



Sligo County Council

Public Spending Code Quality Assurance Report for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

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1. Introduction

Circular 13/13: *"The Public Spending Code: Expenditure Planning, Appraisal & Evaluation in the Irish Public Service-Standard Rules & Procedures*, came into effect in September 2013.

The objective of the code is to ensure that the state achieves best value for the resources it has at its disposal. The Code covers all bodies in receipt of public funding, including Local Authorities. Each Authority is required to publish an annual report, signed by the Chief Executive, following the completion of a Quality Assurance process. In July 2019 the Public Spending Code was amended to update the central technical references and economic appraisal parameters in the Spending Code. In December 2019 the Public Spending Code was further amended as it applies to capital expenditure, updated the Guidelines for the use of PPPs and consolidated the Public Spending Code guidance on the website of the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform.

This report is the "Public Spending Code-Quality Assurance Report" for Sligo County Council for the year ended 31st December 2023.

2. Format of Report

The Public Spending Code sets out five steps in the Quality Assurance Process, as follows:

1. Compilation of a list of all projects/programmes, at the different stages of the Project Life Cycle, with an anticipated cost in excess of €500,000 ("Project Inventories"). This list of Capital and Current Expenditure schemes/programmes are further classified under the categories of:
 - Being considered
 - Being incurred
 - Completed or discontinued
2. Where there are procurements in excess of €10m, relating to projects in progress or completed in the year under review, the Authority should publish summary information on its website.

3. Completion of checklists included in the Code.
4. Undertaking an in-depth check on a sample of projects/programmes. The value of the projects selected for in-depth review must follow the criteria set out below;
 - Capital Projects – minimum of 5% of the total value of all Capital projects on the Project Inventory
 - Revenue Projects – minimum of 1% of the total value of all Revenue projects on the Project Inventory.The minimum is an average over a three year period.
5. Preparation and submission of a short report to the National Oversight & Audit Commission (NOAC), summarising the information covered in steps 1-4 of the Quality Assurance process. The report is to be signed by the Chief Executive and published on the authority's website.

3. Inventory of Projects/Programmes (Step 1 of QA Process)

Appendix 1 sets out the inventory of Sligo County Council, for the year ended 31st December 2023. The current expenditure, capital grant schemes and capital projects are categorised under the three phases of:

- Expenditure being considered
- Expenditure being incurred
- Projects / Programmes completed or discontinued

Expenditure being considered

This heading includes expenditure for capital projects and grant schemes that are or were under consideration during the year and new current expenditure programmes/extensions to existing programmes, with annual expenditure greater than €0.5m per annum. Capital projects "under consideration" include those at appraisal and planning and design phases.

Expenditure being incurred

This covers capital projects that are at the implementation stage, capital grant schemes that are incurring expenditure and current expenditure schemes or programmes that are incurring expenditure.

Projects / Programmes completed or discontinued

This includes Capital Projects that were completed in the year, capital grant schemes that were completed/discontinued and current expenditure schemes or programmes that were completed /discontinued.

The revenue figures included in Appendix 1 are based on the Unaudited Annual Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December, 2023.

The total Current expenditure for the year ended 31st December, 2023 is €66,152,397.

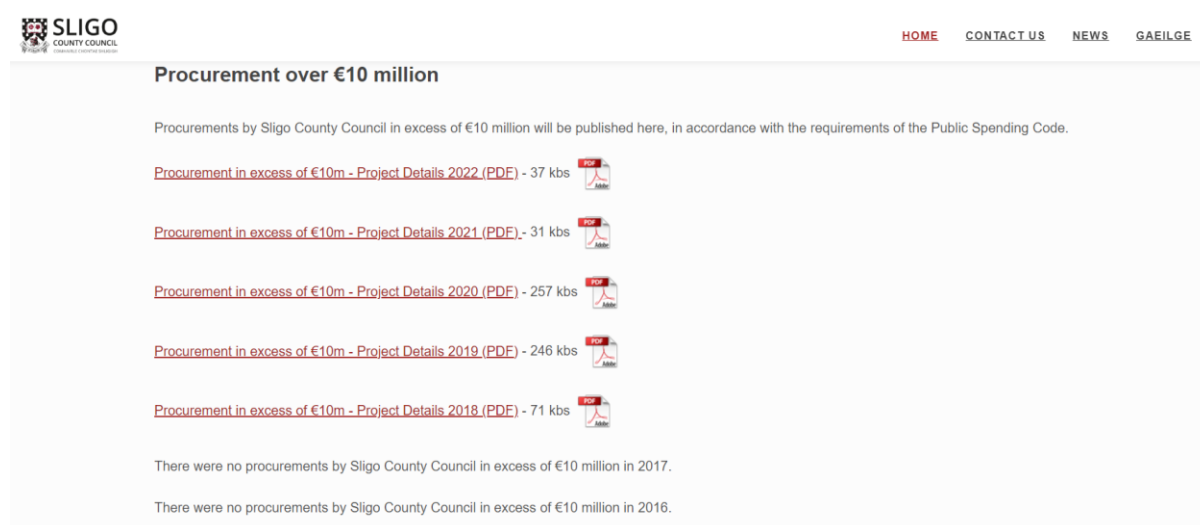
The total inventory value for Capital Projects / Programmes for the year ended 31st December 2023 is:

Expenditure being considered	€135,766,656
Expenditure being incurred	€1,153,184,662
Project / Programme completed or discontinued	€38,420,855
Total	€1,327,372,173

4. Published Summary of Procurements (Step 2 of QA Process)

Sligo County Council has published details of procurements in excess of €10m, for 2023 inventories, on its website at the following link:

<http://www.sligococo.ie/publicspendingcode/>



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Procurement over €10 million

Procurements by Sligo County Council in excess of €10 million will be published here, in accordance with the requirements of the Public Spending Code.

- [Procurement in excess of €10m - Project Details 2022 \(PDF\)](#) - 37 kbs
- [Procurement in excess of €10m - Project Details 2021 \(PDF\)](#) - 31 kbs
- [Procurement in excess of €10m - Project Details 2020 \(PDF\)](#) - 257 kbs
- [Procurement in excess of €10m - Project Details 2019 \(PDF\)](#) - 246 kbs
- [Procurement in excess of €10m - Project Details 2018 \(PDF\)](#) - 71 kbs

There were no procurements by Sligo County Council in excess of €10 million in 2017.

There were no procurements by Sligo County Council in excess of €10 million in 2016.

The Authority will continue to update the information as new relevant procurements arise.

5. Assessment of Compliance (Step 3 of QA Process)

The following high-level checklists have been completed by the Authority:

1. General Obligations not specific to individual projects/programmes
2. Capital Expenditure being considered – Appraisal and Approval
3. Current Expenditure being considered – Appraisal and Approval
4. Capital Expenditure being incurred
5. Current Expenditure being incurred
6. Capital Expenditure recently completed
7. Current Expenditure (i) reached the end of its planned timeframe or (ii) was discontinued

Checklist 1 – To be completed in respect of general obligations not specific to individual projects/programmes.

	General Obligations not specific to individual projects/programmes.	Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 - 3	Comment/Action Required
Q 1.1	Does the organisation ensure, on an ongoing basis, that appropriate people within the organisation and its agencies are aware of their requirements under the Public Spending Code (incl. through training)?	3	All relevant staff have been notified of their obligations under the PSC
Q 1.2	Has internal training on the Public Spending Code been provided to relevant staff?	3	Guidance documentation has been circulated and is available on the intranet.
Q 1.3	Has the Public Spending Code been adapted for the type of project/programme that your organisation is responsible for, i.e., have adapted sectoral guidelines been developed?	3	Yes, e.g. TII project appraisal guidelines
Q 1.4	Has the organisation in its role as Approving Authority satisfied itself that agencies that it funds comply with the Public Spending Code?	3	Where applicable
Q 1.5	Have recommendations from previous QA reports (incl. spot checks) been disseminated, where appropriate, within the organisation and to agencies?	3	Recommendations are notified to relevant parties for review and implementation
Q 1.6	Have recommendations from previous QA reports been acted upon?	3	Recommendations are reviewed and implemented by relevant parties.
Q 1.7	Has an annual Public Spending Code QA report been submitted to and certified by the Chief Executive Officer, submitted to NOAC and published on the Local Authority's website?	3	Certified by the Chief Executive, submitted to NOAC and published on Sligo County Council's website

Q 1.8	Was the required sample of projects/programmes subjected to in-depth checking as per step 4 of the QAP?	3	Yes, the required sample was subjected to an in-depth review
Q 1.9	Is there a process in place to plan for ex post evaluations? Ex-post evaluation is conducted after a certain period has passed since the completion of a target project with emphasis on the effectiveness and sustainability of the project.	3	Yes – standard part of Scheme Management for both TII, DTTAS and Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government in relation to capital projects
Q 1.10	How many formal evaluations were completed in the year under review? Have they been published in a timely manner?	3	n/a in 2023
Q 1.11	Is there a process in place to follow up on the recommendations of previous evaluations?	3	Yes
Q 1.12	How have the recommendations of reviews and ex post evaluations informed resource allocation decisions?	3	Yes- they are used as a learning tool for future projects

Checklist 2 – To be completed in respect of capital projects/programmes & capital grant schemes that were under consideration in the past year. Review of Housing projects checklists for 2023

	Capital Expenditure being Considered – Appraisal and Approval	Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 - 3	Comment/Action Required
Q 2.1	Was a Strategic Assessment Report (SAR) completed for all capital projects and programmes over €10m?	N/A	No longer relevant
Q 2.2	Were performance indicators specified for each project/programme which will allow for a robust evaluation at a later date? Have steps been put in place to gather performance indicator data?	3	Housing Capital fortnightly review meetings and quarterly review meetings with Dept meetings with Dept
Q 2.3	Was a Preliminary and Final Business Case, including appropriate financial and economic appraisal, completed for all capital projects and programmes?	3	Yes, AHB Consultants /Architects

Q 2.4	Were the proposal objectives SMART and aligned with Government policy including National Planning Framework, Climate Mitigation Plan etc?	3	Yes, AHB Consultants /Architects
Q 2.5	Was an appropriate appraisal method and parameters used in respect of capital projects or capital programmes/grant schemes?	3	Yes DHPLG 4 stage capital appraisal process
Q 2.6	Was a financial appraisal carried out on all proposals and was there appropriate consideration of affordability?	3	Yes, AHB Consultants /Architects / QS reviews
Q 2.7	Was the appraisal process commenced at an early enough stage to inform decision making?	3	Yes, DHPLG 4 stage capital appraisal process
Q 2.8	Were sufficient options analysed in the business case for each capital proposal?	3	Yes, AHB Consultants /Architects
Q 2.9	Was the evidence base for the estimated cost set out in each business case? Was an appropriate methodology used to estimate the cost? Were appropriate budget contingencies put in place?	3	Yes, AHB Consultants /Architects Unit Ceiling Costs (UCC) used
Q 2.10	Was risk considered and a risk mitigation strategy commenced? Was appropriate consideration given to governance and deliverability?	3	Risk mitigation underway. Risk Register prepared at Stage 1. Governance – fortnightly report to Housing Capital Team, quarterly report to DHPLG Capital Team In 1 no. instance Risk Register absent from Stage

			1 submission to DHLGH by AHB/Housing Agency
Q 2.11	Has the Preliminary Business Case been sent for review by the External Assurance Process and Major Project Advisory Group for projects estimated to cost over €200m?		n/a
Q 2.12	Was a detailed project brief including design brief and procurement strategy prepared for all investment projects?	3	Yes DHPLG 4 stage capital appraisal process
Q 2.13	Were procurement rules (both National and EU) complied with?	3	AHB consultants / Architects aware of procurement rules with which to comply
Q 2.14	Was the Capital Works Management Framework (CWMF) properly implemented?	3	AHB consultants / Architects aware of CWMF
Q 2.15	Were State Aid rules checked for all support?	3	AHB consultants / Architects aware of State Aid rules
Q 2.16	Was approval sought from the Approving Authority at all decision gates?	3	Yes, AHB Consultants / architects submission to LA – SCC liaison point for AHB
Q 2.17	Was Value for Money assessed and confirmed at each decision gate by Sponsoring Agency and Approving Authority?	3	Yes DHPLG 4 stage capital appraisal process
Q 2.18	Was consent sought from Government through a Memorandum for Government to approve projects estimated to cost over €200m at the appropriate approval gates?		n/a

See Note 2 in the opening guidelines in relation to the interpretation of Capital Grant Schemes in the context of Local Government

Checklist 3 – To be completed in respect of new current expenditure under consideration in the past year. E11 Operation of Fire Services €958,355

	Current Expenditure being Considered – Appraisal and Approval	Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 - 3	Comment/Action Required
Q 3.1	Were objectives clearly set out?		Part of the annual budgetary process. Additional costs associated with the agreement negotiated by the Workplace Relations Commission with Retained Firefighters
Q 3.2	Are objectives measurable in quantitative terms?	n/a	
Q 3.3	Was a business case, incorporating financial and economic appraisal, prepared for new current expenditure proposals?	n/a	
Q 3.4	Was an appropriate appraisal method used?	n/a	
Q 3.5	Was an economic appraisal completed for all projects/programmes exceeding €20m or an annual spend of €5m over 4 years?	n/a	
Q 3.6	Did the business case include a section on piloting?	n/a	
Q 3.7	Were pilots undertaken for new current spending proposals involving total expenditure of at least €20m over the proposed duration of the programme and a minimum annual expenditure of €5m?	n/a	
Q 3.8	Have the methodology and data collection requirements for the pilot been agreed at the outset of the scheme?	n/a	
Q 3.9	Was the pilot formally evaluated and submitted for approval to the relevant Vote Section in DPER?	n/a	
Q 3.10	Has an assessment of likely demand for the new scheme/scheme extension been estimated based on empirical evidence?	n/a	
Q 3.11	Was the required approval granted?	3	Approved in Annual Budget 2024
Q 3.12	Has a sunset clause been set?	n/a	

Q 3.13	If outsourcing was involved were both EU and National procurement rules complied with?	n/a	
Q 3.14	Were performance indicators specified for each new current expenditure proposal or expansion of existing current expenditure programme which will allow for a robust evaluation at a later date?	n/a	Additional expenditure relates to existing expenditure stream
Q 3.15	Have steps been put in place to gather performance indicator data?	n/a	Additional expenditure relates to existing expenditure stream

Checklist 4 – To be completed in respect of capital projects/programmes & capital grants schemes incurring expenditure in the year under review.

	Incurring Capital Expenditure	Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 - 3	Comment/Action Required
Q 4.1	Was a contract signed and was it in line with the Approval given at each Decision Gate?	3	Yes
Q 4.2	Did management boards/steering committees meet regularly as agreed?	3	Yes
Q 4.3	Were programme co-ordinators appointed to co-ordinate implementation?	3	Yes
Q 4.4	Were project managers, responsible for delivery, appointed and were the project managers at a suitably senior level for the scale of the project?	3	Yes
Q 4.5	Were monitoring reports prepared regularly, showing implementation against plan, budget, timescales and quality?	3	Yes
Q 4.6	Did projects/programmes/grant schemes keep within their financial budget and time schedule?	3	Yes
Q 4.7	Did budgets have to be adjusted?	3	Yes, by Change Orders if required
Q 4.8	Were decisions on changes to budgets / time schedules made promptly?	3	Yes

Q 4.9	Did circumstances ever warrant questioning the viability of the project/programme/grant scheme and the business case (exceeding budget, lack of progress, changes in the environment, new evidence, etc.)?	3	No
Q 4.10	If circumstances did warrant questioning the viability of a project/programme/grant scheme was the project subjected to adequate examination?	n/a	n/a
Q 4.11	If costs increased or there were other significant changes to the project was approval received from the Approving Authority?	3	Yes
Q 4.12	Were any projects/programmes/grant schemes terminated because of deviations from the plan, the budget or because circumstances in the environment changed the need for the investment?	n/a	n/a

See Note 2 in the opening guidelines in relation to the interpretation of Capital Grant Schemes in the context of Local Government

Checklist 5 – To be completed in respect of current expenditure programmes incurring expenditure in the year under review.

	Incurring Current Expenditure	Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 -3	Comment/Action Required
Q 5.1	Are there clear objectives for all areas of current expenditure?	3	Annual Budget defines the expenditure for the year
Q 5.2	Are outputs well defined?	3	National Key Performance Indicators
Q 5.3	Are outputs quantified on a regular basis?	3	National Key Performance Indicators are set annually
Q 5.4	Is there a method for monitoring efficiency on an ongoing basis?	3	Budget monitoring on a monthly basis

			and regular team meetings to review activities
Q 5.5	Are outcomes well defined?	3	Yes, Corporate Plan objectives
Q 5.6	Are outcomes quantified on a regular basis?	3	As required
Q 5.7	Are unit costings compiled for performance monitoring?	3	As required
Q 5.8	Are other data compiled to monitor performance?	3	Reports as required by the Approving Authority
Q 5.9	Is there a method for monitoring effectiveness on an ongoing basis?	3	Monthly management reports
Q 5.10	Has the organisation engaged in any other 'evaluation proofing' of programmes/projects?	3	Performance Indicator data is available

Checklist 6 – To be completed in respect of capital projects/programmes & capital grant schemes discontinued in the year under review.

	Capital Expenditure Recently Completed	Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 - 3	Comment/Action Required
Q 6.1	How many Project Completion Reports were completed in the year under review?	n/a	n/a in 2023
Q 6.2	Were lessons learned from Project Completion Reports incorporated into sectoral guidance and disseminated within the Sponsoring Agency and the Approving Authority?	n/a	Updated guidelines incorporate lessons learned
Q 6.3	How many Project Completion Reports were published in the year under review?	n/a	n/a in 2023
Q 6.4	How many Ex-Post Evaluations were completed in the year under review?	n/a	n/a in 2023
Q 6.5	How many Ex-Post Evaluations were published in the year under review?	n/a	n/a in 2023
Q 6.6	Were lessons learned from Ex-Post Evaluation reports incorporated into sectoral guidance and disseminated within the Sponsoring Agency and the Approving Authority?	n/a	n/a in 2023
Q 6.7	Were Project Completion Reports and Ex-Post Evaluations carried out by staffing resources independent of project implementation?	n/a	n/a in 2023
Q 6.8	Were Project Completion Reports and Ex-Post Evaluation Reports for projects over €50m sent to DPER for dissemination?	n/a	n/a in 2023

See Note 2 in the opening guidelines in relation to the interpretation of Capital Grant Schemes in the context of Local Government

Checklist 7 – To be completed in respect of current expenditure programmes that reached the end of their planned timeframe during the year or were discontinued.

	Current Expenditure that (i) reached the end of its planned timeframe or (ii) was discontinued	Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 - 3	Comment/Action Required
Q 7.1	Were reviews carried out of current expenditure programmes that matured during the year or were discontinued?	n/a	n/a in 2023
Q 7.2	Did those reviews reach conclusions on whether the programmes were efficient?	n/a	n/a in 2023
Q 7.3	Did those reviews reach conclusions on whether the programmes were effective?	n/a	n/a in 2023
Q 7.4	Have the conclusions reached been taken into account in related areas of expenditure?	n/a	n/a in 2023
Q 7.5	Were any programmes discontinued following a review of a current expenditure programme?	n/a	n/a in 2023
Q 7.6	Were reviews carried out by staffing resources independent of project implementation?	n/a	n/a in 2023
Q 7.7	Were changes made to the organisation's practices in light of lessons learned from reviews?	n/a	n/a in 2023

Main issues arising from Checklist Assessment

The above checklists represent Sligo County Council's assessment of its compliance with the Public Spending Code. Overall, while there is a good level of compliance in most areas, the quality assurance process also has assisted in identifying areas where there are weaknesses and improvements are required.

Where current expenditure was incurred during the year, the rating of compliance was mainly in band 3 which is "Broadly Compliant". Under the current expenditure categories there were no programmes ended /discontinued within the year.

The capital checklists prepared for 2023 show, in general, a high level of compliance with the code. In the case of smaller scale schemes/projects there is the opportunity to introduce more structured procedures to strengthen documentation and management of such projects.

The QA process highlighted the need for training, to ensure that all staff involved in expenditure and budgetary management, are familiar with the code and its related obligations. Department Circulars containing updates to the Public Spending Code process are available to staff on the Council's intranet. Staff from the Council will avail of external training on the PSC when this occurs.

The authority has met the obligations in preparing and submitting to NOAC, the PSC report for the expenditure year ended 31st December 2023, which includes the completion of the required inventories and checklists and the in-depth review on the required sample of total inventory.

6. In-depth Checks (Step 4 of QA Process)

This section presents a summary of the findings of the In-Depth Check on the following areas of expenditure:

Current Project – Administration of Homeless Services

The administration of homeless services is managed by the Housing Section of Sligo County Council. The total expenditure for 2023 was €1.2 million.

Sligo County Council has seen an increase in recent years in households in emergency accommodation and an increase in the length of time spent in emergency accommodation.

The current pressures on the rental market are impacting households' ability to secure affordable rental properties. It has also resulted in an increase in tenants being served notices of termination (NOT). In September 2022 there were 7 active NOTs logged with Sligo County Council compared to 44 in December 2023.

Sligo County Council's response to homelessness is contained in North-West Homeless Action Plan 2023-2028.

Sligo County Council is the lead authority for Homeless Services for the North-west Region (Sligo, Donegal, and Leitrim) and is responsible for budget management and the co-ordination of funding for the region.

The in-depth check has demonstrated that controls are in place to provide adequate assurance that there is substantial compliance with the Public Spending Code.

Capital Project – Sligo Public Realm Project

The Sligo Public Realm project is a strategic, transformative project designed to regenerate and rejuvenate the town and promote its sustainable and compact growth. It is an ambitious and transformative plan that will greatly increase pedestrian mobility, enhance the sense of place and create a more liveable town centre, with the potential to attract further investment towards the development of several brownfield sites.

In March, 2021 Sligo County Council received an allocation of €19,157,330 under URDF Call 2 for the Sligo Public Realm project. The project has a matched funding requirement of 25%.

Public Realm areas included in the project:

Stephen Street/Holborn Street etc.	Castle/Grattan Street Enhancement
Abbey /Street Enhancement	Centre Block re-development
Quay Street car park	Old Market Street
Market Cross re-development	Markievicz Footbridge

The project also includes a Wayfinding Strategy and a PR Engagement Strategy

The in-depth check has demonstrated that controls are in place to provide adequate assurance that there is substantial compliance with the Public Spending Code.

Capital Project –N4 Collooney to Castlebaldwin Road Project

The N4 Collooney to Castlebaldwin Road Project involves the design and construction of approximately 13.82km of Type 2 Dual Carriageway and approximately 0.89km of Standard Single Carriageway forming the N4 Mainline with a target cost of €140 million. Substantial completion achieved on the 25th June 2021. Delay incurred in closing out the Project as the appointed Contractor went into receivership and subsequently liquidation during the defects period. Estimated completion 2026.

The in-depth check covered the period 2019-2023 during which Phase 6 Construction and Implementation of the project was advanced. The contractor, Roadbridge, was appointed in January 2019. The scheme opened under Traffic management on 23rd August 2021 and fully opened on 18th of October 2021. Defects, remedial works, as builds and safety file continued to March 2022. In parallel to the above a number of landowner acquisition cases were resolved leading to approximately 97% agreed in total.

The in-depth check has demonstrated adherence with the broad principles of the Public Spending Code in relation to capital expenditure programmes. Overall, the N4 Collooney to Castlebaldwin road project which was reviewed is substantially in compliance with the requirements of the Public Spending Code.

7. Conclusion

The Public Spending Code Quality Assurance Report, inventories and checklists have been completed by the Authority for the year ended 31st December 2023. While there are no serious areas of non-compliance with the PSC noted in the report, the Authority has identified some areas where compliance with the PSC requirements could be strengthened and improved. The Authority will continue to review these areas and identify and implement improvements in its processes.

8. Certification

This Annual Quality Assurance Report reflects Sligo County Council's assessment of compliance with the Public Spending Code. It is based on the best financial, organisational and performance related information available across the various areas of responsibility.

Signed by:



Martin Lydon,
Chief Executive

28th May, 2024

9. Appendices

Appendix 1 Project Inventory

Appendix 2 Quality Assurance – In Depth Check

Current: Administration of Homeless Services

Capital:

Expenditure being Considered URDF Sligo Public Realm Plan

Expenditure being incurred N4 Collooney to Castlebaldwin

Appendix 1

Expenditure being Considered - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)							
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Anticipated Timeline	Projected Lifetime Expenditure	Explanatory Notes
Adelaide Street, Sligo	AHB - Tuath, 37 no. units	€ -	€ -	€ -	HDAP Delivery Target 2025	€ 13,036,353	
Summerhill, Tubbercurry, Co. Sligo	AHB - Sophia, 10 no. units	€ -	€ -	€ -	HDAP Delivery Target 2025	€ 1,360,330	
CAS Kazelain	12 no. units	€ -	€ -	€ -	HDAP Delivery Target 2025	€ 3,430,304	
Southern Place, Knappagh Rd	4 no. apartments				HDAP delivery target 2026	€ 1,402,168	
Far Finisklin Phase 2	40 no. units	€ -	€ -	€ -	HDAP Delivery Target 2026	€ 12,547,821	
CAS Seaville Turnkey, Finisklin, Sligo	AHB - Sophia & HSE, 10 Units	€ -	€ -	€ -	HDAP Delivery Target 2024	€ 1,172,110	
Sligo East City Community & Recreation Centre	Multi-use community facility with office accommodation for the delivery of social programmes and community activities	€ -	€ -	€ -	Stage 1 Approval received 01/12/2023	€ 9,002,672	
RRDF Tubbercurry Regeneration Project	Public Realm Re-generation project	€ -	€ -	€ -	2024 - 2025	€ 2,000,000	75% RRDF funding
RRDF Enniscrone	Rural Re-generation of disused cliff baths and pavillion building	€ -	€ -	€ -	June 2025	€ 9,416,521	90% RRDF funding
Town & Village Renewal 2023	Town & Village Renewal - Culfadda, Ballymote and Tubbercurry	€ -	€ -	€ -	May 2024 - Dec 2025	€ 1,000,000	max 90% Government funding
ORIS 2023	Measures 1,2 and PDM	€ -	€ -	€ -	2024 - 2025	€ 914,444	max 90% Government funding
Community Centre Investment Fund	Community Centre - Ballymote and Kilglass	€ -	€ -	€ -	May 2024 - Dec 2025	€ 3,814,701	
URDF - Sligo Public Realm Plan	Various projects to be delivered over next 6 years	€ -	€ -	€ -	2022-2028	€ 25,543,107	75% URDF funding

Expenditure being Considered - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)							
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Anticipated Timeline	Projected Lifetime Expenditure	Explanatory Notes
URDF - City Campus project	City Campus - development of brownfield town centre site plus new county library and museum	€ -	€ -	€ -	2022-2030	€ 38,244,897	75% URDF funding
URDF Call 3	19 no. projects				2023-2030	€ 2,000,000	
RRDF Strandhill Public Realm Enhancement	Public Realm Enhancement Schemes	€ -	€ -	€ -	2024 - 2026	€ 4,000,000	75% URDF funding
SICAP 2024-2028	Social inclusion programme managed by Sligo LCDC and implemented by Sligo LEADER Partnership	€ -	€ -	€ -	2024-2028	€ 3,781,228	
Ballymote Library	Libraries Capital Programme 2023-2027	€ -	€ -	€ -	2024 - 2027	€ 3,100,000	€1.3m Government funding
A05 Administration of Homeless Services	Additional costs for homeless services	€ -	€ -	€ -	2024	€ 590,041	
E11 Operation of Fire Services	Additional costs for the implementation of pay agreements	€ -	€ -	€ -	2024	€ 958,355	
Totals		€ -	€ -	€ -		€ 137,315,052	

Expenditure being Incurred - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)								
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Anticipated Timeline	Cumulative Expenditure to-date	Projected Lifetime Expenditure (Capital Only)	Explanatory Notes
A01 Maintenance/Improvement of LA Housing	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 3,561,465	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	
A03 Housing Rent and Tenant Purchase Administration	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 536,249	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	
A04 Housing Community Development Support	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 549,557	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	
A05 Administration of Homeless Service	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 1,207,991	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	
A06 Support to Housing Capital & Affordable Prog.	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 1,543,737	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	
A07 RAS Programme	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 3,325,895	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	
A08 Housing Loans	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 1,535,674	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	
A09 Housing Grants	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 2,103,336	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	
Housing Acquisitions Programme 2023	Department Funded Housing Acquisition Programme		€ 1,951,260		2024	€ 1,951,260	€ 3,491,327	
Social Housing Development at Maugheraboy	Construction of 62 no. units		€ 863,682	€ -	HDAP delivery target 2025	€ 5,525,061	€ 24,124,213	
Housing Construction Connolly Park, Tubbercurry	Construction of 10 no. units		€ 3,643	€ -	works completed	€ 2,512,677	€ 2,520,097	
Proposed Construction Bunnanadden	Construction of 6 no. units		€ 220,556	€ -	works completed	€ 1,304,861	€ 1,350,405	
Proposed Construction Connolly Park Phase 2 and Green Road Coolaney	Construction of 19 no. units		€ 2,952,260	€ -	Works completed at Coolaney. Units in Collooney to be delivered Q2 2024	€ 4,005,694	€ 5,201,823	
Proposed Construction of 30 dwellings at Geldof Drive & Centre Block Cranmore	Construction of 30 dwellings at Geldof Drive & Centre Block, Cranmore, Sligo		€ 193,404	€ -	HDAP delivery target 2025	€ 226,087	€ 8,688,251	
Traveller Accommodation Programme	Refurbishment of 6 no. bay Glenview		€ -	€ -	works completed	€ 1,071,136	€ 1,071,136	
2021 Proposed 3 no. extensions and treatment works	Ballyfree		€ -	€ -	project delayed pending discussions with Uisce Eireann	€ 30,408	€ 800,000	
2021 Proposed 4 bay serviced site and treatment works	Cloonamahon		€ -	€ -	project delayed pending discussions with Uisce Eireann	€ 16,852	€ 950,000	
Traveller Accommodation Programme Group Housing	3 no. units Glenview		€ 96,959	€ -	Works ongoing. Stage 2 approval in 2023 HDAP delivery target 2024	€ 99,164	€ 1,758,578	

Expenditure being Incurred - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)								
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Anticipated Timeline	Cumulative Expenditure to-date	Projected Lifetime Expenditure (Capital Only)	Explanatory Notes
Housing Construction Knappagh Beg	Construction of 28 no. units		€ 3,518	€ -	works completed	€ 7,944,707	€ 8,210,418	
Turnkey Acquisition Finisklin	73 no. units		€ 19,317,431		HDAP delivery target 2023	€ 21,456,221	€ 21,640,386	
Proposed Housing Construction at Carrowbunnaun, Strandhill	Construction of 51 no. units		€ 348,134		HDAP delivery target 2024	€ 365,217	€ 16,374,825	
Proposed Housing Construction Carney, Co. Sligo	Construction of 25 no. units		€ 174,999	€ -	HDAP Delivery Target 2025	€ 174,999	€ 9,927,318	
Proposed Housing Construction Phase 2, Camross, Ballymote	Units: 39 - Provisional		€ 139,140		HDAP Delivery Target 2026	€ 139,140	€ 12,685,564	
Proposed Social Housing Dev Easkey	10 no. units		€ 23,964		HDAP Delivery Target 2025	€ 23,964	€ 3,037,964	
Proposed Social Housing Dev Owenmore, Collooney	20 no. units		€ 37,570		HDAP Delivery Target 2024	€ 37,570	€ 5,822,020	
Proposed Social Housing Dev Grange	15 no. units		€ 28,497		HDAP Delivery Target 2026	€ 28,497	€ 5,382,254	
Social Housing Dromore West	15 no. units		€ 16,702		HDAP Delivery Target 2025	€ 16,702	€ 5,214,144	
Far Finisklin Phase 1	25 no. units		€ 3,187		HDAP Delivery Target 2026	€ 3,187	€ 9,092,513	
Proposed Social Housing Dev Pirm Mill Rd	22 no. units		€ 4,290		HDAP Delivery Target 2025	€ 4,290	€ 7,697,836	
Proposed Social Housing High St	5 no. units		€ 3,020		HDAP Delivery Target 2026	€ 3,020	€ 1,985,872	
Cranmore Regeneration Project - Administration	Salaries and Administration Costs		€ 1,011,742	€ -	2027	€ 17,471,184	€ 21,459,443	
Cranmore Regeneration Project 130no. Units (Phase 2)	Environmental and building improvement works to social and private dwellings		€ 1,106,040		Works Completed April 2023	€ 6,388,718	€ 6,728,456	
Cranmore Regeneration Project 132no. Units (Phase 3)	Environmental and building improvement works to social and private dwellings		€ 148,907	€ -	Completion date December 2025	€ 256,657	€ 11,969,822	
Cranmore - new link via Joe McDonnell Drive	Demolition of 4 no. existing houses and construction of 4 no. new units to provide pedestrian access from Cranmore to Chapel Hill		€ 1,040,844	€ -	Works completed December 2023	€ 1,393,712	€ 1,493,264	
CAS Newgrove Housing Association, 1st Sea Road	Construction of 4 no. units & 1 no. Care support unit		€ -	€ -	works completed	€ 345,000	€ 673,222	
CAS Project Oaklee Housing Trust, Johnstons Court	Acquisition of 6 no. units		€ -	€ -	works completed	€ 1,381,907	€ 1,428,944	
CAS Project Nazareth House, Church Hill	Construction of 48 no. units & 1 no. Care support unit		€ -	€ -	works completed	€ 6,566,003	€ 6,577,964	
CAS Project Newgrove Housing Association, Strandhill	Acquisition and works to 1 no. unit		€ -	€ -	works completed	€ 564,136	€ 655,285	
CAS Project St Vincent de Paul, 5A Charles Street	4 no. units		€ -	€ -	works completed	€ 675,864	€ 684,674	
CAS and CLSS Project Sophia Housing Association, Tubbercurry	CAS, CLSS and communal facilities		€ -	€ -	works completed	€ 9,267,409	€ 9,543,924	

Expenditure being Incurred - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)

Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Anticipated Timeline	Cumulative Expenditure to-date	Projected Lifetime Expenditure (Capital Only)	Explanatory Notes
B01 NP Road - Maintenance and Improvement	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 957,040	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	
B03 Regional Road - Maintenance and Improvement	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 4,944,464	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	
B04 Local Road - Maintenance and Improvement	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 14,361,433	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	
B05 Public Lighting	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 1,288,674	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	
B07 Road Safety Engineering Improvement	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 2,736,664			on-going	n/a	n/a	
B09 Car Parking	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 512,115	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	
B11 Agency & Recoupable Services	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 2,109,177	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	
Active Travel - NTA funded	NTA Programme 2021 - 2026		€ 2,176,640	€ -	2021 - 2026	€ 5,504,576	€ 15,000,000	
AT - N4 Collooney - Castlebaldwin	Cycle/walkway following completion of N4		€ 46,236	€ -	2027	€ 96,666	€ 8,000,000	
AT - Toberbride to Collooney	Cycle/walkway to connect Toberbride to Collooney		€ 36,122	€ -	2026	€ 76,466	€ 2,000,000	
Sligo Greenway - Bellaghy/Charlestown/Collooney	Greenway along disused railway line		€ 286,964		2027	€ 446,608	€ 10,000,000	
N4 Collooney to Castlebaldwin (formerly N4 Cloonamahon to Castlebaldwin)	15km upgrade of the N4 from Collooney to Castlebaldwin of which 3.0km is online and the remainder is off line upgrade.		€ 1,619,871	€ -	Phase 6 on-going Anticipated Completion 2026	€ 127,469,604	€ 149,400,000	
N16 Lugatobber	2.5km predominately offline upgrade.		€ 10,183,840	€ -	Phase 6 on-going Anticipated completion 2025	€ 14,717,478	€ 28,182,000	
N59 Corhawnagh to Crockacullion (formerly N59 Corhawnagh to Lugnadeffa)	Upgrade of a 4.7km section of the existing N59			€ -	Awaiting approval to proceed to Phase 3 (Design & Environmental Evaluation)	€ 147,809	€ 29,000,000	
N4/N15 Sligo Urban Improvement	0.73km section upgrade of the existing Hughes Bridge linking the N4 with the N15 and the installation of an Urban Traffic Control System along the entire N4 Inner relief Road and associated side road junctions in Sligo Town.		€ 183,076	€ -	Phase 7 Anticipated completion 2024	€ 15,789,620	€ 15,810,000	
N17 Collooney to Knock	Route being examined is 55km in length (this is not necessarily the section to be improved)		€ 218,474	€ -	TII Phase 2 Options Selection complete	€ 3,026,190	€ 550,000,000	
N15 Creevykeel to Bunduff Bridge	Pavement Asset Repair and Renewal Scheme		€ 6,255	€ -	Anticipated completion 2024	€ 1,119,219	€ 1,165,000	
N59 Owenbeg Phase 2	Pavement Asset Repair and Renewal Scheme		€ 2,317,990	€ -	Anticipated completion 2024	€ 2,317,990	€ 2,550,000	
N4 Inner Relief Road HD28 NP Pavement	Pavement Asset Repair and Renewal Scheme		€ 21,084		Anticipated completion 2025	€ 21,084	€ 1,800,000	

Expenditure being Incurred - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)								
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Anticipated Timeline	Cumulative Expenditure to-date	Projected Lifetime Expenditure (Capital Only)	Explanatory Notes
N16 Lugatober to County Boundary	Pavement Asset Repair and Renewal Scheme		€ 10,163	€ -	Anticipated completion 2026	€ 11,673	€ 1,000,000	
N59 Tullylinn to Fiddaun	Pavement Asset Repair and Renewal Scheme		€ 19,488	€ -	Anticipated completion 2026	€ 19,488	€ 1,000,000	
N15 Cashalgarron Pavement	Pavement Asset Repair and Renewal Scheme		€ 36,371	€ -	Anticipated completion 2024	€ 2,263,154	€ 2,325,000	
Western Distributor road Phase II	Strategic non-national road		€ 1,802	€ -	Road opened 2021	€ 20,323,045	€ 20,500,000	
Eastern Garavogue River Bridge & Approach Roads	Strategic non-national road		€ 628,375	€ -	Q4 2026	€ 2,400,471	€ 45,000,000	
Burton St Link Road	Strategic non-national road		€ 45,980	€ -	2024	€ 900,626	€ 3,000,000	
URDF O'Connell St enhancement	Street enhancement works		€ 652,712	€ -	Q2 2023	€ 4,717,092	€ 4,800,000	
National Surf Centre of Excellence Strandhill	New Centre of Excellence		€ 458,067	€ -	June 2021 - Aug 2023	€ 2,875,731	€ 2,880,000	Fáilte Ireland, RRDF and Council funding
D01 Forward Planning	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 861,650	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	
D02 Development Management	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 941,840	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	
D06 Community & Enterprise Function	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 1,355,173	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	
D09 Economic Development and Promotion	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 2,683,610	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	
Rural Development Programme	LEADER Programme 2014 - 2020, extended to 31st March, 2021		€ 570,159	€ -	August 2016 - March 2021	€ 6,611,572	€ 7,862,948	
Transitional LEADER Programme	Transitional programme to bridge the gap between EU Programming periods		€ 1,287,419	€ -	April 2021 - Dec 2022	€ 2,566,124	€ 2,261,896	
LEADER PROGRAMME 2023-2027	LEADER Programme	€ -	€ 36,500	€ -	2023-2027	€ 36,500	€ 6,090,809	
ORIS Coolaney Mountain Bike Centre	A trail centre with almost 75kms of mountain bike trails beside Coolaney village in Co. Sligo on Coillte lands in the Ox mountains.		€ -	€ -	Feb 2019 - Dec 2023	€ 875,101	€ 1,050,356	max 75% Government funding
ORIS M2 2020	Outdoor Recreation Measure 2 2020		€ 113	€ -	April 2021 - Dec 2024	€ 443,355	€ 660,000	max 90% Government funding
ORIS 2021	ORIS 2021 Measures 1&2		€ 289,935	€ -	April 2022 - June 2024	€ 451,465	€ 640,109	max 90% Government funding
Town and Village Renewal 2021 (Standard projects and Project Development Measure)	Town and Village Renewal 2021 - Kilglass, Calry, Ballymote, Aclare, Ballygawley and Keash. PDM in ennisicrone	€ -	€ 1,065,283	€ -	Jan 2022 to Nov 2023	€ 1,065,283	€ 1,499,997	max 90% Government funding

Expenditure being Incurred - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)								
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Anticipated Timeline	Cumulative Expenditure to-date	Projected Lifetime Expenditure (Capital Only)	Explanatory Notes
Town and Village Renewal 2022 (Standard projects and Project Development Measure)	Town and Village Renewal 2022 - Riverstown, Collooney and Templeboy. One marketing Development measure.	€ -	€ 9,225	€ -	March 2023 - August 2024	€ 9,225	€ 911,222	min. 60% to max. 90% Government funding
Fáilte Ireland Destination Town - Enniscrone	Capital investment in Tourism Infrastructure in Enniscrone as a tourist desintation on the Wild Atlantic way		€ 627,106	€ -	June 2020 -Dec 2023	€ 669,048	€ 669,047	
Failte Ireland - Sligo Cultural Plaza - Fáilte Ireland and URDF	To design and build shared civil space in what is currently Stephen St car park to be re-named and branded as Queen Maeve Square		€ 2,089,449	€ -	Apr-24	€ 2,450,811	€ 4,150,683	
RRDF Ballisodare Regeneration Project	Rural Re-generation of Main Street		€ 130,239	€ -	Jan 2022 to Dec 2024	€ 296,966	€ 725,000	80% RRDF funding
Fáilte Ireland Platforms for Growth - Rosses Point and Enniscrone	Outdoor water-based activities facility centres		€ 3,064	€ -	Nov 2022 to Nov 2025	€ 32,974	€ 1,830,000	
URDF - SCPREP- Sligo City Public Realm Enhancement Project	Enhancement of Stephen Street, Holborn Street, Rockwood Parade, Water Lane, Tobergal Lane and other mini projects		€ 7,872	€ -	Tender Action - September 2022	€ 419,125	€ 6,515,865	75% URDF funding
Peace Plus 2021 - 2027	Support for activities that promote peace and reconciliation and contribute to the cross border economic and territorial development of the Border Region.		€ 89,757	€ -	2022-2027	€ 97,892	€ 3,603,788	
E06 Street Cleaning	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 719,231	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	
E10 Safety of Structures and Places	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 658,815			on-going	n/a	n/a	
E11 Operation of Fire Service	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 4,058,712	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	
Remedial Works on Structures in Graveyards	Remedial works		€ 23,528	€ -	on-going	€ 673,038	€ 800,000	
Finisklin Landfill Proposal	Finisklin Landfill Remediation Works		€ 77,356	€ -	Q1 2025	€ 701,137	€ 2,259,000	
F02 Operation of Library and Archival Service	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 2,794,300	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	
F03 Op, Mtce & Imp of Outdoor Leisure Areas	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 805,224	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	
F04 Community Sport and Recreational Development	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 1,301,027	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	
F05 Operation of Arts Programme	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 979,551	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	

Expenditure being Incurred - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)								
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Anticipated Timeline	Cumulative Expenditure to-date	Projected Lifetime Expenditure (Capital Only)	Explanatory Notes
H01 Profit/Loss Machinery Account	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 2,437,994	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	
H03 Administration of Rates	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 2,985,905	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	
H09 Local Representation/Civic Leadership	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 1,665,948	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	
H10 Motor Taxation	Annual Expenditure per Approved Revenue Budget	€ 629,946	€ -	€ -	on-going	n/a	n/a	
Totals		€ 66,152,397	€ 54,946,264	€ -		€ 312,895,509	€ 1,153,184,662	

Projects/Programmes Completed or discontinued in the reference year - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)

Project/Scheme/ Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/ Programme Completion Date	Final Outturn Expenditure	Explanatory Notes
CAS 2015 St VdP at Cuan Iosa Ballymote	Construction of 8 no. units		€ -			€ 1,627,548	
Social Housing at Collooney	Construction of 15 no. units		€ 5,388			€ 4,357,258	
Construction at Dromore West	Construction of 10 no. units		€ 10,292			€ 2,616,710	
Voids Programme 2023	Voids Programme returning vacant housing stock to productive use		€ 1,381,270			€ 1,381,270	
Retrofitting Programme 2023	Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Programme		€ 1,341,570			€ 1,341,570	
Social Housing at Rosses Point Road	Construction of 14 no. units		€ -			€ 4,680,342	
CAS Project Nazareth House, Church Hill	Construction of 48 no. units & 1 no. Care support unit		€ -			€ 6,974,831	
Tuath Housing Association CAS Turnkey Acquisition Ballisodare	6 no. units		€ 20,976			€ 767,575	
Dept. funded housing acquisition programme	11 no. units		€ 2,925,041			€ 2,925,041	
Enterprise & Community Centre and Urban Park	Multi-use community facility with office accommodation for the delivery of social programmes and community activities		€ 646			€ 296,921	
Refurbishment 96 units Cranmore (Phase 1)	Environmental and building improvement works to social and private dwellings		€ -			€ 4,849,065	
Town and Village Renewal 2018	Public space enhancement works in Aclare, Ballisodare, Ballymote, Cloonacool, Collooney, Enniscrone, Grange, Kilavil, Raghly, Riverstown and Rathcormac		€ -			€ 1,179,413	
Town and Village Renewal 2020	Town and Village Renewal 2020 - Ballisodare, Ballymote, Carraroe, Drumcliffe, Enniscrone, Rosses Point and Tubbercurry		€ -			€ 650,157	
RRDF Yeats Trail	Construct walkway and cycleway along edge of SAC woodland at Cleveragh Lough Gill SAC1 976		€ -			€ 687,215	
SICAP 2018-2023	Social inclusion programme managed by Sligo LCDC and implemented by Sligo LEADER Partnership		€ 900,658			€ 4,085,939	
Totals		€ -	€ 6,585,841	€ -		€ 38,420,855	

Appendix 2

Quality Assurance – In Depth Check

Section A: Introduction

This introductory section details the headline information on the programme or project in question.

Programme or Project Information	
Name	Administration of Homeless Service
Detail	Prevention of homelessness
Responsible Body	Sligo County Council
Current Status	Expenditure being incurred
Start Date	January 2023
End Date	December 2023
Overall Cost	€1,207,991 in 2023

Project Description

The administration of homeless services is managed by the Housing Section of Sligo County Council. The total expenditure for 2023 was €1.2 million.

Whilst the overarching objective is to move from emergency accommodation to housing led long term accommodation solutions, it is not possible to prevent homelessness in all cases and consequently the provision of emergency accommodation becomes a necessary intervention.

Sligo County Council has seen an increase in recent years in households in emergency accommodation and an increase in the length of time spent in emergency accommodation.

The current pressures on the rental market are impacting households' ability to secure affordable rental properties. It has also resulted in an increase in tenants being served notices of termination (NOT). In September 2022 there were 7 active NOTs logged with Sligo County Council compared to 44 in December 2023.

Sligo County Council's response to homelessness is contained in North-West Homeless Action Plan 2023-2028. The Strategic Aims of the Homelessness Action Plan are:

Prevention of Homelessness – by early intervention, advice and information, tenancy support, supported housing, targeted supports for vulnerable groups.

Protecting Homeless People – suitable emergency accommodation for all, assessment and case management services, support for rough sleepers, supporting the health needs of homeless people, access to social and welfare services.

Progression to long term housing – reducing obstacles to moving on from emergency accommodation, identify housing solutions, supported or transitional.

Ensure proper Governance and financial oversight, and funding to deliver homeless services- are management groups representative and functional, monitoring and procurement of services and funding.

Tackling homelessness requires an interagency approach to provide a holistic response and ensure a successful outcome. This is driven via the **Homeless Action Team (HAT)** that meets regularly to discuss individual cases and to adopt approaches to best support and assist homeless households or those at risk of becoming homeless and to put in place support services for them.

Regional Lead

Sligo County Council is the lead authority for Homeless Services for the North-west Region (Sligo, Donegal, and Leitrim) and is responsible for budget management and the co-ordination of funding for the region.

This entails submitting:

- Homeless expenditure proposals for the region to the Department at the start of each year and
- Quarterly /end of year expenditure returns to the Department.

Monthly and quarterly reports from PASS (Pathway Accommodation and Support System) are also submitted for the region to the Department.

Note: Leitrim and Donegal submit their reports, along with supporting documentation to Sligo, who compile the various returns and submit these to the Department.

Quarterly meetings of the North-West Joint Homelessness Consultative Forum and the Management Group for the Forum are organised by Sligo County Council.

The Management Group has primary responsibility for the preparation of Homeless Action Plans and has the function of making recommendations to relevant statutory bodies on homeless services including funding.

The role of the Forum is to ensure the implementation of the action plans for the region and approve initiatives and additional expenditure by the Councils.

Housing First

Housing for All, the new housing plan for Ireland to 2030, recognises that many of those experiencing homelessness have additional support needs.

As a key part of this, the publication of this National Implementation Plan for Housing First 2022-2026 is a significant milestone. It underpins the Government's commitment to reduce and eliminate rough sleeping and long-term homelessness. Sligo County Council is the regional lead for the Housing First programme in the North-West.

Emergency Accommodation

Sligo County Council has service level agreements with accommodation providers who provide emergency and transitional accommodation.

Services are available at the following locations:

- Maryville, Finisklin, Sligo (Sligo Social Services Council CLG) – capacity 15 beds
- Ballytivnan, Sligo (Sligo Social Services Council CLG) - capacity 5 beds
- Shalomar, Finisklin, Sligo (Finisklin Housing Association Ltd) – capacity 16 beds
- Transitional supported housing at Citygate, Mail Coach Road, Sligo- 23 units.
- Four units in Sligo Town for families requiring intensive supports under SLA with Focus Ireland CLG.

Due to the increase in demand for emergency accommodation, Sligo County Council had to secure 10 additional beds in a B&B for the 2022/2023 Winter Initiative. This accommodation has had to be extended on a continual basis, as the demand has only grown.

20 additional beds were put in place in Sligo town for the 2023/2024 Winter Initiative. This accommodation has recently been extended from ending 31/03/2024 to ending 31/05/2024.

In addition, emergency accommodation is provided at a number of other locations, as the need requires.

Funding

Funding is provided by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, and the Council towards expenditure incurred on the provision of homeless services under Section 10 of the Housing Act, 1988. 90% of the expenditure is funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage upon the production of quarterly expenditure reports, to include end of year outturn of expenditure. The balance of 10% is funded from the Councils' own resources.

2023 Expenditure per AFS 2023 (unaudited)	
Accommodation Costs	€1,034,991
Administration & Service Support Costs	€173,000
Total	€1,207,991

Staffing

Homelessness is a complex issue which is usually the result of several contemporaneous and intricately interrelated issues including addiction, mental health, trauma, domestic violence, family breakdown and criminality.

Staffing in the Council includes an Administrative Officer (who has other duties) a Homeless Liaison Officer, HAP Place Finder Officer, and some clerical support.

The role of the **Homeless Liaison Officer** is a prevention, support, and advice function, linking vulnerable homeless clients with other essential services and in essence, ensuring that their welfare and safety is paramount. Assessing the level of risk and vulnerability that is at play for families and individuals and ensuring referral to the appropriate homeless service and healthcare facility.

An appointment only homeless clinic is held Mondays, Wed-Fri from 9.30am to 12.15pm. Households may be seen without an appointment, if the need is urgent.

The **Homeless HAP Place Finder Officer** supports households in emergency accommodation and those at risk of homelessness to source private rented accommodation. The Place Finder Service pays the deposit and a month's rent in advance equal to the HAP rate, which is fully recouped from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Pathway Accommodation and Support System (PASS)

PASS is an online shared system utilised by every homeless service provider and all local authorities in Ireland. The system provides 'real-time' information in terms of homeless presentation and bed occupancy.

Section B - Step 1: Logic Model Mapping

As part of this In-Depth Check, a Programme Logic Model (PLM) for Administration of Homeless Service has been completed. A PLM is a standard evaluation tool and further information on their nature is available in the [Public Spending Code](#).

Objectives	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes
<p>To prevent homelessness by providing appropriate supports</p> <p>To reduce the requirement for emergency accommodation and provide long term housing solutions</p>	<p>Annual revenue budget</p> <p>Government funding</p> <p>Staff resources</p> <p>IT system</p>	<p>Operation of homeless clinic</p> <p>Client assessments</p> <p>Client referrals</p> <p>Advocacy / support for clients</p> <p>Service level agreements with accommodation providers and advocacy and support services.</p> <p>Homeless Action Team meetings</p> <p>North- West Joint Housing Consultative Forum and Management Group for the Forum - quarterly meetings</p> <p>Housing First programme</p>	<p>Reduction in risk of rough sleeping</p> <p>Provision of emergency accommodation</p> <p>Reduction in homelessness through early intervention</p>	<p>Reduce level of homelessness</p> <p>Reduce length of time in emergency accommodation</p> <p>Households secure permanent accommodation and independent living</p>

Description of Programme Logic Model

Objectives: The objective of the Homeless service is to reduce the risk and instances of rough sleeping, to prevent homelessness and to provide temporary accommodation.

Inputs: The main inputs are staff, IT systems such as Agresso and PASS, and Government and Council funding.

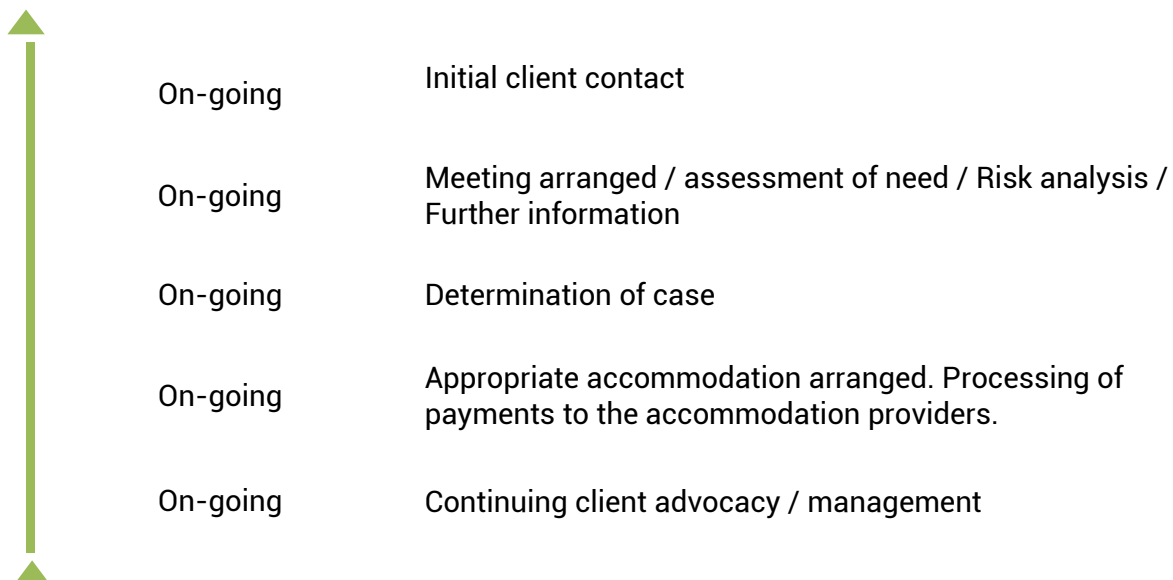
Activities: Homeless service staff assess clients, prevent homelessness through provision of temporary accommodation where eligible, monitor budgets and the recoupment of funds. Attend all required fora and engage with service providers.

Outputs: Reduction in risk of rough sleeping and the provision of emergency accommodation. Reduction in homelessness through early intervention and roll out of initiatives to improve outcomes for those most vulnerable to homelessness.

Outcomes: Reduction in levels of homelessness and rough sleeping. Reduction in length of time in emergency accommodation and the provision of long-term housing solutions.

Section B - Step 2: Summary Timeline of Project/Programme

The following section tracks the Administration of Homeless Service to the end of 2023 in terms of major project/programme milestones



Section B - Step 3: Analysis of Key Documents

The following section reviews the key documentation relating to appraisal, analysis and evaluation for the Administration of Homeless Service.

Project/Programme Key Documents	
Title	Details
Homeless Action Plan North-West Region (2023 – 2028)	The Plan was adopted by the elected members of the three Local Authorities of Donegal, Sligo and Leitrim in March 2023
Service Level Agreements	Service Level Agreements for Focus Ireland CLG, Sligo Social Services, Finisklin Housing Association and North-West Simon.
Agresso FMS	Expenditure and income details for the relevant job codes

Key Document 1:

The Homelessness Action Plan for the North-West Region is to cover the period 2023-2028 and replaces the existing Plan. The Plan reflects the policy positions and actions contained in the Housing for All Policy which was published in September 2021.

There are four key Strategic Aims in this Plan:

1. To Prevent Homelessness – early intervention to people at risk of homelessness.
2. To Protect those experiencing homelessness through emergency accommodation and targeted support.
3. Progression – to identify pathways to long-term housing solutions.
4. Ensure Proper Governance, Financial Oversight and Funding to deliver homeless services.

Key Document 2:

Service level agreements are in place with the providers of services for homelessness i.e. hostel accommodation, Housing First and Resettlement and Tenancy Support Services.

Key Document 3:

Expenditure and income details are available through the Agresso Financial Management System. Detailed analysis can be generated and reported on. It is a central requirement to any recoument process and for the monitoring of budgets during the year.

Section B - Step 4: Data Audit

The following section details the data audit that was carried out for the Administration of Homeless Service. It evaluates whether appropriate data is available for the future evaluation of the project/programme.

Data Required	Use	Availability
Service Level Agreements	Details of agreements with accommodation providers who provide emergency and transitional accommodation	Housing Section
Homelessness Data	Information on individuals in State funded accommodation	PASS
Financial records	Audit trail	Agresso FMS and Housing section

Data Availability and Proposed Next Steps

The documentation outlined in the above table is available for inspection on request from the Housing Section of Sligo County Council. The necessary supporting documentation is retained for future audit.

Section B - Step 5: Key Evaluation Questions

The following section looks at the key evaluation questions for the Administration of Homeless Service based on the findings from the previous sections of this report.

Does the delivery of the project/programme comply with the standards set out in the Public Spending Code? (Appraisal Stage, Implementation Stage and Post-Implementation Stage)

The in-depth check has demonstrated that controls are in place to provide adequate assurance that there is substantial compliance with the Public Spending Code.

Is the necessary data and information available such that the project/programme can be subjected to a full evaluation at a later date?

The necessary data is available to enable the Scheme to be subjected to a full evaluation at a later date.

What improvements are recommended such that future processes and management are enhanced?

It is noted that an updated system for reconciliation of recoupments is in place for 2024.

Section: In-Depth Check Summary

The following section presents a summary of the findings of this In-Depth Check on the Administration of Homeless Service.

Summary of In-Depth Check

The administration of homeless services is managed by the Housing Section of Sligo County Council. The total expenditure for 2023 was €1.2 million.

Sligo County Council has seen an increase in recent years in households in emergency accommodation and an increase in the length of time spent in emergency accommodation.

The current pressures on the rental market are impacting households' ability to secure affordable rental properties. It has also resulted in an increase in tenants being served notices of termination (NOT). In September 2022 there were 7 active NOTs logged with Sligo County Council compared to 44 in December 2023.

Sligo County Council's response to homelessness is contained in North-West Homeless Action Plan 2023-2028.

Sligo County Council is the lead authority for Homeless Services for the North-west Region (Sligo, Donegal, and Leitrim) and is responsible for budget management and the co-ordination of funding for the region.

The in-depth check has demonstrated that controls are in place to provide adequate assurance that there is substantial compliance with the Public Spending Code.

Quality Assurance – In Depth Check

Section A: Introduction

This introductory section details the headline information on the programme or project in question.

Programme or Project Information	
Name	URDF Sligo Public Realm Plan
Detail	Implementation of the Sligo City Public Realm Plan - a strategic, transformative project designed to regenerate and rejuvenate the town and promote its sustainable and compact growth
Responsible Body	Sligo County Council
Current Status	Expenditure under consideration
Start Date	2022
End Date	2028
Overall Cost	Est. €25,543,107

Project Description

The Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF), which was launched in 2018 to support more compact and sustainable development, is one of four funds established under the National Development Plan 2018-2027.

In March, 2021 Sligo County Council received an allocation of €19,157,330 under URDF Call 2 for the Sligo Public Realm project. The project has a matched funding requirement of 25%.

The Sligo Public Realm project is a strategic, transformative project designed to regenerate and rejuvenate the town and promote its sustainable and compact growth. It is an ambitious and transformative plan that will greatly increase pedestrian mobility, enhance the sense of place and create a more liveable town centre, with the potential to attract further investment towards the development of several brownfield sites.

This project consists of complementary sub-projects that are follow-on capital works from the master planning and design stage works of the 'Call 1' project:

Stephen Street/Holborn Street etc.	€5,828,985
Abbey /Street Enhancement	€3,022,709
Redevelopment of Quay Street car park into a public space	€2,118,520
Market Cross re-development	€1,739,688
Castle/Grattan Street Enhancement	€1,615,655
Project team costs	€1,350,000
Centre Block re-development	€1,125,000
Old Market Street	€1,071,772
Markievicz Footbridge	€975,000
Wayfinding Strategy	€250,000
PR Engagement Strategy	€60,000

In February 2018, international design consultancy Building Design Partnership (BDP) were commissioned by Sligo County Council to prepare a public realm plan for Sligo. A Public Realm Plan is a planning document with a long-range vision for the built environment that takes into account the varied needs of its users. Following a period of public consultation, the Sligo City Centre Public Realm Plan was completed in September 2018. This single, coherent concept for the city centre's public realm seeks to achieve the ultimate goal of transforming Sligo into the leading city in the north-west region through the design of an attractive and vibrant city centre in which people want to live, work, socialise and shop.

The Plan identified a number of key locations within the urban core where there are significant opportunities to create high quality urban spaces including O'Connell Street, Stephen Street Cultural Plaza, Rockwood Parade and Quay Street carpark.

The Implementation Sligo Public Realm project, involves transformative regeneration and enhancement interventions that reimagine Sligo's medieval core as a compact "Five Minute City" where people want to live, work, visit, and spend time shopping, sightseeing, socialising, and lingering. Building upon earlier support for the preparation of the Sligo Wine Street Car Park Masterplan and Sligo City Centre Public Realm Action Plan, the delivery of the O'Connell Street Enhancement project, and the planned Cultural Plaza and City Campus projects, this project envisages a vibrant, attractive, more accessible, and sustainable city centre offering a unique "Sligo experience".

The proposed objectives and actions identified for the project are supported by numerous planning strategies and policies e.g.

Project Ireland 2040 (National Planning Framework)

Climate Action Plan 2021

Our Rural Future – Rural Development Policy 2021-2025

Town Centre First Policy

Heritage Ireland 2030

Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES)

County Sligo Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2016-2021

Sligo County Development Plan (CDP) 2017-2023

Sligo City Centre Public Realm Action Plan 2018

Sligo County Council Corporate Plan 2020 - 2024

Sustainable Development Goals National Implementation Plan 2018-2020

Section B - Step 1: Logic Model Mapping

As part of this In-Depth Check, Sligo County Council has completed a Programme Logic Model (PLM) for the URDF Sligo Public Realm Plan. A PLM is a standard evaluation tool and further information on their nature is available in the [Public Spending Code](#).

Objectives	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes
<p>To improve the appearance and people's perception of Sligo and boost visitor numbers and tourism</p> <p>To boost economic activity and reduce the high vacancy rates</p> <p>To promote sustainable settlement patterns by encouraging people to live in the city</p> <p>To promote and enhance Sligo City having regard to national and regional objectives of Compact growth and sustainability</p>	<p>Government funding</p> <p>Sligo County Council funding</p> <p>Staff Resources</p>	<p>Establish the Project team</p> <p>Agree a detailed design</p> <p>Procure Construction Contractors</p> <p>Construction Phase</p> <p>Completion of development</p> <p>Evaluation Report</p> <p>Post Project Review</p>	<p>Public Realm improvements to 8 no. areas</p> <p>Wayfinding strategy</p> <p>Public Relations & Engagement strategy</p>	<p>The completion of the projects proposed in this bid will transform Sligo's public realm</p> <p>The individual projects will contribute to the overall Sligo County Council strategy to promote innovative investment in the local economy</p>

Description of Programme Logic Model

Objectives:

To promote and enhance Sligo City having regard to national and regional objectives of Compact growth and sustainability

To improve the appearance and people's perception of Sligo and boost visitor numbers and tourism

To boost economic activity and reduce the high vacancy rates

To promote sustainable settlement patterns by encouraging people to live in the city

Inputs:

Government funding, Sligo County Council funding and Staff Resources

Activities:

Establish the Project team

Agree a detailed design

Procure Construction Contractors

Construction Phase

Completion of development

Evaluation Report

Post Project Review

Outputs:

Public Realm improvements to 8 no. areas

Wayfinding strategy

Public Relations & Engagement strategy


Outcomes:

The completion of the projects proposed in this bid will transform Sligo's public realm

The individual projects will contribute to the overall Sligo County Council strategy to promote innovative investment in the local economy

Section B - Step 2: Summary Timeline of Project/Programme

The following section tracks the URDF Sligo Public Realm Plan from inception in terms of major project/programme milestones



2023	Preliminary Business Case submitted
2021	Preliminary Approval Letter received from DHLGH
2021	Sligo County Council resolution re Chief Executive's Report
2020	Application form submitted to Urban Regeneration and Development Fund Second Call 2020

Section B - Step 3: Analysis of Key Documents

The following section reviews the key documentation relating to appraisal, analysis and evaluation for the URDF Sligo Public Realm Plan.

Project/Programme Key Documents	
Title	Details
Urban Regeneration and Development Fund DRAFT Guidance on the application of the Public Spending Code for URDF Supported Projects - 26.09.2023	This guidance set out the documentation to be submitted by the sponsoring agency at each of the 3 Public Spending Code (PSC) Decision Gates for URDF supported projects.
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage Preliminary Approval letter	Confirmation of funding under URDF
Preliminary Business Case 2023	Outlines the case for the proposed project

Key Document 1: Urban Regeneration and Development Fund DRAFT Guidance on the application of the Public Spending Code for URDF Supported Projects - 26.09.2023

This guidance set out the documentation to be submitted by the sponsoring agency at each of the 3 Public Spending Code (PSC) Decision Gates for URDF supported projects. It also sets out the particular criteria the Department, as approving authority, will evaluate at each Stage, to ensure that the project is meeting the objectives of the National Planning Framework (NPF), Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies, County Development Plans, Metropolitan Area Strategy Plans and Local Area Plans, as applicable, such that the project continues to justify Exchequer funding support.

Guidance is provided in respect of:

1. The approval of Capital Works Projects
2. The funding of Technical Assistance (Masterplans / Design Work) only
3. The approval of Strategic Property Acquisitions
4. Implementation, Report and Monitoring Requirements for all projects
5. Project Completion Report Requirements for all projects
6. Ex Post Evaluation Requirements for all projects

Key Document 2: Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage Preliminary Approval letter which formally confirms preliminary approval for the inclusion of Sligo County Council's Implementation of Sligo City Public Realm proposal in the URDF supported capital programme and approval to move to the next stage of the project lifecycle, preliminary business case stage.

Key Document 3: The Preliminary Business Case includes the strategic relevance, project objectives, demand analysis, desired outputs, impact, options, financial analysis, risk management strategy and monitoring & evaluation plan for the project.

Section B - Step 4: Data Audit

The following section details the data audit that was carried out for the URDF Sligo Public Realm Plan. It evaluates whether appropriate data is available for the future evaluation of the project/programme.

Data Required	Use	Availability
Correspondence between SCC and DHLGH	Confirmation of Department approval at various stages	Information held on file
Application form and business case	Outline of business case, basic project suitability and indicative costs	Information held on file
Chief Executive's Report to the Members of Sligo County Council As required by Section 179 (4), Part XI of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and associated Council Resolution	Council approval	Information held on file

Data Availability and Proposed Next Steps

Details of the project are available on a designated file and readily available for review. SCC will continue to progress through the Department's approval process to deliver the project.

Section B - Step 5: Key Evaluation Questions

The following section looks at the key evaluation questions for URDF Sligo Public Realm Plan based on the findings from the previous sections of this report.

Does the delivery of the project/programme comply with the standards set out in the Public Spending Code? (Appraisal Stage, Implementation Stage and Post-Implementation Stage)

The in-depth check has demonstrated that controls are in place to provide adequate assurance that there is substantial compliance with the Public Spending Code.

Is the necessary data and information available such that the project/programme can be subjected to a full evaluation at a later date?

The necessary data is available to enable the project to be subjected to a full evaluation, at a later date.

What improvements are recommended such that future processes and management are enhanced?

This is an on-going project and it is recommended that the project team continues to monitor the project as it progresses in accordance with URDF requirements.

Section: In-Depth Check Summary

The following section presents a summary of the findings of this In-Depth Check on the URDF Sligo Public Realm Plan

Summary of In-Depth Check

The Sligo Public Realm project is a strategic, transformative project designed to regenerate and rejuvenate the town and promote its sustainable and compact growth. It is an ambitious and transformative plan that will greatly increase pedestrian mobility, enhance the sense of place and create a more liveable town centre, with the potential to attract further investment towards the development of several brownfield sites.

In March, 2021 Sligo County Council received an allocation of €19,157,330 under URDF Call 2 for the Sligo Public Realm project. The project has a matched funding requirement of 25%.

Public Realm areas included in the project:

Stephen Street/Holborn Street etc.	Castle/Grattan Street Enhancement
Abbey /Street Enhancement	Centre Block re-development
Quay Street car park	Old Market Street
Market Cross re-development	Markievicz Footbridge

The project also includes a Wayfinding Strategy and a PR Engagement Strategy

The in-depth check has demonstrated that controls are in place to provide adequate assurance that there is substantial compliance with the Public Spending Code.

Quality Assurance – In Depth Check

Section A: Introduction

This introductory section details the headline information on the programme or project in question.

Programme or Project Information	
Name	N4 Collooney to Castlebaldwin Road Project
Detail	The N4 Collooney to Castlebaldwin Road Project involves the design and construction of approximately 13.82km of Type 2 Dual Carriageway and approximately 0.89km of Standard Single Carriageway forming the N4 Mainline. The Project also includes the associated design and construction of side roads and accommodation roads, structures, earthworks, drainage, ducting and ITS, fencing, safety barriers, accommodation works, landscaping, protection and diversion of assets of Relevant Authorities, Utilities, Service Providers and all other ancillary works.
Responsible Body	Sanctioning Authority – Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) Sponsoring Agency – National Road Project Office of Sligo County Council
Current Status	Expenditure Being Incurred
Start Date	Planning commenced in 2000
End Date	Substantial completion achieved on the 25 th June 2021. Delay incurred in closing out the Project as the appointed Contractor went into receivership and subsequently liquidation during the defects period. Estimated completion 2026.
Overall Cost	Target Cost €140 million

Project Description

Background:

The N4 National Primary Route from Dublin to Sligo has been identified as a strategic radial corridor, which should provide a high quality link between Dublin and Sligo.

The N4 Collooney to Castlebaldwin Road Project comprises of the following:

- 2.7km of upgrading the existing single carriageway to a Type 2 Dual Carriageway from the N4/N17 Toberbride Roundabout to Doorly Td.
- 11.2km of offline Type 2 Dual Carriageway between Doorly Td. and the proposed Castlebaldwin Roundabout junction which is just to the southeast of Castlebaldwin village.
- 0.80km of offline Type 1 Single Carriageway to tie in with the existing N4 at the end of the Curlews Bypass.
- 4.5km of Type 3 Single Carriageway which run parallel to the mainline on the online section between the N4/N17 Toberbride Roundabout and Doorly Td.
- 8.0km of side roads to facilitate construction of bridge structures and their approaches across the mainline.
- four road overbridges (Toberbride Overbridge, Knocknagroagh, Drumfin North, Drumfin South).
- six road underbridges (Doorly N, Doorly S, Carrownagark, Kingsbrook, Ardloy, Tawnagh).
- two river bridges (Turnalaydan Stream, Drumfin River Bridge).
- One roundabout on the mainline together with the upgrade of the N4/N17 Toberbride Roundabout.
- Four roundabouts on the local road network.
- One Compact Grade Separated junction at Drumfin / Cloonlug Td. serving Ballymote, Riverstown and the local hinterlands.
- 3.4km of combined footway/cycleway from the N4/N17 Toberbride Roundabout in Toberbride Td. to Doorly Td. just north of the N4/L-1302 junction.
- 0.7km of combined footway linking the Miners Way in Annaghcor Td. to Castlebaldwin Village.
- Ancillary works including retaining walls, the provision of drainage and attenuation systems, spill containment, petrol interceptors, various utility diversion and extension works, earthworks, pavement construction, boundary treatment, landscaping, and street lighting.

The scheme is shown in Fig 1.1.

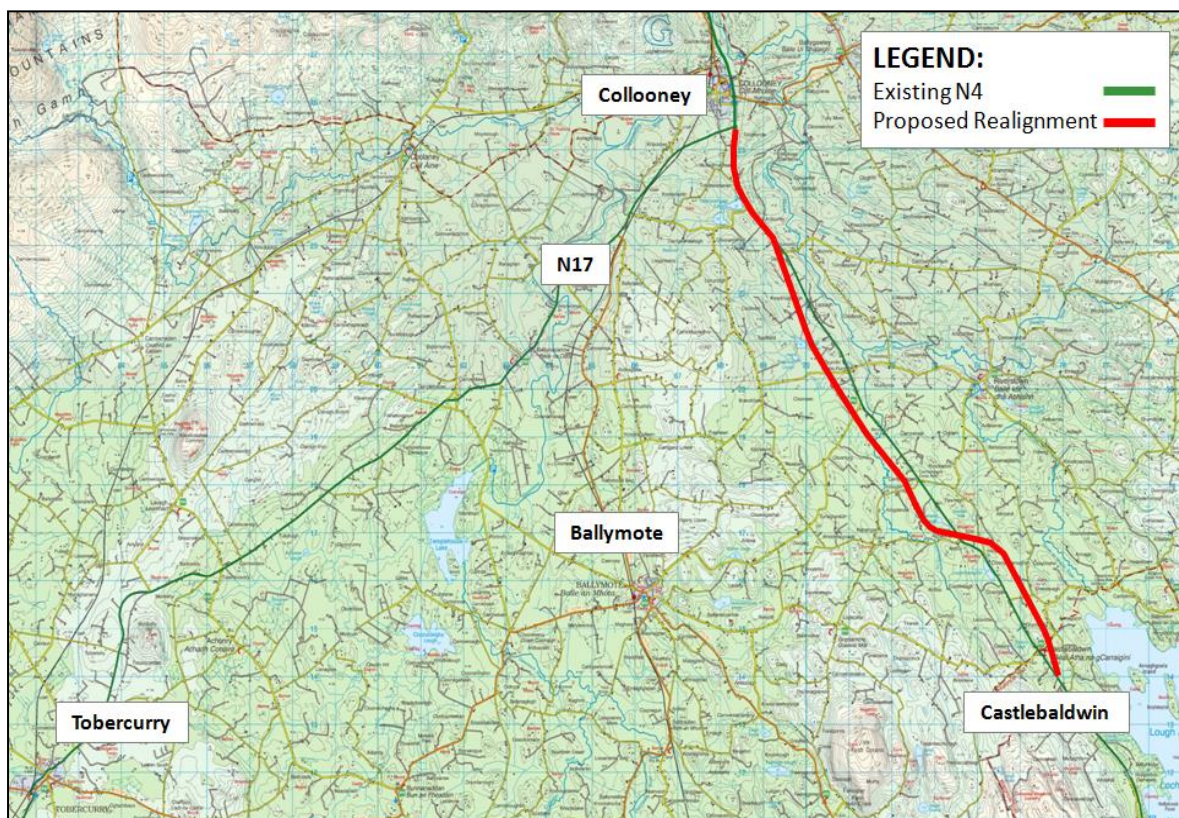


Figure 1.1 – N4 Collooney to Castlebaldwin Road Development

The N4 Collooney to Castlebaldwin Project has progressed from Phase 1 Concept and Feasibility through to Phase 6 Construction and Implementation. As part of the earlier Phases of this process, various route options were considered for the alignment of the scheme, following the standard public consultations process a Preferred Route was identified and adopted in 2002. An Environmental Impact Statement, Natura Impact Statement and Compulsory Purchase order were published for the scheme in December 2013. An Bord Pleanála approved the project with no modifications and confirmed the CPO in July 2014.

All Advance Works including Archaeology, House Demolition, Fencing, ground investigation, topographical surveying and high powered ESB Diversions were completed in 2017, and 97% of the Land acquisition cases have been closed out to date.

Halcrow Barry (now Barry Transportation Ltd.) were appointed by Sligo County Council in April 2017 to prepare a Specimen Design and Tender Documents for the Main Construction Contract. Prequalification Suitability Assessments Questionnaires were published on OJEU and E-Tenders in November 2017 and returned in January 2018 for the main construction contract. Following assessment, five Candidates were shortlisted and invited to tender in April 2018. Tender Documents were issued to five shortlisted tenderers on the 18th April 2018.

Tenders were received from four of the five Candidates before the deadline for tender receipt of the 24th August 2018. The fifth Candidate withdrew from the tender process in May 2018. Sligo County Council assessed the tenders received and a Tender report was completed and a recommendation to appoint a Contractor was made in November 2018. The *Letter of Intent*

was issued by Sligo County Council to Roadbridge Ltd. on the 27th November 2018. This was followed with the *Letter of Acceptance* on the 30th January 2019.

In parallel to the above, Sligo County Council submitted a Business Case for the Project to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport in November 2018 for review together with follow up information in support of the Business Case in December 2018. Following review of this information together with the Business Case submitted, the Department responded on the 23rd January 2019 outlining it was satisfied that the scope of economic appraisal presented in the Business Case was sufficient under the guidelines of the Public Spending Code and the Common Appraisal Framework.

A press release was released by the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport on the 29th January 2019 outlining that approval was granted by the Government to award the construction contract for the N4 Collooney to Castlebaldwin Project.

TII issued correspondence to Sligo County Council on the 04th February 2019 outlining that it had no objection to the approval of funding to award the project to Roadbridge Ltd. for the sum of €70,397,849.70 excluding VAT. This contract has been included in the listing of Procurement in excess of €10m since 2019.

Roadbridge Ltd. commenced construction works on 25th February 2019 with a forecasted construction timetable of 30 months. Construction works were substantially complete on the 25th June 2021 and the new Type 2 Dual carriageway was opened under traffic management to traffic on the 23rd August 2021. The official opening was carried out by An Taoiseach Micheál Martin, T.D. on Monday 18th October 2021.

Roadbridge Ltd. went into receivership status on the 11th March 2022 during the snagging and remedial works phase. This has led to delays in the completion of these works as well as handover of the Safety File together with the As Built information. The retention period for this contract is three years which is due to expire in June 2024.

Conditions at the commencement of the project:

The existing N4 Collooney to Castlebaldwin comprised a very poorly aligned sub-standard Single carriageway road which varied in width from 6.3m to 7.5m and had a significant number of minor junctions, house and agricultural accesses.

As there were no hard shoulders for the majority of the route, slower moving agricultural vehicles result in delays and frustration for other road users. In addition, there were continuous centreline road markings over approximately 70% of its length which provided very restricted opportunities for safe overtaking.

With the exception of its northern limits, this particular section of the N4 had not received any significant improvements since its designation to a National Primary Route in 1977.

Safety:

The primary objective of this Scheme is to improve safety along this section of the N4.

There have been 30 fatalities over approximately 30 years on the existing 15km section of road which is proposed to be upgraded to Type 2 Dual Carriageway under this plan.

Between 2008 and 2014 this section of the route has experienced 76 recorded fatal, serious and minor casualties as a result of accidents, broken down as follows:

- 5 fatalities;
- 3 serious injury; and
- 68 minor injuries.

Benefits of the Project

The project is anticipated to return significant benefits for transport users, primarily through improvements to journey times. Under the medium growth scenario, approximately €62.9 million benefits are predicted over the 30-year appraisal period. In addition, safety benefits of €7.4 million are predicted over the same period as a result of the higher standard of route.

Beyond the appraisal period, the scheme is expected to have a residual value of €32.8 million during the years 31 to 60. Other, non-monetised benefits are predicted to be returned by the project. Measures for pedestrians and cyclists will be provided as part of the improvement, enhancing accessibility for vulnerable users.

Improvements to journey time reliability will also generate positive economic benefits for road users. The benefits associated with journey time reliability have not been monetised as part of this assessment, although it is noted that the impacts of reliability are currently being considered for inclusion in the next update to the Common Appraisal Framework.

The project is also predicted to have a positive wider economic impact, with reductions in journey times facilitating agglomeration benefits and widening the employment catchment area for the region.

This project was subject to an in-depth review as part of the Quality Assurance Report on the Public Spending Code in 2015 and 2018. This review covers the period 2019 to 2023.

Section B - Step 1: Logic Model Mapping

As part of this In-Depth Check, Internal Audit has completed a Programme Logic Model (PLM) for the N4 Collooney to Castlebaldwin Road Project. A PLM is a standard evaluation tool and further information on their nature is available in the [Public Spending Code](#).

Objectives	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes
<p>To improve reliability and journey times along the N4 corridor between Collooney and Castlebaldwin</p> <p>To improve safety along this section of the N4 by reducing the number of accidents including fatalities, personal injuries and material damage, on the proposed N4 and the existing road network</p> <p>To deliver some environmental benefits in terms of emissions to urban areas along the scheme</p> <p>To provide a corridor of transport infrastructure that will encourage and support existing investment and employment in Sligo and surrounding towns</p> <p>To support Government plans and policies in relation to transport and spatial development in the West of Ireland</p>	<p>Government funding</p> <p>Sligo County Council's staff and technical resources</p> <p>Management of the Project by the National Road Project Office of Sligo County Council</p> <p>External Consultants as required</p> <p>External Contractors</p>	<p>Phase 6 Construction and Implementation: The contractor, Roadbridge, was appointed in January 2019.</p> <p>The scheme opened under Traffic management on 23rd August 2021 and fully opened on 18th of October 2021.</p> <p>Following the substantial completion, the contractor (Roadbridge Ltd.) went into receivership in March 2022 and subsequently liquidation before the end of the defects period and with outstanding works and remedial works, some required by the Stage 3 and Stage 4 Road Safety Audit process, to be completed. In addition, the As Built Information together with the Safety File remained outstanding.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2.7km of upgrading the existing single carriageway to a Type 2 Dual Carriageway. 2. 11.2km of offline Type 2 Dual Carriageway. 3. 0.80km of offline Type 1 Single Carriageway. 4. 4.5km of Type 3 Single Carriageway. 5. 8.0km of side roads to facilitate construction of bridge structures and their approaches across the mainline. 6. 3.4km of combined footway/cycleway 7. 0.7km of combined footway <p>The above outputs were achieved within approved TII budget.</p>	<p>Overall number of collisions / accidents / critical injuries / fatalities on this section of the N4 reduced</p> <p>Risk of accidents effectively controlled</p> <p>Reduction in Journey times</p> <p>Supporting the economy and improving accessibility to deprived rural areas</p> <p>Safer Driving Conditions for N4 Road Users</p> <p>Road Safety Standard of N4 road enhanced</p>

Description of Programme Logic Model

Objectives: The objectives are assessed based on multiple criteria outlined by the Department of Transport in their report 'Guidelines on a Common Appraisal Framework for Transport Projects and Programmes (June 2009)'. The multi-criteria headings are as follows:

- Economy;
- Safety;
- Environment;
- Accessibility & Social Inclusion; and
- Integration.

The key objectives are as follows:

- To improve reliability and journey times along the N4 corridor between Collooney and Castlebaldwin
- To improve safety along this section of the N4 by reducing the number of accidents including fatalities, personal injuries and material damage, on the proposed N4 and the existing road network
- To deliver some environmental benefits in terms of emissions to urban areas along the scheme
- To provide a corridor of transport infrastructure that will encourage and support existing investment and employment in Sligo and surrounding towns
- To support Government plans and policies in relation to transport and spatial development in the West of Ireland

Inputs: TII capital funding of approximately €100 million from 2019 to 2023, Sligo County Council staff/admin resource supports, successful procurement of contractors to undertake all advanced works contracts, successful procurement of external consultant to advance the specimen design and tender documents for the appointment of a construction contractor.

Activities: The key activity carried out in the period 2019-2023 was the main construction contract. The contractor, Roadbridge, was appointed in January 2019. Substantial completion was issued, and the scheme opened under Traffic management on 23rd August 2021 and fully opened on 18th of October 2021.

Following the substantial completion, the contractor (Roadbridge Ltd.) went into receivership in March 2022 and subsequently liquidation before the end of the defects period and with

outstanding works and remedial works, some required by the Stage 3 and Stage 4 Road Safety Audit process, to be completed. In addition, the As Built Information together with the Safety File remained outstanding.

Outputs: The expected outputs at the conclusion of the project are a consistent standard of road alignment and cross section and the provision of safe opportunities for overtaking, improved traffic safety through the realigned route, improved and reliable journey times along the route, improved transport linkages and accessibility to facilities in Sligo and surrounding areas, improved integration as the N4 performs an important strategic linkage role in the context of the wider integration of centres of population and employment.

Outcomes: The project is anticipated to return significant benefits for transport users, primarily through improvements to journey times. Measures for pedestrians and cyclists will be provided as part of the improvement, enhancing accessibility for vulnerable users. Improvements to journey time reliability will also generate positive economic benefits road users.

Section B - Step 2: Summary Timeline of Project/Programme

The following section tracks the N4 Collooney to Castlebaldwin Road Project from inception.

2019 - 2023	<p>Approval was granted to award the Design and Build Contract for the Project to Roadbridge Ltd. Phase 6 Construction and Implementation commenced in February 2019 and progressed throughout 2019, 2020, 2021 and the early part of 2022. The Road Scheme was officially opened by the Taoiseach Micháel Martin on the 18th October 2021 but defects, remedial works, as builds and safety file continued to March 2022 at which point the appointed Contractor went into Receivership and subsequently liquidation.</p> <p>In parallel to the above a number of landowner acquisition cases were resolved leading to approximately 97% agreed in total.</p>
2015 - 2018	<p>Phase 5 advanced and completed: All advanced works contracts were completed. Land Conveyance and Legal Services contract was awarded. Approximately 90% of land acquisition and accommodation works packages were agreed. External Consultant appointed to develop the Specimen Design and design build tender documents for the Construction contract. Specimen Design was developed. The Tender documents for the Design Build Contract were prepared and the procurement of a suitable Construction Contractor was advanced and finalised. The Business Case was updated taking into account the tendered price of the successful tenderer. Approval sought from the DTTAS/DPER/Government to award the Design Build Construction Contract.</p>
2009 - 2014	<p>Phases 3 & 4 completed: Preliminary design and drainage design, Environmental Impact Assessment, Finalisation of all deliverables including the Project Appraisal Documents (PAG), CPO and EIA. Approval granted by the NRA to publish the Project. Project was published in December 2013 and issued to An Bord Pleanála. Project was approved by An Bord Pleanála following Oral Hearing Process. Land accommodation agreements were advanced. Land Valuer was appointed following NRA approval.</p>
2005-2007	<p>Preliminary work commenced for Phase 3 and 4 of the NRA Project Management Guidelines. Draft Environmental Impact Assessment documents prepared. Topographical and preliminary Ground Investigation undertaken for specified sections.</p>
2000 - 2002	<p>Phases 1, 2 and 3 of the NRA Project Management Guidelines progressed. Completion of Constraints Study Stage. Finalisation of route selection and preferred route adopted by elected members.</p>

Section B - Step 3: Analysis of Key Documents

The following section reviews the key documentation relating to appraisal, analysis and evaluation for the N4 Collooney to Castlebaldwin Road Project.

Project/Programme Key Documents	
Title	Details
N4 CCRD Business Case	Report updated and submitted to TII/DTTAS/DPER in Nov 2018.
N4 CCRD Cost Benefit Analysis Report	Report updated and submitted as part of the overall business case to TII/DTTAS/DPER in Nov 2018.
N4 CCRD Project Appraisal Balance Sheet	Balance Sheet prepared and submitted as part of the overall business case to TII/DTTAS/DPER in Nov 2018.

Key Document 1: N4 CCRD Business Case

This report forms the detailed business case for the N4 Collooney to Castlebaldwin Scheme and is valid for the period 2019 – 2023.

The purpose of the business case was to demonstrate the need and demand for the proposed project, present the preferred option for delivery and to outline the costs and proposed procurement strategy. This report has been prepared in accordance with the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER) requirements as set out in the Public Spending Code, the Department of Tourism, Transport and Sport's (DTTAS) Common Appraisal Framework for Transport Projects and Programmes (2016) and Transport Infrastructure Ireland's (TII) Project Appraisal Guidelines (2016).

The Business Case was developed in conjunction with the other Project Appraisal Guidelines Deliverables as set out below:

- Project Brief (PB);
- Traffic Modelling Report (TMR);
- Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) Reports in the form of a TUBA Report;
- Project Appraisal Balance Sheet (PABS).

Key Document 2: N4 CCRD Cost Benefit Analysis Report

The Cost Benefit Analysis was undertaken in support of the Phase 5 Works for the proposed Project using the TUBA (Transport Users Benefit Appraisal) and COBA-LT (Cost and benefits

to accidents light touch) programs in accordance with Transport Infrastructure Ireland's (TII) Project Appraisal Guidelines (PAG) dated, October 2016.

The TUBA program has been used to calculate the benefits and costs associated with travel time, vehicle operating cost and emissions changes. The change in the number of accidents and casualties as a result of the scheme has been assessed and quantified using the COBA-LT program.

Key Document 3: N4 CCRD Project Appraisal Balance Sheet

The scale of the scheme's impact is presented in the Project Appraisal Balance Sheet. This is largely defined as positive with Safety being defined as highly positive. The main benefits of the Scheme are as follows:

Economy:

The scheme is anticipated to return significant benefits for transport users, primarily through improvements to journey times and journey time reliability.

Safety:

The proposed scheme is predicted to deliver significant reductions in collisions and casualties by improving the carriageway alignment, rationalising junctions and road frontage, and reducing traffic on the existing N4 route. The segregated pedestrian / cyclist facilities being provided as part of the scheme will enhance the security of vulnerable road users

Environmental:

The scheme is expected to improve air quality within urban areas and reduce noise at locations along the existing route.

Integration:

The proposed scheme supports the objectives of the National Planning Framework (NPF), National Development Plan 2018-2027, Regional, County and Local Developments Plans to revitalise the Western Region. Sligo has been identified as a regional centre in the North West and improving access from the north-west to Dublin is identified as a key strategy of the NPF. National Strategic Outcome 2 includes for the "upgrading of the N4 and N5 routes" to improve accessibility to the North-West.

Accessibility and Social Inclusion:

Measures for pedestrians and cyclists will be provided as part of the improvement, enhancing accessibility for vulnerable users. It is anticipated that the reduction in traffic

volumes on local roads (particularly the existing N4 carriageway to the south of Collooney) will result in benefits to vulnerable road users (e.g. pedestrians, cyclists).

The construction of the proposed scheme will have the potential to raise the socio-economic profile of the N4 corridor resulting in an increase in population, houses prices and disposable income. Services and amenities (including jobs) will become more accessible to socially excluded communities through an improved road and public transport network.

Section B - Step 4: Data Audit

The following section details the data audit that was carried out for the Rural Development Programme. It evaluates whether appropriate data is available for the future evaluation of the project/programme.

Data Required	Use	Availability
N4 CCRD Business Case	To demonstrate the need and demand for the proposed project, present the preferred option for delivery and to outline the costs and proposed procurement strategy.	TII National Road Project Office
Financial records for income and expenditure including TII Project Report Pay runs	To record expenditure incurred and income recouped	TII National Road Project Office / Agresso FMS
Steering Committee Meeting Progress Reports and associated Minutes	To steer the Project in order to achieve its successful delivery. To monitor progress and expenditure of the Project.	TII National Road Project Office

Data Availability and Proposed Next Steps

The documentation outlined in the above table is available for inspection on request from the TII National Road Project Office of Sligo County Council. The necessary supporting documentation will be retained on file for future audit.

Section B - Step 5: Key Evaluation Questions

The following section looks at the key evaluation questions for the N4 Collooney to Castlebaldwin Road Project based on the findings from the previous sections of this report.

Does the delivery of the project/programme comply with the standards set out in the Public Spending Code? (Appraisal Stage, Implementation Stage and Post-Implementation Stage)

The in-depth check has demonstrated that controls are in place to provide adequate assurance that there is substantial compliance with the Public Spending Code.

Is the necessary data and information available such that the project/programme can be subjected to a full evaluation at a later date?

The necessary data is available to enable the project to be subjected to a full evaluation at a later date.

What improvements are recommended such that future processes and management are enhanced?

The TII has issued guidelines for all stages of such capital infrastructure projects which are consistent with the Public Spending Code requirements. Staff continue to follow the TII guidelines in the delivery of the project.

Section: In-Depth Check Summary

The following section presents a summary of the findings of this In-Depth Check on the N4 Collooney to Castlebaldwin Road Project.

Summary of In-Depth Check

The N4 Collooney to Castlebaldwin Road Project involves the design and construction of approximately 13.82km of Type 2 Dual Carriageway and approximately 0.89km of Standard Single Carriageway forming the N4 Mainline with a target cost of €140 million. Substantial completion achieved on the 25th June 2021. Delay incurred in closing out the Project as the appointed Contractor went into receivership and subsequently liquidation during the defects period. Estimated completion 2026.

The in-depth check covered the period 2019-2023 during which Phase 6 Construction and Implementation of the project was advanced. The contractor, Roadbridge, was appointed in January 2019. The scheme opened under Traffic management on 23rd August 2021 and fully opened on 18th of October 2021. Defects, remedial works, as builds and safety file continued to March 2022. In parallel to the above a number of landowner acquisition cases were resolved leading to approximately 97% agreed in total.

The in-depth check has demonstrated adherence with the broad principles of the Public Spending Code in relation to capital expenditure programmes. Overall, the N4 Collooney to Castlebaldwin road project which was reviewed is substantially in compliance with the requirements of the Public Spending Code.