

**COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHILL CHAINNIGH  
KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL  
MAY MONTHLY  
MANAGEMENT REPORT**



**MAY 2016**

**To: Each Member of Kilkenny County Council**

Monthly Management Report to Members of Kilkenny County Council for consideration at the May Monthly Meeting

**EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS:**

A list of Orders made in the last month will be available in the Council Chamber for inspection by the elected members.

**FINANCE:**

Chief Executive Financial Report—(Appendix 1).

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2016: Grant Awards Presentation Night for Festival & Events and Community and Cultural Grants in Ormond Hotel, Ormonde Street, Kilkenny, at 8.00p.m.

**REPORT AT A GLANCE**

**PLANNING:** *PAGE 2*

**HOUSING:** *PAGE 2*

**ENVIRONMENT:** *PAGE 2-3*

**WATER SERVICES:** *PAGE 3*

**CORPORATE SERVICES:** *PAGE 4*

**LOCAL & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:** *PAGE 4-5*

**CULTURAL SERVICES:** *PAGE 5*

**KILKENNY RECREATION AND SPORTS PARTNERSHIP:** *PAGE 5-6*

**LIBRARY SERVICES:** *PAGE 6-7*

**HERITAGE:** *PAGE 7-8*

**COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHILL CHAINNIGH**  
**KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**MAY MONTHLY**  
**MANAGEMENT REPORT**



**MAY 2016**

**PLANNING:**

<b>Planning Summary</b>	<b>Total to April 2015</b>	<b>Total to April 2016</b>
Planning Applications Received	247	259
Planning Applications Granted	172	282
Planning Applications Refused	12	16
Complaints Received	25	29
Warning Letters Issued	12	19
Enforcements Notices Issued	11	13

**Residential Estates:**

A proposed national pilot scheme of funding of €10m has been recently announced to accelerate the taking in charge process of housing estates. Kilkenny County Council has been advised of an indicative allocation of €172,000. Council must submit proposals by 13<sup>th</sup> May, 2016 on developments where there is not stand alone developer provided infrastructure for consideration for this funding. The Planning Department is preparing a submission to the Department on a number of estates where there is not sufficient funds available to complete works required to enable the taking in charge process to be finalised.

**HOUSING:**

<b>Number awaiting social housing support at 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2016:</b>	<b>2793</b>
<b>Number of assessment interviews carried out:</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>LA/RAS/Leasing allocations (offers made):</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Number of HAP tenancies to 30<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>578</b>
<b>Number of LA tenancies surrendered:</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Anti social behaviour cases:</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>New Homeless Presentations:</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Maintenance Calls in April:</b>	<b>436</b>
<b>Maintenance Calls year to date:</b>	<b>1,900</b>
<b>No. Housing Loans Approved to date (Annuity/Construction):</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Amount of Loans Approved to date:</b>	<b>1,240,650</b>

**ENVIRONMENT:**

**Environmental Awareness**

- Ten groups were represented at the first tidy town Forum on April 4<sup>th</sup> which consisted of a facilitated workshop to build volunteers numbers locally (photo tt. foru)
- The EAO completed 2 Tidy Towns Support Meetings; Ferrybank (6<sup>th</sup> April) and Glenmore (12<sup>th</sup> April)
- Tidy Towns “Meet the Adjudicator workshop” (27<sup>th</sup> of April) was completed



**MAY 2016**

benefiting Inistioge, Windgap, Urlingford & Bennettsbridge Tidy Towns.

- The EAO attended the Callan ICA Meeting and spoke on waste management and the changes ahead in July when Pay by Weight is introduced.
- Re-installation of Metal Bluebells on Hennebrys Cross, Castlecomer Rd occurred, this is sponsored by Dunmore Recycling Centre
- 2 Family Resource Murals were completed in Kilkenny City, both creations completed by local children (photo)
- The National Spring Clean – over 100 groups registered and Council will continue assisting groups until June (Photo; Comeragh View Residents Ass., Mooncoin)



The EAO presented at the National Tidy Towns conference on the 9<sup>th</sup> of April organised by Monaghan County Council. The theme of the conference was the Sustainable Waste and Resource Efficiency category of the Tidy Towns competition.



## WATER SERVICES

The 44<sup>th</sup> Water Safety Development Officers Conference was held in Kilkenny in 2016. The Venues were the Kilkenny River Court Hotel and The Parade Tower, Kilkenny Castle.

Thirty Water Safety Development Officers from Donegal to Cork and Galway to Dublin were in attendance, along with John Leech CEO Irish Water Safety and the Acting Chairman of IWS Mr. Martin O'Sullivan. A special presentation was made to Ms. Breda Collins who has been Chairman of Irish Water Safety since 2011 but resigned from the position due to family issues in January of this year. Breda is a Water Safety Examiner and has been a member of Kilkenny Water Safety Committee for the past thirty years. Mary Mulholland Director of Services and Cllr. Fidelis Doherty, Leas Cathaoirleach were in attendance.

The National Council thanked Kilkenny County Council, in particular Joan McLoughlin, Water Safety Officer, for hosting and scheduling an excellent and worthwhile conference including trips to Thomastown and Graiguenamanagh.





**MAY 2016**

## **CORPORATE SERVICES**

### **Civic Events**

The Cathaoirleach hosted a reception for the American Prize Winning Davidson Chorale and Chamber Orchestra from Augusta, Georgia – USA in County Hall on Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2016. This was followed later that day by a Concert in St. Canice's Cathedral which feature guest composer Mr. Patrick Cassidy.

### **IRELAND 2016**

29<sup>th</sup> April, 2016: The Cathaoirleach, following Mass in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Castlecomer, laid a wreath and unveiled a memorial plaque to commemorate Patrick Bealin of Loon, Castlecomer who was killed by British Forces on 29<sup>th</sup> April, 1916:



## **LOCAL AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:**

### ***Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP)***

An LECP Community Implementation Plan workshop, chaired by Dr. Maria Power, was held on April 25, 2016 with attendance by stakeholders and agencies delivering actions under the community element of the LECP. The purpose of the day was to create an agreed process around implementing actions within the community element of the LECP.

### ***Local Development Strategy (LDS)***

Kilkenny LCDC is awaiting the review of their submitted LDS. The Independent Assessment Panel met on April 28<sup>th</sup> last to review both strategies from Kilkenny.

### ***Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP)***

SICAP second draws down for April June has been processed. The SICAP Subgroup will start preparing for the SICAP mid- term review due in June.

### ***Public Participation Network (PPN)***

The PPN will hold the first Plenary of 2016 on June 7<sup>th</sup> where the secretariat will present the constitution for adoption by the membership and a proposal for the election process which will see representatives elected for the next 3 years.

### ***The Community and Cultural Facilities Capital Scheme 2016***

To date the Community Section has met with 16 potential community projects across the county to support their submission to the scheme.

***Kilkenny Integration Forum*** has hosted a number of cinema and intercultural events over the past 3 months as part of the implementation of the “*Uniting the Diverse*” Kilkenny Integration Strategy 2013-2017 which KKCC

**COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHILL CHAINNIGH**  
**KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**MAY MONTHLY**  
**MANAGEMENT REPORT**



**MAY 2016**

and the Integration Centre along the members of the Kilkenny Integration Forum developed in 2013.

***Kilkenny Children's & Young Peoples Services Committee (CYPSC)***

The first meeting of the Kilkenny CYPSC took place on Wednesday April 27th last. The role of the CYPSC is to enhance interagency co-operation and collaboration, improving local service provision and support for children and young people in their area by bringing together agencies/organisations providing services to children and young people across the county. The committee is chaired by Marie Kennedy of TUSLA with Maria Melia of KCC as Vice Chair. CYPSCs remit is to improve outcomes for children and young people aged 0-24 years in line with Ireland's National Framework for Children and Young People 'Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures'. One of the first tasks of this committee will be to develop a three year Children's and Young Peoples Plan. This plan will be prepared over the next six months.

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**CULTURAL SERVICES:**

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**Arts Programme:**

***Kilkenny Poetry Broadsheet***

Kilkenny Poetry Broadsheet editor Kimberly Campanello, undertook a workshop on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April in the Chapter Room at St Mary's Cathedral. The workshop prepared writers for Broadsheet submissions by teaching poetry writing techniques, self editing, and gave a general insight into the editing process. The closing date for submissions is Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May.

***Literature programme***

The creative prose workshops with writer Tara in partnership with the Library Service are well under way.

Bookings are being taken for a second Short Story Writing weekend with Dr Hilary Lennon, to be held 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> May in Butler House.

Rhyme Rag Outreach: The poet Stephen Murray of 'Brave New Words' completed our Spring term of poetry workshop across 5 Kilkenny schools, including the city schools of Loreto Convent, Presentation Secondary School, St. Kieran's College, and Greenan College, Thomastown and St. Brigid's, Callan. A total of 347 young people participated.

The Arts Office has partnered with Ossory Youth to provide two 5 week blocks of R3VERSE workshops beginning in April which will support writing for the Rhyme Rag. Due to huge interest a second block had to be added with the poet and drama teacher Edward Denniston and writer Grace Wells facilitating these workshops.

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**KILKENNY RECREATION AND SPORTS PARTNERSHIP**

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**Participation Programmes and Empowerment of Communities**

**Primary Schools Support Programme**

KRSP organised two primary school Basketball Blitz days on 11<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> April in the watershed with the emphasis on fun and participation. The delivery of the blitz on the 11<sup>th</sup> April was supported by the participants on the Community Coaching Programme.

**Disability Programmes**

Busy time over the Easter with our activities for children with disabilities participating in Learn



**MAY 2016**

to Cycle programme, Swim Camp and Multi-sport Camp.

Working with Enable Ireland including the delivery of Balance Bike and Sportshall Athletics training to 22 staff members to empower them to deliver the activities for their members with the allocation of equipment to support this.

Working with the School of the Holy Spirit by providing support to enhance playground facilities, providing access for teacher to attend Disability Inclusion Training and physical literacy programmes.

Working with St. Patricks with initial meeting with school and physio team to discuss needs of school and possible programme areas.

#### **Swim for a Mile**

Swim Ireland's Swim for a Mile is an initiative aiming to encourage people to get back into the pool and become confident life-long swimmers. KRSP, Kilkenny Swim Club and The Watershed put together a training programme, run over 30 weeks to build numbers in the lead up to the Swim for a Mile event. These were coached sessions, catering for swimmers who could do 2 lengths to more experienced swimmers looking for the benefits of a training group. Following a very successful local event in 2015, Kilkenny became a flagship venue for 2016. 126 participants registered for the Swim for a Mile event on Friday 22nd April with 90 completing the event.

#### **Sports Leaders Programme**

April saw the culmination of the Sports Leader programme with Transition Year students in CBS Kilkenny. 21 young leaders participated in the programme since November 2015 with 28 contact hours supporting them to develop generic leadership skills that can be applied to a variety of sports and recreational activities. The

culminating event saw the Sports Leader group organising and running a soccer blitz for 105 1<sup>st</sup> year students on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April in the Watershed.

#### **Dates for May 2016**

#### **Out to Play Conference – 14th May 2016 from 9.30am – 4pm Castlecomer Discovery Park**

KRSP is collaborating with Carlow and Kilkenny County Childcare Committees, HSE and Carlow Sport Partnership to organise an Out to Play – Physical Literacy Conference aimed at pre-school practitioners and teachers of infant classes in primary school. Carol Archer, co-author of “Encouraging Physical Development through Movement Play” is the keynote speaker.

#### **LIBRARY SERVICES:**

#### **Statistics and Performance (April 2016)**





**MAY 2016**

24,358 visits across the library network

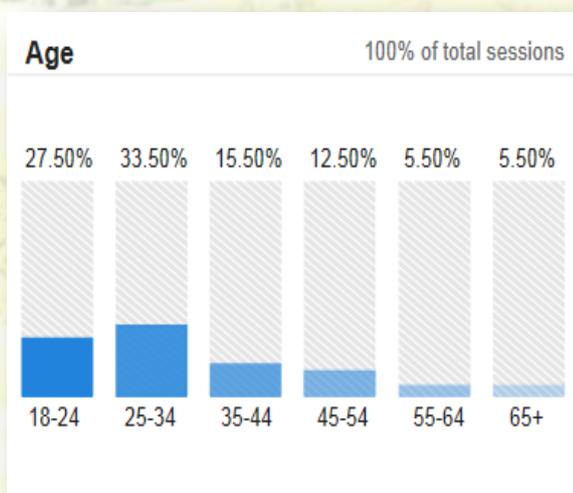
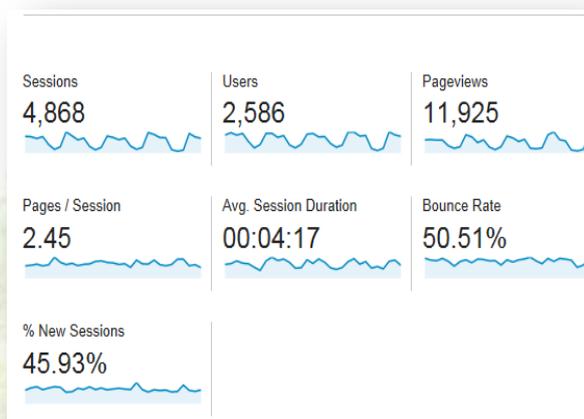
26,313 items issued

2240 Public Internet sessions

49 visits to Local Studies

1004 new members/renewals

[Library Website usage \(April 2016\)](http://www.kilkennylibrary.ie)  
[www.kilkennylibrary.ie](http://www.kilkennylibrary.ie)



## Collaborations and Partnership

- In association with Lyric FM's Outreach programme, Loughboy Library hosted a free performance entitled Music for All Ages. "Music for all Ages" is an engaging and entertaining outreach program of live music performances which are taking place in educational and community settings nationwide.
- Homework Support Group for Parents in conjunction with Carlow Kilkenny ETB,
- Business Advisory Clinics in partnership with The Local Enterprise Office
- Graigenamanagh Historical Society talk on County Kilkenny and the Easter Rising: by Jim Maher, Author and Historian
- Ageing with Confidence course in partnership with Age and Opportunity.



## HERITAGE

### *Waterways and Heritage*

The Heritage Officer gave a talk to the National Water Safety Development Officers Conference on 14<sup>th</sup> April, organised by Joan McLoughlin Environment, on the topic of "Waterways and Heritage".

(SECTION 136 (2) OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001,  
SECTION 51 OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM ACT 2014)

**COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHILL CHAINNIGH**  
**KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**MAY MONTHLY**  
**MANAGEMENT REPORT**



**MAY 2016**

***Valuing Heritage***

The Heritage Office, in partnership with the Heritage Offices in Meath, Kildare and Cork City Council, has advertised for suitably qualified consultants to carry out a study on the value of heritage for the 4 counties. The aim is to examine, demonstrate and communicate the economic, social, cultural and environmental value and benefits of the built, natural and cultural heritage in four counties, using case studies; and design a heritage data monitoring framework. Closing date for submission is 27/05/2016.

***Butterfly Workshop in Woodstock Gardens***

The Heritage Office is supporting a Butterfly Monitoring Workshop, organised by the National Biodiversity Data Centre, in Woodstock Gardens on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May. Butterfly populations can tell us about changes in the environment, climate and habitats. To date we have only one butterfly monitoring area in Co. Kilkenny, and it is hoped to increase this to 5, in time. The workshops will give interested volunteers the skills and confidence to identify butterflies.

(SECTION 136 (2) OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001,  
SECTION 51 OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM ACT 2014)

**COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHILL CHAINNIGH**  
**KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**MAY MONTHLY**  
**MANAGEMENT REPORT**



**MAY 2016**

APPENDIX 1

Kilkenny County Council

Finance Report – May 2016.

The expenditure by service division for the four months to the end of April is set out in table 1. Total Expenditure for the period was €22.414m compared with the annual budget of €67.18m.

<b>Table 1</b>	<b>Actual YTD April 16</b>	<b>Budget Full Year 2016</b>
	<b>€'000's</b>	<b>€'000's</b>
Housing & Building	5,001	14,083
Road Transport & Safety	5,245	16,848
Water Services	2,219	7,603
Development Management	2,273	6,562
Environmental Services	2,578	8,628
Recreation & Amenity	1,816	6,024
Agriculture, Education, Health, Welfare	231	761
Miscellaneous Services	3,051	6,673
<b>Overall Total</b>	<b>22,414</b>	<b>67,182</b>

Cash collected on commercial rates for the first four months was €354k higher than the same period last year. Collection on housing rents for the first four months was €180k higher than the same period last year. The bank overdraft facility was not utilized during the period to the end of April. The Local Government Auditor has commenced the annual audit of the 2015 AFS.