

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF
BALLYMOTE-TOBERCURRY HELD ON MONDAY 12TH NOVEMBER 2018
AT 3.00 P.M. IN MEETING ROOM 1, TEACH LAIGHNE, TUBBERCURRY, CO. SLIGO**

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: Councillor Martin Baker
Councillor Michael Clarke
Councillor Margaret Gormley
Councillor Dara Mulvey
Councillor Joe Queenan (Chair)
Councillor Paul Taylor

APOLOGIES: Councillor Keith Henry
Councillor Jerry Lundy

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. Ciarán Hayes, Chief Executive
Ms. Marie Whelan, Head of Finance
Ms. Dorothy Clarke, Director of Services
Mr. Tom Kilfeather, Director of Services
Ms. Clodagh Quinn, Staff Officer

OPENING THE MEETING: The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Joe Queenan presided and welcomed those present to the meeting. At the outset, Members were advised that further work is required to balance the budget over the coming weeks with reductions to be made in particular areas as necessary.

**1. TO CONSIDER THE DRAFT
BUDGETARY PLAN**

Division B – Roads Transport & Safety

Mr. Tom Kilfeather, Director of Services informed Members that while there is a €60,000 increase in the Roads budget on the 2018 figure (which comes from the Council's own resources), this is still relatively small in comparison with other counties due to the Council's financial situation. Mr. Kilfeather stated that when details of funding from Transport Infrastructure Ireland and the Dept. of Transport, Tourism and Sport are known in early 2019, the roads programme can then be developed.

Division D – Development Management

Ms. Dorothy Clarke, Director of Services advised Members that the budget figure of €224,000 remains the same as last year. Contributions are still being made to Ireland West Airport Knock, Sligo Airport and 2019 will see Sligo Tourism Ltd. benefiting from an additional €20,000 which previously had been assigned to a Fáilte Ireland Wild Atlantic Way North of Galway campaign but which was not sought for the coming year.

Division F – Recreation and Amenity

Under this division, Ms. Clarke outlined the various contributions made to the following: Hawks Well Theatre, LEADER projects, REDZ project, Rhode Island Programme, WRAP Fund, Eurovelo project etc. plus a €30,000 contribution to the development of a fast landing space at the Embankment building on Rockwood Parade.

Ms. Clarke advised of the receipt of €60,000 in funding from Fáilte Ireland towards a feasibility study for Stephen Street Cultural Plaza which must be

matched by Sligo County Council. €30,000 of which was provided for in the 2018 budget with the balance of €30,000 included in the 2019 budget. Finally, Ms. Clarke advised of details of funding towards the Community & Voluntary Grant Scheme, Tidy Towns, Christmas lights etc.

In reply to a query from Councillor Margaret Gormley regarding funding for Christmas lights, Ms. Clarke explained that the allocation in the budget refers to Sligo City but suggested that perhaps smaller towns could apply for funding for lights under the Community Enhancement Programme.

Members thanked the Executive and Council staff for the proposals and complimented the work carried out with the resources at their disposal. The development of tourism projects and the increase to housing grants in particular were welcomed. Members also felt that while the aforementioned €60,000 is a welcome addition to the Roads budget, it will have a limited impact in terms of the amount of work that can be undertaken and an increase in Departmental funding is warranted.

Following a brief discussion, the Members agreed to note the Draft Budgetary Plan proposals.

The meeting concluded at 3.50 p.m.

_____ **Date** _____
Cathaoirleach

_____ **Date** _____
Meetings Administrator