

Kerry Local Authorities

Annual Report 2009





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Foreword by The Mayor

As Mayor of Kerry, it gives me great pleasure to introduce the 2009 Kerry Local Authorities Annual Report.

A quick look back at the year shows how busy it was, for Kerry County Council and the three Town Councils. However, for the majority of elected representatives, the Local Elections in June stands out the most.

On behalf of my fellow councillors, I would like to thank everybody who participated in the democratic process. To the councillors who did not return to the Council Chamber for various reasons, your years of service as elected representatives are greatly appreciated. To those who were unsuccessful in their attempt to win a Council seat, I thank you for taking the brave decision to put yourself forward as a candidate.

During the year, significant work was carried out by both the outgoing Council, and the new Council in the Council chamber. Chief among these was the adoption of the Kerry County Development Plan 2009-2015 in May 2009.

The importance of the County Development Plan cannot be understated for it sets out a blueprint for the future development of the county in a proper and sustainable manner.

Given the many meetings and discussions that were held while the plan was being drafted, there is no doubt that the elected members had significant input into the Plan. That is as it should be, and it is a document that should serve the county and this Council well over the next six years.

On a personal level, to see work start on the Castleisland Bypass was a proud moment for me as a Castleisland man. The work, which is expected to finish towards the end of 2010 has brought about a positive impact on the local economy, and will transform Castleisland town once it is open.

Given the current economic downturn, for such a significant infrastructural project to take place in Kerry is a huge boost. It will significantly reduce travel times for those travelling to and from Limerick and further afield.

In these difficult economic times, the spirit of the community comes to the fore, and we have seen this happen around the county with neighbour helping neighbour and communities coming together to make

their part of the county a better place.

The Kerry Community Awards honours these community groups and individuals, and as Mayor of Kerry, it is an honour to pay tribute to them.

It was also fitting to see three Kerry community groups short listed for the All-Ireland Pride of Place Awards. Portmagee, Glenbeigh and Iveragh Park, Killorglin represented Kerry in the Pride of Place Awards, with Iveragh Park capturing the top prize in the Housing Estates category.

On behalf of my fellow councillors and the people of the county, I would also like to pay a special tribute to the Council staff for their work during 2009.

Two periods of time during the year stand out for me: the flooding in November and the ice and snow at Christmas.

Council staff were out in all types of weather, in all hours trying to ensure that as few people as possible were inconvenienced. Their efforts ensured that the impact of these events was minimised, and from the many telephone calls I received over the past few months, their efforts were appreciated by the people of Kerry.

I would like to thank Council Management and Staff for their assistance to me personally and to my fellow Councillors during 2009. Long may this positive working relationship continue.



Cllr Bobby O'Connell
Mayor of Kerry



County Manager's Statement

As Kerry County Manager, I am pleased to present the 2009 Annual Report for Kerry County Council and the Town Councils of Killarney, Listowel & Tralee.

The large number of work programmes and projects carried out by the staff and management of the four councils over the course of 2009 has helped to improve the quality of life for the people of Kerry and visitors to this county. I would like to place on record my appreciation to the staff of the Kerry Local Authorities for their efforts in making Kerry a better place.

This work was carried out at a time of continuing insecurity in the financial climate, both nationally and globally. Kerry Local Authorities is no different to anybody else and has been impacted by the economic downturn, in terms of reduced budgets, staffing reductions, and stricter controls on work programmes.

As a result, difficult decisions have to be made in relation to the provision of services, with continued emphasis on the key areas of roads, housing, water and wastewater. Greater emphasis also continues to be placed on providing value for money in all of the work the Council carries out.

In addition to its work programmes and provision of services, Kerry County Council has a role to play in relation to the regulation of a number of activities.

At national and EU level, particular emphasis has been placed on environmental issues, especially in relation to the quality of drinking water and the safe discharge of wastewater. Overseeing these regulatory issues places additional pressures on the Council's existing resources.

However, the positives must also be taken on board. With a revenue budget of €130m, Kerry County Council still has significant resources to provide its services to the people of county, and continues to do so.

When considering the work of Kerry County Council in developing Kerry in a proper and sustainable manner, the County Development Plan plays a key role in shaping the future of this county. To this end, the adoption of the Kerry County Development Plan 2009-2015 in May 2009 was a significant achievement for the county.

Replacing the 2003-2008 County Development Plan, a large amount of work has been put into formulating a vision for the county over the next six years.

I would like to express my appreciation to the Forward Planning Unit for the work they put into bringing this document through the many stages. I would also like to thank the elected members for the time they took and consideration they gave to the Development Plan as it moved through the draft stages.

It is my hope that this Plan will assist the county and Council through these difficult economic times, and leave us well placed to prosper when the financial climate improves.

Following on from the adoption of a new County Development Plan, the process of reviewing each of the 12 Local Area Plans for Kerry began. Under the Planning & Development Act, the Council is legally obliged to review these plans every six years. The first of these, the Castleisland Local Area Plan was formally adopted in December.

Also adopted in November 2009 was the Corporate Plan 2009-2014. This sets out the Council's strategic objectives and key actions necessary to achieve these objectives, and also includes performance measurements to allow us to judge our progress.

With the continued economic downturn, Kerry County Council is working with the various agencies to help improve the environment to attract businesses to the county. KEAT (Kerry Enterprise Action Team) is the vehicle through which these agencies work together to promote Kerry.

Our peripherality continues to be a challenge, and while the physical infrastructure continues to improve, further work is needed to reduce the distance between the major economic and population centres. This is particularly true of our Broadband requirements. The MANS Broadband systems installed in Tralee, Killarney, Listowel and Castleisland are being operated by E-net, providing high-speed broadband access to businesses.





County Manager's Statement

However the roll-out of wireless broadband throughout the rest of county is a work in progress through the National Broadband Scheme. It is my wish that Kerry's broadband capability is significantly improved over the coming years to help reduce our geographical peripherality.

As a Council, Kerry must work together to promote the county as a positive place to live, work and visit. To achieve all of this, a positive working relationship between the elected representatives and the Council Executive is crucial. I am delighted that this is the case in Kerry.

The Local Elections in June saw some new faces enter the Council Chamber and some old faces depart. To those who retired or failed to get elected, I would like to thank you for your commitment to the county during your tenure. To those newly elected and those re-elected I look forward to working with you on behalf of the people of Kerry over the next five years.



Tom Curran
Kerry County Manager



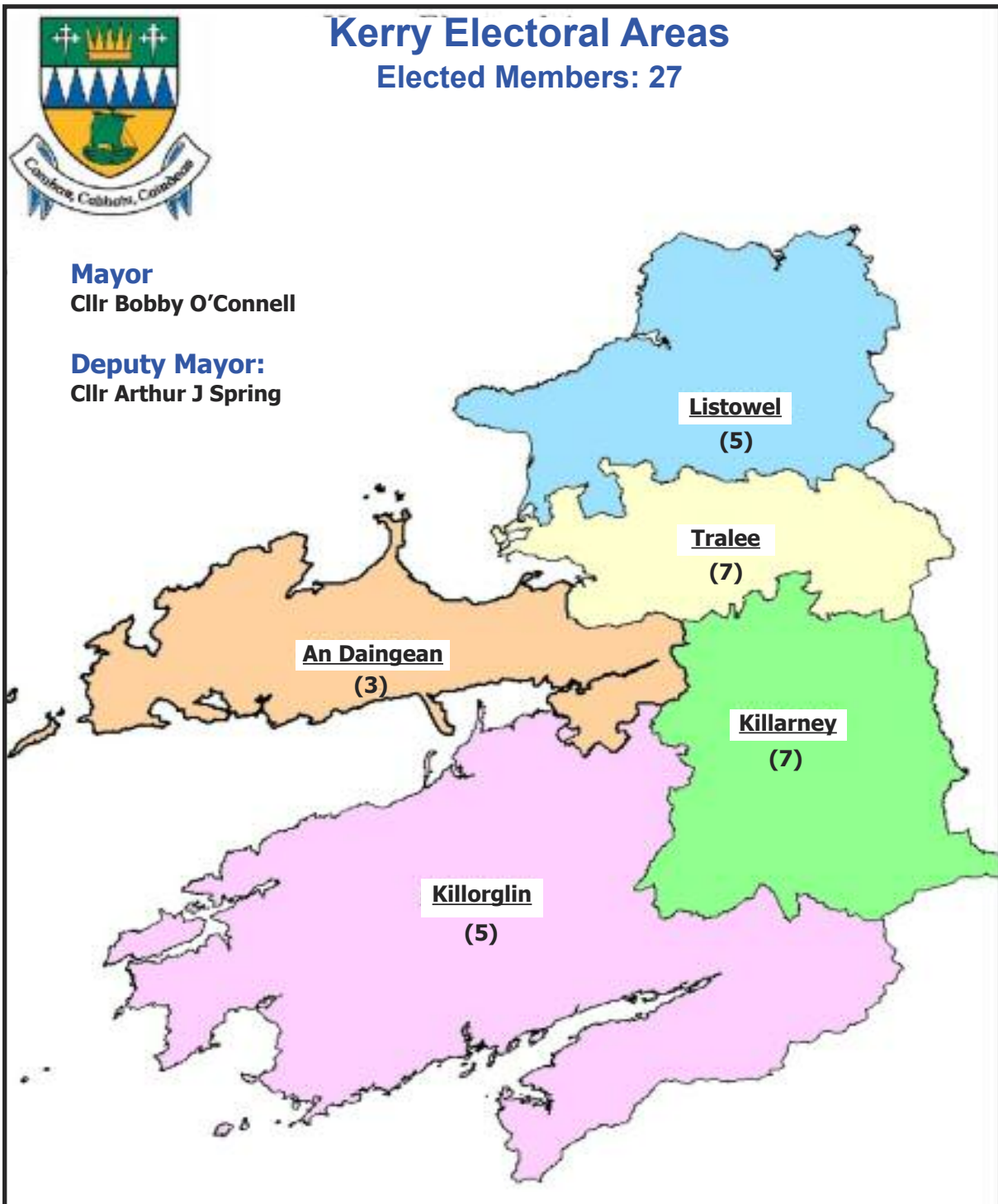


Report on the Activities of Kerry County Council





Membership of Kerry County Council 2009





Membership of Kerry County Council 2009

Killorglin Electoral Area January-June 2009



Cllr Michael Cahill (FF)
Rossbeigh,
Glenbeigh



Cllr Michael Connor-Scarteen (FG)
Main St,
Kenmare.
(Resigned on 2/1/2009)



Cllr Patrick Connor-Scarteen (FG)
5 Main St,
Kenmare.
(Co-opted on 19/01/2009)



Cllr Michael Healy-Rae,
Sandymount,
Kilgarvan



Cllr Johnny O'Connor (FG)
Ardmoniel,
Killorglin



Cllr Paul O'Donoghue, (FF)
Castlequin,
Caherciveen

Killorglin Electoral Area June-December 2009



Cllr Michael Cahill (FF)
Rossbeigh,
Glenbeigh



Cllr Patrick Connor-Scarteen (FG)
5 Main St,
Kenmare



Cllr PJ Donovan (FG)
High Street,
Caherciveen



Cllr Michael Healy-Rae,
Sandymount,
Kilgarvan



Cllr Paul O'Donoghue, (FF)
Castlequin,
Caherciveen





Membership of Kerry County Council 2009

Killarney Electoral Area January-June 2009



Cllr Brendan Cronin,
Rathcomane,
Ballyhar,
Killarney



Cllr Tom Fleming, (FF)
Scartaglin Village,
Killarney.



Cllr Michael Gleeson,
(Sth. Kerry Ind. Alliance)
Clasheen,
Killarney



Cllr Danny Healy-Rae,
Main Street,
Kilgarvan



Cllr Colin Miller (FF)
Faha,
Killarney



Cllr John Sheahan, (FG)
Coolgarrive,
Tralee Road,
Killarney

Killarney Electoral Area June-December 2009



Cllr Brendan Cronin,
Rathcomane,
Ballyhar,
Killarney



Cllr Tom Fleming, (FF)
Scartaglin Village,
Killarney.



Cllr Michael Gleeson,
(Sth. Kerry Ind. Alliance)
Clasheen,
Killarney



Cllr Danny Healy-Rae,
Main Street,
Kilgarvan



Cllr Marie Moloney, (Lab)
Coolick,
Kilcummin,
Killarney



Cllr Bobby O'Connell, (FG)
15 Main St,
Castleisland



Cllr John Sheahan, (FG)
Coolgarrive,
Tralee Road,
Killarney





Membership of Kerry County Council 2009

Tralee Electoral Area January-June 2009



Cllr Toiréasa Ferris, (SF)
Cnocáin,
Barrow,
Ardfert



Cllr. Ted Fitzgerald (FF)
Clash Cross,
Tralee



Cllr Norma Foley, (FF)
St. Josephs Guesthouse,
2 Staughton's Row,
Tralee



Cllr Pat McCarthy, (FG)
Maglass,
Ballymacelligott,
Tralee



Cllr Anne McEllistram, (FF)
Ahane,
Ballymacelligott,
Tralee



Cllr Terry O'Brien, (Lab)
Tonevane,
Tralee



Cllr Bobby O'Connell (FG)
15 Main Street,
Castleisland

Tralee Electoral Area June-December 2009



Cllr Toiréasa Ferris, (SF)
Cnocáin,
Barrow,
Ardfert



Cllr Jim Finucane (FG)
6 Edward Street,
Tralee



Cllr Norma Foley, (FF)
St. Josephs Guesthouse,
2 Staughton's Row,
Tralee



Cllr Pat McCarthy, (FG)
Maglass,
Ballymacelligott,
Tralee



Cllr Anne McEllistram, (FF)
Ahane,
Ballymacelligott,
Tralee



Cllr Terry O'Brien, (Lab)
Tonevane,
Tralee



Cllr Arthur Spring (Lab)
1 Brook Lodge,
Oakview Village,
Tralee

Toghcheantar an Daingin January-June 2009



Cllr Seamus Cosai Fitzgerald (FG)
Droichead Ban,
Glens,
An Daingean



Cllr Breandán MacGearailt (FF)
Márthain,
Baile an Fheirtéaraigh



Cllr Michael D O'Shea (FF)
Main Street,
Milltown





Membership of Kerry County Council 2009

Toghcheantar an Daingin June-December 2009



Cllr Seamus Cosai Fitzgerald (FG)
Droichead Ban,
Glens,
An Daingean



Cllr Brendan Griffin (FG),
Keel,
Castlemaine



Cllr Michael D O'Shea (FF)
Main Street,
Milltown

Listowel Electoral Area January-June 2009



Cllr Robert Beasley, (SF)
Puicin,
Doon Road,
Ballybunion



Cllr John Brassil (FF)
The Pharmacy,
Ballyheigue



Cllr Tim Buckley, (FG)
Knockane,
Listowel



Cllr Pat Leahy, (Lab)
Clounbrane,
Moyvane



Cllr Liam Purtill (FG)
Main Street,
Ballylongford

Listowel Electoral Area June-December 2009



Cllr Robert Beasley, (SF)
Puicin,
Doon Road,
Ballybunion



Cllr John Brassil (FF)
The Pharmacy,
Ballyheigue



Cllr Tim Buckley, (FG)
Knockane,
Listowel



Cllr Pat Leahy, (Lab)
Clounbrane,
Moyvane



Cllr Liam Purtill (FG)
Main Street,
Ballylongford



Report on Council Meetings

Council Meetings are held on the third Monday of each month (except August) in the Council Chambers at Áras an Chontae, Rathass, Tralee. During 2009, the full Council met on 17 occasions.

One of the key responsibilities of the Council is for the determination of policies to ensure the effective delivery of services to the people of Kerry. During 2009, the following major decisions were made by Council:

- Adoption of Traveller Accommodation Programme 2009 - 2013 (January Meeting)
- Making of the Kerry County Development Plan 2009 - 2015 (April Special Meeting)
- Making of Traffic Management Plan for Kenmare (May Meeting)
- Approval of the take-over of the Mastergeeha, Coolbane and Carhoonahone Group Water Supply Schemes (July Meeting)
- Adoption of Revised Strategic Policy Committee Scheme for Kerry County Council (September Meeting)
- Adoption of Corporate Plan 2009 - 2014 (November Meeting)
- Making of the Castleisland Functional Area Local Area Plan 2009 - 2015 (December Meeting)
- Making of Traffic Management Plan for Ardfert (December Meeting)



Kerry Players and Management with Mayor of Kerry Cllr Bobby O'Connell at the Civic Reception for the 2009 All-Ireland Winning Kerry Football Team



Mayor of Kerry, Cllr Bobby O'Connell, presents American Ambassador Dan Rooney with a personalised Kerry jersey to mark his visit to Council Chambers.

Report on Council Meetings

Civic Receptions

The Mayor of Kerry hosted the following Civic Receptions during the year to honour the achievements of the following:

- Ms Antoinette O'Sullivan - To mark her success at the Empire State Games for the Physically Challenged
- Mid-Kerry Football Team - On winning the 2008 Senior Football County Championship
- A joint Civic Reception was held to honour St. Michael's Foilmore on winning the All-Ireland Intermediate Club Championship 2008 and Skellig Rangers on winning the All-Ireland Junior Club Championship 2008
- Official Visit of American Ambassador, Mr Dan Rooney to the County
- Kerry Senior Football Team - On winning the All-Ireland Football Championship 2009



Civic Reception for Skellig Rangers and St Michael's Foilmore who won the All-Ireland Club Junior and Intermediate Champions titles in 2009



Civic Reception for Mid Kerry Senior Football Championship Winning team



Report on Electoral Area Meetings

Electoral Area	Chair	Area Manager	No. of Meetings
An Daingean	An Comh. Breandán MacGearailt (Eanáir-Meitheamh 2009) An Comh. Seamus Cosaí Fitzgerald (Mean Fómhar -Nollaig 2009)	An tUasal Cathal Ó Suilleabháin	4
Killarney	Cllr. Michael Gleeson	Mr. John Breen	4
Killorglin	Cllr. Paul O'Donoghue	Mr. John Flynn	4
Listowel	Cllr. Robert Beasley (January –June 2009) Cllr. Liam Purtill (September –December 2009)	Ms Ann Haugh	4
Tralee	Cllr. Ted Fitzgerald (January –June 2009) Cllr. Pat McCarthy (September –December 2009)	Mr. Michael McMahon	4

Report on Corporate Policy Group & Strategic Policy Committees

Corporate Policy Group

The Corporate Policy Group is a Committee of the Council whose membership comprises the Mayor and Chairpersons of the five Strategic Policy Committees.

The Committee co-ordinates the work of the different SPCs and provides a forum where policy positions prepared by the SPCs are discussed in advance of submission to the full Council.

The full Council retains the decision making responsibility on all policies recommended by an SPC.

The CPG met on 10 occasions in 2009.



Report on Corporate Policy Group & Strategic Policy Committees

Transport SPC

Report by Cllr Patrick Connor Scarteen (Chair)



During 2009 the committee considered a number of plans and policies. These included:-

- A report on Public Lighting Infrastructure
- A review of the 2009 Action Plan for the Kerry County Council Road Safety Strategy 2008 – 2010
- Reports by the Road Safety Authority (RSA) on New Test Items to the NCT and Graduated Driving Licensing System
- A report on the Department of Transport: Smarter Travel – A Sustainable Transport Future

Following the Local Elections in June 2009, a new committee was established in late 2009. New chair Cllr Patrick Connor Scarteen thanked the previous committee and Chair, Cllr Dan Kiely for their efforts.

Membership January-June 2009

<i>Councillors</i>	<i>Sectors Represented</i>	<i>Representatives</i>
Cllr. Dan Kiely (Chair)	Community/Voluntary	Ms. Hillary Scanlan
Cllr. Michael Connor-Scarteen (resigned on 2/1/09)	Trade Union	Mr. Tom Murphy
Cllr. Pat Leahy	Agriculture/Farming	Mr. Denis O'Carroll
Cllr. Anne McEllistrim	Business/Commercial	Vacant
Cllr. Michael O'Shea		
Cllr. Johnny Wall	Tralee Town Council	

Membership June-December 2009

<i>Councillors</i>	<i>Sectors Represented</i>	<i>Representatives</i>
Cllr. Patrick Connor-Scarteen (Chair)	Community/Voluntary	Carmel Walsh
Cllr Michael Healy-Rae	Trade Union	John Boner
Cllr Pat Leahy	Agriculture/Farming	Vacant
Cllr Anne McEllistrim	Business/Commercial	Michael O'Carroll
Cllr Tim Buckley	Environmental/Conservation	Oonagh Comerford
Cllr Jimmy Moloney	Listowel Town Council	



Report on Corporate Policy Group & Strategic Policy Committees

Environment & Water Services SPC

Report by Cllr Brendan Cronin (Chair)



The Environment SPC held one meeting during the year, prior to the local elections, and discussed a number of policy issues.

Following the Local Elections, a new SPC was formed with Cllr Brendan Cronin as the Chair. Cllr Cronin thanked all those who had served on the previous SPC and also thanked the previous chair, Cllr Bobby O'Connell.

Issues discussed

- Local Authority staff carrying out Nitrates Farm Inspections
- Report on Landfill Gas utilization at North Kerry Landfill
- Policy for collection and recycling of textiles.
- Draft bye-laws for cemeteries.

Membership January-June 2009

<i>Councillors</i>	<i>Sectors Represented</i>	<i>Representatives</i>
Cllr. Bobby O'Connell (Chair)	Community/Voluntary	Mr. Paudie Casey
Cllr. Johnny O'Connor	Environmental Conservation	Mr. Seamus Roche
Cllr. Breandán MacGearailt	Development/Construction	Mr. Donnacha Galvin
Cllr. Michael Gleeson	Agriculture/Farming	Mr. Conor Creedon
Cllr. Tom Fleming		
Cllr. Denis Stack,	Listowel Town Council	

Membership June-December 2009

<i>Councillors</i>	<i>Sectors Represented</i>	<i>Representatives</i>
Cllr. Brendan Cronin (Chair)	Community/Voluntary	Seamus Roche
Cllr. Michael Gleeson	Environmental/Conservation	Patrick Casey
Cllr. Paul O'Donoghue	Development/Construction	Richard Walsh
Cllr. Jim Finucane	Agriculture/Farming	Conor Creedon
Cllr. Brendan Griffin		
Cllr. Denis Stack	Listowel Town Council	



Report on Corporate Policy Group & Strategic Policy Committees

Planning & Economic Development SPC

Report by Cllr Pat McCarthy (Chair)



The Planning and Economic Development SPC met on four occasions during 2009 and considered a number of key policy documents. However, the review of the County Development Plan formed the main body of the work for the SPC during the year.

Following the Local Elections in June 2009, and the formation of a new Council, a new SPC was formed, with Cllr Pat McCarthy taking the chair. He thanked the former SPC members for their efforts, in particular Cllr Terry O'Brien for chairing the SPC.

Issues discussed

- Flood Risk Assessment,
- Draft Killorglin Local Area Plan,
- Report on Graveyards in Kerry and trends and statistics in relation to development management were considered at each meeting.

Membership January-June 2009

<i>Councillors</i>	<i>Sectors Represented</i>	<i>Representatives</i>
Cllr. Terry O'Brien (Chair)	Environment/Conservation	Ms. Catherine McMullin
Cllr. John Brassil	Trade Union	Mr. Patrick J. Cronin
Cllr. Michael Healy-Rae	Agriculture/Farming	Mr. Flor McCarthy
Cllr. Seamus Fitzgerald	Business/Commercial	Mr. James Clifford
Cllr. Brendan Cronin		
Cllr. Ted Fitzgerald		
Cllr. Brian O'Leary	Killarney Town Council	

Membership June-December 2009

<i>Councillors</i>	<i>Sectors Represented</i>	<i>Representatives</i>
Cllr. Pat McCarthy (Chair)	Environmental/Conservation	Ms. Catherine McMullin
Cllr. John Brassil	Trade Union	Patrick Hanafin
Cllr. Séamus Fitzgerald	Business/Commercial	Blaithin McElligott
Cllr. Michael O'Shea	Agriculture/Farming	James McCarthy
Cllr. John Sheahan		
Cllr. Terry O'Brien		
Cllr. Cathal Walshe	Killarney Town Council	





Report on Corporate Policy Group & Strategic Policy Committees

Housing & Social Support SPC

Report by Cllr Arthur Spring (Chair)



The Housing & Social Support SPC met once in 2009 prior to the local elections. Among the items discussed and agreed at that meeting was the new Traveller Accommodation Programme 2009-2013.

Other items considered were an update on the operation of the Rental Accommodation Scheme, Social Housing Investment Programme -New Leasing Arrangements & New Minimum Standards for Rented Accommodation.

Cllr Arthur J Spring was selected to replace Cllr Colin Millar as Chair following the local elections. Cllr Spring paid tribute to Cllr Millar and the other members for their input.

Membership January-June 2009

<i>Councillors</i>	<i>Sectors Represented</i>	<i>Representatives</i>
Cllr. Colin Miller (Chair)	Community/Voluntary	Mr. William Morrell
Cllr. Tim Buckley	Community/Voluntary	Ms. Eileen Mayse
Cllr. Michael Cahill	Community/Voluntary	Ms Cáit O Coileáin
Cllr. Toiréasa Ferris	Development/Construction	Mr. Martin Walsh
Cllr. Danny Healy-Rae		
Cllr. Paul O'Donoghue		
Cllr. Tom Walsh	Listowel Town Council	
Cllr. Karen Tobin,	Tralee Town Council	

Membership June-December 2009

<i>Councillors</i>	<i>Sectors Represented</i>	<i>Representatives</i>
Cllr. Arthur Spring (Chair)	Community/Voluntary	John O'Sullivan
Cllr. PJ Donovan	Community/Voluntary	Mary Grandfield
Cllr. Tom Fleming	Community/Voluntary	Eileen Mayse
Cllr. Norma Foley	Development/Construction	Richard Walsh
Cllr. Marie Moloney		
Cllr. Toiréasa Ferris		
Cllr. Seán O'Grady	Killarney Town Council	
Cllr. Pat Hussey	Tralee Town Council	





Report on Corporate Policy Group & Strategic Policy Committees

Community, Culture and Tourism SPC

Report by Cllr Michael Cahill (Chair)



The Community Culture and Tourism SPC met on two occasions in 2009. The following matters were discussed :

- Development of a Public Art Policy
- Promotion of Tourism in Kerry
- Customer service development in Kerry Libraries
- Review of the mobile library service and new routes
- Development of a Community Participation Policy to provide for greater input by local communities in decisions which affect their area

The Chairmen of the SPC, Cllr Robert Beasley (January-June 2009) Cllr Michael Cahill (June-December 2009) and the members engaged in constructive discussion on all of the matters brought before them at the meetings. New chairman, Cllr Cahill thanked the previous SPC and Cllr Beasley for their work during the previous five years.

Membership January-June 2009

<i>Councillors</i>	<i>Sectors Represented</i>	<i>Representatives</i>
Cllr. Robert Beasley (Chair)	Community/Voluntary	Ms. Mairead Lynch
Cllr. Norma Foley	Community/Voluntary	Mr. John O'Sullivan
Cllr. John Sheahan	Community/Voluntary	Mr. Andy McCarthy
Cllr. Pat McCarthy	Development/Construction	Vacant
Cllr. Niall O'Callaghan	Killarney Town Council	

Membership June-December 2009

<i>Councillors</i>	<i>Sectors Represented</i>	<i>Representatives</i>
Cllr. Michael Cahill (Chair)	Community/Voluntary	Andrew McCarthy
Cllr. Danny Healy-Rae	Community/Voluntary	Maura Fitzgerald
Cllr. Robert Beasley	Community/Voluntary	Matt Mooney
Cllr. Bobby O'Connell	Business/Commercial (Tourism)	Mary Rose Stafford
Cllr. Liam Purtill		
Cllr. Mairéad Fernane	Tralee Town Council	





Membership of Boards/Committees 2009

Audit Committee

Cllr. Liam Purtill
Cllr. A.J. Spring

Chairs of the SPCs

Community, Culture & Tourism
Cllr. Michael Cahill

Planning & Economic Development
Cllr. Pat McCarthy

Transport
Cllr. Patrick Connor-Scarteen

Housing & Social Support
Cllr. Arthur J Spring

Environment & Water Services
Cllr. Brendan Cronin

Kerry County Rural Water Committee

Cllr. Michael O'Shea
Cllr. Brendan Griffin
Cllr. Arthur J. Spring
Cllr. Marie Moloney
Cllr. Patrick Connor-Scarteen

Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee

Cllr. Tom Fleming
Cllr. Brendan Griffin
Cllr. Jim Finucane
Cllr. Arthur J. Spring
Cllr. Pat Leahy

Association of County and City Councils

Cllr. Paul O'Donoghue
Cllr. P.J. Donovan
Cllr. John Sheahan

IRD Duhallow

Cllr. John Sheahan
Cllr. Marie Moloney

Kerry County Enterprise Board Ltd.

Cllr. Norma Foley
Cllr. Brendan Griffin
Cllr. Arthur J. Spring
Cllr. Terry O'Brien

Kerry Education Service

Cllr. John Brassil
Cllr. Anne McEllistrim
Cllr. Norma Foley
Cllr. Tim Buckley
Cllr. Brendan Griffin
Cllr. Jim Finucane
Cllr. P.J. Donovan
Cllr. Terry O'Brien
Cllr. Marie Moloney

Non Elected Nominees

Ms. Sheila Casey
Ms. Kerry Harty Beauseigneur
Mr. John J. O'Connor
Mr. David Toomey





Membership of Boards/Committees 2009

Killarney National Park Liaison Committee

Cllr. John Sheahan

Meitheal Forbartha na Gaeltachta Teoranta

Cllr. Seamus Fitzgerald

Regional Health Forum – South

Cllr. Michael Healy-Rae
Cllr. Brendan Griffin
Cllr. Bobby O'Connell
Cllr. Marie Moloney
Cllr. Terry O'Brien

South and Eastern Regional Assembly

Cllr. Liam Purtill
Cllr. Bobby O'Connell

Southern Regional Drugs Task Force

Cllr. Pat Leahy

Tralee and Fenit Pier and Harbour Commissioners

Cllr. Jim Finucane
Cllr. Pat McCarthy

Kerry Airport plc

Cllr. Terry O'Brien

Local Authority Members Association

Cllr. Pat Leahy

North and East Kerry Development Company

Cllr. Tom Fleming
Cllr. Tim Buckley
Cllr. Arthur J. Spring

South West Regional Authority

Cllr. John Brassil
Cllr. Michael O'Shea
Cllr. Liam Purtill
Cllr. Bobby O'Connell
Cllr. Seamus Fitzgerald
Cllr. Pat Leahy
Cllr. Arthur J. Spring

South Kerry Development Partnership Ltd.

Cllr. Michael Cahill
Cllr. John Sheahan
Cllr. Marie Moloney

Tralee Bay Oyster Fishery Society Ltd.

Cllr. Terry O'Brien

Tralee Regional Sports and Leisure Company Ltd.

Cllr. Terry O'Brien

Joint Policing Committee

An Daingean Electoral Area
Cllr. Brendan Griffin
Cllr. Seamus Cosáí Fitzgerald

Tralee Electoral Area
Cllr. Anne McEllistrim
Cllr. Toiréasa Ferris
Cllr. Arthur J Spring

Listowel Electoral Area
Cllr. Pat Leahy
Cllr. Robert Beasley
Cllr. Tim Buckley

Killarney Electoral Area
Cllr. Bobby O'Connell
Cllr. Michael Gleeson
Cllr. Tom Fleming

Killorglin Electoral Area
Cllr. Michael Cahill
Cllr. Patrick Connor-Scarteen
Cllr. P.J. Donovan





Conferences/Seminars/Meetings attended by Councillors in Ireland in 2009

Conference/Event	Location	Number Attended
UCC Business Conference 2009	Clarion Hotel Cork	9
Irish Renewable Energy Summit 2009	Fairways Hotel Conference Centre, Dundalk	3
Antrim Tourism Conference	Dunadry Hotel, Co. Antrim	12
The Local Government Planning Service	Waterford	5
Effective Communications for Councillors	Clonea Strand Hotel, Dungarvan, Waterford	2
Victims of Crime	Green Isle Hotel, Dublin	3
Sustainable Jobs for Dundalk and Beyond	Crowne Plaza Hotel, Dundalk	6
AMAI Spring Seminar 2009	Clanree Hotel, Letterkenny, Donegal	15
Mid West Regional Authority 15th Annual Conference	Woodlands House Hotel, Adare	7
North South Confederation of Councillors	Castlebellingham, Louth	9
Freedom of Information Seminar	Patrick Punch Hotel, Limerick	1
Colmcille Winter School	Colmcille Heritage Centre, Letterkenny	15
Understanding Hospital Radio- The Irish National War Memorial	Green Isle Hotel, Dublin	1
International Local Government Convention Ireland 2009	Killarney, Co. Kerry	5
17th Annual 2009 Kerry Environmental Recognition Conference	Golf Hotel, Ballybunion	15
Building Energy Regulations Seminar for Councillors	Glenlo Abbey Hotel, Bushypark, Galway	2
Comhdhail na Gaeilge	Four Seasons Hotel, Coolshannagh, Monaghan	6
ACCC Conference 2009	Kilkenny Ormonde Hotel	10





Conferences/Seminars/Meetings attended by Councillors in Ireland in 2009

Conference/Event	Location	Number Attended
BMW Regional Assembly Regional Conference 2009	The Abbey Hotel, Roscommon Town	2
LAMA Annual Spring Conference 2009	Heritage Hotel, Portlaoise	8
IRDA 4th Planning Conference	Brehon Hotel, Killarney	2
National Housing Conference 2009	Radisson Hotel, Sligo	1
Third Sector Forum Seminar	Kingsley Hotel, Victoria Cross, Cork	2
Respond Housing Association	Osprey Hotel, Naas, Co. Kildare	1
Sherkin Island Marine Station 25th Annual Environmental Conference	Carrigaline Court Hotel, Cork	1
Supporting Family Carers	Castlebellingham, Louth	1
4th Annual Non Profit Summer School	Irish Management Institute, Sandyford, Dublin	1
From the Canvass to the Council Chamber	West Cork Hotel, Skibbereen, Cork	1
Douglas Hyde Summer School	Ballaghadareen, Co Roscommon	1
Lough Ree Environmental Summer School & Arts Festival	Lanesborough, Longford	1
The Inaugural Percy French Summer School	Castlecoote House Roscommon	1
MacGill Summer School 2009	Glenties, Co. Donegal	1
Planning & Building Energy Regulations	Carlton Millrace Hotel, Bunclody	3
Effective Communications	Connemara Coast Hotel, Furbo	2
Renewable Energy & Energy Conservation	Carlton Atlantic Coast Hotel, Westport	4
Parnell Summer School 2009	Avondale House, Rathdrum, Wicklow	6





Conferences/Seminars/Meetings attended by Councillors in Ireland in 2009

Conference/Event	Location	Number Attended
The Role of Local Government in Protecting our Water Resources	Connemara Coast Hotel, Furbo	5
Humbert Summer School	Art Centre, Ballina	3
Extraordinary General Meeting of IPBMI	Burlington Hotel, Dublin	1
Planning & the European Law	Days Hotel, Waterford	2
Benedict Kiely Literary Weekend	Omagh	1
Delivering Housing Solutions for a New Era	Sheraton Hotel, Athlone	1
5th Annual Environment Ireland Conference 2009	Croke Park, Dublin	1
Folklore Conference	Muckross House, Killarney	4
7th National Tourism Conference	Carlow	1
The Irish Association of Suicidology 13th Annual Conference	Dunraven Arms, Adare	1
Finding The Way Home	Cork School of Music	1
The 3rd National Water Summit	Croke Park	1
Getting a Grip 2009	The Europe Hotel, Killarney	2
Ceiliúradh an Bhlascaoid 2009	Ionad an Bhlascaoid Mhóir, Dún Chaoin	3
North South Confederation of Councillors Training Seminar	Castlebellingham, Louth	1
Douglas Hyde Conference 2009	Ballaghadareen, Roscommon	6
Induction Training Programme for Newly Elected members 2009	New Park Hotel, Kilkenny	4
2009 RDS-Forest Service Irish Forestry Awards	Kilkenny Castle	1
University College Cork Strategic Plan 2009-2012	University College Cork	1
Health & Safety Training Seminar	Carrick on Suir, Tipperary	1





Conferences/Seminars/Meetings attended by Councillors in Ireland in 2009

Conference/Event	Location	Number Attended
Social Inclusion Forum 2009	Croke Park, Dublin	1
LAMA Annual Winter Seminar 2009	Carlton Castletroy Park Hotel, Limerick	4
Time Management Media & IT Skills Conference	Creggan Court Hotel, Athlone	3
Respond- Trends and Issues in Housing	Respond Education Centre, Dublin	1
Ethics in Public Life- Your Responsibility	Sligo Park Hotel	1
Seventh National Radon Forum	Royal College of Physicians, Dublin	1
Council Budgets 2010	Silver Tassie Hotel, Letterkenny	1
National Tourism Conference	Enistymon, Co. Clare	6
The Value of Volunteering	Morrison Hotel, Dublin	1
Internet Constituents	Louis Fitzgerald Hotel, Clondalkin, Dublin	1



Conferences/Seminars/Meetings attended by Councillors Outside Ireland in 2009

Conference/Event	Location	Number Attended
Visit by Mayor to the US for St Patrick's Day	New York	1

The total payment by Kerry County Council in respect of attendance, authorised by the authority, at a meeting of a prescribed association of local authorities of which the authority is a member, and attendance, authorised by the authority, at a conference, seminar or other meeting or event was €199,948.34 in 2009. The total amount of this payment which related to travel and subsistence expenses within the State was €199,020.93 and €927.41 outside the State.

The total payment by the Council in respect of the councillors Annual Expenses Allowance and the allowances for non-members of committees was 208,385.67 in 2009.



As part of Kerry County Council's "Be Safe Be Seen" Road Safety Campaign 2009, the Mayor of Kerry, Cllr. Tom Fleming presented high visibility jackets to 120 Beaver Scouts, in Killarney on Sunday, March 29th.



Election Expenses incurred by Candidates

Total Election Expenses Incurred & Donations Received for 2009 Local Elections

Name	Address	Expenditure	Donations
		€	€
Beasley Robert	Púicín, Doon Road, Ballybunion	2,689.32	1,000.00
Brassil John	The Pharmacy, Ballyheigue	8,528.19	
Buckley Tim	Knockane, Listowel	5,208.17	
Cahill Michael	Rossbeigh, Glenbeigh	9,481.41	2,951.70
Collins Tommy	Liosardboula, Trá Lí	3,070.00	
Comerford Oonagh	Clogherane, Lauragh, Kenmare	3,771.91	1,655.00
Connor-Scarteen Patrick	5 Main Street, Kenmare	10,293.40	3,185.00
Conway Michael	Lisoughtra, Lixnaw	3,850.00	
Cronin Brendan	Rathcomane, Ballyhar, Killarney	11,056.54	
Donovan PJ	High Street, Caherciveen	6,982.47	2,000.00
Ferris Toiréasa	Cnocáin, Barrow, Ardfert	3,979.82	
Finucane Jim	3 Cloondara, Tralee	5,144.08	
Fitzgerald Breandán	An Daingean Heights, Ballinaboula, An Daingean	7,349.97	1,000.00
Fitzgerald Séamus	Droichead Bán, Glens, An Daingean	6,620.00	
Fitzgerald Ted	Clash Cross, Tralee	4,526.76	800
Fleming Tom	Scartaglen Village, Farranfore	8,768.36	250
Foley John	Knockanish, Spa, Tralee	3,950.07	
Foley Norma	"St Joseph's, Staughton's Row, Tralee	4,580.84	800
Gleeson Michael	Clasheen, Killarney	10,506.32	
Gorman Maria	Bedford, Listowel	2,043.32	800
Grady Donal	5 Ardshanavooly, Killarney	6,083.00	
Grey David	Gurraun, Tralee	1,986.04	
Griffin Brendan	Keel, Castlemaine	9,849.21	
Griffin Timmy (RIP)	53 Connolly Park, Tralee	2,350.14	
Hanafin Patrick	Beenbawn, An Daingean	8,750.00	
Hannon Moss	Ballyconnell, Kilflynn	4,572.87	
Healy-Rae Danny	Main Street, Kilgarvan	13,921.48	
Healy-Rae Michael	Sandymount, Kilgarvan	11,912.14	2,750.00
Kiely Daniel	East End, Ballybunion	2,974.60	
Leahy Pat	Clounbrane, Moyvane	3,985.00	
Lynch Donald	Gearhadiveen, Kenmare	7,638.00	2,500.00





Election Expenses incurred by Candidates

Name	Address	Expenditure	Donations
		€	€
McCarthy Pat	Maglass, Ballymacelligott, Tralee	5,928.65	
McEllistrim Anne	Ahane, Ballymacelligott, Tralee	6,532.69	770.34
Moloney Marie	Coolick, Kilcummin, Killarney	8,357.47	
Ní Bhaoighealláin Lynn	Cuas, Baile na nGall, Trá Lí	1,930.45	
Ó Beaglaoí Breannain	Cuas, Baile na nGall, Trá Lí	1,155.00	
O'Brien Terry	Tonevane, Tralee	5,412.00	
Ó Fuaráin Risteárd	9 Páirc Mhuire, Baile Uí Thaidhg	2,982.50	
Ó Murchú Darach	Baile Dháith, Baile na nGall, Trá Lí	1,004.00	
O'Connell Bobby	Main Street, Castleisland	3,359.76	
O'Connor Brigid	Gleann na nGealt, Camp, Tralee	6,794.38	
O'Connor John J	Ardmoniel, Killorglin	11,071.10	
O'Donoghue Paul	Castlequin, Caherciveen	9,384.53	
O'Leary Brian	Farranaspig, Aghadoe, Killarney	9,146.51	
O'Neill Conor	Baile an Liaigh, Ceann Trá, Corca Dhuibhne	850	650
O'Shea Michael D	Main Street, Milltown	10,377.21	
Purtill Liam	Main Street, Ballylongford	6,173.87	
Rafter Moriarty Theresa	Lispole, Co Kerry	2,658.00	
Sheahan John	Tralee Road, Killarney	9,607.21	
Sheehan John	48 Iveragh Park, Killorglin	2,994.07	3,000.00
Spring Arthur J	1 Brook Lodge, Oakview Village, Tralee	7,862.00	
Walsh Cornelius	Ardnagrath House, Cordal East, Castleisland	2,055.59	
Total		312,060.42	24,112.04





Directors' Operational Reports



Director's Report on Housing & Social Support

Director of Service: John Breen

Senior Staff:

Senior Executive Officer: Liam Quinlan

Senior Executive Architect: Deirdre O'Sullivan



"In a changing economic environment Kerry County Council's Housing Department advanced the construction and procurement and management of social housing in the county during 2009."

The activities of the Housing Department are more important than ever in helping many families throughout the county to be provided with a home suitable to their needs, when they are unable to do so from their own resources.

Our 2009 allocation from the Social Housing Investment Programme (SHIP) was further reduced from the previous year. However Kerry County Council still managed to assist 168 households in meeting their housing needs by the direct provision of social housing accommodation.

A further 135 families were assisted through the Rental Accommodation Scheme accommodation, which is operated by Kerry County Council on behalf of the four Kerry Local Authorities.

A further 70 dwellings were completed by the Voluntary and Co-operative Housing sector with grant assistance and support provided by the Housing Department.

Assessment of Housing Need

The numbers of households seeking housing support continues to rise. At the end of 2009 there were 1,037 households approved for Council Housing with a further 516 households who had their applications deferred, while their long term need for social housing is being established.

Another 377 applicants were awaiting assessment at the end of the year. The number of new applications has increased substantially in the last two years.

Year	Number of applications	Comments
2007	532	
2008	683	28.4% increase over 2007
2009	798	47.3% increase over 2007



Ardferf Affordable Housing Scheme

Director's Report on Housing & Social Support

Building Sustainable Communities

In 2009 Kerry County Council continued to make financial assistance available to resident associations to help them maintain the public area in their estates.

The availability of this funding and the work of our Tenant Liaison Officer has contributed to 42 resident associations being formed or re-activated in local authority estates

An example of the high level of tenant participation in the upkeep of estates in Kerry was in evidence in November when Iveragh Park Housing Estate, Killorglin captured top prize in the Housing Estates Category in the Pride of Place awards held in Newcastle, Co. Down.

Where possible, the Housing Department continues to work with community groups to make available sites or premises to benefit the communities.

Two examples of these are the Iveragh Park Family Resource Centre and Kerryhead/Ballyheigue Family Resource Centre

With special grant funding from the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government Kerry County Council continued to employ a tenancy compliance officer whose main role is to ensure the compliance by tenants of Council policies and procedures.

Housing Construction and Acquisition

At the end of 2009 there were 58 social housing dwellings under construction consisting of five group housing schemes in Waterville (14) Rathmore (12) Portmagee (6) and An Daingean (6) and Castleisland (12) and 8 single rural dwellings.

A total of 10 dwellings were completed and made available for letting in Tarbert (8) along with 2 single rural dwellings, while 13 dwellings were bought for social housing purposes.

Due to the significant reduction in exchequer capital funding, it is likely that only a very limited number of projects will proceed to construction in 2010.

Rental Accommodation Scheme

In 2009 an additional 135 tenants transferred onto the Rental Accommodation Scheme.

The Housing Adaptation Grant Schemes for Older People and People with a Disability

In the two years since the introduction of the Housing Adaptation Grant schemes for Older People and People with a Disability in November 2007 a total of 602 grants under these schemes have been allocated.

- 349 grant allocations under the Housing Adaptation Grant Scheme
- 253 grant allocations under the Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant Scheme

At the end of the year there were 656 grant applications on hand awaiting a decision. Due to the large number of applications and the limited funding available, a scheme of priorities was introduced in relation to the allocation of funding. All genuinely urgent applications were processed despite the limitation on funding. A total of €2.753m was allocated in 2009.

Improvement Works Programme

Kerry County Council was unable to commit the same resources as previous years due to a significant drop in the sale of council houses and reduction in the funding which had been used to fund these works.

However, funding of €100,000 was received from the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government. This, matched by funding from Kerry County Council, was used for upgrading of Single Rural Dwellings in Kerry.





Director's report on Housing & Social Support

Energy Efficiency Measures

In May, details of funding for the retrofitting of insulation and other energy efficiency measures to vacant local authority houses were announced. A total of 29 vacant dwellings benefited, with a grant of €250,000 from the Department of Environment, Heritage & Local Government going towards the cost of the works.

From January 1st 2009, all dwellings that are completed, sold or newly let by housing authorities are required to have a Building Energy Rating (BER) certificate. Staff in the Housing Engineering Section have undergone specific training in this area.

Traveller Accommodation Programme 2009 – 2013

A new Traveller Accommodation Programme 2009 – 2013 was adopted early in the year following consideration at two separate meetings of the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee. This county-wide programme targets the accommodation of 140 traveller families over the lifetime of the five year programme.

A new Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee was formed following the local elections, and has since met twice and will continue to meet bi-monthly to oversee the implementation of the programme.

Voluntary Housing

Kerry County Council continues to support Voluntary Bodies in providing accommodation for elderly, disabled or homeless. A total of 70 units were completed and made available for letting during the year and 39 units were under construction at the end of the year.

Derelict sites

During 2009 the unit continued to target towns and villages along the main Tourist Routes, as well as some of the larger towns.

Site owners were generally co-operative, and in many instances completed the required works, and avoided the serving of statutory notices and entry on the Derelict Sites Register.

The Derelict Sites Officer worked very closely with community groups as well to ensure that dereliction was removed and the sites removed from the register. There has been a significant level of success in this area during 2009 resulting in a reduction from 140 sites on the register at the end of 2008 to 108 entries in the register at the end of 2009.

Key Performances

- 2,356 rented dwellings managed and maintained by the Housing Department
- 27 social housing units built or purchased.
- 168 households directly provided with Council Housing
- A further 135 new tenants previously in receipt of rent supplement transferred onto Rental Accommodation Scheme.
- New Traveller Accommodation Programme 2009-2013 adopted.
- 1,092 housing repair requests carried out
- New Local Authority tenants offered pre-tenancy familiarisation courses
- Remedial works carried out on 50 Single rural dwellings.
- Energy efficiency measures were undertaken in respect of 29 vacant dwellings
- 656 applications on hand under the Housing Adaptation Grant Schemes for Older People and People with a Disability
- Central heating programme in all council housing stock completed
- 70 dwellings were completed by the Voluntary and Co-operative Housing sector with grant assistance and support provided by our Department.



Director's Report on Roads, Transportation & Safety

Director of Service: Charlie O'Sullivan

Senior Staff:

Senior Engineer - Transport Network Operations: Ger MacNamara

Senior Engineer - Kerry National Road Design Office: Matt Corridan



"It is our aim to have a modern, safe and sustainable road network which benefits the people, both local and visitor, the economy and the environment and which actively contributes to social inclusion and quality of life"

Kerry County Council's Roads, Transportation & Safety Department consists of four business units, the Kerry National Road Design Office (KNRDO), the Transport Network Operations Section, the Motor Taxation Office and the Health and Safety Section.

The KNRDO and the Transport Network Operations units are primarily responsible for the delivery of a modern, safe and sustainable road infrastructure to support the future growth and economic development of the county, as well as managing Council operated piers and harbours.

Our road network comprises of 96km of National Primary Roads and 336km of National Secondary Roads linking the major towns in the county to the Tralee-Killarney Hub and the national gateways and hubs. However over 90% of our networks, 4,281km, is regional or local road, which is critical to the social fabric of the county in serving the needs of our predominantly rural communities.

The investment in the county's roads infrastructure received a welcome boost in 2009 with the start of construction on the Castleisland By-Pass and the confirmation of the Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO & Environmental Impact Scheme (EIS) for the Tralee By-Pass / Tralee to Bealagrealagh Road Scheme.

The contract for the construction of the Castleisland By-Pass was awarded to BAM Civil Engineering Ltd., in April 2009 and it is scheduled for completion by the end of 2010. The completion of this road will significantly reduce travel times to Limerick and Dublin, provide easier access to Kerry Regional Airport and significantly improve road safety and quality of life for the residents of Castleisland.

Kerry's 336km of national secondary road network is the longest of any county in Ireland. Over the last five years major improvements and re-alignment works have been carried out on the National Secondary Road network in Kerry at a cost of €38m.

In 2009 over €5m was spent on continuing pavement improvements to the network, with some major re-alignment works taking place on sections of the N70 Blackwater Bridge to Tahilla and N72 Gortanahaneboy. Major improvement works also started on the Laune Bridge in Killorglin.

Responsibility for the administration of all road grants, which was previously under the remit of the Department of Transport, was handed over to the National Roads Authority in September 2009.

Grant aid from Central Government as well as a large contribution from Kerry County Council's own resources is used in maintaining and improving the road network. However, in 2009 there was an overall reduction of 15% in grant aid from Government, leading to a significant reduction in road works.

The delivery of the roads programme by Kerry County Council significantly contributes to the local economy, through the purchase of road building materials in local quarries, the hire of plant and machinery and provision of local employment.



Director's Report on Roads, Transportation & Safety

In 2009 over €48m was invested in the planning, design, development and maintenance of our 4,713km road network, with improvements carried out to almost 190km of road.

Kerry County Council spent €23.7m on our local and regional roads. Work continued on a reduced three-year Road Restoration Programme. Kerry County Council's own roads staff completed improvements on 48 Local Improvement Schemes at a cost of €1.3m.

The past year was particularly notable for the extreme weather experienced. Almost 2,150 mm (84 inches) of rainfall was recorded for the year, which was 50% higher than the 30 year average and the highest level recorded nationally. Intense rainfall was experienced in August and November, which resulted in substantial localised flooding.

The severe cold weather over the Christmas period, and which continued into 2010, was the most extreme cold spell experienced since 1963. The Council's road staff provided an impressive emergency response to reduce the risk of damage to homes and businesses. Long and arduous hours were spent on the county's roads, ensuring that the main routes in the county remained open and safe.

Despite these constraints, staff delivered the full road programme on time and within budget.

The Council was awarded the prestigious RDS 2009 Bio-Diverse Forestry Woodlands Award and a silver medal for its exceptional example of strategic planning and management in the development of Ballyseedy Wood as a sustainable woodland recreational amenity for the people of Tralee and surrounding areas. In the 22 year history of the awards, Kerry County Council is the first state body or local authority to achieve this unique honour.

The Kerry Motor Taxation Office processed 139,360 transactions during 2009 and collected €22.5m revenue for the State. As in recent years, the Council continues to promote the availability of its on-line motor tax services, for the benefit of customers.

The Health and Safety Section has corporate responsibility for the development and implementation of measures to protect the safety of employees and contractors on our sites, users of our facilities and the general public. Ongoing training in all aspects of Health and Safety ensure safe work locations for staff and public alike.

Work continued on the construction of the new harbour at Knightstown. The CPO for the access road at Cromane Pier was not confirmed, necessitating the commencement of the Part 8 Planning process.



Aerial Picture Castleisland Bypass April 2009



Fenit Coastal Protection Works





Director's Report on Roads, Transportation & Safety

Key Achievements in 2009

National Primary Roads (96km)

- Construction began on the N21 Castleisland By-Pass
- The CPO for the N22 Tralee By-Pass was confirmed by An Bord Pleanála
- Pavement Improvements of 2km of road length on the N22 and the N23 were completed
- Roundabouts at Lissivigeen and the Swimming Pool, Killarney were constructed

National Secondary Roads (336km)

- N69 Listowel By-Pass environmental assessment of route options completed
- N86 feasibility report on improvements from Camp to An Daingean
- €5m spent on National Secondary Roads
- Improvement works carried out on Laune Bridge
- Five kilometres of roads surface dressed
- Three safety projects completed

Non-National Roads (524km of Regional Roads & 3757km of Local Roads)

- €23.7m spent on maintenance and improvement of Non-National Roads
- Safety improvement works carried out at seven locations
- Contractor appointed for the construction of Ballinagar Bridge
- 48 schemes carried out under the Local Improvement Scheme
- Five roads improved under the Community Involvement Scheme
- 182.5km of regional and local roads improved under the Restoration Programme
- Phase One of An Daingean Relief Road was opened to traffic

Road Enforcement and Road Safety

- Roads Enforcement Officer investigated approximately 429 complaints, e.g. overloaded vehicles, drainage, road openings, road damage, obstruction signs
- Kerry County Council Road Safety Roadshow held

Piers and Harbours

- Cromane Pier – Part 8 Planning progressed
- Knightstown Pier – construction works on new harbour significantly advanced



Director's Report on Roads, Transportation & Safety

Key Achievements in 2009

Coastal Protection

- Major works undertaken on the R558 at Kilfenora, Fenit. 300m of rock armour was placed along a stretch of shoreline where significant coastal erosion had taken place.
- Ongoing monitoring of a number of other locations around the coastline

Machinery Complex

- A major review of Plant Hire was undertaken during the year

Other Achievements

- CPO for the local road L1010 at Tarbert began.
- Tralee Traffic Management Study was started
- Management Plan for Ballyseedy Wood adopted and approved
- Kerry County Council won the prestigious RDS 2009 Bio-Diverse Forestry Woodlands Award for Ballyseedy Wood
- 1,200 tests on road making materials were carried out in-house
- Two footbridges for access to Carrauntuohill fabricated and will be erected for the summer 2010 season.

Motor Taxation

- Over 139,360 transactions processed
- 59% of transactions dealt with over counter; 41% dealt with by post
- 55,379 (36%) customers used on-line service.



Minister Tony Killeen presents Bio-Diversity Award for Ballyseedy Wood to Mayor O'Connell



An Daingean Inner Relief Road





Director's Report on Environmental Services

Director of Service: Anne Haugh

Senior Staff:

Senior Engineer - Michael Boyce (Acting)



It is the aim of the Environmental Services Section to carry out our legislative duties in relation to the control, enforcement, and monitoring of activities which may pose a threat to our county's environment.

Waste Disposal

Development work was carried out on the landfill extension at the North Kerry Landfill in Muingnaminnane, consisting of the construction of Phase 9 (cells 17, 18 & 19) and the capping of Phase 7. Most of this work was completed by December 2009.

During 2009 Kerry County Council progressed a project to assess the viability of generating power from Landfill Gas produced at North Kerry Landfill.

A total of 39,775 tonnes of waste were disposed of at the landfill site in 2009. This represents a 36% reduction on the 2008 figures. This is indicative of the current competitive market conditions in the waste disposal and collection sectors. The closure plan for Milltown Landfill was substantially completed in June 2009.

Recycling

In keeping with the Council's policy to encourage the recycling of waste, Kerry County Council operates civic amenity facilities at the North Kerry Landfill and four Waste Transfer Stations located at Coolcaslagh (Killarney), Milltown, Cahirciveen and Kenmare, in addition to An Daingean Civic Amenity Site which opened in June 2008.

Recycling increased significantly during 2009 at An Daingean Civic Amenity Site as the facility became better known locally while recycling rates remained steady at the other facilities.

During 2009 Kerry County Council introduced cardboard recycling at the Cahirciveen, Kenmare and An Daingean facilities. Scrap metal collections were also successfully introduced at the Cahirciveen and Kenmare facilities.

Bring Banks

In 2009, Kerry County Council had a total of 103 Bring Banks at various locations throughout the County, collecting 4,163 tonnes of recyclable materials consisting mainly of glass, steel & aluminium cans and plastic bottles.

As a measure to counteract illegal dumping at these sites, the Environmental Services Department gave sponsorship to 26 groups/persons to take responsibility for litter clean-ups in the vicinity of these facilities. A sum of €53,713 was paid to the following groups / organisations from the Landfill / Transfer Station Community Fund for 2009 – Kielduff Community Centre, O'Brennan National School, St. Brendan's Community Centre, Clogher National School, Ballymacelligott Community Alert Group, Ballymacelligott GAA Club, Lissivigeen Residents Association and Milltown Community Centre.



Director's Report on Environmental Services

Refuse Collection

The Refuse Collection Service experienced a drop in customer numbers from 7,936 in 2008 to 7,614 in 2009. This 4% reduction in customer numbers was anticipated due to the severe economic downturn in 2009.

Considering the major impact the recession has had on the volume of business and customer spending power, the extent of the drop in customer numbers was not unexpected. It is important however those customer numbers are maintained into the future in order to ensure the ongoing viability of the service. The overall performance of the Refuse Collection Service was robust despite the economic difficulties associated with 2009. At the end of the year, Kerry County Council had 7,614 full customers and 450 tourist customers.

Environmental Regulation

Kerry County Council has responsibility for the regulation and enforcement of a variety of issues under existing environmental legislation. Our enforcement activities include the pursuit of illegal dumping, littering and water pollution and our regulatory responsibilities include the control of private-sector waste operations, and the processing and control of wastewater discharge licenses.

	Number Investigated	Number of Enforcement Procedures Undertaken
Environmental Complaints 2009 (incl. waste, litter, water pollution, air and noise)	1,298	248



Kerry & Australian Rules Footballer Tadhg Kennelly at the launch of National Spring Clean Week 2009 with Mayor of Kerry Cllr Tom Fleming and Mayor of Listowel Cllr Maria Gorman



Mayor of Kerry, Cllr Bobby O'Connell officially raised the Blue Flag in Fenit on Monday, 06 July 009, marking Kerry's 12 Blue Flag beaches.



Director's Report on Environmental Services

Energy Office

The Energy Office (EO), while located in the Environment Department, is deployed over a number of services to promote energy conservation, monitor energy consumption and ensure value for money where energy consuming equipment is installed (eg: pumps, electric motors, lighting and heating systems).

The Energy Office also has responsibility for the Council's Renewable Energy Programme and for tendering for the electricity supply of the local authorities.

Measures progressed during 2009 include the following:

The aeration process represents the prime energy consumer at Waste Water Treatment Plants (WWTP). A fine bubble diffused aeration system was installed at Killarney Waste Water Treatment Plant, reducing energy consumption by 50.2%, with an annual saving of €50,400.

A similar system was also installed at An Daingean WWTP, while the energy consumption at Listowel and Ballybunion WWTPs has reduced by 22%.

- The energy conservation unit completed display energy certificates for five Kerry Local Authority buildings in 2009.
- The first year of operation of the Moyderwell District Heating System saw the average weekly cost of domestic hot water and heating for each apartment in the Tobar Naofa scheme come in at €6.84.
- In the 2008/2009 winter period, eight Kerry County Council water treatment and pumping stations participated in Eirgrid's Winter Peak Demand Reduction Scheme (WPDRS). This scheme encourages business customers to reduce electricity consumption during peak hours (5-7pm) in winter months (November to February). This saw a reduction in electricity bills totaling €65,773.

Laboratory

In the last ten years there has been a 115% increase in the activity of Kerry County Council's in-house laboratory. This has mainly been due to:

- Increased sampling demands relating to river and drinking water regulations.
- Increased emphasis on quality control measures and protocols relating to both sampling and analysis.
- Increases in efficiency largely due to increasing use of automated instrumentation

The EPA's laboratory proficiency scheme assessed 104 laboratories in Ireland in 2009. Of the 26 parameters assessed by EPA, Kerry County Council's laboratory has been accredited as one of only nine laboratories in Ireland to test for all 26 parameters.

Analysis of Activity

In 2009 the laboratory processed 6,721 samples involving a total of 79,000 tests

The breakdown in activity is as shown in Fig 1. The high number of drinking water samples (44% of all activity) reflects the large number of water schemes in the county and the emphasis on water quality.

The EPA report on national drinking water confirms that Kerry had the second highest number of samples in the country submitted for assessment in 2007.

Overall it is estimated that carrying out the majority of testing in-house by Kerry County Council has resulted in a saving of around €300,000 a year.



Director's Report on Water Services & Emergency Services

Director of Service: Oliver Ring

Senior Staff:

Senior Engineer (Operations): John Kennelly

Senior Engineer (Capital): Fergus Dillon

Chief Fire Officer (Acting): Vincent Hussey



"The provision of effective water and waste water infrastructure forms an essential part of the strategic role of Kerry County Council and is delivered through capital and revenue programmes."

Water Services Operations

The Revenue programme for Water and Waste Water Services comprises of two components.

- Major public water and waste water schemes
- Rural Water Services and Group Schemes

Public Water

In 2009, Kerry County Council produced over 32 million cubic metres of potable (drinkable) water for a population of 122,000 customers, who were served by 60,000 connections. A total of 68 Public Water Supply Schemes (WSS) were administered by Kerry County Council. A total of 13 full waste water treatment plants were maintained and primary treatment facilities were also provided in 32 villages throughout the county.

There were also 278 water connection applications received in 2009 as well as 34 waste water connection applications. Key improvement works to the water supply network were carried out during 2009. These were funded from Kerry County Council's own resources, and by grants from the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, as well as grants from CLÁR and Development Levy monies.

Key Achievements in 2009

- Water mains replacement took place in Portmagee, Currans, Rathanny, Gallarus, Castleisland and An Coimín
- Valves and chambers were replaced at Shanera Beaufort, Valentia, Portmagee and Baile an Sceilg, and the Listowel to Tarbert water main
- A water main to replace the old and defective pipe was laid at Meelagullane, Baile An Sceilg
- An extension to the mains network was laid in Shanbally, Abbeyfeale
- Extensive water mains replacement works were completed in Ballybunion
- A new intake was installed on the Brosna-Knocknagoshel Water Supply Scheme
- The interior of the plant house at Lough Guitane on the Central Regional WSS was substantially upgraded
- Extensive refurbishment and security works were undertaken at water plants at Lahesrough Water Supply Scheme
- Extensive refurbishment and security works took place at water plants at Waterville Water Supply Scheme
- Provision of fluoridation equipment at Lough Guitane and Brosna was undertaken, aided by funding from the HSE.





Director's Report on Water Services & Emergency Services

Remedial Action List (RAL)

In 2008, The Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government (DoEHLG) made funds available for a Remedial Action List for Public Drinking Water Supplies. This allowed Local Authorities around the country to carry out specific works on smaller water schemes, relating to water supply disinfection and treatment.

As a result of a major survey of all water supply schemes which had been carried out in 2005, the Council was in a position to submit a comprehensive request to the Department for funding. In July 2008, the Department announced €20m of funding for RAL Schemes nationally, with Kerry receiving almost half of this, €9.863m.

Major upgrade works involving disinfection and monitoring equipment have been carried out at the following plants:

Water Schemes upgraded through RAL		
Ardfert North/Ballyheigue	Rathmore	Sneem
Duagh Springs	Aughacasla	Mid-Kerry RWSS Gearha
Lyreacrompane RWSS	Camp	Breanlee
Barraduff	Castlegregory	Mountain Stage
Lios Cearnaigh	Annascaul	Templenoe
An Daingean	An Fheothanach	Baile Breac
Inch Regional	An Mhin Ard 2 & 3	An Ghleann
An Muiríoch	Baile na nGall	Shrone
Ceann Trá	Caragh Lake	Emlaghpeasta
Glenbeigh	Baile an Sceilg	Lauragh
Cahirciveen	Caherdaniel	Kilgarvan
Castlecove		

Work has started on-site on the provision of water treatment plants for the following public schemes:

Water Schemes currently being upgraded through RAL	
An Mhuiríoch	Baile na nGall
Annascaul	Aughacasla
Baile Mór	Barraduff
Caragh Lake	Kilgarvan
Shrone	Sneem





Director's Report on Water Services & Emergency Services

Public Waste Water

Key Upgrades in 2009

- A major upgrade of the aeration system, which will result in considerable energy savings (ranging from 20 – 50%) in the coming years, has been completed at An Daingean and Killarney Waste Water Treatment Plants, in conjunction with Sustainable Energy Ireland
- A new waste water treatment plant has been commissioned at Sneem
- A network sewer was replaced at Castleconway, Killorglin, preventing infiltration of water to the scheme.
- Trickling filters were refurbished at Tralee Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP).
- The ultra-violet (UV) system was refurbished at Tralee WWTP
- Ardfert WWTP was overhauled and re-commissioned
- A major refurbishment was completed at Ballybunion WWTP
- Pumps were replaced on the Sewerage Scheme at Baile An Sceilg
- The IT facilities including online access were upgraded at 10 Waste Water Treatment Plants

Rural Water

Kerry County Council administers the Rural Water Programme, providing assistance to group water schemes. A total of 475 Group Water Schemes have been developed in Kerry, with 183 taken over and maintained by Kerry County Council.

Work on Group Schemes ongoing or completed in 2009

Carrigeen (Brosna)	Asdee (extensions)
Lyranes	Clár Cillín Liath
Bonane Phase II	Clár Ballynoneen
Mastergeehy	Clár Toormore
Clár Lougher	Tonevane/Slieve
Rossdohan	Central Group
Coolies No. 2	

Key Achievements in 2009

- Kerry County Council spent €900,000 taking over group water schemes, with 26 groups benefiting.
- A total of €1.1m was spent on assisting new schemes to get up and running, and upgrading existing schemes, with 47 groups benefiting.
- A further €867,000 was spent on additional improvement works on small public water and sewage schemes, with 29 groups benefiting.
- 38 applications for Well Grants were received.
- 35 Group Schemes received subsidy payments.
- Four group schemes were fully taken over by Kerry County Council.



Director's Report on Water Services & Emergency Services

Water Conservation

Lifestyle choices and population growth continue to place increasing pressure on water supplies within the county. Kerry County Council has supported the Water Conservation Project to ensure efficient use of existing sources of water.

The work carried out as part of the Water Conservation Project has helped to achieve a 12.7% reduction in water production in the county since it reached its peak in 2006. This is due to a decrease in consumer demand, leak repair and pressure management.

Since the Water Conservation Project was initiated in 2005, over 2,000 leaks have been found and repaired. Leak detection and repair is now being carried out as routine maintenance and is being funded from revenue.

Work is ongoing in the area of mains replacement and rehabilitation and mains pressure management.

Burial Grounds & Public Conveniences

The maintenance of the public conveniences in Kerry and the operation and management of the 140 burial grounds under the control of Kerry County Council is included in the Water Services Operational Department's programme of works.

A total of 92 of the county's burial grounds are classed as Archaeological sites and protected by the National Monuments Act. Works which are undertaken in these burial grounds require advance approval and archaeological supervision. A total of 21 burial grounds were surveyed in 2009.

Key Achievements in 2009

- €475,000 spent on maintaining public conveniences.
- €670,000 spent on the maintenance and upkeep of burial grounds.
- Approval was obtained for €100,000 to be spent in 2009/2010 as part of the burial ground capital improvement programme, with works carried out in a number of burial grounds, including Abbeydorney, Ballinskelligs, Knocknagoshel, Killiney & Killaha.
- Kerry County Council liaised with 50 Local Burial Ground Committees in relation to the maintenance and upkeep of burial grounds.



Oliver Ring, Director of Water Services, Kerry County Council, with Mayor of Kerry, Cllr Tom Fleming, Fergus Dillon, Senior Engineer, Water Services Capital, and members of the EPS Bowen consortium pictured at the contract signing for the construction of wastewater treatment plants in Fries & Milltown.



Director's Report on Water Services & Emergency Services

Water Services Capital

The Water Services Capital Section is responsible for the provision of water and waste water infrastructure for the County, including the design of new schemes and the management of these schemes through the construction stage.

The primary source of funding is the Water Services Investment Programme administered by the Department of Environment Heritage and Local Government, but most schemes also require a substantial local contribution from Kerry County Council.

2009 Progress	Projects	Cost Estimate
Completed	Kenmare Water Supply Scheme - Networks	€6.4m
	Central Regional Water Supply Scheme – Chlorine Dioxide Treatment Plant	€0.5m
	Waterville Water Supply & Sewerage Scheme - Networks	€10.3m
Construction Ongoing	Milltown Sewerage Scheme	€4.99m
	Barraduff Sewerage Scheme	€3.53m
	Firies Sewerage Scheme	€3.7m
	Rossbeigh Sewerage Scheme	€0.2m
	County Kerry Wastewater & Sludge Project – Strategy Study	€1.m
Preparation of Contract Documents Completed	Kenmare Water Supply Scheme – Treatment Works	€6.4m
	Central Regional Water Supply Scheme – Treatment Works & Reservoirs	€34.95m
	Central Regional Water Supply Scheme – Scart Reservoir	€5.07m
	Villages – Tarbert, Lixnaw, Ballylongford, Ballyduff, Fenit, Ardfert, Abbeydorney, Castlegregory, Castlemaine, Kilgarvan, Caherdaniel, Glenbeigh	€33.22m





Director's Report on Water Services & Emergency Services

Kerry Fire Service

The Kerry Fire Service Fleet continued to be upgraded in 2009. A new Class B Water Tender was delivered in February 2009 and the construction of a further Class B Water Tender started in 2009 with delivery anticipated in June 2010.

Kerry Fire Service also purchased two second-hand Class B Water Tenders from the UK.

Fire Service Building Programme

The Department of Environment, Heritage & Local Government (DoEHLG) are currently considering a report on the proposed new Fire Station in Kenmare, which seeks approval for the preparation of tender documents and to proceed to tender stage.

This is currently being considered by the Department in the context of budgetary constraints on the Fire Service Capital Program.

The Fire Service Change Programme

The Fire Service Change Programme continued to be rolled out in 2009.

A total of 500 smoke alarms were received from the Department for distribution to vulnerable members of the community, in association with the Community & Enterprise Section.

The primary schools programme is also ongoing with basic Fire Safety instruction and Fire Safety packs provided by Fire Service personnel to third class primary students.

Key Achievements in 2009

- The Brigade was mobilised on 1,215 occasions during 2009.
- Gorse fires, Chimney fires, Road Traffic Collisions and Flooding were the major incident types requiring brigade mobilisation.
- There was a 37% increase in Gorse fires and 43% increase in Flooding call-outs in comparison with 2008.
- Road Traffic collisions showed a decrease of 26% from that recorded in 2008.
- 145 Fire Safety Certificates were granted in 2009

Building Control

The Building Control Section received 585 Commencement Notices in 2009, comprising some 602 buildings notified. Officers inspected 45% of buildings notified.

The Building Control Section continues to promote greater awareness of the Building Regulations in the county by:

- Inspection of Buildings for compliance with the Building Regulations
- Providing advice on compliance with the Building Regulations
- Checking the provision of access for people with disabilities
- Furthering the conservation of fuel and energy in relation to buildings by requiring the submission of Building Energy Rating Certificates (BER's).





Director's Report on Water Services & Emergency Services

Civil Defence

Civil Defence volunteers work under the direction of the relevant local authority Civil Defence Officer and are trained in various skills such as first aid, rescue, emergency feeding, evacuee care, communications, land / water search, Flooding and radiation monitoring.

There are six services under the overall umbrella of Kerry Civil Defence.

1. **Casualty Service.**
2. **Rescue Service**
3. **Warden Service - Radiation Monitoring.**
4. **Welfare Unit.**
5. **Auxiliary Fire Service.**
6. **Communications**

There are approximately 140 active members throughout County Kerry. Kerry Civil Defence has 19 qualified Instructors to teach various disciplines across the organisation.

Key Achievements in 2009

- 42 new members recruited in 2009.
- A new Search and Rescue Unit for missing persons was formed.
- Commander Paul McDonnell appointed to Kerry Civil Defence.
- Transport Officer Gary Kavanagh appointed to Kerry Civil Defence.
- Storeman Alan Hanafin appointed to Kerry Civil Defence.
- Liaison Agreements formalised with the Garda Síochána and Coastguard.
- Inspector Martin McCarthy appointed as Liaison Officer between the Gardaí and Civil Defence.
- Voluntary Emergency Services Committee set up by the Chief Emergency Planning Officer of the HSE.
- Kerry Civil Defence received a new 4x4 Jeep from the Civil Defence Board.
- First Aid and Ambulance activity at over 100 events including Listowel Races, Triathlons, An Daingean Marathon, All Ireland Irish Dancing, Cycle Races, Rallies, Puck Fair and the Festival of Kerry.
- Provided assistance during flooding in the county, deploying over 1,500 sandbags.
- Driving course conducted for volunteers.





Director's Report on Economic Planning & Development

Director of Service: Michael McMahon

Senior Staff:

Senior Engineer: Paul Stack

Senior Executive Officer: Joan McCarthy



"To encourage, promote and facilitate measures that will contribute to a well managed physical and economic environment within the County of Kerry"

Forward Planning

The preparation, monitoring and implementation of the County Development Plan and Local Area Plans are the responsibility of the Forward Planning Unit.

The Kerry County Development Plan 2009 – 2015 was adopted on the 6th April 2009 and came into effect on the 4th May 2009.

2009 saw the continuation of the process of preparing and adopting Local Area Plans for the Functional Areas listed in the settlement strategy of the County Development Plan 2009-2015.

Throughout 2009 the process of preparing and adopting the Castleisland Functional Area Local Area Plan 2009 – 2015 continued, with the Council considering submissions and agreeing amendments to the draft plan. The Plan was adopted on the 21st December 2009

In 2009 the process of preparing and adopting the Kenmare Functional Area Local Area Plan 2010 – 2016 began. The Plan was placed on public display from 18th November 2009 to 31st December 2009. An open day for members of the public was also held in Kenmare on 10th December 2009. The Plan will go before the Council on the 19th April 2010 for final adoption. (The Plan was adopted by the Council in April 2010).

In late 2009 the process of preparing and adopting the Killorglin Functional Area Local Area Plan 2010 – 2016 also started. It is intended to have this Plan adopted in July 2010.

While the statutory period for these Local Area Plans is for a period of six years, it is considered that the strategy outlined for the development of the settlements will cover a more extended timeframe (and may be extended by the new Planning Act). These plans will ensure coordinated and efficient development of these settlements and avoid inappropriate development, which may prejudice their development in accordance with proper planning and sustainable development principles.



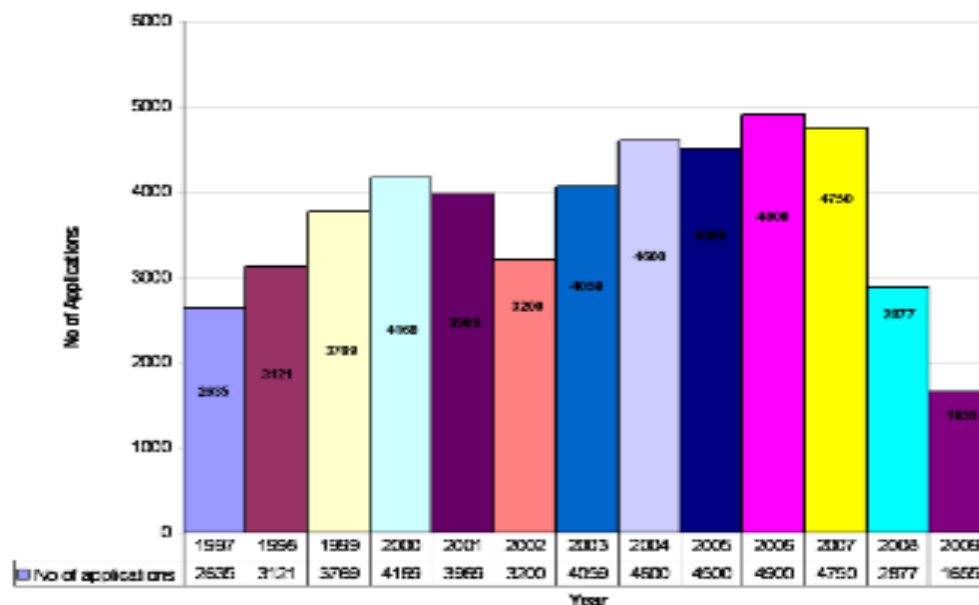
Director's Report on Economic Planning & Development

Planning Control

The most significant element of the work of the Planning section continues to be the processing of planning applications. In 2009 the section again saw a reduction in the number of planning applications received in all sectors. In particular, applications for large-scale housing and commercial developments were at their lowest level since the early 1990s.

A total of 1,655 planning applications were received during 2009, representing a decrease of 43% on the 2008 applications. This major change in activity is in line with the experience of other local authorities and reflects the overall national economic environment.

In the current economic climate, there is no indication that this downturn will be reversed in 2010. As a result, both administrative and technical staff numbers have been reduced significantly in the Development Management Unit.





Director's Report on Economic Planning & Development

Architectural Conservation

The Planning Policy Unit also coordinates the Conservation Grants Scheme. In 2009 a total of 11 grants were made with €105,600 allocated.

Housing Estates Unit

While there was a reduction in activity in Planning Control, the need to increase staff resources in the Housing Estates Unit grew. Due to the downturn in the economy and the decrease in activity in the construction sector, unfinished housing estates are now, unfortunately, a familiar sight throughout the County. The unit deals with these cases through appropriate planning enforcement action and/or the calling in of insurance/financial bonds.

Unfinished estates have implications not only for homeowners but also for Kerry County Council, were they to take estates in charge, and in doing so, be forced to make the necessary improvements and spend limited resources to bring services up to standard.

Site Assessment Team

In the interests of public health and pollution control it is essential to ensure that wastewater or effluent from a proposed development can be disposed of safely.

In all cases where a planning application involves a proposal to use a septic tank or other on-site effluent treatment system (usually in rural areas where a connection to the public sewer is unavailable), a full and thorough site assessment is required. Applicants must carry out the required site assessment in advance of making a planning application.

The site assessment must be carried out by a member of Kerry County Council's approved panel of site assessors who are qualified to undertake site investigations using E.P.A. methodology.

The most up-to-date list of approved assessors is available on the Kerry County Council website, or can be requested by post from the Planning Department.

The assessors have professional indemnity insurance, and are bound to present accurate information on the site characteristics. Assessors are contracted directly by the planning applicant. The site assessment is submitted as part of the planning application.

Since January 1st 2009, Kerry County Council's site assessment team then determines whether a site is suitable or not, for a one-off effluent treatment system such as a septic tank. It is planned that relevant information gathered from the site assessments submitted will be placed on our Geographical Information System (GIS). In time this will provide a valuable resource on site characterisation throughout the county.





Director's Report on Economic Planning & Development

Planning Enforcement

It is the responsibility of the Enforcement Section of the Council to ensure that all development is carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Development Acts and with the conditions of the relevant planning permission granted. The enforcement section ensures that all identified unauthorised developments are investigated as quickly as possible and matters regularised by the applicant or appropriate enforcement procedures initiated.

Types of Case	Jan – Dec 2009	Comments
Total number of cases subject to complaints that were investigated	331	This figure represents all written complaints received by the Planning Authority as well as the number of reports received from Kerry County Council staff.
Total number of cases subject to complaints that were dismissed	57	This figure represents the total number of complaints investigated that did not warrant the issue of a Warning Letter and/or Enforcement Notice.
Total number of cases subject to complaints that were resolved through negotiations	333	This figure is the total number of files that were resolved through either the grant of Retention Permission or the developer undertaking the necessary works to comply with Planning and Development Regulations.
Number of enforcement procedures taken through warning letters	97	This figure represents all the Warning Letters served under the Section 152 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 to 2007.
Number of enforcement procedures taken through enforcement notices	137	This figure represents all the Enforcement Notices served under Section 154/155 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 to 2007.
Number of prosecutions	5	This figure represents all the cases heard in Court for the first time. 31 no. additional files were referred to the Co. Solicitor during this period.

Circuit Court Orders were granted to Kerry County Council in respect of the following cases for the demolition/removal of unauthorised structures:

Aghadoe, Killarney.

Order granted for the demolition and removal of the unauthorised sections of building built onto existing dwelling house and the restoration of the area to the condition in which it was prior to the commencement of the unauthorised development. Demolition has been carried out in compliance with the Court Order.

Caragh Lake, Killorglin.

Order granted for the demolition/removal of unauthorised wooden structure. Structure has been removed from site in accordance with the Court Order.

Main Street, Annascaul.

Order granted for (a) the removal of advertising sign outside of premises, (b) removal of murals on the walls of the premises (c) painting of exterior walls of building to a high professional standard. Works have been undertaken in accordance with the Court Order.





Director's Report on Economic Planning & Development

Legal proceedings were initiated in relation to other unauthorised developments. The following are some of the enforcement cases relating to unauthorised development that were resolved prior to the date of Court hearing:

- Domestic garage converted to a habitable structure and not in compliance with conditions of planning permission. Structure converted back to domestic garage and external alterations undertaken in order to comply with conditions of permission granted.
- Half built structure, which was greater than exempted development size at rear of dwelling house. Structure removed.
- Commercial garage being operated without planning permission at Tubrid More. Application for retention permission submitted and granted, subject to conditions imposed relating to the operation of the garage.

County Archaeologist

The County Archaeology Department has responsibilities in the following areas:

- **Archaeological Impact Assessment/Monitoring/Test Excavation**
- **Graveyards**
- **Planning & Policy**

Key Achievements in 2009

- **Two Archaeological Impact Assessments Completed**
- **Licensed Test Excavations undertaken on three projects**
- **Archaeological monitoring undertaken in relation to ten projects**
- **Recommendations made in relation to 174 planning applications**
- **Detailed surveys of a further 21 archaeologically protected graveyards completed**
- **A new system of application for approval to undertake works in graveyards and new procedures put in place in relation to the safety of structures within graveyards**
- **Detailed Management Plans for six graveyards completed**
- **Preparation works started on Draft Management Plans for a further 16 graveyards in preparation**
- **Participated in DoEHLG departmental Work Group reviewing National Monuments legislation**



Director's Report on Economic Planning & Development

Heritage Office

Fourteen major projects were funded in 2009 with final delivery on two of these projects in 2010. Additional work in the form of technical advice and small financial contributions were also made.

In excess of 270 planning applications as well as 27 Part 8 planning applications were forwarded to the Heritage Office for comment. Architectural queries are largely passed to the Conservation Officer but in excess of 80 Architectural Information packs were distributed from this office in 2009.

Heritage Week events in 2009 were focused on Ballyseedy Wood's 'A Day In The Woods' where walks, workshops, demonstrations and training for all were organised in a highly acclaimed event.

The work carried out on the woodlands by Kerry County Council received the RDS-Forest Service Irish Forestry Award, making Kerry County Council the first Local Authority to win this award.

In 2010 a major multi-partner pilot project creating a GIS based platform to integrate data on the coastal heritage from Galway to Kerry and Donegal is being undertaken.

This pilot project will develop a multi-user platform to integrate datasets from many government departments in an effort to create a map driven dataset to inform heritage, tourism, landscape and coastal protection policy.

Heritage Council Funded Projects	Non-Heritage Council Funded Projects
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ballyseedy Coppice training • Graveyards Survey • North Kerry Hedgerow Survey • Hedgerow Cutting Course Bursaries • Geology Heritage Trail Signage • Mid-Kerry bats in bridges Survey • Kerry Barn Owl project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kerry Folklore Project –Béaloides Chiarraí • Folklore Recording Equipment • Ballyseedy Woods Bats Survey • Heritage Week • Ballyseedy Coppice Plan • An Daingean Design Guidelines amendments • Misc. Contributions – festivals /events • Kerry County Museum Publication



County Heritage Officer Una Cosgrave-Hanley with Canice O'Sullivan, Rathmore, recipient of a Mechanical Hedge Cutting Bursary.



Director's Report on Community, Culture & Recreation

Director of Service: John Breen

Senior Staff:

County Librarian: Tommy O'Connor



Community & Enterprise

In 2009, the Community and Enterprise Department, through its staff, supported the work of the Kerry County Development Board and carried out the various work programmes agreed by the Board following its reconstitution after the Local Elections of June 2009. The following are the significant areas of work advanced during the year.

Key Achievements in 2009

- Further progress was made towards a unified Tourism Forum for the marketing and development of tourism in Kerry.
- The Kerry Joint Policing Committee was reconstituted following the Council Elections in June 2009.
- Production of key economic indicators for the county of Kerry for each County Development Board Meeting.
- Parenting and Family Learning Sub-Group Strategic Plan rolled out
- Ardfert Playground was officially opened on March 17th on lands provided by Kerry County Council. Over €91,000 was also provided by the Council towards the development of the playground.
- A new Multi-sport Area was officially opened in Rossbeigh on July 26th. Kerry County Council provided the lease on the site and is insuring this facility.
- The Valentia Playground was officially opened by President Mary McAleese on September 24th. Kerry County Council provided funding of €44,000 towards the development of the playground facility.
- These additional playgrounds are incorporated as part of the Kerry Play Policy and are insured, managed and maintained by Kerry County Council.
- Work started on the Castleisland and Lixnaw playgrounds in 2009.
(The Castleisland Playground was officially opened by Mayor Bobby O'Connell on March 28th 2010).
- Six Kerry Comhairle Delegates attended the 2009 Dáil na nÓg which was held in Croke Park, Dublin on February 13th The Delegates were Cillian Buckley, Sorcha Stack, Patrick Fitzgerald, Robyn Guiton, Siobhan O'Neill and Rory Sheridan.
- The two themes addressed by the Delegates at the 2009 Dáil na nÓg were young persons' physical health and mental health.



Director's Report on Community, Culture & Recreation

Kerry Interagency Traveller Strategy KITS

- The inter-agency group which was established to oversee the implementation of the Kerry Interagency Traveller Strategy 2007-2010 met quarterly in 2009.
- Initiatives for the year included a Senior Traveller Education Centre Project and a furniture recycling project which is being funded by Pobail under the Travellers Initiative.
- A Conflict Coordinating Group was established in July to support the Kerry Travellers Development Project and the local Traveller Community to manage and address the local Traveller Feud.
- Stronger linkages have been established between Kerry County Council and the HSE in respect of Traveller Accommodation.
- The Star Pupil Programme targeting 5th year Traveller Students saw three work placements provided by Kerry County Council for the summer months, and another by South Kerry Development Partnership in their Killorglin office.

Kerry Integration Strategy

- The Integration Task Group, a sub-group of the County Development Board, continued to advance the draft Integration Strategy for the County in 2009.
- Funding of €46,829 received from the Office of the Minister for Immigration for 10 projects.

Kerry County Community & Voluntary Forum (C & V Forum)

- Elections were held across the County to nominate community representatives on to the County Forum Executive. In turn these community representatives were appointed on to the various bodies including the Strategic Policy Committees and others that require community representation.
- 490 Groups registered on the Kerry Community and Voluntary Group Forum
- Six meetings of the Kerry County Community and Voluntary Forum Executive were held during 2009 including one strategic review and planning meeting.
- Under the umbrella of the Irish National Community & Voluntary Forum an Insurance Scheme was established. Kerry has a high percentage of groups that avail of the scheme.

Kerry Community & Voluntary Forum Training Network

Sixty eight individual organisations were involved in training during 2009 across three locations in the County including Tralee, Killorglin and Killarney.

A total of €20,000 was awarded to the Kerry Community & Voluntary Forum for this initiative, one of 12 groups nationally that secured the funding and the only Community & Voluntary Forum.

Kerry Community Awards 2009

The overall prize in 2009 was awarded to Seancháirde. The South Kerry Older Persons Network aims to provide a forum where organisations representing older people can share information and plan jointly for its older members in the South Kerry area. 45 groups are affiliated to this network. This is a totally voluntary organisation.

Smoke Alarm Scheme

Change in focus from responding to fire to involving the community at large in the task of preventing fires. The Scheme is administered by the Department of Community and Enterprise in partnership with Fire Service and voluntary organisations.

A total of 1,200 homes have had alarms installed since the Scheme's initiation in 2007



Director's Report on Community, Culture & Recreation

Pride of Place

Three community groups nominated and supported by Kerry County Council travelled to Newcastle, Co Down for the 2009 Awards Ceremony. In their respective categories, Glenbeigh Community Council was a Finalist, Portmagee Development Association was a runner up and Iveragh Park Housing Estate, Killorglin was the Housing Estate category winner.

RAPID

The Tralee RAPID Programme progressed in the following areas in 2009:

- A RAPID Education & Training Worker was appointed to lead out the education and training sub-group of the Area Integration Team.
- "Deciding Your Future" training programme started in late 2009, a 15 week programme targeting unemployed 18-25 year olds from the RAPID
- A RAPID Sports Programme Facilitator was appointed
- The first phase of the Quality of Life Index Project was completed.

Shanakill / Ragoonane

- The success of the Estate Management & Community Safety Group in Shanakill/Ragoonane received national media praise featuring on RTE's "Frontline" programme.
- Its success is a model of good practice and for this reason the community representative for the area has been invited to speak at an international conference to be held in Limerick in June 2010.

Spa Road/Balloonagh

- The community election of a new RAPID representative for the Spa Road / Balloonagh area took place.

Mitchels Crescent / St Martin's Park

- The majority of residents of the Mitchels Crescent / St Martins Park area have left as part of the ongoing regeneration.
- Demolition largely completed during 2009.
- CCTV cameras were installed around Mitchels Crescent by Tralee Town Council.

Horse Project

The Tralee Community Horse Project, which is a unique project to Ireland, continues to be a huge success attracting interest from local authorities and community projects around the country.



Mobile Library in the Community



Comhairle na nÓg Presentation 2009



Director's Report on Community, Culture & Recreation

Kerry Local Sports Partnership

Key Achievements in 2009

- Kerry Local Sports Partnership Strategic Plan 2009-2013 launched
- Summer Camp Directory 2009 published
- Audit of Community and Sports Facilities compiled
- Code of Ethics – Delivered 14 courses, with 194 participants across a variety of sports within the county
- Buntús Start & Refreshers – Physical activity based training course for preschool setting was delivered to 22 childcare centres and 80 childcare practitioners. Two additional refresher courses were completed with 27 participants
- Teenscene – Continued roll out of the physical activity programme for teenage girls to three Kerry Education Service schools and three youth clubs, totalling 115 young girl participants for 2009
- Choose to Move – An adapted physical activity gym based programme delivered to 16 female participants with a physical disability.
- Aqua Aerobics – Delivered to 14 women with Multiple Sclerosis & Arthritis with the goal of offering therapeutic benefits in the management of their conditions.
- Surf to Heal – 40 participants with autism participated in Kerry's first surf camp for children
- Swimming Programmes – Up to 40 participants engaged in various levels of swim ability programmes
- All Abilities Circuits Programme – Delivered to 15 adults in residential care settings
- RAPID/Kerry LSP – Sports and Skills Programme – 117 participants aged 7-14 years have engaged in various activities.
- Kerry LSP Sporting Club Grant Scheme - Enabled 295 coaches to be trained and up- skilled across 48 sports with €56,525 allocated to clubs to help develop sport since 2008
- Mums Get Active Grant Scheme - Enabled 482 adults and 136 children to engage in physical activity based programmes

Arts Office

Principal projects organised and assisted by the Arts Office in 2009 were as follows:

- The 2009 residencies covered the area of dance.
- Writer in Residence book launch in June 2009, with over 300 people in attendance from across the county.

Partnership projects included:

- Kerry School of Music creating more opportunities to access and engage with music.
- Culture Night – with Tralee Town Council, Kerry County Museum, Siamsa Tíre and Samhlaíocht.
- 'Art for the Young at Heart', a partnership between the Arts Office and the Library Service.
- The Arts Act Grant at €42,000 was allocated to 85 applications.
- Nine 'Artist in Schools' and five 'Individual Artist' Bursaries were awarded.



Director's Report on Community, Culture & Recreation

Kerry Enterprise Action Team

Kerry Enterprise Action Team (KEAT) is a subgroup of the County Development Board and has been in existence since 2004. The membership consists of 11 organisations;

- Chamber of Commerce,
- County Enterprise Board,
- Enterprise Ireland,
- FÁS,
- IBEC,
- IDA,
- Institute of Technology Tralee,
- Kerry County Council,
- Local Development,
- Shannon Development,
- Údarás Na Gaeltachta.

The objective of the team is to:

Identify prioritise and coordinate key enterprise drivers, while promoting Kerry as a destination of first choice.

In 2009 the Team met on four occasions and focused on a number of projects including:-

- Rollout of Broadband in the County.
- Compilation of a contact database under the Kerry Ambassador Programme, which will promote the County abroad.
- Development of a Kerry Website portal in conjunction with the Tourism Strategy Group.
- Compilation of promotional material on Kerry including aerial footage.

There was an ongoing review of unemployment data in the County.

In February 2009 KEAT facilitated presentations by member organisations at a joint County Development Board / Kerry County Council meeting on job creation. The presentations outlined activities and plans for enterprise development.

Preparations were also made for the organisation of a one day Seminar in 2010 to provide information to the unemployed on job search, recruitment, welfare rights, enterprise start-up and education and training. (The One Step Forward event took place in the Carlton Fels Point Hotel, Tralee, on March 23rd 2010, with over 600 people attending).



John Treacy who launched the Kerry Local Sports Partnership Strategy (Kerry LSP), Lee Foley Keel Castlemaine Co Kerry and Enda Sweeney Glenbeigh Co Kerry.



President Mary McAleese & Martin McAleese and Deputy Mayor of Kerry Cllr Arthur J Spring at the official opening of Valentia Playground on September 24th 2009





Director's Report on Community, Culture & Recreation

Kerry Library Service

Kerry Library Service again showed an increase in numbers using the library service, in all nine of the county's libraries.

More and more members of the public are becoming aware of the vast amount of services on offer by Kerry Libraries, including the free internet services, audio books, research and local history section in Tralee, children's activities and many more.

The level of funding provided by Kerry County Council for book purchase is €350,000

Key Achievements in 2009

- 464,417 items were issued by Kerry Library in 2009, an increase of 15% from 2008
- 430,125 visits were made to the nine Kerry libraries and two Mobile Libraries in 2009, which showed an increase of over 18% on the previous year.
- 69,641 Internet sessions provided in Kerry libraries. The internet is available free of charge to the public in all of Kerry's libraries. Again this showed an increase on the previous year, with an additional 15.6% of visitors using the internet service compared with 2008.
- Kerry Library has 21,763 registered members taking advantage of the newly released books and in-demand titles on offer in all nine of the libraries in the county.
- During 2009 Kerry Library linked up with groups in the health support sector, including Deaf Hear Ireland, the North Kerry Dyslexia support group, Arthritis Ireland and the Irish Epilepsy Association.
- A link-up between Kerry Library, An Chomhairle Leabharlanna and FÁS saw the FÁS e-learning project delivered at five libraries between October and December 2009.
- A full review of the Mobile Library schedule saw additional stops added from September, with increased links with Community Centres and Family Resource Centres.
- Among the rich items of historical significance which were donated to the Local History Section were:
 - County Kerry VEC records dating from 1900,
 - A collection of newspapers, magazines and publications relating to Daniel O'Connell
 - Ten boxes of records from Kenmare Co-operative Creamery.
- The national digitisation programme saw the 1911 Census for Kerry brought online and is available free to the public at each Branch of Kerry Library.





Director's Report on Corporate Services

Director of Service: John D Flynn

Senior Staff:

Senior Executive Officer Corporate Affairs: Ger O'Brien

Senior Executive Officer Human Resources: Martin O'Donoghue

Head of ICT: Brian Looney



The Corporate Services Department of Kerry County Council consists of the Corporate Affairs, Human Resources and Information Technology Departments.

Corporate Affairs

In June 2009, Local Elections were held to elect new members to Kerry County Council for the next five years. Substantial planning, preparation and organisation went into the running of the election. Fifty two candidates in the five electoral areas put their names forward for election and at the Annual General Meeting held on 19th June 2009, the new Council was formed.

Kerry County Council received an allocation of €330,497 from the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government in 2009 under the National Disability Strategy. This money was spent throughout the County in line with the priorities identified in our "Access for All Implementation Plan" which aims to improve access to facilities for people with disabilities.

Some of the works carried out included improved access to burial grounds, provision of dished crossing points on footpaths with tactile paving, provision of accessible public counters at waste transfer stations and improved signage in public buildings.

A new Corporate Plan covering the period 2009 - 2014 was prepared and adopted by the members of Kerry County Council during 2009. The Corporate Plan outlines the Council's core values and key objectives along with details on how these objectives will be achieved and measured during the period of the plan.

A building for a new Area Office for Killarney was acquired during 2009. At year end, work was ongoing in assessing tenders for the fit out and provision of furniture for the building. It is expected to have the building open to the public during 2010.

Key Achievements in 2009

- Successful running of Local Elections held in June 2009
- Preparation of new Corporate Plan covering the period 2009 - 2014
- A total 49 requests were dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act, along with 14 requests from the Office of the Ombudsman in 2009





Director's Report on Corporate Services

Human Resources

The Human Resource section facilitates the ongoing development of HR best practice to ensure that Kerry County Council and the Town Councils have a skilled, motivated and committed workforce to deliver optimum standards of service.

Key Achievements in 2009

- Kerry County Council is a pilot site for the implementation of a national HR & Payroll system. The Personnel and the Payroll modules have been successfully implemented in Kerry County Council. Considerable progress has been made on the Time and Attendance, Training and Superannuation modules during 2009.
- Continued development of Absence Management Programme
- Implementation of Organisational Support Programme
- Continued development of Performance Management and Development Systems
- Continued participation in the "Star Pupil" Work Experience Programme with a view to further developing a pathway towards employment in the local authorities for Travellers.

The main courses delivered by HR Training during 2009

- Chainsaw
- Manual Handling
- Safepass
- CSCS Health & Safety at Roadworks
- Location of Underground Services
- Safe Systems of Work Plan Training for Road Works
- Return to Learning
- Moving into Management
- Disability Equality in the Public Sector
- Organisational Skills for Engineers
- Letter and Report Writing



Director's Report on Corporate Services

Information & Communications Technology

The Information & Communications Technology Section, provides and supports the IT infrastructure within Kerry Local Authorities.

Key Achievements in 2009

- Savings of over €100,000 on mobile telephony and data circuits for Kerry Local Authorities were realised by new contracts and efficiencies.
- Kerry Co. Council was the lead pilot site for 27 Local Authorities rolling out the Core Human Resources & Payroll System. In 2009 all County Council and Listowel Town Council staff were paid using this new system. Kerry County Council was also asked to be the lead pilot site for Phase 2 modules of the system.
- The Council's new main website www.kerrycoco.ie was launched, with new interactive services and mapping, improved accessibility and Irish language elements.
- A special Local Elections 2009 mini-site was also launched, providing information on candidates and the election process, using live data from Count Centres, and streaming video using Web 2.0 technology.
- On-line payments were tested for the Council's Pay As You Go Refuse System to allow it to go live on Jan 1st 2010.



Kerry County Council tenants who completed an Irish Language course jointly provided by Kerry County Council, Údaras and Kerry Education Service, pictured with their tutors at the presentation of their certificates in Baile an Fheirteireagh.

Financial Statement

Director of Service: John O'Connor Head of Finance

Senior Staff:

Angela McAllen, Financial/ Management Accountant

Kathleen Moriarty, Acting Senior Executive Officer

Pat O'Shea, Acting Senior Executive Officer.



The overall financial and economic operating climate during 2009 was as difficult as any experienced during the past several decades and would rank amongst the most challenging years over that period. Indeed, the ESRI 2009 Winter Economic Quarterly commentary included this summation: "it is hard to overstate what a difficult year 2009 has been for the Irish economy".

The harsh global, national and local economic difficulties impacted significantly on the Council's available budget and this, in turn, restricted our works programmes during the year. Our Revenue Expenditure fell by almost 8% and our Capital Expenditure reduced by approx. 47% in 2009, relative to 2008.

In managing the Revenue Budget during the year the main emphasis was on:-

- ensuring that we maintained our essential core statutory functions and responsibilities at satisfactory levels
- continuing to deliver our services at the most economical cost, and thereby
- minimising to the greatest extent possible the impact on the services to the people of the county

The availability of cash-on-hand to support the provision of our services continues to be the foundation for our financial sustainability. Significant attention was paid to the collection of the debtor streams including government departments, state agencies and Council paying customers during 2009.

The year was a very difficult one for business and agriculture and this was reflected in the collection levels of most of our major collections which showed a reduction on the previous year's performance. Nonetheless, a broadly satisfactory level of collection was reached at year's end.

The introduction of a charge on non-principal private residences in July 2009 was a welcome broadening of the funding base of local authorities. The income from the charge accrued to the local authority in which the non-principal private residence is located. Kerry County Council benefited by a nett €1.72m from the introduction of the charge. This significant additional income meant that our works programmes were retained at a level which would not have been possible otherwise owing to the reductions in other income sources.

The accompanying tables and pie-charts give an overview of the financial position of the Council and breakdown of the expenditure and income for the year. The current overall financial standing of the Council may be described as continuing to be generally satisfactory at 31 December 2009. The Council is continuing to implement a significant water services investment programme, though it is reduced on that originally envisaged prior to the present national economic difficulties.

The local contribution required towards that investment, together with the additional operation/maintenance costs resulting from the enhanced asset base and the increasing standards for water quality/water effluent discharges will require substantial on-going local expenditure. Funding that level of increasing expenditure on a year-to-year basis will continue to challenge the Council over the coming years. In addition, the Council must meet its other priority service requirements.

In summary, the Council will need to relentlessly implement strict budgetary control, debtor management, services prioritisation and cost effectiveness so as to sustain our financial capacity to address the core demands arising.





Financial Statement

Expenditure by Division	Gross Expenditure 2009	Income 2009	Net Expenditure 2009	Net Expenditure 2008
	€	€	€	€
Housing and Building	14,081,580	13,882,576	199,004	919,820
Road Transportation & Safety	36,179,304	23,114,673	13,064,631	14,414,882
Water Services	21,168,567	13,422,605	7,745,962	6,748,938
Development Management	8,290,132	2,130,707	6,159,425	6,314,103
Environmental Services	17,848,749	9,907,126	7,941,623	6,197,703
Recreation and Amenity	4,819,460	382,368	4,437,092	5,267,462
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	15,100,187	14,360,319	739,868	939,146
Miscellaneous Services	6,956,144	3,902,244	3,053,900	4,268,929
Central Management Charges	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditure/Income	124,444,123	81,102,618		
Net Cost of Divisions to be funded from Rates and Local Government Fund			43,341,505	45,070,983
Pension related deduction			2,167,773	-
Local government fund			24,300,141	29,139,561
County demand			6,825,773	7,232,550
Commercial rates			18,066,275	17,851,131
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year before Transfers			8,018,457	9,152,259
Transfers from/(to) Reserves			(7,885,460)	(8,970,014)
Overall Surplus/(Deficit) for Year			132,997	182,245
General Reserve at 1st January			1,756,037	1,573,792
General Reserve at 31st December			1,889,034	1,756,037





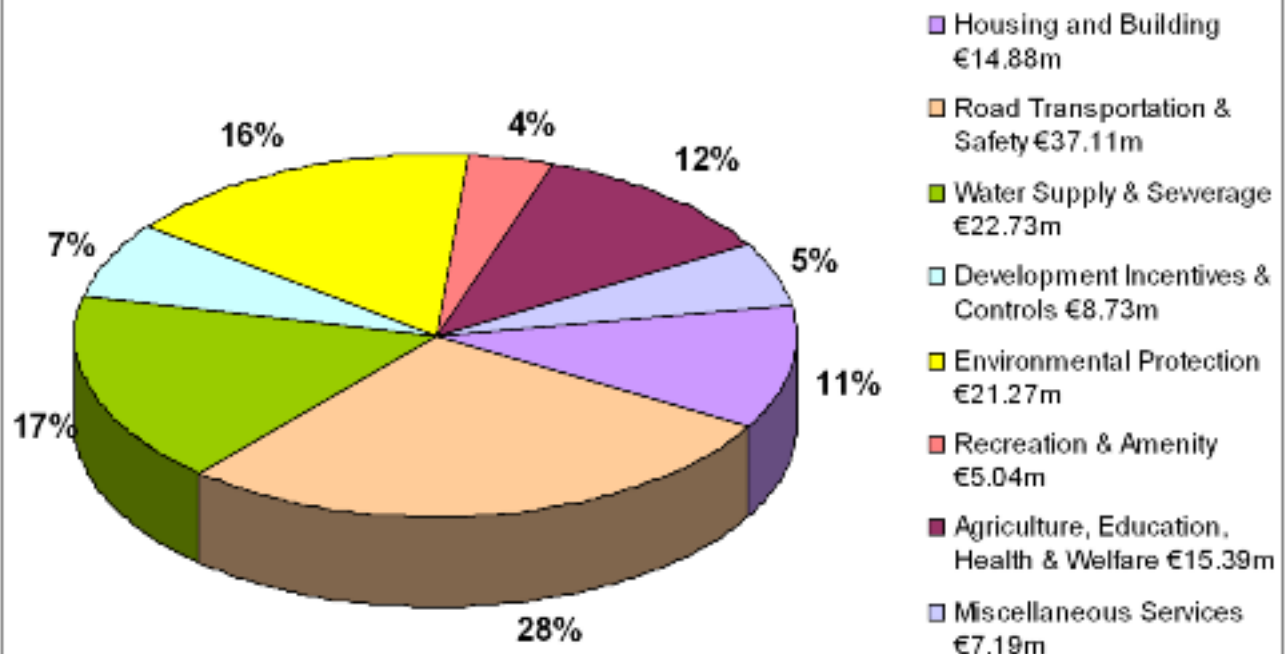
Financial Statement

	2009 €	2008 €
Fixed Assets		
Operational	391,171,991	370,801,102
Infrastructural	3,053,176,628	3,059,808,779
Community	1,099,884	1,233,722
Non-Operational	2,433,946	2,044,843
	3,447,882,449	3,433,888,446
Work-in-Progress and Preliminary Expenses	73,055,493	66,109,291
Long Term Debtors	40,536,776	40,511,684
Current Assets		
Stock	892,051	867,732
Trade Debtors and Prepayments	22,717,507	30,893,274
Bank Investments	39,000,000	24,400,000
Cash in Transit	818,201	1,849,342
	63,427,759	58,010,348
Current Liabilities		
Bank Overdraft	593,445	2,195,576
Creditors & Accruals	20,447,531	21,693,706
Urban Account	475,135	68,358
Finance Leases	-	1,242
	21,516,111	23,958,882
Net Current Assets / (Liabilities)	41,911,648	34,051,466
Creditors (Amounts greater than one year)		
Loans Payable	98,941,064	87,446,187
Finance Leases	-	-
Refundable Deposits	1,521,300	1,036,198
Other	-	-
	100,462,364	88,482,385
Net Assets / (Liabilities)	3,502,924,002	3,486,078,502
Financed By		
Capitalisation Account	3,447,882,449	3,433,888,446
Income WIP	71,150,630	57,845,549
Specific Revenue Reserve	5,196,625	5,476,624
General Revenue Reserve	1,889,034	1,756,037
Other Balances	-23,194,736	-12,888,154
Total Reserves	3,502,924,002	3,486,078,502

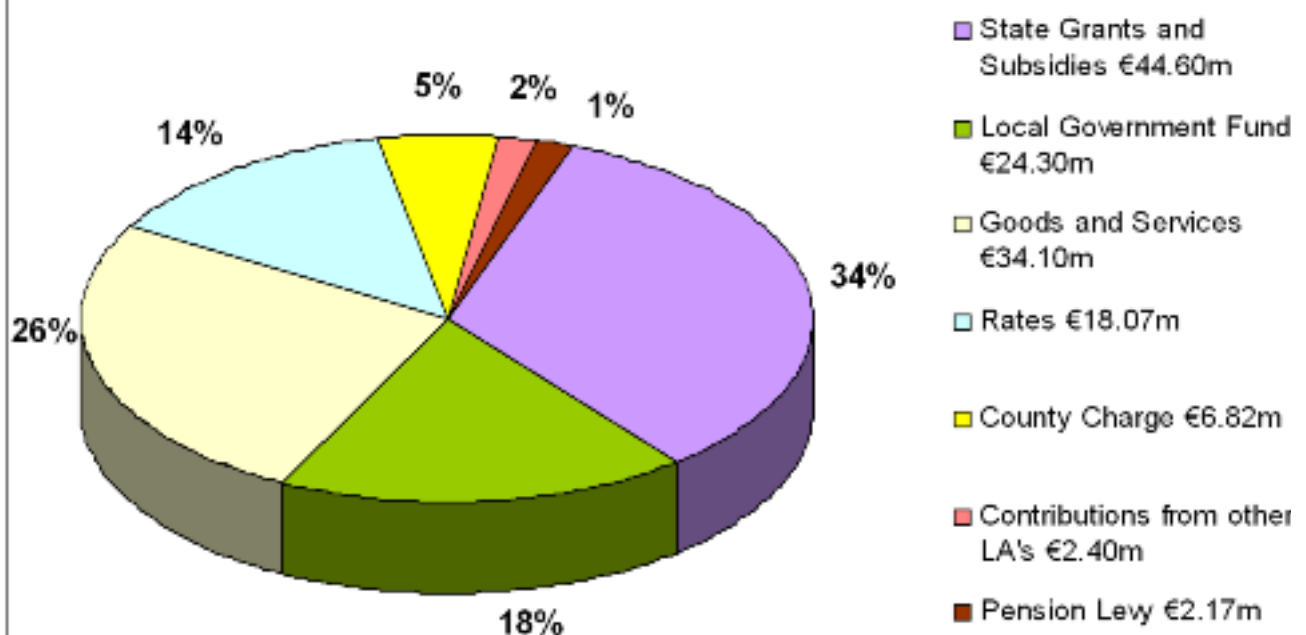


Financial Statement

Kerry County Council - Revenue Expenditure 2009

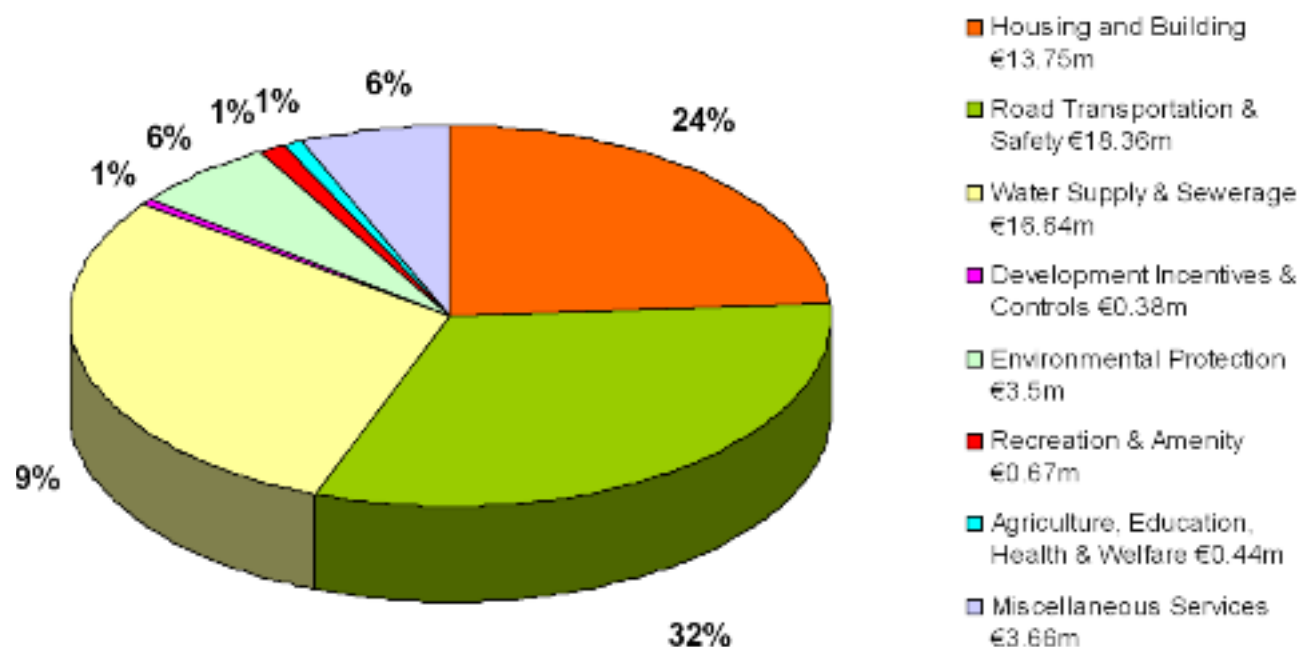


Kerry County Council - Revenue Income 2009

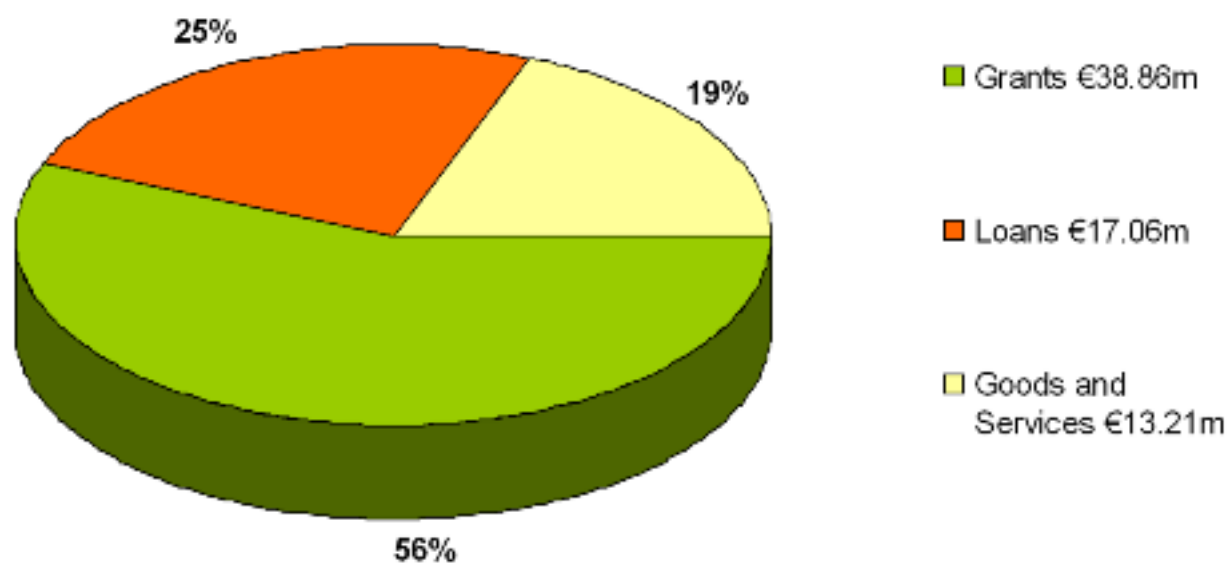


Financial Statement

Kerry County Council - Capital Expenditure 2009



Kerry County Council - Sources of Capital Funding 2009



Financial Statement

Late Payments 2008

In accordance with the Prompt Payment of Accounts Act, 1997, and European Communities (Late Payment in Commercial Transactions Regulations, 2002) the details of late payments to Creditors is set out.

Late Payments	2009
Number of late payments in excess of €317. 44	1
Value of late payments in excess of €317.44	€678.55
Value of late payments as a proportion of the value of total payment made to suppliers.	0%
Total payments	€95,141,387
Penalty Interest Paid	€5.53



Garda Emma Mullane, and Maria O'Regan, Road Safety Education Officer with Kerry County Council, at the Kerry County Council Road Safety Roadshow in the Brandon Hotel, which saw survivors of car crashes and relatives of those killed in car crashes, tell their stories to second level students.



Children, parents and members of the organising committee pictured at the official opening of the Ardferf Playground in March 2009.

Report from Kerry County Enterprise Board

Chief Executive: Tomás Hayes



Kerry County Enterprise Board activity in the year 2009 showed a solid performance despite the underlying financial and slowing business environment. Grant aid in the sum of €500,637 was approved in respect of 40 micro-enterprises with the potential to create 62 full-time and 20 part-time/seasonal jobs. The additional support will help retain an additional 70 jobs in supported businesses.

A total of €428,094 was paid in grant assistance to 47 businesses in 2009.

In addition the Board spent €522,657 on providing a range of other business supports to over 1,000 individuals. These include:

- Business Start-Up Training,
- Business Growth Training,
- Marketing,
- IT skills,
- Design,
- Networking
- 'One to One' Mentoring.

These projects are located throughout the county, the vast majority in locations which would not benefit directly from Foreign Direct Investment. These projects will enable people to live and work in their own communities thereby contributing to rural development in a tangible way.

The County Enterprise Board continues to promote entrepreneurial capability at second and third level educational institutions. It sponsors the County Student Enterprise Awards Competition for students in second level schools and contributes financially to the National Awards of this Competition.

The County Enterprise Board also delivers the County Enterprise Awards and supports a range of other initiatives including Advanced Food Programmes, Seafood Product Development, Business Networking and a range of other programmes and seminars.

In October 2009, Kerry County Enterprise Board introduced the "Kerry Enterprise Week". This saw the "Enterprise Bus" appear at various locations throughout the County, allowing people with possible business ideas to discuss them with the Board and gain helpful advice.

A number of trends will emerge over the next years. Historically, people tend to start more small businesses in an economic downturn. This can be as a result of unemployment pressures and larger businesses outsourcing services. Micro-businesses will be able to explore more opportunities in sectors such as health care, fuel, energy and product repair.

Tourism, food and drink will be important drivers in the local economy. There will be increased interest in online business models to complement existing models and there will be substantial interest in business online networking. National policy must consider the needs of a county like Kerry and facilitate the Board in developing initiatives and funding structures appropriate to the county.

The Enterprise Board is continually indebted to members of the Board and the Evaluation Committee who carry out their duties on a voluntary basis and in a dedicated and professional manner. The professionalism and dedication of our staff members is also very much appreciated and acknowledged.





Reports from the Town Councils





Tralee Town Council Mayor's Foreword

As Mayor of Tralee, it gives me great pleasure to be associated with the 2009 Annual Report.

A look back over the events of 2009 show a great deal of work carried out by the staff of Tralee Town Council to make this town a better place.

However, the Regeneration Project in the Mitchels area of Tralee stands out as a shining light for Tralee Town Council.

A project which shows the very best of collaboration between the Council and the local community, the re-location of families from Mitchels Crescent and the demolition of the houses there, paves the way for a significant re-development of the area.

This is a project which would not happen without significant input from the community and I am delighted with their positive attitude towards the project. I also would like to thank the Council staff for their efforts in moving the project forward.

The significance of the project can be seen by the decision of the Minister for Environment, Heritage and Local Government, John Gormley TD, to officially open the Tobar Naofa development in May 2009.

As Mayor, I was also delighted that the Rose of Tralee Festival celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2009. The Festival is of huge importance to the town of Tralee and to the county of Kerry. The boost it gives to the local economy is hugely welcome, particularly in these difficult economic times.

However, the exposure that Tralee town receives, on a national and international level is priceless, and shows Tralee in a positive light. To all those who have been associated with the Festival over the past 50 years, I congratulate you on your hard work and initiative. To Anthony O'Gara and his staff, I wish you well in the 2010 Festival and look forward to many more years of celebration.

The 50th anniversary of the Festival was also an occasion for the Town Council to unveil the Rose of Tralee sculpture in the Town Park.

October 2009 was also another landmark occasion for Tralee town, when the Christie Hennessy Statue was unveiled in the Small Square.

Christie's legacy as a songwriter and musician has spread all over the globe and it was fitting that we should honour a proud Tralee man. The huge attendance at the unveiling showed the depth of feeling towards Christie, and we are proud to claim him as our own.

To the staff and management of Tralee Town Council, I would like to thank you, on behalf of all the elected members, for your hard work and efforts.

I would also like to thank all those who took part in the Town and County Council elections and congratulate those who won seats, and commiserate with those who failed to get elected.



Cllr Terry O'Brien
Mayor of Tralee





Tralee Town Council Town Manager's Report

An overview of the activities of Tralee Town Council during 2009 shows that large works programme was completed, despite the uncertain economic climate which has impacted on everyone.

As Tralee Town Manager I would like to pay tribute to the Council staff and management for their efforts during the year, in providing the best service possible to the people of Tralee, despite the challenges that face them.

During 2009, one hugely positive activity was the continuing progress of the Mitchels-Boherbee Regeneration Project.

At national level, the Government continue to be fully supportive of the project, with funding of €5.5m allocated in 2009. This level of support allowed for the signing of the contract for the demolition of 81 houses in the Mitchels Crescent area. This work is taking place in 2010 and the houses will be replaced by a new housing development and Integrated Services Building.

During 2010, the Regeneration Project will progress, and I must pay tribute to the local communities who have fully bought into what everyone is looking to achieve.

In light of the positive works being achieved by the Regeneration Project, it was hugely disappointing that a small minority of residents brought significant negative national attention to the area and to the town of Tralee by their actions.

This activity is unacceptable and the Town Council will work with the Gardaí and other agencies to resolve this matter.

It was also disappointing, at a time when the Rose of Tralee Festival was celebrating its 50th anniversary, a number of articles appeared in national newspapers, portraying the town in an extremely negative light.

For many the picture painted bore little resemblance to the Tralee they know and live in. Tralee has its difficulties, but they are no worse than any other town of a similar size.

The programme of upgrading roads within Tralee town continued during 2009, with the town's main routes greatly enhanced. Work has also continued in the provision of better footpaths around the town.

The continued emphasis on improving the water supply within Tralee also bore fruit, as over 380m of water main was replaced during 2009. Additionally, water conservation projects have continued and these efforts will ensure a reduction in the amount of water used in Tralee.

A key document for the town of Tralee is the Town Development Plan, and in February 2009, a new Development Plan for the period 2009-2015 was adopted by the members, coming into effect on March 16th 2009.

The Plan sets out the overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of the town for the next six years, and it was pleasing to see the level of interest from the public during the consultation process.

I would like to pay tribute to the elected members who have worked well with the Council executive for the good of the town. The local elections saw a number of changes in the Council chamber, and I would like to thank those who did not return for their efforts over the previous five years.



Michael McMahon
Tralee Town Manager





Tralee Town Council Membership 2009

Tralee Town Council January-June 2009



Cllr Johnny Commene (Lab)



Cllr Toiréasa Ferris (SF)



Cllr Ted Fitzgerald (FF)



Cllr Cathal Foley (SF)



Cllr Norma Foley (FF)



Cllr Tommy Foley



Cllr Pat Hussey (FG)



Cllr Miriam McGillicuddy (Lab)



Cllr Kieran Moriarty (FF)



Cllr Terry O'Brien (Lab)



Cllr Karen Tobin (Lab)



Cllr Johnnie Wall (FF)

Tralee Town Council June-December 2009



Cllr Mairead Fernane (FG)



Cllr Toiréasa Ferris (SF)



Cllr Ted Fitzgerald (FF)



Cllr Cathal Foley (SF)



Cllr Norma Foley (FF)



Cllr Pat Hussey (FG)



Cllr Sam Locke



Cllr Terry O'Brien (Lab)



Cllr Grace O'Donnell (FG)



Cllr Arthur J Spring (Lab)



Cllr Johnnie Wall (FF)



Cllr Gillian Wharton-Slattery (FG)





Tralee Town Council

Membership of Boards/Committees 2009

Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland	Blennerville Windmill Company
Cllr Ted Fitzgerald Cllr Arthur J. Spring	Cllr Arthur J. Spring
Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd	Kerry County Council Housing & Social Support Strategic Policy Committee
Cllr Grace O'Donnell	Cllr Pat Hussey
Joint Policing Committee	Tidy Tralee
Cllr Mairéad Fernane Cllr Ted Fitzgerald Cllr Cathal Foley Cllr Norma Foley Cllr Pat Hussey Cllr Gillian Wharton-Slattery	Cllr Sam Locke Cllr Arthur J Spring Cllr Toiréasa Ferris Cllr Terry O'Brien Cllr Grace O'Donnell Cllr Johnnie Wall
Kerry County Development Board	Kerry Education Service
Cllr Terry O'Brien	Cllr Mairéad Fernane Cllr Ted Fitzgerald
Kerry Life Education Service	Kerry Local Sports Partnership
Cllr Grace O'Donnell	Cllr Gillian Wharton-Slattery
Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee	North & East Kerry Development Company Ltd
Cllr Gillian Wharton-Slattery	Cllr Johnnie Wall
RAPID	South Western Regional Authority
Cllr Sam Locke	Cllr Gillian Wharton-Slattery
Tralee & Fenit Harbour Commissioners	Tralee Farmers' Market
Cllr Mairéad Fernane Cllr Arthur J. Spring	Cllr Grace O'Donnell Cllr Arthur J. Spring
Tralee Regional Sports & Leisure Company Ltd	Towards A Better Tralee
Cllr Mairéad Fernane Cllr Gillian Wharton-Slattery	Cllr Mairéad Fernane Cllr Ted Fitzgerald Cllr Cathal Foley Cllr Norma Foley Cllr Pat Hussey Cllr Gillian Wharton-Slattery
	Cllr Sam Locke Cllr Arthur J Spring Cllr Toiréasa Ferris Cllr Terry O'Brien Cllr Grace O'Donnell Cllr Johnnie Wall





Tralee Town Council

Conferences attended by Members 2009

Conference/Event	Location	Number Attending
"Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland Spring Seminar 2009"	Clanree Hotel, Letterkenny, Donegal	7
Laois County Council "Local Authority Members Association Spring Seminar 2009"	The Portlaoise Heritage Hotel, Portlaoise, Laois	1
German launch of Tralee/Frankfurt-Höchst Cultural Partnership	Bolongaro Palace, Frankfurt-Höchst	1
Kadenza Consultancies Ltd "Drug & Alcohol Abuse"	Glengarriff Eccles Hotel, Glengarriff Harbour, Cork	1
Tralee/Frankfurt-Höchst Cultural Partnership	Frankfurt	1
Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd "Extraordinary General Meeting"	Burlington Hotel, Dublin	1
"Annual Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland "96th Annual Conference 2009"	Gleneagle Hotel, Killarney	5
Ezperenza Enterprises "The Planning & Development (Amendment) Bill 2009"	The Kingsvalley Hotel, Merlin Park, Galway	1
The Heritage Office "Community Folklore Recording Conference"	Muckcross Research Library, Muckcross House, Killarney	2
Kerry Life Education "Reducing Drug & Alcohol Related Harm"	Europe Hotel & Resort, Killarney	2
Institute of Public Administration "Induction Training Programme for Newly Elected Members"	New Park Hotel, Kilkenny	2
Chambers Ireland "Excellence in Local Government Awards 2009"	Burlington Hotel, Dublin	1
Limerick County Council "Service Provision in Local Government – The New Reality"	Carlton Castletroy Park Hotel, Dublin Road, Limerick	2
Kadenza Consultancies Ltd "Council Budgets 2010"	Silver Tassie Hotel, Letterkenny, Donegal	1
Clare Tourist Council with Clare County Council "Promoting Partnership in Tourism – 21 Years of Progress"	Falls Hotel, Ennistymon, Clare	1
Superior Training "The Local Government Budget 2010"	The Carlton Millrace Hotel, Bunclody, Wexford	1





Tralee Town Council Members Expenses

Annual Allowances

	€
Mayor	10,400
Deputy Mayor	2,600
Members Allowances	38,648.32
Representational Payments	70,538.25

The total payment made by Tralee Town Council in respect of attendance authorised by the authority at a meeting of a prescribed association of local authorities of which the authority is a member, and, attendance authorised by the authority at a conference seminar or other meeting or event, was €14,851.03, in 2009. The total amount of this payment which related to travel and subsistence expenses within the State was €14,328.60. The total amount of this payment which related to travel and subsistence expenses outside the State was €522.43.

Civic Receptions

The following Civic Receptions were held in 2009:

- Tralee Fair Trade Committee
- Easter Sunday Commemorations
- Kingdom County Fair Committee
- The Roses of Tralee 1959-2008
- The 50 International Roses 2009 and their families
- The 50 Rose Centres represented in 2009
- The 50 Rose Escorts 2009
- The Tralee & Frankfurt-Höchst Partnership launch
- The Palatine Visit

Mayoral Awards

The Mayor bestowed the following people/organisations with honours in 2009, to recognise their achievements:

- Rose of Tralee International Festival Committee members over 50 years

Twinning

In 2009, Tralee Town Council formally resolved to Twin with:

- Westlake, Ohio





Tralee Town Council Election Expenses

Total Election Expenses Incurred & Donations Received for 2009 Local Elections	
Candidate	Total
Ted Fitzgerald	4,526.76
Peter Antonow	1,196.00
Tommy Collins	3,070.00
John Commene	1,533.00
Mairead Fernane	2,905.97
Cathal Foley	1,765.65
Norma Foley	4,580.84
Dan Galvin	2,802.00
David Grey	1,986.04
Timmy Griffin	2,350.44
Pat Hussey	3,661.82
Paudie Kennelly	510.00
Sam Locke	300.00
Sean Moraghan	1,374.65
Teddy Murphy	1,813.47
Toireasa Ferris	3,979.82
Terry O'Brien	5,412.00
Grace O'Donnell	2,660.18
Leonard O'Donnell	2,214.90
Pat O'Shea	1,877.16
Arthur J Spring	7,862.00
Johnnie Wall	1,119.20
Gillian Wharton Slattery	3,101.00





Report on the activities of Tralee Town Council

Housing & Social Support

Tralee Town Council's total Capital Allocation in 2009 was €14,800,000. €8 million was allocated to housing construction and acquisitions, €850,000 to Traveller Specific Accommodation, €5.5 million to the Regeneration Project and €450,000 to retrofitting vacant houses.

This was the first year of the Government's Retrofitting Void Scheme, which was introduced to encourage housing authorities to improve the energy efficiency of vacant houses. In 2009 Tralee Town Council upgraded 36 houses under this scheme. In 2009 the Government also confirmed their support of the Mitchels-Boherbee Community Regeneration Project, with the allocation increasing from €1million in 2008 to €5.5million in 2009. Meetings were also held throughout 2009 between senior Department officials and Tralee Town Council to ensure continued financial support for the implementation of the Regeneration Plan.

Tralee Town Council's rented stock at 31st December 2009 comprised of 1,165 units. The housing list at the end of 2009 was 1,575. Tralee Town Council successfully completed the sale of five affordable units at Sycamore Court.

In 2009, Tralee Town Council's Housing Department continued to respond to housing issues and to improve the condition of the housing stock:

- Over €385,275 was spent on refurbishing vacant houses where a total of 56 houses were brought back into a lettable condition in 2009.
- The housing section carried out 895 inspections on foot of maintenance requests
- 723 maintenance requests were completed by the housing maintenance staff.

By working in collaboration with local support agencies and engaging with resident associations, Tralee Town Council continues to engage actively with residents helping them to actively participate in community life. Tralee Town Council currently works with 35 resident associations through its support, commitment and involvement in Residents First Network. Through their involvement with the Older Person's Forum and in co-operation with North and East Kerry Development, the Council produced a 'Directory of Services for the Older Person' in 2009.

Although 2009 was another significant year for the Mitchels Boherbee Community Regeneration Project, the physical developments and improvements proposed for 2009 took longer to put in place than was initially planned. This was mainly due to difficulties experienced in relocating families in the area and additional Departmental procedures in relation to employing contractors.

- In May 2009, the first phase of the ambitious Mitchels Boherbee Community Regeneration Project; 'Tobar Naofa', a modern, secure and energy efficient residential development was officially opened by Mr. John Gormley, Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.
- Tobar Naofa's woodchip district heating scheme in Ireland utilising locally produced fuel, the first of its kind in Ireland received an Energy Conservation Award at Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government.
- In September 2009, the contract for demolition works was signed with Griffin Brothers which included the demolition of 81 units in the Mitchels Crescent area. The demolition programme will make way for the development of a new housing development and an Integrated Services Building on this site. This will offer an opportunity for greater co-ordination of courses and services and space for enterprise development to people living within the immediate area and the wider community of Tralee.
- In October 2009 the contract for the construction of six additional units and a laundry room to the existing complex at Tobar Naofa was signed with Ned O'Shea & Sons.
- In December 2009, Tralee Town Council was successful in sourcing funds through the Mitchels /Boherbee Community Regeneration project to develop 20 individual allotments and six community allotments at Moyderwell, Tralee.
- Meetings were held regularly throughout 2009 with the Mitchels/Boherbee Steering Committee and the Community Participation Task Group to ensure the strong structural foundations established within the regeneration process are maintained.





Report on the activities of Tralee Town Council

Roads & Transportation

In 2009, Tralee Town Council continued its programme of upgrading roads within the town area. Our primary aims were to upgrade our roads/footpaths, to make them safer, and to achieve better walking and riding surfaces for pedestrians, cyclists and vehicular traffic. Universal access played a major part in all works carried out.

Key Achievements	
Discretionary Block Grant: €228,000	Carriageway Renewal Grants: €145,000
Strengthening and resurfacing works at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Racecourse Road, • Ballyvelly Road • Oakpark Demense • Footpath replacement and drainage works at Racecourse Road 	Drainage and road surfacing works undertaken at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Back Lane, Blennerville. Footpath improvements were undertaken at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Westcourt, • O'Rahilly's Villas, • Glenard, • Strand Road, • Rae Street.
Development Levies:	Disability Access: €62,385
Essential drainage and surfacing works were undertaken at North Circular Road, adjacent to Hogan's Funeral Home, with monies derived from Planning Levies.	Dished footpaths were provided at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connolly Park, • Shanakill, • Ragoonane • Racecourse Road. Work started on the provision of a pedestrian crossing at Ivy Terrace.
Taking in Charge:	
<p>The following roads were taken-in-charge in 2009:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cill Dara Killeen Heights Ashleigh Downs The Willows, Clonmore Woodbrooke Court, Monavalley Clonmore Grove Inner The Oaks, Oakview Riverside Drive, Oakview</p>	



Report on the activities of Tralee Town Council

Environmental Protection & Enhancement

For the third year in a row, Tralee was among the prize winners in the Annual Tidy Towns Competition 2009, securing a silver medal in the Large Towns category. Tralee improved its standing, in the Tidy Towns Competition, by seven points, from the previous year.

The 2009 Tralee Tidy Towns Awards were presented by the Deputy Mayor of Tralee Cllr. Mairéad Fernane at the annual Tidy Tralee Awards Ceremony. A total of 28 awards were presented to estates, businesses and individuals who had excelled in the 2009 Tidy Tralee competition.

Waste Collection Service

- Dry recyclable waste collected by Tralee Town Council amounted to 8.3% of the residual waste tonnage.
- The Council collected 51,421 dry recyclable bags.
- Tralee Town Council operates a 'tag per lift' system for residual waste.
- Tralee Town Council serviced 4,535 commercial and 111,604 domestic residual waste pick-ups.
- The Domestic Collection Rate was 90% that of 2008, with the residual tonnage to landfill being 88% of the previous year.
- Tralee Town Councils' waste collection service collected 370 Tonne of dry recyclable material and 4,450 Tonnes of residual waste was placed in Landfill

Anti-Gum Litter Campaign

In June 2009 Tralee Town council joined the Gum Litter Taskforce. The GLT is part of a joint initiative with local authorities that aims to achieve a long term sustainable solution to the irresponsible disposal of chewing gum litter.

Recreation & Amenity

In 2009 works specific environmental works, albeit at a lower level than previous years, were carried out with capital monies derived from planning levies. In the Town Park there was a continuation of the Footpath upgrade, specifically on the west side of Denny Street and also to the rear of the Ashe Memorial Hall. The 'old playground' area was converted into a community garden, run and managed on a voluntary basis.

Rose of Tralee Sculpture for Tralee Town Park

The Rose of Tralee Sculpture by renowned Irish sculptor Jeanne Rynhart was unveiled on Monday August 24th by Deputy Mayor of Tralee Cllr. Mairead Fernane. It commemorates Mary O'Connor, and her loved one and composer of the famous ballad, William Pembroke Mulchinock. It is located in the award winning Rose Garden of Tralee Town Park



Deputy Mayor of Tralee Cllr. Mairead Fernane unveiled a bronze sculpture of the original Rose by sculptor Jeanne Rynhart in Tralee Town Park.



Report on the activities of Tralee Town Council

Environmental Protection & Enhancement

Christie Hennessey honoured in the Square, Tralee

A Sculpture honouring the late Christie Hennessey was unveiled in The Square Tralee in October 2009. At the unveiling the Deputy Mayor of Tralee, Mairead Fernane spoke of Christie's early life in Tralee and his spectacular 35 year music career that followed when he moved to London, his achievement in overcoming dyslexia and his support for the charity "Crossfire".

Open Channel Works

Works were carried out on the River Lee, in particular the Bridges and Channel of the Big River. This helped greatly in reducing the impact on the town by the heavy rains in October.

Féile na mBláth

Members and officials of Tralee Town Council and Kerry County Council figured prominently in the organising committee for the Féile na mBláth Festival, which was held in Tralee Town Park between 19-21 June 2009. The main function of this festival is to highlight Tralee Town Park in a positive light and to encourage the people of the town and visitors alike to make more positive use of this fantastic facility.



Michael McMahon, Tralee Town Manager, Cllr Mairead Fernane, Deputy Mayor of Tralee, Ciss Walsh and Michael Scannell, Tralee Town Clerk, at the contract signing for the demolition of Mitchels Crescent.



The Christie Hennessey statue was unveiled in Tralee on October 31st. Pictured are Christie's wife Gill, daughters Amber and Hermione and son Tim, along with Christy Moore



Deputy Mayor of Tralee, Cllr Mairead Fernane signs the contracts for the construction of an additional six apartments at Tobar Naofa, while Ned O'Shea (Contractor) and Michael Scannell, Town Clerk look on.



The Towards a Better Tralee Committee were presented with its Silver Medal and Certificate at the National Tidy Towns Awards by Minister for State Michael Finneran TD.



Report on the activities of Tralee Town Council

Water Services

During 2009 Tralee Town Council's Water Services Crew laid approximately 380m of new watermain to replace existing sections of watermain which were old and in poor condition and thus causing problems with delivery and quality of water.

The main projects undertaken during the year were the provision of 250m of new 75mm diameter watermain at the bungalows in St Brendan's Park and the provision of 100m of new 150mm diameter watermain in Castlecountess. Also a 30m section of watermain was laid in Rock Business Park in order to replace a section of old watermain which had previously been built over.

Where the new sections of watermain have been laid new connections have been provided to the adjacent properties together with new boundary boxes capable of being retro fitted with a meter. In addition, in these areas new hydrants have been fitted for fire fighting purposes.

During the year the Water Services Section has provided 11 new water connections to facilitate development within the town area and has repaired in excess of 135 leaks or mains bursts. The section has carried out works in conjunction with the County Council's Water Conservation project to install a new pressure reduction valve at Cloghers and has also carried out works to locate and disconnect mains in St Patrick's Bungalows and the Mitchels Crescent area in order to facilitate works associated with the regeneration programme.

Planning & Development

Planning Applications

Tralee Town Council received a total of 108 planning applications during 2009, of which there was a total of 10 (9.3%) invalid. This compared to 154 applications in 2008, 12 (7.8%) of which were invalid.

The following is a breakdown by category of the valid planning applications received in 2009.

Domestic Dwellings including extensions:	34
Commercial	25
Retention	20
Change of use	7
Other	12

The total number of permissions granted in 2009 was 84.

Appeals

Ten planning decisions were appealed to An Bord Pleanála in 2009 and no decision had issued on three of these appeals as at the 31st December 2009. Of the seven appeals dealt with, An Bord Pleanála upheld the Council's decision in all cases.

Planning Enforcement

The role of planning enforcement is to ensure that all identified unauthorised developments are eliminated or regularised, as quickly as possible through appropriate enforcement procedures.

During 2009, 112 new complaints were received, and Tralee Town Council issued 112 warning letters and six enforcement notices for breach of Planning.

Development Contributions

In 2009, a total of €258,643 was collected in development contributions compared to €1.1million in 2008.





Report on the activities of Tralee Town Council

Tralee Town Development Plan

Tralee Town Council as a Planning Authority is required under Part 11 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 to review its 2003-2009 Development Plan. The Development Plan sets out the overall strategy for the proper planning & sustainable development of the town for the next six years and consists of a written statement and plans indicating the development objectives for the town.

The formal review of the 2003 Development Plan began in late 2007 with the preparation of an issues document to stimulate public debate on the new town plan. In February 2008 a manager's report was prepared in response to the initial phase of public consultation. The Council received 116 individual submissions during the first phase of public consultation where there was a strong recognition of the need to safeguard the town's environment and amenities.

On receipt of these submissions and with the support of the elected members of Tralee Town Council, the Draft Tralee Development Plan was prepared and placed on public display on 1st July, 2008 for a period of ten weeks. A public information session held on the 21st of July 2008. An additional 60 submissions were received during this phase of consultation.

The amended Draft Plan was then placed on public display on 1st December, 2008 for a period of five weeks to conclude on the 5th January, 2009.

The new Town Development Plan was adopted by the Members in February 2009 and came into effect on the 16th March 2009.

Derelict Sites

Progress continued to be achieved in 2009 in relation to Derelict sites in Tralee Town area. Several properties have completed works during the year and have been removed from the Derelict sites Register. However, ongoing surveys have shown that further work is required in this area. 85 Notices in all were issued under the Derelict Sites Act during 2009 with a total of 19 properties added to the Derelict Sites Register.





Tralee Town Council Financial Report

Expenditure	2008	2009
	€	€
Revenue Expenditure	21,501,447	21,114,835
Capital Expenditure	19,608,409	7,663,054
Annual Rate on Valuation	79.98	81.18
Main Sources of Revenue Income		€
Rates		6.7 m
Exchequer Grants/Recoupments		3.4 m
Local Government Fund		3.3 m
Housing Rents		2.2 m
Parking Charges		1.9 m
Water/Waste Water Charges		1.1 m
Refuse Charges		1.1 m
NPPR		0.5 m
Visitor Attractions		0.2 m
Planning Fees		0.1 m
Assistance given to Local Organisations	2008	2009
	€	€
Tralee Garden Festival Committee, St. Patrick's Day Committee, Festival of Kerry, Siamsa Tire Theatre, Tralee Pipes and Drums, The Shindig Festival, Kerry Community Awards, Residents Associations, Kerry Life Education, Tidy Tralee Together, Blennerville Windmill Company Ltd, Tralee Regional Sports and Leisure Centre, Samhlaíocht Chiarraí Teo	181,900	181,900



Killarney Town Council Mayor's Foreword

A Dhaoine Uaisle is cúis áthais dom an réamhrá seo a scríobh. Is mian liom a rá ar dtús gur iontach an onóir dom a bheith i mo Mhéara ar bhaile iontach agus go bhfuil gach gur féidir á dhéanamh agam le có-oibriú mo chomh-Chomhairleoirí agus Oifigigh an Chomhairle chun ár mbaile a chur chun chinn is a neartú.

Is baile an-ghnóthach í Cill Airne agus bíonn cuairteoirí ag teacht is ag imeacht ó cheann ceann na bliana, a bhformhór chun áilleacht na dúthaí a fheiscint.

Inclement weather and economic collapse combined to cast an air of gloom over all life during the second half of 2009. Visitors endured too many rainy days but they still enjoyed the traditional warmth of Killarney's genuine friendship.

I wish to acknowledge the wonderful commitment of all involved in our most vital industry. The smile of welcome and the kindly word are still the most vital ingredients and they set the tone for what is for most a memorable experience of lake, valley and mountain.

The virtual collapse of the economic order caused severe hardship for very many businesses and residents. The harsh reality of the new order, begotten of incompetence and selfishness, presents an enormous challenge. It is imperative that all of us show a united front to ensure that everything possible is done to preserve the positive image which Killarney enjoys worldwide.

The elimination of litter from our streets and approach roads is of fundamental importance. Litter diminishes community and assails the senses of locals and visitors. Each act of littering insults a people and degrades an area. It is my firm belief that: Only the Filthy Litter.

Killarney Looking Good competition and the Tidy Town Committee have achieved outstanding success. Long may they continue to prosper.

During 2009 we bade farewell to our Town Foreman, John Doyle and to Gardening Foreman, Pat Linehan, who both retired from the Council. They both served superbly and the town is so much better because of their involvement. Pat's devotion to shrubs, flowers

and great beauty, which continues in a voluntary capacity, was inspirational. We wish John and Pat health and great happiness in their retirement.

The crisis in housing, or lack of housing, not only continues but continues to grow. It is sad that so many are condemned to wait an almost endless wait while in excess of 340,000 units lie idle in the country. I have severe reservations about the wisdom of the government promoted Leasing scheme and I certainly hope that the responsibility for local authority housing will not be removed completely from Councils. Such an action would be another blow to Local Government.

During a memorable week in September it was my proud privilege on behalf of my colleagues, the officials and staff on Killarney Town Council and the people of the area to welcome two very distinguished visitors, Sam Maguire and an tUachtarán Mary McAleese. I also hosted a civic reception for international Pitch and Putt player, Damien Fleming. Such delightful events not only acknowledge excellence but also raise the spirits of an entire people.

I thank my colleagues, the officials and staff and the people of Killarney for their ongoing belief in and commitment to a place that is very special. "Is ar scáth a chéile a mhairimid", a deirtear.

That undoubted truth which proclaims that we are all inter-dependent is one that should be our inspiration to strive might and main to make Killarney a happier, more beautiful and more deeply caring place for local and visitor. In so doing we will ensure that our town and its environment will forever be deserving of the accolade: Heaven's Reflex.



Cllr Michael Gleeson
Mayor of Killarney



Killarney Town Council Town Manager's Report

During 2009, significant work was carried out by the staff of Killarney Town Council. Their work must be recognised for its quality and for the manner in which it improves the town.

Despite the continuing economic downturn, Killarney Town Council still had a significant revenue budget of €14.3m to spend on services and amenities in Killarney during 2009.

The importance of the tourism industry to Killarney and the surrounding areas cannot be overstated. In conjunction with the other agencies, Killarney Town Council continues to improve the appearance of the town and make it an attractive destination for visitors.

To that end, our ninth consecutive gold Medal in the Tidy Towns competition and Regional Award for the Cork-Kerry Region shows that the effort put in by the Council and the various communities and voluntary groups, is paying off.

Work continued on the construction of the new Council depot and road linking Woodlands Industrial Estate to the Spa Road.

Killarney continues to progress, but in doing so, an overall vision of the town is crucial. The Killarney Development Plan 2009-2015 was adopted by the elected members on March 23, 2009, and provides that vision for future development. I would like to thank all those who participated in the Development Plan process.

During 2009, the operation of the Killarney Sports & Leisure Centre came into question following a decision by the operators to withdraw.

In October Killarney Sports & Leisure Campus, a subsidiary of the Killarney Town Council took over the operation of the facility while the tendering process for a new operator was carried out. SP Sports Management took over the operation of the centre in February 2010.

Killarney is deserving of such a magnificent facility, which greatly improves the town and provides leisure

facilities for local, tourist and community groups, schools and organisations. The wide range of groups using the centre can be seen later in the report.

However, the people of Killarney and the surrounding areas must throw their support behind the Centre in order that it continues to be successful.

I would like to thank the Mayor, Cllr Michael Gleeson and his fellow councillors for their assistance during 2009 and congratulate them on their election to Killarney Town Council during the June 2009 Local Elections.

I am confident that we will continue to work well together for the good of Killarney town.

**John Breen,
Killarney Town Manager**





Killarney Town Council Membership 2009

Killarney Town Council January-June 2009



Cllr Sheila Casey (FG)



Cllr Michael Courtney



Cllr Tom Doherty (FF)

Cllr Michael Gleeson
(SKIA)

Cllr Donal Grady



Cllr Niall O'Callaghan

Cllr Patrick O'Donoghue
(FF)

Cllr Sean O'Grady (Lab)



Cllr Brian O'Leary (FF)

Killarney Town Council June-December 2009

Cllr Sean Counihan
(Lab)

Cllr Michael Courtney



Cllr Tom Doherty (FF)

Cllr Michael Gleeson
(SKIA)

Cllr Donal Grady



Cllr Niall O'Callaghan

Cllr John O'Donoghue
(FF)

Cllr Sean O'Grady (Lab)



Cllr Cathal Walshe (FG)





Killarney Town Council

Membership of Boards/Committees 2009

Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland	Kerry Vocational Education Committee
Cllr. Sean Counihan Cllr. Sean O'Grady	Cllr. Michael Courtney Fr. Nicholas Flynn
Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd	Sub-Committee for Disability Issues
Cllr. Sean O'Grady	Cllr. Sean O'Grady Cllr. Tom Doherty
Honours Committee	Killarney Working Group
Cllr. Sean Counihan Cllr. Michael Courtney Cllr. Tom Doherty Cllr. Cathal Walshe	Cllr. Michael Courtney Cllr. Tom Doherty Cllr. Donal Grady Cllr. Niall O'Callaghan
Town Twinning Committee	Industrial Sub-Committee
Cllr. Sean Counihan Cllr. Michael Courtney Cllr. Tom Doherty Cllr. Donal Grady Cllr. Niall O'Callaghan	Cllr. Sean Counihan Cllr. Tom Doherty Cllr. Donal Grady Cllr. Sean O'Grady Cllr. John O'Donoghue
South Kerry Development Partnership Limited	Liaison Committee for Killarney National Park
Cllr. Donal Grady	Brian O'Leary
Killarney Tourism Council	Killarney Drugs Liaison Committee
Cllr. Michael Courtney Cllr. Tom Doherty Cllr. Donal Grady Cllr. John O'Donoghue	Cllr. Sean O'Grady Cllr. Donal Grady Cllr. Tom Doherty Cllr. Cathal Walshe
Director of Killarney Technology Innovation	Lough Leane Working Group
Cllr. Sean Counihan	Cllr. Sean O'Grady
Arts Committee	Strategic Policy Committee
Cllr. Sean O'Grady Cllr. John O'Donoghue Sheila Casey Sheila Dickson	Economic, Planning & Development SPC Cllr. Cathal Walshe Housing SPC Cllr. Sean O'Grady
Kerry Local Sports Partnership	Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee
Cllr. Tom Doherty	Cllr. Donal Grady





Killarney Town Council Conferences attended by Members 2009

Conference/Seminar	Venue	Number attending
AMAI Spring Seminar 2009	Clanree Hotel, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal	3
17th Annual Kerry Environmental Recognition Conference	The Golf Hotel, Ballybunion, Co. Kerry	2
LAMA 29th Annual Conference	Portlaoise Heritage Hotel, Portlaoise, Co. Laois	2
25th Annual Environmental Conference – Sherkin Island Marine Station	Carrigaline Court Hotel, Cork	2
AMAI Annual Conference	The Gleneagle Hotel, Killarney	6
Community Folklore Recording Conference	Muckross Traditional Farms, Killarney	5
7th National Tourism Conference	The Talbot Carlow, Portlaoise Road, Carlow	1
Getting a Grip 2009 – Reducing Drug & Alcohol Related Harm	Europe Hotel, Killarney	6
Clare Tourism Conference 2009	Falls Hotel Ennistymon, Co. Clare	4
LAMA Annual Winter Conference	Carlton Castletroy Park Hotel, Limerick	1
Training Seminar for Councillors ‘Equality & Diversity in Modern Day Ireland’	Manor West Hotel	1





Killarney Town Council Members Expenses

Annual Allowances

	€
Mayor	€9,000.00
Members Allowances	€19,720.69
Representational Payments	€35,134.65

The total payment made by Killarney Town Council in respect of attendance authorised by the authority at a meeting of a prescribed association of local authorities of which the authority is a member, and, attendance authorised by the authority at a conference seminar or other meeting or event, was €11,749.83, in 2009. The total amount of this payment which related to travel and subsistence expenses within the State was €7,515.32. The total amount of this payment which related to travel and subsistence expenses outside the State was €4,234.51.

Civic Receptions/ Civic Welcomes

Date	Individual/Group	Venue
16/05/2009	John Higgins, World Snooker Champion 2009 and also in honour of Sean Murphy, Ken Doherty and Jimmy White	I.N.E.C
14/09/2009	Sir Cliff Richard	Brehon Hotel
24/09/2009	Mary McAleese, President of Ireland	Council Chamber
15/10/2009	Damien Fleming, International Pitch and Putt Player	Council Chambers
Civic Welcome		
Date	Individual/Group	Venue
06/03/2009	Caring for Carers Ireland	Council Chamber
13/04/2009	Association of Secondary Teachers Ireland (ASTI)	Malton Hotel
24/04/2009	Irish League of Credit Unions	Brehon Hotel
07/05/2009	Irish Nurses Organisation	I.N.E.C.
14/05/2009	K Shoe Male Choir, Kendal	Castlerosse Hotel
11/10/2009	Mayor of Springfield and Delegation from Springfield	Scotts Hotel





Killarney Town Council Election Expenses

Candidate	Total Expenditure
Oliver Canty	€1,393.67
Sheila Casey	€1,567.35
Timothy Coffey	€580.00
Sean Counihan	€1,500.00
Michael Courtney	€1,910.00
Tom Doherty	€4,882.84
Michael Gleeson	€959.34
Donal Grady	€1,267.00
Lynn Ni Bhaoigheallain	€1,930.45
Niall O'Callaghan	€1,440.24
John O'Donoghue	€3,790.55
Sean O'Grady	€2,879.55
Brian O'Leary	€9,146.51
Conor O'Neill	€850.00
Cathal P. Walshe	€2,383.00





Report on the activities of Killarney Town Council

Housing & Social Support

Housing Stock at 31/12/09	315
Housing Allocations 2009	61

On 31/12/09 there were 744 qualified applicants in Killarney Town Council's housing list and a further seven are being assessed to determine their need for rehousing.

Tenant Purchase Scheme

Applied to Purchase	9
Sales Completed	2

Refurbishment

Refurbishment works have been carried out to eight houses at Belleville Grove. Level Access showers were fitted and internal walls were dry-lined. Solid Fuel stoves with central heating were installed, wiring was upgraded and new kitchens were fitted.

Emergency Accommodation

Killarney Town Council received Departmental approval for the block booking of 10 beds for homeless persons in Killarney Railway Hostel in October 2004. Last year 26 people were accommodated in emergency accommodation by the Town Council. Clúid Housing Association has purchased a property for homeless persons in Killarney.

As funding has now been approved for the refurbishment of this property, it is hoped that works will commence this year

Roads, Transportation & Safety

Killarney Town Council has 48km of urban roads in its administrative area. These roads include streets, housing estate roads, distribution roads and laneways.

During 2009 the Town Council resurfaced 1.2 km of road and 250 m of footpaths.

Killarney Town Council spent €1.6 million on Road Maintenance, Road Improvement, Public Lighting and Footpath Improvement.

Specific Projects

The following works were carried out during 2009.

- Construction began on the new state of the art Council depot at Woodlands Industrial Estate. In conjunction with this development a new road will be constructed linking Woodlands Industrial Estate to the Spa Road. **(The depot and road were officially opened on Friday, May 30th 2010).**
- New controlled pedestrian crossings were installed at Kenmare Place and Deerpark Road.

Water Services

- The existing watermain at Muckcross Road was replaced with a new watermain in 2009.





Report on the activities of Killarney Town Council

Planning & Economic Development

Number of valid applications received	90
Number of planning decisions issued	94
Number of permissions granted	84
Number of permissions refused	10

Major applications received in 2009

09/5035 – Maurice and Mary Harnett

Construction of 20 No. detached houses at Coolclogher, Killarney

09/5041 – W. K. O'Connor & Sons (Killarney) Ltd.

Construction of 24 No. apartments and 17 No. houses at Scrahane, Ross Road, Killarney

09/5049 – St. Oliver's National School

Two-storey extension to existing school at Ballycasheen, Killarney

09/5052 – Hotel Balor Teo.

Extension to International Hotel, Killarney

09/5054 – Paul and Pat Ahern

To construct a Neighbourhood Centre Mixed Use Development consisting of:-

- 1) Block A consisting of a convenience retail store and 1 No. retail unit at ground floor; restaurant at first floor level and 2 No. apartments at 2nd floor level;
- 2) Block B consisting of a restaurant with drive through facilities at ground floor;
- 3) Block C consisting of café and retail unit at ground floor and 1 No. office at first floor level;
- 4) Construct a left turning lane to the existing access road at junction with Tralee Road, all at former Aherns Garage, Tralee Road, Derreen, Killarney

09/5058 – Legion GAA Club

Development of a 300 seater covered spectator stand at Derreen, Killarney

09/5070 – John Courtney

Construction of 12 No. dwelling houses at Castlelough, Loreto Road, Killarney

09/5094 – M. D. O'Shea & Sons

Demolish rear section of existing premises and construct new three-storey extension consisting of retail units on ground floor, storage areas on first floor, and 6 No. apartments on 2nd floor and alterations to elevation to Main Street, all at Bohereencael and Main Street, Killarney

Killarney Town Development Plan

The new Town Development Plan 2009-2015 was adopted by the Members of Killarney Town Council. This Plan sets out the Council's policies and objectives for the sustainable development of Killarney for the lifetime of the Plan.

Planning Enforcement

This section of the Planning Department continues to be very demanding in terms of time and resources. A total of 82 new enforcement complaints (65 written/internal and 17 verbal) were received, processed and investigated in 2009 with a number of other ongoing files still receiving attention.

In 2009 the Planning Authority issued 62 Warning Letters and 40 Enforcement Notices.





Report on the activities of Killarney Town Council

Environment

Tidy Towns 2009

Killarney scored very highly in the Annual Tidy Towns Competition again this year. At an Award Ceremony in Kilmainham Jail, Dublin, Killarney received its ninth consecutive Gold Medal, and was the Regional Award winner for the Cork/Kerry Region.

Killarney also received the Bio-Diversity Notice Nature Award for its submission on Knockreer House and Education Centre. This is the second year that Killarney has won this Award.

Killarney Looking Good 2009

The Killarney Looking Good Competition was officially launched in the International Hotel, Killarney in April, with over 30 categories catering for everyone from large hotels to small roadside gardens.

The competition has grown from strength to strength each year and 2009 saw a large number of entries.

Refuse Service

Killarney Town Council continued its refuse collection service with the provision of a segregated collection service involving three separate collections during 2009. Over 43% of the waste collected from the Council's 2,221 domestic customers and 140 commercial customers was recycled

Recreation, Amenity & Tourist Development

Killarney Drugs Liaison Committee

Killarney Drugs Liaison Committee continued its combat against substance abuse in 2009 and undertook a number of projects:-

- The Junior Certificate Alcohol & Substance Misuse Programme, which has now been running for four years, was once again a great success in 2009. The project involves the distribution of educational packs to the parents of Junior Certificate Students in the three local secondary schools prior to the issue of the Junior Certificate Exam results. The project involves the co-operation of the school principals, the Gardaí and owners of licensed premises. It is hoped that this project will be extended to other second level schools in the South Kerry Area.
- In October 2009 South Kerry Life Education Mobile Ltd held their sixth National Conference for Local Authorities and the Public Service concerning substance and alcohol misuse – 'Getting a Grip – Reducing Drug and Alcohol Related Harm'.

Killarney Arts

The Killarney Arts Committee continued its work throughout 2009 to help promote Arts in Killarney. During the summer months the Committee was involved in organising 'Spraoi Ciarraí' which took place in both the Deenagh Lodge and St Mary's Church of Ireland.

The Eamon Kelly Memorial Bursary for Further Education in Arts attracted a large number of applicants and it was agreed that this year's Bursary should be awarded to Ms Elizabeth Lyne and Ms Treasa O'Brien.

The Committee was also involved in choosing a piece of Art for Main Street. The piece was designed by local artist Joe Neeson and is admired by locals and visitors.

Twinning & Marketing Committee

The Killarney Town Council Twinning and Marketing Committee continued their work in promoting Killarney all over the world. Delegations from Killarney travelled to Castiglione Di Sicilia in Sicily and Kendal in the U.K.

Killarney delighted to welcome visitors from Pleinfeld in Germany, Staffanstorp in Sweden, Springfield, Illinois, USA to Killarney.



Killarney Town Council Financial Report

Expenditure	2008	2009
	€	€
Revenue Expenditure	14,331,199	14,288,510
Capital Expenditure	11,929,036	5,548,946
Annual Rate on Valuation	70.49	71.78
Revenue Income	14,339,341	14,366,154
Capital Income	18,652,331	3,074,422
Main Sources of Revenue Income		2009
Rates		7,135,609
State Grants & Subsidies		231,479
Local Government Fund		1,736,927
Service Charges		1,993,153
Parking Fines/Charges		1,467,238
Miscellaneous		1,527,208



Killarney Town Council's new depot at Woodlands Industrial Estate.



Dr Hans Liebherr Road, and other roads around Killarney were kept in a very tidy state throughout the year, leading to Killarney winning its ninth consecutive Gold Medal, and also winning the Regional Award winner for the Cork/Kerry Region.



Killarney Cultural Centre



The new road linking Woodlands Industrial Estate to the Spa Road.





Killarney Sports & Leisure Centre

In June 2009, Aura Sports and Leisure Management Ltd announced that it was to withdraw from managing the Killarney Sports & Leisure Centre. In December 2009, Killarney Town Council announced that SP Sports Management Ltd were to be appointed to manage the leisure centre following the conclusion of a competitive tender process.

Visits during 2009: 81,000 people
Most popular feature: Gym

Details of upcoming events:

- Summer Camp,
- Rose of Tralee Bud Camps,
- World Martial Arts Games.

Classes available at Killarney Sports & Leisure Centre

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swim Lessons Adults only • Children's lessons 6-18 months • Swim lessons 18 months to 4 years. • Children's Swim Academy, • Masters Swimming, • Childrens Swim Coaching, • Private Swim Lessons, • Rookie Lifesaving, • LBT, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intensive Swim Lessons. • Pilates, • Yoga, • Thai Boxing, • Hip Hop Dance, • Taekwondo, • Scuba Diving, • IWS Water Safety Courses • Fitness Classes • Aqua fit, • Core fitness, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spinning, • Rebounding, • Stretch & relax, • Sculpt & tone, • Step aerobics, • Circuit training • Fitball, • Teen fit, • Ab attack, • Successful slimmers, • 50 & Fab.
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Clubs using Killarney Sports & Leisure Centre

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Pauls Basketball Club, • Badminton Munster, • Fossa Brownies, • Kerry Sports partnership, • Killarney Athletic, • Killarney Rugby Club, • Killarney Celtic, • Kerry Senior Football Team, • Killarney Gardaí, • Beaufort community games, • Beaufort youth club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mastergeeha FC, • Listry GAA, • Dr. Crokes, • EGA International, • FAI, • Galway Titans, • Glenflesk GAA, • Gneeveguilla Basketball Club, • HSE, • Irish Girl Guides, • Joanne Barry Dance, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KDYS, • Kerry County Council, • Kerry Stars, • Kerry Area Basketball, • Kerry Development Board, • Kerry Parents & Friends, • Killorglin Rowing Club, • Milltown FC, • National Learning Network, • Rathmore Basketball Club, • Sullane FC, • Waterworld Scuba Diving.
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Schools using Killarney Sports & Leisure Centre

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anabla National School, • Fossa National School, • Gaelscoil Faithleann, • Scoil Phobail Sliabh Luachra • Blackvalley NS, • Milltown NS, • Coláiste Ghobnatan, • Cullina NS, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scoil Mhuire Boys NS, • Castledrum NS, • Gurrane NS, • Douglas NS, • Castlemaine after-school, • Tiernaboul NS, • Presentation Milltown, • Kilgobnet NS, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scartaglin NS • Kiltallagh NS, • Kiskeam NS, • Holy Cross Mercy NS, • Boheshill NS • Presentation Monastery, • Shrone NS
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Listowel Town Council Mayor's Foreword

I am privileged to have been elected Mayor of Listowel Town Council for the year 2009/2010. This report is a time to reflect on the many challenges and opportunities which the Town Council has been involved in during the year.

Listowel Town Development Plan 2009-2015 was adopted on 11th May 2009 and came into effect on 8th June 2009.

In 2009 Listowel Town Council continued the upgrading works on footpaths in Market Street as well as works on the Greenville Road, Woodview and Ashgrove.

I would like to congratulate the Tidy Town Committee on having retained a gold medal in the Tidy Towns Competition in 2009. This result has been achieved as a result of many people in our community who give tirelessly of their time promoting a cleaner and tidier environment.

I take this opportunity to thank all the Elected Members, the Town Manager and all the staff of the Town Council for their dedication and commitment to the Town in 2009 and also for their assistance to me in my role as Mayor.



Cllr Tom Walsh
Mayor of Listowel





Listowel Town Council Town Manager's Report

I am pleased to be associated with the Listowel Town Council Report for 2009.

The year saw progress in our various services such as:

- Adoption Of Town Development Plan 2009-2015
- Implementation Of iPlan, the online Planning System
- The continuation of the upgrading of Market Street
- Introduction of the organic refuse collection

These achievements came about through a concerted effort on the part of the elected members and the Town Council employees and in consultation with all relevant stakeholders from the business, community and voluntary sectors and other agencies.

As we face challenging times, it is important that while we acknowledge the role of consultation and partnership in shaping the town's future we also acknowledge the strong leadership role which will be required from the Town Council as the democratically elected body with a broad range of statutory functions impacting directly on the town.

The pursuit of excellence in all sectors of our activities including service delivery to our customers will continue to underpin all our actions going forward.

I would like to express my appreciation of the dedication and commitment of the staff of the Town Council and the hard work of the Elected Members. In particular I wish to pay tribute to the contribution of the Mayor Cllr Tom Walsh and his predecessor Cllr. Maria Gorman for their commitment and dedication to the development of the town.

Charlie O'Sullivan
Listowel Town Manager





Listowel Town Council Membership 2009

Listowel Town Council January-June 2009



Cllr Jacqueline Barrett (FG)



Cllr Anthony Curtin (SF)



Cllr Maria Gorman (FF)



Cllr Pat Loughnane (FF)



Cllr Tim O'Leary (FG)



Cllr Madeline O'Sullivan (FF)



Cllr Denis Stack (FG)



Cllr David Toomey (Lab)



Cllr Tom Walsh (FF)

Listowel Town Council June-December 2009



Cllr Jacqueline Barrett (FG)



Cllr Tom Barry (SF)



Cllr Anthony Curtin (SF)



Cllr Maria Gorman (FF)



Cllr Mike Kennelly (FG)



Cllr Jimmy Moloney (FF)



Cllr Tim O'Leary (FG)



Cllr Denis Stack (FG)



Cllr Tom Walsh (FF)





Listowel Town Council Membership of Boards/Committees 2009

Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland	Kerry Vocational Education Committee
Cllr Tom Walsh Cllr Maria Gorman	Cllr Jimmy Moloney Cllr Maria Gorman
Local Authorities Members Association	Listowel Community Centre Ltd
Cllr Maria Gorman	Cllr Tom Barry
Kerry Literary & Cultural Centre	St. John's Arts & Heritage Centre
Cllr Anthony Curtin	Cllr Jimmy Moloney
Representatives on SPCs of Kerry County Council	North & East Kerry Development
Environment & Water Services SPC Cllr Denis Stack	Cllr Maria Gorman
Transport SPC Cllr Jimmy Moloney	
Irish Public Bodies	
Cllr Tom Walsh	





Listowel Town Council Conferences attended by Members 2009

Conference/Seminar	Venue	Number attending
Antrim Tourism Conference	Dunadry, Co. Antrim	1
AMAI Annual Spring Seminar	Trim, Co. Meath	4
LAMA Spring Conference	Portlaoise Co. Laois	1
Downpatrick Linkage Committee	Downpatrick	2
AMAI Annual Conference	The Gleneagle Hotel, Killarney	2
Community Forum Sports & Tourism in South West	Tralee	1
LAMA Annual Winter Seminar	Limerick	2

Civic Receptions/ Civic Welcomes

Date	Individual/Group	Venue
May 2009	Jack McKenna	Council Chambers



North Kerry Ingredients.



Listowel Bridge



The John B Keane Statue.





Listowel Town Council Members Expenses

Annual Allowances

	€
Mayor	€3,000.00
Deputy Mayor	€750
Members Allowances	€19,062.00
Representational Payments	€39,206.00

The total payment made by Listowel Town Council in respect of attendance authorised by the authority at a meeting of a prescribed association of local authorities of which the authority is a member, and, attendance authorised by the authority at a conference seminar or other meeting or event, was €10,461.33 in 2009.

Total Election Expenses Incurred & Donations Received for 2009 Local Elections

Name	Address	Expenditure	Donations
Barrett, Jacqueline	33 Ballygologue Park, Listowel	1,463.11	
Barry, Tom	50 Feale Drive, Listowel	943.18	
Carmody, Vincent	25 Patrick St. Listowel	200	
Collins, Michael	Dromin, Listowel	600	
Curtin, Anthony	Clounmacon, Listowel	943.18	
Gorman Maria**	Bedford, Listowel	2,043.32	800
Halpin, Jim	6 Dirha East, Listowel	1,100.00	
Hannon, John	23 Ballygologue Park, Listowel	1,470.52	
Harris, Jim	Skehenerin, Listowel	1,613.10	
Kennelly, Mike	Coolaclarig, Listowel	1,252.11	
Loughnane, Pat	45 O'Connell's Ave, Listowel	1,080.00	
Moloney, Jimmy	11 Cherrytree Drive, Listowel	705.2	
O'Leary, Tim	Ballygologue Road, Listowel	1,563.11	
Stack, Denis	Cahirdown, Listowel	1,818.11	
Toomey, David	3 Dirha Cottages, Listowel	4,204.80	
Walsh, Tom	2 College Lawn, Listowel	764.5	

**** Maria Gorman also ran as a candidate for Kerry County Council in the Listowel Electoral Area.**





Report on the activities of Listowel Town Council

Housing & Social Support

Housing Capital Programme 2009

Capital Allocation	-	€1,000,000
Single Dwellings Acquired	-	4

Number of Dwellings let in 2009

Newly Built and Newly Acquired Dwellings	3
Casual Vacancies	8
Total	11
Dwellings sold to tenants in 2009	0
Number of qualified Housing Applicants at 31st December, 2009	91

Housing Programme

Four dwellings were acquired in 2009.

Roads, Transportation & Safety

2009 Non-National Road Grant Allocation

Block Grant	-	€69,000
Special Block Grant	-	€108,000

2009 Programme

The 2009 Roads Programme included drainage works as well as the upgrading of roads and footpaths in the charge of Listowel Town Council. Works in 2009 concentrated primarily on the provision of new footpaths and upgrading of existing footpaths.

In 2008 work commenced on the northern side of Market Street and a similar length of footpath was completed on the southern side of Market Street in 2009 at a cost of €160,000.

Footpath improvement works also took place at Woodview, Greenville Road and Ashgrove.

Water Services

A pressure management survey was carried out in 2008 on the water network. Works followed in 2009 from this survey and will result in the reduction of the volume of water being consumed in the town. In accordance with the National Water Pricing Framework, it is intended to commence revision of the charging structures for Waste Water discharges to the public network towards a 'water in water out' basis in 2010.





Report on the activities of Listowel Town Council

Town Development Plan

Listowel Town Development Plan 2009-2015 was adopted on 11th May 2009 and came into effect on 8th June 2009.

Town Improvement Programme

The Town Improvement Programme is financed by on-street parking charges.

The Programme allows the Council to provide a modern Public Convenience (Superloo), and to employ a Town Gardener, thus improving the overall appearance and presentation of the town for both residents and visitors alike.

Upgrading works on the footpaths in the Town Park were undertaken during the year.

Tidy Towns 2009

In the 2009 Tidy Towns Competition, Listowel retained a gold medal. The high ranking in Tidy Towns is largely due to the combined efforts of the hard working T.A.B.L.E. (Towards A Better Listowel Everybody) committee and our outdoor staff.

Refuse Collection

2009 saw a steady increase in the Town Council customer base. A new organic waste collection was put in place in 2009.

Planning and Development

The level of planning activity showed a decrease in 2009 with 41 applications received compared to 54 in the previous year.





Listowel Town Council Financial Report

Expenditure	2008	2009
	€	€
Revenue Expenditure	3,764,256	3,845,721
Capital Expenditure	1,402,247	1,149,350
Annual Rate on Valuation	75.99	77.07
Main Sources of Revenue Income		2009
Rates		1,618,381
Road Grants		200,000
Water, Sewerage & Refuse		475,000
Rent		320,000
Planning Fees & Charges for Services		40,000
Contribution from Kerry County Council		45,500
Staff Pension Contributions		37,570
Local Government Fund		821,870
Service Charges		1,993,153
Parking Fines/Charges		234,000
Miscellaneous		53,400





Service Indicators 2009





Service Indicators 2009

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION & COOPERATION		
CP1	% of Local Schools & Youth Groups involved in the local Youth Council/Comhairle na n-Óg Scheme	83%
	Total Number of local schools & youth groups	100
	No of local schools & youth groups involved in the Local Youth Council/Comhairle na n-Óg scheme	83
CP2	No of groups registered with the Community & Voluntary Forum	463
CORPORATE ISSUES		
C1	% of working days lost to sickness absence through CERTIFIED leave	4.70%
	% of working days lost to sickness absence through UNCERTIFIED leave	0.60%
	No of working days lost to sickness absence through CERTIFIED leave	12998.6
	No of working days lost to sickness absence through UNCERTIFIED leave	1662.64
C2	Expenditure on Training & Development as a percentage of total payroll costs	4.85%
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES		
E1	Unaccounted Water (UFW) as a % of the total volume of water supplied under the water supply schemes that the Local Authority is responsible for	48.72%
	Total volume of water (m3 per day) under the water supply schemes that the Local Authority is responsible for	88359
	Volume of unaccounted for water (m3 per day) under the water supply schemes that the Local Authority is responsible for	43049
E2	Drinking Water Analysis (new)	
	% of Drinking Water Analysis results in compliance with statutory requirements with regard to:	EPA to supply data
	(a) Public Schemes	EPA
	(b) Private Schemes (where appropriate)	EPA
WASTE MANAGEMENT		
E3	Waste Segregation	
	% of households provided with segregated waste collection for dry recyclables	99.84%
	% of households provided with segregated waste collection for Organics	12.85%
	Total number of households provided with a waste collection service	25,890
	Total number of households provided with a segregated Waste Collection Service for Dry recyclables	25,849
	Total number of households provided with a segregated Waste Collection Service for Organics	3,326





Service Indicators 2009

E4	Housing waste sent for Recycling	
	% of household waste collected from kerbside which is sent for recycling	23.28
	Tonnage of Household Waste collected from kerbside which is sent for recycling	5,877.56
	Tonnage of Household Waste recycled, which arises from waste collected from recycling facilities (i.e. bring banks, civic amenity sites, transfer stations & other recycling facilities)	6,910.47
	Tonnage of Household Waste collected from kerbside	25,244.39
E5	Household waste sent for landfill	
	Total tonnage of household waste collected	25,244.39
	Tonnage of household waste collected which is sent to Landfill	19,211.15
	% of household waste collected which is sent to Landfill	76.10%
E6	Recycling Facilities	
	Total number of Bring sites in the Local Authority Area	97
	Total number of Civic Amenity Centres in the Local Authority Area	6
	GLASS	
	(a) No. of Bring Sites for recycling	97
	(b) No. of Civic Amenity Sites for recycling	6
	(c) Total no. of facilities for recycling	103
	The no. of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	3.68
	CANS	
	(a) No of Bring Sites for recycling	97
	(b) No of Civic Amenity Sites for recycling	6
	(c) Total no of facilities	103
	The no of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	3.68
	TEXTILES	
	(a) No of Bring Sites for recycling	0
	(b) No of Civic Amenity Sites for recycling	6
	(c) Total no of facilities for recycling	6
	The no. of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	0.21
	BATTERIES	
	(a) No. of Bring Sites for recycling	0
	(b) No. of Civic Amenity Sites for recycling	6
	(c) Total no. of facilities	6
	The no. of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	0.21
	OILS	
	(a) No. of Bring Sites for recycling	0
	(b) No. of Civic Amenity Sites for recycling	6
	(c) Total no. of facilities for recycling	6
	The no. of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	0.39





Service Indicators 2009

	OTHERS	
	(a) No. of Bring Sites for recycling	5
	(b) No. of Civic Amenity Sites for recycling	6
	(c) Total no. of facilities	11
	The no. of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	0.39
	LITTER PREVENTION & ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT	
E 7	No of Litter Wardens	
	(a) Total no. of Full time Litter Wardens	3
	(b) Total no. of Part time Litter Wardens	8
	(c) Total no. of Litter Wardens (both full & part Time	11
	No. of Litter Wardens (both full and part-time) per 5,000 population	0.39
	On the Spot Fines	
	(a) No. of on the Spot Fines issued	186
	No. of on the Spot Fines paid	72
	(b) No. of prosecution cases taken because of non payment of on the spot fines	27
	(c) No. of prosecutions secured in cases taken because of non-payment of on the spot fines	6
	No. of notices issued (Under Sections 9, 15, 16, 17 & 20 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997	7
	Total number of prosecutions taken (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	27
	Total number of prosecutions secured (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	6
	% of Areas within the Local Authority that are	
	(a) Unpolluted (i.e. litter free)	15.74
	(b) Slightly polluted with litter	54.04
	(c) Moderately polluted with litter	28.94
	(d) Significantly polluted with litter	1.28
	(e) Grossly polluted with litter	0.00
E 8	Environmental Complaints & Enforcement	
	Total no of cases subject to complaints concerning environmental pollution (relating to waste, litter, water pollution, noise pollution, air pollution)	1358
	No. of complaints investigated	1298
	Number of complaints resolved where no further action was necessary	504
	No of enforcement procedures taken	248
E9	% of Schools participating in environmental campaigns	
	(a) Primary Schools	79.02%
	(b) Secondary Schools	88.46%
	Total No. of primary schools	143
	No of primary schools participating in environmental campaigns	113
	Total number of secondary schools	26
	No of secondary schools participating in environmental campaigns	23





Service Indicators 2009

	FIRE SERVICE	
F1	Average time, in minutes to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time stations	N/A
	Average time, in minutes to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time stations in respect of Fires	5.50
	Average time taken in minutes to mobilise Fire Brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of all other emergency incidents	0
	Average time taken in minutes to mobilise Fire Brigades in Part Time Stations(retained Fire Service) in respect of all other emergency incidents	5.40
F2	% of attendance as scenes where :-	
	(a) % of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at scene within 10 minutes	45.68%
	(b) % of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	35.49%
	(c) % of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at scene after 20 minutes	18.83%
	(d) % of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	40.39%
	(e) % of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	42.36%
	(f) % of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	17.24%
	Total Number of incidents in respect of Fire	648
	No. of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	296
	No of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	230
	No of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	122
	Total no of incidents in respect of all other emergency incidents (not including fire)	203
	No of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	82
	No of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	86
	No of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	35
F3	Fire Prevention - Total no of Fire Safety Certificate applications	
	(a) Received	143
	(b) Processed	168
	(c) Total no. of applications deemed invalid	14





Service Indicators 2009

	HOUSING	
H1	Housing Vacancies	
	Total no. of dwellings in local authority stock	4000
	Total number of dwellings, excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects	3888.75
	Overall % of dwellings that are empty (excluding those subject to major refurbishment)	4.69%
	% of empty dwellings unavailable for letting	53.77%
	% of empty dwellings available for letting	46.23%
	The average no. of dwellings in local authority stock	4000
	The average no of dwellings excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects	3888.75
	The average no. of dwellings that are empty (excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects)	182.25
	The average no. of empty dwellings unavailable for letting	98
	The average no. of empty dwellings available for letting	84.25
H2	Average time taken to re-let dwellings available for letting (in weeks)	
	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	24.19
	The average time taken (in weeks) from the works (above) being completed to the date of the first rent debit	7.5
H3	No. of repairs completed as a % of the no. of valid repair requests received	95.38%
	The no. of repairs completed	2397
	The no. of valid repair requests received	2513
H4	Traveller Accommodation -	
	Total no. of traveller families accommodated as a % of the targets set in the local traveller accommodation programme	78.75%
	No of Traveller families accommodated	22
	Target no of Traveller Families to be accommodated in the year, as set out in the Local Traveller accommodation Programme	28





Service Indicators 2009

H5	Enforcement of Standards in Private Rented Sector	
	Total number of Registered tenancies	5918
	No. of Dwelling Units Inspected	291
	No. of Inspections carried out	291
	No. of dwellings inspected as % of registered tenancies	4.92%
H6	Grants to adapt Housing for the needs of people with a Disability	
	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	32.71
	Average time take (in weeks) to process applications under Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability, including any necessary inspection(s) from the date of receipt of a valid application, to the date of decision on the application.	42.98
H7	Pre-Tenancy Familiarisation Courses	
	Total Number of new Local Authority Tenants	328
	No of new Local Authority Tenants who have been offered pre tenancy familiarisation courses	249
	% of new Local Authority tenants who have been offered pre-tenancy familiarisation courses	75.91





Service Indicators 2009

	MOTOR TAXATION	
M 1	No of Motor Tax transactions which are	
	(a) Dealt with over the counter	81,481
	(b) Dealt with by post	44,314
	(c) Dealt with in other ways	48,555
	% of Motor Tax transactions which are	
	(a) Dealt with over the counter	46.73
	(b) Dealt with by post	25.42
	(c) Dealt with in other ways	27.85
M 2	No of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc/driver licence issued) from receipt of the application	
	(a) On the same day	35,907
	(b) On the third day or less	7,753
	(c) On the fifth day or less	208
	(d) Over 5 days	446
	% of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc/driver licence issued) from receipt of the application	
	(a) On the same day	81.03
	(b) On the third day or less	17.50
	(c) On the fifth day or less	0.47
	(d) Over 5 days	1.01
M3	Time taken to process Driving Licence Applications - Number of Driver Licence applications which are dealt with from receipt of the application	
	(a) On the same day	20,437
	(b) On the third day or less	271
	(c) On the fifth day or less	28
	(d) Over 5 days	60
	Time taken to process Driving Licence Applications - Percentage of Driver Licence applications which are dealt with from receipt of the application	
	(a) On the same day	98.27
	(b) On the third day or less	1.30
	(c) On the fifth day or less	0.13
	(d) Over 5 days	0.29
M 4	Public Opening Hours	
	Average no. of opening hours per week	30





Service Indicators 2009

	PLANNING & BUILDING CONTROL	
P1	Planning Applications -Decision Making Individual Houses	
	No. of Applications decided	637
	No. of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	316
	No. of decisions which required the submission of further information	320
	No. of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under Section 34(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000	1
	Average length of time taken (in days) to decide a case where further information was sought	80.79
	% of grants	65.78%
	% of refusals	34.22%
	% of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An bord Pleanala	74.19%
	% of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	25.81%
	No. of applications granted	419
	No. of applications refused	218
	No. of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by an Bord Pleanala	46
	No. of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	16
	New Housing Developments	
	No. of Applications decided	100
	No. of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	48
	No of decisions which required the submission of further information	52
	No of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under Section 34(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000	0
	Average length of time taken (in days) to decide a case where further information was sought	78.38
	% of grants	73%
	% of refusals	27%
	% of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An bord Pleanala	72.41%
	% of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	27.59%
	No. of Applications granted	73
	No. of applications refused	27
	No. of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by an Bord Pleanala	21
	No. of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	8





Service Indicators 2009

	Other: Not Requiring EIA	
	No. of Applications decided	926
	No. of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	675
	No. of decisions which required the submission of further information	251
	No. of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under Section 34(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000	0
	Average length of time taken (in days) to decide a case where further information was sought	75.84
	% of grants	86.07%
	% of refusals	13.93%
	% of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	72.83%
	% of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	27.17%
	No of applications granted	797
	No of applications refused	129
	No of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by an Bord Pleanala	67
	No of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	25
	Other: Requiring EIA	
	No of Applications decided	28
	No of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	10
	No of decisions which required the submission of further information	18
	No of decisions where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under Section 34(9) of the Planning and Development Act 2000	0
	Average length of time taken (in days) to decide a case where further information was sought	89.97
	% of grants	75%
	% of refusals	25%
	% of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	75%
	% of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	25%
	No. of applications granted	21
	No. of applications refused	7
	No. of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by an Bord Pleanala	9
	No. of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	3
P 2	Planning Enforcement	
	Total no. of cases subject to complaints that are investigated	514
	Total no. of cases subject to complaints that are dismissed	86
	Total no. of cases subject to complaints that were resolved through negotiations	390
	No. of enforcement procedures taken through warning letters	275
	No. of enforcement procedures taken through enforcement notices	183
	No. of prosecutions	5





Service Indicators 2009

P 3	Public Opening Hours	
	Average no. of opening hours per week	40
P 4	Consultations	
	No. of pre planning consultations meetings held	931
	Average length of time (in days) from request for consultation with local authority planner to actual formal meeting for pre planning consultation	10.32
P 5	Buildings inspected as a percentage of new buildings notified to the local authority	45.51%
	Total no. of new buildings notified to the Local Authority	602
	No. of buildings notified to the Local Authority that were inspected	274
P6	Taking Estates in Charge	
	(a) The no. 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	49
	(b) No. of estates that were taken in charge in the year in question	21
	(c) No. of dwellings in respect of column B	448
	(d) % of estates in Column A not completed to the satisfaction of the planning authority in line with the planning permission	36.73%
	(e) No. 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	4
	(f) No of estates in Column D in respect of which works were undertaken by the Authority to bring the estate to taking in charge standard	0
	No. of estates in Column A not completed to satisfaction of the Planning Authority in line with Planning permission	18
	RECREATIONAL SERVICES	
REC 1	Number of Children's playgrounds	
	No. of children's playgrounds per 1,000 population directly provided by the local authority	0.06
	No of children's playgrounds per 1,000 population facilitated by the local authority	0.09
	Directly provided by the Local Authority	9
	Facilitated by the Local Authority	13
	No. of visitors to local authority facilitated leisure facilities per 1,000 population	2,156.17
REC 2	No. of visitors to local authority facilitated swimming facilities	301,508





Service Indicators 2009

	REVENUE COLLECTION	
Rev 1	House Rent	
	(a) The Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due	93.78%
	(b) Percentage of Arrears	
	(i) Rent arrears 4-6 weeks old	0%
	(ii) Rent arrears 6-12 weeks old	19.01%
	(iii) Rent arrears more than 12 weeks old	80.99%
	Amount due at year end from house rents	€9,795,295
	Amount collected at year end from house rents	€9,185,705
	Amount of arrears on Housing Rents that are 4-6 weeks old	€00
	Amount of arrears on Housing Rents that are 6-12 weeks old	€115,875
	Amount of arrears on Housing Rent that are more that 12 weeks old	€493,715
Rev 2	Housing Loans	
	(a) Amount Collected at year end as a percentage of amount due	89.92%
	(b) Percentage of Arrears	
	(i) Arrears 1 month old	0.00%
	(ii) Arrears 2-3 months old	0.00%
	(iii) Arrears more than 3 months old	100.00%
	Amount due at year end from housing Loans	€1,976,830
	Amount collected at year end from house Loans	€1,777,537
	Amount of arrears on Housing Loans that are 1 month old	€6
	Amount of arrears on Housing Loans that are 2-3 months old	€0.00
	Amount of arrears on Housing Loans that are 3 months old	€199,287
Rev 3	Commercial Rates	
	Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due	84.03%
Rev 4	Refuse Charges	
	Percentage of households paying refuse (including waivers) charges at year end	99.23%
Rev 5	Non Domestic Water Charges	
	Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due	75.06%
R1	Road Restoration Programme	
	No of Kilometres of local and regional roads improved and maintained under the Restoration Programme per annum	182.49 km
	No of Kilometres of local and regional roads constructed under the specific improvements grants scheme per annum	2.6 km





Recruitment Gender Balance

No. of People Employed – 31 December 2009	
Breakdown	Figure
Managerial/Administrative	417
Engineering/Technical	188
Operational/Outdoor	691
Total	1296

Male/Female Employee Breakdown					
Breakdown	Male	Female		Total	
Managerial/Administrative	96	321		417	
Engineering/Technical	155	33		188	
Operational/Outdoor W/T	380	4		384	
P/T	240	67		307	
Total	871	425		1,296	

Competition Statistics 2009

No. Competitions Held 15

No. Applications Received

Male 205

Female 56

Total No. Applications Received 261

Placement Schemes and Work Shadowing

Kerry Council continued its association with placement schemes for second and third level and post-primary schools:-

Work Shadowing 10

Work Experience 13

Total no. Student Placements in 2009 23





Corporate Plan Review

A new Corporate Plan for Kerry County Council covering the period 2009 - 2014 was adopted in November 2009.

Our aim, as the democratically elected body of the County, is to enhance the quality of life of our people and visitors by building sustainable communities and delivering quality services.

To deliver on this aim, the Corporate Plan contains six Strategic Objectives and also sets out the Implementation and Monitoring Framework to ensure progress is achieved on each of the objectives. The Strategic Objectives are as follows:

1. **We will lead the planning and development of the economic, social, physical and cultural infrastructure of the County.**
2. **We will promote and support active citizenship for the development of socially inclusive sustainable communities.**
3. **We will deliver quality services to our people and visitors in an efficient, friendly and helpful manner.**
4. **We will deliver a best value for money ethos through all our operations.**
5. **We will protect the environment of our County through high quality regulation and enforcement.**
6. **We will facilitate the ongoing development of HR best practice to ensure that we have a skilled, motivated and committed workforce to deliver optimum standards of service.**

Under the Implementation Framework, each Director, along with their staff, prepares an Annual Operational Plan for the delivery of the services of the Directorate. The Directors' Operational Reports, contained in this Annual Report, outline the achievements in 2009 in accordance with the Department's Operational Plan, having regard to the Corporate Priorities.

During 2009, the Performance Management and Development System was further embedded in Kerry County Council in accordance with the Local Government Sectoral Commitment of 'Towards 2016 - Ten Year Social Partnership Agreement 2006 - 2015.'

Through this process, responsibility for the delivery of the key objectives of the Annual Operational Plans are delegated to staff and individual training needs are focused on developing the required competencies to provide effective delivery of services.

A new County Development Plan to cover the period 2009 - 2015 was made in April. The Castleisland Functional Area Local Area Plan covering the period 2009 - 2015 was made in December.

