



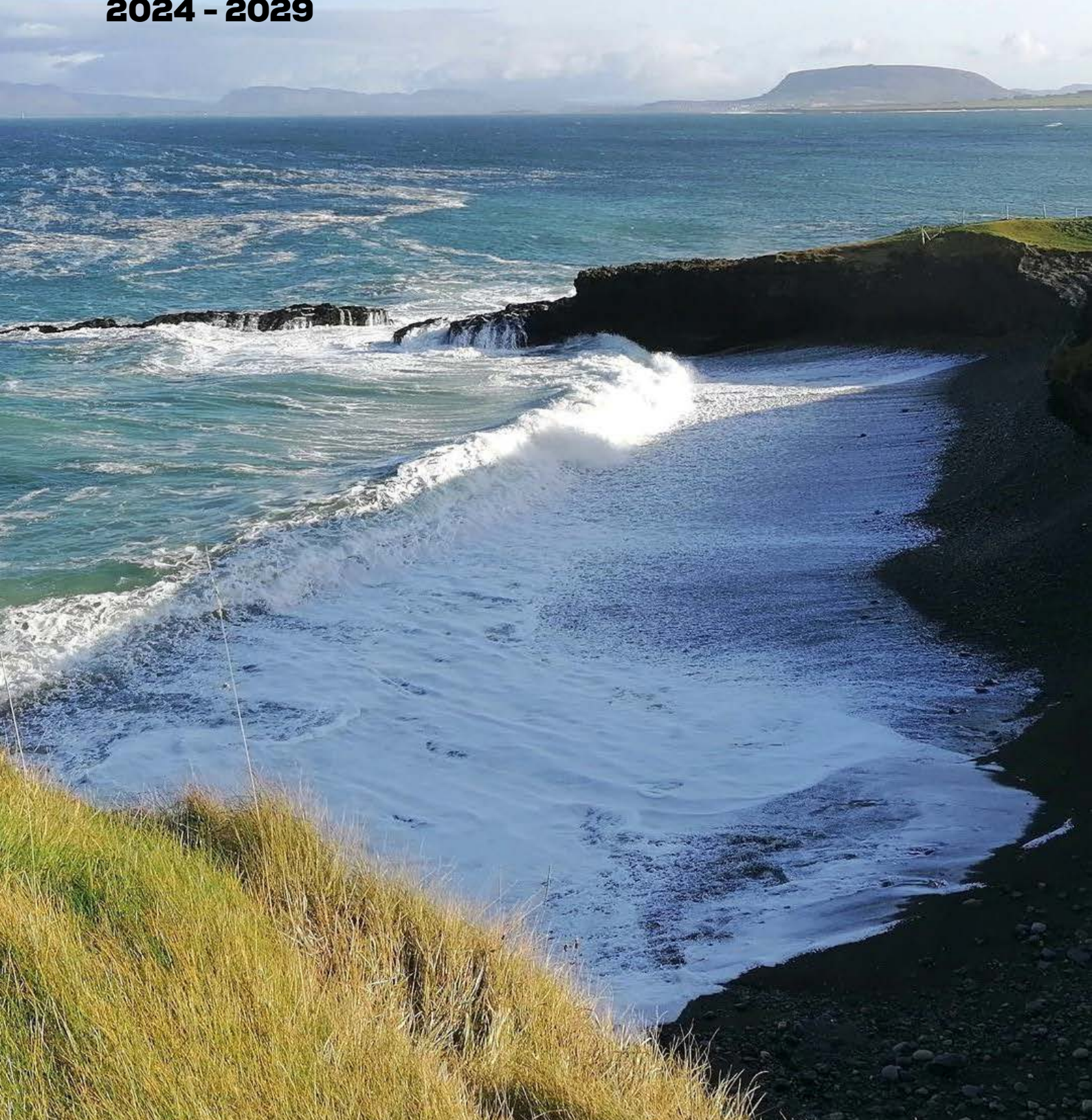
COMHAIRLE CHONTAE SHLIGIGH
SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL

Sligo.

Sligo County Council

Corporate Plan

2024 - 2029





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Foreword from the Cathaoirleach and Executive



Councillor Declan Bree, Cathaoirleach

It is our privilege as Cathaoirleach and Chief Executive of Sligo County Council to introduce the Corporate Plan 2024-2029. We have set out a substantial programme of work for the coming five years, to fulfil our vision for a flourishing, sustainable, and inclusive Sligo. The plan will give effect to our mission to build vibrant, inclusive communities, support a robust local economy, honour our heritage, and protect our environment.

The Corporate Plan draws on the provisions of core Council plans and strategies, such as the County Development Plan and Local Economic and Community Plan, and is framed by our values. We have consulted with our elected members, Council management and staff, and the Public Participation Network, and have designed this Plan to respond to the challenges ahead and the needs of the people of the County.

The objectives and actions set out in this Plan are aligned with our corporate structure, under the themes of **Placemaking, Climate & Infrastructure, Live | Invest | Visit, and Governance**. We have ensured that our Corporate Plan is aligned with national strategy and policy and will work collaboratively with government, partners, stakeholders, and the people of Sligo to achieve our aims and deliver for the County. We will live our values as an organisation, exemplifying democratic principles and customer service, valuing our staff within a culture of equity, diversity, and inclusion, and delivering our services to the highest standards in an open, transparent and accountable manner. We embrace our obligations under the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty and ensure our work is Age-Friendly and inclusive.

The Corporate Plan will form the basis of our Annual Service Delivery Plans over the next five years, and inform departmental workplans and individual performance development plans. Following the publication of this Corporate Plan, a strategic workforce plan will be developed to ensure we have the appropriate resources to deliver on our ambitions.

The Elected Members, Corporate Policy Group, and Strategic Policy Groups will monitor the progress of the Plan and will ensure the successful implementation of the objectives by the Executive.

We are committed to meeting the challenge and delivering on an exciting programme of work to make Sligo the best it can be for everyone.



Martin Lydon, Chief Executive



Introduction

This Sligo County Council Corporate Plan 2024–2029 sets out the strategic framework for the Council for the term of the Councillors elected in June 2024. The Council has taken into account a wide range of regional, national and international plans and policies relevant to the Council in the development of this Plan, as set out in the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage ‘Local Authority Corporate Plans Guidelines for the 2024-2029 cycle’, and has consulted Elected Members, staff, management, and the Public Participation Network in considering its strategic priorities.

The strategic objectives set out within this Plan will be reflected, implemented, and monitored through our Annual Service Delivery Plans, Management Reports, and the Integrated Performance Management Development process.





County Sligo

Sligo is located in the north-west of Ireland, encompassing a total land surface of approximately 1,800 square kilometres, adjacent to almost 200 kilometres of Atlantic coastline. Sligo borders Leitrim, Roscommon, and Mayo.

The County has three Municipal Districts: Ballymote-Tubbercurry, Borough District of Sligo, and Sligo-Drumcliff. Sligo Town is a designated Regional Growth Centre under the National Planning Framework, highlighting its strategic importance in driving economic and social development in the region.







About Sligo County Council

Sligo County Council comprises 18 Elected Members across the three Municipal Districts of Ballymote-Tubbercurry, Borough District of Sligo, and Sligo-Drumcliff.

Elected Members



Cllr Liam Brennan
Ballymote-Tubbercurry
MD



Cllr Michael Clarke
Ballymote-Tubbercurry
MD



Cllr Barry Gallagher
Ballymote-Tubbercurry
MD



Cllr Gerard Mullaney
Ballymote-Tubbercurry
MD



Cllr Dara Mulvey
Ballymote-Tubbercurry
MD



Cllr Joseph Queenan
Ballymote-Tubbercurry
MD



Cllr Paul Taylor
Ballymote-Tubbercurry
MD



Cllr Marie Casserly
Sligo-Drumcliff MD



Cllr Dónal Gilroy
Sligo-Drumcliff
MD



Cllr Thomas Healy
Sligo-Drumcliff
MD



Cllr Edel McSharry
Sligo-Drumcliff
MD



Cllr Thomas Walsh
Sligo-Drumcliff
MD



Cllr Declan Bree
Borough of Sligo MD



Cllr Nessa Cosgrove
Borough of Sligo MD



Cllr Arthur Gibbons
Borough of Sligo MD



Cllr Tom MacSharry
Borough of Sligo MD



Cllr Fergal Nealon
Borough of Sligo
MD



Cllr Gino O'Boyle
Borough of Sligo
MD



The Council's Executive team works in collaboration with the Elected Members to support their policymaking responsibilities and ensure the effective delivery of Council services. Led by the Chief Executive and supported by a senior management team comprising four Directors, the Executive assists Elected Members in developing and implementing policies that shape the strategic direction of the Council.

Executive Management Team



Martin Lydon,
Chief Executive



Marie Whelan
Director of Finance



Jim Molloy
Director of Services



Dónal Tinney
A/ Director of Services



Emer Concannon
A/Director of Services

The Elected Members retain key statutory responsibilities, referred to as reserved functions, as outlined in the Local Government Act 2001 and updated by the Local Government Reform Act 2014. These responsibilities include adopting major policies and programmes, such as the Corporate Plan, the Annual Budget, and the County Development Plan. The Executive manages operational matters, including staff management, planning decisions, budgetary oversight, and various day-to-day functions, while ensuring these actions align with the policy direction determined by the Elected Members.

Four **Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs)** have been established to advise and assist in the formulation, development, and review of policy in relation to functions of a strategic nature reserved to the elected members. The SPCs comprise members of the Council and relevant sectoral representatives. Our SPCs are as follows:

Placemaking

Climate &
Infrastructure

Live | Invest |
Visit

Housing &
Governance



The Cathaoirleach and the SPC chairs, together with the chairs of the 3 Municipal Districts, form the **Corporate Policy Group** to provide a forum where policy positions affecting the Council can be agreed for submission to the full Council.





Vision, Mission, and Values





Corporate Objectives 2024-2029

This Corporate Plan draws together the goals and intended impacts of our work over the next five years, informed by existing Council plans, strategies, and targets along with national priorities. We set these out here in four key thematic areas reflective of our Council directorate structures.

Placemaking

- Deliver housing in line with government targets
- Provide for proper planning and sustainable development
- Regenerate and renew town centres
- Preserve and promote Sligo's heritage and biodiversity
- Improve County infrastructure

Climate & Infrastructure

- Address climate change within Sligo County
- Develop Sligo's circular economy
- Improve transport links for our communities
- Protect and improve our coastal and inland waterways
- Safeguard our communities and public amenities

Live | Invest | Visit

- Promote and develop economic activity
- Support and develop our communities
- Promote and grow tourism in the County
- Enrich community life through library, arts, & cultural services

Governance

- Support and develop staff to perform at their best and progress in their careers
- Ensure robust financial and organisational governance
- Promote organisational culture of collaboration and continuous improvement
- Use technology to improve service delivery



Placemaking





Placemaking

Objectives

Actions

Key Performance Indicators

Deliver housing to meet the needs of the people of Sligo, in line with government targets

- Continue to implement our Housing Delivery Action Plan to deliver social housing through construction, Approved Housing Body provision, and the private rental market
- Work with the private sector to stimulate private housing delivery

- Achieve targets set out in Housing Action Plan
- Meet national housing delivery requirements
- Number of Commencement Notices

Provide for proper planning and sustainable development

- Implement the objectives of the 2024-2030 Sligo County Development Plan (CDP)
- Protect the integrity of the natural and built environment

- Achieve objectives as set out in CDP
- Development in Sligo has not threatened the sustainability of the County



Objectives	Actions	Key Performance Indicators
Regenerate and renew town centres and rural communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implement the Town Centre First policy to revitalise our towns and villages and support a better quality of urban and rural life in Sligo	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delivery of 3-year Capital Plan leading to enhanced facilities in towns and villages
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Address vacancy and dereliction in towns and villages through Government initiatives and grants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduce dereliction and vacant properties in towns and villages
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work in partnership with our communities and other organisations to deliver improved town and villages across the County.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Levels of funding for improvement of towns and villages
Preserve and promote Sligo's heritage and biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implement Sligo Heritage and Biodiversity Strategy 2023-2030<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Raise awareness of Sligo's heritage and biodiversity○ Promote best practice in heritage management○ Support community participation in heritage plans and projects○ Commission research and collect heritage data	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delivery of the actions set out in the Sligo Heritage and Biodiversity Strategy 2023-2030
Improve County infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support and deliver strategic infrastructure for Sligo as the regional growth centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delivery of infrastructure in line with the CDP
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implement infrastructure projects in line with the National Development Plan (NDP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Delivery of NDP infrastructure projects



Climate & Infrastructure





Climate & Infrastructure

Objectives

Actions

Key Performance Indicators

Lead, support, promote, and deliver climate change mitigation and adaptation in Co. Sligo

- Implement the Sligo County Council Climate Action Plan:
 - Enhance climate resilience, increase energy efficiency and reduce GHG emissions across the Council’s assets, services and infrastructure
 - Support and empower communities to deliver climate action initiatives locally
 - Provide leadership and work with partners to enable Sligo to decarbonise and become a Climate resilient county

- Carbon emission reductions for Sligo County Council
- Energy Efficiency improvements for Sligo County Council
- Progress on delivering the Actions set out in the CAP

Work in partnership with Sligo businesses and communities to develop Sligo’s circular economy

- Collaborate with Key Partners to deliver the policies in the National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy 2024- 2030
- Support national schemes on reuse, repair, refurbish, and recycling
- Deliver the national priority actions in waste management

- Progress on delivering the Actions for LA’s set out in the National WMP for a Circular Economy
- Reduction in waste generation
- Progress on RMCEI targets



Objectives	Actions	Key Performance Indicators
Develop and improve transport links for our communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implement the connectivity and public transport objectives of the <i>Sligo 2030 One Voice One Vision</i> Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2023-2030	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deliver the actions and achieve the objectives within the LECP
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implement the Sligo Local Transport Plan (SLTP) 2024-2030	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deliver the measures set out in the SLTP
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deliver Active Travel networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Active Travel projects delivered• Modal shift away from private car
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintain and improve the County's road network to provide safe and timely access for our communities to work, school, and leisure activities<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Deliver new and improved road infrastructure. Continue the ongoing maintenance and repair of the road network across the County.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improvements delivered• Assess against NOAC indicators for road quality



Objectives	Actions	Key Performance Indicators
Protect and improve our coastal assets and inland waterways	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work with partners to maintain and improve coastal infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improvement Schemes delivered
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regulate and support non-public rural water schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assess against NOAC indicators for private supplies
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implement measures in the Water Action Plan: Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2022 – 2027• Deliver the national priority actions for river and lake water protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improvement of water quality in rivers and lakes• Progress on RMCEI targets
Safeguard our communities and public amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manage, maintain and improve our public parks and recreational areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improvement Schemes delivered
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide emergency services and management to respond to community needs through the Fire Service and Civil Defence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assess against NOAC indicators for Fire Service



Live | Invest | Visit





Live | Invest | Visit

Objectives

Promote and develop economic activity

Actions

- Implement the relevant elements of the LECP:
 - Facilitate growth of inward investment in the County collaboration with the IDA, including attracting new business to the County and supporting multinational companies
 - Support indigenous enterprise to start, grow and innovate, through the Local Enterprise Office and in partnership with Enterprise Ireland

Key Performance Indicators

- Deliver the actions set out in the LECP in respect of economic activity



Objectives	Actions	Key Performance Indicators
Support and develop our communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In partnership with the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) and other key stakeholders, provide community development and supports in line with the LECP, including:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Deliver community supports through Government initiative and funding mechanisms○ Work with the Sligo Public Participation Network (PPN) to facilitate community involvement in Council decision- making and service planning <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support the continued development of inclusive and diverse communities<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Implement the Sligo Age Friendly Strategy 2023-2026 in collaboration with the Sligo Age Friendly Alliance○ Provide information, support, advice and guidance to recent migrants through our Local Authority Integration Team○ Implement the Sligo Disability Inclusion & Access Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Achieve the objectives of the LECP in respect of community development and support• Deliver on the agreed outputs of Government programmes• PPN engagement and feedback <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deliver the actions in the Age Friendly Strategy• Assess integration of new arrivals to Sligo into community life• Deliver the actions set out in the Disability Inclusion & Access Strategy



Objectives	Actions	Key Performance Indicators
Promote and grow tourism in the County	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implement the Destination Experience Development Plan in conjunction with Fáilte Ireland to promote and develop tourism in the County	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deliver the actions set out in the Destination Experience Development Plan• Increase in tourism activity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prioritise a series of marketing and promotional initiatives and campaigns on an annual basis	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Number of key annual initiatives
Enrich the quality of life for citizens and communities by providing access to vibrant arts and cultural activities and promote all of the services delivered by library & arts services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop and implement a new library strategy• Continue to implement Sligo Arts Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deliver a new library strategy• Delivery of key actions in Sligo Arts Plan on a timely basis
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implement the Culture and Creativity Strategy 2023-2027<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Continue to promote and support arts and cultural activity in Sligo	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deliver the actions of the Culture and Creativity Strategy• Monitor supported arts and cultural events, venues, and activities



Governance





Governance

Objectives

Support and develop staff to perform at their best and progress in their careers

Actions

- Focus on staff wellbeing by developing and implementing a staff wellbeing strategy
- Provide opportunities for staff development:
 - Provide appropriate training and development opportunities, mentoring, and supports to perform at their best and progress in their careers
- Develop and implement a strategic workforce plan

Key Performance Indicators

- Deliver staff wellbeing strategy
- Monitor progress on actions
- IPM system implementation annually
- Deliver training and development
- Deliver the strategic workforce plan
- Monitor progress against actions



Objectives	Actions	Key Performance Indicators
Ensure robust financial and organisational governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure compliance with governance standards, regulation, and legislation through careful financial oversight, responsible management of resources, accurate and timely reporting, and regular review and audit of processes and practice• Support our Elected Members in the delivery of their democratic representative function<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Provide clear and timely information on Council governance, service delivery, and progress against goals○ Support and facilitate Elected Members in their roles○ Utilise Elected Members' feedback from communities to help improve Council service delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monitor compliance• Measure against NOAC indicators• Information and reporting to Elected Members and SPCs is timely and in compliance with obligations• Effective functioning of the Council
Promote organisational culture of collaboration and continuous improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct a review of organisational culture and implement the findings• Continue to harness positive partnerships to deliver excellent services and improvements for the people of Co. Sligo• Embed a culture of continuous improvement by encouraging staff, Elected Members, and the public to identify potential ways to do things better, reviewing processes and means of delivering services, and funding innovative and pilot internal projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monitor progress on findings• Report on projects, outcomes, and services delivered in collaboration with partners• Assess improvements in efficiency and quality

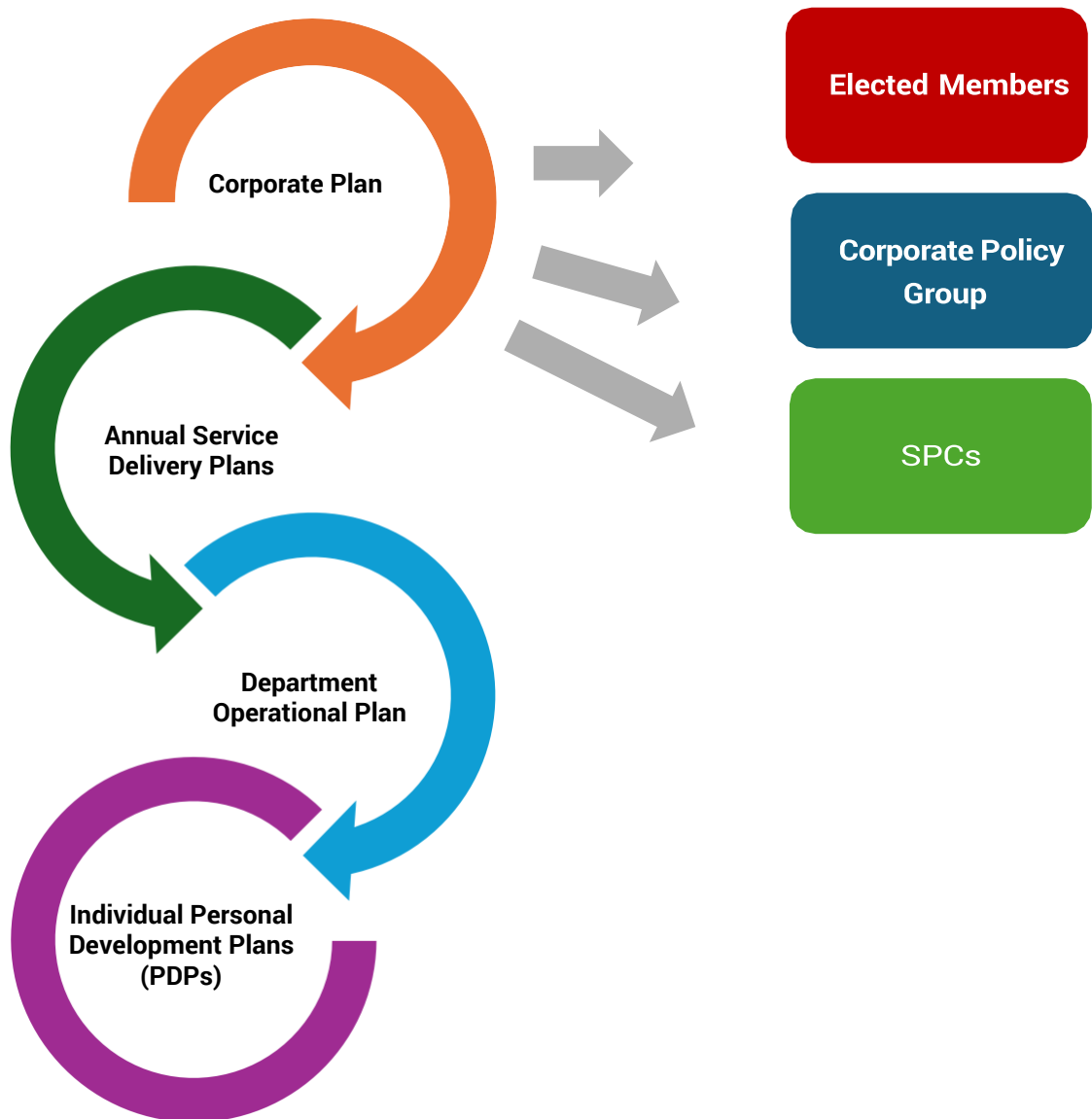


Objectives	Actions	Key Performance Indicators
Use technology to improve service delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to implement the digital transformation programme• Empower staff to promote innovation in the use of technology to support the Council's functions and operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Measure progress on digitisation• Report on innovations in the application of technology in the Council



Monitoring, Implementation, and Oversight

The objectives and actions set out above will be delivered through the Annual Service Delivery Plans for each of the five years of the Corporate Plan lifecycle. The Annual Service Delivery Plans will contain the operational detail behind the overarching high-level strategic goals within the Corporate Plan. This detail is then allocated to the Council departments to comprise their annual workplans, and to inform individual staff members' personal development plans (PDPs).



Progress against the Corporate Plan is reported regularly to the SPCs, for the areas falling under their respective remit, the Corporate Policy Group, and the full Council.



Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty

Under Section 42 of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Act 2014, every public body is required to set out in their Corporate Plan an assessment of the human rights and equality issues it believes to be relevant to all their functions and purpose, and the actions, plans and policies the organisation is taking, or proposes to take to address those issues. All public bodies have an obligation to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity, and promote the human rights of the public and their staff.

Assessment of the human rights and equality issues relevant to the functions and purposes of Sligo County Council

Sligo County Council provides a broad range of services across the three municipal districts of the county including housing, environment, fire services, planning, community and economic development, and social inclusion. Given the breadth of services provided by the Council, and the diversity of communities in the County, equality and human rights considerations apply across the entirety of the Council's functions.

We have identified the following functions of Sligo County Council to which human rights and equality considerations are particularly relevant and essential:

- **Community and Economic Development**

- We support community organisations and volunteerism, promote active citizenship and the youth sector, and support inter-agency strategic collaborative work with other organisations on a local and regional level. In delivering our work in this, potential issues may arise in relation to equality in the selection of organisations and individuals we support and collaborate with, along with ensuring that our partners align with our views in relation to equality and human rights.

- **Customer Services**

- We provide customer service that supports the diverse needs of the communities and stakeholders that we serve in the Council. Equality and Human Rights issues which may exist include the provision of a website available to all customers in a non-accessible format, and the need to ensure services are provided in an accessible format, such as literacy-friendly and able to be interpreted by those with specific needs.

- **Fire Services and Civil Protection**

- We ensure that all citizens are treated with equality and have access to support through our Fire and Civil Protection Services in the provision of our remit to protect and assist the communities of Sligo.



- **Grant Allocation**

- We administer a number of grants including housing grants: access, equality and human rights underpin this. Equality is critical in this area, ensuring access to grants is available to all stakeholders and discrimination is absent at all times.

- **Housing**

- We provide and facilitate housing accommodation and support to the people of the County, including for people with a disability, the Traveller community, homeless persons, and the elderly, as well as administering housing grants, maintenance, and scheme administration. It is important that in the delivery of these services we ensure equality of access to services for all and discrimination is eliminated.

- **Human Resources**

- We have a responsibility to ensure human resource policies and procedures are in place, and equality and diversity is managed across the Council, so that human resource practices, including recruitment and welfare of staff, are compliant with best practice. Potential issues of relevance in this area may include discrimination, inequality, and lack of access to support, which we actively work to prevent.

- **Policy Development and Implementation**

- We develop and implement policies and plans, ensuring they are equal and inclusive. It is critical to ensure that these documents and the associated implementation are reviewed to ensure accessibility, equal and inclusive to all stakeholders.

- **Procurement**

- When procuring goods and services we work to ensure these products and services are underpinned by universal design and human rights principles. Key issues of relevance in the area of procurement include equality in our practices.

- **Roads and Transportation**

- We have responsibility for the provision of adequate road and pedestrian facilities to facilitate access for everyone in Sligo; we consider access and equality in the performance of our duties and allocation of resources. It is important that in the provision of these services we remain cognisant of all stakeholders and ensure equal access for all and ensure equality in budget allocation.



Address equality and human rights issues through policies, plans and actions

Sligo County Council has a range of policies, plans, strategies in place which highlight our commitment to supporting, promoting, and protecting equality and human rights, both internally and externally, including:

County Sligo Local Economic & Community Plan 2023–2030

Local Community Peace Action Plan 2024–2027

Sligo Strategic Plan for Housing People with a Disability 2021–2025

Sligo County Council Housing Delivery Action Plan 2022–2026

Policy and Procedures for the Protection and Safeguarding of Children

Customer Complaints Policy and Customer Charter

Sligo County Council Data Protection Policy

Sligo County Council Data Privacy Statement and Data Privacy Statement per Service Department

Sligo County Council Disability Inclusion & Access Strategy 2024 – 2027

Sligo County Council Protected Disclosures Policy and Procedures

Additionally, there are a number of activities and actions which highlight the Council's commitment to ensuring equality for the citizens and visitors of the County and customers we serve, including:

- ✓ Accessible website;
- ✓ High level of accessibility provided across Council facilities and services;
- ✓ Accessible online consultation platform;
- ✓ Sligo Public Participation Network;
- ✓ Maintenance of the Sligo County Council Corporate Risk Register;
- ✓ Traveller Accommodation Programme;
- ✓ Compliance with the Equal Status, Equality and Disability Legislation;

Reporting on progress in our Annual Reports

We will, in line with Section 42 of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Act 2014, report on progress, developments, and achievements regarding the implementation of actions to ensure we are in full compliance with this Duty within our Annual Reports.



Aligning with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), endorsed by all United Nations Member States in 2015 as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, represent a comprehensive blueprint for addressing global challenges. This set of 17 interconnected goals serves as a universal call to action, to eradicate poverty, promote social equity, and ensure prosperity for all, while simultaneously safeguarding the planet for future generations. By setting measurable objectives and a clear timeline, the SDGs provide a structured framework for governments, businesses, and civil society to collaborate and achieve tangible progress.

The second National Implementation Plan for SDGs from the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications includes as its Strategic Objective 2: *“To integrate the SDGs into Local Authority work to better support the localisation of the SDGs.”*



The work of Sligo County Council aligns with and furthers the local implementation of the SDGs. With specific reference to the Corporate Plan, there are specific goals that our objectives and actions will support.

Placemaking

- Deliver housing in line with government targets
- Provide for proper planning and sustainable development
- Regenerate and renew town centres
- Preserve and promote Sligo’s heritage and biodiversity
- Improve County infrastructure



Climate & Infrastructure

- Address climate change within Sligo
- Develop Sligo’s circular economy
- Improving transport links for our communities
- Protect and improve our coastal assets and inland waterw
- Safeguard our communities and public amenities





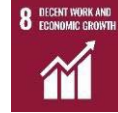
Live | Invest | Visit

- Promote and develop economic activity
- Support and develop our communities
- Promote and grow tourism in the County
- Enrich community life through library, arts, & cultural services



Capacity, Team, and Governance

- Support and develop staff to perform at their best and progress in their careers
- Ensure robust financial and organisational governance
- Promote organisational culture of collaboration and continuous improvement
- Use technology to improve service delivery





Embedding Climate Action Across All We Do

Along with the explicit actions set out in this Corporate Plan, in line with our Sligo County Council Climate Action Plan 2024 -2029, we will seek to address climate change mitigation and adaptation across all our Council activities and services and embed a culture of climate awareness within the organisation.



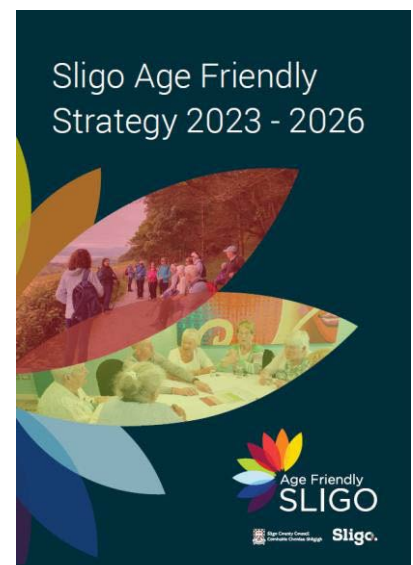
This approach will inform design and delivery of Council services and drive decision-making across Elected Members, the Senior Management Team, and our entire staff team. We will work to reduce our environmental impact as an organisation in the way we operate while supporting, funding, and delivering key projects and reforms across the County to address the impact of climate change on our communities, businesses, and environment.

Incorporating Age-Friendly Principles

The World Health Organization (WHO) Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities unites cities, communities, and organisations around the world under a shared vision: creating environments where growing older is embraced and supported. In 2019, Ireland earned international recognition from the WHO as the first Age Friendly country and a global leader in promoting age-friendly initiatives. Age Friendly Ireland aims to create inclusive and supportive environments by improving walkability, enhancing housing and transportation options, and ensuring access to essential services. It also provides opportunities for older people to engage actively in community life.

Based on a positive ageing perspective, local Age Friendly Programmes aim to enrich the lives of older citizens by involving them in the decisions that shape their daily experiences and well-being in key areas such as housing, transportation, caregiving, and social inclusion, while tackling challenges like isolation and marginalisation.

Our Corporate Plan is guided by the Sligo Age Friendly Programme 2023-2026 and we will build age-friendly principles into all our work for the people of Sligo. In particular, our work on Active Travel, the renewal of towns and villages, improved public transport, and continued support of our vibrant communities will be cognisant of and serve to address the specific needs of our older population.





National, Regional, and Local Strategies, Policies, and Plans

The work of Sligo County Council is aligned with national, regional and local strategies, policies and plans. This Corporate Plan draws together the priorities and objectives of these documents to drive the Council over the forthcoming years. A list of these policies, plans and strategies is set out below.

National/EU

A Roadmap for Social Inclusion: Ambitions, Goals and Commitments 2019-2025
Better Public Services - Public Service Transformation 2030 Strategy
Building Control Acts 1990 to 2020
Building Regulations 1997 to 2024
Building Control Regulations 1997 to 2022
Climate Action Plan 2023 and Climate Action Plan 2024
Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plan for Flood Risk Management 2019 – 2024
Climate Action Sectoral Adaptation Plan for Built and Archaeological Heritage
Climate and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021
Code of Practice for Inspecting and Certifying Buildings and Works
Community Climate Action Fund
Connect Government 2030, March 2022 (A Digital and ICT Strategy for Ireland's Public Service)
Connecting Ireland Rural Mobility Plan
Construction Products Regulation (EU) No 305/2011
Culture and Creativity Strategies 2023-2027
CycleConnects
DEBI Innovation 2020
Development Plans Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2022)
DHLGH Data Strategy
Digital for Good: Ireland's Digital Inclusion Roadmap, August 2023
Digital Single Market
eGovernment Strategy
Embracing Ireland's Outdoors - National Outdoor Recreation Strategy 2023-2027
Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (Council Directive 2010/31/EU)
Energy Security in Ireland to 2030
EU Biodiversity Strategy
EU Birds Directive
EU Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) EU Renewable Energy Directive (2023/2413) EU Solar Energy Strategy (COM (2022)221)



National/EU

EU 'Floods' Directive

EU Just Transition Plan for Ireland 2021-2027

EU Good Practice for Market Surveillance

EU Habitats Directive

EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change

EC (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011

European Flood Awareness System (EFAS)

European Union (Construction Products) Regulation (S.I. 225 of 2013, as amended)

European Union (In-Building Physical Infrastructure for High-Speed Electronic Communications) Regulations 2023

Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy 2022 to 2025

Flood Risk Management Plans and Maps

Get Ireland Active - National Physical Activity Plan for Ireland

Guidelines for Inclusive Engagement in Local Planning and Decision Making (DRCD)

Guidelines for the Local Authority Climate Action Plans

Guidelines for New Emergency Accommodation

Green Public Procurement Strategy 2024-2027

Groundwater Protection Response

Guidance on Appropriate Assessment for Planning Authorities National Parks & Wildlife Service

Guidelines on the Planning System and Flood Risk Management

Healthy Ireland – A Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing 2013-2025

Heritage Ireland 2030

Housing First National Implementation Plan 2022-2026

Housing for All

Housing for All Action Plans and Progress Updates

Housing for All Roadmap for increased adoption of MMC in public housing delivery

Housing for All Modern Methods of Construction (MMC) Introductory Guide

Housing for All guidance for design build housing contracts

Housing Options for our Ageing Population policy (2019)

Ireland's National Energy and Climate Plan 2021-2030

Ireland's Road Haulage Strategy 2022–2031

Local Economic and Community Plan Guidelines 2021 (DRCD)

Major Emergency Management Framework 2006 (MEM)

Marine Planning Policy Statement

Market Surveillance Regulation (EU) No. 2019/1020

Market Surveillance of Construction Products Strategy

Met Eireann strategic plan 2017-2027

National Adaptation Framework



National/EU

National AI Strategy

National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023 -2030

National Bioeconomy Action Plan 2023-2025

National Broadband Plan

National Clean Air Strategy

National Cyber Security Strategy

National Cycle Network Plan

National Development Plan

National Digital Strategy

National Disability Strategy

National Energy and Climate Plan 2021-2030

National Flood Forecasting and Warning Service

National Implementation Plan for the SDGs 2022-2024

National Heritage Plan - Heritage Ireland 2030

National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022 – 2027

National Landslide Database and Landslide Susceptibility Map

National Marine Planning Framework

National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC) reports

National Organic Strategy 2024-2030 (Published Q2 2024)

National Planning Framework 2040

National Policy on Architecture 2022

National Road EV Charging Plan 2024 to 2030

National Skills Strategy

National Social Enterprise Policy for Ireland 2019-2022

National Sports Policy 2018-2027

National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence

National Sustainable Mobility Policy 2022-2030 and associated Action Plan 2022-2025

National Swimming Strategy 2024-2027

National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy 2017-2021 (to run until 2025)

National Vacant Housing Reuse Strategy

National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy 2024-2030

Nature and Biodiversity - Library (europa.eu)

Net Zero Industry Act

OECD Skills Strategy Ireland: Assessment and Recommendations

Open Data Strategy

Our Living Islands – National Islands Policy 2023-2033

Our Public Service 2020

Our Rural Futures

PEACEPLUS Operational Programme Overview document and Programme Manual



National/EU

People, Place and Policy – Growing Tourism to 2025 and the associated Tourism Action Plans

Policy on Property Acquisition and Disposal

Policy Statement on Geothermal Energy for a Circular Economy

Policy Statement on Mineral Exploration and Mining

Programme for Government: Our Shared Future

Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024

Project Ireland 2040

Protocols on Transfer and Sharing of Property Assets

Public Sector Energy Efficiency Strategy

Public Service Apprenticeship Plan 2023

Public Service Agreement 2024-2026

Public Service Data Strategy

Public Transport Accessibility Retrofit Programme

Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework (REPDF)

Renewable Transport Fuel Policy 2023-2025

Report on Inter Departmental Group on National Coastal Change Management

River Basin Management Plan

Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030

Rural Development Policy 2020+ Next phase

Sharing the Vision: A Mental Health Policy for Everyone 2020-2030

SláinteCare | Right Care, Right Place Right Time

Sráidainmneacha: Treoirínite/Streetnames: Guidelines

Strategic Emergency Management Framework 2017 (SEM)

Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways

Strategy for World Heritage in Ireland 2024-2034 (public consultation ongoing)

Statement on Petroleum Exploration and Production in Ireland

Sustainable, Inclusive and Empowered Communities: A Five-Year Strategy to Support the Community and Voluntary Sectors in Ireland

The Library is the Place: Information, Recreation, Inspiration – National Public Library Strategy 2023-2027

The National Language Strategy 2010-2030

The National Oil Spill Contingency Plan

The National Search and Rescue Plan

Tourism Policy Framework (to be published)

Town Centre First

United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD)

Water Services Policy Statement 2024-2030

Whole of Government Circular Economy Strategy 2022 – 2023

Wind Energy Development Guidelines (WEDGS)



National/EU

Young Ireland: The National Policy Framework for Children and Young People 2023-2028

Youth Homelessness Strategy 2023-2025

Regional

ERDF Operational Programmes 2021-2027

Flood Risk Management Plans and Maps

Regional Planning Guidelines for the Border Region

North-East Regional Enterprise Plan

Regional and Local EV Charging Network Plan 2024 to 2030

Local

Sligo Age Friendly Strategy 2023-2026

County Sligo Local Economic & Community Plan 2023-2030

Sligo County Council Disability Inclusion & Access Strategy 2024-2027

Sligo County Council Climate Action Plan 2024-2029

Housing Delivery Action Plan Housing for All 2022-2026

Sligo Strategic Plan for Housing People with a Disability 2021-2025

Homeless Action Plan North West Region 2023–2028

County Sligo Heritage Strategy 2023-2030

Sligo County Development Plan 2024–2030

Sligo City Centre Public Realm Action Plan