents Day - Estate Management Meeting



Housing

Jimmy Feane
Director of
Housing



To ensure that all people of County Limerick have adequate accommodation appropriate to their needs

A total of 25 houses were completed in Rathkeale during 2010.

3 No. Houses are currently under construction in Ballylanders and Newcastle West.

43 No. Houses were purchased in 2010 and
4 No. Demountable Type Dwellings were provided.

The expenditure for the Construction and Purchase of new and second-hand houses for letting in 2010, including Regeneration, came to €10.5 million approx.

At the 31st December 2010 the Council owned 2,132 dwellings.

Applications for Housing Assistance

Scheme	Applications	Approvals	Total Value of Approvals
Shared Ownership Scheme	7	Nil	Nil
Affordable Housing (Part V)	6	1	Nil
House Purchase Annuity Loan	6	2	€227,500
Tenant Purchase Annuity Loan	1	Nil	Nil
House Improvement Loan	1	Nil	Nil
New Grants Scheme	181	128	€1,109,311
Caravan Loan	Nil	Nil	Nil

Affordable Housing

There was 1 no. successful applicant appointed to affordable housing under Part V of the Planning & Development Acts.

Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)

This national scheme caters for the accommodation needs of persons in continuous receipt of long term rent supplement and who are also deemed to have a long term housing need.

It entails the medium to long-term rental of private rented accommodation and also rent payment support for eligible tenants in voluntary housing accommodation. The RAS Unit was established in late 2006 and at the 31st December 2010 a total of 349 clients had been transferred onto the RAS scheme in the County.

It is envisaged that as the slowdown in construction of Council housing continues, that RAS will play an ever-increasing role in meeting the social housing requirements of eligible clients in the years ahead.

Standards for Private Rented Accommodation

Local Authorities are responsible for the inspection and enforcement of minimum standards for private rented accommodation. During 2010, 324 inspections of private rented accommodation took place in County Limerick, representing a 32% increase in the amount of inspections over the 2009 figure.

Long Term Leasing Scheme

The Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government introduced a new leasing initiative for all housing authorities in 2009. It entails the long term leasing of housing units over a 10-20 year period to accommodate qualified applicants on a local authority's housing waiting list.

Limerick County Council has received approval from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government for Long Term Leasing of 10 houses at the following locations –

- 5 No. Units in Bruree
- 5 No. Units in Abbeyfeale.

A number of expressions of interest from landlords/developers are also currently being examined and considered.

Voluntary Housing

In 2010 the County Limerick Housing Services Company took over the independent running of the Voluntary Housing Forum which met twice during the year.

6 units of accommodation were provided in Bruff and Newcastle West by the Voluntary Sector.

A new scheme named Call for Proposals for the Provision of Accommodation by Approved Housing Bodies for People with Specific Categories of Housing Need was launched in 2010. Under this Programme funding was provided in 2010 for 10 units, 5 persons were accommodated in Dooradoyle and it is expected that a further 5 people will be accommodated in the Askeaton area.

Under a new Housing Leasing Initiative for Approved Housing Bodies, the Voluntary Housing Sector provided 5 units of accommodation in the Castletroy area.

A further 39 units of accommodation are at various stages of planning/construction at the following locations – Abbeyfeale, Newcastle West, Bruree and Croom.

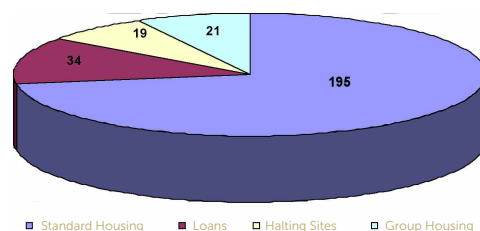
Other statistics relating to the Housing Section's activities in 2010 are:

- There were 1,700 applicants on the Housing list at the end of 2010.
- There were 104 Housing Allocations made, comprising newly constructed houses, casual vacancies and transfers.
- Rental income for the year amounted to €5.177m and rental income RAS amounted to €0.383m – Total rental income - €5.560m
- The average rent paid by Council tenants was €50 per week.
- The average all-in cost including land costs, fees, etc. varied between €151,000 for a two-bedroomed one storey unit and €168,000 for a three-bedroomed unit.
- 30 No. rural houses were refurbished under the Refurbishment of Rural Dwellings Programme.
- 96 No. local authority houses were upgraded under the Energy Efficiency Programme.
- 109 No. local authority dwellings were improved to comply with new Private Rented Standards.
- 4 No. Demountable Houses were provided for qualified applicants.
- 1 No. privately owned house was refurbished under the Improvement Works in Lieu of Rehousing Scheme.
- 29 No. Local Authority houses were modified under Adaptation Works to Local Authority houses programme.

Traveller Accommodation

The provision of Traveller accommodation and associated support services resulted in continued progress being made in 2010. Thirteen families were provided with permanent accommodation during the year and this represents 100% of the target set out in the Traveller Accommodation Programme. The Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee met four times during the year and included a meeting with the National Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee. The National Committee acts as an advisory committee to the Minister for the Environment, Heritage & Local Government and the committee made positive comments following their visit to Limerick in June 2010.

In November 2010 there was an estimated four hundred and sixty Traveller families living in County Limerick. Two hundred and sixty nine of these families are living in accommodation that was provided by, or with assistance from, Limerick County Council.

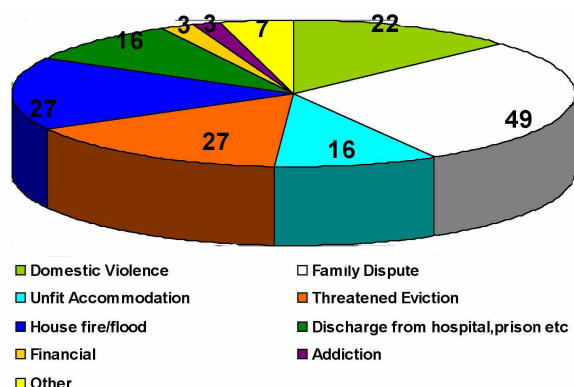


Limerick County Council is committed to providing quality accommodation and accommodation related supports to members of the Traveller Community. The need for an integrated approach in the provision of accommodation is critical and Limerick County Council is a key player in the delivery of the Integrated Strategy for the delivery of Traveller Services.

Homeless Services

The provision of homeless services is a specialist housing service and there is a dedicated service available for persons presenting as homeless. A Regional Homeless Framework Document for the Mid- West region was adopted in 2010 and a regional Homeless Forum for the region was also established. It is envisaged that this regional approach will assist in the delivery of a more co-ordinated and quality service to those presenting as homeless. Homeless services are provided in partnership with the Health Services Executive and the voluntary sector and this sharing of services has proven successful.

In 2010 one hundred and seventy families presented to the Council as homeless and the reasons for homelessness can vary. The following chart outlines the primary reasons that led to persons becoming homeless in 2010.



Estate Management

Estate management resources and services are critical to the delivery of Housing Services in County Limerick. The role of estate management is to assist residents in Local Authority estates to improve their communities for the benefit of all. Assistance has been provided in Limerick to establish and run residents associations in partnership with Ballyhoura Development Ltd. and Focus Ireland. A Community Sustainment project funded by Pobal commenced in 2010 and will conclude next year. A community worker was appointed and training to residents was provided. The project was delivered in the Abbeyfeale area. Community actions undertaken in 2010 included residents' days, litter pick up day, kiddies discos and family fun days.

Limerick County Council's anti-social behaviour strategy was formally adopted in November 2010. A positive action arising from this is the establishment of a multi-agency anti-social behaviour monitoring committee. Membership includes the H.S.E., An Garda Síochána, the Probation Services and the Department of Social Protection. An action from this strategy included the introduction of a pilot project - A Tenant Liaison Worker. This pilot proved very successful.

A total of 60 new tenants were offered pre-tenancy training delivered by the Housing Services Officer.

Capital improvement works were undertaken in some estates in consultation with residents. In 2010 works were completed in Killeely, Ballingarry, and Castleconnell.

Consultation took place with residents in December 2010 in County Hall. Council tenants were given an opportunity to meet with Councillors and officials to voice their concerns and explain their vision to enhance and improve their communities in the future.



Housing Service Indicators Report

H1: Housing Vacancies

A. The total number of Dwelling in Local Authority Stock 2092.50

B. The total number of Dwellings excluding those subject to Major Refurbishment Project 2092.50

C. The overall percentage of Dwellings that are empty (excluding those subject to Major Refurbishment Projects) 6.58%

Comment: see comment below re pressure on resources to attend to response maintenance due to severe weather at beginning and end of year.

D. The percentage of empty Dwellings unavailable for letting 92.38%

E. The percentage of empty Dwellings available for letting 17.42%

Comment: Garda Vetting reports filed on all allocations in 2010 - in accordance with our Anti-Behaviour Strategy.

The average number of Dwelling in Local Authority Stock

2092.50

The average number of Dwellings excluding those subject to Major Refurbishment Project

2092.50

The average number of Dwellings that are empty excluding those subject to Major Refurbishment Project

137.75

The average number of empty Dwellings unavailable for letting

127.25

The average number of empty Dwellings available for letting

24

H2: Average Time Taken to Re-Let Available Dwellings

The average time taken (in weeks) from the date of vacation of dwelling to the date when all necessary repairs are carried which are deemed necessary to re-let the dwelling 52.12w

The average time take (in weeks) from the works (above) being completed to the date 2.08w

H3: Housing Repairs

Number of repairs completes as a percentage of the number of valid repair request s received 76.58%

Number of repairs completed 2583

Number of valid repair request s received 3373

Comment: Reduction in % to 77% is because of repair requests received over the very bad weather conditions at the start and end of 2010. This resulted in increased demand on our housing crews to attend repairs.

H4: Traveller Accommodation

Total number of Traveller Families accomodated as a percentage of the targets set in the 100%

Local Traveller Accommodation Programme

Number of Traveller Families accomodated 13

Targets number of Traveller Families accomodated in the year as set out in the 13

Local Traveller Accommodation Programme

H5: Enforcement of Standards in the Private Rented Sector

A. The total number of registered tenancies 5327

B. Number of Dwelling units inspected 329

C. Number of inspections carried out 329

D. Number of Dwellings inspected as a percentage of registered tenancies 6.18%

H6: Grants to Adapt Housing for the Needs of People with a Disability

A. Average time taken (in weeks) to process applications under the Mobility Aids Grant Scheme, including any necessary inspection(s) from the date of receipt of a valid application to the date of decision on the application. 20w

B. Average time taken (in weeks) to process applications under Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a disability, including any necessary inspection(s) from the date of receipt of a valid application to the date of decision on the application. 33w

H7: Pre-Tenancy Familiarisation Courses

A. Total number of new local authority tenants 72

B. Percentage of new local authority tenants who have been offered pre-tenancy familiarisation courses 83.33%

C. Numver of new local authority tenants who have been offered pre-tenancy familiarisation courses 60



Colaiste Iosaef Kilmallock



Community & Enterprise

Josephine Cotter Coughlan
Director of Community and Enterprise, Human
Resources and Corporate Services



To promote the economic, social and cultural development of County Limerick and to support the implementation of the County Development Board's Strategy
'Working Together for a Better Future'

Contribution Scheme

The Contribution Scheme provides financial assistance towards the activities of various bodies and is used to support a number of special interest tourism, arts or cultural projects/facilities in our towns as well as some facilities/services in the City and Environs which have a regional significance. The amount provided for operation of the Scheme in 2010 was €135,000.

Twinning

2010 celebrated the 20th Anniversary of the twinning partnership with Limerick County Council and Hohenlohekreis. To mark this anniversary Limerick County Council hosted a delegation from Hohenlohe in September 2010 where a commemorative scroll was signed by both partners. The delegation stayed in Adare and during their visit also met with the Principal of Colaiste Iosaf, Kilmallock to discuss the development of a school partnership between Colaiste Iosaf and Schlossgymnasium in Hohenlohe. While visiting the school, the delegation was also given a presentation by students on the Green School Initiative.

Joint Policing Committee

The Limerick County Joint Policing Committee held four meetings in 2010. The Committee dealt with issues such as:

- Head Shops
- Anti Social Behaviour Policy
- Control of Horses
- Garda Training & Recruitment

Business Support Unit

The Business Support Unit acts as a point of contact within Limerick County Council to facilitate and encourage economic and business development in County Limerick and ensure a quick and co-ordinated response to existing and prospective businesses by acting as an interface with local authority systems and departments.

The Unit also works in co-operation with a number of other public agencies such as the IDA, Enterprise Ireland, Limerick County Enterprise Board and Local Development Companies to assist and support projects and entrepreneurs in the County. Promotional material and brochures have been produced to market County Limerick as a business location and highlight the many assets available to enable enterprise to develop.

In 2010 the Unit assisted and supported a broad range of projects including the development of new Community

Adare the Overall Winner of the Limerick in Bloom competition 2010 receiving their award at the Woodlands House Hotel, December

Participants of the Limerick in Bloom competition 2010 attending the Awards Ceremony in the Woodlands House Hotel, December 2010



Enterprise Centres in Broadford and Kilmallock. Assistance was also provided to other business partnerships and associations to support tourism and enterprise initiatives in County towns.

Limerick City & County Joint Economic Committee

The City and County Development Boards in Limerick established a Joint Economic Committee following completion of reviews of their respective Strategies for Economic, Social and Cultural Development. The Committee provides a forum through which the long term economic development of Limerick can be facilitated. The Committee met on five occasions in 2010 and adopted work programmes through which targeted inter-agency projects are identified and delivered in order to address the need for an environment in which economic activities can flourish.

The work programmes are focused on the following areas:

- Infrastructure Development
- Enterprise Development
- Tourism
- Renewable Energy

The Committee provides the forum through which inter-agency coordination, cooperation and joint programme delivery can take place. The key role for the Committee is to work with the Mid-West Task Force with a view to implementation of the recommendations of the Task Force and such other related actions which will put Limerick into a competitive position to sustain economic development. In addition, the Committee will ensure that as the work of the Task Force is completed, the necessary mechanisms are in place to support economic development on an on-going basis.

Tidy Towns

- In 2010 a total of 36 applications were received from local groups such as Residents' Associations, Tidy Towns Committees and various Action Groups for Priming Grants.
- In 2010 a total of 36 entries were received under the Limerick in Bloom Competition. A special Awards Ceremony was held in the Woodlands House Hotel, Adare on the 15th December 2010. The overall winners in 2010 were Adare Tidy Towns and Development Association.

Social Inclusion Measures Group

The SIM Group in conjunction with an external consultant developed the County Limerick Local Anti-Poverty and Social Inclusion Strategy and Action Plan 2010 – 2016.

2010 was the European Year for combating poverty and social exclusion. Limerick County Council part funded a Social Inclusion Week for the City and County from the 17th to the 23rd of October 2010 and the following events and activities were organised throughout the County and City to promote social inclusion in all walks of life including:

- Seminar entitled "Living with Dignity: Promoting Social Inclusion" jointly hosted by Limerick City and County Council at the Dunraven Arms Hotel, Adare.
- Afternoon Tea Dance for All at the Woodlands House Hotel
- "Tea for two....you, me and more" held at CDP Office, Abbeyfeale.
- Newcastle West Family Fun Day promoting integration through play with storytelling and fun activities at the Desmond Complex, Newcastle West.
- Photographic Exhibition entitled "The Poverty Project 2010 – Building an Inclusive Society" at the Butter Market Gallery, Limerick City.
- Radio slots on Live 95fm dealing with Social Inclusion issues.



Leas Cathaoirleach Cllr. Michael Sheahan and Mayor of Limerick City, Cllr. Maria Byrne at the launch of Social Inclusion Week 2010

Comhairle na nÓg

In it's inaugural year, the Limerick County Comhairle na nÓg met ten times culminating with an AGM on November 26th 2010 in County Hall where 82 young people from all over Limerick came together in a Youth led event to discuss the topic of Youth Mental Health. Five delegates from the Limerick Comhairle na nÓg also travelled to Dublin in March 2010 to participate in the national Dail na nÓg.

Comhairle na nÓg members were consulted on the County Limerick Recreation Strategy and asked to validate issues relating to young people and recreation and they also met with the CDB regarding suggestions for Youth Café funding applications throughout the County.

Integration Working Group

In March 2010 Integrating Limerick: Limerick City and County Integration Plan was launched by the then Minister for Integration, Mr. John Curran TD, in the Hunt Museum. This strategy includes specific action plans to promote the integration of migrant communities in Limerick.

Among the highlights of 2010 was the hosting of Limerick's first intercultural soccer festival, The Limerick Sixes Soccer World Cup 2010, which took place in glorious sunshine on the 25th of September in the grounds of the Crescent Comprehensive School, Dooradoyle. There was tremendous participation from 24 teams who hailed from local and migrant communities throughout Limerick County and City. This event provided an opportunity to celebrate the growing cultural diversity in Limerick through sport, food, music and dance.

The Limerick Integration Working Group was a co-organiser along with Limerick County Council and Limerick City Council of the Living with Dignity Seminar on the 18th of October 2010 in Adare, which marked the start of Social Inclusion Week in Limerick County and City.

An Integrating Limerick website for the Limerick Integration Working Group was developed as part of the www.limerick.ie project. This website can be accessed at www.limerick.ie/integration

County Limerick Local Sports Partnership

2010 saw the continued implementation of the LSP Sports Strategy and the Action Plans.

- In 2010 300 coaches/leaders completed education programmes in Buntús Start, Ethics and Active Leadership so as to work with children in the community.
- In addition another 650 coaches attended training/seminars on CPD (Continuous Professional Development) throughout the year, including, Health and Wellness, Nutrition, Sports First Aid, Chi Running, volunteer education and Sports Psychology.
- 230 teenage girls from 8 post primary schools and 3 communities (Adare, Croom & Patrickswell) participated in a number of projects including a research project in partnership with UL based around participation in physical activity. This research will serve as a template for the provision of physical activity opportunities for teenage girls with a view to increasing participation numbers.
- The LSP completed a number of programmes targeting disadvantaged youths to engage in meaningful physical activity in Askeaton, Kilmallock, Newcastle West, Abbeyfeale, Croom, Athea and Shanagolden. Examples of programmes include: First Tee Golf, Boxing, Gym and Pool sessions, Soccer, Martial Arts and Health & Wellness.
- An extensive programme of activities was developed by the SIDO (Liam Mc Donough) in partnership with the City LSP for people with a disability across the County.
- The LSP also supported older adult groups in education, training and sports fests with 34 groups operating across the County.
- The LSP presented €20,000 in Club Development grants to 50 clubs throughout the year.
- Finally 700 participants engaged in Physical Activity through programmes like Bikeweek, National Play Day, Recreation Week and Mobility Week in partnership with Limerick County Council.

Student attendees at the A.G.M. along with An Cathaoirleach Councillor Richard Butler, Dr. Nessa Burke, Children's Mental Health Services (CAMHS), HSE, Ms. Valerie Thompson, Limerick County Council, Ms. Josephine Cotter-Coughlan, Limerick County Council and Mr. Robert Graham, Limerick Youth Service.



Group of Students at the Comhairle na nÓg A.G.M. in November 2010



LSP Initiative



Limerick Sports Partnership



Pride of Place

Limerick County Council was awarded the Best Local Authority prize, in recognition of its efforts in promoting the Pride of Place competition.

For the fourth year in succession County Limerick scored a success in the all-island Pride of Place Competition when Galbally was awarded the first place as best community in the population Category 2 – 200 - 500 population. County Limerick's other participants – Friar's Gate Theatre, Kilmallock (Community Responses to the Arts); Kilmeedy Local Training Initiative (Community Responses to Unemployment) and Kylefea-Caemore Court Residents Association, Croom (Housing Estates) were all shortlisted for recognition in their respective categories.

Scheme of Assistance for Community Playgrounds

In an effort to assist community groups wishing to develop playgrounds for their areas, a scheme of assistance for communities was introduced in 2010. The scheme of assistance includes the following items:

- Insurance: Public Liability insurance for the community playground is provided under the Limerick County Council insurance policy.
- Equipment Inspection: A written record of weekly equipment inspections is required under the agreement. A copy of each inspection record will be deposited with the local area office on a weekly basis.
- Annual Inspection: Limerick County Council will include community playgrounds as part of the annual inspection of Council play facilities.
- Assistance in maintaining playgrounds: Subject to resources, Limerick County Council will initiate a Maintenance Assistance Grant which will assist communities with the cost associated with maintaining a playground.

Two community playgrounds availed of the scheme in 2010.

Launch of Websites

- A new website offering comprehensive information on all aspects of Limerick went live on 15th November 2010. **www.limerick.ie** is the Official Guide to Limerick and is supported by many agencies including Limerick County Council and Limerick County Development Board.
- Limerick's newest and most comprehensive dedicated tourism website was launched on 14th September 2010. **www.discoverlimerick.ie** is an initiative of the County Limerick Tourism Forum, which was established in 2007 under the auspices of Limerick County Development Board to promote tourism in County Limerick. The new website provides access to extensive and varied visitor information along with a detailed overview of some of Ireland's most famous tourist attractions, all located within Limerick.

RAPID Programme – Rathkeale

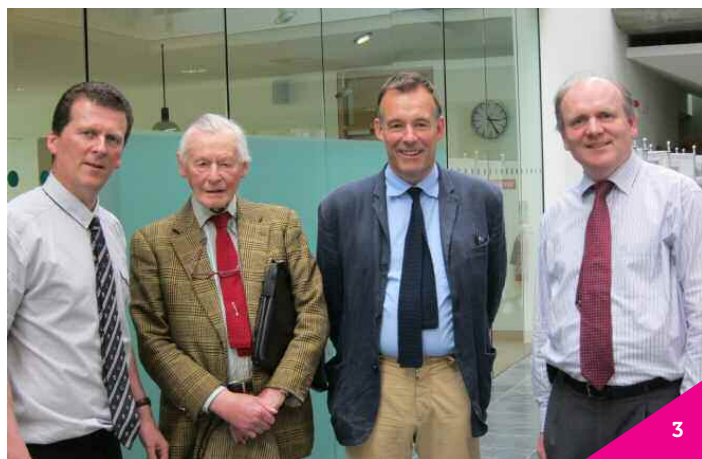
The RAPID programme in Rathkeale was officially launched by Minister Eamonn O'Cuiv in January 2010. Rathkeale was one of five newly designated RAPID areas, and is the first such designated area in County Limerick.

RAPID (Revitalising Areas by Planning, Investment and Development) is a national programme that aims at addressing disadvantage by focussing the resources of relevant state bodies on these designated disadvantaged areas.

Limerick County Council facilitates the process in conjunction with the Department of Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs and Pobal.

€250,000 in capital funding was allocated to RAPID in Rathkeale to progress projects identified by the community and Area Implementation Team in 2010. Eight projects were submitted to Pobal for approval.

Library Highlights 2010



1. Self-service checkouts installed in Dooradoyle and Newcastle West libraries.
2. Readership in Kilmallock reached 3,600 and the building won **RIAI Best Public Building Award** in June.
3. Lord Monteagle visited Limerick Studies and made a further deposit of archival material from the Monteagle Estate.
4. Two significant photographic collections were added to Limerick Studies: Captain Holliday photos from the War

of Independence and Michael Costello's record of Askeaton/Kilcornan.

- 586 Gabriel Fitzmaurice reading at Glin library's poetry evening where Mary Kennelly & Brenda Fitzmaurice discussed their recent work 'From the Stones'.

Group visits included those from Hohenlohe, Boole Library, UCC and by writers and performers to Newcastle West Library for Éigse Michael Hartnett.

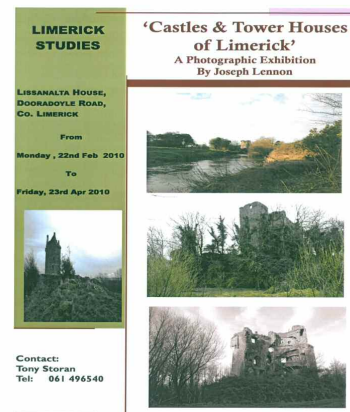
Abbeyfeale library's collaboration with Age Action Ireland continued with their over-50s computer classes.

Library Highlights 2010



7

7. Space Hop Summer Reading Challenge for children in Kilmallock, Newcastle West, Adare and Abbeyfeale.



8

8. Exhibitions in 2010 were held by the ICA, Royal Irish Academy, Rathfredagh Cheshire Home, Irish Wheelchair Association, Emma Berkery, Maurice Foley, Martha Cashman and Joseph Lennon amongst others.

Community Service Indicators 2010

Service Indicator	Indicator	2010	2009
Community Participation (CP1) - Participation in Comhairle na nÓg	Percentage of Local Schools and Youth Group involved in Comhairle na nÓg	89%	82%
Community Participation (CP2) - Groups registered with Community and Voluntary Forum	Number of groups registered with Community and Voluntary Forum	1665	1665
Recreational Services (Rec1) - Children's Playgrounds	(a) Number of Playgrounds directly provided by the Local Authority per 1,000 of population (b) Number of Playgrounds facilitated by the Local Authority per 1,000 of population	0.06 0.04	0.06 0.03

Library Service Indicators 2010

Registered Readers:	20,439
Items issued:	434,087
Visitors: (Dooradoyle, Kilmallock, Newcastle West, Adare, Abbeyfeale, Rathkeale, Foynes & Limerick Studies)	407,187
Hours of Internet/Wi-Fi use:	53,198
Exhibitions:	27
Cultural/Civic Events:	54
New Titles added to stock:	34,128



Drama project in Bulgaden School under the Council's Artists in Schools Programme

County Arts Office

The County Arts Office maps the County with a range of programmes that promote inclusiveness and active participation in a wide range of arts disciplines. Throughout 2010 over 600 young people and children were involved in any one week in a variety of art forms. Ongoing throughout the year and the County was a calendar of stimulating and entertaining activities and events that involved people in dancing, singing, drama, creative writing, classical music and an extensive festival programme.

This effectively resulted in the County Arts Office organising over 750 cultural events, including workshops, concerts, readings, exhibitions, drama productions, schools' visits etc.

Festival Programme Expanded

As well as organising another successful Éigse Michael Hartnett festival with 2010 marking its eleventh year, the County Arts Office initiated two new festivals which played out over the month of November. On each Wednesday evening in the month, SoulScapes, a joint initiative of Limerick County Council and Friars' Gate Theatre featured some of Ireland's most compelling and provocative speakers who lectured to packed houses each night in Friars' Gate, Kilmallock. On Sunday afternoons, to mark the 25th anniversary of the appointment of the country's first arts officer, the County Arts Office hosted a series of free concerts and events around the County, from Castleconnell to Askeaton.

Arts for the County's Children and Young People

Creative arts activity was facilitated in the County primary schools through the active engagement of over 1000 children in the Council's artist in schools programme. For a period of 9 school days artists in the fields of music, craft, drama, visual arts, opera and dance enthused and fired the imagination of children. The young people of our County Limerick Youth Theatre enjoyed a hectic schedule of activity that included making a film on integration, participating in a residential drama week in Wexford and immersing themselves in Hamlet. Our County Limerick Youth Choir proved themselves wonderful ambassadors when they performed at the International Choral Festival in Nice and also sang on the special Sunday Miscellany programme marking the 25th anniversary of the appointment of the first arts officer.

Arts and Our Senior Citizens

Bealtaine the festival that celebrates and engages our mature citizens in creative fun activity kicked off with Carnation Theatre Company touring to day care centres and other residential establishments for older people in the County. Altogether the County Arts Office organised 9 performances of this highly entertaining theatre company that spanned the County from Dromcollogher to Cappamore. Three exhibitions featuring artwork by active retired groups and residents of nursing homes were hosted. Performances featuring singers, storytellers and poets were hugely enjoyed by our senior citizens who were up for a bit of fun and entertainment.

Other programmes in '10 included

Wide ranging Classical Music Series, expanded singing initiative, wide literature programme, arts activity in the Regional Maternity Hospital, expanded integrated dance programme and much more...

Retirement Functions presentations were made to the retiring staff by Cathaoirleach, Cllr David Naughton and Director of Services, Human Resources, Josephine Cotter Coughlan.



Cathaoirleach, Cllr David Naughton and Director of Services, Human Resources, Josephine Cotter Coughlan.

Human Resources

To create a working environment that encourages and supports staff in the achievement of the organisation's objectives.

General

The Human Resources is tasked to enable, encourage and support staff in their pursuit to achieve corporate objectives and their own personal aspirations.

In order to achieve this objective the Department has responsibility for the following key areas of activity within the Council;

- Staff Recruitment & Retention
- Staff Development & Training
- Staff Relations
- Work / Life Balance Initiatives
- Staff Support Services
- Pensions Administration
- Performance Management

At the end of December 2010 the Council employed 819 staff.

Retirements

2010 saw twenty one staff members retire from the organisation. Many had given a lifetime of loyal and committed service to the Council and the citizens of the County. The Council owes a sincere debt of gratitude to these staff. *Sonag agus slainte chuige.*

To mark the occasion the Council hosted two retirement functions in April for retirees in 2009 and 2010. Presentations were made to the retiring staff by Cathaoirleach, Cllr David Naughton and Director of Services, Human Resources, Josephine Cotter Coughlan.

HR/Payroll/Superannuation System

Limerick County Council made further progress in the implementation of the system. Modules such as Time & Attendance, Recruitment, Leave, etc went live during the year. Work is well underway for the remaining modules of Health & Safety, Training, and Performance Management for 2011.



Corporate Services

To support and enhance the democratic role of the Council and to develop, co-ordinate and promote a corporate culture and business ethos within the organisation.

The Corporate Services Department covers a wide range of services in addition to providing Management Support Services. The Department deals with areas such as Higher Education Grants, Register of Electors, Freedom of Information, Customer Services, Purchasing and a wide variety of ancillary services relating to Council business.

Freedom of Information (FOI)

The policy of Limerick County Council is to give members of the public access to information held by this Authority, to the greatest extent possible, in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Acts 1997 & 2003 and consistent with the public interest and the right to privacy of the individual.

During 2010 there were 26 FOI requests (25 valid and 1 withdrawn). There was 1 No. internal reviews and 1 No. appeals to the Information Commissioner.

Request outcomes 2010

- Total – 26
- Granted – 11
- Part-granted – 11
- Refused – 2
- Withdrawn – 1
- Live Case – 1 (Application not finalised at Year End)

Further information and application form is available on the Councils website www.lcc.ie

General Administration

Register of Electors

The Register of Electors is updated and produced annually and comprises a list of all persons over the age of 18 years resident in the County who are entitled to vote in Elections to the Dáil, the European Assembly, Presidential and Local Elections and Referenda. The publication date for the Register of Electors is 1st February and the Register comes into effect on the 15th February each year.

The revised Dáil constituency boundaries will come into effect on the next dissolution of the Dail. This will create 3 new Dáil constituencies in County Limerick where there were previously 2, Limerick East and Limerick West. The new constituencies are as follows and the number of Dáil Seats in each:

Limerick City	4 Seats
Limerick	3 Seats
Kerry North/ West Limerick-	3 Seats

The Local Government Electorate stands at 99,160 on the Live 2010/2011 Register of Electors published in February 2010.

Adare	22,133
Castleconnell	24,058
Kilmallock	18,781
Newcastlewest	18,730
Rathkeale	15,458

The Dáil Electorate stands at 96,988 on the Live 2010/2011 Register of Electors as at February 2010 broken down as follows-

(Limerick East 05 Limerick 09)	15,017
(Limerick West 05 Kerry North-West Limerick 09)	10,949
(Limerick East 05 Limerick City 09)	22,018
(Limerick West 05 Limerick 09)	49,004

Members of the public can check if they are registered correctly on the Electoral Register on www.lcc.ie (Register of Electors Online Enquiries). If your details are incorrect or you are not registered, please apply for an application form to electoralregister@limerickcoco.ie

Higher Education Grants

Limerick County Council continues to administer the Higher Education Grant scheme. Almost 600 applications were received for the academic year 2009/2010 and in excess of 900 renewals were processed. Total expenditure amounted to over €4.2m and this includes an amount of €468,183 that was paid out as Special Rate of Maintenance Grants. A total of 182 students were awarded Special Rate of Maintenance Grant in 2009/2010.

Energy Efficiency Report

Overview of Energy Usage in 2010

A summary of the cost of energy at Limerick County Council is set out below.

In 2010, Limerick County Council consumed 28,492 MWh of energy, consisting of:

- 16,735 MWh of electricity;
- 11,714 MWh of fossil fuels;
- 43 MWh of renewable fuels.

Actions Undertaken in 2010

In 2010 Limerick County Council undertook a range of initiatives to improve energy performance. These initiatives have enabled energy savings of:-

- Electricity - 246.54 MWh of annual savings
- Fossil Fuel - 123.27 MWh of annual savings

Altogether, these and other energy saving measures are saving Limerick County Council 369.81 MWh annually.

Actions Planned for 2011

In 2011, Limerick County Council intends to further improve energy performance by undertaking a range of other energy saving initiatives, dependant upon financial resources.

2010- Energy Analysis From AGRESSO

Limerick Co.Co. Energy Cost - 2010	DERV - Road Diesel /Petrol/Gas	Diesel - Green / Agricultural	ENERGY - ESB	Energy Solar Panels	Gas	Petrol	Grand Total
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare Development Incentives & Control	€3,772	€6,054	€6,596	€0	€0	€0	€16,421
Environmental Protection	€192	€0	€1,248	€0	€0	€0	€1,440
Housing & Building	€72,082	€62,789	€86,519	€0	€698	€1,172	€223,260
Miscellaneous	€24,544	€1,401	€33,991	€0	€1,075	€79	€61,091
Recreation & Amenity	€176,248	€199,418	€68,805	€0	€4,172	€6	€448,649
Road Transportation & Safety	€7,909	€60,778	€67,468	€893	€4,232	€0	€141,280
Support Services	€164,498	€40,224	€765,023	€0	€17,677	€2,882	€990,302
Water Supply & Sewerage	€50	€6,162	€207,744	€6,419	€21,955	€0	€242,330
Grand Total	€72,783	€8,206	€1,589,182	€0	€5,260	€225	€1,675,655
	€522,076	€385,033	€2,826,575	€7,312	€55,068	€4,364	€3,800,427

Dromtrasna National School



Planning and Development

Tom Enright
Director of Planning
and Development

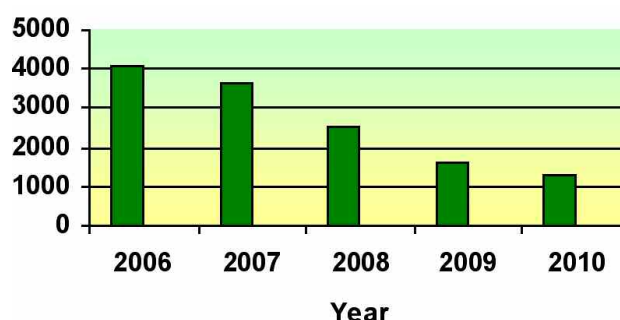


To achieve balanced economic and social development and protection of the natural and built environment, through the proper planning and sustainable development of the County.

The main priorities in 2010 were to continue to meet our statutory requirements in the determination of planning applications and planning enforcement while in Forward Planning the focus was on completing the review of the County Development Plan. The Planning Department continues to play a proactive role in encouraging and facilitating enterprise development and employment opportunities in County Limerick.

Development Management

The decrease in the level of economic activity nationally and particularly in the level of construction activity and an associated decrease in the number of planning applications was again clearly evident in 2010 when Limerick County Council's Planning Department processed a total of 1,272 applications. This represented a 21.2% decrease in the number of applications received by the Planning Authority compared to 2009. However, the rate of decline in the number of planning applications submitted appears to be slowing down compared to the rate of decline in previous years.



Planning Applications Received 2006-2010

Key Statistics:

- 1,272 planning applications were received by Limerick County Council in 2010;
- 55 applications were deemed invalid at the beginning of the planning process in 2010 with a further 138 subsequently being deemed invalid as the site notice did not comply with regulatory requirements;
- Decisions were made in respect of 944 applications in 2010: 765 decisions to grant planning permission and 179 decisions to refuse, giving a grant rate of 81% and a refusal

rate of 19%;

- 305 planning applications for individual houses and 14 applications for housing development were decided in 2010;
- Of the 305 decisions made in respect of individual houses, 71% were decisions to grant planning permission;
- Environmental Impact Statements were submitted with four applications;
- Of the 63 decisions made by the Council appealed to An Bord Pleanála and determined by them in 2010, 42 were upheld by the Board giving a confirmation rate of Council decisions of 67%.

Customer focus

The department continues to operate a number of customer-focused services and seeks to improve the services offered on an ongoing basis.

Counter Service

Despite the reduction in staff numbers, planning staff continued to provide the "over-the-counter" validation service saving valuable time for members of the public who availed of the service. This service operates from 10am to 2pm five days per week.

Pre-Planning:

In 2010, 486 pre-planning meetings were held between area planners and potential applicants to discuss issues associated with possible planning applications. 166 of these meetings were held in area offices to facilitate prospective applicants.

The average waiting time for such meetings now stands at ten working days.

Website

The planning website (www.lcc.ie/planning) provides a variety of useful information to the public in relation to planning matters including facilities to;

- Check the progress of planning applications,
- View planning applications, zonings, protected structures, etc. on maps linked to the online planning enquiry system;
- Download any necessary forms.

In 2010, the Planning Department in conjunction with the Council's Information Technology section conducted a review of the website with the aim of increasing its usefulness to the public.

The Planning website received 312,207 visits in 2010.

Meeting with Planning Agents

The Planning Department again met with Planning Agents in 2010. Among the items discussed were:

- Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2010
- Update on Draft County Development Plan
- Draft Rural House Design Guidelines.

These meetings provide a valuable forum for agents in having queries answered and for the Planning Department by getting user feedback and suggestions from agents who interact with the Department on a regular basis.

Derelict Sites

The Derelict Sites Act 1990 deals with land dereliction. Responsibility for derelict sites and dangerous structures transferred from the Environment Directorate to the Planning Directorate at the end of 2009.

Utilising the legislation the Council will focus on towns and villages within the County and will work with owners to improve the appearance of their property but will enforce the provisions of the derelict sites legislation where necessary.

Enforcement

During 2010 Limerick County Council used its enforcement powers to ensure that development was carried out in accordance with the planning regulations and issued 248 warning letters and 159 enforcement notices throughout the year. There were also 26 successful prosecutions taken in the District Court.

Complaints Received	495
Warning Letters Issued	248
Enforcement Notices Issued	159
Prosecutions	26

Unfinished Estates

The general economic downturn and the fall off in the construction industry have resulted in an increase in the number of complaints regarding unfinished estates.

The National Housing Development Survey carried out in 2010 by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government showed that there were 312 vacant houses in these estates in County Limerick and this was the 6th lowest of any County. Nevertheless unfinished estates remain a serious problem in County Limerick and Limerick County Council uses all resources available to try and ensure that these estates are completed to a satisfactory standard. These included enforcement action, calling in of bonds and working with appointed receivers.

Forward Planning

Limerick County Development Plan 2010-2016

Following a two year review process the County Development Plan was adopted by the elected members on the 1st November 2010 and came into effect on the 29th November 2010. The Plan sets out Limerick County Council's overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of the County to 2016 and beyond and was formulated following extensive consultation with the elected members, members of the public, service providers and other organisations and bodies.

The Plan incorporates a "Core Strategy", which sets out the projected population of the County until 2022 and the zoning land requirements. It sets out policies requiring the scale of development in towns and villages to be in proportion to the pattern and grain of existing development and provides a more simplified rural housing strategy.

To stimulate growth within towns and villages the plan also contains a new policy which facilitates a limited number of one off houses, using treatment systems on suitably sized sites subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria.

The County Development Plan is available on the Council's website at www.lcc.ie/planning

Local Area Plans

Work commenced on the review of both the Southern Environs and the Cappamore Local Area Plans. A draft Southern Environs plan was prepared and placed on public display in November 2010.

Conservation

During the course of 2010 over €185,000 was awarded by the Council's Planning Department under the provisions of the Local Authority Conservation Grant Scheme. The total number

of projects aided came to 35, giving an average award of €5,300 to the successful applicants. Structures assisted varied from thatched houses to urban commercial premises through to parish churches. The level of awards ranged from €1,000 through to a maximum of €20,000.

A significant new factor during the course of the year was the number of buildings that were impacted upon by the severe freezing weather experienced in late 2009 and 2010, which hastened the end of the working life of lime renders on a number of buildings in the County.

Development Contributions

The current Development Contribution Scheme covers the period 2009 - 2013 and was approved by the Council on the 24th of November 2008 and came into effect on the 1st of January 2009.

A summary of collection and amounts outstanding on applications which were granted in 2010 and which have commenced are summarised in the table below:

Monies Received in 2010 in accordance with Development Contribution Scheme	€1,774,290.71
Monies outstanding relating to applications which have commenced in 2010 in accordance with Development Contributions Scheme 2003	€1,172,953.96

Planning & Development Contribution System (PDC)

In 2010 Limerick County Council implemented a new Planning & Development Contribution System (PDC) to incorporate the Planning Development Contributions into the Financial Management System. The main objective of the system was to record and account for development contributions arising from planning permissions granted by Local Authorities.

While still in the early stages the impact of the PDC system has allowed the invoicing, receipting and collection of contributions in a more controlled and streamlined environment through a Debt Management System.



Development Fund Allocations 2010

NO.	DESCRIPTION	ALLOCATION
1	Castletroy Park	€30,000.00
2	Castletroy Park North - Amenity Lands	€130,000.00
3	Ballykeeffe Park	€10,000.00
4	Kilfinane Playground	€5,000.00
5	Glin Playground	€25,000.00
6	Castleconnell Playground	€9,500.00
7	Mini Pitches	€50,000.00
8	Great Southern Trail	€12,000.00
9	Kilmallock Cycle Hub	€1,300.00
10	Community Sports and Cultural Grants Scheme	€60,000.00
11	Community Enterprise Centre – Broadford	€50,000.00
12	Community Enterprise Centre - Kilmallock	€30,000.00
13	Athea Pedestrian Crossing	€30,000.00
14	Kilfinane Pedestrian Crossing	€30,000.00
15	Fr Russell Road Pedestrian Crossing	€30,000.00
16	Footpath Golflinks Road	€10,000.00
17	Small capital schemes matching funds	€250,000.00
18	EPA Remedial Action List	€250,000.00
19	Bruff Waste Water Treatment Plant	€300,000.00
20	Castletroy WWTP Stage 2	€325,200.00
21	Flood Risk Assessment Barnakyle River	€32,000.00
22	Castleconnell Water Supply Scheme	€1,251.20
23	Shannon Estuary WSS Stage 2	€47,563.64
24	Shannon Est WSS Fire Protection Foynes	€11,711.19
25	Abbeyfeale Water Supply Extension	€66,292.39
26	Caher Extension from Abbeyfeale WSS	€10, 318.49
27	Ballyneety Water Supply	€17,843.00
28	Shannon Estuary Water Supply Scheme	€9,799.26
29	Castlemahon Surface Water Improvement Scheme	€35,220.83
30	Forward Planning Staff Costs	€130,000.00
31	MWASP Contribution to Consultancy Costs	€121,615.00
	OVERALL TOTAL	€2,121,615.00

Planning Key Service Indicators

TIME PERIOD	JAN - DEC 10
NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENT	
No. of applications decided	14
No. decided within 8 weeks	2
No. of decisions which required the submission of further information	11
No. of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under Section 34(9)	1
Average length of time taken (in days) to decide a case where further information was sought	79
% of grants	71.43
% of refusals	28.57
% of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	80
% of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	20
INDIVIDUAL HOUSES	
No. of applications decided	305
No. decided within 8 weeks	81
No. of decisions which required the submission of further information	204
No. of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under Section 34(9)	20
Average length of time taken (in days) to decide a case where further information was sought	76
% of grants	71.15
% of refusals	28.85
% of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	66.67
% of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	33.33
OTHER: NOT REQUIRING EIA	
No. of applications decided	621
No. decided within 8 weeks	318
No. of decisions which required the submission of further information	289
No. of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under Section 34(9)	14
Average length of time taken (in days) to decide a case where further information was sought	76
% of grants	86.31
% of refusals	13.69
% of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	61.76
% of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	38.24
OTHER: REQUIRING EIA	
No. of applications decided	4
No. decided within 8 weeks	2
No. of decisions which required the submission of further information	2
No. of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under Section 34(9)	0
Average length of time taken (in days) to decide a case where further information was sought	77
% of grants	50
% of refusals	50

Environment

Gerry Behan
Director of Environment,
Emergency Services and Consumer Affairs



To protect, maintain and improve the natural environment and promote a sustainable built environment in County Limerick.

Waste Management

The environment section received 118 complaints in 2010, relating to Waste. In total, 146 waste enforcement complaints were closed off during the reporting period. Following investigation some complaints were resolved on site. Warning letters, statutory notices and/or prosecutions were initiated in respect to the remainder.

The following is a breakdown of the enforcement action taken under the Waste Management Acts (WMA) 1996 – 2010.

Waste	No. Issued
Waste 'warning letters'	393
Section 14 WMA (instructions)	41
Section 55 WMA (measures)	18
Section 15 WMA	0
Art 9 Landfill Levy Reg's	0

In 2010, Limerick County Council initiated 22 prosecutions for various offences under the WMA. Other prosecutions are ongoing, some over a number of years.

Facility Permit/Collection Permits

There were 29 permitted sites in the County at the end of 2010. The Council granted 5 waste permits in respect of new facilities in 2010. 9 facility permits expired together with 1 Certificate of Registration. 20 permitted facilities were audited to ensure compliance with the conditions of their waste permit, and 35 waste collectors were audited to ensure compliance with their collection permits during 2010.

End of Life Vehicles

End of Life Vehicles continue to be a priority for the waste enforcement team. 26 facilities were inspected during 2010 and LCC successfully prosecuted one of the County's biggest unauthorised waste collector of ELVS. Prosecutions are ongoing in relation to other unauthorised sites. At the end of 2010, there were 8 Approved Treatment Facility permits issued by Limerick County Council for End of Life vehicles.

Misc Inspections

Misc Inspections	No. Inspected
Packaging Self Compliers (4)	4
Packaging General	13
Food Waste /Bye Laws	13
Farm Plastics/Plastic Bags/Tyres	7
General Waste	163

Unauthorised Waste Activities

The Council continues to target unauthorised waste activities. 3 road checkpoints were carried out in conjunction with the Gardai. The Council continues to work closely with it's regional partners, Limerick City Council, Kerry County Council and Clare County Council together with Cork County Council. The Enforcement team has targeted specific unauthorised waste activities which involved out of hours surveillance. These initiatives were successful and further enforcement action and or court proceedings are pending resulting from the combined enforcement actions.

Environment Laboratory

Limerick County Council Environment Laboratories are involved primarily in regulatory compliance and the quality control of water supplies and waste water treatments plants in County Limerick. Our aim is to provide a world class service to and protect the citizens of the County. Work undertaken includes the monitoring of drinking water quality in both Public and Ground Water schemes and the provision of scientific advice and investigative support services in the event of drinking water quality failures.

In 2010 the Laboratory Team was involved in frequent after hour's response to drinking water quality issues. This response level, combined with a close working relationship with Water Services Section Engineering staff in 2010, contributed to a 100% microbiological pass rate in regulatory monitoring of Public Water Supplies for the first time in County Limerick.

The laboratory team is involved in the monitoring of the treatment efficiency of Local Authority waste water treatment facilities in the County. We are responsible for compliance with the requirements of Waste Water Discharge Licences issued by the EPA. In 2010 14 licences were issued to Limerick County Council requiring response, reporting and liaison with the EPA. The number of tests processed by the laboratory increased from 45,419 in 2009 to 53,249 in 2010. This efficiency was achieved with reduced staff levels. The Laboratory team is also involved in surface water monitoring in compliance with Water Framework Directive requirements and in processing samples for legal actions in water pollution legal actions.

Shannon International River Basin District (IRBD)

Limerick County Council is legally responsible for Co-ordinating the Shannon IRBD which includes 17 other Local Authorities under the European Communities Regulations, 2003 (SI 722 of 2003). These regulations transpose the Water Framework Directive of 2000 into Irish legislation and sets out an integrated approach in relation to water management. All areas of the council are affected but particularly the areas of Planning, Water Services and Environment, which have included the objectives of the Water Framework Directive into for example the County Development Plan through reference to the IRBD Plan.

The Final plan was signed off by the Minister and published in July 2010. The Plan includes a programme of measures to achieve the required water quality by 2015 and places a strict onus on all Public Authorities as well as Local Authorities to

prevent deterioration, restore good status, reduce chemical Pollution and achieve protected area objectives.

The Plan is now in the implementation phase and all Local Authorities will have to regularly report their progress on meeting the objectives to the DoEHLG and the EPA.

Litter Management & Awareness

During 2010, the Council's Litter Management team was pro-active in promoting the message that illegal dumping, fly tipping, unauthorised signage, etc will not be tolerated through a combination of enforcement and awareness measures in its daily operations.

- A total of 1,510 litter and waste related complaints were received.
- Over 200 on-the-spot fines were issued to offenders.
- Up to 110 Notices were served on landowners, householders, etc requiring clean-up works to be carried out on sites and / or in the vicinity of properties.
- Legal proceedings were initiated under the Litter Pollution Acts in 7 cases and in 12 cases under the Waste Management Acts.
- Clean-up works were undertaken at litter "Black Spots" and "No Dumping" signs were erected at sites / on routes prone to illegal dumping.
- The Environment Section worked in tandem with An Taisce to promote National Spring Clean month and assistance (bags, gloves, litter pickers) was given to schools, residents associations, community groups, etc. Over 2000 volunteers participated in 150 clean-up events throughout the County during the month of April. Waste collected during the campaign was disposed / recycled.
- Anti-litter awareness materials including "car litter bags", "pooper scoopers", "re-usable shoppers", "key rings", etc. were distributed free by Environment Section staff at community events and at shopping centres.
- The specially designed "Litter Bus" bearing a huge "Keep County Limerick Clean", message toured the County in November, 2010 and visited various towns, villages, housing estates along the way.
- A total of 9 County Limerick schools were awarded their first Green Flag and 21 schools renewed their flags at ceremonies held at the Lifetime Laboratory in Cork and at Thomond Park, Limerick.

Regional Waste Management Office-2010

The region has now published the fourth annual report on the Replacement Waste Management for the Limerick/Clare/ Kerry Region 2006-2011 in October 2010. The waste arisings in the construction and demolition sector hit a new low reflecting output in the sector. Commercial and Industrial has also shown significant decreases in waste generation which is related to the economic downturn. The regional household recycling rate has risen to 32% just above the national average. Prevention awareness has further influenced waste generation with another reduction in waste arising per person to 340 kgs per person. This office also processes Waste Collection Permit applications for the Limerick/Clare/Kerry Region. To date, the office has granted over 600 waste collection permits and over 40 of these are national multiregional waste collection permits.

The Local Authority Prevention Network Project has continued to receive EPA funding and projects involving waste prevention and resource conservation are continuing at the following locations and all have shown significant waste reduction, waste diversion from landfill and decreases in water consumption:

- Thomond Park
- Milford Hospice
- Killarney National Park
- The Cliffs of Moher

Fire fighter training at the Limerick Tunnel prior to it's opening in July 2010.

Water first responder training



Water first responder training carried out by County Limerick Fire Fighters and Officers

The European Week for Waste Reduction was launched with the most westerly Batucamob in Europe on the Cliffs of Moher and the Kilmallock Green Town project was launched during that week. Many events were held throughout the region during the week which promoted waste prevention including an event at the Crescent Shopping Centre. These projects aim to engage with as many businesses as possible to ensure waste prevention as well as water and energy conservation. The Regional Waste Management Office continues its involvement with many business networks as a cost effective efficient way of disseminating information. The Replacement Waste Management for the region has entered its final year and consultation on the new plan will commence in 2011 in a time of uncertainty regarding national waste management policy.

Fire Service

The major developments in the Fire Service in 2010 included: The new fire station in Kilmallock was officially opened on Monday 6th December by Mr. Michael Finneran, T.D., Minister of State for Housing & Local Services at the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government. The €1.6m facility, which replaces the original station in the town, was completed on schedule in October and has enabled the Fire Service to be self sufficient in the Kilmallock Area for the first time. The new station features a three-bay Fire Station with ancillary areas and a 13m-high drill training tower on a green field site at the junction of the Bruff and Bruree Roads, adjacent to Kilmallock Business Park.

Limerick County Fire Service co-ordinated a project to train, equip and develop safe working procedures for 160 fire fighters and senior fire officers across 4 fire authorities over an 8 week period in preparation for responding to incidents in the new Limerick Tunnel culminating in a major inter-agency exercise prior to the tunnel opening in July, 2010.

As well as the tunnel training, 59 other specialised training courses were delivered to fire fighters. Each of the 6 fire stations was equipped with an automatic external defibrillator as part of our emergency first responder programme. 36 dry suits were purchased to equip fire fighters for working near water as part of our water first responder capability. A 3 year replacement programme commenced to replace all breathing apparatus equipment with the latest technology with 16 units purchased in

2010. Procured and commenced construction of 2 new water tankers. Implementation of a new national programme of Standard Operational Guidelines for the Fire Service was commenced in all fire stations.

In preparation for the opening of Atlantic Fuels Supply Company in Foynes, an external emergency plan was prepared and tested in conjunction with the HSE, An Garda Síochána, Health and Safety Authority and Shannon Foynes Port Company.

400 smoke alarms were distributed to community groups and installed by fire fighters in households throughout County Limerick in 2010. The Fire Service also dealt with 124 fire safety certificates and 124 planning referrals for new developments, 130 public assembly licenses and carried out 163 building inspections.

Veterinary Services

The Veterinary Service is responsible for delivering Food Safety regulatory controls, in accordance with the terms of the contract between the Council and the Food Safety Authority of Ireland, in various meat processing establishments located within the County. During the year 1761 Cattle, 4577 Sheep, 221 Pigs and 2354 Horses were slaughtered in ten abattoirs; each animal was inspected by a veterinarian pre and post slaughter. An important aspect of our work is to ensure that animal welfare rules within the abattoirs are fully complied with. Sampling for residues of prohibited substances or animal medicines in meat under the National Residue Monitoring Programme was undertaken.

Various other types of meat processing premises were supervised in accordance with EU and National requirements.

Our Dog Wardens continued to address the issue of stray and unwanted dogs during the year. They cover both Limerick County and City. A total of 721 Dogs were handled at our Shelter in Mungret. We succeeded in finding new homes for 282 dogs which represents a 100% increase on the 2009 re-homing figure. We are continually seeking to re-home many beautiful dogs whose owners, for various reasons, can no longer care for them. Please check our website www.limerickcoco.ie or telephone



Civil Defence Kayak Training

the shelter at 061-301604 if you think you might be interested.

The stray horse problem, which escalated alarmingly during 2009, continued unabated in 2010. A total of 142 strays were seized and impounded. The current national economic problems are being reflected in the sharp decline in the market for all types of horses. Consequently and regrettably, some owners unable or unwilling to care for their horses simply abandon them.

Civil Defence

Limerick County Civil Defence had a very active year especially in January and December due to assistance provided by volunteers to the HSE, Milford Hospice staff and the Local Authority during the Big Freeze. Training continued throughout the County while Civil Defence personnel participated in Operational Activities / Training Exercises and also provided numerous types of assistance to their local Communities.

Training Events Included:

- Participation in Regional Exercise in Limerick City
- Oil Pollution Exercise Robertstown Creek Foynes (SEAPT)
- Avian Flu Training - Mallow
- Ex Derg – (Boat Exercise Lough Derg)
- Annual Training Camp Lisdoonvarna / Lahinch Camp Co Clare
- Rescue Skills Weekend – Annacotty / Bruff
- Casualty Upskilling Weekend Annacotty
- Coastal Navigation – Clew Bay Co Mayo

Training Locations

First Aid, Auxiliary Fire Service (AFS), Rescue and Communication classes were carried out in the following locations:

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| • Annacotty | Occupational First Aid, Rescue, Comms and AFS |
| • Askeaton | Occupational First Aid and Rescue |
| • Rathkeale | Kayaking |
| • Doon | Occupational First Aid and AFS |
| • Killaloe / Foynes | Boating |

Courses

- Local - Members completed courses and received certification in Occupational First Aid, Cardiac First Response, Emergency First Response, Advance Power Boating and Coastal Navigation.

- Civil Defence College - Members attended courses and received certification in Approved Driving Instructor, Cardiac First Responder and People Moving/Manual Handling Instructor. Other volunteers attended classes in EMT (Emergency Medical Technician) and are due to sit their examinations in 2011.

Recruitment

- Thirty nine Recruits successfully completed their induction training and received certification as Cardiac First Responders and Occupational First Aiders.

Community Events / Operations

Civil Defence provided assistance at numerous Local, National and International events including:

JP McManus Invitational Pro-Am Golf
 Special Olympics Ireland
 Searches for Missing Persons
 Rás Luimnigi Cycle Race
 HSE/Milford staff during Big Freeze
 St Patrick's Parade Newcastle West
 Water distribution during Big Freeze
 Clonshire Equestrian Centre - Hunter Trials
 Lough Gur Summer Festival
 Milford Harvest Fair
 Cappamore Agricultural Show
 Dawn Mass Ard Patrick
 Limerick Women's Mini Marathon
 Tournafulla Fun Day
 Chernobyl Children Project
 Athea Horse and Pony Races
 Special Olympics UL
 Limerick Diocesan Pilgrimage
 James Keating Memorial Rugby-Bruff
 Sky Festival Limerick
 Ballingarry 10k Charity Run
 International Badminton Tournament – UL
 Ballyhoura Spook Cycle Race
 Doon Vintage Show
 Deel Swim
 Limerick Tunnel Inter-agency Exercise
 FBD Rás - Oola
 Co Limerick VEC Sports Day
 Great Limerick Run
 Castleconnell 10K Run

Environmental Service Indicators Report

Water

E.1 Unaccounted For Water

Unaccounted for water (UFW) as a percentage of total volume of water supplied under the water supply schemes that the local authority is responsible for	34.00
Total Volume of water supplied(m3/per day	57512.00
Volume of unaccounted for water (m3/per day)	19552.16

E.2 Drinking Water Analysis

A. Percentage of drinking water analysis results in compliance with statutory requirements with regard to public schemes	
B. Percentage of drinking water analysis results in compliance with statutory requirements with regard to private schemes (where appropriate)	

Waste Management

E.3 Waste Segregation

A. % households who receive a waste collection service & are provided with segregated waste collection for dry recyclables	99.76
B. % households who receive a waste collection service & are provided with segregated waste collection for organics	38.67

E4: Housing Waste Sent for Recycling

A. Percentage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is sent for recycling	32.09
B. Tonnage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is sent for recycling	7498
C. Tonnage of household waste recycled, which arises from waste collected from recycling facilities (i.e. bring banks, civic amenity centres, transfer stations and other recycling facilities)	7682

E5: Household Waste Sent for Landfill

A. The percentage of household waste collected which is sent to landfill	67.91
B. The tonnage of household waste collected which is sent to landfill	15864

E6: Recycling Facilities

The total number of Bring Sites in the local authority area	123
The total number of Civic Amenity Centres in the local authority area	4

Glass

A. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	50
B. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	4
C. The total number of facilities for recycling	54
D. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	2.05

Cans

E. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	50
F. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	4
G. The total number of facilities for recycling	54
H. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	2.05

Textiles

I. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	88
J. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	4
K. The total number of facilities for recycling	92
L. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	3.50

Batteries

M. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	14
N. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	3
O. The total number of facilities for recycling	17
P. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	0.65

Oils

Q. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	0
R. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	3
S. The total number of facilities for recycling	3
T. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	0.11

Other materials

U. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	8
V. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	4
W. The total number of facilities for recycling	12
X. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	0.46

Litter

E7: Litter Prevention and Enforcement

A. Number of full-time litter wardens	3
B. Number of part-time litter wardens	24
C. Number of litter wardens (both full- and part-time) per 5,000 population	1.03
D. Number of on-the-spot fines issued	215
E. Number of on-the-spot fines paid	68
F. Number of prosecution cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	4
G. Number of prosecutions secured in cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	1
H. Number of notices issued (under sections 9, 15, 16, 17 and 20 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997)	0
I. Total number of prosecutions taken (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	4
J. Total number of prosecutions secured (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	1
K. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are unpolluted (i.e. litter-free)	
L. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are slightly polluted with litter	
M. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are moderately polluted with litter	
N. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are significantly polluted with litter	
O. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are grossly polluted with litter	

E8: Environmental Complaints and Enforcement

A. Total number of cases subject to complaints concerning environmental pollution (relating to waste, litter, water pollution, noise pollution, air pollution)	1703
B. Number of complaints investigated	1670
C. Number of complaints resolved where no further action was necessary	1630
D. Number of enforcement procedures taken	845

E9: Percentage of schools participating in environmental campaigns

A. Percentage of primary schools participating in environmental campaigns	79.17
B. Percentage of secondary schools participating in environmental campaigns	90.48

Finance, Information Systems and Motor Taxation

FIBER OPTIC CABLE NETWORK



Finance

Oliver Killeen
Head of Finance
and Information Systems



To provide relevant, timely and accurate financial information to assist in the making of informed decisions.

Balance Sheet

As At 31st December 2010

	2010 €	2009 €
Fixed Assets		
Operational	387,247,000	372,184,803
Infrastructural	2,382,106,851	1,941,096,295
Community	552,748	552,748
Non-Operational	14,004,473	14,728,233
	2,783,911,072	2,328,562,079
Work-in-Progress and Preliminary Expenses	52,949,783	480,420,274
Long Term Debtors	27,240,151	27,898,943
Current Assets		
Stock	283,889	255,079
Trade Debtors and Prepayments	14,648,106	19,055,518
Bank Investments	30,392,656	8,992,305
Cash at Bank	-	4,540,815
Cash in Transit	5,075	14,426
	45,329,726	322,858,143
Current Liabilities		
Bank Overdraft	1,151	-
Creditors & Accruals	31,096,020	27,359,882
Urban Account	-	-
Finance Leases	375,937	27,714,971
	31,473,108	27,714,971
Net Current Assets / (Liabilities)	13,856,618	5,143,172
Creditors (Amounts greater than One Year)		
Loans Payable	65,652,024	65,759,912
Finance Leases	128,646	502,975
Refundable Deposits	1,492,656	1,496,406
Other	-	-
	67,273,326	67,759,293
Net Assets / (Liabilities)	2,810,684,298	2,774,265,175
Represented By		
Capitalisation Account	2,783,911,072	2,328,562,080
Income WIP	52,708,171	474,601,142
Specific Revenue Reserve	384,904	384,904
General Revenue Reserve	276,282	81,220
Other Balances	(26,596,132)	(29,364,171)
Total Reserves	2,810,684,297	2,774,265,175

Income and Expenditure Account Statement For Year Ended 31st December 2010

The Income and Expenditure Account Statement brings together all the revenue related income and expenditure. It shows the surplus/(deficit) for the year.

Expenditure by Division	Gross Expenditure 2010 €	Income 2010 €	Net Expenditure 2010 €	Net Expenditure 2009 €
Housing and Building	10,873,516	10,751,770	121,746	278,917
Road transport & Safety	23,846,821	15,319,497	8,527,324	9,489,160
Water Services	21,321,722	9,361,932	11,959,790	10,907,443
Development Management	5,923,651	1,402,093	4,521,558	5,584,238
Environmental Services	19,225,185	11,467,310	7,757,875	6,557,665
Recreation and Amenity	5,464,050	454,846	5,009,204	5,781,383
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	10,258,083	9,589,811	668,272	774,671
Miscellaneous Services	8,613,697	3,861,499	4,752,198	4,878,486
Central management charges	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditure/Income	105,526,724	62,208,758		
Net Cost of Divisions to be funded from Rates and Local Government Fund			43,317,966	44,251,964
Pension related deduction			1,950,869	1,453,627
Local government fund			21,248,129	23,410,829
Commercial rates			27,634,169	26,570,796
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year before Transfers			7,515,201	7,183,288
Transfers from/(to) Reserves			(7,320,139)	(7,172,517)
Overall Surplus/(Deficit) for Year			195,062	10,771
General Reserve at 1st January			81,220	70,449
General Reserve at 31st December			276,282	81,220

Summart Of Capital Expenditure And Income

	2010 €	2009 €
Expenditure (Net of Internal Transfers) *		
Housing & Building	18,427,220	20,433,791
Road Transportation & Safety	77,843,017	78,809,937
Water Supply & Sewerage	4,345,305	14,615,450
Development Incentives & Control	2,477,067	3,855,214
Environmental Protection	2,804,956	1,850,934
Recreation & Amenity	32,139	1,068,835
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	-	-
Miscellaneous	210,779	6,066,526
	106,140,483	126,700,687
Income (Net of Internal Transfers) *		
Housing & Building	16,448,863	17,428,102
Road Transportation & Safety	78,510,664	75,009,732
Water Supply & Sewerage	10,908,431	7,812,820
Development Incentives & Control	3,735,565	4,153,187
Environmental Protection	3,515,581	1,738,134
Recreation & Amenity	388,612	189,472
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	-	-
Miscellaneous	631,281	2,830,300
	114,138,997	109,161,747
Surplus/(Deficit) for year	7,998,514	(17,538,940)
Balance (Debit)/Credit @ 1st January	11,728,979	29,267,920
Balance (Debit)/Credit @ 31 December	19,727,494	11,728,979

* Excludes internal transfers, includes transfers to and from Revenue account

Information Systems

To maintain and progress a secure and reliable infrastructure of Information and Communications systems which will facilitate the management and operation of Limerick County Council

During 2010 the Information Systems section continued to support sections in achieving their objectives. Some of the main areas of activity were:

Storage Area Network

Limerick County Council purchased two Storage Area Networks (SANs) during 2009, and the remaining production servers were moved to this storage during 2010. A SAN is a data storage & management architecture that provide a secure data storage infrastructure that can be centrally managed. During 2010 a third SAN was purchased, and installed in our Disaster Recovery Room in Lissanalta House.

Replication of some servers between the SANs in County Hall and the SAN in Lissanalta House commenced during 2010, replication of additional servers will commence during 2011. This, together with Server Virtualisation will improve system recovery times should we encounter any system failures.

Systems Development

During 2010 the Information systems section developed, upgraded and implemented a number of systems that enabled user sections provide a more effective and efficient service to the citizens of County Limerick, some of these included :-

- Housing Grants System.
- Debtors System for Planning Contributions.
- Core H.R. and Time & Attendance Systems.
- Fire Systems.
- Laboratory Systems.

Virtualisation

During 2010 I.S. continued to Virtualise Servers, and now have all production servers in a virtualised environment. Server virtualization allows the conversion of one physical server into many virtual Servers. There are many benefits achieved from Server Virtualisation, some of the main benefits are :

- Server consolidation, reduce the number of physical servers, in Limerick County Council's case by 60%.
- Smaller footprint, reduced energy and cooling costs.
- Hardware costs reduced as fewer physical servers are required.
- Disaster Recovery\Business Continuity is simplified.

A trial of Virtual Desktops and Thin Clients continued during 2010. These use similar technology to Virtual Servers and are used to replace the standard desktop P.C. Several Virtual Desktops are created on a physical Server, these Virtual Desktops are then accessed using Thin Clients. The use of Virtual Desktop and Thin Clients have many benefits for deployment, management, and maintenance of desktops, and also reduce carbon footprint and save in power costs.

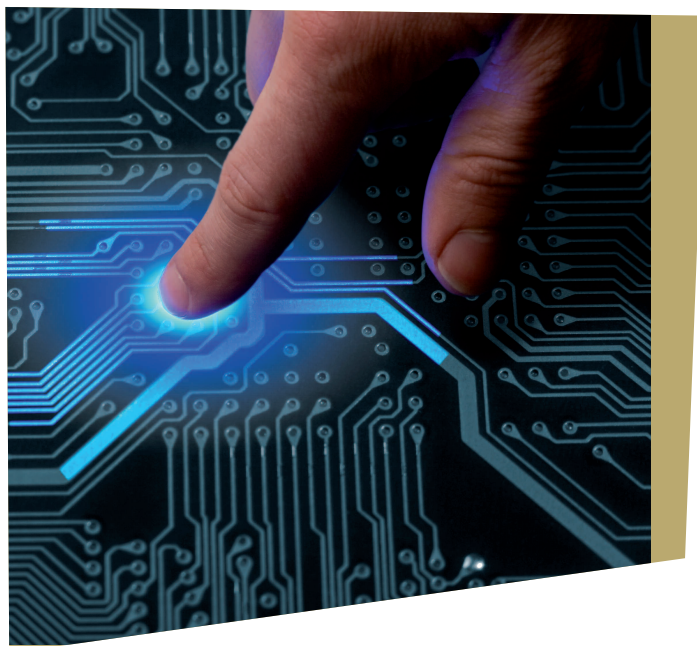
Open Source Software

Open Source software is software that is given away freely. But more than that, the source code to the software is also given away. That means not only that anyone can use the software, but anyone can see exactly how it works. And even more, anyone can take that software, change it, and redistribute it.

During 2010 we redesigned the web site <http://www.cllsp.ie> using SiteFinity Open Source Content Management System. This has enabled users sections to update this web site themselves. It is proposed to redesign other web sites using this technology during 2011.

Helpdesk\Systems Support

The I.S. section continued to provide a user Helpdesk during 2010, and supported and maintained end-user systems, including WEB sites throughout 2010.



Motor Taxation

Limerick County Motor Taxation Office continued to provide motor tax and driving licences in 2010. The office in Lissanalta House in Dooradoyle is located 800 yards from County Hall and is accessible from all major routes into the city. There are 35 parking spaces available to the public. Opening hours are between the hours of 9.30 a.m. and 3.30 p.m. daily, including lunchtime.

- Through the post to Motor Taxation, Lissanalta House, Dooradoyle, Co. Limerick.
- At our Area Office located in Áras William Smith O'Brien, Newcastle West, Co. Limerick.
- At our Headquarters located at Lissanalta House, Dooradoyle, Co. Limerick.

There are now a number of options available to the general public to tax their vehicles:

- Tax on-line at www.motortax.ie. All you need to do this is a credit card or laser card, your motor insurance details, your PIN as supplied by the VRU in Shannon on your renewal notification. The Motor Tax classifications which are eligible to avail of the online service are: Private Cars, Agricultural Tractors, Excavators, Motor Cycles, Exempt (Disabled Drivers), Vintage/Veteran and Motor Caravans and first time taxing of new or imported vehicles.

Motor Taxation Service Indicators 2010

M Motor Taxation:

M.1.Number of Motor Tax Transactions which

Were dealt with over the counter	88,383
Were dealt with by post	24,166
Were dealt with online	58,182

Percentage of Motor Tax Transactions which

Were dealt with over the counter	51.77
Were dealt with by post	14.15
Were dealt with online	34.08

M.2. Time taken to process Motor Tax postal applications:

Number of postal applications which were dealt with	
(a)On the same day as receipt of application	21,719
(b)On the second or third day from receipt of application	2,382
(c) On the fourth or fifth day from receipt of application	9
(d)Over five days from receipt of application	56

Percentage of overall postal applications which were dealt with

(a)On the same day as receipt of application	89.87
(b)On the second or third day from receipt of application	9.86
(c)On the fourth or fifth day from receipt of application	0.04
(d)Over five days from receipt of application	0.23

M.3.Time taken to process Driving Licence applications:

Number of Driving Licence applications which were dealt with (i.e. Driving Licence was processed and completed and the Licence was either issued by hand over the counter or by post to the applicant)	
(a)On the same day as receipt of application	18,628
(b)On the second or third day from receipt of application	753
(c)On the fourth or fifth day from receipt of application	15
(d)Over five days from receipt of application	39

Percentage of overall Driving Licence applications which were dealt with

(i.e. Driving Licence was processed and completed and the Licence was either issued by hand over the counter or by post to the applicant)	
(a)On the same day as receipt of application	95.85
(b)On the second or third day from receipt of application	3.87
(c)On the fourth or fifth day from receipt of application	0.08
(d)Over five days from receipt of application	0.20

M.4.Public Opening Hours

Average number of opening hours per week	30
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Lissanalta House Dooradoyle

Area Office Development

Adare Village

Mulcaire River



Adare Castleconnell

The Adare and Castleconnell Offices had a particularly challenging year in 2010, both weather wise and financially. With the public finances and resources on an uncertain footing as never before, the Elected Members, Housing, Water, Roads and Administrative teams rallied to maintain service levels, focus on emergencies and keep within Budgets. It is appropriate to note the commitment of our "hands on" staff in particular, who were on call and working throughout December and January responding to water services and roads emergencies.

Retirements in 2010 are Dick Brennan, William Ryan and Jimmy Healy, Castleconnell roads team; Tom Fitzgerald Castleconnell Housing team; Denis Mulcahy and Denis Conway, Adare Roads team and Geraldine Walsh, School Warden for Croom. These staff members have not been replaced and maintenance of minimum service levels, whilst taking Health and Safety requirements into consideration has become a serious challenge at every level.

One way to face this challenge is to work in partnership with others, and this is deeply rooted in our daily lives, both within and without the organization.

Limerick in Bloom

Adare Tidy Towns achieved Overall Winner in Category 1, (towns with a population of over 700), in the Limerick in Bloom Competition, 2010. Adare also received a gold medal in the National Tidy Towns Competition, 2010. A super achievement, made possible by the local community working with Croom Area Office team and Environment Section. But that's not all, Patrickswell Tidy Towns finished second in Category 1, Croom Community Development Association were awarded third prize.

Highly commended by Limerick in Bloom, are the communities represented by Kildimo Tidy Towns, Clarina Tidy Towns, Glenside Residents Association, Donoughmore, Knockea,

Roxboro Community Association, Ballyneety, Murroe Tidy Towns and Castleconnell Tidy Towns
Molaim thú!

Mulcaire LIFE

Inland Fisheries Ireland, the Office of Public Works and Limerick County Council, (Annacotty), team up to restore the lower Shannon Special Area of Conservation, (Mulcaire River Catchment), for Atlantic Salmon, Sea Lamprey and Otter. Works undertaken are sustainable, practical measures and focus on maintaining this beautiful community resource. For example, Annacotty weir facilitates Sea Lamprey passage, and Sea Lamprey radio tagging took place in summer of 2010, ensuring continuous Salmon stocks. One of the most important salmon tributaries of the River Shannon, it is the focus of a fisheries catchment management programme - probably gets a greater run of wild Salmon than the main Shannon River upstream of Castleconnell!

The Great Limerick Run

Continuing our team work, May, 2010, saw Adare and Castleconnell personnel, Community and Enterprise Section and The Great Limerick Run Ltd., in sporting mode. A single day event, with 3 races taking place, (10k, half marathon and full marathon), the run is unique to Ireland. The Run caters for walkers, novice runners, competitive participants and all levels of mobility. Site Lay Out, Traffic Management, funding and manpower were provided in the lead up, during and in the close off period for The Run. The event was heralded as a success highlighting Limerick's great sporting nature and bringing sporting tourism to the County and City - this just may be a hardy annual!

Roads Services

Roads Services activities throughout the year included attention to footpaths, drainage, masonry works, road surface improvement and restoration. Our Budget was reduced on that of 2009 by approximately 7%, despite this the team has made an especially strong effort in maintaining quality services for our community. A breakdown of funds invested in Adare and Castleconnell E. A. is outlined below. Funding for our Roads Services activities is sourced locally and centrally, (National Roads Authority and Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government).

National Roads Authority and Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government Funds

Adare Electoral Area

- Local Road Restoration & Improvement, (examples, footpath improvements, drainage, masonry works, and road surface works), €846,000
- Local Road Surface Dressing, €259,360
- Local Improvement Scheme at Kildimo, €25,680
- Low Cost Safety Scheme at Adare, €25,000
- Specific Improvement Grant for Quinns Cross to St. Nessan's School, €309,000;
- Regional Road Restoration and Improvement, €46,234
- Regional Road Surface Dressing, €45,640
- Street Cleaning, €159,417

Castleconnell Electoral Area

- Local Road Restoration & Improvement, (examples, footpath improvements, drainage, masonry works, and road surface works), €1,269,457
- Local Road Surface Dressing, €381,995
- Local Roads Specific Improve Grant for The Hermitage, Castleconnell, €199,874
- Regional Road Restoration & Improvement, (examples footpaths, road investigation works), €30,444
- Regional Road Surface Dressing, €50,284
- Street Cleaning, €146,085.

Local Funding

Adare Electoral Area

- Regional Roads items of a general maintenance nature, €23,511
- Regional Roads, Tar Patching, Signposting and Winter Maintenance, €50,863
- Local Roads, items of a general maintenance nature, €223,895
- Local Roads, Tar Patching, €100,782
- Network within the Limerick City Environs, (footpaths and general maintenance), a sum of €177,700.

Castleconnell Electoral Area

- Regional Roads items of a general maintenance nature, €63,434
- Regional Roads, Tar Patching, Signposting and Winter Maintenance, €82,084
- Local Roads, items of a general maintenance nature, €404,316
- Local Roads, Tar Patching, €173,118
- Network within the Limerick City Environs, (footpaths and general maintenance), €102,719
- Maintenance and Drainage of Mulcaire River, €186,923.

Adare

Adare Electoral Area Committee has seven Members, these are, Richard Butler, Chairman of the full Council and Area Committee, Leo Walsh, Tomás Hannon, James Collins, Patrick C. Fitzgerald, Rose Brennan and Leonard Enright. We held 9 Meetings in 2010, subject matter ranging from speed limits, rights of way, Parks, the Road Programme, sale of pockets of land, signage, winter maintenance, visits from Ballybrown and Kildimo Community Council.

Croom Area Office serves Adare Electoral Area for the purposes of Roads maintenance. It is possible to make payments for local authority services and also to the Revenue Collector at the Croom Office on Fridays.

Disability Works

At the Heritage Centre, Adare, we provided two further car parking spaces for people with a disability, along with a zebra crossing on Adare's Main Street. Fr. Russell Road has been enhanced with an upgrade to the pedestrian crossing; dipped footpaths and tactile paving were part of the suite of works completed. These items though small in nature, help those in our community who experience mobility issues, and facilitate independent living.

Crecora National School

Drainage works were carried out at this location to cater for flooding which has been occurring over many years causing an unsafe environment for all users.

Castleconnell

Our outgoing Chairperson, Councillor Brigid Teefy, handed the chain of office to Councillor Noel Gleeson, in September. Castleconnell Electoral Area Committee has seven Members, Noel Gleeson, Brigid Teefy, Mary Jackman, Mary Harty, Eddie Wade, John Egan and Michael Sheahan. We held 9 Meetings in 2010, with Agenda items for example, briefing from Superintendent F. O'Brien, Local Area Plan reviews, traffic and vehicle parking management, land sales, speed limits, signage, winter maintenance, the Road Programme, playgrounds and parks and more.

Taking in Charge of Estates is also one of our briefs, and 11 estates received attention this year. These are Ros Farna, The Meadows, Murroe; Cluain Fada, Ballysheedy; Foxfield and Glencairn, Dooradoyle; The Forts and Clover Hill, Dooradoyle; Castle Court, Castleconnell; The Commons, Castleconnell; The Orchard, (Phase II), and Roskeen, both in Castletroy. These have significance for our ongoing maintenance budgets.

Housing and Water Services

Local Authority Rented Houses

A figure of €149,000, was invested in the maintenance and upgrading of our rented homes. 2010 began our investment in energy efficiency upgrading our housing. Improvement works have been carried out on 20 houses, and works consisted of a mix of central heating, attic and cavity wall insulation, double glazed windows installation, draught excluders and low cost energy bulbs. With a stock of 430 houses this can only be carried out over a number of years, and it is a new and interesting area of activity for Annacotty Area Office personnel. The final stage of the upgrading of Rural Cottages was completed in the year, with 6 houses treated. Works had a major focus on those items of an energy efficiency improvement nature. Maintenance of our Halting Site at Castletroy cost €35,000.

New Purchases

Given the current economic climate, it makes sense to purchase rather than build housing, and a total of 40 houses were purchased in our area last year, for rental to persons in

need of housing. Pre-letting repairs, €97,569, were carried out, and where necessary, works to bring homes up to Building Energy Regulation requirements were also completed.

Housing Grant Schemes

For privately owned housing, there are 3 schemes available, Housing Aid for Older People, 30 awarded, Housing Adaptation Grant for People With a Disability, 21 awarded, and Mobility Aids Grant, 14 awarded. 65 Grants were awarded in 2010, with 57 reaching payment stage. The aim of these small grants is to assist persons with necessary home improvement works to facilitate independent living and ease mobility and access issues. A figure of €448,000, was invested in the community in 2010, however, the need always exceeds the budget available.

Water Treatment Plant Maintenance

Installation of Ultra Violet Treatment facilities in a number of WTPs took place in 2010 to improve the quality of supply to consumers. Arctic weather conditions of November – December, again highlighted the challenge of unaccounted for water. It became necessary to interrupt/ration supplies in order to ensure all consumers had access to a limited supply. We would repeat our request that people do not waste this valuable, finite resource. It is interesting to note the reduction in applications to connect to the public water supplies, 33 in 2010 versus 99 in 2007 – a difference of 60%, and indicative of the downturn in the construction industry. A new borehole was commissioned for the Carrigmore Water Treatment Plant at Doon, leading to improved quality and reliability of supply.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Maintenance

Castletroy WWTP had a major upgrade of the plant, resulting in increased capacity and efficiencies – much welcome in this current climate! Environmental Protection Agency granted Licences for a number of treatment plants in our area, including, Castletroy, Doon, Cappamore and Pallasgrea.

Group Schemes Upgrade

Green Hills and Mountshannon Road saw an improved pipe network installed. This will facilitate our maintenance of the schemes and help to address water leakage.

Private Well Grants

In tandem with Water Services Section 12 applications were processed and approved. A small grant, this assists persons who are providing a domestic, private water supply for their homes, and it is of a maximum €2,013. Works which can be considered are, drilling or commissioning a new well, rehabilitating an existing well, deepening or relining an existing bore, removing silt, constructing or improving a pumphouse, piping or other facilities in connection with the supply of water, provision or improvement of mechanical or electrical equipment - the provision or improvement of facilities or equipment for the treatment of water.

Burial Ground Maintenance and Improvements

Continued apace with provision of additional grave spaces at Doon and at the new cemetery at Castlemungret.

Disability Works

Three pedestrian crossing facilities were put in place in Castleconnell area at Castleconnell village, outside the Nursing Home, Plassey Park Road, outside the Retirement Village and in Caherconlish, outside Ceoil na hAbhainn, residential estate on the Limerick to Michelstown Road. In the case of Castleconnell and Plassey Park Road Pedestrian Crossings, Limerick County Council placed ramps on the approach to the Pedestrian Crossings in order to calm traffic and the Pedestrian Crossings themselves are on a raised platform, to enhance safe use of the facilities by pedestrians.

Safety

Road works of a safety nature took place at Murroe, to link the estates of Rossferna, The Meadows and Cois na Coille to Murroe village. A footpath was constructed and a section of the road widened to benefit pedestrians and motorists. The community of Hillcrest, Ballysheedy benefit from the improvement to site lines following from the removal of hedgerows and setting back of the new fencing in place. All well appointed road works whether surface dressing or restoration in nature, lend to the safety of our roads. In this regard works at Monaleen Heights, Monaleen Park and Walkers Road – received ralumac surfacing, Oola Village – saw a suite of road pavement restoration and improvement take place, roads in the vicinity of Castleconnell village and Mountpelier where reconstructed, for example.

Recycling

The Roads Team have taken recycling very much to heart, and engaged in road recycling in Cellogue, Old Pallas, Bog Road, Castleconnell and Garden Hill, Castleconnell. These roads were constructed on existing bogs and in order to reduce the weight on the sub-grade, it was considered practical to re-use the material from previous improvements to shape and structure the now improved road. This of course has financial and environmental value.

Major Schemes

October saw the opening of the Limerick to Nenagh Motorway, (M7), an asset which has been lauded by many, as it reduces journey times by 10 to 15 minutes. Overlay between Beary's Cross and the Ballysimon Interchange, (N24), completed the suite of overlays between Limerick City and Oola village again making for more enjoyable, safer and timely use of the road network.



Kilmallock

Kilmallock Area Committee

During 2010 Kilmallock Area Committee held ten meetings. At the meeting of 29 July Cllr. Eddie Ryan assumed the Chair for a period of 1 year.

The committee received deputations from Anglesborough and Galbally Community Councils at its April meeting, and a deputation regarding Hospital Pedestrian Crossing at its October meeting.

Roads

In the Kilmallock Roads area in 2010 the following works were carried out.

Regional Road Reconstruction	
10,900m ² at a cost of	€223,400
Regional Road Surface Dressing	
50,080m ² at a cost of	€200,320
Local Roads Reconstruction	
84,631m ² at a cost of	€1,607,960
Local Roads Surface Dressing	
123,141m ² at a cost of	€418,680

In addition a sum of €10,000 was allocated for Regional Road signposting on the R512 and R513.

€30,000 was allocated for a development fund scheme to provide a new footpath and pedestrian crossing in Kilfinane to serve the proposed new playground and playschool and €80,000 was allocated for junction improvements at Cooke's Cross, Knockainy.

Housing

Maintenance & Preletting

The Housing Section in the Area is responsible for all maintenance and improvement works carried out on our existing housing stock. Preletting is one element of this work and in 2010 energy efficiency works were carried out on 34 houses which were void. This work involved the installation of heating systems, heating controls, solar panels. The walls of the houses were pumped with insulation and the attics were also brought up to current insulation standards.

Refurbishment of Rural Dwellings Scheme

7 No. rural cottages were refurbished under the Refurbishment of Rural Dwellings Scheme by the Kilmallock Area. Works involved the upgrading of heating systems, installation of windows and doors, rewiring, surfacing driveways, upgrading of treatment systems, fencing and landscaping.

Housing Grants

Works were carried out on 10 No. Council houses by direct labour under the Housing Adaptation Scheme for County Council Houses.

A total of 108 housing grants to private houses to the value of €878,143 were paid by Kilmallock area office in 2010.

New grants to the value of €1,054,373 were approved for 124 applicants.

Burial Grounds

The Kilmallock Area Office carry out maintenance and some improvement works on various burial grounds within the area. Significant works were carried out on Ballylanders burial ground where an existing scrub area has been developed for more burial spaces. New footpaths were laid and markers set out for the new spaces.

Water Services

The Kilmallock Water Services Section operates, maintains and improves the water services infrastructure in the area. The area has the following infrastructure:

- 17 Water Supply Schemes which consist of 29 boreholes sources and 1 river source which is the River Loobagh and this supplies Kilmallock and its hinterland
- 15 Reservoirs
- 400km of watermains
- 15 Wastewater Treatment Plants
- 6 Booster Pump Sets

Camas Bruff GWS

A significant portion of the Camas Bruff Group Water Scheme was upgraded by the Kilmallock Area Office as the scheme is being taken in charge. This was funded under the Rural Water Programme by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government. Three kilometres of very poor water mains were replaced under this project, a further 2.5 km remain to be replaced.

SCADA

Significant works were undertaken upgrading Limerick County Council's Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition system. This is invaluable in monitoring the Water Services Infrastructure and will ultimately improve Levels of Service.

Facilities Upgrade

A number of the Water Treatment Facilities were upgraded with further works planned for 2011.

Bruff WWTW

Funding is now in place for the construction of a new Wastewater Treatment Plant for the town of Bruff. Works will commence early in 2011.

Problems due to Extreme Cold Spell

Significant problems were experienced throughout November and December 2010 due to the extremely cold weather conditions at the time when temperatures went as low as -16°C. Water Services Infrastructure struggled to operate and maintain supplies in the unprecedented cold conditions. The water services crews worked all through the Christmas holidays in order to ensure the supply of water to the public.

Kilmallock Town Wall

The Irish Walled Towns Network was set up by the Heritage Council in 2005 to coordinate the work of Local Authorities in the preservation of town defences. In 2010 Kilmallock was again successful in obtaining a grant towards capital works. The work was carried out to over 150m of the outer face of the eastern town wall where it bounds the graveyard at the Collegiate Church. The works consisted largely of cleaning, repointing the wall face and weatherproofing the wall top, as well as small local repairs. The works discovered that the eastern wall of the graveyard is actually two walls. The outer wall was built first and the inner wall was added to increase the width of the wall to incorporate a parapet wall and wall walk. The works have brought the wall back into the public domain, particularly the north wall which is very visible on the way to the Dominican Priory.

Entrance to Kilmallock Abbey



castle Desmne Information Board



Newcastle West

The Newcastle West Area Office, Áras William Smith O'Brien, provides a broad range of services throughout West Limerick, including Road Maintenance, Housing, Burial Grounds, Water Services, Planning Clinics, Motor Tax, as well as operation of the Council's Machinery Yard & Bitumen Depot.

Roads

Expenditure on maintenance and improvement works in Newcastle West Roads Area in 2010 was financed by way of Government Grants, and the Council's own resources.

Road expenditure programmes included:

- Major road surface overlay on the N21 at Killarney Road, Abbeyfeale.
- Road strengthening and surface dressing schemes on regional and local roads.
- Road overlays at New Street, Abbeyfeale and Athea Village.
- Upgrading of bridge at Abbeyfeale.
- Junction safety improvements at Athea, and Bruff Line, Newcastle West.
- Footpath upgrading at Newcastle West, Abbeyfeale and Broadford.
- Local Improvement Schemes.
- Pedestrian Crossings at Athea and St. Mary's Road, Newcastle West.
- Major upgrading at Feohanagh, including road surface, drainage, footpaths, public lighting and pedestrian bridge.

Rathina Flood Relief

During 2010, the Office of Public Works completed a flood barrier at Rathina consisting of reinforced culvert wall faced with natural stone, and this extends from Bridge of Tears to Courtenay Bridge. The river bank has now been landscaped,

and a new footpath has been constructed along the entire length.

Office of Public Works Minor Flood Mitigation Works

The Newcastle West Area was fortunate to be allocated a grant of €445k from the Office of Public Works for flood mitigation works in the Area. These works included a substantial surface water scheme at Feenagh, as well as a number of minor works at 11 other flood-prone locations. It also provided for the acquisition of 3 No. large portable diesel pumps for emergencies and planned pumping needs.

Bridge at Abbeyfeale

In April 2010 the Allaghaun Bridge between Abbeyfeale and Athea on R524 had a structural failure which necessitated road closure for emergency works. The damage was due to scouring of the foundations following numerous flood events. Following emergency remedial works to foundations and masonry structure the bridge was opened on a single lane basis. It is hoped to complete the works in 2011.

IBAL Anti-Litter League 2010

Newcastle West was selected by IBAL (Irish Business Against Litter) as one of 53 towns/cities throughout Ireland to take part in a National Litter Survey during 2010. Surveys were conducted throughout the year, and Newcastle West finished in 25th place, and adjudged to be "Clean to European Norms".

National Disability Grant

Under this programme in 2010, a new footpath was installed at Broadford from the creche to the village, including tactile paving crossings, and wheelchair friendly dropped kerbs. At Station Road, Newcastle West, footpath replacement works included disability parking at Funeral Parlour, and tactile paving crossings.

Demesne, Newcastle West

This public amenity continues to increase in popularity, with large numbers enjoying the facilities. In 2010, a number of information boards were erected at various locations, containing items of interest, relevant to Newcastle West and the Demesne. These ranged widely from Gearoid Iarla to Ha-Ha wall to Fox Covert to name but a few. Also, in the past year, the Newcastle West A.F.C. completed an all-weather facility, and the Council provided improved parking to front of G.A.A. which also benefits the Children's Playground.

Housing

Rural Remedial Works Scheme

Works were carried out on 5 No. Rural Cottages during 2010 at a cost of €168,210.00.

The following is a breakdown of the works carried out:

- Replacement of Windows and Doors
- Insulation
- New Kitchens (where applicable)
- Flooring
- Wiring
- Surfacing Driveway
- Fencing/Landscaping

Housing Grants Scheme

17 No. applications under the Housing Adaptation Grants for People with a Disability were approved in 2010 at a cost of €253,896.00.

20 No. applications under the Mobility Aids Housing Grants were approved in 2010 at a cost of €81,332.00.

89 No. applications under the Housing Aid for Older People were approved in 2010 at a cost of €595,841.00.

Water Services

The Newcastle West Area Office operates and maintains a large number of water and sewerage schemes throughout West Limerick. These include modern water treatment plants at Newcastle West and Abbeyfeale, which are two of the largest towns in the County, and between them produce in the region of 1.5 million gallons of water per day.

Once again, in 2010, a severe cold snap in December led to wide scale disruption in the water supply, especially in areas serviced from Abbeyfeale. This area extended from Athea to Mountcollins including Abbeyfeale Town. The main difficulties experienced were freezing in the water treatment tanks and pipe work, especially when temperatures reached a low of -18°C, as well of course the freezing of individual service connections. The Council activated a county-wide response plan to deal with the emergencies, as well as possible. Tankers of water were provided at strategic locations, and a water stand pipe was provided in the Newcastle West Area Office Car Park. Unfortunately, there was wide scale disruption to supplies, with numerous shut-downs to conserve supplies, and to maintain some water in reservoirs.

Machinery Yard

In keeping with its modernization policy, the Machinery Yard Section has in 2010, further enhanced its fleet with the procurement of 2 No. large 30 Ton trailers, 1 No. Articulated Tractor Unit and 1 No. Towed Velocity Patching Unit, at a total cost of €72,760.00. The above procurement of quality second hand plant ensures that the Machinery Yard Section continues to maintain a very modern fleet to effectively service the road works operations across the County. It is intended to implement the next phase of the 5 year rolling replacement programme as soon as the economic situation improves.

There were two further retirements of Plant Operators during 2010 resulting in a reduction of 30% of Plant Operators in the last two years with just fourteen now remaining. However, two new Fitter Mechanics were recruited to replace those who had retired in the last few years enabling the Machinery Yard to maintain its servicing schedule.

Ballingrane Bitumen Depot

The Bitumen Depot at Ballingrane continues to play a central role in the Road Works Programme with all bitumen used in the County distributed through this central depot. The 2010 total output of 769,650 gallons was slightly up on the 2009 figure of 740,250 gallons mainly due to a small increase in surface dressing operations.

Motor Taxation

The Motor Taxation Section in Newcastle West had takings in excess of €6million in 2010. The number of transactions were 32,313.

Rathkeale Civic Reception

1



2



Rathkeale

Rathkeale Electoral Area

The Rathkeale Office provides a range of engineering and administrative services to the Rathkeale Area, that includes road improvement and maintenance, water & waste-water services, housing and customer services.

Area Committee Meetings

The current members of the Rathkeale Area Committee are as follows :

Councillor John Sheahan, Chairman;
Councillor David Naughton;
Councillor Stephen Keary;
Councillor Kevin Sheahan.

This Committee held 16 number meetings during 2010, with meetings generally in the Council Offices, Rathkeale.

Roads

Substantial improvement works were undertaken during the year to the Area roads network, with expenditure in excess of €3.1m. These works included road strengthening, surface dressing, macadam overlays, roadway lining, new and replacement signage, road drainage and general road maintenance. Extensive salting of roads was carried out during the winter months, particularly to the national roads, N21 & N69, as well as the major Regional roads in the area. Road strengthening and improvement works were completed on various Local Primary & Secondary roads during the year. Surface dressing works were completed on many Regional and Local roads as well during the year. Major drainage works were completed on the R523 Carrigerry-Athea road. A Local Improvement Scheme was completed at Knockfierna.

Housing

The Council housing section carries out maintenance and improvement works to its stock of houses as well as maintenance works to the Council burial grounds and Libraries in the area.

A budget of approx €284,000 was allocated in 2010 for the maintenance of, and improvements to the Rathkeale Area's existing housing stock, and Residential Caravan site. The Council also processes the various Housing Aid Grants, ie Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme for People with a Disability; Housing Aid for Older People Scheme; and the Mobility Aids Grant Scheme.

During the year in excess of 20 number Council houses were retro-fitted with energy efficiency works including changes to the heating system and improvements to insulation in order to bring them up to the C1 BER energy rating. Vacant houses are energy rated and generally are brought up to a C1 energy rating before being let to new tenants.

Water Services

The Council operates and maintains numerous water and waste-water schemes throughout the area. Included in this is the Shannon Estuary Water Supply Scheme, which is the County's largest water supply scheme, producing in excess of 4 million gallons of potable water per day. This plant supplies water to the Aughinish Alumina Plant as well as the surrounding hinterland and operates to ISO Standard. An overall budget of approx €2.0m was allocated to the operation and maintenance of these schemes in 2010.

Significant difficulties arose during the year in the operation of water supplies throughout the area due to the extremely cold weather, particularly in the months of January and December. The Council carries out maintenance and some improvement works to Burial Grounds in the Rathkeale area. During the year improvement works were completed at Ballysteen BG, St. Joseph's BG and St. Nicholas's BG in Adare. Part of the Burial Ground at Kilsannell had to be closed off during the year for safety reasons as a number of the parapets of the old church building on the site were considered to be in danger of collapsing.

Environmental Services

Recycling facilities are located in the following towns and villages :

- Askeaton – Arena Car Park
- Ballingarry
- Foynes
- Loghill
- Pallaskenry – Copswood College
- Rathkeale – New Line
- Shanagolden.

Facilities include the re-cycling of glass, bottles and jars, food and drink cans.

The Council undertakes street cleaning works at many towns and villages, with the use of a mechanical suction sweeper as well as manual cleaning. Major clean-ups are organised on a regular basis, including at the following locations : Rathkeale Town, Foynes, Ballingarry, Glin, Askeaton and on N21 and N69 routes as well as on approaches to various towns and villages.

Lifeguard Service

Temporary lifeguards and pier attendants were employed at both Glin and Killeary Piers during the 2010 summer bathing period.

Playgrounds & Playing Pitches

The Council are actively encouraging and financing the development of playgrounds and pitches throughout the County. In the Rathkeale area a new playground was operational in Askeaton, located adjacent to the swimming pool, and other community playgrounds were operational in Glin and Foynes. A new all weather mini-pitch was operational in Rathkeale town near Abbeycourt.

Arts Centre

A new Arts Centre is operational as part of the newly refurbished Rathkeale Area Headquarters, at "Áras Seán Finn", New Line Road, Rathkeale. This venue hosted many and varied arts related events during the year, including drama, painting exhibitions, music, etc. These events are booked and overseen by the Council Arts Office.



Reception at Rathkeale Area Office

1. At a Reception in the Limerick County Council's Rathkeale Area Office, Cllr John Sheahan and members of the Rathkeale Electoral Area Committee, presented a scroll to Joe Williams for Rathkeale Boxing Club, in recognition of the achievement in winning Five All Ireland Boxing Titles in 2010. Also in the picture are Cllr David Naughton, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council, Cllr Kevin Sheahan, Cllr Stephen Keary, Karina Meskeel, Johnny Jones, Mike Ruttle, Ger Casey, Rob and Luc Williams, Gavin Healy, Avril Fox and Stephen Casey.
2. At a Reception in the Limerick County Council's Rathkeale Area Office, Cllr John Sheahan and members of the Rathkeale Electoral Area Committee, presented a scroll to Jacinta Power and Kathleen Lynch for St Mary's Athletic Club Rathkeale, in recognition of their achievement at the All Ireland Indoor Athletics Championships 2010. Also in the picture are Cllr David Naughton, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council, Cllr Kevin Sheahan, Cllr Stephen Keary, Maeve Power, Chloe Mullins, Sarah Enright, Tara Coleman, Rachel Lynch and Aideen Lyons.

3. At a Reception in the Limerick County Council's Rathkeale Area Office, Cllr John Sheahan and members of the Rathkeale Electoral Area Committee, presented a scroll to Ian O'Sullivan in recognition of his achievement in winning the 2010 World Clay Pigeon Championship (Class C). Also in the picture are Cllr David Naughton, Cathaoirleach of Limerick County Council, Cllr Kevin Sheahan, Cllr Stephen Keary, Brian, Valerie and Joe O'Sullivan, Ronan Shire, Nick Hayes, Mary O'Sullivan, Marie Cronin, Delia Fitzgerald, John O'Sullivan and Joan O'Flaherty (DG) Picture by Dave Gaynor

Appendix 1 Conferences /Seminars

Attended by Members of
Limerick County Council
in 2010

Conferences/Seminars Attended

Date	Title	Venue	No. Of Attendees
15th to 17th January	Training Seminar on the Welfare of Children – A Guide to Child Protection	Silver Tassie Hotel Letterkenny, Co Donegal	03
15th to 17th January	Time Management, Communications & Presentation Skills	West Cork Hotel Skibbereen, Co Cork	01
21st & 22nd January	ICLRD "Preparing for Economic Recovery: Planning Ireland North & South out of Recession	Killyhevin Hotel, Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh	03
22nd to 24th January	Training Seminar "Waste Management and the Law	The Kingsvalley Hotel, Dublin Rd, Galway City	07
29th to 30th January	Antrim Tourism Conference Tourism in the 21st Century	Dunadry Hotel, Dunadry, Northern Ireland	04
29th to 31st January	Merriman Winter School 2010	Meyrick Hotel, Eyre Square, Galway	01
4th & 5th February	MWRA Annual Conf." Environmental Designations - Barriers or Opportunities?"	Greenhills Hotel, Ennis Rd, Limerick	02
5th to 7th February	Seminar" Media 2010 Training & Communications for Councillors"	Clonea Strand Hotel Clonea, Dungarvan, Waterford	05
12th & 13th February	AMAI Spring Seminar 2010	Sligo Park Hotel, Sligo	02
16th to 18th February	Seminar" Managing Stress and Promoting Positive Mental Health	The Kings Valley Hotel, Merlin Pk, Dublin Rd., Galway	03
19th to 21st February	Seminar " Change Management in Local Government"	Westport Plaza Hotel Westport, Co Mayo	05
25th February	Atlantic Conference on Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths Education	Atlantic Corridor, McFadden Hse, Tullamore	01
26th to 28th February	Seminar" The Councillor, Communications & Local Development	Day's Hotel Merchants Quay, Waterford	02
26th to 28th February	21st Colmcille Winter School "The Role of Small Enterprises in Overcoming the Recession"	Colmcille Heritage Centre, Gartan, Church Hill, Co. Donegal	01
4th to 7th March	Rattoo 18th Annual Kerry Environmental Recognition Conference	Manor West Hotel, Tralee, Co Kerry	02
4th & 5th March	ACCC Annual "Rebuilding Confidence in urban and rural Communities"	Ballykisteen Hotel, Limk Junction, Co Tipperary	04
12th to 14th March	Seminar " Public Liability, Health & Safety issues in Local Government	The Carlton Millrace Hotel, Bunclody, Wexford	02
19th to 21st March	Training Seminar "Better Communication means better results"	Killarney Court Hotel, Tralee Rd, Killarney	01
26th to 28th March	Time Management, Media & I.T. Skills – A guide for the busy Councillor	Quality Hotel, Clonakilty, Co Cork	02
26th to 28th March	Seminar " Climate Change, Impacts & Strategies; going forward"	Silver Tassie Hotel, Letterkenny, Co Donegal	01

Date	Title	Venue	No. Of Attendees
09th & 10th April	LAMA Annual "Councillor's Role in Changing Climate"	Sligo Pk Hotel, Sligo	04
16th to 18th April	Seminar " Banking, Insurance and NAMA – The Effect on Local Government"	Carlton Hotel, Tralee, Co Kerry	01
23rd to 25th April	Seminar " New EPA guidelines for single houses – their implications to Local Govnt"	The Glenlo Abbey Hotel, Bushypark, Co Galway	02
30th April to 2nd May	Seminar " Local Government & The Environment"	The Falls hotel, Ennistymon, Co Clare	01
7th & 8th May	Seminar" Head-shops – Legal Highs"	Bellingham Castle Hotel, Castlebellingham	03
13th & 14th May	Irish Rural Links Annual "Challenges to Rural Wellbeing"	Killala Community Centre, Killala, Co Mayo	01
14th to 16th May	Seminar " Business Investments"	Lawlors Hotel , Naas, Co Kildare	01
21st to 23rd May	Seminar "The Cost of Insurance and claims to your Local Authority – what can we do to minimise?"	The Kingsvalley Hotel, Dublin Rd, Galway	05
21st to 23rd May	Seminar " Being Positive in a negative climate"	Castlecourt Hotel, Westport, Co Mayo	02
1st June	Seminar " Investing in ourselves: Realising jobs and capital for communities"	St.Kieran's Hall, Cloughjordan, Co.Tipperary	01
4th to 6th June	"Transformation of the Public Service, Insurance for Public Service, will the Croke Park Deal deliver?"	Carlton Hotel, Tralee, Co Kerry	02
18th June	Craol – Community Radio Conference	Croke Park, Dublin	01
18th to 20th June	A Practical guide to embracing Social Networking as the modern medium for Cllrs	Silver Tassie Hotel, Letterkenny, Co Donegal	01
24th to 26th June	Carlow 8th National Tourism Conference " Tourism – The Way Forward"	Mount Wolseley Hotel, Tullow, Co Carlow	02
25th to 27th June	16th Byrne Perry Summer School" Entwined Histories II: Ireland, France and America	Christian Brothers School, Gorey	01
3rd to 10th July	Dr.Douglas Hyde Summer School	Ballaghaderreen, Co Roscommon	01
9th to 11th July	Local Government Roads & Transport Services	West Cork Hotel, Skibereen, Co Cork	02
15th to 18th July	A practical guide to Media Skills for Councillors	The Celtic Ross Hotel, Rosscarbery, Co Cork	02
18th to 24th July	30th MacGill Summer School " Reforming the Republic – issue of Politics, Economics and Accountability	Glenties, Co Donegal	06
26th to 28th July	Health & Safety, Risk Assessment and Insurance in Local Government	Maldron Hotel, Oranmore, Co Galway	02

Date	Title	Venue	No. Of Attendees
30th July to 1st Aug	The Need for Urgent Local Authority and Health Service Reform	Maldron Hotel, Oranmore, Co Galway	02
13th to 15th August	Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in Public Administration	The Glenlo Abbey Hotel, ushypark, Co Galway	02
19th to 22nd August	24th Humbert Summer School	Castlebar & Killala, Co Mayo	03
20th to 22nd August	Waste Management Regulations -Tyres & Waste Tyres, Prohibition of Waste Disposal by burning, Obligations on Farmers – The Insurance Issues	The Kingsvalley Hotel, Dublin Rd, Galway	01
3rd to 5th September	Computer & I.T. Development Skills for Cllrs; A Business Perspective	Keadeen Hotel, Newbridge, Co Kildare	01
9th to 11th Sept	AMAI 97th Annual Conf.” Local Government for the future	Inishowen Gateway Hotel, Inishowen, Donegal	01
9th to 12th Sept	9th Benedict Kiely Literary Weekend “ The Shortest Way Home”	Strule Arts Centre, Omagh, Tyrone	01
17th to 19th Sept	The Insurance Salesman’s Presentation Skills, Performance Management & Development for the Elected Representative	The Kingsvalley Hotel, Galway City	03
24th to 26th Sept	Planning Applications Professional Indemnity - The essential guide for Public Representative	The Glenlo Abbey Hotel, Bushypark, Co. Galway	01
24th to 26th Sept	The Blascaod Commemoration 2010	Ionad an Bhlascaid, Mhoir, DunChaoir, Co. Chiarrai	01
30th September	Irish Walled Towns Network Conference and AGM	Heritage Council, ras na hOidreachta, Kilkenny	01
30th Sept to 2nd Oct	How to be an effective Mayor/Chairperson	The Creggan Court Hotel, Athlone, Westmeath	01
1st to 3rd October	Report of the Local Government Efficiency Review Group	Whites Hotel, Wexford	03
5th October	National Youth Council of Ireland “ Youth employment and unemployment	Croke Park Conference Centre, Jone’s Rd, Dublin	01
5th October	IAS 14th Annual “Self-Harm: Sometimes we all hurt but help is there”	Radisson Blue Hotel, allincar, Rosses Point, Sligo	01
6th October	Ballynagran Zero Carbon Community Project	Clermont College, Rathnew, Co Wicklow	01
8th & 9th October	LAMA Autumn Seminar “ Local Government Efficiency and Financing”	Listowel Arms Hotel, Listowel, Co Kerry	06
15th to 16th October	Douglas Hyde Conference “ Inside Creativity: Education/Innovation/Economy/Society	Abbeyfield Hotel, Ballaghaderree, Co Roscommon	01
15th to 17th October	Planning and Development Amendment Act 2010	Hannon’s Hotel, Roscommon	02

Date	Title	Venue	No. Of Attendees
22nd to 24th October	Alternative Energy - Competing with the rest of Europe	The Glenroyal Hotel, Maynooth	05
29th to 31st October	Criminal Law (Defence and the Dwelling) Bill 2010	Maldron Hotel, Oranmore, Galway	04
5th to 7th November	Bogs- Management & Development – For Whom the Bogs Toll	Carlton Hotel, Westport, Mayo	02
5th to 7th	Smart Marketing – Mastering the Art of Secure Communication	The Silver Tassie Hotel, Letterkenny	02
11th & 12th Nov.	Clonmel Chamber National Enterprise	Hotel Minella, Clonmel, Co.Tipperary	02
11th & 12th Nov.	Ballyhoura Development “The Future of Rural Areas to 2031”	Charleville Pk Hotel, Charleville, Cork	03
12th to 14th Nov.	Radon a Hidden Killer	Manor West Hotel, Tralee	01
16th & 17th Nov.	Septic Tanks and Sewage Treatment Plants Rules & Regulations, Professional Indemnity Insurance	Silver Tassie Hotel, Letterkenny	01
17th November	The Agreement Generation – An Opportunity for Change?	UCD, Belfield, Dublin 4	01
19th to 21st Nov.	Exploring Options for the Unemployment, Indemnification against the unforeseen	Carlton Hotel, Wesport, Mayo	05
19th to 21st Nov.	Council Budgets 2011	Silver Tassie Hotel, Letterkenny	02
24th November	Radon a well known health risk – how do we influence the public to take action?	Silver Spring Hotel, Cork	01
25th to 27th Nov.	Clare National Tourism Conference – Achieving World Class Tourism	Falls Hotel, Ennistymon, Clare	03
26th November	Irish Rural Links “ Unfinished Housing Estates”	Irish Rural Links, Moate, Co.Offaly	01
10th to 12th December	The Local Government Budget 2010	Carlton Hotel, Bunclody, Co Wexford	05

Appendix 2

Organisational Structure Chart

