



Sligo.

Management Report

**For Quarter Ending
31st March 2025**



**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE SHLIGIGH
SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL**



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To: The Cathaoirleach and Members of Sligo County Council

**Re: Chief Executive's Quarterly Management Report for
January – March 2025**

Dear Councillor

I set out hereunder Quarterly Management Report for January – March 2025, in accordance with Section 136(2) of the Local Government Act 2001, as inserted by section 51 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014.

Martin Lydon
Chief Executive



COMHAIRLE CHONTAE SHLIGIGH
SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL

Sligo.

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LIVE INVEST VISIT



DÓNAL TINNEY

A/Director of Services

Live Invest Visit & Borough District of Sligo Municipal District

HOUSING

Housing Assistance Payment Programme

There are 712 active tenancies, with 11 tenancies set up in 2025 to date.

Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)

There are 231 active RAS tenancies in the Council.

Acquisitions, including Part V acquisitions

2 Tenant in Situ units are at sale agreed stage.

C.A.S. and C.A.L.F. Acquisitions (Approved Housing Bodies)

C.A.S. – 2 no. units (1 Tenant in situ) at sale agreed/ongoing discussion stage.

C.A.L.F. – No units have been delivered.

Voids Funding Programme 2025

This Programme supports the refurbishment of void/vacant Council properties. The Department have allocated €319,000 (€11,000 per property) to the Council. The net cost to the Council in 2025 is likely to exceed €1 million i.e. difference between Department funding and Council expenditure. The sum expended to date is €107,859.

Planned Maintenance Programme 2025

The Department have allocated €152,955 to the Council. €30,000 is in respect of stock surveys for 200 houses and €122,955 is for planned maintenance works, which are identified by the surveys.

Repair and Leasing Scheme

No units have been delivered this year to date. See link below for details of the Scheme.

Repair and Leasing Scheme

<https://www.sligococo.ie/housing/Accommodation/HousingRepairandLeasingScheme/>

Private House Grants

The Grant allocation from the Department for 2025 is awaited. Under the new scheme, 85% of the allocation is by way of Department contribution, with 15% of the allocation being funded from the Council's own resources.

The applicable schemes are:

- Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme for People with a Disability.
- Mobility Aids Housing Grant Scheme.
- Housing Aid for Older People.

110 applications were received up to 21st March 2025, with €600,977 paid out to applicants to date.

Housing Adaptation Works/Extensions/DPG'S 2025

The Grant allocation for adaptations from the Department for 2025 is awaited. The Council has also sought funding for a number of extensions and the allocation for same is also awaited.

90% of the spend is by way of Department contribution with 10% being funded by way of local authority contribution from its own resources.

The sum spent on adaptations to date is €81,175.

Energy Efficiency/Retrofitting Programme 2025

The grant allocation from the Department is €1,258,000 in respect of 37 units. The Council has provided €173,125 from its own resources towards the Programme. Work has commenced on the 2025 Programme, as follows:

- Tranche 1 works to eight houses have commenced on site.
- Tranche 1A (1 No. House) and Tranche 2 (12 No. houses) is to be tendered in March 2025.
- Tranche 3 is to progress when resources allow.

Traveller Accommodation Programme (TAP) 2025-2029

The Traveller Accommodation Programme 2025-2029 was adopted by members of Sligo County Council on 4th November 2024, in accordance with Circular 46/2023. The targets for the programme are set out below

Accommodation Type	Target 2025-2029
Group Housing	3
Specific Purchase	5
Upgrade of existing facilities	12
Council Tenancy	41
RAS/HAP	5
Voluntary Housing	18
TOTAL	81

Group Housing Traveller Accommodation Scheme at Glenview, Sligo - 3 no. new Dwellings

The Council are in contract negotiations in relation to a start date on the Scheme.

Ballyfree/Cloonamahon upgrades

Site Investigation works are practically completed. Stage 2 application to the Department is currently being progressed.

North-West Regional Homelessness Action Plan 2023-2028

Work is ongoing on implementing the Plan based upon annual priorities that are agreed by the North-West Joint Homelessness Consultative Forum.

There are 4 Shared Tenancy units operating in Sligo Town, governed by a licence agreement. This accommodates up to 13 single persons registered as homeless in furnished Council properties. It is hoped that another property will be made available for shared tenancy during 2025, following a review.

The Housing First programme continues to be implemented in Sligo with a target of 8 no. one bed properties to be met in 2025, accommodating those on the Housing First waiting list. Two new tenancies have already been commenced in 2025 with three others in train. It continues to be difficult to source or acquire additional one bed units.

Four units in Sligo Town are now operational for families requiring intensive supports under an SLA with Focus Ireland CLG.

A family hub has been provided since September 2024 in a property in Sligo town and this accommodates up to 32 persons. There are two properties to accommodate homeless singles who have low/no support needs in Collooney (up to 17 beds) and Sligo Town (12 beds).

Additional accommodation for homeless singles is currently being arranged due to the acute shortage of private rented properties and the need to prevent rough sleeping.

Sligo County Council are developing an Assertive Street Outreach Service to support and signpost those rough sleeping or at risk of rough sleeping due to the increase in numbers of people in this housing crisis. The proposed service has been tendered, and tenders are due to be assessed. This is the first time that the Council will contract such a service on a formal basis.

The priority actions under the Homelessness Action Plan in 2025 include responding to the needs of families and single persons who are experiencing these issues, particularly trying to prevent rooflessness and supporting those who are particularly vulnerable by making referral to other support agencies.

In 2025, there will be a focus on implementing actions in the National Youth Homeless strategy, in collaboration with Tusla and Department of Housing.

National Housing Strategy for Disabled People

The Sligo Housing and Disability Steering Group (HDSG), as part of the statutory response to the National strategy, meets quarterly to ensure implementation of the local Strategic Plan for Housing People with a Disability 2021-25.

A Communications Subgroup is being developed to compile a Communication Plan.

Allocations

SCC allocates properties in accordance with its Allocations Scheme. See Table overleaf for details of offers of tenancy in the year to date.

Offers of Tenancy	Accepted	Refused	Pending
18	14	2	2

Housing Assessment

There are 1,632 households on the housing list as of March 2025 - see table below.

No. of households approved for Social Housing Support	1,632
No. of households availing of HAP and approved for a transfer	643
No. of Council/RAS/AHB Tenants approved for a transfer	260
No. of remaining households i.e. Net Housing Need	729

56 valid applications for social housing support have been received in the current year.

Tenant (Incremental) Purchase Scheme

68 no houses have been sold to date under this scheme, with a further 4 no. currently going through the legal process to be sold. 12 no applications have been received in the current year to date.

Local Authority Home Loans

3 no valid applications have been received in the current year to date, with 2 no. approved to date.

Private Rented Accommodation Standards

A target of 1,183 tenancy inspections was set by the Department for 2025. This includes student properties. 111 tenancy inspections have been carried out in the year to date. The Council have also issued 22 Improvement Notices to landlords this year.

Breakdown of Inspections

23 no. HAP

9 no. RAS

3 no. AHB

64 no. Student Accommodation

12 no Other

COMMUNITY

Local Enhancement Programme 2025

The Local Enhancement Programme (LEP) 2025 opened to online applications on Monday 10th February 2025, with a closing date of 4pm, Friday 21st February 2025. A total of 134 applications were received for capital support, and 110 applications under the current funding support. A report on applications received was brought before the LCDC working group for consideration. Recommendations will be forwarded to the DRCD by 28th March 2025 with the Minister announcing funding decisions in May 2025.

Rural Development Programme (LEADER) 2023-2027

As at 21st March 2025, Monthly Returns in the amount of €150,863.73 for the 2027 LEADER Programme have been received. As at 21st March 2025, 24 no. LEADER Projects have been approved for the amount of €1,063,539.71.



Funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development

Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2024-2028

The overall 2025 programme budget is €968,491.00. The 2025 general SICAP budget is €759,192.00 and the allocation for New Arrivals is €209,299.00.

As of 21st March 2025, 25% of the overall budget has been expended.

Progress under Annual KPI targets for both Goal 1 and Goal 2 is outlined in the table below:

Key Performance Indicators

Annual Key Performance Indicator (KPI)	Target	Actuals	% Achieved
KPI 1	50	4	8%
KPI 2	431	42	10%
% of Supported Individuals who fall into local priority target group(s)	18%	38.10%	



The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2018-2022 is funded by the Irish Government through the Department of Rural and Community Development and co-funded by the European Social Fund under the Programme for Employability, Inclusion and Learning (PEIL) 2014-2020

PEACE PLUS

Work continues on the re-implementation phase of the PEACEPLUS Programme with finalisation of Partner agreements and preparation of tendering. The first PEACEPLUS Partnership meeting of 2025 took place on the 12th February 2025 with 4 subsequent meetings scheduled for the year. The launch of the Programme is scheduled for the 15th May 2025 and 'Save the Dates' have been issued as per SEUPB guidelines.



The Programme is a funding partnership between the European Union, the governments of the United Kingdom and Ireland, and the Northern Ireland Executive and will be administered by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).

Sligo Age Friendly Programme

Activities to promote the Sligo Age Friendly Programme continue in collaboration with Age Friendly Ireland and in particular in the development of the Age Friendly Health and Wellbeing Festival which took place in ATU Sligo on 28th March. This free event promoted the Healthy Homes Programme in Sligo and Leitrim and was a good opportunity for people to learn about items that matter to growing older.



Back row L to R: Margaret McConnell, Senior Executive Officer, Mairead Cranley Age Friendly Regional Manager, Martin Lydon, Chief Executive of Sligo County Council, Mary Quinn Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Services Housing, Corporate Services, Community and Cultural Services of Leitrim CoCo, Cathaoirleach Cllr Declan Bree, Eimear McCormack, National Healthy Age Friendly Homes Manager Marie Nolan, North Regional Healthy Age Friendly Homes Manager, Kate Brown Lecturer in Department of Social Sciences and Chair of the Age-Friendly University Working Group, Laurence Kennedy Age Friendly Leitrim Programme Manager

Front row L to R: Hazel Humphreys Leitrim Chair of the Older Peoples Council Amro Hamid Chair of Sligo Older Peoples Council, Aisling Smyth, Sligo Age Friendly Programme Manager, Professor Jacqueline McCormack, ATU Vice President for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, Online and Flexible Learning,

Training for Chairs of the Older Persons Council across the north western region took place in Carrick on Shannon on 19th March with Sligo members in attendance.



Training for Older Persons Council Chairs

Healthy Sligo

The activity budget for the Healthy Ireland Programme Round 4 for 2025 is €75,000. Work continued in Quarter 1 focussing on the delivery of projects to the community through partners such as Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership, Selfcare, Hello Nutrition, Sligo Cycling, Sligo Woodland School and the Family Resource Centres.

A new Programme commenced in February 2025 which was co-designed with Aremojo Women's Group focusing on women from new communities in Sligo where they identified barriers to their participation linked to the detriments of health. The programme developed, directly targets ethnic women without having to relinquish her own cultural identity and supports them to participate in activities to improve their mental and physical health including swimming and physical activity.

Sligo Public Participation Network (PPN)

- The PPN received 2 tenders for our PPN Representatives Support mentor initiative and a panel has been convened to assess.
- Sligo PPN Secretariat had their first meeting of 2025 on 21st January. Key items for discussion were the agreement of the 2025 budget, proposed workplan for Q1 and Q2 and upcoming Secretariat elections.
- On 10th February Joan Swift, Chair of Sligo PPN Secretariat presented to full council, demonstrating opportunities for partnership and how Sligo PPN can support SCC in fulfilling a number of commitments under Vision 2030.
- On 7th February Sligo PPN hosted SPC reps from across the whole Northwest region for a training and induction workshop on the Strategic Policy Schemes.





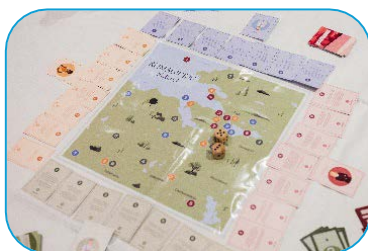
North West Regional Training

- On February 9th Sligo PPN hosted their first plenary of 2025. The event was held in partnership with Sligo Global Kitchen.



Sligo PPN Plenary

- The pilot Access and Inclusion training, developed in partnership between Sligo DPO and Sligo PPN, was delivered to HSE staff and healthcare students.
- The first celebration event for the strands of Power to Change took place on the 27th February in the Clayton Hotel. The event focused on the Climate Action Clubs and what they have achieved over the last few years. The event was launched by Minister Marian Harkin, TD with around 100 students in attendance. The event saw the official launch of the 'SDGs and Me' workbook which was devised in partnership with local primary schools. The aim is that this workbook will be adopted by primary schools across the country. The event also featured a run through of the boardgame 'Reimagining Sligo', devised to highlight the climate challenges facing Sligo in an interactive way.



Climate Education Clubs Celebration

Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT)



Since January 2025, 65 individuals have accessed information and support through 18 LAIT clinics. Topics covered include Health and wellbeing, Family, Community, Employment, Education, Day to day Living in Ireland and accessing public services.

On the 06/02/2025 LAIT attended a Doras and Irish Red Cross Seminar for BOTP accommodation providers. The aim was to support managers and staff to navigate the challenges involved in providing services for people fleeing war.

For 2025, LAIT has been allocated €25,000 budgetary allowance to support integration. LAIT has funded 10 places for upcoming Sligo Rovers Easter camps for IPAS children and supported Aremoja's Women's Group with an International Women's Day Event.

Offer a Home

The Offer a Home Programme is now integrated into the workings of the LAIT.

A total of 132 pledges have been received by Sligo County Council to date – the current position on these is:

78	Pledges withdrawn or not viable
51	Properties Allocated
3	Remedial works required or assessments being undertaken

Community Integration Forum

The Forum continues to meet ensure collaboration across all agencies, with the most recent meeting held on 6th March. A review of membership has taken place, and new members have been invited to the forum from Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership, The Irish Red Cross, Family Resource Centres, DePaul and Diversity Sligo.

Tourism

Holiday World Show Dublin 2025

The Tourism section exhibited at the Holiday World Show in Dublin which welcomed 25,000 visitors over three days. This is the largest show of its kind in Ireland and represents an opportunity to showcase the very best of Sligo to people actively researching their next trips and holidays.

Strong collaboration with businesses and individuals involved in tourism in Sligo created a fantastic atmosphere on the Visit Sligo stand and allowed for maximum amplification of our messaging.

Direct business was generated for hotels, experience providers and businesses involved in food and drink. A competition was generously supported by businesses and contributed significantly to growing contact databases which are important for future opportunities. Updated and refreshed Visit Sligo branded merchandise was distributed along with marketing collateral from businesses represented on the stand each day.



USA Travel Trade e-zine

Four Sligo businesses were featured in the Tourism Ireland USA Travel Trade e-zine. This is distributed to over 1,000 travel and tour operators in the USA who schedule products into Ireland. Tour operators can deal directly with local hotels and experience providers to secure rates and bookings. These opportunities are being explored for other international markets including the German and Italian markets which benefit from direct flight connectivity into Ireland West Airport at Knock.

Dedicated digital marketing training courses commence for tourism businesses

January saw the commencement of a six-week dedicated digital marketing training course for businesses, organisations and people involved in tourism. An expert trainer was contracted to provide practical and relevant training on graphic design, AI, social media management, social media paid campaigns and ultimately providing the tools to allow their message to get out in the best way. The tourism section collaborated with Sligo LEO who kindly supported this initiative.



Other areas of progress

Digital development work has been undertaken in four key areas throughout March. This work includes improvements to the 'Visit' section of www.sligo.ie. Final stage testing of a new digital tool that creates personalised itineraries, social media account optimisation and work to appoint a social media agency in regards to paid campaigns.

New tourism businesses have been supported throughout the county with initial site visits to the new Miniature World exhibition being built at Sligo Airport and a new Sheep Walk experience in Cloonacool. Support has also been extended to new experiences at incubation stage including Ballisodare Fishing Club.

Festival and Events

The Festival & Events Strategy for Sligo was approved at the March monthly meeting. This is the first strategy of its kind in Ireland setting out a road map to support and fund festivals and events in Sligo over the next 4 to 5 years. The Regional Festival & Events Grant fund was advertised in early March. The closing date for receipt of applications was 19th March and applications are now going through the assessment process. The Festival & Events Oversight Committee will meet shortly to consider allocations before adoption at April Council meeting.

In March, Fáilte Ireland launched a new 3-year multiannual Strategic Tourism Festival Investment Scheme running from 2026 to 2028. Expressions of Interest opened on Monday 24th March at 12 noon. Fáilte Ireland has a long history of supporting tourism-led festivals. The objective with this new scheme is to support, develop, and deliver a diverse and compelling portfolio of uniquely Irish tourism-led festivals and events to maximise the benefits of tourism festivals for the tourism economy and local destination.

ENTERPRISE

LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE (LEO)



Financial Supports

- €85,481 was approved in Feasibility/Innovation and Business Expansion Grants during the quarter.
- 1 Market Explorer Grant was awarded for €9,666.
- 11 businesses were approved Green for Business and Energy Efficiency Grants amounting to €33,053.
- 5 Digital Start supports, and Grow Digital Vouchers were approved amounting to €14,969.

Training, Mentoring and Consultancy

356 people participated in Training and Events initiatives during the quarter. Training was provided on the following:

- Start your Own business (2)
- Practical Guide to Income Tax for the Creative Sector
- The Power of Habits: Making or Breaking a Habit for Your Business
- Get Your Business 'Oven Ready'!
- Using Google Analytics GA4
- Content Marketing & Planning for Social Media

Key events during the quarter included:

- The Local Enterprise Office delivered a joint seminar '**AI Unleashed - Navigating AI and how best to use it to benefit your business**' on January 23rd in association with the Sligo Chamber of Commerce.
- '**10x Northwest entrepreneurship exchange**' – Hosted by Sligo on 29 - 30 January, this event was a partnership between the regional Local Enterprise Offices, Enterprise Ireland and Uderás and matched senior business leaders with entrepreneurs to help them scale their businesses.
- The Local Enterprise Office in partnership with the AIM Centre delivered the first lunch leadership series entitled '**Leading Digital Transition in Manufacturing**' on 6th March
- Sligo Women in Business Network delivered a Breakfast Business meeting in The Model on 28th January and evening networking session on Time Management in Strand Campus on 25th February.

- Sligo Women in Business Network ran an event under the theme **"Accelerate Action"** in the Hawkswell on 7th March for International Women's Day. Over 70 participated in the event.
- The **Sligo Student Enterprise Finals** took place in the Sligo Park Hotel on 6th March. Over 140 students were in attendance.



Student Enterprise Awards Overall Winner Senior Category - 'Duffmeister' - Ballinode College

- **Local Enterprise Week** took place 3rd - 7th March with a range of business training and events for local businesses.

67 mentoring assignments were made during the quarter. Assignments included support provided as follows:

- Finance & Taxation
- Strategic Planning
- Digitising your Business
- Generative AI for marketing
- AI tools for Digital Marketing

Economic Development

Sligo Food and Drinks Strategy – Development of the Strategy continues. Consolidation of research and consultation is currently being formulated into planned actions. The Draft plan will be completed during April with document ready for review and approval by May 2025.

Arctic Edge NPA – Period 1 of the Project has been completed with project infrastructure – technical and administrative requirements – now in place for project implementation and wider engagement with SMEs and business support agencies related to sustainable logistics management.

Sligo Economic Forum – The Quarter 1 Meeting of SEF focused on skills and training resources for the North West with a visit to the MSLETB Training Centre at Ballytivnan and presentations on the range of services provided by MSLETB, North West Regional Skills, and the positive experience of a qualified apprentice. Dissemination of information from the Forum to be reviewed at next meeting.



Members of the Sligo Economic Forum at the MSLETB Training Centre, Ballytivnan

Night-Time Economy – Supporting actions during Q1 have included liaison on the NTE Action Plan, securing consultation to Sligo's festival organisers to enhance their capacity to access sponsorship, and evaluation of the Sligo Town Night-Time Economy Enrichment and Diversification Grant.

Ohio/Philadelphia Economic Development

Visit – A joint delegation from Sligo County Council and Sligo Chamber of Commerce visited the City of Mentor, Cleveland and Philadelphia and met with port authorities, manufacturing businesses, Chambers of Commerce, and economic development agencies. A delegation from Mentor will be visiting Sligo on 2nd April and meeting with local business to discuss how they can enter the US Market.



Visit to Magnet Manufacturing facility in Cleveland

LAMA Awards – The AIM Centre won the 'Best Enterprise & Start-Up Hub' award LAMA All Ireland Community & Council Awards on 22nd February.



AIM Centre wins the 'Best Enterprise & Start-Up Hub' award at LAMA

CULTURE

LIBRARY SERVICE

Over 38,000 people visited Sligo County Libraries in Q1 of 2025 with library users accessing 33,000+ digital issues of eBooks, eAudioBooks, eMagazines and eNewspapers.

My Open Library: Tubbercurry Community Library recorded 1,125 My Open Library logins from January to March 2025.

Q1 Events

Seed Sharing & Seed Talk: As part of Bríd Festival 2025, Seed Sharing & Seed Talk was a collaboration with Europe Direct Sligo and Sligo Community Training Centre.



Home Energy Clinics: Home Energy Clinics were held in Ballymote Community Library, Tubbercurry Community Library, and Sligo Central Library, facilitated by Peadar Geelan, SEAI Sustainable Energy Community mentor for Sligo.

Ireland Reads: On 22nd February, Sligo County Library celebrated Ireland Reads Day, a national Public Libraries event programmed by Libraries Development, LGMA. Sligo Central Library hosted a special sing-along morning with Lisa Cannon followed by a lively scavenger hunt in the afternoon, while Wayne O'Connor's intrepid Storyhunters all pledged to "get lost in a book!" Ballymote and Tubbercurry Community Libraries held spot prizes for lucky readers.



The Word: The Word at Sligo Central Library featured local author Maura Gilligan in February. Artist and author of *The Tide is Coming; A Book of Coney Island in Sligo Bay*. Maura was in conversation with Dr. Marion Dowd, with Anna Houston, Deirdre Correia and Ray Coen performing accompanying music to a capacity audience.



Michelle Brennan, Executive Librarian, Dr. Marion Dowd, Maura Gilligan, Ray Coen, Deirdre Correia and Anna Houston

Déanann leabharlann Shligigh ceiliúradh ar Seachtain na Gaeilge le roinnt ócáidí agus aíonna speisialta:

- Ar an Mháirt, 4ú Márta, bhí Patricia Forde, Craobh-Údar na bPáistí d'Éirinnn, anseo ar chuairt speisialta le daltaí ó Ghaelscoil Chnoc na Ré.
- Ar an Déardaoin, 13ú Márta, bhí Rang a Trí ó Ghaelscoil Chnoc na Ré agus daltaí ó Aonad Loch Gile páirteach in dhá Thráth na gCeist. Comhghairdeas leis na buaiteoirí.
- Ar an Aoine, 14ú Márta, bhí an t-údar Frank Reidy anseo ag seisiún speisialta den Chiorcal Comhrá. Rinne sé cur síos bríomhar, spleodrach, suimiúil ar a shaol agus a shaothar.



Déanann leabharlann Shligiúgh ceiliúradh ar SnG le roinnt ócáidí agus aíonna speisialta

Buíochas d'achan duine a tháinig isteach chugainn le Seachtain na Gaeilge a cheiliúradh i mbliana.

World Book Day: Primary Schools who visited Sligo County Libraries to celebrate World Book Day on Thursday 6th March, included Sooeey National School visiting Sligo Central Library, Holy Family NS visiting Tubbercurry Community Library and Scoil Mhuire gan Smál visiting Ballymote Community Library. Library staff also visited schools and preschools, including St. Paul's NS Collooney, Réalt na Mara NS Rosses Point, and Tubbercurry Family Resource Centre.



Scoil Mhuire gan Smál



St Pauls NS Collooney



Sooeey National School



Tubbercurry FRC staff

Astronomy Ireland Week: Photographer Sam Elliott gave an informative talk in Sligo Central Library to students from Mercy College on Astrophotography.

Q1 Resources

'See and Learn' kits: Cathaoirleach Councillor Declan Bree launched 'See and Learn' kits, a new service available from Sligo County Libraries. 'See and Learn' are visual learning packs designed to support the additional learning needs of children with Down Syndrome and children with similar learning needs.



Ríona Rochford, Coordinator and Nikki Curran, Chairperson, Down Syndrome, Sligo, Cathaoirleach Cllr. Declan Bree, Patricia Keane, A/County Librarian, Michelle Brennan, Executive Librarian

Climate Change: National Tree Week is an annual event organised by the Tree Council of Ireland in partnership with Coillte. Sapling trees are provided by Coillte to County Councils for distribution to communities across the country and were distributed to the public from Sligo Central Library.

CLIMATE & INFRASTRUCTURE



JIM MOLLOY

Director of Services

Climate & Infrastructure & Sligo-Drumcliff Municipal District

ROADS OPERATIONS

NON-NATIONAL SCHEMES ACTIVE TRAVEL

Footpath Schemes

Planning and Design works continue for improved Active Travel Footpath Schemes at several locations throughout the county including the following:

- **Ballygawley to Castledargan** – Part 8 Complete – detailed design commenced.
- **Caltragh / Newtown Holmes** – Preliminary design ongoing – awaiting approval to commence stage 4.
- **Carrarow to Cuilbeg (GAA Pitch)** – Detailed design finalised. Negotiations with landowners ongoing.
- **Clarion Road** – Preliminary design ongoing.
- **Coolaney to Rockfield** – Part 8 Complete – detailed design commenced.
- **Top Road Rosses Point** – Options assessment and preliminary design being completed.

Safe Routes to School

Safe Routes to School Schemes are ongoing and are at various stages of feasibility and preliminary design for:

- **Jesus and Mary School, Enniscrone** –complete on site.
- **Scoil Ursula, Knappagh Road, Sligo** – Preparing for Part 8 process.
- **St Johns N.S., Temple Street, Sligo** – Preparing for Section 38 process.
- **Scoil Náisiúnta Réalt na Mara, Rosses Point** – Options Assessment report with NTA for review.

Pathfinder Schemes

Carraroe to City Centre Active Travel Corridor

Now at stage 4 - public consultation and engagement with stakeholders. Detailed discussions with the NTA have been completed.

Sligo City to ATU Sligo (Active Travel Corridor incorporating contraflow cycle lanes at Bridge Street / Stephen Street / The Mall)

Preliminary Design nearing completion.

Regional & Local Roads Programme

The 2025 programme includes works at approximately 250 locations across the county. Planning, procurement, and commencement of works has been ongoing during Q1 & Q2, Q3 and Q4 of 2025. The programme includes the following works:

Programme	Description	2025 allocation €	Progress
Restoration Maintenance & Supplementary Restoration Maintenance	Surface Restoration	2,187,000	71 schemes totaling 101km. Anticipated to start in April 2025.
Restoration Improvement	Road Strengthening	9,290,000	69 schemes totaling 59.1km Works have commenced.
Discretionary Grant	Maintenance & Improvement	2,298,000	2,650km RLR Countywide network including road surface repairs and general maintenance works, advance preparatory works for road strengthening at a number of locations in Sligo Borough MD. Surface and bridge repairs, drainage, signage works, winter maintenance and surveys etc.

Climate Adaptation Grants	Road improvement Works to mitigate the impact of Climate Change	463,000	12 schemes will be progressed in 2025.
Drainage Grants	Improvement of road drainage systems in response to severe weather events	516,000	This fund will tackle a number of drainage initiatives throughout the county.
Community Involvement Schemes	Improvement works on mostly Class 3 Roads, part funded by community		Awaiting confirmation of allocation - and number of schemes to be completed in 2025.
Local Improvement Schemes	Improvement works on non-public roads serving public amenities and/or agriculture.		Awaiting confirmation of allocation – and number of schemes to be completed in 2025
Clár Schemes	Investment programme which provides funding for small-scale – infrastructural projects in rural areas		Awaiting confirmation of allocation – and number of schemes to be completed in 2025.

Eastern Garvoge Bridge and Approach Roads

Advance Works to assist in the competition of the Detailed Design is ongoing. The Detailed Design of the project will be completed in Q2 2025. It is planned to start preparing Tender Documents for Construction by Q2 2025. It is anticipated that construction works will commence in 2026.

The closeout of Landowner Agreements and Accommodation Works is progressing.

MCR to Burton Street Link Road

Tender process for a civil contractor has been concluded. A preferred contractor has been identified. Subject to Department of Transport approval, a contractor shall be appointed in May 2025. It is anticipated that works shall commence on this project in August 2025.

CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT

ENVIRONMENT

Climate Action

Community Climate Action Fund

There are 23 No. community projects underway across the county. A total of €445,000 is being provided to community groups to develop their Climate Action projects through Strand 1 (Sligo) and Strand 1A (Shared Island) projects. €105,000 has been disbursed to end of Q1 2025.

ISO 50001 Energy Management System

Climate Action have been officially awarded ISO 50001 Energy Management System Certificate which means action No. 10 of Local Authority Climate Action Plan has been met. ISO 50001 accreditation ensures Council adheres to the requirements of SI 426 Energy Efficiency Directive.

SEAI Pathfinder 1.0 and 2.0

As part of Sligo County Council's efforts to improve the energy efficiency of our buildings, the appointed Design Team (Rhatigan Architects) have provided a Stage 1 Report for County Hall and Sligo Fire Station. Approval has been given to consultants to proceed to Stage 2A Detailed Design.

Regarding Pathfinder 2.0, the SCC Project Management Office are working on tender documentation for the energy retrofit of the Sligo Regional Sports Centre.

GEMINI (GEothermal Momentum on the IslaNd of Ireland)

This SEUPB Peace Plus project compliments the SEAI Pathfinder 2.0 project by providing funding to design and install a geothermal energy system which will significantly decarbonise operations at Sligo Regional Sports Centre. The above Pathfinder 2.0 project tender is related.

PARKS

Cleveragh Regional Park

Following an RFQ process, a landscape architecture team has been appointed to work with the Council to progress a Part 8 planning submission for Cleveragh Regional Park to allow for the provision of additional recreational amenities, to include for a Skatepark, Pump Track and Learn to Cycle Facility.

Parks submitted a funding application to the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) seeking €81,500 balance funding for the delivery of the Learn to Cycle Facility at Cleveragh.

Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership (SSRP) has previously allocated €43,500 to SCC towards the Learn to Cycle project.

Outdoor Recreation Strategy

Sligo County Council, working with Sport and Recreation Partnership, and partnership agencies including Sligo Leader Partnership, Fáilte Ireland, Coillte, appointed a consultant to progress an Outdoor Recreation Strategy for Sligo. The study has been supported by a grant of €30,000 from the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport, and Media.

Draft strategic objectives and themes for the Sligo Outdoor Recreation Strategy have been developed. Consultations with stakeholders were held in January through March 2025. The County Outdoor Recreation Committee has been established. The comprehensive outdoor recreation plan will reflect key strategic priorities and objectives for Sligo for outdoor recreation for the next 5–10 years.

Community Recognition Fund CRF 2023

All final case studies and financial drawdowns for Sligo Regional Sports Centre gym and viewing deck upgrade, O'Boyle Park Forthill drainage works, Doorly Park playground works were finalised in January 2025.

DCEDIY playground funding

A grant funding application under the DCEDIY Capital Grant Funding Scheme for Play and Recreation 2025 was prepared and submitted in February 2025. Funding sought is targeting the expansion of sensory musical play equipment for Doorly Park playground.

Sligo Cemetery

Construction works for cemetery extension progressed in January to March 2025. Construction works are nearing completion with all primary internal road and footpath layouts, and headstone support systems established, all infill works completed and new site levels established.

Outstanding works include installation of railings for ramp access pathways, installation of seating, final landscaping.



Storm Éowyn

Following Storm Éowyn on 24 January 2025, significant storm damage issues impacted a range of areas across parks and open space areas and remedial actions have progressed. Major items included repairs to damaged walls, removal and disposal of roof debris from playing fields at Sean Fallon Park. Trees at multiple locations across Sligo Urban open space areas were impacted and removed or underwent remedial tree surgery.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Finisklin Former Landfill Site Remediation and construction of Walkway/Park Contract

DECC have allocated €361,790 for topsoiling/seeding of the site, gas monitoring and payment of the contract retention amount in 2025.

Water Quality

RMCEI Plan

The annual RMCEI return consisting of the Progress Report for 2024, and the 2025 inspection plan was submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency at the end of February 2025. Work continued in Q1 of 2025 in terms of progressing targets for inspections in line with the annual programme of environmental inspections detailed in the RMCEI Plan for 2025.

Drinking Water

The annual return for 2024 for Group Water Supply Schemes (GWSS) and Small Private Supplies (SPS) within County Sligo was submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency in February 2025. A public notice was prepared for the local media highlighting the requirement for small private supplies to register with Sligo County Council under national drinking water regulations.

Staff from the Environment Section will attend a proposed Source Protection Workshop which is going to be arranged by the Environmental Protection Agency. There is an increased focus on source protection in the 2023 drinking water regulations. Group Schemes may have to prepare a source protection plan for their scheme which is like to be funded under the Rural Water Programme. Although not involved in the preparation of the plans, local authorities as the supervisory authority, will have a role in reviewing and approving the plans. This is likely to place increased demands on resources going forward.

Bathing Water

Staff attended a Bathing Water workshop in February 2025. The event was run by the EPA in the lead up to the bathing water season 2025. The annual bathing water programme for 2025 was submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency in March 2025 and has been approved. The five existing designated bathing water areas will be monitored during the summer bathing season June-September 2025. Three additional sites will also be periodically monitored during 2025 including Dorrin's Strand and Strandhill Beach. With proposals being progressed for the provision of a new outdoor swimming pool at Gibraltar Point, some background bathing water monitoring will commence at this location during 2025 to determine current bathing water quality.

Surface Water Monitoring

Implementation of the annual river and lake monitoring plans prepared in accordance with the national WFD monitoring programme continued during the first quarter of 2025.

Agriculture

The annual return for 2024 under our agricultural inspection programme was submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency in February 2025. The focus in the first quarter of 2025 was on agricultural planning applications and agricultural complaint inspections due to resource issues.

Four members of staff have been approved to complete the new certified agricultural training course relating to the implementation of the NAIP.

Following liaison with the I.T. Department, an app has been developed for recording agricultural inspections on site. This will assist the administration and management of recording information recorded during the inspections and should make the process of carrying out the inspections more efficient.

Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems

Several existing files have carried over to the first quarter 2025 where works were postponed in 2024 due to difficulties sourcing a building contractor etc. Finance outlaid during the year under the National Inspection Plan and High-Status Objective Catchment Area grant schemes will be reclaimed from the Department during 2025. Under the EPA National inspection Plan for domestic wastewater treatment systems, there is a 94% compliance rate with advisory notices issued to date, which is a significant positive factor when compared with local authorities nationally.

Marine and Coastal

Strandhill Coastal Erosion

OPW recently requested some additional investigation outside the scope of the original main study. This has now been commissioned following award of OPW grant for same. Consultants RPS will have this further work completed in June 2025.

PLACEMAKING



EMER CONCANNON

A/Director of Services

Placemaking & Ballymote-Tubbercurry Municipal District

SLIGO NATIONAL ROADS OFFICE

N16 Lugatober (Drumkilsellagh to Lugnagall) Project

The new N16 Lugatober road and its associated active travel facilities are now open to the public. There are some outstanding elements and works of a seasonal nature. These works will be completed over the coming months. On completion, the project will be entering Phase 7 – Close Out and Review.



N16 Mainline at Lugatober



New Active Travel Facilities at Drum Road Roundabout

N17 Knock to Collooney Project

This project is currently at Phase 3 (Design and Environmental Evaluation) of the TII Project Management Guidelines. Sligo Regional Design Office (SRDO) are working on the Tubbercurry and Charlestown Bypass elements of the scheme in accordance with the terms and conditions set by the Minister under Section 24 of the Roads Act as part of the 2024 Grant Allocations.

Implementation of the Archaeological LiDAR Analysis contract and the Topographical and Hydrographical Survey contract are currently underway.

A press release, available on the project website for public access, details the project status. The project website address is provided below.

N17 Knock to Collooney Project website

<https://n17knockcollooney.ie/>

N4 Collooney to Castlebaldwin Project

Tender documents for the procurement of Contractors to complete outstanding civil and fencing remedial works and landscaping works were completed and advertised on eTenders. The tender assessment process is ongoing for both contracts.

N16 Sligo to Drumkilsellagh Project

The project has now moved into Phase 2: Option Selection. The appointment of Environmental Specialists is ongoing and projected to be completed by end of April 2025. Environmental Surveys and the development of Route Options, in conjunction with public and stakeholder consultation will continue through 2025.

Sligo Greenway Collooney to Bellaghy

The Sligo Greenway project is being progressed through Phase 2, Options Selection. An Emerging Preferred Corridor was identified. Phase 2 deliverables are currently being finalised for submission to the TII.

This project is following Transport Infrastructure Ireland's (TII) Project Management Guidelines process. The Technical advisors (Arup) are currently contracted to take the project from Phase 1 to the end of Phase 4 as outlined in blue overleaf.

TII Project Phase	Status
Phase 0 Scope and Pre-Appraisal	Completed
Phase 1 Concept and Feasibility	Completed
Phase 2 Options Selection	Ongoing
Phase 3 Design and Environmental Evaluation	Yet to Start
Phase 4 Statutory Process	Yet to Start
Phase 5 Enabling and Procurement	Yet to Start
Phase 6 Construction and Implementation	Yet to Start
Phase 7 Close out and Review	Yet to Start

Sligo Greenway Collooney to Bellaghy Project website

<https://sligogreenway.ie/>

SLNCR Sligo to Enniskillen Greenway

An Emerging Preferred Route will shortly be chosen and is expected to be published for public viewing and comment in Q2 2025. Sligo County Council are providing the services of a Project Liaison Officer for the Sligo section of the proposed project. This project is following the Transport Infrastructure Ireland's (TII) Project Management Guidelines process and is being led by Leitrim County Council.

SLNCR Sligo to Enniskillen Greenway Project website

www.sln-cr-greenway.com

The Technical advisors (Arup) are contracted by Leitrim County Council to assist with bringing the project from Phase 1 to the end of Phase 4 along with elements of Phase 5.

TII Project Phase	Status
Phase 0 Scope and Pre-Appraisal	Completed
Phase 1 Concept and Feasibility	Completed
Phase 2 Options Selection	Ongoing
Phase 3 Design and Environmental Evaluation	Yet to Start
Phase 4 Statutory Process	Yet to Start
Phase 5 Enabling and Procurement	Yet to Start
Phase 6 Construction and Implementation	Yet to Start
Phase 7 Close out and Review	Yet to Start

N4 Active Travel Schemes

Collooney to Toberbride

This project is following Transport Infrastructure Irelands (TII) Project Management Guidelines process. It is currently progressing through Phase 2 Options Selection. Various surveys are ongoing which will assist with the progression of this project through Phase 2 and with the identification of the emerging preferred route option. Technical advisors (DBFL Consulting Engineers) are contracted to assist with bringing the project from Phase 2 to the end of Phase 4.

TII Project Phase	Status
Phase 0 Scope and Pre-Appraisal	Completed
Phase 1 Concept and Feasibility	Completed
Phase 2 Options Selection	Ongoing
Phase 3 Design and Environmental Evaluation	Yet to Start
Phase 4 Statutory Process	Yet to Start
Phase 5 Enabling and Procurement	Yet to Start
Phase 6 Construction and Implementation	Yet to Start
Phase 7 Close out and Review	Yet to Start

N4 Collooney to Castlebaldwin

This project is following Transport Infrastructure Irelands (TII) Project Management Guidelines process. This project is currently progressing through Phase 2 Options Selection where an emerging preferred route will be chosen and is expected to be published for public viewing and comment in Q3 2025. The Technical advisors (DBFL Consulting Engineers) are contracted to assist with bringing the project from Phase 2 to the end of Phase 4 as outlined in blue below.

TII Project Phase	Status
Phase 0 Scope and Pre-Appraisal	Completed
Phase 1 Concept and Feasibility	Completed
Phase 2 Options Selection	Ongoing
Phase 3 Design and Environmental Evaluation	Yet to Start
Phase 4 Statutory Process	Yet to Start
Phase 5 Enabling and Procurement	Yet to Start
Phase 6 Construction and Implementation	Yet to Start
Phase 7 Close out and Review	Yet to Start

N4/N16 Sligo Urban Active Travel Scheme

O'Connor Sutton Cronin and Associates Ltd. are assisting Sligo Regional Design Office with the progression of this scheme by assessing, identifying, and proposing various Active Travel interventions for vulnerable road users along the N4 and N16 in the Sligo Urban Area.

Further Active Travel Schemes

The following Active Travel schemes are also in the early stages of project development:

- N15 Grange Active Travel Scheme
- N17 Curry Active Travel Scheme
- N59 Ballysadare Active Travel Scheme

National Road Pavement (PARR) Schemes

The N16 Lugatober to County Boundary Pavement Resurfacing Scheme was tendered, and assessments are ongoing. The award and delivery are scheduled between Quarter 2 and the end of Quarter 4 2025, subject to funding and resources.

Design of the N4 Inner Relief Road Pavement Resurfacing project was completed and contract documents were compiled. The project was tendered in March 2025, with award and delivery planned between Quarter 2 and Quarter 4 2025, subject to funding and resources.



N4 Inner Relief Road – Pavement showing rutting and cracking in wheel tracks, with significant wear on antiskid surface.



N16 Lugatober to Co. Boundary – Significant structural distress in the nearside edge and wheel track.

In house design work is ongoing for the N59 Tullylin to Fiddaun pavement scheme, which is scheduled for delivery in 2026, subject to funding and resources.

National Road Safety Improvement Schemes

Feasibility, design, and planning work is ongoing for the following 5 No. National Road Safety Improvement Schemes:

- **N15 Shannon Eighter (HD15) Pedestrian Crossing Road Safety Improvement Scheme:**
Feasibility and Options Report has been approved by TII and the Design and Environmental Phase has commenced.
- **N17 Tubbercurry (HD15) Pedestrian Crossings Road Safety Improvement Scheme:**
Preparation of the Feasibility & Options Drawing and Report is currently underway.
- **N59 Ballisodare Pedestrian Crossing Road Safety Improvement Scheme:**
Feasibility and Options Report has been approved by TII, and the Design and Environmental Phase has commenced.
- **N17 - L 8319 Curry Road Safety Improvement Scheme:**
Feasibility and Options Report has been approved by TII, and the Design and Environmental Phase has commenced.

PLANNING & HERITAGE

PLANNING

Ministerial Direction regarding Sligo CDP 2024-2030

On 8 November 2024, the Minister of State for Local Government and Planning gave notice of his intention to issue a Direction to Sligo County Council to take certain measures regarding the Sligo County Development Plan 2024-2030.

Public consultation on the Draft Direction was carried out from 25 November to 9 December 2024, attracting 113 submissions. A Chief Executive's Report was submitted to the OPR and the Elected Members on 14 January 2025. The OPR made a recommendation to the Minister on 31 January 2025.

On 19 February 2025, the Minister published notice that *"the giving of the Direction to the planning authority would require the making of a material alteration to the Sligo County Development Plan 2024-2030"* and that *"the Minister's decision under section 31AN(4A) of the Act shall be subject to section 31AN(16)"*.

This means that – before giving a Direction – the Minister must determine whether strategic environmental assessment (SEA) and appropriate assessment (AA) are required to be carried out in respect of the material alteration (dezoning). No such determinations had been published by 24 March 2025.

E-Planning update

99% of applications received so far this year are E-Planning applications compared to 85% for the same period in 2024 (and 58% in 2023).

Land Activation Measures

Derelict Sites

There are 36 no. properties presently on the Derelict Sites Register. Sligo County Council continue to engage with owners of derelict properties throughout the County and where necessary will use powers provided under the Derelict Sites Act to bring the property back in to use if no progress in being made. The database of derelict properties is currently being updated following a survey that was carried out last year.

Croí Cónaithe Towns Fund (Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant)

This scheme provides people with a grant to support the refurbishment of vacant proposed properties. Since its original launch in July 2022, Sligo County Council has received a total of 410 applications with 330 grants being approved (up to 6th March 2025).



Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant (Before and After)

Enhanced Defective Blocks Scheme

The [Enhanced Defective Concrete Blocks Grant Scheme](#) provides financial support to people to carry out remediation works to their properties that have been damaged due to defective concrete blocks used in the construction of the house. Sligo was added to the scheme on 23rd October 2024. Defective concrete blocks are blocks that have excessive amounts of mica or pyrite. The grant covers 100% of remediation work up to a maximum of €462,000.

The online application process will go live on the Sligo County Council website on 1st April 2025. It is important that any affected house owners engage a suitably qualified professional to prepare a Building Condition Assessment report as this will need to be included with the initial application.

HERITAGE, CONSERVATION, BIODIVERSITY, WORLD HERITAGE

County Sligo Heritage Strategy 2023-2030

Implementation of the County Sligo Heritage Strategy 2023-2030 is underway. Delivery of the strategy is led by the Heritage Office, with oversight from Sligo Heritage Forum which meets quarterly. Sligo Heritage Forum held its first meeting of the year on the 25th February 2025.



Funding applications to support implementation of the heritage strategy were submitted to The Heritage Council under the County Heritage Plan Fund, Community Archaeology Programme and the Historic Towns Initiative on the 14th February 2025 and a funding announcement is awaited.

Built Heritage Investment Scheme and BHIS Thatch Scheme 2025

Under BHIS 2025 and BHIS Thatch 2025, a total funding award of €183,295 has been allocated to Sligo projects as follows: €165,743 for 15 projects (BHIS 2025) and €17,552 for 2 projects (BHIS Thatch 2025). Project details were circulated to Members by email on the 18th February 2025 and all grant applicants have been notified.



Sligo Masonic Hall

Historic Structures Fund 2025

Eight applications were received under HSF 2025 by the application deadline of 17th January 2025. Following grant assessment, five projects were submitted to the Department on the 7th February 2025 in line with the grant circular and a funding announcement is awaited.

Community Monuments Fund 2025

Seven applications were received under CMF 2025 by the application deadline of 31st January 2025. Following grant assessment, seven projects were submitted to the Department by the 14th February 2025 in line with the grant circular and a funding announcement is awaited.

Preparation of Biodiversity Action Plan

The 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan requires that all local authorities have a Biodiversity Action Plan in place by the end of 2026 to provide a structured approach to conserving biodiversity at the county level. Work is ongoing re the preparation of a Biodiversity Action Plan for County Sligo in collaboration with the Biodiversity Working Group. Funding applications have been submitted to The Heritage Council (Biodiversity Fund 2025) and NPWS (Local Biodiversity Action Fund 2025) to support continued biodiversity action in County Sligo in partnership with the local community.

The Hare's Corner is coming to Sligo

Sligo County Council and Burrenbeo Trust are bringing the Hare's Corner to County Sligo.



Landowners, farmers, community groups, and schools with land in County Sligo – or with permission to undertake work on a site within that county were welcome to apply.

Sligo landowners could apply for support to create wildlife ponds, mini-woodlands, wildlife hedges, mini-orchards and 'plans for nature' on their land through The Hare's Corner initiative.

The application closed on 30th March. See burrenbeo.com/thc for details.

UNESCO World Heritage Bid – The Passage Tomb Landscape of County Sligo

Sligo County Council continues to liaise with the World Heritage Unit, at the National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage to progress the World Heritage bid. Key actions undertaken to date and/or in progress include:

- Appointment of a World Heritage Project Coordinator to Sligo County Council.
- Drafting of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the DHLGH, OPW and Sligo County Council to guide and support the World Heritage bid process (pending).
- Appointment of a WH Expert by the Department to SCC to advise on the World Heritage bid (pending).
- Sligo County Council is progressing the establishment of the required project governance structures (Q2 2025) to support the World Heritage bid including a World Heritage Nomination Team (strategic/advisory and partnership), Project Team (Operational).
- Establishment of a Community Stakeholder Forum (involvement and participation of the local community). SCC is considering the processes and structures required to support stakeholder engagement in the bid in line with UNESCO requirements.

HOUSING CAPITAL

Work progressed on Sligo's Housing Delivery Action Plan 2022-2026 as follows:

Social Housing Construction Contracts – 5 contracts in construction

Maugheraboy, Sligo

Work is progressing on the construction of a new estate of 62 units.



Camross, Ballymote

Work is progressing for the construction of 39 new dwellings.



Carney

Works are underway on site for the construction of 25 new dwellings.



Southern Court, Knappagh Road, Sligo

Works are underway on site for the construction of 4 new apartments.



Cranmore, Sligo

Works are underway for the construction of 30 units on 2 sites: Benson Drive and Geldof Drive.



Projects in development by SCC at Tender Stage

Dromore West and Easkey

Tenders returned in Q1 and assessment underway for the construction of 25 units

Finisklin

Tenders returned in Q1 and assessment underway for the construction of 47 units

Projects in development by SCC

Pirn Mill Road:	20 units
Grange:	15 units
Collooney:	31 units
Carrowbunaun:	51 units
High Street Sligo:	5 units



Ongoing Projects in development by Approved Housing Associations

Sofia:Summerhill Tubbercurry: 10 units

Tuath: Adelaide St, Sligo: 37 units

HAIL:Kazelain House, Sligo: 12 units

PPP Development at Tender Stage

Rathellen, Finisklin, Sligo - 63 units



CAPITAL PROJECTS

URBAN REGENERATION DEVELOPMENT FUND PROJECTS

Implementation of Sligo Public Realm

Stephen Street / Holborn Street / Rockwood Parade / Water Lane / Tobergal Lane

Detail design for the project was completed at the end of Q1 and approval has been sought from the Department to Tender for Construction for of the Scheme.

“City Campus - Sligo's Cultural and Learning Hub” project (Connaughton Road / Stephen Street / Holborn Street / Lake Isle Road)

Documents have been prepared for the procurement of consultants for the development of a Masterplan for the City Campus, and will be published at the end of Q1 2025.

Sligo Harbour Masterplan

Work is ongoing on the preparation of the Sligo Harbour Masterplan, with the draft Masterplan expected to be completed at the end of Q2 2025.

GOVERNANCE



MARIE WHELAN

Director of Services

Finance and Corporate Governance

FINANCE

MAJOR EXPENDITURE AND INCOME LINES FOR EACH SERVICE DIVISION (INCLUDING PERFORMANCE AGAINST FIGURES PROVIDED IN THE ADOPTED ANNUAL BUDGET AND AGAINST EXPECTED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE PROFILES);

**Revenue Account Income & Expenditure Summary by Service Division
Year to Date to Quarter End 31/12/2024**

	EXPENDITURE					INCOME					NET	
	Actual 2024	Budget 2024	Remaining 2024	% Spent 2024	Actual 2023	Actual 2024	Budget 2024	Not Rec'd 2024	% Rec'd 2024	Actual 2023	Actual 2024	Variance 2024
	€	€	€		€	€	€	€		€	€	€
A Housing & Building	15,580,504	16,165,955	585,451	96%	15,155,513	13,936,847	14,145,722	208,874	99%	13,466,723	(1,643,656)	376,577
B Road Transport & Safety	28,038,582	24,076,794	(3,961,788)	116%	29,923,439	21,147,099	17,366,385	(3,780,713)	122%	23,164,021	(6,891,483)	(181,075)
C Water Services	4,467,384	4,783,272	315,888	93%	4,605,220	4,391,898	4,629,881	237,984	95%	4,567,943	(75,486)	77,905
D Development Management	12,831,186	6,966,423	(5,864,763)	184%	7,120,477	8,313,674	2,148,678	(6,164,995)	387%	2,302,189	(4,517,512)	300,233
E Environmental Services	8,945,241	8,859,180	(86,062)	101%	8,012,401	1,643,399	1,352,012	(291,388)	122%	1,505,450	(7,301,842)	205,326
F Recreation & Amenity	6,486,192	6,623,495	137,303	98%	6,055,977	738,635	892,450	153,816	83%	500,582	(5,747,558)	(16,512)
G Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	876,077	838,244	(37,833)	105%	810,292	435,541	371,457	(64,083)	117%	426,001	(440,536)	26,250
H Miscellaneous Services	9,775,533	8,227,420	(1,548,112)	119%	8,129,211	9,627,449	8,485,256	(1,142,192)	113%	8,735,334	(148,084)	(405,920)
LG Local Property Tax	-	-	-	-%	-	12,419,708	12,419,708	-	100%	10,875,829	12,419,708	-
RA Rates	-	-	-	-%	-	14,733,932	14,729,233	(4,699)	100%	14,730,331	14,733,932	4,699
	87,000,698	76,540,783	(10,459,915)	114%	79,812,529	87,388,181	76,540,783	(10,847,397)	114%	80,274,402	387,482	387,482

Capital Account Income & Expenditure Summary by Service Division

Year to Date to Quarter End 31/12/2024

	Opening Balance Balance at 01/01/2024	Expenditure Expenditure YTD	Income				Transfers			Balance at 31/12/2024
	€	€	Grants €	Loans €	Other €	Total income YTD €	Transfer from Revenue €	Transfer to Revenue €	Internal Transfers €	€
01 Housing & Building	(705,551)	33,534,074	(31,463,047)	0	(1,160,719)	(32,623,765)	-	-	12,280	217,037
02 Road Transport & Safety	(427,601)	19,245,453	(18,867,560)	0	(459,925)	(19,327,485)	(100,000)	-	(38,530)	(648,163)
03 Water Services	31,562	3,617,944	(3,062,616)	0	(563,369)	(3,625,985)	-	-	-	23,521
04 Development Management	(1,861,265)	12,672,619	(12,889,111)	0	(4,270,732)	(17,159,843)	(412,500)	-	606,668	(6,154,321)
05 Environmental Services	(578,804)	2,126,547	(1,818,743)	0	(38,437)	(1,857,180)	-	-	245,932	(63,506)
06 Recreation & Amenity	(328,586)	894,833	(839,790)	0	(37,954)	(877,744)	(617,081)	(20,000)	(579,063)	(1,487,641)
07 Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfar	(162,062)	150,778	(29,766)	0	(57,759)	(87,525)	-	-	(53,307)	(152,115)
08 Miscellaneous Services	(960,102)	1,084,624	(479,020)	0	(445,488)	(924,507)	(290,000)	-	(193,980)	(1,283,965)
Total	(4,992,409)	73,326,871	(69,449,652)	0	(7,034,382)	(76,484,034)	(1,419,581)	(20,000)	-	(9,549,153)

PERFORMANCE OF LOCAL AUTHORITY REVENUE COLLECTION LEVELS (INCLUDING AGED DEBT ANALYSIS);

Analysis of Debtors - Period 01/01/2024 to 31/12/2024

	Opening Balance 01/01/2024 €	Current Debtors Movement					Closing Balance 31/12/2024 €	Bad Debt Provision €	Net Closing Balance 31/12/2024 €
		Invoices €	Receipts €	Refunds €	Write Offs €	Waivers €			
Trade Debtors									
Government Debtors	3,628,610	108,108,503	102,604,240	-	-		9,132,874	-	9,132,874
Commercial Debtors - Rates	6,357,341	14,733,932	12,677,261	-	1,602,932	63,901	6,747,180	4,774,230	1,972,951
Commercial Debtors Other (including PEL & IW)	54,479	3,313,041	3,522,820	-	-		(155,300)	-	(155,300)
Non-Commercial Debtors	1,558,446	7,714,846	7,787,750	-	25,341		1,460,200	1,311,029	149,172
Other Services	1,083,113	3,111,683	3,425,875	(10,000)	75,201	21,403	662,317	290,608	371,709
Other Local Authorities	8,976	294,964	274,635	-	-		29,305	-	29,305
Sub-Total	12,690,964	137,276,969	130,292,580	(10,000)	1,703,473	85,304	17,876,577	6,375,866	11,500,710

Other Debtors									
Development Levy Debtors (Current Only)	173,281						320,997	128,456	192,541
Other	-						0		0
Current Portion of Long Term Debtors	1,481,469						1,457,239		1,457,239
Prepayments	35,000						605,588		605,588
Sub-Total	1,689,750						1,927,852	114,755	1,813,097

TOTAL DEBTORS	14,380,714						20,260,401	6,504,322	13,756,079
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APPENDIX 7

Summary of Major Revenue Collections for 2024

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
Debtor Type	Opening Arrears at 01/01/2024	Accrued	Vacant Property Adjustment	Write Offs	Waivers & Credits	Total for Collection =(B+C-D-E-F)	Amount Collected	Closing Arrears at 31/09/2024 =(G-H)	Specific Doubtful Arrears	% Collec =(H)/(G-J)
	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	
Rates	6,357,341	14,733,932	459,689	1,143,242	63,901	19,424,441	12,677,261	6,747,180	2,211,063	* 74%
Rents & Annuities	1,268,824	6,597,153	-	25,341	-	7,840,636	6,618,318	1,222,318	-	84%
Housing Loans	478,674	1,008,822	-	-	-	1,487,496	1,035,692	451,804	-	70%

*Specific doubtful arrears = (i) Vacancy applications pending/criteria not met & (ii) Accounts in examinership/receivership/liquidation and no communication

RECOURSE TO OVERDRAFT FACILITY (NUMBER OF DAYS PER MONTH AND INTEREST INCURRED);

The overdraft interest and fees applied to 16th February 2025 was €2327.45.

EMERGENCY CAPITAL WORKS NOT PROVIDED FOR IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET (INCLUDING ESTIMATED FINANCIAL LIABILITY):

The expenditure incurred by the Council as a result of Storm Éowyn currently stands at €750k and could amount to €1m.

CORPORATE

Sligo County Council Seachtain Na Gaeilge 2025

Sligo County Council marked Seachtain na Gaeilge 2025 with an array of events across the county. Seachtain na Gaeilge le Energia which runs annually from 1-17th March is one of the biggest celebrations of our native language and culture that takes place nationally and internationally. The festival gives an opportunity to everyone to practise an teanga, whether a fluent speaker or a learner. Sligo County Council, in conjunction with a number of local Irish language groups devised a programme of inclusive events for all age groups and language capabilities.



Buaiteoirí Scoláireachtaí Chomhairle Chontae Shligigh



Daltaí as Gaelscoil Chnoc na Ré, Lá Mór na Gaeilge Chomhairle Chontae Shligigh



Daltaí as Aonad Loch Gile, Coláiste na Trócaire Lá Mór na Gaeilge Chomhairle



An Dr. Seosamh Mac Muirí, Alan Roberts, Edel Mhic Amhlaidh agus Mairtín Enright, Siúlóid Ceann Eachróise



Members of Grúpa Gaeilge Inis Crabhann, Tráth na gCeist, Ocean Sands Hotel



Tráth na gCeist Winners Aonad Loch Gile

Full story: [Seachtain na Gaeilge 2025](#)

Romanian Ambassador Visits Sligo to Strengthen Bilateral and Community Ties

His Excellency Lautențiu Ștefan, the Romanian Ambassador to Ireland, accompanied by his wife, Mrs. Georgeta Bratu, Minister Counsellor, were warmly welcomed to City Hall, Sligo on Saturday 22nd February by Mayor Cllr. Tom MacSharry and Deputy Chief Executive Marie Whelan, alongside Councillors Gibbons and McSharry, Minister Marian Harkin TD, and members of Sligo's Romanian community.



The meeting brought together key business stakeholders, including Aidan Doyle CEO, Sligo Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Shona Heffernan Business Advisor, Local Enterprise Office Sligo, and Finbarr Filan Chairperson, Sligo Business Improvement District (BID), to discuss opportunities for economic collaboration, cultural exchange, and community integration.



Full story: [Romanian Ambassador Visits Sligo](#)

Cathaoirleach welcomes Palestinian Ambassador to County Hall

Cathaoirleach, Councillor Declan Bree, welcomed the Palestinian Ambassador to Ireland, Her Excellency Ambassador Jilan Wahba Abdalmajid, to County Hall on Thursday 23rd January.

Cathaoirleach Cllr Declan Bree said it was a profound honour and privilege to welcome Her Excellency Ambassador Jilan Wahba Abdalmajid to County Hall and the visit marked a significant milestone in the already strong relationship between Ireland and the State of Palestine.



Full story: [Palestinian Ambassador visits County Hall](#)

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

7th April

9.30am Special CPG Meeting, Council Chamber, County Hall

10.00am April Plenary Meeting, Council Chamber, County Hall

8th April

11.30am Meeting of Twinning Committee, Management Suite meeting room, County Hall

16th April

9.30am Meeting of LCDC, Council Chamber, City Hall

29th April

10.00am Meeting of SPC3, Council Chamber, County Hall

LATEST NEWS



SLIGO BUSINESS ANNOUNCED FOR NATIONAL ENTERPRISE AWARDS FINAL

A Sligo company which has developed an exciting knowledge sharing platform for customer remote and hybrid teams has been selected as one of the Finalists for the National Enterprise Awards that takes place in May.

[View full story](#)



MAJOR AGE FRIENDLY HEALTH & WELLBEING FESTIVAL ON ATU CAMPUS

On 28th March, more than 250 older people from Sligo, Leitrim and across the region attended the first-ever Age Friendly Health and Wellbeing Festival at ATU Sligo.

[View full story](#)



WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY 2025

On 21st March, World Down Syndrome Day, Down Syndrome Sligo and Sligo County Council led the way in raising awareness and promoting greater inclusion for individuals with Down Syndrome.

[View full story](#)



SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL DELEGATION VISIT NEW YORK

A delegation from Sligo County Council including Cathaoirleach Councillor Declan Bree attended a number of St Patrick's Day engagements in New York this month.

[View full story](#)



SLIGO STUDENTS SET FOR NATIONAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP FINAL

Local Enterprise Office Sligo have announced that teenage entrepreneurs from Corran College, Coláiste Iascaigh and Coláiste Muire will represent Sligo at this year's Student Enterprise Programme National Final on Thursday 8th May.

[View full story](#)



RSA LAUNCHES IMPACTFUL NEW CAMPAIGN EXPOSING THE DANGERS OF SPEED ON RURAL ROADS

The Road Safety Authority (RSA) has launched a powerful new advertising campaign highlighting the dangers of speed and complacency on rural roads.

[View full story](#)



AIM CENTRE WELCOMES NEW DIRECTOR OF AI TO LEAD NATIONAL AI STUDIO

Advancing Innovation in Manufacturing (AIM) Centre is delighted to announce the appointment of David Bermingham as its new Director of AI.

[View full story](#)



STRANDHILL PUBLIC REALM ENHANCEMENT

Sligo County Council are looking for members of the public to express their views on a proposed public realm enhancement scheme in Strandhill.

[View full story](#)



THE HARE'S CORNER IS COMING TO SLIGO!

Sligo landowners can apply for support to create wildlife ponds, mini-woodlands, wildlife hedges, mini-orchards and 'plans for nature' on their land through The Hare's Corner initiative.

[View full story](#)



CALLING ALL SLIGO BUSINESSES: JOIN THE SLIGO GREEN HUB INITIATIVE!

Sligo County Council Environment Section is delighted to partner with MyWaste.ie to offer the Green Business Hub Initiative in Sligo Town and surrounds in 2025.

[View full story](#)

RECRUITMENT



Sligo. COMHAIRLE CHONTAE SHLIGIGH
SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL

Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil
Local Enterprise Office

**SENIOR ENTERPRISE
DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
GRADE VII - LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE**

APPLY NOW

CLOSING DATE:
4:30pm Thursday 17th April 2025

APPLICATIONS:
www.sligococo.ie/jobvacancies/

VIA EMAIL ONLY:
jobs@sligococo.ie

Senior Enterprise Development Officer

Completed application forms must be returned to the Human Resources Department **via email only** to jobs@sligococo.ie not later than **4.30 p.m. on Thursday 17th April 2025.**



Sligo. COMHAIRLE CHONTAE SHLIGIGH
SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL

**TEMPORARY
BEACH LIFEGUARD
&
TEMPORARY
BEACH WARDEN**

APPLY NOW

Applications:
www.sligococo.ie/jobvacancies/

Via Email Only:
jobs@sligococo.ie

Closing Date:
4.30 pm Thursday 10th April 2025

Temporary Beach Lifeguard and Temporary Beach Warden

Completed application forms must be returned to the Human Resources Department **via email only** to jobs@sligococo.ie not later than **4.30 p.m. on Thursday 10th April 2025.**



Sligo. COMHAIRLE CHONTAE SHLIGIGH
SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL

**SCHOOL WARDEN
(PART-TIME)**

APPLY NOW

ROLLING COMPETITION

APPLICATIONS:
www.sligococo.ie/jobvacancies/

VIA EMAIL ONLY:
jobs@sligococo.ie

School Warden (Part-Time)

Completed application forms for the above positions must be returned to the Human Resources Section via email only to jobs@sligococo.ie

Please note there is no closing date for these competitions and applications will be accepted on an ongoing basis.

A recruitment banner for Sligo County Council. The background is a light blue and white image of a person working at a desk with a laptop and a tablet. The banner features the Sligo County Council logo and name in the top left. The main text 'Sligo.' is in a large, bold, blue font. Below it, two yellow banners read 'ASSISTANT ENGINEER' and 'EXECUTIVE ENGINEER'. A red 'APPLY NOW' button with a hand cursor is on the right. At the bottom left, a yellow banner says 'ROLLING COMPETITION'. At the bottom right, a blue banner says 'VIA EMAIL ONLY: jobs@sligococo.ie'. The bottom left also has a yellow banner with 'APPLICATIONS: www.sligococo.ie/jobvacancies/'.

COMHAIRLE CHONTAE SHLIGIGH
SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL

Sligo.

ASSISTANT ENGINEER

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

APPLY NOW

ROLLING COMPETITION

APPLICATIONS:
www.sligococo.ie/jobvacancies/

VIA EMAIL ONLY:
jobs@sligococo.ie

Assistant Engineer and Executive Engineer

Completed application forms for the above positions must be returned to the Human Resources Section via email only to

jobs@sligococo.ie

Please note there is no closing date for these competitions and applications will be accepted on an ongoing basis.



COMHAIRLE CHONTAE SHLIGIGH
SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL

SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY HALL
RIVERSIDE
SLIGO
F91 Y763



@sligocountycouncil



@sligocountycouncil



@sligococo



@sligocountycouncil

Sligo.

#156464 - teal

#0F9ED4 – blue

#186B23 – green

#E97031 – orange

#9F2B92 – purple

Sligo County Council

County Hall
Riverside
Sligo
F91 Y763



Contact

Tel: 071 911 11 11
Fax: 071 914 11 19



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