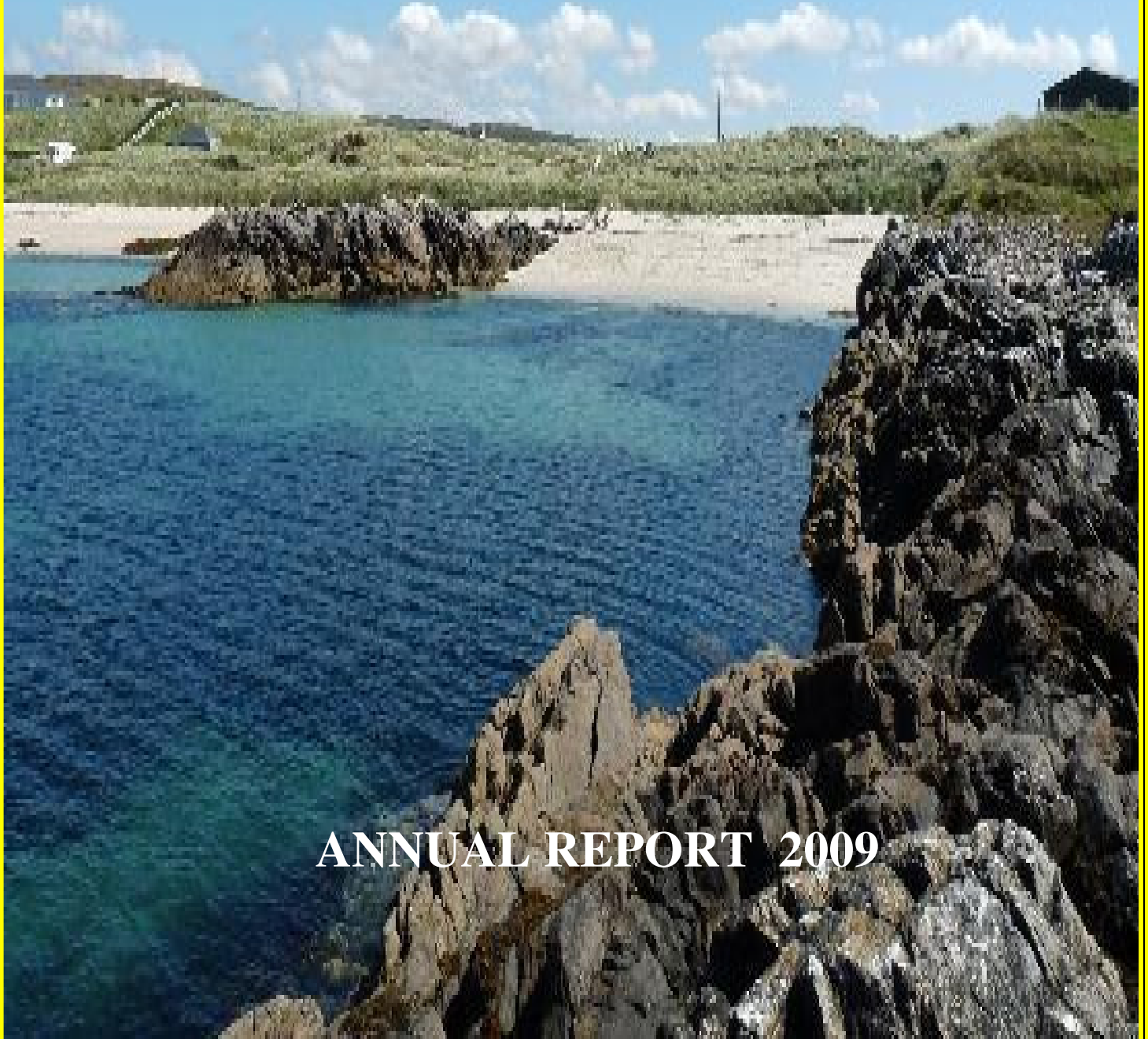




GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT 2009



**Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Áras an Chontae
Cnoc na Radharc
Gaillimhe**

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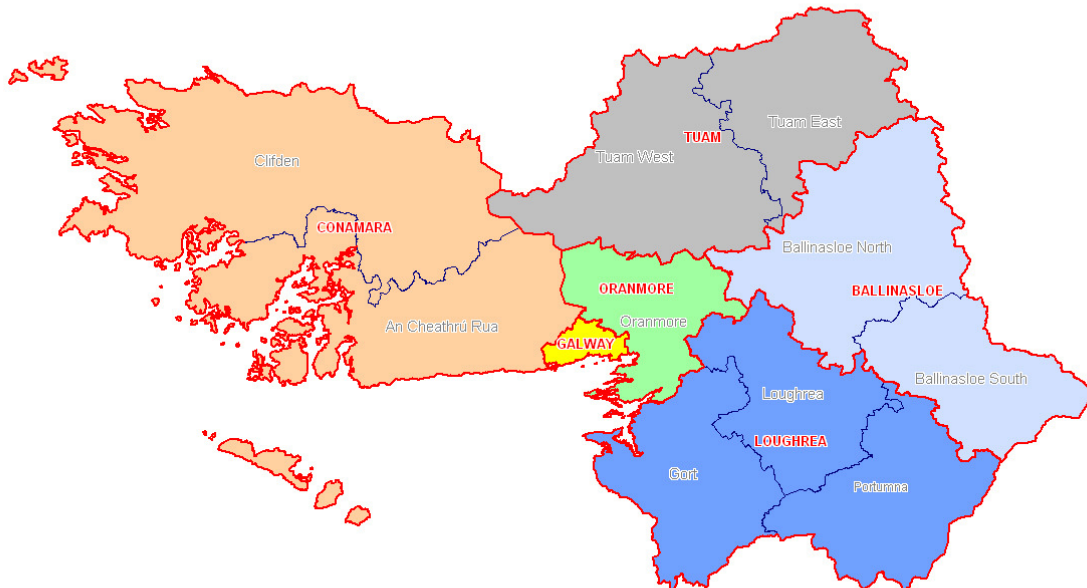
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<p>Important Note: Copies of the Annual Report are available on request in alternate formats contact : Corporate & Cultural Affairs Unit Aras an Chontae Prospect Hill Galway Tel: 091- 509000 or email general@galwaycoco.ie</p>

MISSION STATEMENT



TO DELIVER INCLUSIVE LOCAL AUTHORITY SERVICES FOR COUNTY GALWAY THROUGH EFFECTIVE CIVIC LEADERSHIP AND DEMOCRATIC REPRESENTATION



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR OF THE COUNTY OF GALWAY



County Galway Local Authorities are among the largest public service providers in the County with a responsibility and an obligation to provide a quality service to all our customers. We seek to continually improve the economic, social, cultural and physical infrastructure throughout the County for all our citizens. We provide a range of services throughout County Galway including housing, roads, water, planning, library, fire, motor tax, veterinary and we also provide higher education grant services for people in both Galway City and County.

Town Councils operate in Ballinasloe, Tuam and Loughrea to support the local democratic process and also provide a number of functions including housing, amenity services and local representation.

I welcome the publication of this Annual Report which records the progress of services delivered in 2009. Every year brings its own challenges and in 2009 we experienced a considerable reduction in both staffing and financial resources.

In conclusion, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the County Manager, her Management Team and staff for the tremendous work they carry out on a daily basis for the development of this County. I would also like to thank Councillor Peter Feeney who presided as Mayor for the first six months of the year and also thank my colleagues in the Council for their support and co-operation during my period as Mayor.

Is onóir mhór dom an tréimhse atá caite agam mar Mhéara ar an gContae breá seo. Ba mhaith liom mo bhuíochas a chuir in iúl as ucht an comhoibriú iontach a fuair mé ó fheidhmeannaigh na Comhairle, na Comhairleoirí eile agus pobal na Gaillimhe fré chéile. Cé go bhfuil dúshlán mhór romhainn táim cinnte go bhfuil ar chumas an Chontae seo tarraingt le chéile agus oibriú I dtreo todhchaí thairbheach dúinn ar fad.
“Ní neart go cur le chéile”

*Cllr Tom Mc Hugh
Mayor of the County of Galway*

MESSAGE FROM THE COUNTY MANAGER



As Galway County Manager I welcome the publication of this Annual Report which outlines the progress achieved in the delivery of our diverse range of services to the public in 2009. It is important at the outset to acknowledge the severe downturn in the national economy which had a profound impact locally with a reduction in Council funding and staffing numbers thereby increasing the demand on the resources available to the Council in 2009.

The year was a difficult operating environment for housing services with many funding schemes being curtailed. However the Housing Office continued to prioritise available funds and resources to ensure those most in need were responded to effectively for example through the Housing Adaption Grant, Mobility Aids Grant and Housing Aid for the Elderly Grant. The Rental Accommodation Scheme was also successful in providing an effective option along with traditional council houses in the provision of social housing.

The total expenditure on the Rural Water Programme was €18m, which reflects the continuing progress achieved in this area. The Programme plays a critical role in sustaining local communities through financial supports for new and existing Group Water Supply Schemes. The Water Conservation Programme Phase Two, which involves the extension of district metering, further leak detection and repair, commenced in 2009 and is targeted for completion in 2011. The programme will greatly enhance our water conservation. Continuing progress was also achieved under the Water Services Improvement Programme with several schemes completed including Dunmore, Kilkerrin, Leenane and Headford sewerage schemes and the extension of the Loughrea RWSS to Craughwell. Twelve other schemes will progress under the WSIP in the period 2010 – 2012 with an estimated cost in excess of €100m.

Our roads infrastructure was substantially enhanced with the completion of the Galway to Ballinasloe final stage of the M6 Motorway between Galway and Dublin making it the first inter-city Motorway link in the country. The completion of this project is a vital link in the continuing economic sustainability of County Galway.

The official opening of the Loughrea Regional Office took place in March and marks a substantial achievement for the provision of our service in that region. The range of other services provided across the County included, continued support for tourist development including advice and financial support to groups and local Chambers of Commerce to develop festivals and events. The provision of funding under the Amenity and Recreation Framework amounting to €2m and the Higher Education Grant Scheme administered by the Council in 2009 amounted to €13m. The Elected Members adopted a new County Development Plan in April which sets out an overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of the administrative area of Galway County Council for the period 2009 -2015.



A very significant happening in 2009 was the serious flooding which struck our County particularly in the areas of Claregalway, Ballinasloe and Gort which impacted negatively on so many householders and caused extreme hardship. I wish to acknowledge the enormous response from Galway County Council staff in assisting the communities in the face of very adverse conditions, together with the contribution of the Gardai, Army, Civil Defence, and Volunteers throughout the County.

I would like to acknowledge and sincerely thank the current Mayor Cllr. Tom Mc Hugh, former Mayor Cllr. Peter Feeney, all other Elected Members and all staff for their collective input to the progress achieved, in what was a very demanding year.

Martina Moloney
County Manager

GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS 2009

CONAMARA ELECTORAL AREA

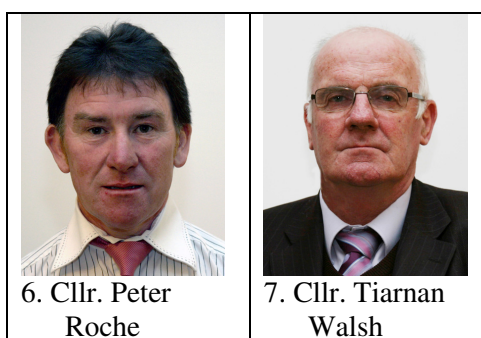
				
1.Comh. Seosamh O'Cuaig	2. Comh. Tomás Ó Curraoin	3.Cllr. Sean Kyne	4. Cllr. Eileen Mannion	5.Comh.Sean O'Tuairisg

	
6. Cllr. Seamus Walsh	7. Cllr. Thomas Welby

Councillors	Telephone	Mobile
1.Comh. Seosamh O'Cuaig, Aill na Brún,Cill Chiaráin	095 33428	087 2194247
2.Comh. Tomás Ó Curraoin, Na Fothraí Maola Thiar, Bearna		087 2933782
3.Cllr. Sean Kyne, Clydagh, Moycullen,		087 6137372
4.Cllr. Eileen Mannion, Sky Road, Clifden		087 9555645
5.Comh.Sean O'Tuairisg, Aille Thiar, Indreabhán,	091593084	086 3864179
6.Cllr. Seamus Walsh, Glann, Oughterard	091552726	087 0519884
7.Cllr. Thomas Welby, Cregg, Oughterard,	091552959	087 2855676

LOUGHREA ELECTORAL AREA**Councillors**

	Telephone	Mobile
1.Cllr. Michael Fahy, Caherduff, Ardrahan	091635177	087 2456000
2.Cllr. Peter Feeney, Ballydavid, Athenry	091844735	087 6812403
3.Cllr. Gerry Finnerty, Ballymurphy, Gort.	091 632167/633291	087 2674295
4.Cllr. Pat Hynes, "Dun Gaire", Gort Road, Loughrea	091842399	087 2404404
5.Cllr. Michael 'Moegie' Maher,Clostoken, Loughrea	091 842968	087 0409208
6.Cllr. Jimmy Mc Clearn, Tynagh Road, Killimor,	090 9676235	087 2548723
7.Cllr. Bridie Willers, Grannagh, Ardrahan	091635425	086 0847270

TUAM ELECTORAL AREA**Councillors**

	Telephone	Mobile
1.Cllr. Sean Canney, Claretuam, Tuam	093 55367	086 2513639
2.Cllr. Michael Connolly, Moyloughmore, Moylough	090 9679465	087 6829049
3.Cllr. Mary Hoade, Main Street, Headford,	093 35763	087 2255979
4.Cllr. Colm Keaveney, Kilcreevanty, Tuam	093 60586	087 6776812
5.Cllr. Tom McHugh, Kilcolghans, Tuam	093 28486	086 2574192
6.Cllr. Peter Roche, Moyne, Abbeyknockmoy, Tuam	093 49187	087 8251470
7.Cllr. Tiarnan Walsh, Ardeevin, Williamstown	094 9659046	086-8514674

BALLINASLOE ELECTORAL AREA**Councillors**

	Telephone	Mobile
1.Cllr. Tim Broderick, Corraneena, Kilconnell, Ballinasloe;	090 9686896	087 2728058
2.Cllr. Paul Connaughton, Mountbellew, Ballinasle		087 2354682
3.Cllr. Dermot Connolly, Glennavaddogue, Aughrim	090 9642986	0860886160
4.Cllr. Tomás Mannion, Shruffane, Caltra, Ballinasloe	090 9678212	087 6787490
5.Cllr. Michael Mullins, Cleaghmore, Ballinasloe	090 9642728	087 2607405

ORANMORE ELECTORAL AREA**Councillors**

	Telephone	Mobile
1.Cllr. Liam Carroll, Frenchfort, Oranmore		087 6488684
3.Cllr. Jim Cuddy, Lydican, Carnmore, Oranmore	091798136	087 6360242
3.Cllr. Jarlath McDonagh, "Teach Shligigh" Turloughmore	091841411	087 2346012
4.Cllr. Malachy Noone, Crusheen, Claregalway	091 798297	087 1333711

GENERAL INFORMATION

Galway County Council is responsible for the administrative area of County Galway, excluding Galway City and Ballinasloe Town Council area. The Council is responsible for the planning, design and construction of roads, water supply schemes, drainage facilities, housing, fire stations, libraries and burial grounds. It is the custodian of the environment and through its planning and environment policies seeks to enhance the county while protecting its unique character and atmosphere. It also plays an active role in the development of the county's industrial, business, social, arts, heritage and cultural affairs.

In accordance with the Irish system of local government, which encompasses both democratic representation and public administration, Galway County Council as a local authority performs both a representational and operational role.

The **representational role** of Galway County Council is performed directly by the elected members of the Council. There are thirty members (Councillors), who are elected from five local electoral areas:-

Ballinasloe	5 members
Conamara	7 members
Loughrea	7 members
Oranmore	4 members
Tuam	7 members

These members are elected for a period of five years and local elections were held in 2009. The Council elects a Mayor from its Members at its Annual Meeting.

The functions performed by the elected Members are called "**reserved functions**". These lay down the framework of policy, under which the County Manager operates.

Such functions include:

- adoption of annual Budget
- making or varying the County Development Plan
- adoption of Scheme of Letting Priorities of local authority housing
- making, amending and revoking bye-laws
- approval for borrowing money
- declaration of roads to be public roads

The Council makes its decisions by resolution at its meetings.

The County Manager and her staff perform the **operational role** of Galway County Council. They are responsible for the day to day administration of the County Council. The County Manager performs, what are called, the “**executive functions**” and the Manager’s decisions are made by written “Managers Order”.

These functions include:

- the letting of houses
- the granting or refusal of planning permissions
- the appointment, of staff etc.,

The County Manager, in making decisions, must act in a way that is consistent with the policy, which has been established by the elected members while, at the same time, advising the members in relation to the performance of their reserved functions.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE OF GALWAY LOCAL AUTHORITIES

According to the Local Government Act 2001, a primary function of the local authority is to provide a forum for the democratic representation of the local community and provide the community with civic leadership. In addition, the local authority has responsibility for the provision of a range of services, regulatory and enforcement functions.

The thirty elected representatives lay down the framework for the policy under which a Management Team operates. A Corporate Policy Group and five Strategic Policy Committees formulate and agree policy. The SPCs comprise of elected councillors and voluntary/sectoral representatives who review and formulate policy across the range of Council functions. A Management Team consisting of Directors of Services and County Manager operate in an executive capacity.

Corporate Policy Group (CPG)

The Corporate Policy Group comprises the Mayor, Chairs of the Strategic Policy Committees and is supported by the County Manager. The CPG links the work of the different SPCs and act as a ‘cabinet’ to provide a forum where policy positions affecting the whole Council can be agreed for submission to the full Council. The CPG advises and assists the Council and provides input on matters of general concern. It also has a role to monitor the overall performance of the local authority.

Strategic Policy Committee (SPC)

The SPC structure makes available to elected representatives a framework and opportunity to fulfil their role as overall policy makers and furthermore, enables opportunities for partnerships with local interests and community representatives. SPCs provide a forum for better and enhanced capacity for involvement in policy formulation, review and evaluation, with inbuilt assistance of relevant sectoral interests and supported by a Director of Services. Five SPCs have been established in the Council:

- Housing Fire & Emergency Services
- Roads and Transportation
- Planning, Economic Development & Community
- Environment, & Water Services
- Corporate Affairs and Cultural

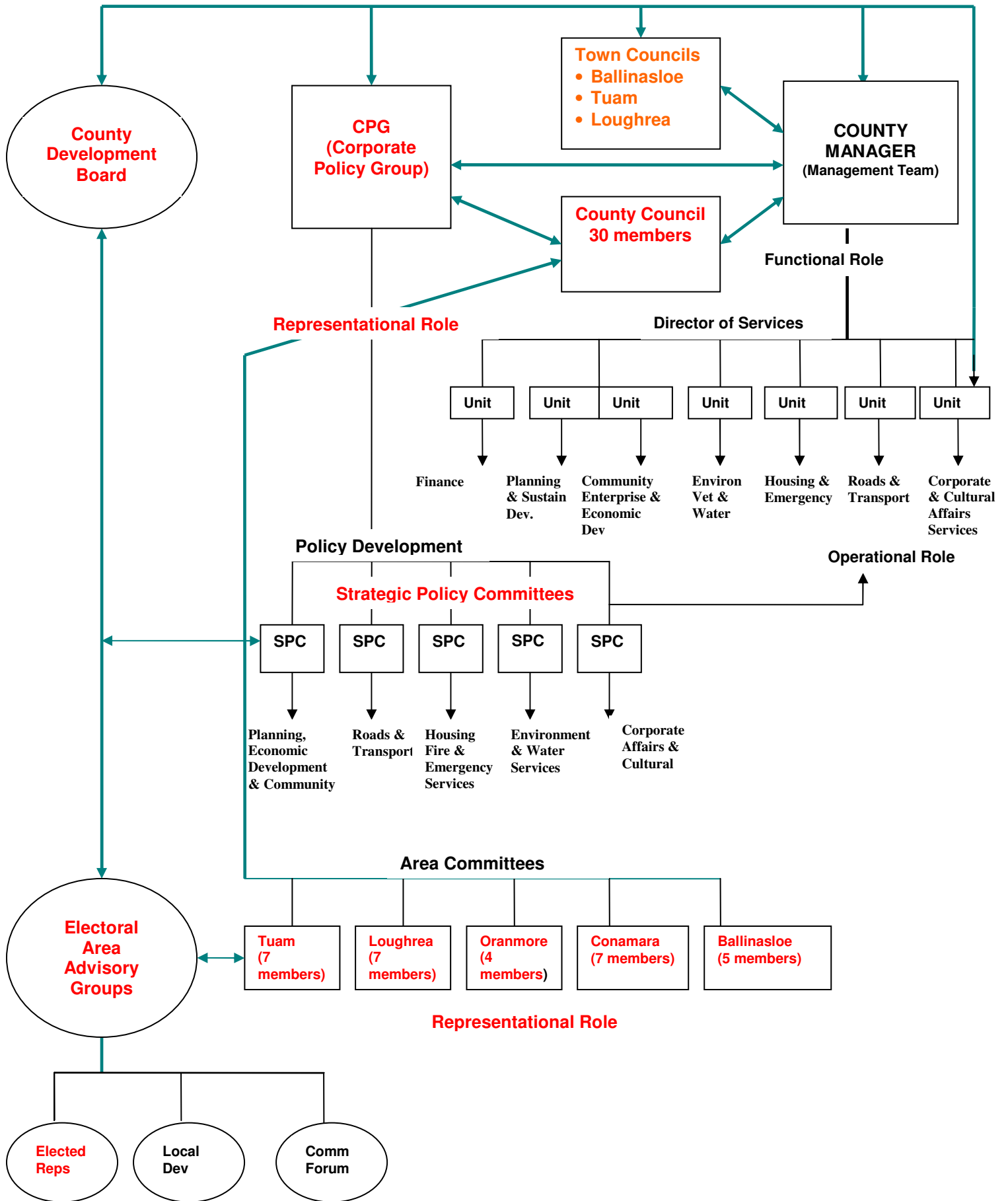
Area Committees

Each Electoral Area of the County is served by the Area Committee comprising the elected representatives from that area. The Area Committee structure enables an area/local-based dimension to the delivery of services and local operational issues of concern. The Area Committee deals with matters relating to the operational delivery of local authority services.

Town Councils

Town Council representative and policy-making structures operate in Ballinasloe, Tuam and Loughrea. Each Town Council has 9 members. Town Councils perform important representational functions and articulate the views of their areas in relation to policy and operational matters. Ballinasloe Town Council is the third largest town authority in the Country in geographical terms and in addition to providing essential services such as public lighting, street cleaning, social housing, development control and physical planning, the Town Council is involved in a wide range of other activities such as the provision and maintenance of recreational and amenity facilities, casual trading, the October Fair and tidy town.

GALWAY LOCAL AUTHORITIES ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE 2009



CORPORATE THEMES

The Corporate Plan 2005-2009 serves as the strategic framework for the future actions of the Council for that period and is structured across a series of Themes that reflect a cross-cutting system of service delivery. The six Corporate Themes, corresponding Aims and Core Objectives as identified in the Plan are presented in the table below.

No:	Theme:	Aim:	Core Objectives:
1.	Achieving Balanced and Sustainable Development	Further develop the county in a balanced manner through the provision of essential infrastructure and progressive planning that meets the needs of industry and communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Achieving Balanced Development - Promoting Economic Generation - Building Essential Infrastructures
2.	Preserving and Enhancing the Environment	Manage the natural heritage of the county to meet the needs of local communities in the present, while ensuring that future generations can sustain a living in harmony with their environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environmental Sustainability & Promoting Sustainable Development - Valuing and Conserving our Heritage
3.	Developing Sustainable Communities	Strengthen local communities through the provision of community assets and resources through engagement and proactive support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Building Sustainable Communities - Providing Community Services, Outreach and Education - Supporting Community Development - Protecting the Community
4.	Maximising Social Inclusion and Local Governance	Improve the quality of life for all citizens of the County through a more responsive and inclusive service that recognises and supports communities to play an active part in society.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Developing Active Citizenship, Civic Leadership and Representation - Maximising Social Inclusion & Social Capital
5.	Supporting Cultural Development	Develop a County where the Irish language and culture are cherished and where cultural diversity is celebrated and participation in the arts is encouraged.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cultural and Tourism Development - Promoting the Irish Language
6.	Maximising Organisational Efficiency and Effectiveness	Maximise the effectiveness of the local authority to plan and deliver its services based on efficiency and accountability and on meeting the needs of its staff and customers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Optimise Human Resource Potential - Quality Service Delivery & Customer Care - Organisational Effectiveness - Maximising Efficiency & Resources - Working in Partnership

The progress and achievements of the organisation for 2009 are presented in relation to the Corporate Themes under each Unit heading in the following sections.



CORPORATE AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS UNIT

Mr. Kevin Kelly Director of Services

The Corporate and Cultural Affairs Unit is committed to the development of a positive corporate image through the provision of efficient professional and competent services to the Council, Senior Management and the general public. The Unit encompasses a wide variety of Council services ranging from Corporate Affairs to Information Systems, Library Services, Internal Audit, Legal Services, Human Resource Management and support to the Council in the form of Corporate Secretariat.

Progress and achievements of the Unit for 2009 are presented below appropriate to the relevant Themes contained in the Corporate Plan 2005 -2009.

Theme: DEVELOPING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES PROGRAMME

- **New Mobile Library:** A grant was received from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government for the purchase of a new Mobile Library. Plans were drawn up and the tender was awarded
- **Gort Library:** The refurbishment and automation of Gort Library was completed.
- **Ballinasloe Library:** Preliminary plans were drawn up for the new Ballinasloe Library, which is to be located in the old Mercy Convent Building which has been purchased by Ballinasloe Town Council.

The positive experiences provided by the library service in 2009 were important during the negativity of an economic downturn. Across the County, libraries provided free events and free space to individuals and community groups. In our libraries, everyone, and especially the most vulnerable, found a warm, welcoming environment. There are books, newspapers and CDs, as well as internet access points, often help with free computer lessons, news of local talks and events, children's programmes and helpful lectures for different interest groups.

The traditional role of the public library - in buying on behalf of the community that which individual members could not personally afford – is more important than ever at a time when individual disposable incomes are being restricted.

- **636,000 books were borrowed from 29 Branch Libraries throughout the City and County in 2009 (an increase of 16% on the 2007 figures).**
- ***More than half a million visits to Libraries were recorded.***

LIBRARY SERVICE EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EVENTS

Despite the staff embargo and a reduced book fund, staff worked extremely hard to provide the best possible library service. Many events were organised with local arts groups, with the Arts Officer and with other groups in the Community. All events in the library are free. The following is a selection of the many events which took place during the year.

-Library Reading Groups continued to flourish, there are now 16 Reading Groups in 13 Branch Libraries.

-Local Arts Festivals such as Clifden, Ballinasloe, Tuam, Dunmore, Loughrea, Portumna, Gort and Inishbofin are supported by their local libraries with many events taking place in the local library.

Clifden Library had 13 events over the week of the Clifden Arts Festival in September.

-Over the Edge – Open Reading is held in Galway City Library on the last Thursday of the month. It is in its 6th year and attracts audiences of 100 plus every month. It is run by Kevin Higgins and Susan Millar du Mars.

-The East Galway Art Trail is now an established event organised by Mary Dillon, Executive Librarian, Ballinasloe and by Joyce Little, a local Ballinasloe Artist. Art and Photography Exhibitions were held in 5 Branch Libraries - Ballinasloe, Portumna, Killimor, Eyrecourt and Woodford. The exhibitions bring art into the community and help artists to display their work and to connect with people.

Events held in conjunction with the Council Arts Office:

- John Faulkner, Singer in residence with Galway County Council and Galway City Council, entertained and informed people on the Galway Song Tradition in Gort, Tuam, Woodford and Dunmore Libraries.

- The Con Tempo Quartet, Galway County Council and Galway City Council's Musicians in Residence, performed a very successful lunchtime concert on a monthly basis during 2009 in Galway City Library. They also performed a very successful Christmas Concert in the city library with the Sanus Choir conducted by Audrey Corbett.

- The Gombeens, Jonathan Gunning and Miguel Barcelo, are two self confessed social clowns who spread the word of a more just society through laughter. Their show *Stories of a Yellow Town* was created from interviews with both Brazilian and Irish residents of Gort.

They performed the play in 10 Branch Libraries - Gort, Loughrea, Ballinasloe, Tuam, Dunmore, Athenry, Glenamaddy, Westside, Ballybane, Galway City and Oranmore. Classes from local schools attended the performances and were very enthusiastic.

The library is a special place for children and our programme of promotion and encouraging children to read continued during the year.

- The *One Book, One Tow - from Tuam to Terebithia* was launched in Tuam Library on the 8th January. It was a project organised by a committee of local teachers and the local library with the purpose of encouraging reading and improving literacy levels. The whole town became involved, including the *Tuam Herald*, the Earwig Theatre Company, the Saw Doctors, and local businesses. The launch was recorded and shown on the RTE television programme *The Den*.
- *Bridge to Terebithia* by Katherine Paterson was the teenage book chosen. Hundreds of copies of the book were purchased and made available through the local library and local schools. In the Tuam Library there were readings, workshops, and art projects depicting Terebithia. The project culminated in a float in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Tuam.
- The *Summer Reading Challenge* is now an established event in the Library and School Calendars. It was held during July and August. 2,700 children signed up for the Challenge. 1,800 were presented with Reading Certificates at an awards ceremony in their local Library. Mayor of the County Cllr Tom Mc Hugh presented the Certificates in 5 Branch Libraries - Tuam, Dunmore, Athenry, Ballinasloe and Killimor. Councillor Sean Kyne presented the Certificates in Spiddal Library.
- *The Three Rivers Storytelling Festival* in May was celebrated in the following East Galway Libraries - Ballinasloe, Portumna, Loughrea, Killimor, Eyrecourt and Woodford. It is organised by Ballinasloe Library in conjunction with Athlone Institute of Technology and Athlone Library. It is facilitated by Liz Warren, A College Lecturer from Phoenix, Arizona who has been coming to Athlone for the last five years. Storytellers from England, Germany, America and Ireland travelled to the various venues telling stories.
- The *Children's Book Festival* was celebrated in October in 13 Branch Libraries. A variety of events were held from competitions to author visits, poetry, art workshops etc.
- Galway City Library cooperated with the **Baboro Festival** in hosting had a number of events.
- Anne Heussf, author of teenage books in the Irish Language, spent the week in Carraroe Library working with 6th Class from the local Primary School. This was sponsored by Foras na Gaeilge.

RECREATION AND AMENITY FACILITIES

Under the Recreation and Amenity Framework €2m was allocated to 12 groups to develop community-based all weather pitches and 9 of these facilities have been completed to date at Belclare/Sylane, Headford, Oranmore, Clonfert, Skehana, Oughterard, Kinvarra, Gort and Portumna. Funding was also made available to groups to develop walking routes and trails and works were carried out at Dunmore, Moylough, Portumna, Carrabane, and Kilchreest/Castledaly. Under the Passive Recreation Area funds were allocated and works were carried out in Glinsk and Aghrim.

- The Department of Arts, Sports and Tourism confirmed grant funding for Loughrea Swimming Pool and the Council continued consultation with the successful tenderer with a view to commencing construction of the facility.
- The Council provided funding to Athenry Arts and Heritage Ltd for the operation of the Athenry Heritage Centre in 2009. Aughrim and Gort Heritage Centre were opened during the summer season.
- As part of the Play Policy, Galway County Council provided assistance to playgrounds through direct funding and/or provision of insurance during 2009 in Ballygar, Lettermullen, An Cheathrú Rua, Dunmore, Kilconly, Leenane and Moylough.
- The operation of the Tuam Leisure Centre and Swimming Pool was tendered and a new operator was appointed.

HIGHER EDUCATION GRANTS

The number of students assisted by the Council under the Higher Education Grants Scheme for the academic year 2008/09 was 2,450. Expenditure for 2009 was €12.9m for the 2008/09 academic year

COMMUNITY WARDEN SCHEME

The Community Wardens are a uniformed service of the local authority with a number of roles across a range of local authority functions including;

- Enforcement e.g. statutory traffic offences, litter offences, abandoned vehicles, waste disposal/illegal dumping, dog licences and casual trading;
- Monitoring e.g. housing estates, public amenities such as recycling centres, bring banks, parks, beaches and playgrounds,
- Assistance e.g. to tourists, elderly, schools, neighbourhoods, communities; gardai and state agencies,
- Observing and Reporting on all the above.

The following table shows Community Warden outcomes under the various activities for 2009

HEADING	SECTION	ACTION TAKEN
Abandoned/burnt out vehicles	Environment Section	470 vehicles removed
Stationary traffic offences	Roads Section	3950 Fines Issued
Litter offences	Environment Section	749 fines issued 38 case referred to court
Waste disposal/ Illegal dumping	Environment Section	120 statutory notices issued under the Waste Management Act. 298 Clean Ups by the Council

Casual Trading	General Purposes	1648 Inspections carried out
Dog Licences	General Purposes	5546 Inspections carried out

PRESIDENTIAL VISIT

President Mary McAleese and her husband Dr. Martin McAleese visited Claregalway, Gort and Ballinasloe in December 2009 to meet local communities affected by the flooding. The President expressed gratitude to the volunteers, neighbours and friends who had shown exceptional community spirit to help individuals and families survive the crisis. The President fully acknowledged the great efforts of Galway County Council staff and other statutory organisations.



President Mary McAleese and her husband Dr. Martin McAleese meeting members of the local community in Claregalway.



President Mary McAleese meeting members of the local community in Gort and with her husband Dr. Martin McAleese meeting members of the local community in Ballinasloe

Theme: MAXIMISING SOCIAL INCLUSION AND LOCAL GOVERNANCE.

REGISTER OF ELECTORS

The publication date for the Register of Electors is the 15th February each year. The Electoral Act also provides for the preparation and publication of a Supplement to the Register. The closing date for entry on the supplement is 14 working days before an election or referendum. The number of electors registered is 130,110. The Local Elections and European Elections were held on the 11th June, 2009. The number of electors on the supplement for the Local Elections was 2,563.

Thirty Candidates were elected to Galway County Council in five Electoral Areas.

Ballinasloe	5;
Loughrea	7;
Tuam	7;
Oranmore	4;
Conamara	7.



Newly elected Galway County Councillors with Co. Manager Ms Martina Moloney and on her left Mayor of the County, Cllr. Tom Mc Hugh and Deputy Mayor, Cllr. Bridie Willers

CORPORATE PLANNING AND SUPPORT

- Ethics Register – the Register for Members and relevant staff was updated during the year.
- Corporate Policy Group – The Group held five meetings in 2009
- Corporate Affairs & Cultural Strategic Policy Committee also met during 2009

CIVIC RECEPTIONS:



Mayor of the County Cllr. Tom McHugh and County Manager Ms. Martina Moloney with attendees at the civic reception for the Galway Minors All Ireland Hurling Champions 2009 held in County Hall.



Ms. Olive Loughnane, Silver Medallist in the 2009 IAAF World Championship 20km Walk accepting her presentation from Mayor of the County, Cllr. Tom McHugh and County Manager, Ms. Martina Moloney at a civic reception held in her honour in County Hall.



Presentations were made in County Hall on the 23rd November 2009 to:
The members of the **Maigh Cuilinn Handball Club** who won the under 16 All Ireland Singles, the under 17 World Champions Singles & Doubles and the over 50's World Champion Singles in 2009 and also to the members of the **Micheál Breathnach Handball Club** who won the Ladies C Four Wall Singles World Championship, the under 13 One Wall World Championship and the under 13 Four Wall World Championship in 2009

THE INDIAN AMBASSADOR'S VISIT



The Indian Ambassador, P.S. Rajhavan and his wife Barbara visited Galway County Council and met with the Mayor, Cllr. Tom McHugh and the County Manager, on 9th October, 2009

ACCESSIBILITY

Under the National Disability Strategy, Galway County Council received €400,000 funding from the Department of Environment, Heritage & Local Government. The funding was utilised for the ongoing implementation of the Disability Action Plan 2007 – 2015. Considerable progress was made to address accessibility in towns and villages and a full programme of work completed.

- Implementation of access improvement works delivered across the five Electoral Areas in twelve audited towns. The works included the provision of new footpaths, pedestrian crossings & facilities, tactile paving, signs, drop kerbing, re-grading surfaces and disabled parking.
- Continuing investment in access to services through the purchase of audio books on compact disc and cassette and large print books for the library services.
- Additional signage to libraries.
- Continued investment in accessibility of the website.
- Purchase and installation of two new public access terminals.

A presentation on the progress of the Council's Disability Action Plan was delivered to the Galway Network of People with Disabilities in Ireland (PWDI) on December 3rd 2009.

Theme: SUPPORTING CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

PROMOTING THE IRISH LANGUAGE 2009

Galway County Council is committed to improving service through Irish and have continued with the statutory obligations under the Official Languages Act 2003 and the implementation of Scéim Teanga 2005 -2008. The Council also looks to support and promote the Irish language throughout the County.

The following activities were achieved:

- *Irish courses*, language awareness and language support material was made available to staff of Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe to enhance the provision of services through Irish. Many staff successfully undertook the *Teastas Eorpach sa Ghaeilge* qualification during the year.
- The *East Galway Language Surveys Project*, initiated to identify the Irish language needs of towns in East Galway, progressed significantly with the launch and publication of *'The Use of Irish in Loughrea, Results of a Sociolinguistic Survey'* in association with Gaeilge Locha Riach and Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge.
- *Seoidín* - Collaborative project with Coláiste Chroí Mhuire, An Spidéal, An Chomhairle um Oideachais Gaeilge & Gaelscolaíochta and Údarás na Gaeltachta in which a compilation of short stories in Irish were produced by students, teachers, parents for use by children in classes 5 & 6 to encourage and assist Irish language reading at school and at home.

- *Cear dlann Léitheoireachta do dhaoine óga* – Collaborative project with Coláiste Chroí Mhuire, An Spidéal & Gaelscoileanna in which 150 national school students from Cois Fharráige were brought to a reading symposium through Irish run by Transition Year students to encourage the reading of Irish.
- *Do Sheans ar CD 2009* - Annual collaborative awareness project with County Galway VEC and Gaeilge Locha Riach inviting national and secondary schools in East Galway to compose new songs in Irish or create new arrangements of traditional songs. The CD ‘*Ár Seans*’ will be published in early ‘10.
- *Coiste Logainmneacha Chontae na Gaillimhe* met regularly to deal with naming of developments and other placename issues.
- *Language Planning* - Participation in the preparation process for a Language Plan for An Spidéal continued and it is due to be published in May 2010.
- *Scéim Teanga Údaráis Áitiúla Chontae na Gaillimhe 2009/2012* – The draft of the new Scéim was completed and sent to An Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe & Gaeltachta for discussion and approval. The 2005-2008 Scéim Teanga remains in force until a new Scéim is agreed.



The launch of the Sociolinguistic Survey of the Use of Irish in Loughrea completed by Galway County Council, Gaeilge Locha Riach and Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge

Theme: MAXIMISING ORGANISATIONAL EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS

INFORMATION SYSTEMS

The I.S. Section provides ICT equipment maintenance and support services throughout the Organisation. Considerable resources have been invested in the following projects in 2009.

- Server virtualisation has been ongoing throughout the year with the aim of increasing resilience and uptime and reducing license & maintenance costs.
- Microsoft product licences have been purchased outright to reduce annual rental fees.
- ICT infrastructure in the new Tuam Area Office was commissioned.
- Developed and deployed a budget & estimate monitoring package to enable swifter and more accurate financial forecasting.
- A new intranet site was created and launched enabling staff to have easier access to internal information.
- eMail archiving was introduced to reduce data loss & counter the risk of data leakage
- A new Case Management system was implemented in the legal department
- Database consolidation continues to reduce license overhead and improve maintenance and backup routines
- Analysis of Print Services costs & a recommendation to tender for these services to reduce costs was completed.
- Integration of Motor Tax network into Galway Co. Co. network thus reducing overall costs to the State.

INTERNAL AUDIT

Internal Audit is an independent Section, attached to the Corporate and Cultural Affairs Unit, offering a consultancy service to management and the organisation as a whole. The Section carried out audits and reviews through its annual Audit Plan, which is drawn up in conjunction with the Management Team and approved by the Audit Committee. The audits listed in the plan include an examination of the internal control systems in operation, to ascertain their effectiveness in safeguarding the interests of the organisation and the protection of its assets. Its function is also to ensure that Galway County Council is delivering Value for Money and is fully compliant with rules and regulations.

Audit Reports

During 2009 a total of 9 audit reports as taken from the annual Audit Plan were completed and presented to the Audit Committee for discussion. The status of the recommendations contained in these reports will be reviewed during 2010

Audit Report Reviews

A review of the status of all the recommendations made in the audit reports completed during 2008 was carried out and relevant staff attended various Audit Committee meetings to provide clarification on issues raised.

A large number of the recommendations contained in the audit reports have now been implemented with work ongoing on the remainder.

Checking Function

Checking in the relevant revenue collection areas continued throughout 2009
A review of internal controls was undertaken with work ongoing in this area.

An analysis of expenditure on overtime and allowances was carried out at various periods during 2009

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

The Human Resources Department plays a supporting role in the achievement of strategic and business objectives by the Council, promotes a positive working environment, equality of opportunity for all employees and a culture of mutual respect in Galway County Council. The Human Resources Department engages proactively with staff in promoting their personal and career development so that they can reach their potential and contribute fully to the achievement of the Council's strategic and business objectives also. Line Managers across the organisation are supported on a daily basis in their human resource management roles. The Human Resources Department administer and manage the delivery of statutory and non-statutory staff welfare policies and procedures.

Among the key activities of the Human Resources Department is its focus on workforce planning, recruiting staff, training and development of staff, staff welfare, and industrial relations as well as creating an equitable, consultative, supportive and safe working environment:

Staff Training and Development

The requirement for a flexible and highly skilled workforce is recognized by the Training Unit in tailoring training and staff development programmes with the co-operation and participation of staff through the Learning and Development Plan. This Plan is developed annually and informed by the Performance Management and Development System. In 2009, **4.50%** of total payroll costs were spent on training and development and **2052.00** training days were provided to staff.

Particular emphasis was placed this year on Health & Safety requirements, Supervisory Skills, Technical Skills and on-the-job Training. A number of new courses were rolled out in 2009 as follows: 1-day Health & Safety at Roadworks, Chlorination training, CSCS Location of Underground Services, Energy Efficiency and Energy MAP training. Ten employees undertook a Biodiversity/Natural Heritage training course. Twenty one staff members undertook the Teastas Eorpach (Euro Cert in Irish) for 2008/2009.

Galway County Council's commitment to training and staff development ensures that staff has the necessary skills and competencies to respond to the ongoing challenges of providing a customer focused, cost effective service.



Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge: Successful participants of Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge who were presented with their Certificates in 2009. Rannpháirtithe rathúla do Theastas Eorpach na Gaeilge ar bronnadh a gcuid teastais orthu le gairid.



IPA Graduation: Dr. Philip Byrne, Senior Local Government Specialist of IPA, with members of staff of Galway County Council, Caroline Philbin, Bernadette O' Connor, Sean Kilroy, James Murphy and Mary Duane at the presentation of Certificates in Local Government Studies on 2nd December, 2009.

Staff Recruitment

The Human Resources Department processed applications for various positions during 2009. Vacancies were advertised in the local and/or national press and also on the Council's website: www.galwaycoco.ie and on the Local Government website www.localgovernmentjobs.ie. In addition, certain promotional opportunities occurred in-house and interviews were arranged to have these positions filled. In total, 18 recruitment competitions were held during the year and 293 candidates were interviewed for the various positions.

Number of Employees at 31st December, 2009	
Managerial	7
Clerical/Administrative	356
Engineering/Technical/Professional	125
Operational and Outdoor	567
Employees not under the aegis of Department of Environment and Local Government	194
Contract/Temporary/Seasonal	98

Retirement – 2009

During 2009 a total of sixty-three employees retired from the service of Galway County Council. An Incentivised Scheme of Early Retirement was introduced by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in May 2009 offering staff an incentive to retire between the age of 50 years and 60 years. 17 staff members retired under this scheme. Regrettably, one staff member died in service.

The Management and Staff of Galway County Council would like to take this opportunity to thank all the retirees for their years of dedicated service and commitment to Galway County Council.

Industrial Relations

The Human Resources Department have a policy of fostering good industrial relations at corporate level and this continued during 2009. Every effort to resolve staff issues, at the earliest possible stage, was made in an open and co-operative manner with Trade Unions, through the Partnership process and the Handling Significant Change mechanism.

Staff Welfare

The Human Resources Department continue to provide many staff welfare schemes. Details of these schemes are available on our intranet and communicated in detail to all new employees on joining the staff of the Council.

LEGAL ADVISORY SERVICES

The Law Agent's Section provided legal services for all programme areas, including the purchase and sale of properties, conduct of litigation including District Court prosecutions, Circuit and High Court litigation, including judicial review. In particular, the Compulsory Acquisition and preparation for oral hearing and arbitration of lands required for inter-urban routes was a substantial area of work. A system of quarterly/bi-annual meetings was set up with all Units of the Council, in order to aid planning of work in progress and anticipated work.

OFFICE ACCOMMODATION

Continuous progress was made during the year in the provision and improvement of office accommodation:

- Tuam Regional Offices were completed and opened to the public in May 2009
- The official opening of Loughrea Regional Office was held on 31st March 2009.



Bishop of Clonfert Dr. John Kirby, Mayor of the County Cllr. Peter Feeney, County Manager Ms. Martina Moloney and Loughrea Town Mayor Cllr. Gabriel Burke at the official opening of the Loughrea Regional Office.

MANAGEMENT OF RECORDS AND ARCHIVES 2009

In compliance with our Record Management Policy the following activities were conducted in 2009

- Monitored the environmental conditions of the archives and endeavoured to ensure their continued protection, preservation and management.
- Provided researchers with access to the archives and assisted with internal and external research queries.
- Processed and colour scanned valuation lists (Phase 3)
- Continued our programme of obtaining security backup and reference microfilm of collections.
- Continued our programme of processing archive collections
- Managed conservation work of fragile items
- Provided records management advice and assistance to several sections, drafted and endeavoured to obtain agreement on file classifications and retention schedules for several.
- Continued the management of non-current record retrievals & returns: 1,005 controlled recalls carried out during 2009.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION. - 2009

A total of 81 requests were received by Galway County Council during 2009 under the Freedom of Information Act 1997 as amended. Of these, 10 sought access to personal information and 71 sought access to non-personal information. The following table shows an analysis of the decisions made on these requests:

Decision	Number
Requests Granted	35
Requests Part-Granted	28
Requests Refused	18

WORKPLACE PARTNERSHIP

The Workplace Partnership Committee consists of management representatives working together with staff/union representatives in dealing with employment, organisational and customer service matters. The following activities occurred during 2009:

- Handling Significant Change Through Partnership Forum meetings continued.
- Completed phase two of three RTL Schemes in Oughterard, Loughrea and Oranmore.
- Bi-monthly publications of organisation newsletter.
- LANPAG Education Grant Scheme administered through the Partnership Committee to six successful candidates.
- New staff Travel and Subsistence Policy agreed and implemented.
- Amendments to sick pay procedure agreed.
- New Apprentice appointed in machinery workshop.
- Organisational Efficiency, Effectiveness and Cost Reduction Partnership Working Group Report agreed by the Partnership Committee and presented to Management Team containing some fifty recommendations.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Ongoing implementation of The Customer Service Action Plan 2005 – 2009 was co-ordinated by the Customer Services Officers Group through their bi-monthly meetings. A specific Customer Service Action Plan for 2009 was developed which resulted in a number of initiatives being further progressed.

- New Regional Office opened in Tuam.
- Two new Public Access Terminals purchased for installation in Tuam and Loughrea Regional Offices to provide universal customer access to on-line motor tax applications.
- Enhanced the customer service complaints procedure
- Website continually updated and information reviewed
- New Area Offices Customer Services sub-group established.
- Introduction of Bill Pay as an additional rent payment method



ENVIRONMENT, VETERINARY & WATER SERVICES UNIT

Mr. Jim Cullen Director of Services

In 2009, the **Environment , Veterinary & Water Services Unit** continued to progress and develop its extensive and varied work programme, with significant progress being made in many key areas, the details of which are set out below.

ENVIRONMENT & VETERINARY

Theme: ACHIEVING BALANCED AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

WASTE MANAGEMENT INFRASTRUCTURE (EWS 4)

The Council operates three recycling centres in (Tuam, Clifden and Ballinasloe), and provides 91 Bring Bank Centres located throughout the County for the collection of glass and beverage cans for recycling. Timpeallacht na nOilean operates an integrated waste management scheme for the Aran Islands, on a partnership arrangement with the Council. Galway County Council continued the implementation of the Local Authority Prevention Demonstration (LAPD) Programme. The main focus of the programme was to prevent waste and reduce consumption of water and energy. which included the following initiatives;

- Green Business Initiative
- Public Building Initiative
- Green Community Initiative
- Electronic Auditing Tool

Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment (WEEE) collections were organised.

WASTE MANAGEMENT (END-OF-LIFE VEHICLES) REGULATIONS 2006

Under these regulations, a producer, who is a person who imports into or manufactures a vehicle, in the state, is responsible for the appropriate treatment and recovery of the end-of-life vehicle. In 2009 24 producers were registered with Galway County Council. There are 3 registered Authorised Treatment Facilities (ATF's) in the functional area of Galway County Council. ATF's are facilities which will accept vehicles free of charge in accordance with the provisions of Waste Management (End-of-Life Vehicles) Regulations 2006. .

WASTE MANAGEMENT (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) REGULATIONS 2005

Under the above Regulations, retailers are required to take back electrical and electronic equipment from members of the public, free of charge, on a one-to-one basis.

WASTE MANAGEMENT (PACKAGING) REGULATIONS 2007

The above Regulations are aimed at increasing recycling and recovery of packaging waste and place obligations on businesses which sell or supply packaging material or packaged products on the Irish Market.

<p>Theme: PRESERVE AND ENHANCE THE ENVIRONMENT</p>

ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING & ENFORCEMENT MEASURES (EWS 9)

The Council issued enforcement notices and initiated prosecutions under Waste Management, Litter Pollution, and Water Pollution Legislation. To the end of November 2009, the Council issued a total of 119 enforcement procedures in relation to environmental pollution, while 49 prosecutions were initiated and 6 prosecutions were secured. In the same period, a total of 710 on-the-spot fines for litter were issued. In 2009, 214 letters were issued in relation to the Solvents and Deco Paints Regulations and 145 letters and 5 notices were issued in relation to discharge licences. New discharge licences were issued in relation to 9 facilities and 11 reviews were initiated.

Blue Flag status was awarded to the following beaches in 2009,

- Traught Beach, Kinvarra
- The Long Point Loughrea
- Trá an Dóilín, An Cheathrú Rua
- An Trá Mhór, Coill Rua, Indreabhán
- Trá Chill Mhuirbhígh, Inis Mór
- An Chéibh, An Spidéal

.Green Coast Awards were received by the following

- Dogs Bay, Roundstone
- East End Inishboffin
- Inis Oirr, Aran Islands
- Aillebrack, Ballyconneely

The Council inspected and audited the operations of selected waste collector permit holders and waste facility permit holders on a priority basis.

The use of CCTV to monitor illegal dumping was extended to various locations throughout the County, including several Bring Banks.

PROTECTION OF NATURAL WATERS (EWS 10)

Draft RBD management plans were issued in December 2008. There followed a period of public consultation up to June 2009. The final Plans are to issue in January 2010.

Theme: DEVELOPING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES**DERELICT SITES (EWS 11)**

There are currently **82 sites entered in the Derelict Sites Register.**

BURIAL GROUNDS (EWS 12)

There are currently 234 burial grounds situated throughout the County. The Council, with the participation of the many local burial ground committees, carry out works of maintenance and improvements.

An annual grant of €450 was provided to committees who maintain the burial grounds in their area and 155 committees were awarded a grant.

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS & EDUCATION (EWS 14)

The Environment Awareness Officers were involved in promoting environmental awareness through information meetings with community, voluntary groups, and tidy towns committees. Press releases and radio advertising on environmental issues were produced and circulated.

The implementation of the Green Schools programme is on-going and has been very successful to date with 143 schools being awarded the Green Flag. 88% of all schools are now involved in the programme

The following actions and achievements were also undertaken in 2009

- Information meetings with the community, voluntary groups and tidy towns committees.
- Reusable shopping bags with anti-litter message distributed.
- A National Spring Clean campaign was undertaken..
- Published information leaflets on waste management issues.

ANIMAL CONTROL & WELFARE (EWS 16)

Animal welfare cases involving dogs, cattle and sheep were investigated in conjunction with Gardai, Dept of Agriculture and welfare groups.

A full review of dog control practices and standard operating procedures were completed including the preparation of policy and procedure documents.

FOOD SAFETY (EWS 17)

The council provides a Veterinary Public Health Inspection Service under the terms of its service contract with the Food Safety Authority of Ireland.

There are 10 licenced abattoirs in the county and the licencing of these is the responsibility of the local authority. The council approves, registers and has responsibility for the day to day supervision of these premises. The council supervises 10 premises in both the city and county.

Theme: MAXIMISING SOCIAL INCLUSION AND LOCAL GOVERNANCE

CORPORATE SUPPORT (EWS 22)

The Environment & Water Services Strategic Policy Committee met on 3 occasions during 2009. At these meetings, discussion took place in relation to:

- Water Services Investment Programme
- Remedial Action Programme
- Water Metering Project
- Dog Control
- Tidy Towns Implementation and adoption of Western River Basin Management Plan

Theme : MAXIMISING ORGANISATIONAL EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS

CUSTOMER SERVICE (EWS 24)

The Unit is complying with the service delivery standards as set out in the Customer Service Action Plan. A transaction aid kit is also available at the public counter in Centrepoint to improve customer service.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT (EWS 26)

The Units budgets are monitored on a weekly basis and regular financial reports prepared.

WATER SERVICES

The Water Services Investment Programme, the Drinking Water Remedial Action Programme and the Rural Water Programme enables the Council to upgrade existing or provide new infrastructure for use by domestic or non-domestic users, with a major emphasis on water conservation, source protection, catchment management and operational effectiveness. The Council acknowledges that water is a limited resource and must be managed in a sustainable manner, to allow for an increasing population and increased demand.

Theme: ACHIEVING BALANCED AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE: EW1

The following schemes were completed in 2009

- Dunmore Kilkerrin and Leenane S.S.

- Roundstone Water
- Loughrea R.W.S.S. extension to Craughwell.
- Headford S.S.

The following schemes were under construction in 2009

- Barna Sewerage
- An Fhairce and Letterfrack Sewerage.

RURAL WATER PROGRAMME (GROUP WATER SUPPLY SCHEMES) EWS 2 & 3

The Rural Water Programme plays a critical role in sustaining local communities through financial supports for new and existing Group Water Supply Schemes
The total expenditure on the programme was €17.7m for 2009.

Subsidies:

No. of Schemes assisted	119
No. of Individual Wells	17

Contract Works for Water Quality Improvement

DBO Bundle No. 1.	14
DBO Bundle No. 2 (Planning)	16
New Schemes and Upgrading	40
Taking in Charge	38
Connecting to Public Mains	5

WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAMME: EWS 6

The Water Conservation Programme enhances environmental sustainability and aims to improve operational efficiency of water schemes by reducing the volume of unaccounted for water, and has the potential to be a viable alternative to capital expenditure on new infrastructure provisions

Phase 2 of the Water Conservation Programme commenced in 2009 and involves the extension of district metering, further leak detection and repair. The total budget provided by the DOEH&LG for this phase is 5.84ml and is targeted for completion in 2011



HOUSING & EMERGENCY UNIT

Mr. Frank Gilmore Director of Services

The Housing Unit continued to progress the provision of appropriate housing accommodation and provide a responsive housing service for those in need of assistance during 2009.

Theme: ACHIEVING BALANCED AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

LAND ACQUISITION

In order to facilitate Housing Construction Programmes currently and into the future, the Council acquires lands from time to time. This land-bank is reviewed and updated on an ongoing basis.

No lands were acquired in 2009

Theme: PRESERVING AND ENHANCING THE ENVIRONMENT

FIRE SERVICES

Galway Fire Service received two new water tankers and a Class B Appliance during 2009. The Department of Environment gave approval for the purchase of an Aerial Ladder Platform and an Emergency Tender. Training was carried out with new working at height equipment for all personnel retained and full-time. Self contained smoke alarms with long life batteries were issued for 1000 houses in the County for installation by Community Groups. The Major Emergency Development Programme remained ongoing. A fit-out for Áras an Chontae to cater for its role as the emergency co-ordination centre was completed in 2009. Aras

The Fire Service fire prevention staff carried out 320 inspections of premises as part of its Fire Prevention Function, under the Fire Services Act 1981, Licensing Acts, Planning Acts, Dangerous Substances Act and carried out 303 inspections for the issue of Fire Safety Certificates under Building Control Act 1990. The Fire section received 361 public licence applications and dealt with 187 planning applications in the city and county in 2009.

The total number of turn-outs attended by Galway Fire Service on behalf of Galway County Council and Galway City Council in 2009 was 1970.

In 2009 the average time to mobilise fire brigades in full time stations in respect of fire incidents was 2.49 minutes and 5.07 minutes in part time stations (retained service).

For all other emergency incidents the average rollout times were 2.52 minutes for Galway City and 5.05 minutes for county stations

The Fire Department dealt with 239 Fire Safety Certificate Applications under Building Control Regulations, 141 in the County area and 98 in the City Area. These figures reflected the downturn in construction activity in the Galway area in 2009.

Theme: DEVELOPING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

HOUSING PROGRAMME

The provision of Social Housing by the Council may be achieved by construction of new houses, re-allocation of existing houses, purchase of houses, or procurement of housing units under Part V of the Housing Strategy and the Leasing Initiative. The following table shows the number of houses allocated to persons on the waiting list throughout the year:

<i>Programme</i>	<i>No. allocations</i>
Provision of new / purchased houses	74
Housing Strategy – Part V	20
Re-allocation of existing houses through casual vacancies	68
<i>Total allocations</i>	<i>162</i>

HOUSING CAPITAL PROGRAMME

Our Social & Affordable Housing Action Plan continues to meet its targets with an end of year review conducted and agreed with the Department of Environment, Heritage & Local Government.

At the end of 2009, a total of 20 Social houses were under construction through the following schemes:

Location	No. of Houses per Scheme
Loughrea	17
Rurals	3
Total	20

EXTENSIONS TO LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSING

Two units were completed in 2009

REMEDIAL WORKS

A survey of all rural houses built pre 1985 was completed. A remedial scheme for rural houses and two housing estates in Ballygar and Ahascragh have been approved by the DOEHLG. Works are completed on the Ballygar and Ahascragh project and the rural remedial are ongoing, these schemes will include provision of boundary walls, landscaping, external and internal refurbishments, septic tanks, etc.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

An Affordable Housing Register has been established and there are currently 548 applications registered. Affordable units are allocated in accordance with a scheme for Affordable Housing, which was adopted by the Council. 183 houses have been provided under the '99 scheme of Affordable Housing in Loughrea, Athenry, Portumna, Tuam, Abbey, Mountbellew, Tynagh, Corofin and Gort .

HOUSING STRATEGY

Under Part V of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended 2002, the Local Authority acquires units in private developments which are allocated to applicants on the Affordable and Social Housing Registers.

In 2009, 23 houses were acquired and allocated under Part V. 5 were sold to Affordable Housing applicants and 23 were allocated to Social Housing applicants. To date, 145 units have been acquired under Part V. Locations include Clifden, Oranmore, Kinvara, Loughrea, Gort, and Tuam.

Formal Agreements are in place for the acquisition of a further 62 houses.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING INITIATIVE

Under the *Sustaining Progress partnership agreement*, the Affordable Housing Initiative (AHI) was established. Its aim is to provide homes for those, who in the past would have been expected to purchase a house from their own resources, but who find that they are unable to do so in the current housing market.

There are 62 AHI houses currently in the process of being sold in Gortnahown, Athenry.

VOLUNTARY HOUSING

The following table shows Capital Assistance Scheme & Capital Loan & Subsidy Scheme projects which were completed in 2009.

Location	No. of Units
Raheen	20

The Housing Unit continued to liaise with local and national Voluntary Housing Bodies with a view to encouraging them to increase their output.

Theme: MAXIMISING SOCIAL INCLUSION AND LOCAL GOVERNANCE
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HOUSING SERVICES SPC

There were 3 meetings of the Housing SPC during 2009. The following issues and policies were reviewed and approved by the SPC during the year; Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability, the Mobility Aids Grant Scheme and Housing Aid for Older People, Traveller Inter Agency ; Affordable, Housing Capital Allocation

HOUSING PROGRAMME

The Housing Unit administers a range of loans and grants schemes aimed at assisting persons who are housing themselves. In addition, the Unit administers specific programmes and initiatives aimed to assist, and encourage participation, within particular categories of need.

LOANS & GRANTS SCHEMES

Scheme	No. approved in 2009
Disabled Persons / Housing Adaptation / Mobility Aids Grants	293
Essential Repairs / Housing Aid for Older People Grants	126
Improvement Works Loans	0
Housing Loans	0
Shared Ownership Loans	0
Tenant Purchase Loans	5

RENTAL ACCOMMODATION SCHEME

The Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) is a nationwide scheme for people who are receiving rent supplement and have a long term housing need. Galway County Council is currently rolling out this scheme on a phased basis throughout the County, and is also implementing the scheme for the town of Ballinasloe.

The scheme involves the Local Authority sourcing accommodation, transferring persons with long term housing need to the Local Authority; entering contractual agreements with Landlords; arranging rent payments; and recoupments from the Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government.

There are a number of benefits for those eligible for RAS. These include the provision of long-term housing security and access to a range of housing supports. The RAS will also lead to improvements to the quality and standard of housing accommodation. Finally, if you get a job you can stay in RAS and Galway County Council will continue to pay rent to your Landlord but you will have to make an increased contribution towards your rent.

Galway County Council has transferred 347 Rent Supplement Recipients from the HSE and has entered into 201 No. Contracts with Private Landlords.

STANDARDS FOR RENTED DWELLINGS

The Residential Tenancies Act 2004 requires the registration of tenancies with the Private Rented Tenancies Board. The published register is available on the Private Residential Tenancies Board website. The Council has inspected 525 properties to date to ensure compliance with standards for private rented houses and issue of rent books, of which 315 houses have failed to meet standards. Appropriate notices have been issued in these cases

TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION AND SUPPORTS

The Traveller Accommodation Programme 2009-2013 sets out the aims of the Council for accommodating travellers in traveller-specific accommodation such as group housing and halting sites, as well as in standard houses and single instance (purchased) houses. The Programme was adopted in 2009

The Annual Count of Traveller Families and their accommodation position was carried out on 30th November 2009, and showed that there were 544 traveller families living in Galway County, as follows:

Type of Accommodation	Number of families
Local Authority housing	308
Voluntary Housing	7
Home ownership facilitated by Local Authority Schemes	66
Home ownership without LA assistance	3
Private-rented accommodation	112
Involuntary sharing with other families	12
Halting Sites	16
Unauthorised sites	20

HOMELESSNESS

The Housing Unit provides assistance for persons who are assessed as homeless. During the year, in excess of 50 persons / families were accommodated in emergency accommodation until they obtained private rented accommodation with the aid of rent allowance. (in excess of 30 families were accommodated during the flooding)

HOUSING MAINTENANCE

An Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Programme commenced in 2009. This scheme applies to all vacant Local Authority Housing Stock.



**PLANNING & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
AND
COMMUNITY, ENTERPRISE & ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT UNIT**

Mr. Paul Ridge Director of Services

The Planning & Sustainable Development Unit and the Community, Enterprise & Economic Development Unit merged in 2009 under one Director.

PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

In 2009 the **Planning & Sustainable Development Unit** continued to promote and support development within the county so that our customers can live in vibrant communities, where cultural differences are valued and encouraged, where everyone can be actively involved in economic, social and cultural life, where people have access to an acceptable level of services and infrastructure.

Theme: ACHIEVING BALANCED AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

FORWARD PLANNING

This Section continued with the review and preparation of the Galway County Development Plan throughout 2009. The proposed Material Amendments to the Draft County Development Plan together with the amended Environmental Report were on public display from 5th February 2009 to 4th March 2009 during which time 24 submissions were received. Following consideration of the Manager's Report prepared on these submissions the Elected Members adopted the Galway County Development Plan 2009-2015 on the 6th April 2009 and the plan came into effect on the 3rd May 2009.

- The Galway County Council and Ballinasloe Town Council Joint Housing Strategy 2009-2015 was adopted by the Elected Members on the 6th April 2009
- The Amendments/Material Alterations to the Draft Clifden Local Area Plan and the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Report were on public display from 13th March 2009 to 14th April 2009 during which time 148 submissions were received. Following consideration of the Manager's Report prepared on these submissions the Elected Members adopted the Clifden Local Area plan 2009-2015 on the 25th May 2009 together with the Appropriate Assessment Screening and the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Report of the Plan
- The Draft Craughwell Local Area plan and Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Report were on public display from 20 February 2009 to 3rd April 2009

during which time 13 submissions were received, Following the consideration of the Manager's Report prepared on the Submissions received it was agreed to put the proposed amendments and Material Alterations of the Draft Craughwell Plan on public display from 12th June 2009 and 10th July 2009. 5 Submissions were received during the public display period and following consideration by the Elected Members of the Manager's Report prepared on the submissions received it was agreed to adopt the Craughwell Local Area Plan 2009-2015 on the 7th September 2009.

- Work has continued to progress on the preparation of the Ardaun/Garraun Plan.
- Work commenced on the Smart Travel plan in conjunction with Galway City Council and a submission was made to the Department of the Environment under the Smart Travel Scheme

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT SECTION

- 2352 Planning Applications were presented to the Planning Office in 2009.
- 171 invalid applications received
- 1134 of the planning applications received were for single Dwellinghouses.
- 58 applications were for agricultural developments.
- 497 were for domestic extensions
- 1842 decisions were granted.
- 808 Commencement Notices were received.
- €1,020,220.66 was received in Planning Fees.
- €4,108,525.82 was received for Development Contributions.

ENFORCEMENT MEASURES

It is the policy of Galway County Council to secure compliance with Planning Permission and to prevent Unauthorised Development in accordance with the statutory requirements as set out in the Planning and Development Act and the Planning and Development Regulations.

2009 was a busy year for this section as can be seen from the following:

No. of complaints received in 2009	443
Warning Letters served	354
Enforcement Notice served	188
No. of new cases referred to Law Agent for Summary Proceedings	78

BUILDING CONTROL

This Section carried out 415 Building Inspections. Over the past year 11 no. Housing Estates have been recommended to the Roads and Transportation Department for Taking in Charge.

GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL ANNUAL HERITAGE REPORT FOR 2009

During 2009 the Co. Council continued its work to promote awareness, knowledge and appreciation of biodiversity. Galway Rural Development provided funding which assisted a number of community groups to organise public awareness events in their local area.

- Biodiversity Guidelines were developed.
- Biodiversity/Natural heritage training course for County Council staff is being delivered through the Applied Ecology Unit, NUI, Galway.
- A review of Galway County Heritage Plan 2004-2008 was started in 2008 and work continued on the plan in 2009.
- Two hundred and thirty eight graveyards were survey over the past three years and the resultant database has been developed.
- A database of almost 450 boats has been produced and work began on a heritage boats publication.
- Initial surveys and a report on the North West Tower were carried and conservations works have taken place in the tower.
- The *Golden Mile of Galway* Awards and the *Golden Mile* Calendar 2010 were launched in the Claregalway Hotel, Claregalway on Tuesday 15th December.
- Draft text has been produced on developing a heritage leaflet for County Galway's Blue Flag Beaches.
- €25,000 was made available to cover the cost of the 2008 Heritage Grant Scheme as successful applicants under that scheme had until September 2009 to drawdown monies.
- The Heritage Office supported Clifden Railway Heritage weekend.
- Galway County Council in partnership with Galway Rural Development and Glenamaddy Community Development Company launched the North East Galway Digital Heritage Project on 19th November 2009. The organizations have embarked on a very ambitious and innovative project to digitally map, transcribe and photograph the memorials in 15 graveyards in Glenamaddy, Williamstown, Glinsk, Dunmore, Ballygar, Newbridge and Moylough.
- Heritage Week this year took place from 24th to the 31st August. Galway County Council advertised and supported local heritage events.
- Galway County Heritage Awards ceremony took place on **Wednesday 2nd December 2009**. Over 400 people from all parts of the county attended the Awards Ceremony. The overall County Heritage Award Winner for 2009 was Dr. Tony Claffey, Tuam.
- The Heritage Office has established a pilot fieldnames project involving groups in Inis Mor, Williamstown, Oranmore, Kilchreest and Leitir Meallain. **Stone Wall Workshop in Inis Oirr**
- A very successful stone wall workshop was held in Inish Oirr from 30th September to 2nd October.
- Galway County Council sponsored The Heritage Bursary to GMIT Best Heritage Studies Student for 2009 .
- Galway County Council in partnership with The Galway County GAA Board and DERI, NUIG have developed a digital heritage project for the GAA. In 2009, five GAA Clubs were selected to participate in the project.

CONSERVATION REPORT

Galway County Council continued to implement the legislation for the protection of the architectural heritage through providing advice to the statutory agencies, local communities and to owners and occupiers of buildings of special architectural merit and to maintain and update the Record of Protected Structures in liaison with the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH)

It promoted awareness of the architectural heritage and the traditional skills and materials necessary to secure their survival into the future by hosting/participating in events.

It promoted best practise in conservation and traditional skills through the various conservation grant schemes, and in cooperation with national bodies, community groups and owners/occupiers of buildings of special interest.

€163,200.00 was paid in Conservation Grants in 2009

<p>Theme: MAXIMISING SOCIAL INCLUSION AND LOCAL GOVERNANCE.</p>
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STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

The Planning and Sustainable Development SPC had two meetings over the past year. The main policy issues discussed during the year included :

- The Draft County Development Plan
- The Draft Biodiversity Plan
- The Draft Development Contribution Scheme
- The Ardaun / Garraun Concept Plan
- Taking in Charge of Housing Estates

<p>Theme: MAXIMISING ORGANISATIONAL EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS</p>

CUSTOMER SERVICE

The Planning and sustainable Development Unit continues to provide an excellent customer service.

Planning clinics are still being held weekly at County Hall. There were in excess of 1000 Pre Planning meetings held during the year.

The Map Shop again provided a very useful service for our customers having carried out 2709 transactions to the value of 171,092.48 euro.

COMMUNITY, ENTERPRISE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The **Community Enterprise and Economic Development Unit** continued to contribute to the achievement of the corporate objectives of Galway County Council in the areas of Economic and Tourism Development, Social Inclusion, Arts, Culture and Sports. In 2009, the Unit grouped its projects and services under three main areas of operation and established the following programmes;

BRU- Business Response Unit – providing a point of contact for businesses to interact with the Council and services that support economic development

PLACE - Programmes and services that support Local Actions for Community and Enterprise.

INCLUSION – Programmes and services that support inclusion such as the RAPID programme in Tuam and Ballinasloe, development of the Social Inclusion Unit for staff and customers. The Unit also operates the Sports Partnership and County Arts Office.

Supports were provided in these areas through financial assistance, advisory services, research and project management services. During 2009, the Unit managed an investment of €237,000 by Galway County Council in Community and Voluntary projects with a further €175k investment in the Arts Programme and community arts. Further resources of €150,000 were directed by the Unit to projects in Tuam and Ballinasloe through the RAPID programme and €150,000 in development of Tourism projects. During the year the Unit worked closely with the Community Forum and local groups to implement the Community Smoke Alarm Scheme, Pride of Place Competition and Comhairle na nÓg events.

Theme: ACHIEVING BALANCED AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

SUPPORTING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Council established **BRU** in 2009 – this is a Business Response Unit providing a point of contact for businesses to co-ordinate engagement between the Local Authority and the business community

As part of delivery its economic strategy the Council secured €1.4 million from BMW Regional Assembly ERDF Gateways and Hubs Fund for projects in Tuam to be completed in 2010

Support for community enterprise centres remained a priority in 2009. Advice and financial support was provided to community groups in Headford and Tuam to develop Community Enterprise Centre facilities. Ballinasloe and Clonberne Centres were supported to upgrade and maintain existing Community Enterprise Centre services and facilities. Community based Economic Initiatives were supported through the allocation €97,000 to 38 projects from Enterprise Centres; Tourist Offices; local shows; markets and tourism based events and activities.

The Unit continued to promote Galway as an Enterprise location and supported entrepreneurship and broadband development. Projects included support for Galway Airport, the Galway Science Festival and Entrepreneurism Briefings with Enterprise Ireland, County and City Enterprise Board and the Chambers of Commerce. Staff worked with '3' to assist in the rollout and promotion of the National Broadband Scheme. The Unit continued as a point of contact for the *Look West* Campaign with the Western Development Commission and co-ordinated the response of Enterprise Agencies to the closure of a significant employer in Loughrea through the County Economic Forum.

SUPPORTING TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

In 2009 the Council continued its strategy to promote new things to do in the County and worked with members of the CDB City and County Tourism Forum which is made up of those in the tourism industry and Fáilte Ireland West. In 2009, the Council was the only County Council in Ireland to secure funding for the development of three Historical Trails in Loughrea, Tuam and Clifden in partnership with Galway East Tourism, Town Councils and Fáilte Ireland. Audio walking tours of Tuam and Loughrea towns were put in place in 2008 and signage for the trails will be completed in 2010.

A new 32k on road cycle loops linking Clifden, Cleggan, Ballyconneely and Roundstone was completed and is promoted internationally with Discover Ireland. The Council worked in partnership with local groups to progress agreements on walking trail routes in Killary Harbour, Conamara and supported the first phase research on old Clifden Railway as a walking & cycling route. The Council provided advice and financial supports to groups and local Chambers of Commerce to develop festival and events through its Arts Grants and Community Support Schemes. Galway East Tourism Ltd was supported to the East of the County. Work continued with Galway Rural Development on action plan for Eco-Tourism in East of County.

Theme: DEVELOPING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES
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In 2009, the Unit invested €140,000 supporting 42 community amenity projects (focused on public amenities, disability access and improvements to fire safety in community facilities). It continued to work with Environment, Planning and Roads Unit in the County to supported **Tidy Towns** (including County winners Abbey, Monivea and Milltown and Regional Bring Bank winner Oughterard). A pilot Tidy Towns advisory scheme was implemented for five communities resulting in increased scores for each (Oranmore; Inis Méain; Caltra; Portumna & Mountbellew). Oranmore achieved a National Endeavour Award



Barnadearg National School Tuam Regional Winner of Schools
Tidy Towns Litter Award 2009

During the year an, ‘**Audit of Community, Sports and Arts Facilities**’ was completed. The Audit provides a valuable resource for planning future facilities. The IT Unit mapped the results and the 332 facilities audited were classified as Sport (209), Arts (7), and Community (116)

The Unit implemented **National Pride of Place Scheme** in the County, supporting participation by projects in An Cheathrú Rua, Clonfert/Meelick, Inis Oírr and Lackagh in the national competition which rewards community endeavour. The Scheme is an All Ireland competition in partnership with Co-operation Ireland.

Promotion of **Active Citizenship** is a goal of the Council and in 2009, the Unit continued to develop six Local Area **Comhairle na nÓg** youth networks at Electoral area level and promote participation by Galway the national Dáil na nÓg.



Oughterard Regional Winner of Best Bring Bank Award in National Tidy Towns Scheme 2009 were presented with the award at the regional presentations in Westport, October 2009.

Membership of the **Community Forum** grew to 630 groups in 2009 and the Council continued with Galway Rural Development to support a full-time Officer to work with the Forum. The Forum held elections to nominate representatives onto the new Council's Strategic Policy Committees (SPC's) and the new Local Development Groups in the County. With over 90% of membership on email, the Forum also provides an important information distribution service to the Council and other public bodies.

SUPPORTING SOCIAL & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN RAPID AREAS TUAM AND BALLINASLOE

In 2009, the Council continued support for RAPID Co-ordinators in each town to provide ongoing advisory project management services to agencies and communities. The Co-ordinators facilitated RAPID Area Implementation Teams (AIT) and sub-groups involving a cross-section of agencies and community representatives to prepare Strategic Plans on Community Safety & Anti Social Behaviour, Health, Family Support, Education and the Physical Environment. This focused approach and staff working closely with local groups has assisted delivering better services and securing additional national and local funding for both towns.

€532,000 was invested in Community infrastructure projects which were delivered in partnership with Housing, Ballinasloe Town Council, Tuam Town Council and Area offices to support playground developments, estate enhancements and traffic calming measures. €110,000 in Dormant Account RAPID funding was secured for the Ballinasloe RAPID area. Twelve projects received allocations

Thirty local groups/projects were assisted using co-financing from Department of Community Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs Community Support Budget. A further 15 projects were assisted in partnership with County Galway Local Sports Partnership.

RAPID continues to develop new services and Tuam RAPID worked successfully with GMIT to ensure delivery of Third Level Enterprise Programme on outreach basis in 2009 targeting 40 people including those newly unemployed.

Theme: MAXIMISING SOCIAL INCLUSION AND LOCAL GOVERNANCE

SOCIAL INCLUSION UNIT

Set up in 2008, the Social Inclusion Unit continued its work in 2009 to embed social inclusion policy and practice into the day to day operations of the Council, and to work with other organisations to support the Council in improving the inclusion of all members of the Community in accessing services. The Unit reviewed Galway County Councils Social Inclusion Strategy 2006-2009 and 80% of the 113 actions were progressed across the organisation. The Unit developed a 'Guide to Council Services' in an easy to read format. Distributed through local libraries, offices of the Council and members of Galway County Community Forum and on www.galway.ie, it fast became a 'must have' for local organisations.

Key achievements of the Social Inclusion Unit in 2009 included

- Completed Staff survey on Social Inclusion
- Produced Social Inclusion Handbook and 2010 Wall Calendar for staff and elected members.
- Delivered a multi-lingual voter awareness campaign in advance of the local elections with the Galway Refugee Support Group and Integrating Ireland
- Delivered literacy awareness training with the National Adult Literacy Agency (NALA) and County Galway VEC for 45 staff and 10 members of the Social Inclusion Measures committee as part of the National Adult Literacy Awareness Week 2009
- Council staff completed Resource Training by the National Association of Traveller Centres (NATC) called Voice of the Traveller in the Irish Workplace
- Council staff also received training delivered by NALA on the use of Plain English in website writing, correspondence and publications
- The Unit continued to work with the Institute of Public Administration (I.P.A) and the Equality Authority on training focussing on Equality & Diversity and Stereotyping

The Unit work with the Fire Service and County Galway Community & Voluntary Forum on the Community Smoke Alarm scheme in 2009 which resulted in the delivery and installation of 650 sets of smoke alarms to vulnerable members of the community free of charge. During 2009 the Unit facilitated the Social Inclusion Measures Committee (SIM) of the County Development Board which is made up of organisations with responsibility for addressing inclusion throughout the County. SIM met 4 times in 2009 and set up specific project teams to address Integration & Diversity; Older People; Disability and Youth. The Unit re-established the County Galway Traveller Interagency group in 2009. An application was made to FÁS under their Special Initiative to Expand Employment

Prospects for Travellers and work commenced on the development of a new Traveller Interagency Strategy.

Theme: SUPPORTING CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT.

PROMOTING AND DEVELOPING ARTS ACTIVITY

In 2009, the Arts Office continued its support for development of the creative economy locally, sustaining employment in the art sector and promoting access to the Arts. The office provides information and advice service to community groups, individual artists, Elected Members and other sections of the Council on arts activity.

The Council invested €71,000 (€40,000 Arts Act Supports, €21,000 Arts Programming and €10,000 Community Grants) to support 73 organisations to undertake festivals, events and to provide increased access to arts activity throughout the County. Support was provided for major events such as the County Programme of the Galway Arts Festival; Clifden Arts Week and development of Arts programme at Coole Park. The development and promotion of new arts activity by 18 artists resident in County was supported by investing €30,000 on Individual Artist's Bursary Awards.

The development of the creative economy offers opportunities for County Galway and in 2009 Galway County Council was the first authority in the region to support 'Screen West' a web-site and marketing initiative to make it easy for filmmakers to come to the West to make productions - www.screenwest.ie

County Council's Strategic Arts Development Plan 2006-2009 was completed with a range of projects and programmes to support arts activities in Public Health Facilities, Schools, and Communities and with 'at risk' youth groups using film, visual arts, theatre in partnership with other public and community groups. Co-funding of €85,000 was provided by the Arts Council.

Launch of 'Type Cast' music CD Portumna, October 2009. The original CD resulted from a group of young travellers in the area taking part in the CAST Project (Communicating Arts Supporting Travellers) supported by Galway County Council Arts Office and Social Inclusion Unit.



SUPPORTING ACCESS TO SPORT

The County Galway Local Sports Partnership is managed by Galway County Council. The vision of the Galway LSP is to make sport and recreation part of every day life for the citizens in County Galway. The Sports Partnership Board (which includes 14 members' organisations - 18 members) convened four times in 2009 to oversee investment of €143,833 from the Irish Sports Council. (Supports provided include 15k for Youth and Sports projects, 10k on Club Development).

Core programmes of the Irish Sports Council -Buntús to primary and pre-schools were rolled out. Nine Code of Ethics courses delivered throughout County targeting range of sports groups. Two programmes for Women in Sport delivered Girls LEP Rugby in association with Connaught Rugby and Basketball in association with Barna Basketball Club and co-funding from HSE.

The LSP supported a Hurling Development Officer in partnership with County Council and GAA to increase participation in hurling in Gort, Tuam, Athenry, Loughrea, Ballinasloe and Clifden. Enhancement of Access to Sport for all remains an important goal and an activity course for sufferers of Spina Bifida & Hydrocephalus; GOYA outdoor project in Kinvarra and 'Youth in Action' projects in North Conamara in association with FORUM Connemara Ltd were supported.

The LSP secured €41,000 from Dormant Accounts for projects promoting sport in RAPID areas of Tuam and Ballinasloe.

The Partnership also co-hosted a well attended Sports Conference in Galway on the 3rd October with Galway City Sports Partnership, that was addressed by some of the top people in sport psychology and physical fitness.



ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION UNIT

Mr. John Morgan Director of Services.

Service objective: To provide a safe and efficient transport network for the movement of persons and goods within sustainable and integrated transportation policies

The Roads & Transportation Unit is responsible for the design, maintenance and improvement of the National, Regional and Local Road Network throughout the County and also has responsibility for Marine, Road Safety, Health & Safety and Arterial Drainage. The 2009 year for the Roads & Transportation Unit was marked by a number of significant achievements and challenges.



Official Opening of the M6 Galway to Ballinasloe

The Unit delivered a substantial and varied programme of work with further significant progress being achieved in transforming the transportation infrastructure of the County with the opening of the M6 Ballinasloe - Athlone and M6 Galway - East Ballinasloe Motorway. The official opening of the M6 Galway – East Ballinasloe Motorway in December 2009 marked the completion of the first of the Inter Urban Routes in the Country and provides the County with an essential element of transport infrastructure that will serve to underpin the balanced development and sustainable growth of the County and wider region.

The severe flooding experienced in November/December 2009 impacting on an area of approximately 1,350 sq miles (850,000 acres) presented a significant challenge on many levels, with the Roads & Transportation Unit taking a central role in ensuring that access both within and to the County was maintained at all times. Due to the severity and extent of the flooding a significant number of national roads throughout the County were rendered impassable including the N17 at Claregalway, the N6 at Craughwell and Ballinasloe and the N18 at Labane and Crowe Street, Gort. As a result, a large number of diversions and the temporary opening of sections of the unfinished M6 Motorway were necessary in order to maintain essential connectivity.



10205957 Photo: © Peter Barrow Photographers 23rd November 2009. Tel: 0872 559638
Craughwell

Flooding N6 at Craughwell



10205660 Photo: © Peter Barrow Photographers 23rd November 2009. Tel: 0872 559638
Claregalway

Flooding N17 at Baile Chláir (Claregalway)

In addition, significant sections of the Regional and Local Road Network throughout the County were flooded with large sections, particularly in South Galway, rendered impassable due to the depth of flooding. As a result, local diversions were put in place and where local diversions were not possible, roads were raised on a temporary basis above flood levels to facilitate local access. A total of 24 locations on Regional and Local Roads were raised above flood levels with crushed rock as a temporary measure, these works involved the laying of approximately 11,000 tonnes of crushed rock.



10205414 Photo: © Peter Barrow Photographers 23rd November 2009. Tel: 0872 559638
Ballinasloe

Flooding Ballinasloe Town



10205530 Photo: © Peter Barrow Photographers 23rd November 2009. Tel: 0872 559638
Between Labane and Gort

Flooding N18 at Labane

The severe cold weather experienced in December 2009 also presented a significant challenge for the Unit, necessitating the allocation of significant resources towards winter maintenance across the National, Regional & Local Road Network in order to ensure that all national routes and strategic regional and local roads remained passable and to maintain access for medical and welfare support staff.

Theme:	ACHIEVING BALANCED AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
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NATIONAL PRIMARY & SECONDARY ROADS:

The final grant allocation from the National Roads Authority for 2009 was €230,645,229 comprised as follows:

Improvement Works	€228,068,053
Maintenance Works	€ 2,577,176

The final grant allocation reflected an additional drawdown of €76,150,332 in funds based on the initial grant allocation for 2009 and reflects the significant progress achieved by the Council's National Roads Design Office in the delivery of its 2009 Work Programme.

The National Roads Design Office continued to manage the delivery of the Major Inter Urban projects with the associated costs recouped in full from the National Roads Authority:

National Road No.	Route Section
M6	Athlone / Ballinasloe
M6	Galway City Outer Bypass
N6	Galway / Ballinasloe
M18/M17	Gort / Tuam
N18	Gort to Crusheen
N17	Tuam to Claremorris
N59	Maigh Cuilinn Bypass

The substantial funding provided by the National Roads Authority for Improvement Works in 2009 facilitated the continued advancement and delivery of the Major Inter Urban routes element of the National Development Plan 2007 – 2013 & Transport 21 with progress during 2009 including:

- The Official Opening of the M6 Galway to Ballinasloe Motorway (PPP Scheme) was performed by the Minister for Transport Noel Dempsey TD on Friday, 18th December 2009.
- The Official Opening of the M6 Ballinasloe – Athlone was performed by An Taoiseach, Brian Cowen, T.D. on Thursday, 23rd July 2009
- In addition, significant progress was made on the construction of the N18 Gort – Crusheen Scheme by SIAC/Wills JV.

The annual resurfacing and maintenance programme for National routes was undertaken in accordance with the budget for maintenance works notified by the National Roads Authority and a full programme of Pavement & Minor Improvement works was undertaken on the National Primary & National Secondary Road network with a grant allocation of €5,775,000.

Other milestones achieved relating to the National Primary & Secondary Road Network during 2009 included:

- The contract for the N59 Derrylea Realignment in the amount of €4,468,866.15 was signed with Wills Bros Ltd. on the 19th March 2009. The project consisting of the realignment of approx 3.9 km of the N59 is a Pilot Scheme and is the first project in the Country to incorporate the proposed new design standard for low-flow rural roads
- The new bridge on the N59 at Leenane was officially opened by the Mayor of the County of Galway on the 30th March, 2009.
- A programme of works to reinstate the N6 Haul Roads commenced with an initial allocation of €1,500,000 from the National Roads Authority.



The Official Opening of Leenane Bridge on the N59 on the 30th March 2009

REGIONAL AND LOCAL ROADS:

The total grant allocation of €23,199,000 for Regional & Local Roads was comprised as follows:

Improvement Works	€15,383,000
Maintenance Works	€ 7,816,000

Strategic Regional & Local Roads

A grant in the sum of €1,500,000 was provided under the Strategic Regional & Local Road Schemes (National Spatial Strategy) for the Conamara Access Road (R336 Bearnna to Scríob via Ros an Mhí) with work on the route selection process including related public consultation sessions taking place during 2009.

A grant of €250,000 was provided for the Baile Chláir Relief Road (Design Stage) and a sum of €1,000,000 was provided for the Athenry Northern Ring Road, while the Raheen Link Road Athenry, constructed at a cost of €1.2 million, was officially opened by the Mayor of the County of Galway on Friday, 6th November 2009.

Improvement, Resurfacing & Maintenance Programme for Regional & Local Roads

A total of 71,970 square metres of Regional roads were improved under the Restoration Improvement Programme at a total cost of €1,739,724 with a further 457,162 square metres of local roads improved under the Programme at a cost of €6,662,175.

A total of 154,850 square metres of Regional roads were surface dressed under the Restoration Maintenance Programme at a total cost of €961,830 while a further 633,687 square metres of local roads were surface dressed under the Programme at a cost of €3,662,101.

In response to the extreme flooding experienced in late 2009, the Department of Transport facilitated the Council in allocating an element of the Restoration Improvement Grant to undertake essential interim maintenance and reinstatement works on the Regional & Local Road Network.

A total of 6.2kms of the following Regional and Local Roads were improved under the Specific Improvement Grant during 2009:

R342 Tombeola	R332 Tuam / Kilbannon/ Kilmaine
R339 Galway / Monivea	L4202 Knockaunloughla Bridge
R336 Béál Atha na mBreac & Leenane	L4219 Roo Bridge
L1313 Tulaigh Mhic Aodháin	Raford Weir Bridge
R336 Bearna	Oxgrove Bridge
R340 Attry/ Cashel	L4312 Tynagh Village
R343 An Cheathrú Rua	R339 Carnmore / Monivea Road
R349 Riverville Bridge (lower)	
R328 Moylough / Clonberne (Cloonkell Bridge)	

An Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta provided funding in the amount of €2,634,300 under the Strategic Roads Measure to facilitate improvement works on the following roads:

R340 Doire Inbhir – Cill Chiaráin	Ardmore – Carna
Baile na Cille	LP1302 Corr na Mona – Cloch Breac

Local Roads Maintenance

The sum provided from the Council's resources in 2009 was €6,485,000. The Local Roads General Maintenance allocation of €3,540,750 provided a unit allocation of €649 per km.

The sum of €3,540,750 was allocated as follows:

(1)	Local Roads Verge Trimming	€200,000
(2)	Local Roads Drainage	€100,000
(3)	Local Roads Renewal & Provision of Signage	€100,000
(4)	Local Roads General Maintenance	€2,750,500

(5)	Local Roads Winter Maintenance	€190,250
(6)	Local Roads Bridge Maintenance	€200,000

STRATEGIC PIERS AND HARBOURS:

Significant progress was achieved during 2009 in advancing the extensive programme of works under An Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta Strategic Piers & Harbours Programme. Some notable milestones included:

- A feasibility study was completed in regard to the Caladh Mór Phase III Harbour Development, Inis Meáin and a planning application is currently being prepared for submission to An Bord Pleanála.
- Planning documentation was completed in regard to Cé Ard Thoir, Carna in anticipation of approval from An Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta to process with a Part 8 Planning Application.
- Work continued on the development of Cill Rónáin Harbour towards an anticipated completion date in 2010. The project with an estimated cost of approximately €40 million represents the highest ever spend on island infrastructure in the history of the State. The project includes a 550m breakwater, the extension of the existing pier, the creation of a deepwater berth for fishing boats, provision of a cargo quay, upgrading of the existing pier, provision of a pedestrian only zone for users of the ferries, a berth for the lifeboat, the provision of a slip way and provision for future roll-on-roll-off cargo services.



Progress on the development of Cill Rónáin Harbour during 2009. The project is on schedule for completion during 2010 and at an estimated cost of approximately €40 million represents the highest ever spend on island infrastructure in the history of the State

SMALL PIERS AND HARBOURS

The Council carried out the following works under the Fishery Harbour Programme which was funded by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food with a contribution from the Council:

- Underpinning works to Parkmore Pier, Kinvara.
- Completion of improvement works to Wallace Quay Pier.

- Completion of repair and maintenance works including improvements to pier access to Spiddal Pier.
- Completion of repair and maintenance works to the main slipway at Inis Óirr Harbour and at Cora Point
- Port waste receptors were installed at harbours as required by the Port Waste Regulations (S.I 117).
- Completion of repair and maintenance works to Bearna Pier including improvements to aid navigation and pier access in advance of the Volvo Ocean Race.



Images of Bearna Pier & Harbour

ARTERIAL DRAINAGE:

The Council has statutory responsibility for the maintenance of certain drainage works in the County and the Council's responsibility is discharged by the Roads and Transportation Unit via the Council's Regional and Area Offices. The Council has charge of twelve **Drainage Districts** and there are two Districts in the charge of **Joint Drainage Committees** with Roscommon and Clare County Councils.

Drainage Districts:

Ahascragh	Annagh	Boley
Dunkellin (Gort)	Dunkellin (Athenry)	Dunkellin (Loughrea)
Kellysgrove	Kilchreest	Lavally
Meelick Pollshask	Mountbellew	Oranhill

Joint Drainage Districts:

River Fergus Joint Drainage Committee	River Suck Joint Drainage Committee
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In the context of the flooding experienced in November and December 2009, supplementary funding of €3 million was provided by the Department of Environment, Heritage & Local Government as a contribution to the extraordinary expenditure incurred by the Council in providing an effective response to the emergency situation.

Theme:	DEVELOPING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES
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Mayor of the County of Galway Cllr. Tom McHugh Signs the Charter for European Mobility Week 2009



County Galway Primary Schools Cycling Championship 2009

SMARTER TRAVEL & SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY:

The Council continued its proactive role in promoting sustainable mobility by delivering a programme of events to mark the first National Bike Week (14th – 21st June 2009) and European Mobility Week (16th – 22nd September 2009). The events were designed to encourage people to consider changing their travel habits to more sustainable means such as cycling, walking and public transport.

The R341 Clifden Cycle Lane was completed in September 2009 to provide a permanent measure to mark European Mobility Week 2009. The development of the Cycle Lane was 75% funded by the Department of Transport under Smarter Travel.

European Mobility Week & *'In Town Without My Car'*



'Streets Alive' held on Main Street, Loughrea on Tuesday, 22nd September 2009 to mark *'In Town Without My Car'*

In partnership with Galway City Council, the Council submitted an application under the Department of Transport's National Competition for Smarter Travel Areas in relation to the Galway Metropolitan Smarter Travel Area (Galway City, Baile Chláir, Bearna & Oranmore). The Council also submitted an application under the competition for Loughrea Smarter Travel Town with both applications being short-listed by the Department of Transport to proceed to Stage 2 of the competition in 2010.

The Council worked with the Galway Transportation Unit and Galway City Council in advancing a Walking and Cycling Strategy for Galway City & Environs including Oranmore, Baile Chláir & Bearna, while the Council's application for funding under the Smarter Travel Project Fund for the development of an Integrated Walking & Cycling Strategy for County Galway including the role out of a number of pilot projects was shortlisted for funding by the Department of Transport in late 2009.

The second phase of the N17 Baile Chláir Quality Bus Corridor also opened for qualifying traffic during 2009.



Noel Dempsey TD Minister for Transport
Completion of Opening the N17 Baile Chláir Bus
Corridor



Noel Dempsey TD Minister for Transport Marks the
Traffic Lights & Junction Improvement Works in
Headford

LOCAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES:

In recognition of the opportunity provided by Local Improvement Schemes to provide assistance towards the construction or improvement of non-public roads, the Unit continued to actively promote this scheme during 2009. A grant allocation of **€924,000** was provided by the Department of Transport in 2009 which facilitated **41** schemes being offered during the year.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Council continued to actively promote the Community Involvement in Roadwork's Scheme as a means of harnessing community support for road works on suitable local roads. A sum of **€206,837** was provided from the Restoration Improvement Grant with a further sum of **€233,991** from the Restoration Maintenance Grant provided a total budget of **€440,828** for the scheme.

A total of **62** applications were received to avail of the 2009 scheme. Following assessment a total of **55** were recommended for funding with approval being granted for **43** schemes in 2009.

COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT SCHEMES:

The Council, in partnership with FÁS and the local community, continued to promote and encourage the development of opportunities for **Community Employment Schemes**. Accordingly, the Council continued to sponsor the following schemes during 2009: Maigh Cuilinn / Collinamuck, Laurencetown / Abbey, Órán Mór / Gort, Tuam, and Cloch na Rón / Clifden.

TOWN & VILLAGE MAINTENANCE & ENHANCEMENT



Oranmore Village



Laurencetown



Baile Chláir (Claregalway)

The Council continued to support community effort in maintaining and enhancing the physical environment of town and villages and provided funding of **€500,000** in 2009 to facilitate maintenance and small improvement works. An element of the funding was focused to facilitate the Council in further supporting the input and performance of communities involved in the National Tidy Towns Competition.

ROAD SAFETY

- The Road Traffic (Special Speed Limits) County Galway Bye Laws 2009 were progressed to adoption stage.
- The Road Safety Together Committee continued its active role in the promotion of Road Safety and held 3 meetings in 2009.
- The County Galway Primary Schools Cycling Championship took place on Thursday, 17th September 2009. The event was organised by the Council as part of a programme of events to mark European Mobility Week with 8 Primary Schools participating in the 2009 Championship.

- The County Galway Road Safety Together Committee delivered a programme of events to mark Irish Road Safety Week from the 12th – 18th October 2009.
- Galway County Council in conjunction with An Garda Síochána and the local emergency services hosted ‘Think Twice’ A Road Safety Awareness Event in Leisureland, Salthill on the 14th October 2009 with the aim of delivering a hard hitting road safety message to hundreds of Galway teenagers.
- The **2009 Xmas Road Safety Campaign** was launched on the 22nd December 2009 and involved the Council teaming up with Rennicks to provide Variable Message Signs on all the main routes over the holiday period. The signs carried road safety messages as visible reminders for all road users of the importance of road safety with messages relating to the dangers of driving under the influence; speed, fatigue etc.



Presentation National School Tuam Winners of the 2009 Junior Schools Wardens Competition.



Mayor of the County of Galway Cllr. Tom McHugh launches the **Are You DAYLIGHTED** campaign.

- The “**Are you Daylighted**” campaign was launched on Monday, 19th October 2009 to encourage motorists to use dipped headlights, while driving during daylight hours.
- The County Galway Primary Schools Cycling Championship took place on Thursday, 17th September 2009. The event was organised by the Council as part of its programme of events to mark European Mobility Week.

Safety Improvement Works and Measures

An allocation of **€220,000** was provided by the Department of Transport to enable low cost safety improvement works to be carried out on the following regional and local roads:

R339/LP3105 Cartymore Cross	€ 30,000
R336 Coláiste Lurgann, Inverin	€ 40,000
LP2115/2128 Curran’s Cross, Abbeyknockmoy	€ 30,000
R358/L7416 Junction at Mountain, Ahascragh	€ 30,000
R340/L2106 Junction between R340/L2106 at Carna	€ 30,000
R358 Pedestrian Crossing at St. Cuan’s College, Castleblakeney	€ 30,000
LP2141 Tullinadaly Hill, Tuam	€ 30,000

The National Roads Authority provided funding of **€65,000** for Safety Measures on the following National Primary & Secondary roads:

N6 RSRM Blackgarden Cross	€15,000
N18 RSRM Kilcolgan, N67 Junction	€30,000
N63 TC Moylough	€20,000

PUBLIC LIGHTING:

A sum of **€631,500** was provided in the 2009 Budget to fund the cost of the public lighting programme including the maintenance/energy costs. In addition the National Roads Authority provided funding of **€156,000** for National Primary Route Lighting & **€44,800** for National Secondary Route Lighting.

Theme:	MAXIMISING SOCIAL INCLUSION & LOCAL GOVERNANCE
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DISABILITY SECTORAL PLAN:

A programme of access improvement works were undertaken in accordance with the Galway County Council Implementation Plan with the objective of ensuring that roads, streets and footpaths, are as far as practicable, accessible to and useable by persons with disabilities.

The findings of the Roads & Streets Access Audit undertaken for County Galway Local Authorities under the Disability Act 2005 were also taken into consideration in preparing the 2009 Roads Programme.

CORPORATE SUPPORT:

The Roads & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee, considered a number policy issues during 2009 including:

- Control of skips on public roads.
- Bye-Laws for the regulation of Harbours.
- Financial outlook and policy implications – Roads & Transportation.
- Effects of designated areas on infrastructure provision.

The Unit continued to facilitate the Conamara Area Committee which held 8 meetings during 2009 dealing with a broad range of operational matters.

Theme: MAXIMISING ORGANISATIONAL EFFICIENCY & EFFECTIVENESS

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP:

In accordance with the Galway County Development Strategy 2002 – 2012, the Roads & Transportation Unit as the lead partner of the Integrated Transportation Coordinating Group facilitated a joint meeting of the Galway County & City Integrated Transportation Coordinating Groups comprised of representatives of various groups active in the City & Council having an interest in transportation related matters including Iarnród Éireann, Bus Éireann, An Garda Síochána, H.S.E. (West), Galway Rural Development Ltd., Meitheal Forbartha na Gaeltachta, Údaras na Gaeltachta, PAMBO, Galway Harbour Company and the Galway Trades Council.

The Roads & Transportation Unit continued to engage with An Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta through regular meetings to assist in formulating and delivering an extensive work programme for the Gaeltacht and the County's offshore Islands.

A total of 3 meetings were held with Údarás na Gaeltachta during 2009 which addressed a broad range of issues of mutual interest.

Galway County Council working in partnership with Galway City Council and the Galway Transportation Unit submitted an application under the National Sustainable Travel Areas Competition for the Galway Metropolitan Smarter Travel Area, collaborated in the development of a walking and cycling strategy for Galway City & Environs and developed a joint Galway Programme for National Bike Week.

Mayor of the County of Galway, Cllr. Peter Feeney, Mr. Joe MacGrath, Galway City Manager & Mr. John Morgan, Director of Services, Roads & Transportation, Galway County Council at the Joint Launch of the Galway Programme for National Bike Week 2009



The Council worked in partnership with relevant Government Departments, State Agencies, Voluntary Groups and the wider community in providing an appropriate, effective and timely response to the extreme flooding experienced across the County in November/December 2009.

The Roads & Transportation Unit engaged with the Office of Public Works through the Joint Working Committee and other relevant stakeholders including local communities, to address on a priority basis issues related to the flooding experienced in late 2009, with a view to implementing appropriate measures to minimise and in so far as it is possible prevent, a reoccurrence of such flooding.

SAFETY, HEALTH & WELFARE AT WORK:

Galway County Council is committed to performing all of its activities, operations and other services in a manner that eliminates or minimises any adverse impacts on the safety and health of employees, visitors, contractors and suppliers. The Council is also committed to continued improvement in terms of a safe place of work, a reduction in occupational injury and illness and to encouraging personal responsibility for health and safety.

During 2009, the Council's pursuit of excellence in the area of Occupational Health & Safety was recognised in achieving the award of "Best Local Authority" in the National Irish Safety Organisation Awards (NISO) marking the fourth consecutive year that the Council has been recognised in the NISO Awards.

New procedures were developed for Confined Spaces and Asbestos Management and training seminars for staff affected were held in four locations throughout the county. Other procedures advanced during the year included Disease Prevention, Maternity Leave Policy & Procedures and Lone Working.

Training seminars also took place throughout the county for road workers for Signing Lighting & Guarding (SL&G) and Safe System of Work (SSWP) forms.

The Council continued to actively engage with the Local Authority Safety Advisors Group with the Council represented at meetings of the group which were held during 2009. The purpose of the group is to address issues that are pertinent to all local authorities in order to develop a consistent approach by all local authorities.

CUSTOMER SERVICE:

During the extreme flooding experienced in November 2009 the Unit availed of the County Council website www.galway.ie to provide detailed information including mapping of routes impacted by flooding, impassable roads, alternative routes etc. During this period the relevant web pages were viewed 47,000 times by 27,000 visitors to the site.

The Unit also provided a dedicated flooding information phone line and emergency number, which was operational outside of office hours including weekends, providing information on the status of roads, protocol for evacuation and emergency accommodation. In addition, the area offices in the areas impacted by the flooding were open to the public outside normal office hours including weekends.

The Roads & Transportation Unit hosted Supplier Workshops to facilitate the operation of LAQuotes.ie as a means of submitting on-line quotations for supplies and services, plant hire and tool hire for 2010 and continued to provide a Traffic Information Service on www.galway.ie providing information on traffic disruptions arising as a result of road works, temporary road closures and roadwork's speed limits.

MACHINERY YARD:

The supply and maintenance of Plant and Machinery for the Council's use is managed by the Machinery Yard and the Council is committed to the ongoing development of this service in order to provide an efficient and effective resource to facilitate the delivery of the Council's Work Programmes.

The Machinery Yard also played a lead role in coordinating salt gritting operations during the period of severe cold weather experienced in late 2009 thereby ensuring that through the provision of an effective and timely response all national and strategic regional and local roads remained passable.

**COUNCILLORS NOMINATED TO COMMITTEES & OTHER BODIES
2009**

Galway Harbour Board Company

Cllr. Peter Feeney

River Suck Joint Drainage Committee

Cllr. Paul Connaughton

Cllr. Sean Canney

Cllr. Tomas Mannion

West Regional Authority

Comh. Tomas O Curraoin

Cllr. Gerry Finnerty

Cllr. Tiarnan Walsh

Cllr. Peter Feeney

Cllr. Michael Mullins

Cllr. Paul Connaughton

Cllr. Peter Roche

B.M.W. Regional Assembly

Cllr. G Finnerty

Cllr. Tiarnan Walsh

Cllr. Peter Feeney

Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee

Comh. Seosamh O Cuaig

Cllr. Tomas Mannion

Cllr. Gerry Finnerty

Cllr. Peter Feeney

Cllr. Tom McHugh

Cllr. Peter Roche

Cllr. Michael Maher

Cllr. Liam Carroll

Galway County and City Enterprise Board

Cllr. Jimmy McClearn

Galway Rural Development Company

Cllr. Peter Feeney
Cllr. Michael Mullins
Cllr. Jim Cuddy

Athenry Heritage and Tourism Co. Ltd.

Cllr. Peter Feeney
Cllr. Michael Maher

Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd.

Cllr. Jarlath McDonagh

Association of County and City Councils

Cllr. Seamus Walsh
Cllr. Jarlath McDonagh
Cllr. Peter Feeney

General Council of County Councils

Cllr. Mary Hoade
Cllr. Jarlath McDonagh
Cllr. Sean Canney

Fáilte Ireland West

Cllr. Peter Feeney

County and City Tourism Forum

Cllr. Eileen Mannion

County (Local) Rural Water Monitoring Committee

Cllr. Michael Connolly
Cllr. Eileen Mannion
Cllr. Peter Roche

Loughrea Heritage Committee

Cllr. Bridie Willers
Cllr. Michael Maher

Knock Airport Consultative Committee

Cllr. Jim Cuddy

Board of Directors of Corrib Airport Ltd

Cllr. Liam Carroll

Integrated Transport Coordinating Group

Cllr. Colm Keaveney (Chair of Roads S.P.C.)

LAMA

Cllr. Michael Mullins

Meitheal Forbartha na Gaeltachta/Cumas

Comh. Seosamh O Cuaig

Comh. Sean O Tuairisg

Board of Directors of Galway Arts Centre

Cllr. Eileen Mannion

Western Inter-County Rail Committee

Cllr. Michael Connolly

Cllr. Sean Canney

Cllr. Bridie Willers

Cllr. Peter Feeney

Cllr. Peter Roche

County Galway Vocational Education Committee

Cllr. Michael Connolly

Comh. Sean O Tuairisg

Comh. Seosamh O Cuaig

Cllr. Jarlath McDonagh

Cllr. Liam Carroll

Cllr. Michael Mullins

Cllr. Eileen Mannion

Cllr. Paul Connaughton

Cllr. Michael Maher

Regional Health Forum Representation, West

Cllr. Mary Hoade

Cllr. Malachy Noone

Cllr. Colm Keaveney

Cllr. Michael Mullins

Cllr. Tim Broderick

Forum Conamara Ltd.

Cllr. Sean Kyne
Comh. Seosamh O Cuaig
Cllr. Seamus Walsh
Cllr. Thomas Welby

Comhar na nOileán Teoranta

Comh. Seosamh O Cuaig

City and County Liaison Committee

Cllr. Bridie Willers
Cllr. Seosamh O Cuaig
Cllr. Peter Feeney
Cllr. Mary Hoade
Cllr. Jim Cuddy

Galway County Committee of Agriculture & Rural Development (CCARD)

Cllr. Michael Connolly
Cllr. Dermot Connolly

County Development Board

Cllr. Tom McHugh,
Cllr. Tiarnan Walsh,
Cllr. Colm Keaveney
Cllr. Michael Fahy
Cllr. Jim Cuddy
Cllr. Pat Hynes

Western River Basin District Advisory Council

Comh. Sean O Tuairisg

Shannon River Basin District Advisory Council

Cllr. Michael Connolly
Cllr. Dermot Connolly

County Galway Local Sports Partnership

Cllr. Tomás Mannion
Cllr. Dermot Connolly

Joint Policing Committee

The Mayor, (Cllr. Tom McHugh), Comh. Seosamh O Cuaig, Cllr. Sean Canney, Comh. Tomas O Curraoin, Cllr. Mary Hoade, Cllr. Malachy Noone, Cllr. Thomas Welby, Cllr. Tim Broderick, Cllr. Tomas Mannion, Cllr. Jimmy McClearn, Cllr. Colm Keaveney, Comh. Sean O Tuairisg, Cllr. Sean Kyne, Cllr. Michael Fahy, Cllr. Peter Roche

CONFERENCES ATTENDED BY THE ELECTED MEMBERS 2009

	Conference	Organised By	Date & Venue	No. Attended
1	Irish Language Course for Councillors	Esperanza Enterprises	Connemara Coast Hotel, Furbo, Co. Galway 02. – 04.01.2009	3
2	The Greening of Irish Agriculture	Institute of International & European Affairs	Dublin Castle 09.01.2009	2
3	The Local Government Planning Service	Esperanza Enterprises	Hotel Westport, Westport, Co. Mayo 09. – 11.01.2009	7
4	Effective Communications for Councillors	Superior Training	Days Hotel, 1 Merchants Quay, Waterford 16. – 18.01.2009	1
5	Antrim Tourism Conference	Clare Tourist Council & Antrim Borough Council	Dunadry Hotel, Muckamore, Dunadry, Co. Antrim 23. – 24.01.2009	1
6	The Local Government Planning Service	Superior Training	The Granville Hotel, Waterford 23. – 25.01.2009	4
7	Effective Communications for Councillors	Kadenza Consultancies	Clonea Strand Hotel, Clonea, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford 30.01. – 01.02.2009	1
8	Information & Communication Technologies for Councillors	Esperanza Enterprises	The Glendalough Hotel, Glendalough, Co. Wicklow 06. – 08.02.2009	3
9	Spring Seminar 2009	A.M.A.I.	Clanree Hotel, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal 13. – 14.02.2009	15
10	15 th Annual Conference	Mid-West Regional Authority	Woodlands House Hotel, Adare, Co. Limerick 19. – 20.02.2009	4
11	Freedom of Information Seminar	TJK Conferences Ltd.	Patrick Punch Hotel, Limerick 20. – 21.02.2009	4
12	Review & Reform of Local Govt. in Ireland, North/South	Kadenza Consultancies	Bellingham Castle Hotel, Co. Louth 20. – 21.02.2009	2
13	Women of 1916	Enniscorthy Town Council	Riverside Park Hotel, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford 21.02.2009	1
14	Playing Fair Conference	Combat Poverty	Bridgewater House, Combat Poverty Agency, Dublin 8 24.02.2009	1

15	Maximising Your Vote	Third Sector Forum	Red Cow Moran Hotel, Naas Rd., Dublin 22 26. – 28.02.2009	3
16	20 th Colmcille Winter School – Ireland & the Recession	Colmcille Heritage Trust	Colmcille Heritage Centre, Gartan Church Hill, Co. Donegal 27.02. – 01.03.2009	3
17	Count Me In! Including People with a Disability in Local Govt. Structures & Services	Disability Federation of Ireland	Hilton Hotel, Kilmainham, Dublin 03.03.2009	2
18	Revisiting the Cost of Children: Theory & Evidence from Ireland	Combat Poverty	Bridgewater House, Combat Poverty Agency, Dublin 8 03.03.2009	1
19	International Local Govt. Convention	Destination Killarney	INEC Conference Centre, Killarney, Co. Kerry 03. – 06.03.2009	1
20	17 th Annual Kerry Environmental Recognition Conference	Rattoo Heritage Society	Golf Hotel, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry 04. – 08.03.2009	6
21	Ireland & its People (Jobs, economics & skills for the future)	Special Olympics Connaught	Sligo Park Hotel, Pearse Rd., Sligo 05. – 06.03.2009	2
22	Forum for a Nuclear Free Future	All Ireland Nuclear Free Local Authorities	Carrickdale Hotel, Dundalk, Co. Louth 13.03.2009	1
23	Planning & Development Control	Esperanza Enterprises	Glenlo Abbey Hotel, Bushypark, Galway 20. – 22.03.2009	1
24	National Music Symposium	Artscope	St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra, Dublin 9 24.03.2009	1
25	The Economic & Social Benefits of Preserving our Cultural Heritage	Kerry Literary & Cultural Centre	Listowel Arms Hotel, Listowel, Co. Kerry 26. – 27.03.2009	2
26	Civic Leadership & Local Government	Superior Training	Park House Hotel, Edgeworthstown, Co. Longford 27. – 28.03.2009	2
27	Annual Conference 2009	Association of County & City Councils	Kilkenny Ormonde Hotel, Kilkenny 02. – 03.04.2009	4

28	Public Relations & the Media	Kadenza Consultancies	Silver Tassie Hotel, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal 03. – 05.04.2009	1
29	29 th Annual Conference	L.A.M.A.	The Heritage Hotel, Portlaoise, Co. Laois 16. – 17.04.2009	7
30	Is Combatting Poverty a Dead Agenda?	Respond	Osprey Hotel, Naas, Co. Kildare 07.05.2009	1
31	83 rd Annual General Meeting	Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurance	The Burlington Hotel, Dublin 13.05.2009	2
32	Byrne/Perry Summer School 2009	County Wexford Enterprise Board	Christian Brothers School, Wexford St., Gorey 26. – 28.06.2009	6
33	From the Canvass to the Council Chamber	Kadenza Consultancies	West Cork Hotel, Skibbereen, Co. Cork 03. – 05.07.2009	2
34	Effective Local Govt. Policy Making in the current recession	Superior Training	West Cork Hotel, Skibbereen, Co. Cork 10. – 12.07.2009	3
35	Percy French Summer School	Castlecoote House	Castlecoote House, Castlecoote, Co. Roscommon 15. – 21.07.2009	1
36	The Irish Economy – What went wrong? How will we fix it?	MacGill Summer School	Glenties, Co. Donegal 19. – 24.07.2009	7
37	Planning & Building Regulations	Esperanza Enterprises	Carlton Millrace Hotel, Bunclody, Co. Wexford 24. – 26.07.2009	1
38	Renewable Energy & Energy Conservation	Ashford Building Services	Carlton Atlantic Coast Hotel, Westport, Co. Mayo 07. – 09.08.2009	2
39	Leisure & Recreation in Ireland	Parnell Society / Parnell Summer School	Avondale House, Rathdrum, Co. Wicklow 09. – 14.08.2009	1
40	Merriman Summer School 2009 – Are we there yet? Facing the future anew	Cumann Merriman	Ennis, Co. Clare 16. – 22.08.2009	1
41	Humbert Summer School – Can Ireland be Redeemed?	International Humbert School	Art Centre, Ballina, Co. Mayo 20. – 23.08.2009	5
42	Irish Language Course for Councillors	Superior Training	Seaview Hotel, Gweedore, Co. Donegal 28. – 30.08.2009	3
43	Extraordinary General Meeting	Irish Public Bodies Mutual	The Burlington Hotel, Dublin	1

		Insurance	03.09.2009	
44	Planning & the European Law	Ashford Building Services	Days Hotel, 1 Merchants Quay, Waterford 04. – 06.09.2009	3
45	96 th Annual Conference	A.M.A.I.	Gleneagle Hotel, Killarney, Co. Kerry 10. – 12.09.2009	8
46	Ireland the Food Island – A Myth or a Reality?	Agricultural Science Association	Castleknock Hotel & Country Club, Dublin 15 11.09.2009	2
47	7 th National Tourism Conference	Carlow Tourism	Talbot Hotel, Carlow 24 – 26.09.2009	3
48	Local Govt. Seminar for Councillors	TJK Conferences	Patrick Punch Hotel, Limerick 26. – 26.09.2009	5
49	Induction Training for Newly Elected Members	Institute of Public Administration	Glenroyal Hotel, Maynooth, Co. Kildare 30.09.2009	2
50	Are Local Authorities good for your Health? – La Touche Legacy Seminar 2009	Greystones Town Council	Charlesland Golf & Country Club, Greystones, Co. Wicklow 02 – 04.10.2009	4
51	National Rural Development Conference 2009	Teagasc	Silver Springs Hotel, Tivoli, Cork 08.10.2009	6
52	Marketing your area / project for the future	Blackwater Valley Tourism	Hibernian Hotel, Mallow, Co. Cork 08. – 10.10.2009	2
53	Induction Training for Newly Elected Members	Institute of Public Administration	Sligo Park Hotel, Sligo 14.10.2009	4
54	Douglas Hyde Conference 2009 – Culture & the Economy	Roscommon County Council / Arts Office	Abbeyfield Hotel, Ballaghaderreen, Co. Roscommon 16. – 18.10.2009	1
55	Voluntary Housing & Sheltered Housing for the Elderly	Ashford Building Services	Manor West Hotel, Tralee, Co. Kerry 23. – 25.10.2009	1
56	Public Policy Making & the Councillor	Superior Training	Carlton Atlantic Hotel, Westport, Co. Mayo 30.10. – 01.11.2009	2
57	The Ceifin Conference 2009	The Ceifin Centre	West County Hotel, Ennis 03. – 04.11.2009	1
58	Social Inclusion Forum	National Economic & Social Development Office	Croke Park, Dublin 04.11.2009	1

59	International Politics & the Global Economic Crisis	Royal Irish Academy	Academy House, 19 Dawson St., Dublin 2 05.11.2009	1
60	Dynamic Regions	Shannon Development	Thomond Park, Limerick 06.11.2009	2
61	Annual Winter Seminar 2009	L.A.M.A.	Castletroy Park Hotel, Limerick 06. – 07.11.2009	10
62	Time Management, Media & IT Skills Conference	Ace Training & Management	Creggan Court Hotel, Athlone, Co. Westmeath 06. – 08.11.2009	1
63	Mainstreaming Equality	Equality Authority	Dublin Castle 10.11.2009	1
64	Ethics in Public Life	Esperanza Enterprises	Sligo Park Hotel, Sligo 13. – 15.11.2009	5
65	Partnership – Working Together Making a Difference	District Policing Partnerships	Slieve Donard Hotel, Newcastle, Co. Down 17.11.2009	1
66	7 th National Radon Forum	Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland	Royal College of Physicians, 6 Kildare St., Dublin 2 19.11.2009	1
67	Promoting Partnership in Tourism – 21 Years of Progress	Clare Tourist Council	Falls Hotel, Ennistymon, Co. Clare 27. – 28.11.2009	3
68	Information & Communication Technologies for Councillors	Superior Training	Park House Hotel, Edgeworthstown, Co. Longford 01. – 03.12.2009	1
69	The Value of Volunteering	Volunteering Ireland	Morrison Hotel, Dublin 03.12.2009	1
70	Internet Constituents	www.4u.ie	Louis Fitzgerald Hotel, Clondalkin, Dublin 22 04. – 06.12.2009	8
71	Delivering Appropriate Assessment in Ireland	Institute of Environmental Management & Assistance	RDS, Ballsbridge, Dublin 10.12.2009	1
72	The Local Govt. Budget 2010	Superior Training	Carlton Millrace Hotel, Bunclody, Co. Wexford 11. – 13.12.2009	2

	Shannon River Basin District Advisory Council Meetings	Organised By	Venue	No. Attended
1		SRBDAC	Ballymahon, Co. Longford 22.01.2009	2
2		SRBDAC	Dublin 12.02.2009	2
3		SRBDAC	Gormanston, Co. Meath 26.03.2009	1

STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES 2009

The Strategic Policy Committee system is intended to give Councillors and relevant Sectoral interests an opportunity for full involvement in the policy shaping process from the earliest stages. The various SPCs met on several occasions during 2009 to produce policy documents for approval by the full Council.

Housing, Fire & Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee

1. Cllr. Tiarnan Walsh (Chair)
2. Cllr. Thomas Welby
3. Cllr. Bridie Willers
4. Cllr. Tomás Mannion
5. Cllr. Jarlath McDonagh
6. Cllr. Seamus Walsh
7. Cllr. Sally Ann Flanagan (Tuam TC)
8. Cllr. Sylvia Burke (Loughrea TC)
9. Mark Coffey (CIF), Coffey Construction, Athenry, Co. Galway
10. Noel Tarmey (Community/Voluntary), Williamstown, Co. Galway.
11. Dan Dowling (Disadvantaged), Ruane, Creagh, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.
12. Pat Hardiman (ICTU), 14 O'Flaherty Road, Galway.

Roads & Transportation Strategic Policy Committee

1. Cllr. Colm Keaveney (Chair)
2. Cllr. Peter Roche
3. Cllr. Paul Connaughton
4. Comh. Tomás Ó Curraoin
5. Cllr. Peter Feeney
6. Cllr. Michael Connolly
7. Cllr. Mike Kelly (Ballinasloe TC)
8. Michael Long (IRHA), Two Trees, Rosshill, Galway.
9. Aodan Mac Donnacha (Community/Voluntary), An Pairc, An Spidéal, Co. na Gaillimhe.
10. Martin Callanan (Farming), Moyvilla West, Oranmore, Co. Galway.
11. Pat Kane (ICTU), C/o TEEU, Forster Court, Galway.

Planning, Economic Development & Community Strategic Policy Committee

1. Cllr. Michael Fahy (Chair)
2. Cllr. Jimmy McClearn
3. Cllr. Dermot Connolly
4. Cllr. Liam Carroll
5. Comh. Seán O Tuairisg
6. Cllr. Seán Canney
7. Cllr. Geraldine Bane (Loughrea TC)
8. Justin Molloy (CIF), 8 Mountpellier Tce., The Crescent, Galway
9. Michael Naughton (GEAG), Cushmaighmore, Na Forbacha, Co. na Gaillimhe.

10. Ray O'Donoghue (Community/Voluntary), Dublin Road, Oranmore, Co. Galway.
11. Michael Healy (Farming), Lakeview, Moylough, Co. Galway.

Environment & Water Services Strategic Policy Committee

1. Cllr. Jim Cuddy (Chair)
2. Cllr. Eileen Mannion
3. Cllr. Michael Mullins
4. Cllr.. Michael Maher
5. Cllr. Tim Broderick
6. Cllr. Gerry Finnerty
7. Cllr. Lucy Lloyd-Keighery (B'sloe TC)
8. Mark Green (Environmental), Amicus Technology, Slievaun, Clarinbridge, Co. Galway.
9. Christy Cunniffe (Conservation), Clonfert, Co. Galway.
10. Diarmuid Mulcahy (Community/Voluntary), Ballinahallia, Moycullen, Co. Galway.
11. Barry Donnelly (Farming), Conicre, Abbey, Loughrea, Co. Galway.

Corporate Affairs & Cultural Strategic Policy Committee

1. Cllr. Pat Hynes (Chair)
 2. Cllr. Tom McHugh
 3. Cllr. Malachy Noone
 4. Cllr. Seán Kyne
 5. Cllr. Mary Hoade
 6. Comh. Seosamh O Cuaig
 7. Cllr. Shaun Cunniffe (Tuam TC)
 8. Frances O'Reilly (Community/Voluntary), Deerpark, Headford, Co. Galway.
 9. Maura Kelly Stewart (Culture), Kyle na Melly, Woodford, Co. Galway
 10. Bridín Ní Chonceanainn (Islands), An Comhaircumann, Inis Meain, Co. na Gaillimhe
 11. Noreen Ui Dhonnacha (Gaeltacht), Carraig Oisín, Sruthán, An Cheathrú Rua, Co. na Gaillimhe
-

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL 2009

COUNTY MANAGER

Ms. Martina Moloney

CORPORATE & CULTURAL AFFAIRS UNIT

Director of Services:	Mr. Kevin Kelly
Senior Executive Officer, Human Resources:	Ms. Bríd Dooley
Senior Executive Officer, Corporate & Cultural Affairs:	Ms. Breda McDermott
Administrative Officer, Corporate & Cultural Affairs:	Ms. Margaret Jordan
	Mr. Dermot Mahon
Administrative Officer, Human Resources:	Ms. Anne Gardiner
Head of Information Systems:	Mr. Morgan Matthews (Acting)
County Librarian:	Mr. Pat McMahan
Senior Executive Librarians:	Ms. Maureen Moran
	Ms. Bernie Kelly
	Mr. Peter Rabbite
Senior Executive Engineer:	Mr. Steven Lally (Acting)
Law Agent:	Ms. Vivian Raine
Senior Executive Solicitors:	Ms. Angela Casey
	Ms. Anne McCormack (Temp)
Executive Solicitors:	Ms. Margaret Flynn
	Ms. Dorothea Turley(Temp)
	Ms. Noelle Hogan-Chambers (Temp)
	Ms. Orla Reilly (Temp)
Internal Auditor:	Ms. Bernie Welby

COMMUNITY, ENTERPRISE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UNIT

Director of Services:	Mr. Paul Ridge
Senior Executive Officer:	Mr. Ger Scully /
	Ms. Eimear Dolan(Acting)
Administrative Officers:	Mr. Brian Barrett
Community & Enterprise Development Officers:	Ms. Ann Mallaghan
	Mr. Kieran Coyne
Arts Officer:	Ms. Maria Cunningham(Acting)

ENVIRONMENT & WATER SERVICES UNIT

Director of Services:	Mr. Jim Cullen
Senior Executive Officer:	Mr. Colm Wallace
Administrative Officer, Environment:	Mr. Paraic Carroll
Administrative Officer, Water Services:	Mr. Mark O'Donnell
Senior Engineer, Environment:	Ms. Maire Ni Chionna
Senior Engineer, Water Services:	Mr. Liam Gavin
Senior Executive Engineers, Environment:	Mr. Tony McInerney
	Mr. Jim McGuirk (Acting)
Senior Executive Engineers, Water Services:	Ms. Martina Connaughton
	Ms. Fiona Holland
	Mr. John Diskin
	Mr. Paul Batty (Temp)

Chief Technician: Mr. Paul Mulhern (Acting)
 County Veterinary Officer: Ms. Rita Gately

Veterinary Officer: Mr. James Casey
 Mr. Pat McGrath (Temp)

HOUSING AND EMERGENCY SERVICES UNIT

Director of Services: Mr. Frank Gilmore
 Senior Executive Officer: Ms. Jean Brann
 Administrative Officer: Ms. Mary McGann
 Senior Engineer: Mr. Michael Timmins
 Senior Executive Engineers: Mr. Alan Raleigh
 Mr. Michael Sheil
 Senior Social Worker: Ms. Mary Forde
 Chief Fire Officer: Mr. Michael Raftery
 Senior Assistant Chief Fire Officers: Mr. Chris McMullin,
 Mr. Joesph Kelly,
 Mr. Michael Clifford,
 Mr. Paul Duffy
 Civil Defence Officer: Mr. Tom Casserly

PLANNING & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT UNIT

Director of Services: Mr. Paul Ridge
 Senior Executive Officer: Mr. Albert Comer
 Administrative Officer: Mr. Enda Moloney
 Senior Planner: Ms. Catherine McConnell
 Senior Executive Engineers: Mr. Neil Howard
 Mr. Paraic Breathnach
 Senior Executive Planners: Ms. Saoirse Kennedy-Quinn
 Ms. Valerie Loughnane
 Senior Executive Planning: Mr. Noel Burke
 Heritage Officer: Ms. Marie Mannion
 Conservation Officer: Ms. Máirín Doddy

ROADS & TRANSPORTATION UNIT

Director of Services: Mr. John Morgan
 Senior Executive Officer: Mr. Michael Owens
 Administrative Officer: Mr. Sean Groarke
 Senior Engineers: Mr. Jack Eising
 Mr. Michael Dolly
 Mr. Martin Lavelle
 Mr. Evan Molloy
 Senior Executive Engineers: Mr. Aengus Breathnach
 Mr. Noel Forde
 Mr. Tony Collins
 Mr. Rory Timlin
 Mr. Fintan O'Meara
 Mr. Sean Breathnach
 Mr. Uinsinn Finn

Chief Technician:
Health & Safety Officer:
Financial Accountant (NRDO):

Mr. Diarmuid Croghan
Mr. John Leahy
Mr. Anthony Kelly
John Maloney
Ms. Julianne Gavin
Ms. Olivia Heffernan (Temp)

AREA ENGINEERS

Oranmore (Lackagh):
Ballinasloe (East):
Ballinasloe (West):
Clifden:
An Cheathrú Rua:
Oughterard:
Gort:
Loughrea:
Portumna:
Tuam (West):
Tuam (East):

Mr. Enda Gallagher
Mr. Adrian Headd
Mr. Enda Mulryan
Mr. T.J. Redmond
Mr. Pat Clarke
Mr. Feidhlim McGillicuddy
Mr. John Costello
Mr. Adrian Raftery
Mr. Cyril Mitchell
Mr. Peter Gavin
Mr. John Flesk

FINANCE UNIT

Head of Finance:
Financial Accountant:
Management Accountant:
Administrative Officer:
Senior Executive Engineer:
Administrative Officer, Motor Tax:

Mr. Gerard Mullarkey
Ms. Áine Fenton
Mr. Michael McGovern
Ms. Nuala Heffernan
Mr. Paul Duffy
Ms. Eileen Keaveney

BALLINASLOE TOWN COUNCIL

Senior Executive Officer:

Mr. Alan Farrell

WEST REGIONAL AUTHORITY

Director:

Mr. Jim McGovern

PARTNERSHIP FACILITATOR:

Mr. M. J. Walsh

OFFICES OF GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL 2009

HEADQUARTERS:

Áras an Chontae,
Prospect Hill,
Galway.
091 – 509000

FIRE BRIGADE:

Headquarters:
Fr. Griffin Road,
Galway.
091 - 570900

Housing Applications	(091) 509300
Housing Loans and Grants	(091) 509301
Environment	(091) 476402
Human Resources	(091) 509303
Motor Taxation	(091) 509099
Driving Licences	(091) 509305
Water Services	(091) 476427
Community, Enterprise & Economic Dev.	(091) 476400
Planning	(091) 509308
Engineering	(091) 509309
Register of Electors	(091) 509310
Higher Education Grants	(091) 509310

AREA OFFICES:**TELEPHONE NO.**

Athenry	(091)	844042
Lackagh	(091)	737020
Ballinasloe	(09096)	42274
Portumna	(09097)	41019
Gort	(091)	631040
An Cheathrú Rua	(091)	595771
Clifden	(095)	21186
TuamEast (Tuam)	(093)	24123
Tuam East (Mountbellew)	(09096)	79221
Tuam West (Milltown)	(093)	51314
Loughrea	(091)	841536
Oughterard	(091)	552353

OPENING HOURS – MONDAY TO FRIDAY:

GENERAL: 9.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.

MOTOR TAXATION: 9.00 a.m. – 3.30 p.m.

OTHER LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN THE COUNTY 2009



BALLINASLOE TOWN COUNCIL

Ballinasloe Town Council, Civic Offices, Ballinasloe

Tel: (09096) 42263

Cllr. Jerry Broderick	54 St. Joseph's Place, Ballinasloe
Cllr. Cathal Concannon	Harbour Road Ballinasloe
Cllr. Matthew Ganly	Dunlo Hill Ballinasloe.
Cllr. Carmel Grealy	Brackernagh, Ballinasloe
Cllr. Mike Kelly	4 Oakmill Drive, Derrymullen,
Cllr. Lucy Lloyd-Keighery	27 St. Brendan's Terrace, Ballinasloe.
Cllr. Aidan McGrath	Ardcarn House Shannonbridge Road, Ballinasloe.
Cllr. Pat O'Sullivan	7, Kilgarve Park, Ballinasloe.
Cllr. Johnny Walsh	59 St. Joseph's Place, Ballinasloe.
Town Clerk: Mr. Alan Farrell	



TUAM TOWN COUNCIL

Tuam Town Council, Shop Street, Tuam

Tel: (093) 24246

Cllr. Tom Reilly	20 Trinity Court Galway Road Tuam
Cllr. Sally Anne Flanagan	12 Woodfield Galway Road Tuam
Cllr. Peter Warren	64 Athenry Road Tuam
Cllr. Mary Loftus	High Street Tuam
Cllr. Eamonn Kitt	Weir Road Tuam
Cllr. Imelda Kelly	3 Waterslade Downs Tullinadaly Road Tuam
Cllr. Lary Bane	3 the Oaks, Ballygaddy Road Tuam
Cllr. Shaun Cunniffe	Ballygaddy Road Tuam
Cllr. Martin Ward	36 Tirboy, Tuam
Town Clerk: Ms Angela Holian	



LOUGHREA TOWN COUNCIL

Loughrea Town Council, Barrack Street, Loughrea

Tel: (091) 841536

Cllr. Geraldine Bane	17 Fahy Gardens, Loughrea.
Cllr. Gabriel Burke	Main Street, Loughrea.
Cllr. Sylvia Burke	Hollyhill, Gurty Madden, Loughrea.
Cllr. Jimmy Curley	8 Tullagh Na Corraig, Loughrea.
Cllr. Mary Gunter-Nix	Garrybreeda, Loughrea.
Cllr. Pat Hynes	Gort Road, Loughrea.
Cllr. Michael 'Moegie' Maher	Clostoken Loughrea.
Cllr. Norman Morgan	Bride Street, Loughrea.
Cllr. James Regan	Earlspark, Loughrea.
Town Clerk: Ms. Ann Power	

SERVICE INDICATORS 2009

F: FIRE SERVICE

F1: Fire Service Mobilisation

A. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of fire	2.49
B. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of fire	5.07
C. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of all other emergency incidents	2.70
D. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of all other emergency incidents	5.02

F.2 Percentage of attendances at scenes

A. Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	47.48
B. Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	30.12
C. Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	22.41
D. Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	39.47
E. Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	45.60
F. Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	14.93

F.3 Fire Prevention

A. Total number of fire safety certificate applications received	239	Total consists of County 141 and City 98
B. Total number of fire safety certificate applications processed (including cases deemed invalid)	206	Consists of County 121 and City 85
C. Total number of applications deemed invalid	34	Consists of County 20 and City 14

CP: COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION**CP.1 Participation in local Youth Council/Comhairle na n-Og scheme**

Percentage of local schools and youth groups involved in the local Youth Council/ Comhairle na n-Og scheme 70

CP.2 Groups registered with the Community and Voluntary Forum

Number of groups registered with the Community and Voluntary Forum 540

C: CORPORATE ISSUES**C.1 Working Days lost to Sickness**

A. Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through certified leave 4.185

B. Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through uncertified leave 0.492

C.2 Staff Training and Development

Expenditure on Training and Development as a percentage of total payroll costs: 4.49 Includes Galway Co Co & Ballinasloe TC

E: ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**WATER****E.1 Unaccounted For Water**

Unaccounted for water (UFW) as a percentage of total volume of water supplied under the water supply schemes that the local authority is responsible for Dept figs

E.2 Drinking Water Analysis –Compliance with Statutory Requirements

A. Percentage of drinking water analysis results in compliance with statutory requirements with regard to public schemes 95

B. Percentage of drinking water analysis results in compliance with statutory requirements with regard to private schemes (where appropriate) 92.4

WASTE MANAGEMENT**E.3 Waste Segregation**

A. Percentage of households who receive a waste collection service and are provided with segregated waste collection for dry recyclables 76.34

B. Percentage of households who receive a waste collection service And are provided with segregated waste collection for organics 6.39

E4: Housing Waste Sent for Recycling

A. Percentage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is sent for recycling 33.45

B. Tonnage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is sent for recycling 14665

C. Tonnage of households waste recycled, which arises from waste collected from recycling facilities sent for recycling 5795

E5: Household Waste Sent for Landfill

A. The percentage of household waste collected which is sent to landfill	56.78
B. The tonnage of household waste collected which is sent to landfill	28182

E6: Recycling Facilities**Glass**

A. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	86
B. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	4
C. The total number of facilities for recycling	90
D. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	2.83

Cans

E. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	86
F. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	4
G. The total number of facilities for recycling	90
H. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	2.83

Textiles

I. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	68
J. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	4
K. The total number of facilities for recycling	72
L. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	2.26

Batteries

M. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	0
N. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	4
O. The total number of facilities for recycling	4
P. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	0.13

Oils

Q. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	0
R. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	3
S. The total number of facilities for recycling	3
T. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	0.09

Other materials

U. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	0
V. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	4
W. The total number of facilities for recycling	4
X. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	0.13

E7: Litter Prevention and Enforcement

A. Number of full-time litter wardens	0
B. Number of part-time litter wardens	16
C. Number of litter wardens (both full- and part-time) per 5,000 population	0.50
D. Number of on-the-spot fines issued	754
E. Number of on-the-spot fines paid	360
F. Number of prosecution cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	38
G. Number of prosecutions secured in cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	6
H. Number of notices issued (under sections 9, 15, 16, 17 and 20 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997)	0
I. Total number of prosecutions taken (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	40
J. Total number of prosecutions secured (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	6
K. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are unpolluted (i.e. litter-free)	13.25
L. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are slightly polluted with litter	36.42
M. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are moderately polluted with litter	33.77
N. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are significantly polluted with litter	15.89
O. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are grossly polluted with litter	0.66

E8: Environmental Complaints and Enforcement

A. Total number of cases subject to complaints concerning environmental pollution (relating to waste, litter, water pollution, noise pollution, air pollution)	1161
B. Number of complaints investigated	1376
C. Number of complaints resolved where no further action was necessary	922
D. Number of enforcement procedures taken	129

E9: Percentage of schools participating in environmental campaigns

A. Percentage of primary schools participating in environmental campaigns	93.33
B. Percentage of secondary schools participating in environmental campaigns	86.49

H: HOUSING**H1: Housing Vacancies**

A. The total number of dwellings in local authority stock	2353
B. The total number of dwellings, excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects	2353
C. The overall percentage of dwellings that are empty (excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects)	5.27
D. The percentage of empty dwellings unavailable for letting	95.16
E- The percentage of empty dwellings available for letting	4.84

H2: Average Time Taken to Re-let Available dwellings

The average time taken (in weeks) from the date of vacation of dwelling to the date when all necessary repairs are carried out which are deemed necessary to re-let the dwelling	30.13
The average time taken (in weeks) from the works (above) being completed to the date of the first rent debit	1.40

H3: Housing Repairs

Number of repairs completed as a percentage of the number of valid repair requests received	42.35
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H4: Traveller Accommodation

Total number of traveller families accommodated as a percentage of the targets set in the local traveller accommodation programme	69.70
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H5: Enforcement of standards in the private rented sector

A. Total number of registered tenancies	PRTB data
B. Number of dwelling units inspected	438
C. Number of inspections carried out	488
D. Number of dwellings inspected as percentage of registered tenancies (i.e. B as percentage of A)	PRTB data

H6: Grants to adapt housing for the needs of people with a disability

A. Average time taken (in weeks) to process applications under the Mobility Aids Grant Scheme, including any necessary inspection(s), from the date of receipt of a valid application to the date of decision on the application	15
B. Average time taken (in weeks) to process applications under Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability, including any necessary inspection(s), from the date of receipt, to the date of decision on the application	15

H7: Pre-Tenancy Familiarisation Courses

A. Total number of new local authority tenants	138
B. Percentage of new local authority tenants who have been offered pre-tenancy familiarisation courses	100

L: LIBRARY SERVICES**L.1 Library Public Opening Hours**

A. Average number of opening hours per week for full-time libraries	34.06
B. Average number of opening hours per week for part-time libraries (where applicable)	11.75
C. Percentage of full time libraries that have lunchtime openings	20
D. Percentage of full time libraries that have evening openings	100
E. Percentage of full time libraries that have Saturday openings	100

L.2 Library Visits

Number of visits to full time libraries per 1,000 population	3798.07	Population includes County & City 231,670
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L.3 Library Stock

A. Annual expenditure on stock per head of population (county/city wide)	0.43	Population includes County & City 231670
B. Number of items issued per head of population (county/city wide) for books	2.65	Population includes County & City 231670
C. Number of items issued per head of population (county/city wide) for other items	0.09	Population includes County & City 231670

L.4 Internet Access through Libraries

Number of Internet sessions provided per 1,000 population	306.59
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M: MOTOR TAXATION**M.1 Number of Motor Tax Transactions**

A. Number of motor tax transactions which are dealt with over the counter	163376
B. Number of motor tax transactions which are dealt with by post	33287
C. Number of motor tax transactions which are dealt with in other ways (e.g. online, by telephone)	85437
D. Percentage of motor tax transactions which are dealt with over the counter	57.91
E. Percentage of motor tax transactions which are dealt with by post	11.80
F. Percentage of motor tax transactions which are dealt with in other ways (e.g. online, by telephone)	30.29

M.2 Time Taken to Process Motor Tax Postal Applications

A. Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the same day as receipt of the application	27484
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B. Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the second or third day from receipt of the application	5449
C. Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the fourth or fifth day from receipt of the application	98
D. Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) in over five days from receipt of the application	256
E. Percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the same day as receipt of the application	82.57
F. Percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the second or third day from receipt of the application	16.37
G. Percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the fourth or fifth day from receipt of the application	0.29
H. Percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) in over five days from receipt of the application	0.77

M.3 Time Taken to Process Driving Licence Applications

A. Number of Driving Licence applications which are dealt with on the same day as receipt of the application	2705
B. Number of Driving Licence applications which are dealt with on the second or third day from receipt of the application	17929
C. Number of Driving Licence applications which are dealt with on the Fourth or fifth day from receipt of the application	3033
D. Number of Driving Licence applications which are dealt with in over five days from receipt of the application	1321
E. Percentage of overall driving Licence applications which are dealt with on the same day as receipt of the application	10.83
F. Percentage of overall driving Licence applications which are dealt with on the second or third day from receipt of the application	71.75
G. Percentage of overall driving Licence applications which are dealt with on the fourth or fifth day from receipt of the application	12.14
H. Percentage of overall driving Licence applications which are dealt with in over five days from receipt of the application	5.29

M.4 Public opening hours

Average number of opening hours per week	32.50
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P: PLANNING

P.1 Planning Applications - Decision Making

Individual Houses

A. Number of applications decided	807
B. Number of decisions in Column A which were decided within 8 weeks	208
C. Number of decisions in Column A which required the submission of further information	370
D. Number of decisions in Column A where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and development Act 2000	229
E. Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application	79.8

where further information was sought	
F. Percentage of applications granted	77.94
G. Percentage of applications refused	22.06
H. Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	44.44
I. Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	55.56

New Housing Development

A. Number of applications decided	70
B. Number of decisions in Column A which were decided within 8 weeks	12
C. Number of decisions in Column A which required the submission of further information	35
D. Number of decisions in Column A where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and development Act 2000	23
E. Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	81.20
F. Percentage of applications granted	64.29
G. Percentage of applications refused	35.71
H. Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	43.24
I. Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	56.76

Other: Not requiring Environment Impact Assessment

A. Number of applications decided	1314
B. Number of decisions in Column A which were decided within 8 weeks	849
C. Number of decisions in Column A which required the submission of further information	370
D. Number of decisions in Column A where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and development Act 2000	95
E. Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	80.13
F. Percentage of applications granted	91.78
G. Percentage of applications refused	8.22
H. Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	68.18
I. Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	31.82

Other: Requiring Environment Impact Assessment

A. Number of applications decided	14
B. Number of decisions in Column A which were decided within 8 weeks	8
C. Number of decisions in Column A which required the submission of further information	6
D. Number of decisions in Column A where an extension of time	0

was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and development Act 2000

E. Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	94
F. Percentage of applications granted	78.57
G. Percentage of applications refused	21.43
H. Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	66.67
I. Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	33.33

P.2 Planning Enforcement

A. Total number of cases subject to complaints that were investigated	515
B. Total number of cases subject to complaints that were dismissed	72
C. Total number of cases subject to complaints that were resolved through negotiations	112
D. Number of enforcement procedures taken through warning letters	360
E. Number of enforcement procedures taken through enforcement notices	189
F. Number of prosecutions	13

P.3 Planning Public opening hours

Average number of opening hours per week	34
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P.4 Pre-Planning Consultation

A. Number of pre-planning consultation meetings held	660
B. Average length of time (in days) from request for consultation with local authority to actual formal meeting for pre-planning consultation	17.2

P.5 New Buildings inspected

Buildings inspected as a percentage of new buildings notified to the local authority	0
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P.6 Taking Estates in Charge

A- The number of residential estates for which the planning permission has expired, in respect of which formal written requests for taking in charge (from residents or developers), were on hands at the beginning of the year	28
B- Number of estates that were taken in charge in the year in question	9
C- Number of dwellings in respect of column B	252
D- Percentage of estates in column A not completed to satisfaction of the planning authority in line with the planning permission	53.57
E- Number of estates in column D in respect of which enforcement action was taken in the year in question and/or the bond was called in	0
F- Number of estates in column D in respect of which works were undertaken by the authority to bring the estate to taking in charge	0

standard

Rec: RECREATIONAL SERVICES

Rec.1 Children's Playgrounds

A. Number of children's playgrounds per 1,000 population directly provided by the local authority 0.09

B. Number of children's playgrounds per 1,000 population facilitated by the local authority 0.13

Rec.2 Local Authority-Facilitated Leisure Facilities

Number of visitors to local authority-facilitated leisure facilities per 1,000 population 1242.3

Rev: REVENUE COLLECTION

Rev.1 House Rent

A. Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due from House Rent 89.09

B. Percentage of arrears on House Rent that are 4-6 weeks old 8.72

C. Percentage of arrears on House Rent that are 6-12 weeks old 10.98

D. Percentage of arrears on House Rent that are more than 12 weeks old 70.99

Rev.2 Housing Loans

A. Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due from Housing Loans 85.96

B. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are 1 month old 5.86

C. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are 2-3 months old 13.66

D. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are more than 3 months old 80.48

Rev.3 Commercial Rates

Amount collected at year-end as a percentage of amount due from Commercial rates 80.83

Rev.4 Refuse Charges

Percentage of households paying refuse charges (including waivers) at year end 0

Rev.5 Non-Domestic Water Charges

Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due for Non-Domestic Water Charges 50

R: ROADS

R1: Road Restoration Programme

Number of kilometres of local and regional roads improved and maintained under the Restoration Programme per annum

313.33 kms

The reduction from 2008 to 2009 is directly related to the reduction in grant allocations arising from the Supplementary Budget of 7th April 2009 as notified to the Council by Circular RLR 08/2009 dated 14th April 2009. The reduction also reflect the additional flexibility granted by Circular RLR 16/2009 dated 14th July 2009 to transfer portion (up to a maximum of 20%) of the Restoration Maintenance Grant for Discretionary Maintenance type works.

Number of kilometres of local and regional roads constructed under the specific improvement grants scheme per annum

19.76 kms:

The reduction in the number of kilometres of local and regional roads constructed under the specific improvement grants scheme in 2009 compared to that of 2008 is directly related to the reduction in grant allocations for the specific improvements grant scheme arising from the Supplementary Budget of 7th April 2009 and as notified to the Council by Circular RLR 08/2009 dated 14th April 2009.



UPDATE ON DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTION SCHEME 2009

Mr. Gerard Mullarkey Head of Finance

Galway County Council adopted a Development Contribution Scheme under Section 48 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 to apply to all planning decisions made on or after the 8th March 2004.

In order to meet the Council's core objectives, as outlined in the Corporate Plan, there is a requirement for significant investment in creating the necessary infrastructure to meet the needs of an expanding population. The Development Contribution Scheme is designed to help bridge the funding gap between the actual costs of creating that infrastructure and the exchequer and other funding that will be available. Since the inception of the scheme, whilst significant funding has been raised, the demands being placed on the Council are proving to far exceed the funding available.

The attached table illustrates this point where from the inception of the scheme we have received **€34.32** million to the end of December 2009, however we have commitments totalling **€34.3 million**. In addition I have listed details of our known commitments for projects due to commence in 2010 and beyond which total **€101.5 million** demonstrating the large funding gap that must be bridged to ensure that these projects proceed as planned.

Galway County Council also has significant demand for the development of our roads infrastructure to support development and growth, which is unlikely to be funded from existing resources. It will be necessary to revisit the existing Development Contribution Scheme if it is the intention to advance these desirable projects.

Summary of Development Contribution Scheme to 31 December 2009

Development Contributions Income	
Year ended 31 December 2005	5,677,011
Year ended 31 December 2006	11,046,830
Year ended 31 December 2007	7,869,865
Year ended 31 December 2008	5,785,676
Year ended 31 December 2009	3,943,961
Total Income Received	<u><u>34,323,343</u></u>

Development Contributions Committed	
Water and Waste Water Facilities	31,950,000
Recreation & Amenity	2,350,000
Funds Committed	<u>34,300,000</u>

Estimated Future Demands	
Water and Waste Water Facilities	90,000,000
Recreation & Amenity	8,500,000
Car Parking Facilities	2,500,000
Subtotal of future demands	<u>101,500,000</u>

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2009

Income & Expenditure Account

EXPENDITURE	2008 €M	2009 €M
Housing	10.913	10.236
Roads	53.490	41.264
Sanitary Services	23.186	23.466
Planning & Development	11.003	8.548
Environmental Protection	18.774	17.257
Recreation & Amenity	8.861	7.700
Agriculture & Education	19.322	21.452
Miscellaneous Services	8.837	9.455
Total Expenditure	154.386	139.378
INCOME		
State Grants	104.368	92.480
Other Sources	52.323	54.757
Total Income	156.691	147.237
Surplus / (Deficit) for year before transfers	2.305	7.859
Transfers from / (to) Reserves	(4.217)	(7.982)
Overall Surplus / (Deficit) for year	(1.912)	(0.123)
General Revenue Reserve at 1st January	0.763	(1.149)
General Revenue Reserve at 31st December	(1.149)	(1.272)

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2009

Net Assets	2008 €M	2008 €M	2009 €M	2009 €M
Fixed Assets		3,497.766		3,515.520
Work in Progress and Preliminary Expenses		356.526		425.023
Long Term Debtors		48.611		48.414
Current Assets	57.812		87.266	
Liabilities (Amounts falling due within one year)	<u>(39.244)</u>		<u>(50.250)</u>	
Net Current Assets / (Liabilities)		18.568		37.016
Creditors (Amounts falling due after one year)		105.524		122.187
Total		<u>3,815.947</u>		<u>3,903.786</u>
Represented By				
Capitalisation Account		3,497.766		3,515.520
Receipts - Work in Progress		340.411		419.156
Other Reserves		(21.081)		(29.618)
General Revenue Reserve		(1.149)		(1.272)
Total		<u>3,815.947</u>		<u>3,903.786</u>

Further details of the AFS are available on request:

PROMPT PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS ACT 1997

GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL OBSERVES THE REQUIREMENT OF THE PROMPT PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS ACT 1997.

LOCAL ELECTIONS 2009 - CANDIDATE EXPENDITURE

Successful Candidates

Conamara Electoral Area.

Surname	First Name	Personal Spend	Total Spend
O'Curraoin	Tomas	3,200.00	3,200.00
Mannion	Eileen	6,359.42	7,452.92
Kyne	Sean	2,619.75	2,619.75
Walsh	Seamus	2,303.78	2,303.78
O'Tuairisg	Sean	1,983.23	1,983.23
Welby	Tomas	4,311.69	8,861.69
O'Cuaig	Seosamh	2,050.00	2,050.00

Ballinasloe Electoral Area

Surname	First Name	Personal Spend	Total Spend
Mullins	Michael	3,276.00	4,740.00
Broderick	Tim	2,192	4,392.49
Connaughton	Paul	3,077.45	3,077.45
Mannion	Tomas	2,552.61	2,552.61
Connolly	Dermot	1581	1,581.00

Oranmore Electoral Area

Surname	First Name	Personal Spend	Total Spend
Cuddy	Jim	3,398.12	3,398.12
Carroll	Liam	5,779.00	7,175.00
McDonagh	Jarlath	1,788.74	1,788.74
Noone	Malachy	1,000.00	3,330.00

Tuam Electoral Area

Surname	First Name	Personal Spend	Total Spend
Connolly	Michael	7,019.04	11,374.04
Canney	Sean	8,251.40	9,251.40
Roche	Peter	5,126.50	6,560.00
McHugh	Tom	3,862.50	5,326.50
Hoade	Mary	900.00	10,056.20
Keaveney	Colm	3,000	3,560.00
Walsh	Tiernan	1,962.00	3,395.00

Loughrea Electoral Area

Surname	First Name	Personal Spend	Total Spend
Fahy	Michael	10,439.78	10,439.78
Hynes	Pat	5,300.00	5,300.00
Finnerty	Gerry	2,000.00	8,751.00
McClearn	Jimmy	1,500.00	8,093.56
Willers	Bridie	2,986.84	4,451.34
Feeney	Peter	1,808.80	3,273.30
Maher	Michael 'Moegie'	2,683.00	3,388.00

Unsuccessful Candidates.			
Connemara Electoral Area			
Surname	First Name	Personal Spend	Total Spend
O Laoi	Seosamh	3,430.20	4,894.20
NiFhatharta	Connie	1,511.00	1,511.00
O'Connor	Louise	273.78	2,968.78
Conneely	Josie	4,998.56	4,998.56
Walsh	Chris	40.00	40.00
Coyne	Kenneth	200.00	1,805.00
O'Clochartaigh	Trevor	Nil	2,928.00
Ballinasloe Electoral Area			
Surname	First Name	Personal Spend	Total Spend
Flynn	Clare	105	205.00
Finnerty	Michael	1,595.76	3,060.26
Good	John	1,085.00	2,549.50
Joyce	James	2,919.61	4,552.61
Oranmore Electoral Area			
Surname	First Name	Personal Spend	Total Spend
Fox	Eamon	875.6	2,273.22
Eames	Michael	2,706.55	4,383.55
Farrell	Josette	184	3,534.43
Kilroe	Delores	2,075.36	7,055.36
O'Rourke	Enda	4,648.05	7,240.48
Marley	Anna	665.50	665.50
Coyle	Eamon	Nil	Nil
Tuam Electoral Area			
Surname	First Name	Personal Spend	Total Spend
Hehir	Sean	2,939.00	2,939.00
Reilly	Tom	5,933.00	5,933.00
Carey	Michael	2,545.53	3,979.03
Morahan	Grainne		Did not make return
Loughrea Electoral Area			
Surname	First Name	Personal Spend	Total Spend
Burke	Willie	3,150.00	3,633.00
Burke	Gabriel	2,361.50	2,361.50
Feeney	Adrian	3,290.00	3,290.00
Glynn	Enda		Did not make return
Regan	Michael	7,427.38	7,427.38
Creed	Patrick	763.75	963.75
McDonnell	P.J.	145.60	3,639.50
Higgins	Lorraine	3,153.10	3,153.10