

ANNUAL REPORT 2013



Mission Statement

“Kilkenny Local Authorities aim to work in partnership with the people of Kilkenny and relevant agencies to deliver quality services and to promote sustainable economic, social and cultural development for current and future generations”.

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Joint Statement of An Cathaoirleach and of the Mayor



Cllr. Pat Dunphy,
Cathaoirleach,
Kilkenny County Council

We the Cathaoirleach and Mayor of Kilkenny County and Borough Councils welcome this Annual Report of our respective Local Authorities. 2013 was a year of considerable progress in terms of social and infrastructural initiatives. It was a year characterised by significant investment in the wellbeing of the people of Kilkenny. A wide variety of new projects were put in motion throughout the year. Allied to this, it was the year of The Gathering, rekindling a sense of community, identity and a sense of place. This event awakened and tapped into the international good will that exists towards Ireland in general and amongst the sons and daughters of Kilkenny, around the world, in particular. It is expected that these linkages will generate legacy events, visits and investment in the years ahead.



Cllr. Martin Brett,
Mayor,
Kilkenny Borough Council

2013 was a year of spectacular wins for Kilkenny as a clean, beautiful and welcoming City. The spirit of our city was well portrayed on the international stage when Kilkenny City was voted Europe's Friendliest City in the Condé Nast survey. This significant accolade was reinforced with the Failte Ireland National Tourism Award. In gaining this award Kilkenny was recognised as the best Tourism Town in Ireland.

The success of business in Kilkenny and the tourism industry in particular is strongly reliant on retaining a pristine environment. This is clearly the case in our County and City. The award of the Tidy Towns Best In Region award allied to a Tidy Town Gold Medal for outstanding performance, recognises the efforts of the local Community and the Local Authorities in maintaining a perfect living space for the resident and the visitor alike. Kilkenny won First Place for the second time in a row on the IBAL Awards, again recognising excellence in environmental effort.

Across the County of Kilkenny the Council maintained a firm focus on sustained improvements to key infrastructure, notably on maintaining our already excellent roads network and the water supply services system. With an emphasis on maintaining the highest standards in service delivery, water supplies achieved 100% compliance across all microbiological parameters. Water conservation projects by 2013 achieved an 18% reduction in levels of unaccounted water. Contracts were signed for new waste water treatment plants for Freshford, Johnstown and Goresbridge. The large waste water facility at Purcellsinch was brought into full compliance with the Urban Waste Water Regulations and the conditions of the EPA Discharge License. Environmental quality was matched with major investment with the announcement that Glanbia PLC will develop a €157 million dairy processing and manufacturing facility at Bellview, worth an estimated €400 million to our rural economy.

Notable Achievements in 2013



Roads and Transportation

- The N10 / N76 Kilkenny Ring Road Improvement Scheme, provided for the construction of a footpath and cycle-track along the city-side of the Ring Road, from the Callan Road Roundabout to the Old Dublin Road Roundabout. The scheme also provided for modifications to roundabouts, which included the introduction of two-lane entry and exits with these measures greatly improving the capacity of the junctions. The works were carried out on a phased basis with the initial phase commencing in 2009 and the project was completed in 2013.
- The N77/N78 Hennebry's Junction Improvement Scheme commenced in late 2012 and the scheme was officially opened in June 2013. The scheme provided for the reconfiguration of an existing priority junction to a conventional roundabout layout.
- The R712 Old Dublin Road Improvement Scheme, in the Kilkenny City Environs, was completed in late 2013. The works included footpath and cycle-track reconstruction, pavement resurfacing, traffic calming and drainage improvements.
- The Kilkenny Northern Ring Road Extension and Nore River Crossing – (N77 Castlecomer Road to R693 Freshford Road). . In December 2013 the Environmental Impact Statement and Compulsory Purchase Order was submitted to An Bord Pleanála and it is expected that the Board will make a decision in Quarter 3 2014.
- The N25 New Ross Bypass Scheme was approved by An Bord Pleanála in December 2008. The NRA commenced the tender process for the construction of the scheme under a Public Private Partnership in March 2013. Land acquisition has substantially progressed and works are expected to commence in 2014.
- Kilkenny Central Access Scheme – A Bord Pleanála approved the Central Access Scheme proposals in December 2011. The detailed design of the bridge and approach roads was completed in 2013. A tender prequalification process to identify suitable contractors to construct the scheme was completed in late 2013 and it is expected that the successful candidates will be invited to tender for Phase One- The KCAS Bridge Contract, early in 2014.
- Smarter Travel in Kilkenny City and Environs. The Department of Transport Tourism and Sport provided funding under the Smarter Travel National Cycle Network Programme which allowed for the installation of in excess of 60km of cycle-lanes between Kilkenny and Carlow along the R448, (downgraded old N10/N9). This work was completed in 2013 in partnership with Carlow County Council.



Planning and Housing

- 613 planning applications were received in 2013.
- The draft development plans for the City and County were prepared in the first half of 2013 following extensive public consultation which took place in 2012.
- In the last quarter of 2013 work began on the preparation of a masterplan for the Diageo lands of the former Smithwick's lands in Kilkenny City.
- 235 Commencement Notices under the Building Regulations were received.
- 95 new houses commenced construction in County Kilkenny.

The current number of applicants on the housing list is 2,152 at end of 2013 with a combined Borough and County Council housing stock of 2,157.

- 88 units became vacant in 2013 with 100 made ready for re-letting
- 142 offers of accommodation were made during 2013.
- 444 units were retrofitted with the assistance of the Department of Environment and SEAI.
- 17 Local Authority houses adapted in 2013 to meet the needs of the disabled.
- Local Property Tax was paid for the first time on Local Authority houses amounted to €96,975 for the last 6 months of 2013.



Library Services

- The new library for South Kilkenny at Ferrybank attracted over 3,000 members during its first year of opening
- 321,500 library items were issued over 288,914 visits
- 24/7 services continued to be developed with the introduction of Transparent Languages Online through www.kilkennylibrary.ie



Parks and Amenities

- Three community groups were assisted in the development of playgrounds in Ballyragget, Bennettsbridge and Kilmacow. The playgrounds received financial assistance from Kilkenny County Council and LEADER and technical assistance in procurement and installation from the Parks Department.
- A stone wall building and training course funded by Kilkenny VEC began in Woodstock in late 2013 and will run into 2014. The course invited participants from all walks of a life with an interest in stone wall building and repair with an emphasis on conservation.
- The link road roundabout serving the M9 was developed as a pilot project using a colourful mix of herbaceous plants which will flower year after year, providing colour and a valuable wildlife habitat for insects in particular. This move towards sustainable roadside planting is becoming increasingly important to compensate for loss of biodiversity elsewhere.
- A footpath network was developed in a large area of open space in the Pococke Valley on the Johnswell road. This is phase one of a larger amenity scheme proposed for the area.



Fire Services and Civil Defence

- 11,950 Kilkenny primary school children have received the community fire safety programme since 2006.
- Extension to Urlingford Fire Station was completed with Dept Environment, Community and Local Government funding.
- A Major Exercise was carried out on one of our Seveso sites- Trans-Stock.
- During 2013 Kilkenny Civil Defence provided assistance to over 20 community events including the Bruce Springsteen Concert in Nowlan Park.
- Civil Defence provided various training courses for over 30 volunteers in our newly acquired Training Facility located at The Maltings building in Kilkenny City.
- Civil Defence purchased a 15 seated Minibus and a 4 wheel drive vehicle from funding provided by the Civil Defence Branch of the Dept. of Defence.



Waste and Environment

- Dunmore Recycling & Waste Disposal Centre 2013 was a Repak Recycling Centre of the Year finalist for the second year running.
- The Dunmore Community Fund, provided from landfill gate fees, was fully drawn down by the Dunmore Community in 2013, to complete upgrading works on the Community Hall.
- Over 1,000 inspections of a variety of waste facilities were completed under the Enforcement plan with 98 enforcement procedures taken as a result
- An environmental song competition called Eco-Factor was held in association with KCLR96FM. The competition was targeted towards primary schools and Lisnafunchin NS was declared the overall winner
- Kilkenny City topped the IBAL anti- litter league for the second year running, a first for the competition
- 171 Farm Inspections were undertaken by Kilkenny County Council under the European Communities (Good Agricultural Practice for the protection of Waters) Regulations 2010. A further 60 Farm Inspections were undertaken by the Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine on behalf of Kilkenny County Council in 2013.
- Inspections began in December under the EPA's National Inspection Plan for the inspection of domestic wastewater treatment systems (DWWTS) with 8 inspections completed by the end of the year.
- The Irish Coastguard, on behalf of the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport, approved the Oil/HNS Coastal Pollution Response Plan of the Suir Estuary Pollution Response Committee, which is chaired by Kilkenny County Council
- Improvement works were completed at The Weir swimming area on the Bleach Road.
- Implementation of shared veterinary services for County Carlow to fulfil the FSAI contract for both counties.
- Kilkenny Local Authorities completed the signing of the SEAI Partnership with The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) in February 2013. The public sector has been challenged to reach verifiable energy-efficiency savings of 33% by 2020.
- Under the Better Energy Communities Scheme, €2.43 million was invested in energy efficiency measures in Kilkenny.



Arts and Heritage

- Approximately 180 writers participated in Arts Office literary events
- A Kilkenny record breaking 2,946 individuals attended Culture Night events
- Over 300 children participated in our Siamsa Children's Art and Science programme



Water Services

- In 2013 the Authority produced 9.4 million cubic meters of quality drinking water directly to a population of 73,600 across County Kilkenny.
- For the fourth successive year there was no increase in water and waste water charges. Rates for non-domestic users were € 0.96 per cubic meter for drinking water and € 1.93 per cubic meter for waste water (a combined rate of € 2.89).
- Water supplies achieved 100% compliance across all microbiological parameters



Economic Development and Tourism

- Strategic management of Kilkenny's industrial assets –progressing purchase of the Smithwick's site to develop 'The Abbey Creative Quarter'
- Redeveloping the Smithwick's St Francis Abbey visitor experience with Diageo, progressing the St. Mary's Hall Museum, realigning streetscape at high street and brand developing of the 'Kilkenny Medieval Mile'
- Supporting the expansion of the TSSG Research and Innovation Centre
- Co-ordinating The Gathering in 2013
- Achieving accolades as Best Tourist Town in Ireland, one of Friendliest Cities in Europe, Cleanest Business town and Best Gathering festival in 2013
- Launch of the Kilkenny Visitor Ambassador programme
- Upgrading websites and developing social media networks
- Increasing Tourism Media & PR Campaign
- Supporting Festivals and Events

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1 Kilkenney's Local Authorities

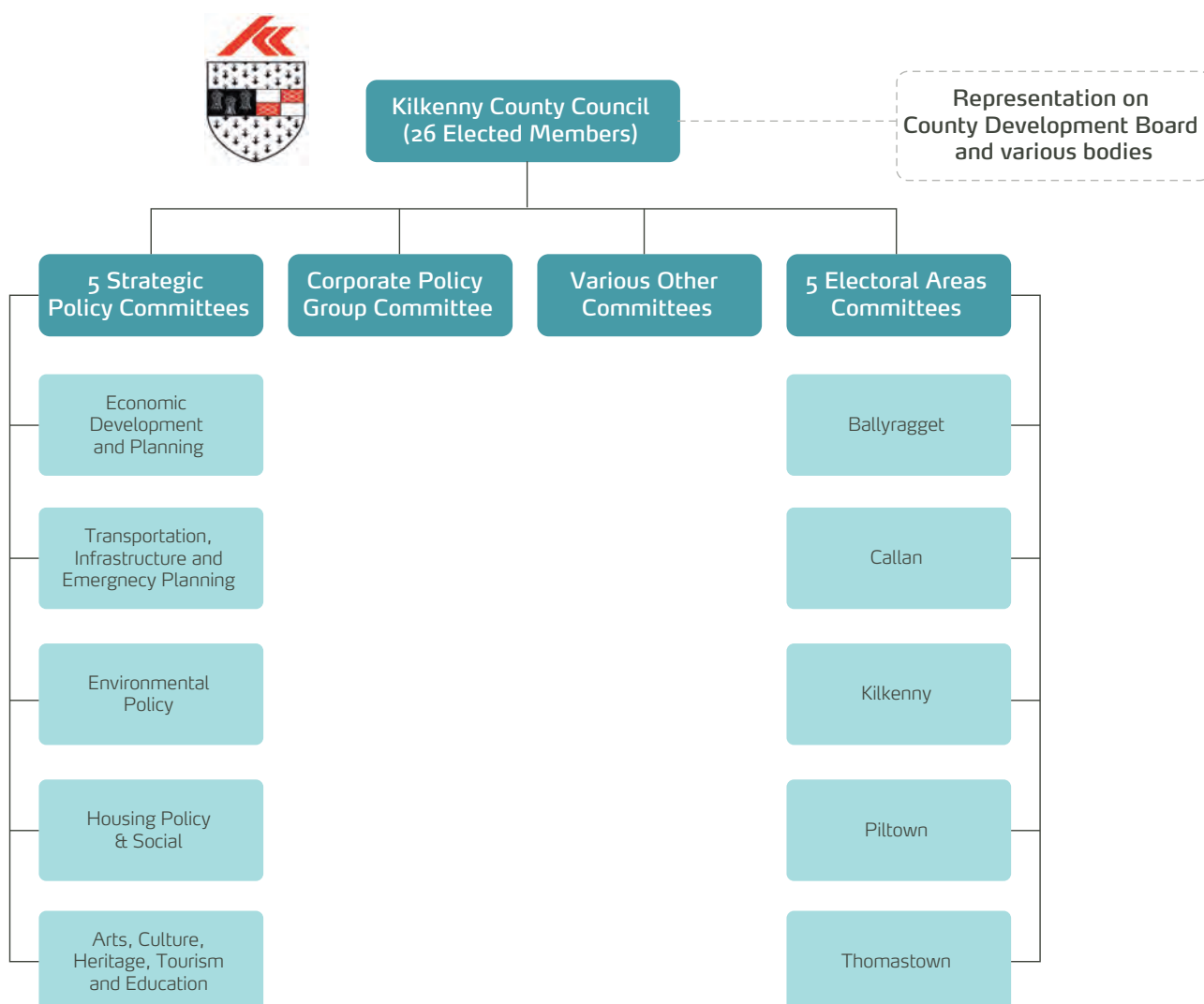


1.1 Structure of Kilkenney County Council

Elected Membership

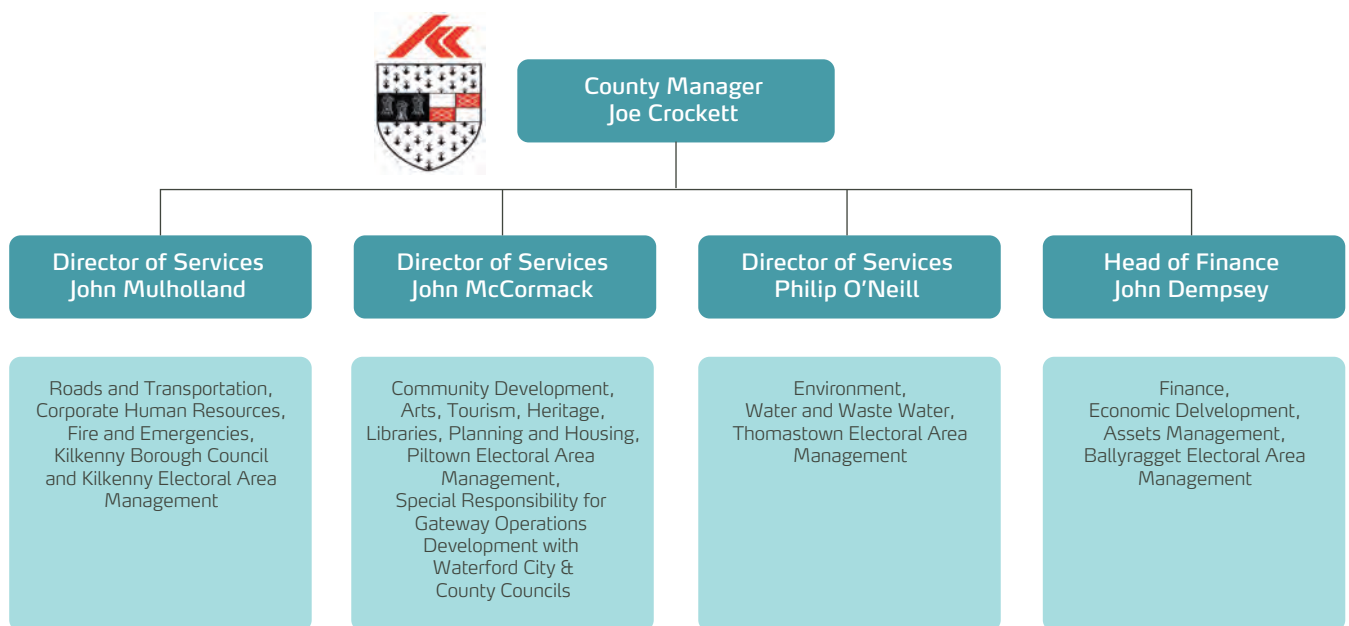
Kilkenney County Council comprises twenty six members, elected for a five year term of office. The current Council was elected in June 2009 and membership at 31 December 2013 is shown in Appendix 2. A number of former members of the Council have been elected to Dail and Seanad Eireann and to the European Parliament and their contact details are included.

Kilkenney County Council Elected Members Structure



Kilkenny County Council Management Structure

Within Kilkenny County Council's management structure, four Director of Service reports to the County Manager. The four directorates and their key areas of responsibility are as follows.

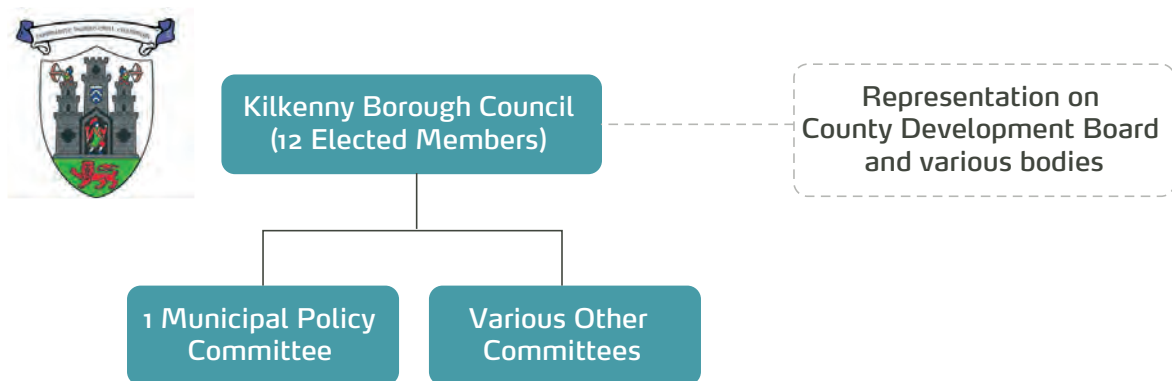


1.2 Structure of Kilkenny Borough Council

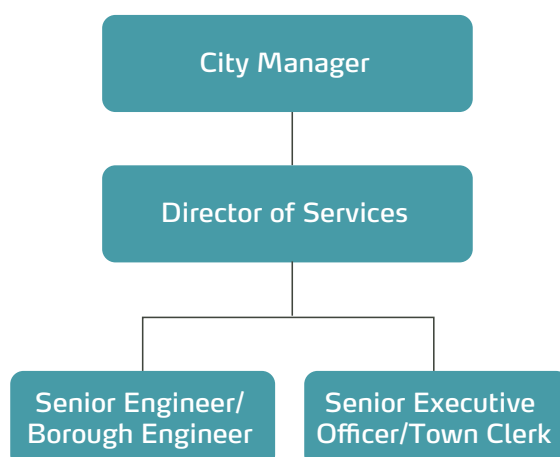
Elected Membership

Kilkenny Borough Council comprises twelve members, elected for a five year term of office. The current Council was elected in June 2009 and membership at 31st December 2012 is as shown below. A number of members of the Borough Council have also been elected to Kilkenny County Council and represent the Kilkenny Electoral Area on the County Council.

Kilkenny Borough Council Membership Structure



Kilkenny Borough Council Management Structure




1.3 Members of Committees and Subsidiary Bodies

There is a legal obligation on Local Authorities to establish certain Committees such as Strategic Policy Committees. Local Authorities have discretionary authority to establish other Committees so as to assist them in performing their roles as elected members.

Strategic Policy Committees (SPC)

Kilkenny County Council has established 5 Strategic Policy Committees to assist the Elected Council in the formation of policy.

1. Forward Planning and Development Policy
2. Infrastructure, Transportation, Water Services and Other
3. Environmental Policy, Fire Services and Emergency Planning
4. Housing and Social Policy
5. Community & Social Policy, Arts, Culture, Heritage, Tourism and Education

1	Forward Planning and Development Policy	6 meetings in 2013
CHAIRPERSON	 <p>Cllr Maurice Shortall 42 Maryville, Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny</p>	
MEMBERS	<p>Cllr. Pat Dunphy, Ballygorey, Mooncoin, Co. Kilkenny Cllr. Anne Maria Irish, Nicholastown, Slieverue, Co. Kilkenny Cllr. Fidelis Doherty, Ballyfacey, Glenmore, Co. Kilkenny Cllr. Jane Moran, Rathcusack, Bennettsbridge, Co. Kilkenny Cllr. Michael O'Brien, Friarhill, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny Cllr. Sean Treacy, Coolroebeeg, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny</p> <p>Borough Council Member - Cllr Seán O'Hargáin Business/Commercial - Owen Sweeney, Kilkenny Chamber of Commerce Construction and Industry - Denis Guilfoyle, Construction Industry Federation Environmental - Cólín Ó Drisceoil, Kilkenny Archeology Community and Voluntary - John Burke, Turkstown, Piltown, Co. Kilkenny Agriculture - Kevin Connolly, Coolmore, Knocktopher, Co. Kilkenny</p>	
REPORT SUMMARY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2014-2020 Draft Development Plans • Wind Energy Strategy • Eirgrid North South 400kV Interconnection Development (Strategic Infrastructure) • Local Area Plans Update • Unfinished Housing Development and Taking in Charge • Review of Development Contribution Scheme • Transfer of Water Services function to Irish Water 	

2

Infrastructure, Transportation, Water Services and Other

4 meetings in 2013

CHAIRPERSON



Cllr. Matt Doran,
Shrughawaddy,
Kilmoganny,
Co.Kilkenny
051 648220

MEMBERS

Cllr. John Brennan, Crutt, Clogh, Castlecomer, Co.Kilkenny. 056 4442319

Cllr. Fidelis Doherty, Ballyfacey, Glenmore, Co.Kilkenny 051 880310

Cllr. Jane Moran, Rathcusack, Bennettsbridge, Co.Kilkenny 086 3655314

Cllr. Malcom Noon, 35, Fr. Murphy Square, Kilkenny 056 7723276

Cllr. Pat Millea, Gaulstown, Tullaroan, Co.Kilkenny 056 7769182

Business & Employers - Cormac O'Sullivan, Haggard Road, Kells, Co.Kilkenny

Trade Union - Denis Hynes, SIPTU, Patrick Street, Kilkenny

Environmental Pillar - Ann Gibbons, Kilree House, Kilkenny

Environmental - C  il  n    Drisceoil, Kilkenny Archeology

Community and Voluntary - Paul Corcoran, Ballyfoyle, Co.Kilkenny

Agriculture - Michael Rice, Greenridge, Kilkenny

REPORT SUMMARY

- Provision of Bus Shelters
- Class 3 Local Roads (Local Tertiaries)
- Smarter Travel/Ferrybank-preparation of cycling strategy.
- Presentation on the organisation of the Rural Transport Programme-Ring a Link.
- Road Pavement Condition Rating Survey.
- City and Environs Draft Development Plan 2014-2020.
- Water Services update.
- Regional Road Condition Survey
- Grid Link Project update
- Road Safety Plan 2013-2020.
- National Cycling Network.
- Speed Limits.
- Flashing Speed Signs.
- Road Marking Policy for the Local Primary Network.
- Community Involvement Schemes.

3	Environmental Policy, Fire Service and Emergency Planning	5 meetings in 2013
CHAIRPERSON	Martin Brett and Tom Maher,	
MEMBERS	<p>Cllr. Paul Cuddihy, Granges Road, Kilkenny Cllr. Mary Hilda Cavanagh, Whitewall, Crosspatrick, Co. Kilkenny Cllr. Tom Maher, Broadmore, Callan, Co. Kilkenny Cllr. Martin Brett, Derdimus, Tennypark, Kilkenny Cllr. Eamonn Aylward, Ballynooney, Mullinavat, Co. Kilkenny Cllr. Anne Maria Irish, Nicholastown, Slieverue, Co. Kilkenny</p> <p>Environmental Pillar - Pat Durkan Business / Commercial - Vacant Community & Voluntary - Sean Fitzpatrick Agriculture - John Bambrick</p>	
REPORT SUMMARY	<p>Waste Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation of the Joint Waste Management Plan for the South East Region • Education and Awareness Strategy • Food Waste Regulations • Illegal Dumping and Abatement Strategies • Reuse of Bulky Waste Study • New Waste Management Regions • Review of the National Hazardous Waste Management Plan <p>Water Quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The South East River Basin Management Plan • The Kilkenny Water Quality Report <p>Kilkenny Fire Rescue Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital Projects • Major Emergency Management • Fire Prevention <p>Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Climate Change Strategy • Dog Warden Service • Veterinary Services delivery 	

4	Housing and Social Policy	4 meetings in 2013
CHAIRPERSON	 <div>Cllr. Marie Fitzpatrick 64 Bishop Birch Place, Kilkenny 056 7764438</div>	
MEMBERS	<p>Cllr. Catherine Connery, Jenkinstown, Co. Kilkenny Cllr. William Ireland, Danesfort, Co. Kilkenny Cllr. Cora Long, Ballygriffin, Carrigeen, Via Waterford, Co Kilkenny Cllr. Andrew McGuinness, Constituency Office, O'Loughlin Road, Kilkenny Cllr. David Fitzgerald, Castle Road, Kilkenny</p> <p>Construction & Industry - Ivan Shannon Community & Voluntary - Sheila Donnelly Trade Union - Yvonne Moriarty Agriculture - Elizabeth Regan</p>	
REPORT SUMMARY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Housing Assessment and Allocations• Maintenance, Retrofitting, Vacant Units• Social Housing Investment Programme 2013• Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)• Mortgage to Rent Scheme• Mortgage Arrears Resolution Programme (MARP)• Capital Programme 2013• Housing Grants• New Differential Rent Scheme• Traveller Initiatives• Homelessness in Kilkenny and the South East Homeless Action Plan• Energy Efficiency Programme• Housing Assistance Programme (HAP)• Money Advice and Budgeting Service (MABS)	

5

Community and Social Policy, Arts, Culture, Heritage, Tourism and Education

5 meetings in 2013

CHAIRPERSON



Cllr. John Brennan

Crutt, Clogh,
Castlecomer,
Co. Kilkenny
056 4442319

MEMBERS

Cllr. P Cuddihy, Granges Road, Kilkenny
Cllr T. Prendergast, 3 St. Oliver Plunkett Avenue, Tinnahinch, Graiguenamanagh, Co. Kilkenny
Cllr. P Crowley, Kilmoganny, Co. Kilkenny
Cllr. T. Breathnach, Forge Road, Narabane, Kilmacow, Co. Kilkenny
Cllr J. Coonan, 17, Willow Close, Ardmore, Kilkenny

Borough Rep - Cllr D Fitzgerald

Business & Employers - Roisin McQuillan

Environmental Pillar - Darren Donohue

Community and Voluntary - Breda McDonald

REPORT SUMMARY

- Updates by Heritage Officer on 2013 projects
- Updates by Arts Officer on 2013 projects
- Library Updates
- Medieval Mile Project
- Special Projects – County & City Library, Butler Gallery, St. Mary's, Pedestrian Bridge at Bateman Quay, Improvement works in High Street, The Great Garden and the Vertical Garden
- Kilkenny Recreational Sports Partnership
- National Campaign for Arts
- Culture Night 2013

City of Kilkenney Municipal Policy Committee (MPC)

Kilkenney Borough Council has established a Municipal Policy Committee. Its membership and report for 2013 are as set out hereunder;

City of Kilkenney Municipal Policy Committee (MPC) 3 meetings in 2013

CHAIRPERSON



Cllr. Joe Reidy, (Fianna Fáil)

Parliament House
Parliament Street
Kilkenney

MEMBERS

Cllr. Paul Cuddihy, (Fine Gael), Granges Road, Kilkenney. **Elected Member**
Cllr. David Fitzgerald, (Fine Gael), 24, Patrick Street, Kilkenney. **Elected Member**
Cllr. Kathleen Funchion, (Sinn Féin), 28, Whitescastle, Knocktopher, Co. Kilkenney. **Elected Member**
Cllr. Seán Ó hArgáin, (The Labour Party), "Sceilg", Greenshill, Co. Kilkenney. **Elected Member**
Mr. Martin Costelloe, High Street, Kilkenney. **Kilkenney Business Representative**
Mr. Donie Butler, Chairman of Kilkenney Chamber of Commerce, The Maltings, Tilbury Place, Kilkenney. **Kilkenney Business Representative**
Fr. Nicholas Flavin, Kilkenney Community & Voluntary Forum, Millennium Court, Hebron Road, Kilkenney. **Community & Voluntary Representative**
Mr. Joe Ledwidge, "Old Bekwai", Dunningstown Road, Kilkenney. **Heritage Representative**
Mr. Pat Henderson, Talbots Inch Village, Freshford Road, Kilkenney. **Sports Representative**
Mr. Michael Ryan, Ardreich, Urlingford via Thurles, Co. Kilkenney. **Older Peoples Forum**
Mr. John Doyle, 1, Fr. Albert Place, Kilkenney. **Access Group**

REPORT SUMMARY

- Destination Kilkenney/Medieval Mile
- WW1 Memorial
- St. Patrick's Day Festival
- Christmas in Kilkenney
- Hurling Monument
- Parking and Traffic Management
- Casual Trading

Kilkenny County Joint Policing Committee

Kilkenny County Council established a Joint Policing Committee. Its membership and report for 2013 is as follows:-

Kilkenny County Joint Policing Committee		5 meetings in 2013
CHAIRPERSON	 <p>Cllr. Paul Cuddihy, Granges Road, Kilkenny.</p>	
MEMBERS	<p> Cllr. Maurice Shortall, 42 Maryville, Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny Cllr. Catherine Connery, Jenkinstown, Co. Kilkenny Cllr. Marie Fitzpatrick, 64 Bishop Birch Place, Kilkenny Cllr. Matt Doran, Shrughawadda, Kilmoganny, Co. Kilkenny Cllr. William Ireland, Danesfort, Co. Kilkenny Cllr. Jane Moran, Rathcusack, Bennettsbridge, Co. Kilkenny Cllr. Tom Maher, Broadmore, Callan, Co. Kilkenny Cllr. Tommy Prendergast, 3 St. Oliver Plunkett Road, Tinnahinch, Graiguenamanagh, Co. Kilkenny Cllr. Michael O' Brien, Friarshill, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny Cllr. Sean Treacy, Coolroebe, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny Cllr. Cora Long, Ballygriffin, Carrigeen, Via Waterford, Co. Kilkenny Cllr. Pat Dunphy, Ballygorey, Mooncoin, Co. Kilkenny Cllr. Anne Maria Irish, Nicholastown, Slieverue, Co. Kilkenny Cllr. Eamon Aylward, Ballynooney, Mullinavat, Co. Kilkenny Cllr. Fidelis Doherty, Ballyfacey, Glenmore, Co. Kilkenny Cllr. Tomas Breathnach, Forge Road, Narabane, Kilmacow, Co. Kilkenny Superintendent, Kevin Dolan, Thomastown Garda Station, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny Chief Superintendent M. McGarry, Thomastown Garda Station, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny Mr. John Burke, Turkstown, Piltown, Co. Kilkenny Ms. Mary Egan, Tullahought, Windgap, Co. Kilkenny Mr. Gerard Ferris, Ardra, Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny Mr. Phil Hogan, T.D., Constituency Office, 1 High Street, Kilkenny Mr. John McGuinness, T.D., Constituency Office, O' Loughlin Road, Kilkenny Deputy Ann Phelan, T.D., Brandondale, Graignamanagh, Co. Kilkenny Deputy John Paul Phelan, T.D., Smithstown, Tullogher, Co. Kilkenny Mr. Pat Deering, T.D., Rathvilly, Co. Carlow Senator Pat O' Neill, Ballyredding, Bennettsbridge, Co. Kilkenny </p>	
REPORT SUMMARY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crime, Drugs and Public Order • Safety of people in their homes • Role of the Joint Policing Committee in assisting the Drugs Task Force • Neighbourhood Watch & Community Alert Scheme • Community Engagement • Closure of Rural Garda Stations • 2 Public Meetings held Piltown/Thomastown • Traffic • Road Safety Issue • Statistics in relation to all types of offences 	

Kilkenny Borough Council Joint Policing Committee

Kilkenny Borough Council has established a Joint Policing Committee. Its membership & report for 2013 is as follows:

Kilkenny City Joint Policing Committee		5 meetings in 2013
CHAIRPERSON	 <p>Cllr. Paul Cuddihy, Granges Road, Kilkenny.</p>	
MEMBERS	<p>Cllr. Seán Ó hArgáin, "Sceilg", Greenshill, Kilkenny David Fitzgerald, Mayor 24, Patrick Street, Kilkenny Cllr. Jimmy Leahy, 17, Glendine Heights, Kilkenny Cllr. Martin Brett, Derdimus, Tennypark, Kilkenny Cllr. Andrew McGuinness, Constituency Office, O'Loughlin Road, Kilkenny Cllr. Joe Reidy, Parliament House, Parliament Street, Kilkenny Cllr. John Coonan, 17 Willow Close, Kilkenny Cllr. Joe Malone 11, Maiden Hill Estate, Kilkenny Cllr. Kathleen Funchion, 28, Whitescastle, Knocktopher, Co. Kilkenny Cllr. Malcolm Noonan, 35, Fr. Murphy Square, Kilkenny Cllr. Marie Fitzpatrick, 64, Bishop Birch Place, Kilkenny Cllr. David Fitzgerald, 24, Patrick Street, Kilkenny Deputy Phil Hogan, T.D. Constituency Office, New Street, Kilkenny Deputy Ann Phelan, T.D. Brandondale, Graiguenamanagh, Co. Kilkenny Deputy John McGuinness T.D, Constituency Office, O'Loughlin Road, Kilkenny Deputy Patrick Deering, T.D. Ballyoliver, Rathvilly, Co. Carlow Chief Superintendent Michael McGarry, Thomastown Garda Station, Thomastown Superintendent Padraig Dunne, Kilkenny Garda Station, Dominic Street, Kilkenny Inspector Liam Connolly, Kilkenny Garda Station, Dominic Street, Kilkenny Mr. Pat McAuley, 40, Connolly Street, Kilkenny Ms. Enya Kennedy, Wolfe Tone House, Wolfe Tone Street, Kilkenny Mr. Joseph Mguni, 14, Oakwood Court, Parcnagown, Kilkenny Ms. Martina Comerford, Rapid Co-Coordinator C & E Dept County Council</p>	
REPORT SUMMARY	<p>Crime, Drugs and Public Order:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drug Problems in Kilkenny City • Safety of people in their homes • Drug Awareness Week <p>Community Engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Watch and Alert Schemes • Turnaround time of Local Authority Houses • Statistics in relation to domestic violence • "Victim Assist" Programme <p>Traffic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road Safety Issues • Inter Schools Quiz • Statistics in relation to drink driving, speeding and seat belt offences • Provision and use of cycle lanes within the City 	

Electoral Area Committees

Five Area Committees have been established. Members elected to Kilkenny County Council from the 5 Electoral Areas are members of their respective Area Committees.

The Area Committees Are;

- Ballyraggett Electoral Area Committee
- Callan Electoral Area Committee
- Kilkenny Electoral Area Committee
- Thomastown Electoral Area Committee

A number of other Committees have also been established;

- Traveller Accommodation Committee
- Woodstock Restoration Committee
- Rural Water Monitoring Committee

Both Authorities are also represented on numerous bodies and external committees;

- County Development Board
- Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurance
- Goul Joint Drainage Committee
- County Enterprise Board
- Leader Partnership
- Local Authority Members Association
- Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland
- South East Regional Authority
- RAPID Area Implementation Team
- Vocational Education Committee
- Kilkenny Tourism Committee
- Watergate Theatre
- Irish Water Safety Association
- Regional Health Forum – South
- Carlow Kilkenny Energy Agency

2 Kilkenny County Council Divisional Services



2.1

Transportation, Emergency Planning, Corporate Services and Kilkenny Borough Council

Services provided under this Directorate

- Roads & Transportation
- Road Safety
- Parks & Amenities
- Fire Services
- Emergency Management
- Civil Defence
- Corporate Services
- Human Resources
- Health & Safety
- Internal Audit
- Information Technology
- A broad range of services provided by Kilkenny Borough Council

Roads and Transportation



The N10 / N76 Kilkenny Ring Road Improvement Scheme

The N10 / N76 Kilkenny Ring Road Improvement Scheme

The N10 / N76 Kilkenny Ring Road Improvement Scheme, provided for the construction of a footpath and cycle-track along the city-side of the Ring Road, from the Callan Road Roundabout to the Old Dublin Road Roundabout. This new infrastructure links up with the N77 Ring Road Extension providing a continuous footpath / cycle-track along the entire 8km of the Ring Road. The scheme also provided for modifications to roundabouts, which included the introduction of two-lane entry and exits with these measures greatly improving the capacity of the junctions. The works were carried out on a phased basis with the initial phase commencing in 2009 and the project was completed in 2013.

The Newpark Drive Improvement Scheme

The Newpark Drive Improvement Scheme, in the Eastern Environs of Kilkenny City, commenced in 2009. Works were carried out on a phased basis with the final phase completed in 2013. The scheme provided for the widening of the carriageway to allow unrestricted two-way traffic and the installation of footpaths along both sides of the street.

The R712 Old Dublin Road Improvement Scheme

The R712 Old Dublin Road Improvement Scheme, in the Kilkenny City Environs, was completed in late 2013. The works included footpath and cycle-track reconstruction, pavement resurfacing, traffic calming and drainage improvements.



The N77/N78 Hennebry's Junction Improvement Scheme

The N77/N78 Hennebry's Junction Improvement Scheme

The N77/N78 Hennebry's Junction Improvement Scheme commenced in late 2012 and the scheme was officially opened in June 2013. The scheme provided for the reconfiguration of an existing priority junction to a conventional roundabout layout. The scheme included the provision of two dedicated bus-bays on the N78 and the construction of footpaths along the approach arms to the roundabout.

N77 Ballynaslee Road Realignment Scheme

N77 Ballynaslee Road Realignment Scheme, located north of Ballyragget village - Land acquisition for this scheme was concluded by agreement with the affected landowners in 2013. An Advance Works Contract commenced in late 2013 and is now substantially completed. Tenders for the Main Works Contract will be advertised later this year subject to funding approval from the National Roads Authority.

The Kilkenny Northern Ring Road Extension and Nore River Crossing – (N77 Castlecomer Road to R693 Freshford Road).

Design works commenced on this project in 2007, the Route Selection and Constraints Report was completed in November 2008. As part of the design process a Hydrology Study on River Nore and Flood Plain was undertaken. In December 2013 the Environmental Impact Statement and Compulsory Purchase Order was submitted to An Bord Pleanála and it is expected that the Board will make a decision later this year.



R697 Kells Road Before

The R697 Kells Road Improvement Scheme

The R697 Kells Road Improvement Scheme, in the southern Environs of Kilkenny City, commenced in late 2012 and the scheme was officially opened in December 2013. The scheme allowed for the realignment and widening of the carriageway to what is now a high quality corridor to service the adjoining area and environs. The completion of this scheme also means that all the Arterial routes into the City are now upgraded to a high standard of urban design.



R697 Kells Road After

The N25 New Ross Bypass Scheme

The N25 New Ross Bypass Scheme was approved by An Bord Pleanála in December 2008. The NRA commenced the tender process for the construction of the scheme under a Public Private Partnership in March 2013. Land acquisition has substantially progressed and works are expected to commence in 2014. The Scheme includes the construction of sections of both the N25 and N30 routes. It is envisaged that the PPP Project will comprise works of approximately 16km: 14.8km of dual carriageway (N25 and N30 routes) and 1.2km of single carriageway (New Ross N30 route). Three at-grade roundabout junctions at Glenmore (N25), Ballymacar Bridge (N25) and Corcoran's Cross (N30) and a compact grade separated junction at Camlin (R733) will also be constructed as part of the scheme. The River Barrow crossing will be by way of a 3 tower extrados bridge and the structure will extend for approximately 900 metres from Pink Point in County Kilkenny to Stokestown in County Wexford.

Low Cost Safety Improvement Scheme

Low Cost Safety Improvement Scheme allows accident cluster sites to be identified for treatment on the National and Non-national Road Network. In 2013 nine sites on the National and the Non-national Road Network, within County Kilkenny, were treated at a combined cost of approximately €212,000. The works generally provided for the setting back of roadside boundaries, installation of signage and roadmarking, traffic calming features and the like.

Kilkenny Central Access Scheme

A Bord Pleanála approved the Central Access Scheme proposals in December 2011. The detailed design of the bridge and approach roads was completed in 2013; Section 50 Approval for the bridge structure was obtained from the Office of Public Works in October of the same year. A tender prequalification process to identify suitable contractors to construct the scheme was completed in late 2013 and it is expected that the successful candidates will be invited to tender for Phase One- The KCAS Bridge Contract, early in 2014. Notices of entry were served on property owners early in the year. Under the current programme it is anticipated that Phase One- The KCAS Bridge Contract will commence in mid 2014.

N25 Waterford to Glenmore Road Realignment Scheme.

Following the completion of archaeological and ground investigation works in 2011 there was further work on route selection, traffic analysis and cost to benefit assessment in 2012. The scheme is now in abeyance as directed by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport.

2013 witnessed further progress and development of cycle ways, footpaths and bus shelters aimed at creating an appropriate environment for the modal shift to healthier and greener modes of transport.



Smarter Travel in Kilkenny City and Environs.

2013 witnessed further progress and development of cycle ways, footpaths and bus shelters aimed at creating an appropriate environment for the modal shift to healthier and greener modes of transport. Collaborative work undertaken under the auspices of the local Smarter Travel Group strives to achieve greater public awareness through hosting of such events as Smart Saturday, school cycling weeks and cycle training for school children. The Department of Transport Tourism and Sport provided funding under the Smarter Travel National Cycle Network Programme which allowed for the installation of in excess of 60km of cycle-lanes between Kilkenny and Carlow along the R448, (downgraded old N10/N9). This work was completed in 2013 in partnership with Carlow County Council.

Active Travel Towns.

Funding was provided by the Department of Transport Tourism and Sport under the so called Active Travel Towns initiative. Benefitting schemes include the City pedestrian bridge and a feasibility study/report for the Ferrybank area. The latter was concluded in draft form late in 2012.

Road Safety

The Road Safety Authority has prepared a new National Road Safety Strategy for the period 2013 to 2020. Kilkenny County Council noted that in 2013 there were over 150 successive days in which not a single fatal road accident was recorded in the county. This achievement is very much a factor of drivers assuming greater personal responsibility on the roads allied to the collaboration of all agencies involved in Road Safety Together in Co Kilkenny.

- In parallel with the establishment of the national strategy Kilkenny Local Authorities, in consultation with An Garda Síochána, Ambulance Services, Health Service Executive, Department of Environment, Heritage & Local Government, National Roads Authority, Road Safety Authority and local community representatives, developed the Kilkenny Road Safety Plan 2007-2012.
- In essence this plan seeks to provide for the establishment of coherent policies and actions at local level so as to realise reductions in the numbers of collisions, deaths and injuries on the roads of County Kilkenny.
- It was concluded from the data recovered for the period 2007 to 2009, that the attainment of the overall objective, of achieving a 25% reduction over the six years of the Plan with respect to fatal and serious injury accidents was largely on target.
- The review findings and data interrogation also allowed for a targeted approach in terms of utilising resources to achieve the objectives set-out in the Plan.

High Street Improvement Scheme

In late 2012 Fáilte Ireland approved a funding package for the so called medieval mile project in Kilkenny City. This approval includes financial assistance towards the upgrading of High Street to be carried out over a number of phases to 2014. Work commenced on the construction of new footpaths and on underground services and broadband ducting to business clusters.

Lady Desart Bridge.

The draft design and statutory report for the new pedestrian bridge at Johns Quay, Kilkenny was finalized in 2012. The public consultation phase commenced towards the end of the year and was finalized in early 2013. The bridge construction commenced in September 2013 and was substantially completed by year's end.

Parks and Recreation

The Parks Department was established to oversee the development and maintenance of recreational amenities in Kilkenny City and County. Since its establishment a range of high quality recreational amenities including playgrounds, parks and sports pitches have been provided. The department is also responsible for on-going developments, visitor management and maintenance of Woodstock Gardens and Arboretum in Inistioge which has become a major tourist attraction in the south east.

The core services provided are :

- Playground development and maintenance – We currently have sixteen playgrounds around the county with a further three in development to be completed in 2013.
- These play facilities were developed in conjunction with local communities and many are also maintained with assistance from local communities and local FAS schemes.
- All playgrounds are inspected each week by our own in-house playground inspector for any potential safety issues and are also cleaned each week or more often, where required, to ensure they continue to be safe and clean to use for children.
- The Parks Section have developed a number of city parks, most recently in 2012 the re-development of Lacken Walk which forms part of the overall River Nore Linear Park was officially opened.
- The department maintains Newpark Marsh in the city and has developed further path networks and extensive tree planting here.
- Work to develop a walking/running track was also carried out in Bishops Demesne adjacent to the Fr. McGrath Centre along with the establishment of an outdoor gym.
- A pitch leasing facility is being operated on a number of pitches in the city and environs. These pitches are leased out to clubs for training and matches.
- The all weather mini pitches which are free to use at any time at Newpark, Garringreen and Bishops Demesne are proving to be very popular.

- The pitch at Garringreen was extensively improved by sanding and re-seeding in the summer of 2012 to make it playable for the 2013 season.
- Woodstock Gardens Project – Since the historic Victorian gardens at Woodstock were restored over the past ten years they have become a major tourist destination in the south east and now attract in the region of 35,000 visitors per year. The Council continue to organise events, promote and manage visitors coming to the gardens in addition to carrying out high quality maintenance. Facilities recently added on site include a new children's playground and Tea Room. A very successful outdoor pantomime was hosted in the gardens along with a number of other events such as 10km runs, plant sales. In addition Woodstock is becoming popular for civil ceremonies and in 2012 Woodstock hosted a number of weddings for couples on their big day.
- Administration of Amenity Grants – The amenity grants scheme is administered by the Parks Department. The Grants are available to voluntary community organisations to enhance or maintain local amenities. Over ninety groups were in receipt of grant assistance in 2012.



Woodstock Gardens in Full Colour

The historic Victorian gardens at Woodstock have become a major tourist destination in the south east and now attract in the region of 35,000 visitors per year.



The Parks Department was set up to oversee the development and maintenance of recreational amenities in Kilkenny City and County. Since its establishment the Parks Department has delivered a range of high quality recreational amenities including playgrounds, parks and sports pitches that are used by people of all ages. The Parks Department is also responsible for on-going developments, visitor management and maintenance of Woodstock Gardens and Arboretum in Inistioge which has become a major tourist attraction in the south east.

Playground development and maintenance

There are currently 21 playgrounds around the county with a further two at advanced stages of planning to be completed in 2014. These play facilities were developed in conjunction with local communities and many are also maintained with assistance from local communities and local community employment schemes. Three playgrounds were opened in 2013 in Bennettsbridge, Ballyragget and Kilmacow. These were developed by community groups with grant and technical assistance from the County Council and LEADER.

All playgrounds are inspected each week by our own in-house playground inspector for any potential safety issues and are also cleaned each week or more often, where required, to ensure they continue to be safe and clean to use for children.

Park development and maintenance

The Parks Section have responsibility for development and maintenance of parks in the city and county. The River Nore Linear Park along with Newpark Marsh and Garringreen neighbourhood park and the recently developed Bishops Demesne are the main city parks.

Pitches development and maintenance

The Parks Department operate a pitch leasing facility on a number of pitches in the city and environs. These pitches are leased out to clubs for training and matches. We also have a number very popular all weather mini pitches which are free to use at any time at Newpark, Garringreen and Bishops Demesne. The pitch at Garringreen was extensively improved by sanding and re-seeding in the summer of 2013 to make it playable for the 2014 season.

Woodstock Gardens Project

Since the historic Victorian gardens at Woodstock were restored over the past twelve years they have become a major tourist destination in the south east and now attract in the region of 35,000 visitors per year. Parks staff continue to organise events, promote and manage visitors coming to the gardens in addition to carrying out high quality maintenance. We hosted a very successful outdoor pantomime in the gardens along with a number of other events such as 10km runs, Operation Transformation Walks and many other family events for Heritage Week.

Thanks to assistance from the Kilkenny VEC, a stone masonry training course started in Woodstock in November. The training course was open to all with the emphasis on conservation stone wall building.

In addition Woodstock is becoming popular for civil ceremonies and in 2013 Woodstock hosted a number of weddings for couples on their big day.

Administration of Amenity Grants

The Parks Department administered the amenity grants scheme which is available to voluntary community organisations to enhance or maintain local amenities. Eighty three groups were in receipt of grant assistance in 2013.

Fire Services



Station Officers of Kilkenny Fire and Rescue Service

Kilkenny Fire and Rescue Service main functions are:

- Providing emergency cover for all types of incidents (fires, road traffic accidents, flooding, oil spills, hazardous chemical incidents, etc.) in County Kilkenny.
- Ensuring the fire safety of public premises by providing advice and enforcing the appropriate legislation for both new and existing premises.
- Advising and educating the public on fire safety matters.

There were a total of 636 incident responses in 2013, this is a reduction from 661 incidents in 2012. The average time to turn out the fire brigades was 6 minutes 45 seconds for fires and 6 minutes 46 seconds for other types of incidents.

Capital Projects

A new fire engine has been ordered for Kilkenny City Fire Brigade at a cost of approximately €320,000. This will be delivered in Spring 2014 and is being funded by the DoEHLG. Funding was also provided for the purchase of 4 thermal imaging cameras and for an extension and improvements to Urlingford Fire Station.

Fire Safety Certificates

93 applications for fire safety certificates were received in 2013. These applications were dealt with in-house by the fire prevention staff. This is an increase from 2012 when 73 applications were received.

Fire Services Act

Fire Prevention staff made a considerable number of visits to premises both to provide advice and to enforce legislation.

- 1 Fire Safety Notice under the Fire Services Act was served in 2013.
- The programme to focus on fire safety in large retail premises was continued, with a number of premises being visited. This programme will be completed in the first half of 2014.



The Annual Christmas Charity Collection raised funds for two local charities



Fire-fighters take complete the Mount Everest Ladder Climb

Community Fire Safety

The 2013 Primary Schools Programme was provided by Fire Services personnel. The objective of this is to raise awareness of fire safety amongst primary school children and their families. This programme is delivered to children in 3rd class in all the primary schools in County Kilkenny.

Kilkenny Fire Station and other fire stations continued to facilitate school visits.

Voluntary Fundraising

Fire-fighters and ambulance personnel partook in the now annual Christmas Charity Collection with the funds going to two local charities. The fire-fighters also raised funds at the May Bank Holiday weekend with the Mount Everest Ladder Climb.

World Police and Fire Games.

The World Police and Fire Games took place in Northern Ireland in 2013 and 11 members of Kilkenny Fire Service competed in various disciplines. They won 2 gold and 1 silver medal.

Major Emergency Management

The County Council's Major Emergency Plan was reviewed and amended during 2013.

The County has three establishments which fall under the Seveso Regulations due to the volume and type of dangerous goods stored there. Of these three sites, two have External Emergency Plans and the plan for the 3rd was created in 2012 and tested during 2013. This work was delivered in co-operation with the HSE and An Garda Síochána.

A Coastal Pollution Plan for the County's tidal foreshores was prepared by the Council County in co-operation with the other Local and Harbour Authorities in the Suir/Barrow Estuary. The plan was approved by the Irish Coast Guard; this plan will now form the backbone of any response to a coastal pollution emergency in the Suir/Barrow Estuary. This plan was tested during 2013.

Extensive training was delivered to staff of Kilkenny County Council, the Health Services Executive (HSE) and to members of An Garda Síochána in relation to Major Emergency Management

Civil Defence

Civil Defence provided assistance to over 20 community events ranging from Gymkhanas to County Finals to River based charitable events.



Kilkenny Civil Defence is a volunteer based organisation where its members are proud to serve as a high quality auxiliary service supporting the principle emergency services and the local community. Kilkenny Civil Defence is a key stakeholder in Kilkenny Local Authorities response to Major Emergencies.

Community Events

During 2013 Kilkenny Civil Defence provided assistance to over 20 community events ranging from Gymkhanas to County Finals to River based charitable events. The largest event this year was the Bruce Springsteen Concert in Nowlan Park on the 27th and 28th of July. Kilkenny Civil Defence had over 45 volunteers on site at any one time providing medical assistance to patrons at the concert. All people requiring treatment at the events were treated by fully trained responders and practitioners.

Premises

In September of this year Kilkenny Civil Defence moved into their new fully equipped Training Facility located at The Maltings building in Kilkenny City. The building was purchased by Kilkenny Local Authorities for use by Kilkenny Civil Defence in appreciation for their commitment and work for Kilkenny Local Authorities.

Vehicles and Equipment

This year Kilkenny Civil Defence received funding for the purchase of a 15 seat Minibus and a 4 wheel drive vehicle from the Civil Defence Branch of the Dept. of Defence. Funding for the vehicles was granted to maintain the high standard of fleet and volunteers within Kilkenny Civil Defence.



Kilkenny Civil Defence River Rescue Crew Training

Training

Kilkenny Civil Defence operates multi-skill training out of its two training centres both located within the city of Kilkenny. The areas of training are broken into the following;

- Casualty/First Aid Service
- Rescue – Open Country Search and River based Search and Recovery
- Auxiliary Fire Service and Flooding
- Welfare Service
- Civil Defence Communications

In 2013, 30 volunteers were presented certificates for courses completed in

- Radio Operators
- Power Boat Coxswain
- Cardiac and Emergency First Responders
- Instructional Methods.
- Swift Water/Flood Water First Responder and Water Awareness
- Rope/Heights Rescue
- Search Management



Heights Rescue Training in Ballykeeffe Quarry

Corporate Services

The Corporate Services Department is responsible for the provision and management of a very wide range of services, which include Elected Member support and administration, County Council Meetings, Building & Facilities Management, Register of Electors and Insurances.

Register of Electors

The Annual Register is published on 1st February each year and is a list of all persons aged 18 years or over, resident in the State, who are entitled to vote in Elections to the Dail, European Assembly, Presidential, Local Elections and Referenda.

A Boundary Commission had been appointed by the Minister for Environment, Community & Local Government to examine & make recommendations of changes to Electoral Area Boundaries and its report was published in 2013. Its recommendations were accepted by the Minister for Environment Community & Local Government. The Commission recommended the abolition of Kilkenny Borough Council, a reduction in membership of Kilkenny County Council from 26 to 24 members the reduction in Electoral Areas from 5 to 4 each comprising 6 members as follows: Castlecomer, Kilkenny City East, Kilkenny City West, & Piltown.

In anticipation of legislation to give effect to the revised Electoral Areas the Draft Register of Electors was prepared and is based on the revised Electoral Areas as follows:

Local Electoral Area	Number of Electors on Register
Castlecomer	17,063
Kilkenny City West	16,803
Kilkenny City East	16,230
Piltown	17,125
Total	67,221

The European Constituencies were also revised and Kilkenny is in the (Ireland) South Constituency.

The Register to be published on the 1st February 2014 will reflect all boundary & Constituency changes and will be the Register that will be in force for the forthcoming Local & European Elections to be held in May 2014.

The Register is available in Post Offices, Libraries and Garda Stations which provides people with the opportunity to check if they are on it.

A website is also available for this purpose www.checktheregister.ie.

A person, for whatever reason, who is not included on the published register, or has moved from one address to another, may apply to be included on a supplement to the register.

Human Resources

The Human Resources Department deals with the following areas:

- Human Resource Strategy
- Workforce Planning
- Recruitment and Selection
- Payroll and Superannuation
- Employee Training and Development
- Performance Management
- Leadership Development
- Equality
- Diversity Management
- Work-Life Balance
- Industrial Relations
- Employee Health, Safety and Welfare

Staffing Levels

Staffing numbers continued to reduce in 2013. The number of staff employed at 31/12/2013 was 620 (Headcount) or 529.52 (Whole-Time-Equivalent) which is a 22% reduction on 2007 levels.

Haddington Road Agreement

The Councils implemented the Haddington Road Agreement (HRA) from 1st July 2013. The main changes implemented under this Public Service Stability Agreement were as follows:

- Increase working week from 35 hours a week to a 37 hours a week.
- Decrease in Overtime rates and no payment for the first hour of overtime
- Various Incremental Freezes
- Reduction to Annual Leave to a maximum of 6 days / Cash equivalent
- Pay reduction of 5.5% - 8% for those on higher salaries.

Pay savings in the six month period to 31/12/2013 under HRA amounted to €125,000 and the amount of €156,000 by way of 13,000 additional hours productivity was also achieved under the Agreement.

Performance Management

The Councils Performance Management and Development System was revised in 2013. The main revisions include performance evaluation & ratings and the linkage of performance to pay. A comprehensive training programme was delivered to staff in 2013 on the revised arrangements.

Training and Development

Kilkenny Local Authorities are committed to ensuring the professional and personal development of all staff within Kilkenny Local Authorities. Training, learning and development are aimed at helping employees to become more effective in their jobs and developing their potential. A comprehensive training programme was delivered in 2013.

Attendance Management

The Local Government Sectors Attendance Management Policy was revised in 2013 and revised sick pay schemes were introduced for the Sector. Further revisions will be implemented in 2014. The percentage of working days lost continued to reduce to 3.82% and is well on the way to meeting and exceeding the Sectors target of 3.5%

Internal Audit

The Council operates an Internal Audit unit which is independent, and provides assurance as to the efficient operation of financial, management and operational controls in the Council.

The unit is an essential element of corporate governance. Key achievements include the following.

The Internal Audit unit provides reports and updates to the County and City Manager regarding the operation of controls in the County & Borough Councils. Internal Audit reports are presented to the Councils Audit Committee. The Audit committee is a sub-committee of the Council comprising of two

Councillors and three external experts. The Audit Committee produce an annual report for the Council regarding its work and the management controls of the Council.

In 2013 Internal Audit made 24 recommendations to management, each recommendation was accepted and implemented or is under implementation so as to improve management controls. In 2013 the Councils Audit Unit provided support to the County Enterprise Board's Internal Audit function. In 2013 Kilkenny County Council Internal Audit Unit continued to work closely with the Internal Audit Units of Carlow, South Tipperary, Waterford City, Waterford County and Wexford Councils to increase auditing efficiencies in the South East.

Health, Safety and Welfare at Work

The year 2013 saw matters of Health and Safety thoroughly addressed across all service areas by means of an all inclusive Safety Management System. Some of the key initiatives implemented included the following;

- 61 National Guidance Health & Safety Policy & Procedures were signed off as Kilkenny Local Authorities H&S Policies and Procedures on 01/02/13.
- Working groups have been set up to deal with high priority/ high risk policies and procedures as follows
- Services (Underground & Overhead) Working Group – comprising of appropriate representatives from key affected departments, supported and advised by the H&S Section. The Working Group is to review Management of Services (Underground & Overhead) and Excavations Policy & Procedures and devise an action plan for implementation to prevent injury and/ or ill – health associated with working near underground and overhead services. This group have met on the 2nd of July and 3rd of September

- Asset Management Working Group – comprising of appropriate representatives from key affected Departments and the H&S Section for support to the group. This group will review the following policies and procedures: Asset management, safety critical equipment calibration, preventative maintenance, statutory inspections and devise an action plan for implementation to prevent injury and/or ill health associated with management of work equipment
- Water Services Working Group – comprising of appropriate representatives from Water Services namely with support from the H&S Section. The group reviewed the following policies and procedure: Confined Spaces; biological agents; chemicals
- Emergency Call Out Working Group - comprising of appropriate representatives from key affected Departments and the H&S Section for support to the group was informally established to review the national guidance policy and procedure for Emergency call outs in 2012 but, the group did not formally meet in 2013.
- Visual Display Unit and Workstation Analysis - In October of 2013 all relevant line managers were provided with a copy of the records held by the H&S Section regarding assessments of the workstations for habitual display screen equipment users under their supervision. Line managers were reminded of the contents of SMS/PP/D4 Policy & procedure for the Management of Display Screen Equipment and the responsibility placed upon them to ensure risk assessments carried out for habitual display screen equipment users as well as the availability through the H&S Section of an online training and assessment modules together with follow up assessments were required.
- Event Safety - The Event safety flowchart was reviewed following introduction of “Health Service Executive requirements and guidance for outdoor crowd events (HSE: Emergency Management Office – April 2013)” by L. Russell and Z. Keane – HSO Carlow Local Authorities
- Safety Inspections - A Safety Inspection Programme was set out by the Safety Management Committee whereby all line managers commencing with the more high risk workplaces carried out safety inspections for their workplaces/ activities as scheduled on the programme on an annual basis. (Refer to Appendix 5 – Safety Inspection Schedule 2013)
- The hazard control tracking system continued to be rolled out mainly via The H&S Management Workshops; to capture items needing attention through safety inspections as well as risk assessments, accidents/ incidents etc..to ensure corrective actions are put in place in a timely manner.
- In 2013 there were 10 accidents 4 of which were reportable to the HSA. There were 11 near misses including incidents involving threats of violence and aggression. These accidents/ incidents were reported and investigated in accordance with our Accident/ Incident Management policy. Corrective action being implemented where deemed necessary following the investigation.
- Report and investigation forms were reviewed making them more user friendly.

Kilkenny Local Authorities are committed to the use of information systems to expand and increase the efficiency and quality of service delivery to the public.



Information Technology

Kilkenny Local Authorities are committed to the use of information systems to expand and increase the efficiency and quality of service delivery to the public. The Information Services Department looks after the Information Systems requirements of the County Council, Borough Council and County Library.

Key achievements for 2013 included the following;

- Additional sites added to the County Council IT infrastructure including Ferrybank Area Office and Woodstock Gardens.
- Continued expansion of the role Web 2.0 and social media technologies as another means of communicating with the public. Use of <http://ourplan.kilkenny.ie> for the County and City Development Plan process.
- Ongoing additions and updates to the various local authority web sites.
- The initial upgrade of communications hardware in County Hall was completed.
- The Storage Area Network capacity upgrade was completed



2.2

Community, Culture, Housing and Planning

The Services provided under this Directorate are:

- Housing Accommodation & Supports,
- Community & Estate Management,
- Forward Planning
- Planning Control
- Derelict Sites
- Conservation
- County Development Board support
- Arts
- Heritage
- Library Services

Housing

The Directorate of Housing incorporates a wide range of services for applicants and tenants to facilitate and support the provision of independent and supported accommodation. This is achieved by offering a variety of 'social housing supports' by the Housing Authorities, Voluntary and private sector.

The Core Housing Services Are:

Social Housing Investment Programme [SHIP]:

Kilkenny Local Authorities secured €1,253,313 and successfully expended its allocation on the acquisition 9 houses and one rural cottage. An additional €639,450 was secured under the Jobs Stimulus Package which allowed a further 6 houses to be acquired.

Rental Accommodation Scheme [RAS] & Leasing:

- Allocation of €2.3ml expended in full.
- 102 applicants accommodated under RAS in 2013
- 461 Total RAS Properties forming part of social housing options
- 136 RAS interviews carried out in 2012
- A total of 4 units were secured under leasing in Kilkenny during 2012;

Voluntary Housing Programme:

- Completion of 15 units at Nuncio Road by S.O.S. costing €1.6ml
- 2 units at College gardens completed by KASHMA at a cost €234,609
- The Department invited applications under a 'Special Call' during 2012 and 2013 and the following applicants were approved and at various stages of completion:

No. of Units	Name of Approved Housing Body	Status
2	The Good Shepherd Centre, Church Lane, Kilkenny. Acquisition of 2 units.	Completed
2	The Good Shepherd Centre, Church Lane, Kilkenny. Renovate Lodge to provide 2 units.	Under Construction
8	SOS Weir View, Kilkenny	Under Acquisition
2	Camphill Communities, at Ballytobin, Callan Construction of 2 units	Completed
2	Tuath Voluntary Housing Association at The Park, Weir View, Castlecomer Road.	Acquisition completed
4	Belmont Voluntary Housing Association at Kilmacow.	Acquisition completed
16	Total Cost	1,610,945

Homeless Services

The Good Shepherd Centre, Amber Women's Refuge and FOCUS Ireland provided sheltered accommodation and support services for the homeless

Referral to KLA Homeless Services 2013	
Homeless Referrals	147
Potentially homeless Referrals	45
Housing Assistance	30
Housing Welfare	16
Total	238

Traveller Accommodation Programme: TAP

- New 5 year draft Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014-2018 published on 15th November 2013.
- 73 offers of accommodation made with 56 families provided with permanent accommodation during the 2009-2013 Programme.
- Increase in units sought in new Draft Plan 2014-2018 - 65 units
- 12 units of accommodation provided to Traveller families in 2013
- Department Approval obtained in late 2013 to commence the construction of 2 group houses as part of a phased development at St. Catherine's Halting site.

Assessment of Needs:

- A statutory assessment of needs was carried out in May 2013
- 2144 applicants on Social Housing Support waiting list at 31st December 2013.
- 59% of applicants want to live in Kilkenny City & Environs
- The basis of need for 45% of the applicants is classified as "Dependent of Rent Supplement".
- 660 Housing Need Assessment appointments were held in 2013
- There were 79 casual vacancies & 9 new purchases during 2013
- There were 102 lettings under the RAS Scheme
- 142 offers of accommodation made during 2013
- 41 Offers of transfer of accommodation were made

Private Rented Accommodation

- The Council carried out 208 inspections on private rented accommodation during 2013.

Maintaining Housing Stock:

- Maintenance Budget €1.7ml expended in full on combined housing stock of 2,154
- 88 units became vacant in 2013 with 100 made ready re-letting
- 142 offers of accommodation made during 2013.
- 444 units Retrofitted in 2013 i.e.
 - 178 units under SEAI grant (38 Voluntary Sector and 140 LA Stock) and
 - 356 units retrofitted under Department grant,
- 17 Local Authority houses adapted in 2013 to meet the needs of the disabled.
- On average 3.5% housing stock is vacant at any one time with 2% left vacant at year end.

Housing Loans:

- 66 applications for loans made in 2013 compared to 54 in 2012
- 57% increase in loan approval compared to 2012.
- 38 Annuity Loans approved totalling €3,680,262 compared to 19 in 2012
- 5 Reconstruction Loans approved at €28,150
- 3 Tenant Purchase Loans advanced totalling €200,000
- 1 Caravan Loan at €7,000
- All loans vetted by the Housing & Sustainable Communities Agency and in house team.
- Local Property Tax paid for first time on Local Authority houses amounted to €96,975 for the last 6 months of 2013.

Housing Adaptations Grant - €724,215 paid out to 64 applicants averaging €11,316 each



Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant - €623,236 paid out to 104 applicants averaging €5,993 each

Housing Private Grants:

- Allocation of 1.488ml expended in full including the additional allocation
- Lowest allocation since high of €2.4ml in 2011
- 195 applications covering 3 schemes paid out
- Housing Adaptations Grant - €724,215 paid out to 64 applicants averaging €11,316 each
- Housing Aid for Older Persons Grant - €623,236 paid out to 104 applicants averaging €5,993 each
- Mobility Aid Grant - €121,417 paid out to 27 applicants averaging €4,497 each
- HOP grants accounts for 53% of applications paid in 2013
- HOP Backlog cleared in 2013.
- Commitments made on 78 applications amounting to €450,000 for 2014
- Allocation unknown for 2014 but all indications suggest same as 2013.
- Review of three grant schemes. New policy and application form to issue

Community & Estate Management Services:

- €6,000 support for LA Tidy Estates Competition.
- Winners of the 2013 scheme included;
 - **Small Estates;**
 - 1st Fr. Raftice Place, Mooneenroe,
 - 2nd Hillcrest Estate, Piltown,
 - 3rd Duiske Crescent, Graiguenamanagh.
 - **Medium Estates,**
 - 1st Brandon Park, Graiguenamanagh,
 - 2nd Woodland Est, Graiguenamanagh,
 - 3rd Assumption Place, Urlingford.
 - **Large Estates**
 - 1st Leaca Ard, Ferrybank,
 - 2nd Edmund Rice Estate, Callan,
 - 3rd Parkmore, Gowran
- Estate Management Grants totalled €40,000. Grant aided the supply of gardening equipment, landscaping projects, plants and gardening materials, minor refurbishment on estates, installation of fencing
- 70 active community committees supported in 2013
- Completion of regeneration works in Newpark Close and the provision of the open space.
- 165 complaints dealt with by the Anti Social Behaviour Officer compared to 148 in 2012.

Community and Culture

The vision is that local government will be the main structure or agent of governance and public services at local level.



Supports for Social Inclusion – Social Inclusion Seminar

As part of our ongoing commitment in supporting the community and voluntary sector, and particularly the social inclusion sector the Community and Culture Section hosted a one day seminar that brought together social inclusion groups working on the ground in Kilkenny to inform them of the changes outlined in Putting People First: Action Programme for Effective Local Government is the new framework for which local and community development will operate. Putting People First: Action Programme for Effective Local Government. The vision is that local government will be the main structure or agent of governance and public services at local level. This new structure will lead out on economic, social and community development, which aims to deliver efficient and good value services, and representing citizens and local communities effectively and accountably. The Minister announced the Local Government Bill 2013 to fundamentally reform the local government system in Ireland in October 2013.

The seminar was held on November 4, 2013 and 52 participants were involved in 4 workshops that were designed to organise peoples thinking about social inclusion and how it could be included in the new Local Community Development Committee (LCDC). It is hoped that this group will form part of an independent grouping within the Community and Voluntary sector to ensure a clear social inclusion voice is heard and a representative part of the new LCDC structure in Kilkenny.

Kilkenny Age Friendly Communities Project

Over the three years of our engagement programme we ran 12 pilot projects that included:

- Arts Participation Programme that ran over 3 years -Three Bags Full April, June 2011 involved 13 participants; Born to Knit May – August 2012; Making Space 2013 April
- Young Critics group and Older Critics groups and an intergenerational exchange between the two groups
- Intergenerational festivals - Bealtaine and Kilkenny Arts Festival projects Hedge School activity, workshops and talks with Butler Gallery Bealtaine festival
- Healthy Lifestyles and Lifelong Learning -Engagement in Sports and Recreation Jumpstart programme and the Kilkenny Men's Shed Healthy food /recipe calendar project

This INTERREG funded project had 450 participants engaged over the 3 years of the programme across the all activities.



Born to Knit May – August 2012



Kilkenny Integration Programme

Kilkenny Integration Forum

The Community and Culture section continues to support the work of the Kilkenny Integration Forum who this year were successful in their application to the Community Foundation for Ireland Caring Communities Fund for a Voter Education and training programme- to highlight the voting rights of migrants living in Ireland in relation to the Local and EU elections being held in 2014. This action was outlined in the Kilkenny Integration Forum's 5 year Integration Strategy for Kilkenny "Uniting the Diverse".

Kilkenny Traveller Interagency Group

The Community and Culture Section have been supporting the development of Traveller participation in the Kilkenny Traveller Community Movement over the past two years; the aim is to have a strong representative Traveller Group that can participate in local structures. In 2013 Kilkenny County Council supported the employment of the Traveller participation workers and a Traveller Community Profile that will inform the integrated service provision for Travellers living in Kilkenny over the coming years.



Kilkenny Traveller Interagency Group

Ferrybank Development Project

Through the work of the Community & Culture Department there has been a refocus on the Ferrybank and District area from a strategic community development perspective. Following ongoing work in this area during the latter part of the year, Kilkenny County Council working in partnership with Waterford City Council and with the support from Kilkenny LEADER Partnership, Waterford Area Partnership and the local community have agreed and are committed to developing a new 5 year strategic plan for the Ferrybank area, which will be developed in accordance with community development best practices and approaches. This strategic planning work will take place in the first half of 2014.



Bennettsbridge Playground funded under the CCFCS 2012 scheme.

Community & Cultural Facilities Capital Grant Scheme 2013

Grants to a total of €165,000 were allocated through the Community & Culture Department to community & sporting groups throughout Kilkenny. A total of 6 projects were approved for funding in 2013

- Paulstown Boxing Club
- Clara GAA Club
- Stoneyford Development Association
- Ballyhale Shamrocks Hurling Club
- Paulstown Community Playground
- Callan Handball Club

Kilkenny Comhairle na nÓg

Ongoing work with the Comhairle na nÓg continued. The group worked on the implementation of their annual work plan funded through the Department of Children and Youth Affairs – which involved

- Progressing a Mental Health Flag Project,
- An Anti-Bullying Campaign on the streets of Kilkenny – 266 surveys were completed on the day.
- The hosting of an AGM in October with 83 young people between the ages of 12 and 18 attending from across the county
- Acting as a consultative body for young people the Comhairle fed into the 'Kilkenny City & Environs Development Plans and Planning Processes 2014-2020' and 'Lifeline Kilkenny - County wide Suicide Prevention Strategy'.

National Bike Week 2013 took place between June 15th and 23rd. A total of 23 activities took place throughout the week from cycle events, information talks to training workshops with approximately 800 people participating across the different events.



National Bike Week 2013

National Bike Week 2013 took place between June 15th and 23rd. A total of 23 activities took place throughout the week from cycle events, information talks to training workshops with approximately 800 people participating across the different events. Activities catered for all ages and abilities. These events were organised in conjunction with Kilkenny Smarter Travel, Kilkenny Recreation & Sports Partnership and Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport and in collaboration with the local cycling clubs, local communities and schools.

Events included:

- 5 cycle events
- Training in Safe Cycling to 4 rural primary schools and 5 city schools catering for a total of 400 children
- Taster events in Mountain biking
- Information talk on 'Making Kilkenny a better place to cycle' which has led to the establishment of Kilkenny Cycling & Walking Campaign Group
- Smarter Travel Saturday – with a series of events relating to cycling and walking

A key event of the week was an inaugural 'Castle to Castle Cycle' covering a 40km route from Kilkenny Castle to Shankil Castle, Paulstown return. It was a joint venture between Kilkenny Local Authorities and Kilkenny Recreation and Sports Partnership working in collaboration with the cycling clubs in Kilkenny to launch the newly opened Kilkenny to Carlow cycle lane. 114 cyclists took part in this event with many completing this distance for the first time



National Bike Week 2013

Planning and Development

The role and function of Kilkenny County Council's Planning Department is to determine the physical planning policy of the County, to control new development and building and the promotion of industrial, commercial and other appropriate development.

Forward Planning

- The draft development plans for the City and County were prepared in the first half of 2013 following extensive public consultation which took place in 2012.
- Both plans were placed on public display on the 14th June 2013 for a 10 week public consultation period.
- Eight Information Sessions were held around the County in July in Kilkenny City, Castlecomer, Ferrybank, Loughboy, Graiguenamanagh, Urlingford, Callan and Thomastown.
- Leaflet entitled "Draft Development Plans for Kilkenny County and City and Environs 2014-2020, Your Plan, Your future" was published and distributed at the Information Sessions, the Planning public counters, and at planning clinics.
- The website was regularly updated throughout the public display period.
- Two videos were produced, one outlining what could be expected at the Information Sessions, and one giving details on how to make a submission.
- 77 submissions were received during the public consultation period. All submissions received were uploaded to the website so that members of the public could view them as they came in.
- Manager's report detailing the manager's response to the issues raised and recommendations to the members on the issues arising out of the consultation process was prepared.
- Members considered the Manager's report during the final quarter of 2013 with a view to publishing a list of amendments to the draft plans in the first quarter of 2014.
- In the last quarter of 2013 work began on the preparation of a masterplan for the Diageo lands of the former Smithwick's lands in Kilkenny City.
 - The masterplan will be finalised in first quarter of 2014.

Kilkenny County Council supports responsible practice in managing our built heritage as well as the promotion of cultural tourism initiatives in the local economy and sustainable living in historical centres.



Conservation

Kilkenny County Council continues to provide a planning consultancy/ advisory system for any persons wishing to carry out works to buildings of architectural heritage significance and protected structures within County Kilkenny.

Kilkenny County Council supports responsible practice in managing our built heritage as well as the promotion of cultural tourism initiatives in the local economy and sustainable living in historical centres.

An €8,000 grant was received from the Department for stabilisation works on the Bridewell Thomastown.

Development Control

- 613 planning applications were received in 2013.
- € 193,572 was received in planning application fees.
- 235 Commencement Notices under the Building Regulations were received.
- 95 new houses commenced construction in County Kilkenny.
- 39 developments were inspected under Building Control Regulations.
- The Planning Clinic system continues to operate successfully in each of the Area Offices.

Development Contributions

- Total of €1.97m was collected in 2013.
- Enforcement
- A total of 109 new complaints were received during 2013
- The Council successfully prosecuted 3 cases during 2013
- Fines and costs in the sum of €1,532 were imposed by the Courts following legal action taken by the Council.

Housing Developments

- 16 Housing Estates were taken in charge during 2013 consisting of 536 houses.
- The Bond was called in on 7 residential developments and remedial works were undertaken by Kilkenny County Council to bring the developments up to the standard for taking in charge.
- All unfinished housing sites were monitored for safety works and Developers were contacted where safety works were required.
- Safety works was carried out by Kilkenny County Council on two unfinished housing development with the assistance of a grant from the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government.
- Review of classification of unfinished developments for the National Survey took place in consultation with Department staff. This review was published by the Department in November 2013.
- Number of unfinished developments in Kilkenny has reduced from 76 to 34.

Derelict Sites

Notices under Derelict Sites Act 1990 are issued where appropriate and Derelict Sites will continue to be investigated. The acquisition of suitable derelict properties is pursued under the Compulsory Purchase Proceedings of the Derelict Sites 1990 where appropriate.

The library service continued to expand its 24/7 services through its website www.kilkennylibrary.ie.



Library Services

Kilkenny County Library Service, through its collections, services and service points, promotes and supports reading and literacy, lifelong learning, access to and use of IT, heritage and culture and social inclusion.

New City Library

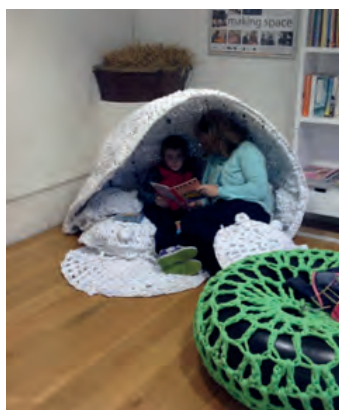
Plans for the new City library are at an advanced stage. Demolition works on the site were substantially completed in 2013. The next stages of the project are archaeological resolution, detailed design and an open competition for short-listing of suitable building contractors. The floor area of the new library is approx 1,400m² and the estimated construction cost is €4.5 million.

Ferrybank

Ferrybank Library for South Kilkenny celebrated its first birthday in December. It caters for the local community through: services to adults and children; a programme of events; use of its community room; and the availability of WIFI. Over 3,000 people joined the library during its first year of business.

24/7 services

The library service continued to expand its 24/7 services through its website www.kilkennylibrary.ie. Transparent Languages Online provided a new opportunity for library members to learn one or more of 80 languages - including Irish, and English as a foreign language. This new service is in addition to the Naxos Music Online and Britannica Online services.



Culture Night

Events and Activities

The libraries hosted a diversity of groups including book clubs, historical societies, craft clubs, Active Retired, Parent and Toddler, English conversation classes and Irish conversation groups e.g. Ciorcal Comhrá Loch Buí.

Kilkenny County Library continued to develop partnerships/linkages with local and national organisations e.g. KCC Arts Office, Poetry Ireland, the Irish Writers' Centre, SOLAS, Age Action, WordAid, and Kilkenny County Childcare Committee, Foroige etc. resulting in a range of different activities. These included creative writing, teen poetry and publishing workshops/days, basic Information Communication Technology classes and numeracy and literacy support.

National and local events were suitably celebrated during the year, such as Bealtaine, International Women's Day, Culture Night, Heritage Week, Science Week, All Ireland Poetry Day, the Children's Book Festival, Savour Kilkenny and the Graiguenamanagh Town of Books Festival.

The Gathering was marked by libraries all over Ireland, through the publication of sets of commemorative postcards of each county. Kilkenny Library Service's set incorporated historic and present day photographs of Kilkenny City, Johnstown, Castlecomer, Piltown and Graiguenamanagh. The Kilkenny City, High Street scenes were also incorporated in the new library reader card.

Visits by authors of adult and children's books were regular events and complimented the Six Book Challenge for adults and Summer Reading Challenge for children held during the year. Class visits by local schools were ongoing during the year.

2013 statistics

- 288,914 visits to Libraries
- 285,716 books and 35,784 CD's, DVD's, language courses, talking books and magazines etc. were borrowed.
- 29, 877 Internet Sessions were undertaken

The arts play an integral role in the life of Kilkenny, from local community groups to micro-enterprises, from solo practitioners to national organisations.



Arts

Introduction

Creativity is evident in every aspect of Kilkenny life, from the ancient stonework and architecture of heritage sites to the contemporary and traditional art, craft and design to be found in galleries and design studios the length and breadth of the county. The variety of festivals and events throughout the year also bear testimony to the strength of this creative tradition. The arts play an integral role in the life of Kilkenny, from local community groups to micro-enterprises, from solo practitioners to national organisations. Kilkenny has a long history of cultivating and showcasing the arts in its many guises. Creative practitioners have resided in Kilkenny for many years and have provided a rich legacy for the county.

Arts Office Overview

The Arts Office works to develop, co-ordinate, motivate, inspire and empower artistic activity throughout the city and county. It promotes the arts as a worthwhile activity for all, providing advice and support for groups and for individuals. Both Authorities work to further strengthen Kilkenny's position as a centre of excellence for the arts and ensure a successful and prosperous arts environment within the region. We focus on the development of the practitioner and their work and engage and employ artists and support staff in projects. We offer professional and practice development initiatives across all art forms, work to extend audiences and offer community and educational activities building capacity and increasing civic participation. The Arts Office continues to collaborate and partner with a number of other agencies in order to deliver our initiatives as we recognise this as key to maintaining and developing activity.



Drawbots Tinkering Studio

Culture Night 2013 saw a record amount of diverse cultural organisations, groups, individuals and audiences transform Kilkenny for the evening of Friday 20th September to celebrate the arts in all its guises. The evening encouraged the Kilkenny public and its visitors to experience the myriad of cultural possibilities Kilkenny had to offer for free, even on the move, with this year's 'FREE BEATS!' music on the streets proving to be a huge success. 3,066 people engaged in Kilkenny's Culture Night.



Siamsa Learning

Siamsa is a fun child centred programme for 5 to 13 year olds supporting children in developing a variety of creative skills and working across a diverse range of media and subject matters. The focus for 2013 was on arts and science working together. These workshops were a great opportunity for the children to work with a professional artist and scientist furthering their creativity, using their imagination and being resourceful in a fun and relaxed environment. A total of 182 participated in Siamsa in 2013.

Literature

The 13th issue of the Kilkenny Poetry Broadsheet saw the work of 12 local poets published from an entry of 103 poems. Working in partnership with the Library service, the Irish Writers Centre and Poetry Ireland we organised workshops in Creative Prose, Poetry for adults and teenagers, Short Story and Publishing engaged 122 local writers overall.

Open Circle Community Arts Collective is a new project borne out of the 5-6 women's project. Its mission is to inspire interest and maximum participation in the arts both locally and nationally. 2013 also saw new relationships forged with professional cultural organisations including Blackstack Fine Art Print Studio and Kilkenny ETB. The participants also worked with professional practitioners enhancing, broadening and supporting activities and civic participation.

Artlinks

A partnership program with Carlow, Wexford, and Waterford County Council, once again offered a quality and accessible Arts Professional Development programme for practitioners across all disciplines. Through the Artlinks Mentoring Programme eight individuals got a mentoring opportunity with a professional artist in their respective areas. A further nine Kilkenny based artists were awarded bursaries to aid their artistic practise. Mary Butler, Arts Officer, states: 'Kilkenny Arts Office is delighted to be in a position to offer this mentoring support to local artists as part of the ArtLinks programme. We believe that this is an invaluable resource which will assist artists living and working in the county to develop themselves and their artistic practice. We look forward to watching their development and seeing the fruits of their artistic labour in the future.'

Arts Access and Disability Training provided awareness training about access to the arts for all people. This was a collaborative project between the Arts Office, Access Department and Community and Culture Departments. We were keen to inform on a broad level, to initiate dialogue and essentially to effect change. Therefore we provided organisations the opportunity to attend free interactive workshops focussed on embedding accessibility within Kilkenny's Creative sector to make the Arts Accessible for Everyone. The 2013 programme also undertook a full access audit of KCAT Art and Study Centre, two route appraisals with Barnstorm Theatre Company and the Watergate theatre. We also explored the development of printed material, websites and further training into 2014.

Making Space community arts programme exposed participants to and involved them in a holistic creative journey, ensuring social interaction and the learning of new skills along the way. This project promoted community participation and social wellbeing; it also endeavoured to create a collective sense whereby people were active parts of the social fabric of society through the creation of opportunities that connected communities. 60 participants created and 185 attended the exhibition. The engagement of a local poet offered also added immensely to the project. This project was funded through the INTERREG Ireland Wales Programme 4A, Kilkenny County Council's Arts Office and Community and Culture Departments and the Arts Council of Ireland.

JobBridge

Kilkenny County Council Arts Office has piloted the development of the JobBridge Expansion Scheme by creating internship places in four city and county based arts organisations and projects that would until now, have been precluded from using the scheme. This development will provide an opportunity for people who are interested in pursuing a career in the arts to avail of high quality internship opportunities in the creative sector. The four internships include a community artist position, curatorial assistant and two Arts Administrator working across Kilkenny Arts Office, Blackstack Fine Art Print Studio, Open Circle Community Arts Collective, Workhouse Assembly Callan and Sessions House Thomastown.

Art and Culture in the Community

In 2013 Kilkenny County Council Arts Office in partnership with the Community and Culture Department of Kilkenny County Council embarked on another very exciting participatory art project. We once again gathered and worked with individuals and groups across the community, and across the generations, to create an intergenerational space designed to create community cohesion and intergenerational exchanges that last beyond the life of the project.

The project promoted community participation and social wellbeing; it also endeavoured to create a collective sense whereby people are active parts of the social fabric of society through the creation of opportunities that connect communities, offer a sense of solidarity across the generations and across the county.

As part of the project we invited poet Myra McAuliffe to join the project. Myra joined in all activities but she also chatted and observed in order to write a number of poems that told the story of the project and very much reflected on activities and conversations had.

2.3

Finance and Economic Development

The services being provided under this directorate are Financial Planning & Programming, Income Collection, Procurement, Economic Development and Motor Taxation.

Income & Expenditure Account

A deficit of €154,000 was brought forward on the Income & Expenditure (I & E) Account to 2013.

The deficit was reduced by €14,000 during 2013 as strict budgetary controls were maintained by the Council on a total expenditure budget of approx €69m.

This budget adherence occurred in a period of continued testing and challenging economic circumstances which has seen very substantial reductions in Council income, whether central exchequer or locally derived.

Balance Sheet at 31st December 2013

The Council has a strong balance sheet at the end of 2013 and its financial position has strengthened considerably over the period 2000 to 2013.

The Council is devoting considerable time and effort to debt collection, and, while collection levels have fallen, Council performance in this area compares well against other local authorities.

Capital Project Funding Arrangements

The Council adopted a capital budget for the period 2013-2015. This budget outlines the proposed capital projects and related funding sources for the three years concerned.

The Council requires an identified funding source before it can initiate capital projects.

Projects are funded through a variety of sources and the Council's ability to progress capital projects across all its service areas is very dependent on sufficient funds being available to commit to the projects in question. This is becoming increasingly difficult given the deterioration in the prevailing economic environment and the severe pressures on national exchequer funding.

New Initiatives in 2013

- Current financial constraints mean the Council must meet increased demand with fewer resources.
- The Council participated in a number of national projects during 2013 including evaluating and planning a local government Treasury Management Shared Service System, a Business Process Improvement project for accounts payable and debt collection.

The Council has a strong balance sheet at the end of 2013 and its financial position has strengthened considerably over the period 2000 to 2013.



- The process of continuous business improvement will continue to mitigate the impact of reduced resources on services provision.
- More than ever it is essential to have effective performance management and cost control. The Council remains focussed on delivering value for money services and capital projects where resources permit, even in an increasingly challenging economic environment.

Procurement

Kilkenny Local Authorities (KLA) Procurement Unit

The Procurement Unit is operational since September 2010 and is involved in directing and controlling all procurement or purchasing spend. Initially the Unit's concentration has been on analysing the big spend items and the biggest suppliers. The Unit's objectives are to ensure that a proper procurement process has been completed and that KLA achieve value for money, savings and other efficiencies where possible on its procurement activities. The Procurement Unit provides direction to the relevant section or Service Area which is undertaking the procurement in question.

Nationally, the Procurement Unit liaises with the National Procurement Service (NPS) which has recently been subsumed into the new Office of Government Procurement (OGP) attached to the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER). It also liaises with the Construction Advisory section of DPER in respect of construction matters and Kerry County Council who act as the National Procurement Office for Local Authorities for both LA Quotes Frameworks and other relevant procurement activities.

The main achievements of the Procurement Unit in 2013 were as follows:

- Use of major NPS Framework for Energy (Electricity/Gas) Supply in 2013 and valuable assistance received from Carlow/Kilkenny Energy Agency (CKEA) in monitoring this new Framework
- Liaison with CKEA and the Council's new Energy Management Committee set up in 2013 regarding various energy efficient procurement matters
- Continued use of LA Quotes Frameworks to drawdown significant supplies of Road Making Materials, Plant Hire for all Engineering Areas and supplies of Bulk Fuel for the Machinery Yard and the Castlecomer Area
- Introduction of the NPS Fuel Card system for purchases of diesel from local outlets in Callan Area and by Fire Services where bulk fuel supplies are not available
- Tender Competition held and finalised for the renewal of the Council's Housing Construction Panel. The construction companies admitted to the Panel compete for subsequent tenders in respect of minor building and civil works: all major building works and construction projects will continue to be the subject of a separate tender process

The key economic drivers of the county and region of agri-food, tourism, innovation in services, and education remain at the core of Kilkenny's economic development agenda and drive enterprise focused activities.



- Continued centralised purchasing system in County Hall and Machinery Yard for the drawdown of goods and services from other available NPS Frameworks including Paper/Office Supplies, Media Advertising and Personal Protective Equipment
- Tender Mini Competition under NPS Managed Print Services Framework held and finalised for the appointment of supplier to reduce printing and operational costs
- Continued monitoring of the Council's 6 Legal Services Frameworks and the commissioning of specific procurement legal advices for service areas to the nominated Solicitor when required
- Tender Competition for a framework panel of suppliers of books to the County Library service
- Assistance to Roads, Water Services and Corporate Services regarding use of revised Government Guidelines introduced by DPER to assist the construction sector so as to ensure that only appropriate levels of previous turnover, performance bonds and insurances are requested in significant works or consultancy tender competitions
- Ongoing assistance and advice to Service Areas in respect of other tender competitions published on the Government procurement website eTenders and
- Updating of the Council's internal Procurement Procedures documentation.

Economic Development & Tourism

The Economic Development Unit acts as a one-stop-shop for businesses establishing and expanding in the county, liaising with Government Departments and Agencies in supporting enterprise development. The key economic drivers of the county and region of agri-food, tourism, innovation in services, and education remain at the core of Kilkenny's economic development agenda and drive enterprise focused activities. The team work closely with infrastructure providers to optimise the city and county for further investment.



The Smithwick's site in the city

The core activities centre on the following

- Strategic management of Kilkenny's industrial properties and assets – ensuring appropriate serviced sites and buildings are available for companies and businesses locating in the city and county. This involves progressing plans and completing purchase of the Smithwick's site in the city and designing plans to develop the business and innovation centre – 'The Abbey Creative Quarter' at the Diageo site.
- Negotiating with Diageo's management team and Failte Ireland in terms of expanding and redeveloping the new Smithwick's/St Francis Abbey visitor Experience
- Supporting Waterford Institute of Technology and Carlow Institute of Technology's drive towards achieving Technological University of the South East Status.

It is estimated that over 5,000 additional visitors visited Kilkenny as a result of the Gathering 2013.



Joe Crockett, Mayor Sean o'hArgáin and Mairead Conway of IPB welcome the Kilkenny ambassadors Evanne ni Chuilinn, Bobby Kerr and Darren Holden to the Launch of the Gathering schedule of events 2013

- The TSSG Research and Innovation Centre continued to focus on develop relationships with existing companies in Kilkenny and the South east region. Continued growth of WIT's highly successful TSSG group has greatly enhanced the academic profile of Kilkenny as a centre of innovation and creativity. The TSSG/WIT/IT Carlow/NUIG research and innovation centre in Kilkenny expanded to capacity at the St Kieran's college campus, employing 15 engineering positions.
- The technical working group established as a result of discussions from the CEO Agri-Food Kilkenny Group progressed to engagement with Teagasc, the EPA, the Dept. of Agriculture, the Dept. of the Environment, Community and Local Government, the River Basin Catchment Management Team and the Council to examine environmental management issues. This group liaised at a national level with Dept. of Agriculture and River Catchment Management, with Kilkenny designated a pilot programme and rolling out the model developed to other Authorities focusing on infrastructural preparation for Harvest 2020
- The economic development unit supported local initiatives such as the Castlecomer enterprise centre to facilitate and develop linkages with the business community and create employment opportunities
- Stakeholders continued to develop the role of tourism and the development of a high quality and diverse tourism product throughout the county in a balanced and sustainable manner. Protect, conserve and enhance the county's built, natural and cultural environment. Kilkenny Tourism had a particularly successful year – winning IBAL cleanest Town 2013, Ireland's best Tourist town award and two restaurants achieved Michelin star status. An extensive PR & Marketing campaign supported dissemination of each good news story and traffic to Kilkenny tourism website increased significantly.
- Kilkenny County Council was instrumental in co-ordinating The Gathering in 2013 organising community briefings and engaging with the public to generate over 70 gathering events supported and administered by a voluntary steering committee of stakeholders. It is estimated that over 5,000 additional visitors visited Kilkenny as a result of the Gathering 2013. One of Kilkenny's three flagship Gathering events supported by IPB Insurance – Tradfest – was shortlisted in the Chambers of Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards. These Gatherings partnered with Failte Ireland, The Gathering Ireland and local communities, to drive overseas visitors to Kilkenny and created legacy events for future economic growth. Two other flagship events – KDW Celebrating 50 years and Castlecomer, Dig Deep, promoted Kilkenny's rich creative heritage and formative history.



The destination tourism initiative - 'Welcome Ambassadors' - graduates in the Parade Tower Kilkenny 2013

- The Tradfest Gathering, committee organizers and event partners hosted a high profile Civic Ambassadorial reception in the Parade Tower which was attended by civic leaders and ambassadors from Australia the Netherlands, Russia, Nigeria, Estonia and Romania. This engagement with business and political leaders is part of an ongoing relationship development. Consecutively, Kilkenny twinned with 'Kilkenny' in Minnesota which received international publicity. This festival was a huge success in promoting Kilkenny and Ireland, and it is anticipated has a substantial legacy as an annual event as well as promoting the city to a new audience.
- Kilkenny became the first place in Ireland to launch a "Visitor Welcome Ambassadors" training and development programme, aimed at giving tourists a warm welcome and a great experience when they visit the City and County. More than forty Welcome Ambassadors for Kilkenny have graduated and are now ready to help make the medieval city a haven for visitors after being presented with "Welcome Ambassador" pins and certificates by the British Ambassador to Ireland, Dominick Chilcot at a special ceremony at Kilkenny Castle. The Welcome Ambassadors programme is an initiative of Destination Kilkenny, supported by Kilkenny Tourism, Fáilte Ireland and Kilkenny Borough Council and a second graduation is planned for 2014.
- The Invest Kilkenny and Tourism Team engaged in a number of promotional events such as the Asia IEA Forum in the Parade Tower to market Kilkenny as a business location and raise Kilkenny's profile as a conference location, develop linkages with the existing business community and to market the city and county to new potential investors
- Kilkenny Tourism and Invest Kilkenny continued to use social media channels including Flickr, Youtube and specific web SEO campaigns to target increased domestic and international business with both websites undergoing significant software upgrading to improve the user experience
- 2013 saw increased PR activity through a number of print media and advertorial campaigns were run in national newspapers, magazines and regional publications as well as national radio broadcast, Trade show promotions targeted additional markets including over 50s, outdoor and activity seekers and heritage interests.
- The Council provided financial support to local tourist & business initiatives and festivals, including Castlecomer Demesne Tourist Centre, Kilkenny Christmas Festival and Kilkenny Savour Food Festival and St Patrick's Day Festival committee.
- Work continued to build and develop the Invest Kilkenny website, growing the social media audience and promoting locally based good news stories. The Invest Kilkenny social media network worked closely with the Kilkenny Tourism channels as well as engaging with IDA Ireland, Enterprise Ireland, KCEB and Positive Ireland networks,
- The Business Support Unit conducted a number of meetings with existing business, entrepreneurs and companies in terms of research linkages, financial supports, planning advice, overheads and making connections.

2.4

Water Services and Environmental Services

Services provided by this Directorate include;

- Provision and Maintenance of Water Infrastructure.
- Provision and Maintenance of Waste Water Infrastructure
- Water Conservation
- Rural Water Programme
- Water Charges Invoicing
- Water Quality Testing and Assurance
- Waste Management
- Litter Management
- Environment Awareness
- River Basin Management and Pollution Control
- Water Safety
- Burial Grounds
- Veterinary Services

General

Kilkenny Water Services Authority is responsible for 23 public drinking water supplies and 35 public waste water treatment schemes.

The Authority acts as a Supervising authority for private water supplies that fall under the drinking water regulations.

The Council's Public Water Schemes achieved a 100% micro-biological compliance in 2012- a major achievement that was repeated in 2013.

The Water Charges Business Unit, set up mid 2010, having responsibility for invoicing and collection of water and waste water charges, achieved high collection levels of non-domestic water charges, 73% for 2013- one of the highest collection rates in the country. The percentage figure includes bills issued in January 2014 in respect of Q4 2013, thus including five quarters in the billing total.

Invoicing is generally on a quarterly basis but High Consumers are billed monthly, thus assisting the customer and Kilkenny County Council from a cash flow perspective.

Kilkenny County Council continues to promote a number of initiatives such as data loggers and METER.IE, a FREE solution rolled out in September 2010 to encourage monitoring of water usage.

During 2013, a leaflet offering a guide to 2013 water and waste water charging and outlining advice re water conservation was distributed to all customers.

During 2013, the Council advanced significantly the Water Services Capital Programme

Capital Programme

Projects advanced to construction stage

- Freshford; Johnstown and Goresbridge DBO
- Waste Water treatment plants at Castlecomer, Stoneyford and Urlingford
- Projects being advanced through Planning/Design stage
- Inistioge/Thomastown Water Supply at € 6m
- Kilkenny City Water – Outrath Reservoir at € 1m
- Kilkenny City Water – Dinin and Nore Rivers intake works and bank side storage € 3.5m

Projects- Preliminary Reports with DoECLG for approval

- Mooncoin Water Supply Scheme Stage 2
- Piltown and Fiddown WWTP
- Bennettsbridge
- Mullinavat
- Inistioge
- Clogh/Mooneenroe



Thomastown Waste Water Treatment Plant

Water Conservation Capital Programme

Schemes commenced € 0.3m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct Labour - John's Quay, Talbot's Inch, Castlecomer Road, Kilkenny • Creel Street, Freshford.
Contracts awarded € 2.5m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Station Road, Thomastown, • Tybroughney Road, Piltown. • Ullid & Ballinabooley, Kilmacow
Scheme being designed € 2.2m	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main Street/High Street, Graignamanagh, Newrath and Leggettsrath Cottages in Kilkenny.

Rural Water Programme

- The Council expended its full allocation of € 1.06m.
- Pilot Group sewerage Schemes were completed in Massford and Lower Kilmacow.
- New water source to facilitate 8 housing schemes is being developed at Gowran, Goresbridge and Paulstown Water Supply Scheme.
- There are 195 Group schemes in the County- 125 Groups served from a private source & 70 groups are connected to the public supply
- There are 134 operational Small Private Supplies, including Schools, Housing Estates & Food Premises.
- The 2013 Group Scheme Block Grant consisted of:
 - € 234,800 for Group Water Scheme Conservation/Network Upgrades
 - € 51,000 for Group Water Scheme Treatment Upgrades
 - € 94,300 for Group Water Scheme Takeovers
 - € 45,300 for New Group Water Schemes
 - € 56,000 for Group Sewerage Scheme Pilot Projects
- 49 Subsidies towards the operational running costs of Group Water Schemes totalling € 259,048 were administered and paid to Group schemes in 2013.
- 63 approvals issued for grant applications for provision of wells to private houses and the sum of € 109,681 was paid out in well grants in 2013
- A total of 1,875 tests, from 92 different sample locations, were undertaken on the 48 regulated Group Water Schemes.
- A total of 2,759 tests, from 149 different sample locations, were undertaken on the 134 Small Private Supplies in 2013.
- €770,000.00 was spent on the Small Schemes Water and Waste Water Projects in Kilkenny during 2013.

Works included the following:

- Development of a new source for the Gowran/Goresbridge/Paulstown Water supply Scheme
- Completion of the Stoneyford Bypass water main
- Installation of chlorine booster facility to serve Freshford

There are 195 Group schemes in the County- 125 Groups served from a private source & 70 groups are connected to the public supply



- Upgrade of water mains at Coolhill
- Network improvements at Castlecomer
- Works to outfall from Ballyhale and Paulstown Waste water treatment plants
- Upgrading of Ballyhale Waste Water Treatment Plant
- Upgrading of Glenmore Waste Water Treatment Plant.



Water conservation main rehabilitation works at John's Quay in December 2013

Water Conservation

Water conservation is primarily concerned with reducing the levels of unaccounted for water (UFW) in water supply schemes. UFW includes water losses as a result of leakage from mains and fittings, unauthorised connections, excessive consumption, and un-metered non-domestic connections.

Kilkenny County Council, through its leak detection and repair programme has reduced the unaccounted for water from 56.7% in 2008 to 37.8% in 2013, and is now below the national average of 41%. This represents a reduction of approximately 6,500m³ of water per day in the amount of treated water required for supply. Put into context, this represents 1.5 times the total amount of water required for Kilkenny's four scheduled towns of Castlecomer, Callan, Graigenamanagh and Thomastown combined.

Since the commencement of Stage 2 works in 2009, approximately 3500 leaks have been detected and repaired.

Operations and Maintenance Programme for Water and Waste Water

- Despite operating within an overall reduced budget in 2013, Water Services succeeded in maintaining and improving the levels of service provided. During the drought conditions experienced in the hot summer of 2013, no interruptions to the public water supply occurred.
- A 100% microbiological drinking water quality compliance rate was achieved during 2013.
- A dedicated resource was assigned to monitoring waste water treatment plants, thus detecting problems at an early stage and allowing for early solution.
- Further increase in schedule of planned maintenance for all water and waste water plants achieved.
- A programme to install alarms and SCADA systems at all water treatment plants is complete and the roll out to waste water plants is continuing.
- Kilkenny County Council is part of an SE Regional Committee, established to exchange ideas and to establish best practice for Water and Waste Water Operations and Maintenance.
- Drinking Water Incident Response Plan was finalised and equipment in the dedicated emergency depot was enhanced.
- Roll out of Health and Safety site specific statements were completed for all water and waste water treatment plants.

Environment Section

The aims of the Environment Section are:

- To promote sustainable development
- To provide an efficient and environmentally sound waste management infrastructure and implement the Joint South East Waste Management Plan
- To maintain proper regulatory and monitoring systems for environmental protection and control of pollution

The Environment Section has responsibility for over 500 statutory functions, which are contained within over 100 pieces of legislation. The key areas dealt with include:

- Waste Management
 - Waste Management Planning
 - Dunmore Recycling & Waste Disposal Centre
 - Recycling
 - Enforcement
 - Litter Management
- Education and Awareness
- Water Quality & Pollution Control
 - Water Framework Directive
 - Pollution Control and Enforcement
 - Coastal Pollution Planning
- Water Safety
- Veterinary Services
- Burial Grounds

Three new regions for waste management planning purposes were designated in 2013, in accordance with government policy as outlined in "Putting People First".



Waste Management Planning

Three new regions for waste management planning purposes were designated in 2013, in accordance with government policy as outlined in "Putting People First". Kilkenny is now part of the new Southern Region along with Counties Carlow, Clare, Cork, Limerick, Kerry, Tipperary, Waterford, Wexford and Cork City. Limerick and Tipperary were designated lead authorities by the Region for the purposes of developing its new Waste Management Plan. Until the new Plan is made, the current South East Waste Management Plan remains in force.

Dunmore Recycling & Waste Disposal Centre

- Repak Recycling Centre of the year Finalist for the second year running. Nationally recognised as one of the top three Recycling facilities in the country.
- Clean EPA environmental audit, complete compliance with waste licence resulting in no complaints from the local community and no adverse effects on the surrounding environment.



Cathaoirleach Cllr. Pat Dunphy takes time out at the Green Oasis in Dunmore

- Total recycling quantities for 2013 show an increase of just over 8% on 2012 figures.
- Mixed municipal waste to landfill was down by almost 4% on 2012 figures.
- With the above increase in recycling and decrease in waste deposited at the site, it is clear that ongoing promotion both here on site and by the Environmental Awareness Officer has educated the public in how best to dispose of their household waste.
- Green Oasis was launched in September of 2013. An overgrown green area in the centre of the Recycling Centre was transformed into a manicured lawn to showcase restored garden furniture, bird feeders and furniture made from old pallets to promote up-cycling and reuse and sourced through the Task Training Centre in Kilkenny.
- The Dunmore Community Fund, provided from landfill gate fees, was fully drawn down by the Dunmore Community in 2013, to complete upgrading works on the Community Hall
- Kilkenny GAA progressed work on developing training pitches on Dunmore landfill buffer lands

43 Bring Bank facilities are provided throughout the City and County



Just over 1,500t of glass and 100t of cans were collected from these sites in 2013

Recycling

- 43 Bring Bank facilities are provided throughout the City and County
- Just over 1,500t of glass and 100t of cans were collected from these sites in 2013
- The maintenance contract continues to improve the cleanliness of each of the bring centres
- The regional tender for servicing of the recycling facilities continued in 2013
- Environment Section continued to support the weekly recycling service in Newrath for the Ferrybank and surrounding areas

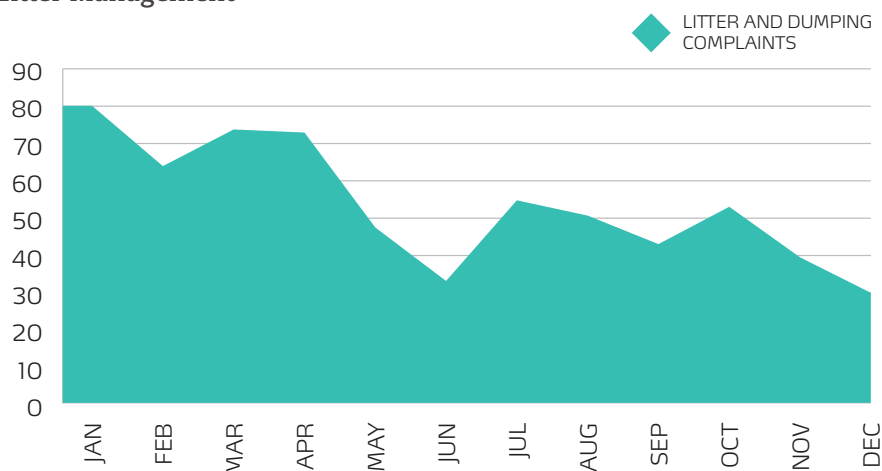


Official Opening of Dunmore Community Hall

Waste Electrical & Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Recycling.

- In 2013, with support from Kilkenny Local Authorities, WEEE Ireland completed 15 mobile collections resulting in the collection of 87 tonnes of household electrical waste

Litter Management



Litter and dumping complaints

Enforcement

- 890 Environment Complaints were received, all were inspected and appropriate action was taken to resolve each issue
- 13 covert cameras were deployed in a variety of litter black spots including at a number of bring banks
- The Enforcement Officers issued some 200 fixed penalty notices for litter offences
- Payment of fixed Penalty Notices yielded €15,845 in 2013
- 6 cases were taken to court for infringements of the Litter Pollution Act 1997 and all were successful
- Over 1,000 inspections of a variety of facilities were completed under the RMCEI plan.
- 98 enforcement procedures were taken as a result



Investigation of illegal dumping



Abbey Community College receiving a framed photograph from the Cathaoirleach to mark their nomination in the Repak Awards November 2013

89% of schools participate in the green school programme



65 schools have received the green flag award

Education and Awareness in Schools

- 89% of schools participate in the green school programme
- 65 schools have received the green flag award
- 28 environmental school workshops were organized through the Spring Educational Programme
- 47 green school visits were completed by the Environmental Awareness Officer
- 44 schools were represented at the annual green schools information evening
- 5 secondary school groups participated in a green teen work shop with an aim to empower students to commence environmental projects in their school
- An environmental song competition called Eco-Factor was held in association with KCLR96FM. The competition was targeted towards primary schools and Lisnafunchin NS was declared the overall winner.

National Spring Clean

- 115 local community groups registered to participate in the An Taisce National Spring Clean
- 36 of these groups were provided with assistance to dispose of the litter gathered



St. Bridget's Girls National School, Ballyragget receive their first Green Flag for the Litter and Waste Theme from Minister Phil Hogan

Over €20,000 was awarded to 23 applicants to assist combating litter in their local area



Tidy Towns

- 6 Tidy Towns groups received assistance from a national Tidy Towns adjudicator who reviewed the previous year's applications and provided feedback on how to advance in the competition
- All 20 towns and villages improved their marks in 2013 and 4 joined the competition for the first time
- Kilkenny City topped the IBAL anti-litter league for the second year running, a first for the competition
- Over €17,000 was awarded to 14 applicants under the Local Agenda 21 Environmental Partnership Fund to assist local groups in promoting environmental awareness in their local community
- Over €20,000 was awarded to 23 applicants to assist combating litter in their local area



Gum Litter Taskforce Campaign 2013

Environmental Campaigns

- An anti dog fouling campaign ran in the spring which incorporated advertorials in local press and a radio campaign
- A Food Waste Prevention Week was celebrated in May and a series of 7 workshops were held across the county
- The Gum Litter Taskforce (GLT) Campaign was launched in Kilkenny city in May 2013 to raise awareness of the problems associated with chewing gum litter
- A series of awareness events took place including a litter stand at the Smarter Travel Saturday in June and a GLT street performer on Kieran's street in August
- 29 press releases were given to local media throughout the year to emphasise both awareness and enforcement activities



Accepting the Gold Medal Award, on behalf of Keep Kilkenny Beautiful at the SuperValu TidyTowns South East Regional Awards Ceremony on November 4th in Kilkenny Castle, were Martin Kelleher, SuperValu Managing Director; Alma Pegg, Keep Kilkenny Beautiful; Phil Hogan T.D. Minister for the Environment, Community & Local Government.

Over €20,000 was awarded to 23 applicants to assist combating litter in their local area

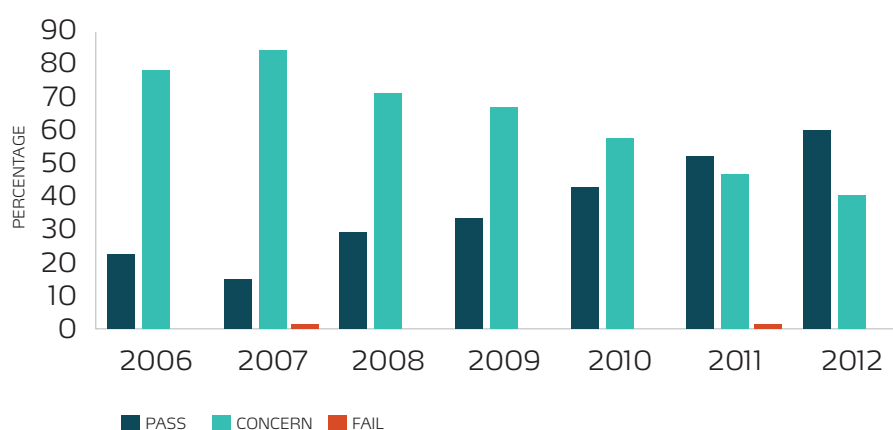


Water Quality & Pollution Control

Water Framework Directive & River Basin Management

- The Implementation Plan for County Kilkenny, which sets out the specific measures which must be undertaken in County Kilkenny to ensure compliance with the Water Framework Directive, formed the framework for inspection planning in 2013.
- 171 Farm Inspections were undertaken by Kilkenny County Council under the European Communities (Good Agricultural Practice for the protection of Waters) Regulations 2010. Approximately 27% were found to be non-compliant with the regulations.
- A further 60 Farm Inspections were undertaken by the Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine on behalf of Kilkenny County Council in 2013. These inspections had a non-compliance rate of approximately 42%.
- All Section 4 Discharge Licences were inspected in 2013 (23 Inspections). Two new applications for a discharge to waters were received and approved subject to conditions.
- The EPA published the National Inspection Plan for the inspection of domestic wastewater treatment systems (DWWTS). In Kilkenny the inspections began in December with 8 inspections completed by the end of the year. 3 DWWTS failed the inspection and have had to implement minor remediation works.
- 26 Nutrient Management Plans were received, assessed and approved with conditions in relation to the use of sewage sludge in agriculture.
- The extensive Surface and Ground Water Monitoring Programme was continued.

Trends in chemical quality in Kilkenny rivers 2006 – 2012



- The EPA, on behalf of Kilkenny County Council, published the annual Water Quality Report 2012 in July. The report shows improving water quality in the County.

Coastal Pollution Planning

The Irish Coastguard, on behalf of the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport, approved the Oil/HNS Coastal Pollution Response Plan of the Suir Estuary Pollution Response Committee, which is chaired by Kilkenny County Council

Presentation of certificates to 28 new lifeguards and 10 revalidations took place in County Hall in May 2013



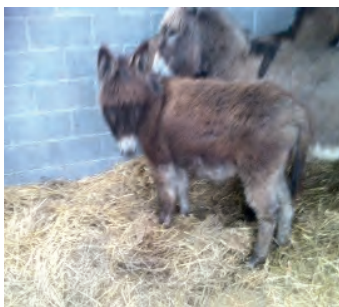
Water Safety

- Presentation of certificates to 28 new lifeguards and 10 revalidations took place in County Hall in May 2013.
- Some of these lifeguards worked for Kilkenny County Council on rivers during the summer months. Swimming areas are The Meadows, The Weir, Graiguenamanagh and Inistioge.
- Improvement works were completed at The Weir, Bleach Road and the up-graded swimming area was officially opened by An Cathaoirleach Cllr. Marie Fitzpatrick on 27th June, 2013.

Improvement works were completed at The Weir, Bleach Road and the up-graded swimming area was officially opened by An Cathaoirleach Cllr. Marie Fitzpatrick on 27th June, 2013.



Cathaoirleach Cllr. Marie Fitzpatrick unveils a commemorative plaque at the Bleach Road swimming area



Impounded donkeys which were re-homed

Veterinary Services

The Veterinary Service fulfils the food safety service contract between the FSAI and Kilkenny County Council. In 2013 as part of the latter the Veterinary Service had responsibility for the Food Safety Section of the Veterinary Service in the Carlow area. The Veterinary Public Health and animal welfare functions include providing official controls/ regulation of slaughterhouses and small meat processing plants, and small poultry slaughtering plants (includes on farm slaughter of poultry i.e. seasonal slaughter).

- The Service supervised the slaughter of 5,021 cattle, 20,562 sheep, 58 pigs, 5 goats and 132,227 poultry at approved slaughterhouses in 2013
- 29 Residue Samples were taken as part of the National Residue Control Plan
- 48 Meat and Water Samples were taken as Official Controls
- The control of horses enforcement team impounded 99 horses and licensed 3 horses in 2013
- 6,138 individual dogs were licensed, 11 general dog licences issued and 9 lifetime dog licences issued in Kilkenny
- 6 premises were registered under the Dog Breeding Establishments Act 2010

Burial Grounds

Kilkenny County Council has 14 open and active burial grounds across the County with each having a caretaker in place to manage the record keeping.

Updated burial ground maps continue to be developed and are distributed to the caretakers on completion.



Kilkenny Local Authorities completed the signing of the SEAI Partnership with The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) in February 2013.



Energy Office

Kilkenny Local Authorities completed the signing of the SEAI Partnership with The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) in February 2013. The public sector has been challenged to reach verifiable energy-efficiency savings of 33% by 2020. This target requires management commitment at the highest level and the involvement of all employees.

The public sector target is challenging, but reaching it is essential for our economy, our environment and the country. Every year Ireland spends almost €6 billion on imported energy, with the public sector accounting for more than €500 million per annum.

In signing this agreement Kilkenny Local Authorities are committed to reducing their energy consumption by delivering low energy public services to the people of the county. This will not only reduce the bottom line cost of delivered services but also make those services more sustainable into the future by insulating the local authority from the rising cost of energy.

Carlow Kilkenny Energy Agency

Aiming to reduce energy consumption through energy efficiency is at the core of the Carlow Kilkenny Energy Agency's mission since its inception in 2002. The CKEA will support Kilkenny Local Authorities in achieving the 33% target in partnership with SEAI by mentoring best practice in the field of energy demand reduction.

In May 2013, Kilkenny Local Authority in conjunction with CKEA set up an Energy Office in County Hall. The Energy Office is part of the Kilkenny Local Authority Energy Team that meet on a regular basis to discuss items in relation to Energy Map and Energy Efficiency Projects.

SEAI Partnership Programme & Energy Map

Kilkenny County Council has signed up to the SEAI Partnership Programme, a support package available from SEAI for large organisations, which is offered in return for commitment to energy management. The Partnership offers a clear roadmap and defined support actions to help achieve targeted energy savings. Kilkenny also signed up to the Energy Map Programme. The Energy Map is made up of five pillars and twenty steps that Kilkenny Local Authorities are following in order to improve their energy management.

Better Energy Communities – €2.43 million invested in energy efficiency measures in Kilkenny

Carlow Kilkenny Energy Agency submitted a joint application to SEAI for funding relating to energy efficiency in Kilkenny. 80% grant funding was received for the project.

The beneficiaries of the Kilkenny area community project were:

- City Hall, High St, Kilkenny
- St. Canice's Parochial Hall, Butts Green
- Fr. McGrath Centre, St. Joseph's Road
- O'Loughlin Gaels GAA, Hebron Road

- Pembroke Hotel, Patrick St.
- Newpark Hotel, Castlecomer Rd.
- Hibernian Hotel, 1 Ormonde St.
- 225 Homes in O'Loughlin Court, Butts area, Hebron Park and Newpark Close

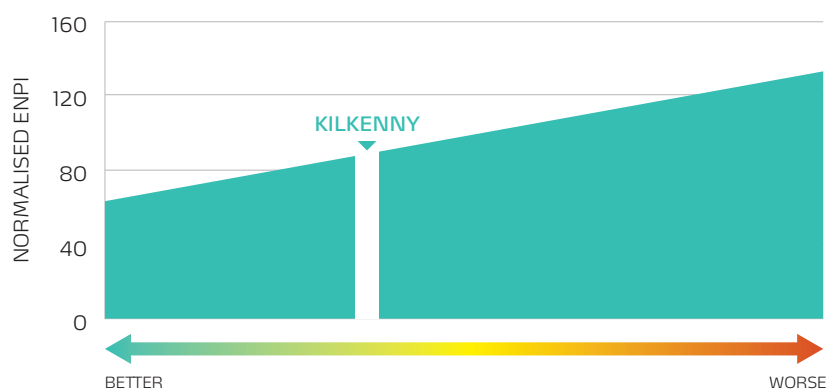
Among the upgrade works completed were attic insulation, wall insulation, replacement windows and lighting and heating system upgrades.

Monitoring & Reporting

All public bodies are obliged to report their energy usage.

This process gives a good indication of how the local authority is performing in terms of energy use compared to other local authorities and also in terms of the larger public sector.

Kilkenny Local Authority Monitoring & Reporting Performance 2009 - 2011



Minister Hogan marking the completion of community energy upgrades in Kilkenny



SEAI and Kilkenny County Council signing a Partnership Agreement

Energy Awareness

In conjunction with the Environment Section a first edition of the “Energy Times” was circulated issued to staff. A good response and feedback was gained from this.

A library staff survey was circulated to one member of staff in each branch of the library service. The response from this was good and gives a better understanding of the energy demand at each branch.

Utility Bill Analysis

The management of utility invoices is an ongoing process for the Energy Office.

Energy Audits

Energy audits were carried out at Clonassy Water Treatment Plant, Kilkenny Fire Station, Freshford Fire Station, Johnstown Area Yard, Castlecomer Area Office, Council Machinery Yard, City Library, Castlecomer Library, Ferrybank Library and Graiguenamanagh Library.

Public Lighting

Public Lighting is one of the largest energy users in Kilkenny Local Authorities. The energy consumption of all the public lighting stock in Kilkenny was compiled and the top 10 users were identified.

Staff Training

Energy Management and Awareness training was rolled out to Water Services caretakers.

Agresso training for staff took place in August 2013 to facilitate accurate recording of energy usage data. A guidance document was produced specific to Kilkenny Local Authorities’ finance codes. The increased accuracy of the quantification of energy products through the Agresso System allows for greater accuracy when reporting on energy consumption through the monitoring and reporting process each year.

3 Kilkenny Borough Council



Kilkenny Borough Council

It is the role of Kilkenny Borough Council to administer local authority services within the Borough of Kilkenny.

Such duties include infrastructure, community and civic services and the Borough Council plays a major role in the preservation of Kilkenny's medieval heritage and in the development of Kilkenny as a major tourist centre.

Profile of the City

Kilkenny City is a place of urban settlement which has endured through the centuries by adapting to the needs of its inhabitants, whilst retaining its unique appeal to visitors.



Kilkenny City is a place of urban settlement which has endured through the centuries by adapting to the needs of its inhabitants, whilst retaining its unique appeal to visitors. The unique built heritage and winding streetscapes provides a link to ancient times whilst continuing to be a vibrant place to live and work. Kilkenny retains its charm by allowing modern uses in old buildings so that they don't become museum pieces, but rather provide the means to enjoy old buildings in modern settings. Kilkenny celebrated 800 years of town government in 2007 and 400 years of City government in 2009. Kilkenny City's 1609 Charter of James 1st conferred Kilkenny with City Status.

A Compact City

One of Kilkenny's strengths is its compact nature, both in physical size and in scale. The pattern of narrowed streets with ancient slip ways provides an ambience which pedestrians can enjoy and facilitate easy access and movement around the city. The street network has remained largely undisturbed over the centuries. The High Street is a vibrant area, with a mix of uses to attract shoppers and workers. The historic core – the spine from Kilkenny Castle through High Street, Parliament Street, Irishtown, to St. Canice's Cathedral, links these various themes of civic authority and worship. The Tholsel, was the seat of urban local government with its arcaded front and distinctive bell tower has acted as a focal point for local governance for centuries.

A long tradition of local politics is maintained to the present day, whilst the civic archive is preserved there as a reminder of the urban history of Kilkenny.

Provision of Services

Many of the functions of Kilkenny Borough Council are being provided jointly under a shared services model of delivery with Kilkenny County Council and are reported under the relevant Directorates reports. Kilkenny Borough Council continues to provide services directly in the following areas: Roads, Transportation, Planning, Development, Urban Renewal & Enhancement, Burial Ground, Streetscape Improvements, Parks & Recreation, Refuse Collection & Street Cleaning, Car Parks & on street parking, Civic Receptions & Occasions.

Amongst the achievement in 2013 were:

Roads and Transportation

- New Bus Stops with proprietary Kerbs completed
- Work commenced on the provision of the Pedestrian Bridge (John's Quay to Bateman Quay) (completion early 2014)
- Mobility Management works commenced on the laneway leading from Fr Murphy Square to Robertshill.
- Phase's 1 and 2 of the re-presentation of High St (Medieval Mile) commenced in March. Works included the provision of new street furniture and resurfacing of the carriageway.
- Road Realignment and resurfacing works were completed at Newpark Drive .
- Courtesy pedestrian crossings provided at Bateman Quay.
- A signalised pedestrian crossing was provided on the Carlow Road.
- New/Improved Footpaths provided at Bateman Quay, Lacken Drive, Dean Cavanagh Place, Walkin Street, Glendine Heights and Ormonde Road.
- Surface Restoration works were carried out at High St, Rose Inn Street, Parade Junction, Castlecomer Road, O'Loughlin Road, Kennyswell Road and the cul-de-sac leading from the Kennyswell Road.
- Capacity Improvements were completed on Kilkenny Ring Road
- Kells Road Improvement was completed from Kilkenny Ring Road to Corcoran's Terrace.
- Ring Road cycleway completed.
- Road improvements (including the provision of new cycleway, footpaths, improved lighting, bus stops, reconfigured parking areas and full surface restoration) were carried out on the Carlow Road.

All works within the Borough are funded predominantly by the revenue accruing from car parking charges.

Planning and Development

- The Council received 55 Planning Applications in 2013, 45 were valid applications and 10 were invalid.
- A total of 54 decisions were made. Planning permission was granted in 47 cases and 7 applications were refused.
- 142 Pre-Planning Meetings were held in 2013.
- The decreased level of activity in the planning area due to the economic downturn is reflected in the decrease in planning fees over the last couple of years as follows:
 - 2011 - €14,658
 - 2012 - €29,129
 - 2013 - €16,162

Strategic Forward Planning

The review of the Kilkenny City & Environs Development Plan commenced formally in June 2012 as did the Kilkenny County Development Plan. An extension consultation exercise was undertaken which involved:

- Newspaper Articles
- Awareness raising meetings
- Website development
- A primary schools project
- A secondary schools project.

In order to raise awareness and outline the issues involved for interested people, groups and organisations, a document entitled "Our Plan – A Guide to Having Your Say" was published.

The County Manager's Report on the public consultation and the issues raised has been prepared and has been considered by the Elected Members of the Borough Council. The next step in the review process is the preparation of the draft Kilkenny City & Environs Development Plan by March 2013.

Compliance and Enforcement

The Planning Department of Kilkenny Borough continue to place far greater emphasis on compliance with existing planning conditions, and follow up enforcement where appropriate.

Legal proceedings have been initiated in certain cases, and it is intended to continue to devote resources to the compliance/enforcement area to ensure orderly development consistent with planning conditions.

- Complaints for Non-Compliance – 26
- Warning Letters & Enforcement Notices – 34

Many more complaints are resolved through negotiation and without the need to resort to legal action.

Streetscape Paint Scheme

The Borough Council announced a 'Streetscape Paint Scheme' for the first time in 2010.

The scheme was continued into 2011 and 2012 and was expanded to include hand painted signage.

A fund of €10,000 was allocated to assist with the cost of painting the front façade of buildings within the administrative area of Kilkenny Borough Council. The Scheme offers a grant of up to €500 maximum or 50% of the cost of the work to each successful applicant. There was a considerable uptake on the scheme, details of which as follows;

- Number of Applications: 19
- Number of Approved Applicants: 17
- Number who availed of the Scheme: 12

Section 254 Licences

Applications for licences under Section 254 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 have proven to be increasingly popular in Kilkenny City. This licence authorises a business owner to provide tables and chairs outside their premises. Income in relation to these licences over the past three years is as follows:

2011	2012	2013
€6,625	€8,375	€7,340

Winner of Gold Medal Award in the Failte Ireland Tidy Towns competition



Parks and Open Spaces

The presentation of open spaces throughout the city is deemed to be of a high standard and Kilkenny achieved a significant results in 2013

- Winner of Gold Medal Award in the Failte Ireland Tidy Towns competition
- 7th. Place overall (4 marks behind winner)
- Winner South East Regional Award
- Joint 2nd Ireland's Tidiest Large Urban Centre
- Overall Winner National IBAL Anti-Litter League (repeat of 2012)
- Overall Winner of Failte Ireland Irish Tourist Town Award

Works continued on the provision of amenity improvements on the approaches to the City and at the roundabouts on Kilkenny Ring Road. These are

- Re-Planting of the roundabout as one approaches the City from the M9 motorway. A sustainable planting scheme rich in bio-diversity was implemented. This will result in a colourful floral display and will require a reduced level of maintenance in the medium-term.
- Mass bulb planting on the Dublin Road in conjunction with the recently completed road improvements. Such planting will bloom twice annually and will present an attractive approach to the City from the east.
- Mass tree planting was undertaken on the Kells Road following completion of the road improvements in the Area.
- Works were completed in re-locating the Council's nursery from Evan's Home to a new location in the Hebron Industrial Estate. This allows the Council's Planting Programme to be nurtured locally in a sustainable manner using rainwater harvesting from the newly completed structures on site.
- Works were undertaken at St. Canice's Steps to stabilise the arch and steps, provide a handrail and lighting and reconfiguration of the paved area at the top of the steps. These works were supervised by an in- house Conservation team with independent archaeological monitoring.
- The allotment site at Shandon Park has proved to be very popular and is fully subscribed.
- Works continued in the restoration and re-presentation of St Mary's Church and Graveyard. A number of funerary monuments were restored using conservation techniques under specialist supervision. These works will continue in 2014.



Twining Agreement

Civic Receptions and Occasions

On 16th March, 2013, a Twinning Agreement was signed between Kilkenny, Minnesota, U.S.A. and Kilkenny County, Ireland, to further their relationship and mutually accomplish goals set forth in the future.

On Wednesday, 29th May, 2013, a Civic Reception was held by the Mayor and Elected Members of Kilkenny Borough Council in honour of President Michael D. Higgins in the Long Gallery, Kilkenny Castle. President Higgins signed the Visitor's Book and spoke to a gathering of local dignitaries and business people in the Long Gallery.

He was greeted with a superb rendition of 'Mo Ghile Mear', sung by the children of the Gaelscoil Osrai, assisted by Steve Cooney and Iarla Ó Lionáird.



Presidential Visit

On 21st June, 2013, the Freedom of Kilkenny City was conferred on Mr. Pat Shortis at a ceremony held in the Long Gallery, Kilkenny Castle. Mr. Shortis joins a special list of Freeman and Women of Kilkenny and richly deserves the honour bestowed on him as he has done so much to brighten up the lives of so many of his neighbours and fellow Kilkenny people.

On 14th July, 2013, the Regional National Day of Commemoration Ceremony took place in the grounds of Kilkenny Castle. This has become an annual event since 2011 and Kilkenny is the regional venue for Kilkenny, Carlow, Wexford, Laois and Offaly. The Ceremony is held to honour all those Irishmen and Irishwomen who died in past wars or on service with the United Nations and mirrors the National Day of Commemoration Ceremony held in Dublin.

The Mayor and Members of Kilkenny Borough Council also conferred civic recognition on the following in 2013:

- Mr. Fonsie Mealy – in recognition of his appointment as President of the Royal Dublin Society and his contribution to the civic, economic and cultural fabric of Kilkenny.
- Mr. Richie Moloney – in recognition of his outstanding achievement as part of Ireland's Aga Khan Cup Winning Team 2012.

Appendix 1 Elected Members



Public Representatives and their Electoral Areas



BALLYRAGGET ELECTORAL AREA

Maurice Shortall (LAB) 42 Maryville, Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny.	056 4441770 087 7543906	mauriceshortall@eircom.net
Mary Hilda Cavanagh (FG) Whitewall, Crosspatrick, Co. Kilkenny.	0505 46419 086 8157366	maryhildacavanagh@eircom.net
Patrick Millea (FF) Gaulstown, Tullaroan, Co. Kilkenny.	056 7769182 086 8253215	patdmillea@eircom.net
John Brennan (FG) Crutt, Clogh, Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny.	056 444239 087 7697479	cllrjohnbrennan@eircom.net
Catherine Connery (FG) Jeninstown, Co. Kilkenny.	056 7767692 086 6013013	catherineconnery@eircom.net



CALLAN ELECTORAL AREA

William Ireland (FG) Danesfort, Co. Kilkenny.	056 7727668 086 3762044	williamireland@eircom.net
Patrick Crowley (FG) Kilmoganny, Co. Kilkenny.	056 7728310 086 2561584	drpcrowley@eircom.net
Tom Maher (FG) Broadmore, Callan, Co. Kilkenny.	056 7725234 086 8290491	cllrtommaher@eircom.net
Matt Doran (FF) Shrughwadda, Kilmoganny, Co. Kilkenny.	051 648220 087 2470458	cllrdoran@eircom.net



KILKENNY ELECTORAL AREA

Andrew McGuinness (FF) Constituency Office, O'Loughlin Road, Kilkenny.	056 7770672 086 8705811	cllrandrewmcguinness@gmail.com
Malcolm Noonan (GREEN PARTY) 35 Fr. Murphy Square, Kilkenny.	056 7723276 086 8399418	malcolm.noonan@kilkennycity.ie
Martin Brett (FG) Derdimus, Tennypark, Kilkenny.	056 7761116 087 2651272	martin.brett@kilkennycoco.ie
Marie Fitzpatrick (LAB) 64 Bishop Birch Place, Kilkenny.	056 7764438 087 6754193	mariefitz56@yahoo.co.uk
John Coonan (FF) 17 Willow Close, Ardnore, Kilkenny.	056 7762398 086 8145020	johncoonan@gmail.com
David Fitzgerald (FG) Castle Road, Kilkenny.	056 7720888 086 2514041	david@davidfitzgerald.ie
Paul Cuddihy (FG) Granges Road, Kilkenny.	087 9931484	councillorpaulcuddihy@eircom.net



PILTOWN ELECTORAL AREA

Tomas Breathnach (LAB) Forge Road, Narabane, Kilmacow, Co. Kilkenny.	051 885483 086 0704114	breathnachtommas@eircom.net
Pat Dunphy (FG) Ballygorey, Mooncoin, Co. Kilkenny.	051 895000 087 6789304	patrickdunphy@eircom.net
Anne Maria Irish (FG) Nicholastown, Slieverue, Co. Kilkenny.	051 851483 086 3511131	annemariairish@gmail.com
Eamon Aylward (FF) Ballynooney, Mullinavat, Co. Kilkenny.	051 898975 087 9824651	eamonaylward@eircom.net
Fidelis Doherty (FG) Ballyfacey, Glenmore, Co. Kilkenny.	051 880310 087 9752556	fidelisdoherty2@eircom.net
Cora Long (FF) Ballygriffin, Carrigeen, Via Waterford, Co. Kilkenny.	051 897894 087 2383611	coralong@eircom.net



THOMASTOWN ELECTORAL AREA

Michael O'Brien (LAB) Friarshill, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny.	056 7724374 087 9475452	michaelobrien11@eircom.net
Sean Treacy (FF) Coolroebeag, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny.	056 7724430 087 6246511	treacysm@eircom.net
Tommy Prendergast (LAB) 3 St. Oliver Plunkett Avenue, Tinnahinch, Graiguenamanagh, Co. Kilkenny.	059 9724770 087 6404580	tprendergast1@hotmail.com
Jane Moran (FG) Rathcusack, Bennettsbridge, Co. Kilkenny.	086 3655314	jane.galway@kilkennycoco.ie

KILKENNY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Andrew McGuinness (FF) Constituency Office, O'Loughlin Road, Kilkenny.	056 7770672 086 8705811	cllrandrewmcguinness@gmail.com
Martin Brett (FG) Derdimus, Tenny Park, Kilkenny.	056 7761116 087 2651272	martin.brett@kilkennycoco.ie
Joe Malone (FF) 11, Maiden Hill Estate, Kilkenny.	086 3128838	joe.malone086@gmail.com
John Coonan (FF) 17 Willow Close, Ardnore, Kilkenny.	056 7762398 086 8145020	john.noonan@kilkennycity.ie
Kathleen Funchion (Sinn Féin) 28, Whitescastle, Knocktopher, Co. Kilkenny.	056 7766709 056 7721267 087 1249702	kathleenfunchion@gmail.com
Paul Cuddihy (FG) Granges Road, Kilkenny.	087 9931484	paul.cuddihy@kilkennycity.ie
Joe Reidy (FF) Parliament House, Parliament Street, Kilkenny.	056 7767824 056 7762616 087 2498197	joe.reidy@kilkennycity.ie
David FitzGerald (FG) 24 Patrick Street, Kilkenny.	056 7770888 086 2514041	david@davidfitzgerald.ie
Seán Ó hArgáin (LAB) "Sceilg", Greenshill, Kilkenny.	0874192322	ohargain@eircom.net

Malcolm Noonan (Green Party) 35 Fr. Murphy Square, Kilkenny.	056 7723276 086 8399418	malcolm.noonan@kilkennycity.ie
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Marie Fitzpatrick (LAB) 64 Bishop Birch Place, Kilkenny.	056 7764438 087 6754193	mariefitz56@yahoo.co.uk
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Jimmy Leahy (FG) 17 Glendine Heights, Kilkenny.	086 2229070	jimmieleahy@eircom.net
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OIREACHTAS MEMBERS CARLOW / KILKENNY

Ann Phelan (LAB) TD Constituency Office, 18 Upper Patrick Street, Kilkenny.	056 7756000 086 3294420	annmphelan@eircom.net
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John McGuinness (FF) TD Constituency Office, O'Loughlin Road, Kilkenny.	056 7770672 087 2855834	info@johnmcguinness.ie
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John Paul Phelan (FG) TD Constituency Office, 25 Market Street, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny.	056 7793210 087 8052088	johnpaul.phelan@oireachtas.ie
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Philip Hogan (FG) TD Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government Constituency Office, New Street, Kilkenny.	056 7771490 087 8206373	philip.hogan@oireachtas.ie
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Pat Deering (FG) TD 16 Old Dublin Road, Carlow Town.	059 9173446 087 9470736	pat.deering@oireachtas.ie
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Pat O'Neil (FG) SENATOR Seanad Eireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2	01 6183082 087 2771483	pat.oneill@oir.ie
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MEMBER OF EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Liam Aylward (FF) Aghaviller, Hugginstown, Co. Kilkenny	liam.aylward@europarl.europa.eu
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Appendix 2 Financial Reports



Income and Expenditure Account Statement (Kilkenny County Council) For Year Ending 31st December 2013

The Income and Expenditure Account Statement brings together all the revenue related income and expenditure. It shows the surplus/(deficit) for the year. Transfers to/from reserves are shown separately and not allocated by service division. Note 17 allocates transfers by service division in the same format as Table A of the adopted Local Authority budget.

Expenditure by Division	Notes	Gross Expenditure	Income	Net Expenditure	Net Expenditure
		2013	2013	2013	2012
		€	€	€	€
Housing and Building		11,902,170	12,680,379	(778,209)	(685,589)
Roads Transportation & Safety		17,080,450	11,951,222	5,129,229	5,113,827
Water Services		13,541,272	5,932,339	7,608,933	8,805,679
Development Management		4,326,534	965,462	3,361,072	3,466,988
Environmental Services		7,121,637	1,481,625	5,640,012	5,678,946
Recreation and Amenity		3,143,866	225,847	2,918,018	3,205,342
Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare		2,997,700	2,687,999	309,701	343,541
Miscellaneous Services		4,583,000	1,961,866	2,621,134	2,803,028
		-	-	-	-
Total Expenditure/Income	16	64,696,630	37,886,740		
Net Cost of Divisions to be funded from Rates of Local Government Fund				26,809,890	28,731,761
Rates				12,058,970	12,096,264
Local Government Fund - General Purpose Grant				15,105,892	14,700,609
Pension Related Deduction				1,226,547	1,259,347
County Charge				2,600,000	2,600,000
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year before Transfers	17			4,181,519	1,924,458
Transfer From/(to) Reserves	15			(4,167,286)	(1,476,722)
Overall Surplus/(Deficit) for Year				14,234	(447,736)
General Reserve @ 1st January 2013				(154,326)	(602,062)
General Reserve @ 31st December 2013				(140,092)	(154,326)

Income and Expenditure Account Statement (Kilkenny Borough Council) For Year Ending 31st December 2013

The Income and Expenditure Account Statement brings together all the revenue related income and expenditure. It shows the surplus/(deficit) for the year. Transfers to/from reserves are shown separately and not allocated by service division. Note 17 allocates transfers by service division in the same format as Table A of the adopted Local Authority budget.

Expenditure by Division	Notes	Gross Expenditure	Income	Net Expenditure	Net Expenditure
		2013	2013	2013	2012
		€	€	€	€
Housing and Building		951,200	1,564,830	(613,630)	(680,364)
Roads Transportation & Safety		2,694,354	2,428,902	265,453	780,270
Water Services		-	-	-	2,000
Development Management		983,864	131,596	852,268	1,059,701
Environmental Services		1,600,905	200,141	1,400,764	1,208,144
Recreation and Amenity		1,331,272	17,098	1,314,174	1,553,847
Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare		22,957	2,540	20,417	4,983
Miscellaneous Services		2,017,676	1,072,613	945,062	1,113,029
County Charge		2,600,000	-	2,600,000	2,600,000
Total Expenditure/Income	16	12,202,228	5,417,719		
Net Cost of Divisions to be funded from Rates of Local Government Fund				6,784,508	7,641,611
Rates				6,424,678	6,445,737
Local Government Fund - General Purpose Grant				1,203,255	1,272,860
Pension Related Deduction				159,593	154,077
				-	-
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year before Transfers	17			1,003,017	231,063
Transfer From/(to) Reserves	15			(1,000,637)	(233,148)
Overall Surplus/(Deficit) for Year				2,380	(2,085)
General Reserve @ 1st January 2013				(954)	1,131
General Reserve @ 31st December 2013				1,426	(954)

Appendix 3 Service Indicators



F Fire Service (F1 - F3)		01/01/12 - 31/12/12 (Annual)	01/01/13 - 31/12/13 (Annual)
F1: Fire Service Mobilisation			
A. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of fire			0
B. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of fire	6.45		6.45
C. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of all other emergency incidents			0
D. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of all other emergency incidents	6.58		6.46
F.2 Percentage of attendances at scenes			
A. Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	30.61		28.57
B. Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	53.06		52.14
C. Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	15.99		19.29
D. Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	22.26		20.66
E. Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	58.76		60.74
F. Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	18.98		18.6
Total number of incidents in respect of fire	294		280
Number of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	90		80
Number of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	156		146
Number of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	47		54
Total number of incidents in respect of all other emergency incidents (i.e. not including fire)	274		242
Number of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	61		50
Number of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	161		147
Number of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	52		45

F Fire Service (F1 - F3)	01/01/12 - 31/12/12 (Annual)	01/01/13 - 31/12/13 (Annual)
F.3 Fire Prevention		
A. Total number of fire safety certificate applications received	73	93
B. Total number of fire safety certificate applications processed (including cases deemed invalid)	83	90
C. Total number of applications deemed invalid	3	5

CP: Community Participation (CP1 And CP2)	01/01/12 - 31/12/12 (Annual)	01/01/13 - 31/12/13 (Annual)
CP.1 Participation in local Youth Council/Comhairle na n-Og scheme		
Percentage of local schools and youth groups involved in the local Youth Council/Comhairle na n-Og scheme	56.25	23.08
Total number of local schools and youth groups	16	91
Number of local schools and youth groups involved in the local Youth Council/Comhairle na n-Og scheme	9	21
CP.2 Groups registered with the Community and Voluntary Forum		
Number of groups registered with the Community and Voluntary Forum	100	100

C: Corporate Issues (C1-C2)	01/01/12 - 31/12/12 (Annual)	01/01/13 - 31/12/13 (Annual)
C.1 Working Days lost to Sickness		
A. Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through certified leave	3.48	3.59
B. Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through uncertified leave	0.42	0.3
Number of working days lost to sickness absence through certified leave	4005	4021
Number of working days lost to sickness absence through uncertified leave	486	333
Total number of staff (Whole Time Equivalent) at the end of December 2012 (as per DECLG staffing return for the end of 2012)	507.46	494.02
C.2 Staff Training and Development		
Expenditure on Training and Development as a percentage of total payroll costs:	3.53	4.05

E: Environmental Services (E1- E9)	01/01/12 - 31/12/12 (Annual)	01/01/13 - 31/12/13 (Annual)
E.1 Unaccounted For Water		
Unaccounted for water (UFW) as a percentage of total volume of water supplied under the water supply schemes that the local authority is responsible for	39.82	39.7
E.1 Unaccounted For Water		
Total volume of water supplied (m3/per day) under the water supply schemes that the local authority is responsible for	25718	25825
Volume of unaccounted for water (m3/per day) under the water supply schemes that the local authority is responsible for	10241	10252
E.3 Waste Segregation		
A. Percentage of households who receive a waste collection service and are provided with segregated waste collection for dry recyclables	99.16	
B. Percentage of households who receive a waste collection service and are provided with segregated waste collection for organics	9.83	
E.3 Waste Segregation		
Total number of households provided with a waste collection service	18594	
Number of households provided with a segregated waste collection service for recyclables	18438	
Number of households provided with a segregated waste collection service for organics	1827	
E4: Housing Waste Sent for Recycling		
A. Percentage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is sent for recycling	27.94	
B. Tonnage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is sent for recycling	4400	
C. Tonnage of household waste recycled, which arises from waste collected from recycling facilities (i.e. bring banks, civic amenity centres, transfer stations and other recycling facilities)	2562.02	
Total tonnage of household waste collected from kerbside	15750	
Tonnage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is sent for recycling	4400	
Tonnage of household waste collected from kerbside, which is landfilled	11349	
Tonnage of household waste recycled, which arises from waste collected from recycling facilities (i.e. bring banks, civic amenity centres, transfer stations and other recycling facilities)	2562.02	
E5: Household Waste Sent for Landfill		
A. The percentage of household waste collected which is sent to landfill	72.06	
B. The tonnage of household waste collected which is sent to landfill	11349	
Total tonnage of household waste collected	15750	
Tonnage of household waste which is sent to landfill	11349	

E: Environmental Services (E1- E9)	01/01/12 - 31/12/12 (Annual)	01/01/13 - 31/12/13 (Annual)
Glass		
A. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	42	43
B. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	3	3
C. The total number of facilities for recycling	45	46
D. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	2.36	2.41
The number of Bring Sites for recycling	42	43
The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	3	3
Cans		
E. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	42	43
F. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	3	3
G. The total number of facilities for recycling	45	46
H. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	2.36	2.41
The number of Bring Sites for recycling	42	43
The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	3	3
Textiles		
I. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	108	108
J. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	3	3
K. The total number of facilities for recycling	111	111
L. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	5.82	5.82
The number of Bring Sites for recycling	108	108
The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	3	3
Batteries		
M. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	82	145
N. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	1	1
O. The total number of facilities for recycling	83	146
P. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	4.35	7.65
The number of Bring Sites for recycling	82	145
The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	1	1
Oils		
Q. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	0	0
R. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	1	1
S. The total number of facilities for recycling	1	1

E: Environmental Services (E1- E9)	01/01/12 - 31/12/12 (Annual)	01/01/13 - 31/12/13 (Annual)
T. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	0.05	0.05
The number of Bring Sites for recycling	0	0
The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	1	1
Other Materials		
U. The number of Bring Sites for recycling	21	21
V. The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	3	3
W. The total number of facilities for recycling	24	24
X. The number of locations for recycling per 5,000 of population	1.26	1.26
The number of Bring Sites for recycling	21	21
The number of Civic Amenity Centres for recycling	3	3
E7: Litter Prevention and Enforcement		
A. Number of full-time litter wardens	3	3
B. Number of part-time litter wardens	3	3
C. Number of litter wardens (both full- and part-time) per 5,000 population	0.31	0.31
D. Number of on-the-spot fines issued	227	215
E. Number of on-the-spot fines paid	118	129
F. Number of prosecution cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	4	8
G. Number of prosecutions secured in cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	0	8
H. Number of notices issued (under sections 9, 15, 16, 17 and 20 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997)	24	21
I. Total number of prosecutions taken (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	9	8
J. Total number of prosecutions secured (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	1	8
K. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are unpolluted (i.e. litter-free)	3	
L. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are slightly polluted with litter	53	
M. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are moderately polluted with litter	41	
N. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are significantly polluted with litter	3	
O. Percentage of areas in the local authority that are grossly polluted with litter	0	

E: Environmental Services (E1- E9)	01/01/12 - 31/12/12 (Annual)	01/01/13 - 31/12/13 (Annual)
E7: Litter Prevention and Enforcement		
Number of full-time litter wardens	3	3
Number of part-time litter wardens	3	3
Number of on-the-spot fines issued	227	215
Number of on-the-spot fines paid	118	129
Number of prosecution cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	4	8
Number of prosecutions secured in cases taken because of non-payment of on-the-spot fines	0	8
Number of notices issued (under sections 9, 15, 16, 17 and 20 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997)	24	21
Number of prosecutions taken (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	9	8
Number of prosecutions secured (all prosecutions under the Litter Acts 1997 to 2003)	1	8
E8: Environmental Complaints and Enforcement		
A. Total number of cases subject to complaints concerning environmental pollution (relating to waste, litter, water pollution, noise pollution, air pollution)	1014	923
B. Number of complaints investigated	1014	923
C. Number of complaints resolved where no further action was necessary	834	810
D. Number of enforcement procedures taken	180	153
E9: Percentage of schools participating in environmental campaigns		
A. Percentage of primary schools participating in environmental campaigns	84.42	84.42
B. Percentage of secondary schools participating in environmental campaigns	81.25	93.75
Total number of primary schools	77	77
Number of primary schools participating in environmental campaigns	65	65
Total number of secondary schools	16	16
Number of secondary schools participating in environmental campaigns	13	15

Please note that the following service indicators are collated nationally and will be made available at a later stage;

E3: Waste Segregation

E5: Household waste sent for landfill

E7: Litter Prevention and Enforcement - % areas of the County that are grossly polluted, significantly polluted, moderately polluted, slightly polluted and unpolluted.

H: Housing (H1 - H7)	01/01/12 - 31/12/12 (Annual)	01/01/13 - 31/12/13 (Annual)
H1: Housing Vacancies		
A. The total number of dwellings in local authority stock	2167	2168
B. The total number of dwellings, excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects	2167	2168
C. The overall percentage of dwellings that are empty (excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects)	3.92	1.98
D. The percentage of empty dwellings unavailable for letting	91.76	100
E- The percentage of empty dwellings available for letting	8.24	0
The average number of dwellings in local authority stock	2167	2168
The average number of dwellings, excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects	2167	2168
The average number of dwellings that are empty (excluding those subject to major refurbishment projects)	85	43
The average number of empty dwellings unavailable for letting	78	43
The average number of empty dwellings available for letting	7	0
H2: Average Time Taken to Re-let Available dwellings		
The average time taken (in weeks) from the date of vacation of dwelling to the date when all necessary repairs are carried out which are deemed necessary to re-let the dwelling	21.3	16
The average time taken (in weeks) from the works (above) being completed to the date of the first rent debit	2.9	2.9
H3: Housing Repairs		
Number of repairs completed as a percentage of the number of valid repair requests received	98.96	84.28
The number of repairs completed	3331	3350
The number of valid repair requests received	3366	3975
H4: Traveller Accommodation		
Total number of traveller families accommodated as a percentage of the targets set in the local traveller accommodation programme	120	133.33
Number of Traveller families accommodated	12	16
Target number of Traveller families to be accommodated in the year, as set out in the local Traveller accommodation programme	10	12

H: Housing (H1 - H7)	01/01/12 - 31/12/12 (Annual)	01/01/13 - 31/12/13 (Annual)
H5: Enforcement of standards in the private rented sector		
A. Total number of registered tenancies	3498	3178
B. Number of dwelling units inspected	102	70
C. Number of inspections carried out	193	140
D. Number of dwellings inspected as percentage of registered tenancies (i.e. B as percentage of A)	2.92	2.2
Total number of registered tenancies	3498	3178
Number of dwelling units inspected	102	70
Number of inspections carried out	193	140
H6: Grants to adapt housing for the needs of people with a disability		
A. Average time taken (in weeks) to process applications under the Mobility Aids Grant Scheme, including any necessary inspection(s), from the date of receipt of a valid application to the date of decision on the application	23	49
B. Average time taken (in weeks) to process applications under Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability, including any necessary inspection(s), from the date of receipt, to the date of decision on the application	32	47
H7: Pre-Tenancy Familiarisation Courses		
A. Total number of new local authority tenants	104	106
B. Percentage of new local authority tenants who have been offered pre-tenancy familiarisation courses	100	100
Total number of new local authority tenants	104	106
Number of new local authority tenants who have been offered pre-tenancy familiarisation courses	104	106

L: Library Services (L1 - L4)	01/01/12 - 31/12/12 (Annual)	01/01/13 - 31/12/13 (Annual)
L.1 Library Public Opening Hours		
A. Average number of opening hours per week for full-time libraries	32.11	33.52
B. Average number of opening hours per week for part-time libraries (where applicable)	21.31	18.54
C. Percentage of full time libraries that have lunchtime openings	66.6	0
D. Percentage of full time libraries that have evening openings	83.3	66.66
E. Percentage of full time libraries that have Saturday openings	83.3	66.66
Average number of opening hours per week for full-time libraries	32.11	33.52

L: Library Services (L1 - L4)	01/01/12 - 31/12/12 (Annual)	01/01/13 - 31/12/13 (Annual)
Average number of opening hours per week for part-time libraries (where applicable)	21.31	18.54
Number of full time libraries that have lunchtime openings	4	0
Number of full time libraries that have evening openings	5	2
Number of full time libraries that have Saturday openings	5	2
L.2 Library Visits		
Number of visits to full time libraries per 1,000 population	1517.52	1389.14
Total number of visits to full-time libraries	144800	132550
L.3 Library Stock		
A. Annual expenditure on stock per head of population (county/city wide)	0.59	0.61
B. Number of items issued per head of population (county/city wide) for books	2.76	2.99
C. Number of items issued per head of population (county/city wide) for other items	0.34	0.38
Annual expenditure on stock	56322.45	57751.57
Total number of books issued	263203	285716
Total number of other items issued	32059	35784
L.4 Internet Access through Libraries		
Number of Internet sessions provided per 1,000 population	290.15	311.6
Total number of Internet sessions provided	27686	29733

M: Motor Taxation (M1 - M4)	01/01/12 - 31/12/12 (Annual)	01/01/13 - 31/12/13 (Annual)
M.1 Number of Motor Tax Transactions		
A. Number of motor tax transactions which are dealt with over the counter	59137	56061
B. Number of motor tax transactions which are dealt with by post	10976	9759
C. Number of motor tax transactions which are dealt with in other ways (e.g. online, by telephone)	46844	52433
D. Percentage of motor tax transactions which are dealt with over the counter	50.56	47.41
E. Percentage of motor tax transactions which are dealt with by post	9.38	8.25
F. Percentage of motor tax transactions which are dealt with in other ways (e.g. online, by telephone)	40.05	44.34

M: Motor Taxation (M1 - M4)		01/01/12 - 31/12/12 (Annual)	01/01/13 - 31/12/13 (Annual)
M.2 Time Taken to Process Motor Tax Postal Applications			
A. Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the same day as receipt of the application		6858	3123
B. Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the second or third day from receipt of the application		3758	3668
C. Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the fourth or fifth day from receipt of the application		157	1812
D. Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) in over five days from receipt of the application		203	1156
E. Percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the same day as receipt of the application		62.48	32
F. Percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the second or third day from receipt of the application		34.24	37.59
G. Percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) on the fourth or fifth day from receipt of the application		1.43	18.57
H. Percentage of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc issued) in over five days from receipt of the application		1.85	11.85
M.3 Time Taken to Process Driving Licence Applications			
A. Number of Driving Licence applications which are dealt with on the same day as receipt of the application		2032	1149
B. Number of Driving Licence applications which are dealt with on the second or third day from receipt of the application		4599	559
C. Number of Driving Licence applications which are dealt with on the Fourth or fifth day from receipt of the application		1088	276
D. Number of Driving Licence applications which are dealt with in over five days from receipt of the application		5600	8213
E. Percentage of overall driving Licence applications which are dealt with on the same day as receipt of the application		15.26	11.27
F. Percentage of overall driving Licence applications which are dealt with on the second or third day from receipt of the application		34.53	5.48
G. Percentage of overall driving Licence applications which are dealt with on the fourth or fifth day from receipt of the application		8.17	2.71
H. Percentage of overall driving Licence applications which are dealt with in over five days from receipt of the application		42.05	80.54
M.4 Public opening hours			
Average number of opening hours per week		34.16	29.53

P: Planning and Building Control (P1 - P6)		01/01/12 - 31/12/12 (Annual)	01/01/13 - 31/12/13 (Annual)
P.1 Planning Applications - Decision-Making			
Individual Houses			
A. Number of applications decided		110	72
B. Number of decisions in Column A which were decided within 8 weeks		48	42
C. Number of decisions in Column A which required the submission of further information		62	30
D. Number of decisions in Column A where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and development Act 2000		0	0
E. Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought		76.1	76.3
F. Percentage of applications granted		87.27	77.78
G. Percentage of applications refused		12.73	22.22
H. Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanála		0	100
I. Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanála		100	0
Number of applications decided		110	72
Number of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks		48	42
Number of decisions which required the submission of further information		62	30
Number 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	0
Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought		76.1	76.3
Number of applications granted		96	56
Number of applications refused		14	16
Number of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanála		0	2
Number of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanála		1	0
New Housing Development			
A. Number of applications decided		8	3
B. Number of decisions in Column A which were decided within 8 weeks		4	1
C. Number of decisions in Column A which required the submission of further information		4	2
D. Number of decisions in Column A where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and development Act 2000		0	0

P: Planning and Building Control (P1 - P6)	01/01/12 - 31/12/12 (Annual)	01/01/13 - 31/12/13 (Annual)
E. Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	77.75	98
F. Percentage of applications granted	62.5	66.67
G. Percentage of applications refused	37.5	33.33
H. Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	100	100
I. Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	0	0
Number of applications decided	8	3
Number of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	4	1
Number of decisions which required the submission of further information	4	2
Number 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	0
Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	77.75	98
Number of applications granted	5	2
Number of applications refused	3	1
Number of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	2	3
Number of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	0	0
Other: not requiring Environment Impact Assessment		
A. Number of applications decided	401	447
B. Number of decisions in Column A which were decided within 8 weeks	266	289
C. Number of decisions in Column A which required the submission of further information	135	158
D. Number of decisions in Column A where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and development Act 2000	0	0
E. Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	77.75	76.13
F. Percentage of applications granted	93.77	91.28
G. Percentage of applications refused	6.23	8.72
H. Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanala	80	75
I. Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	20	25
Number of applications decided	401	447
Number of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	266	289

P: Planning and Building Control (P1 - P6)	01/01/12 - 31/12/12 (Annual)	01/01/13 - 31/12/13 (Annual)
Number of decisions which required the submission of further information	135	158
Number 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	0
Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	77.75	76.13
Number of applications granted	376	408
Number of applications refused	25	39
Number of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanála	8	21
Number of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanála	2	7
Other: requiring Environment Impact Assessment		
A. Number of applications decided	6	3
B. Number of decisions in Column A which were decided within 8 weeks	3	2
C. Number of decisions in Column A which required the submission of further information	3	1
D. Number of decisions in Column A where an extension of time was agreed to by the applicant, under section 34(9) of the Planning and development Act 2000	0	0
E. Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	98.67	77
F. Percentage of applications granted	100	100
G. Percentage of applications refused	0	0
H. Percentage of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanála		100
I. Percentage of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanála		0
Number of applications decided	6	3
Number of decisions which were decided within 8 weeks	3	2
Number of decisions which required the submission of further information	3	1
Number 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	0
Average length of time taken (in days) to decide an application where further information was sought	98.67	77
Number of applications granted	6	3
Number of applications refused	0	0
Number of cases where the decision was confirmed, with or without variations, by An Bord Pleanála	0	3

P: Planning and Building Control (P1 - P6)	01/01/12 - 31/12/12 (Annual)	01/01/13 - 31/12/13 (Annual)
Number of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanála	0	0
P.2 Planning Enforcement		
A. Total number of cases subject to complaints that were investigated	159	134
B. Total number of cases subject to complaints that were dismissed	10	0
C. Total number of cases subject to complaints that were resolved through negotiations	188	67
D. Number of enforcement procedures taken through warning letters	92	85
E. Number of enforcement procedures taken through enforcement notices	69	33
F. Number of prosecutions	7	2
P.3 Planning Public opening hours		
Average number of opening hours per week	33.52	33.52
P.4 Pre-Planning Consultation		
A. Number of pre-planning consultation meetings held	620	711
B. Average length of time (in days) from request for consultation with local authority to actual formal meeting for pre-planning consultation	4.47	4.49
P.5 New Buildings inspected		
Buildings inspected as a percentage of new buildings notified to the local authority	20.45	16.18
Total number of new buildings notified to the local authority	220	241
Number of new buildings notified to the local authority that were inspected	45	39
P.6 Taking Estates in Charge		
A. The number of residential estates for which the planning permission has expired, in respect of which formal written requests for taking in charge (from residents or developers), were on hands at the beginning of the year	51	63
B. Number of estates that were taken in charge in the year in question	7	17
C. Number of dwellings in respect of column B	245	595
D. Percentage of estates in column A not completed to satisfaction of the planning authority in line with the planning permission	78.43	49.21
E. Number of estates in column D in respect of which enforcement action was taken in the year in question and/or the bond was called in	1	5
F. Number of estates in column D in respect of which works were undertaken by the authority to bring the estate to taking in charge standard	4	4
Number of residential estates for which the planning permission has expired, in respect of which formal written requests for taking in charge (from residents or developers), were on hands at the beginning of the year	51	63
Number of estates that were taken in charge in the year in question	7	17

P: Planning and Building Control (P1 - P6)	01/01/12 - 31/12/12 (Annual)	01/01/13 - 31/12/13 (Annual)
Total number of dwellings in these estates	245	595
Number of estates in column A not completed to satisfaction of the planning authority in line with the planning permission	40	31
Number of estates in column D in respect of which enforcement action was taken in the year in question and/or the bond was called in	1	5
Number of estates in column D in respect of which works were undertaken by the authority to bring the estate to taking in charge standard	4	4

Rec: Recreational Services (Rec1 - Rec2)	01/01/12 - 31/12/12 (Annual)	01/01/13 - 31/12/13 (Annual)
Rec.1 Children's Playgrounds		
A. Number of children's playgrounds per 1,000 population directly provided by the local authority	0.17	0.17
B. Number of children's playgrounds per 1,000 population facilitated by the local authority	0.04	0.05
A. Number of children's playgrounds directly provided by the local authority	16	16
B. Number of children's playgrounds facilitated by the local authority	4	5
Rec.2 Local Authority-Facilitated Leisure Facilities		
Number of visitors to local authority-facilitated leisure facilities per 1,000 population	4663.64	4978.04
Number of visitors to local authority-facilitated leisure facilities	445000	475000

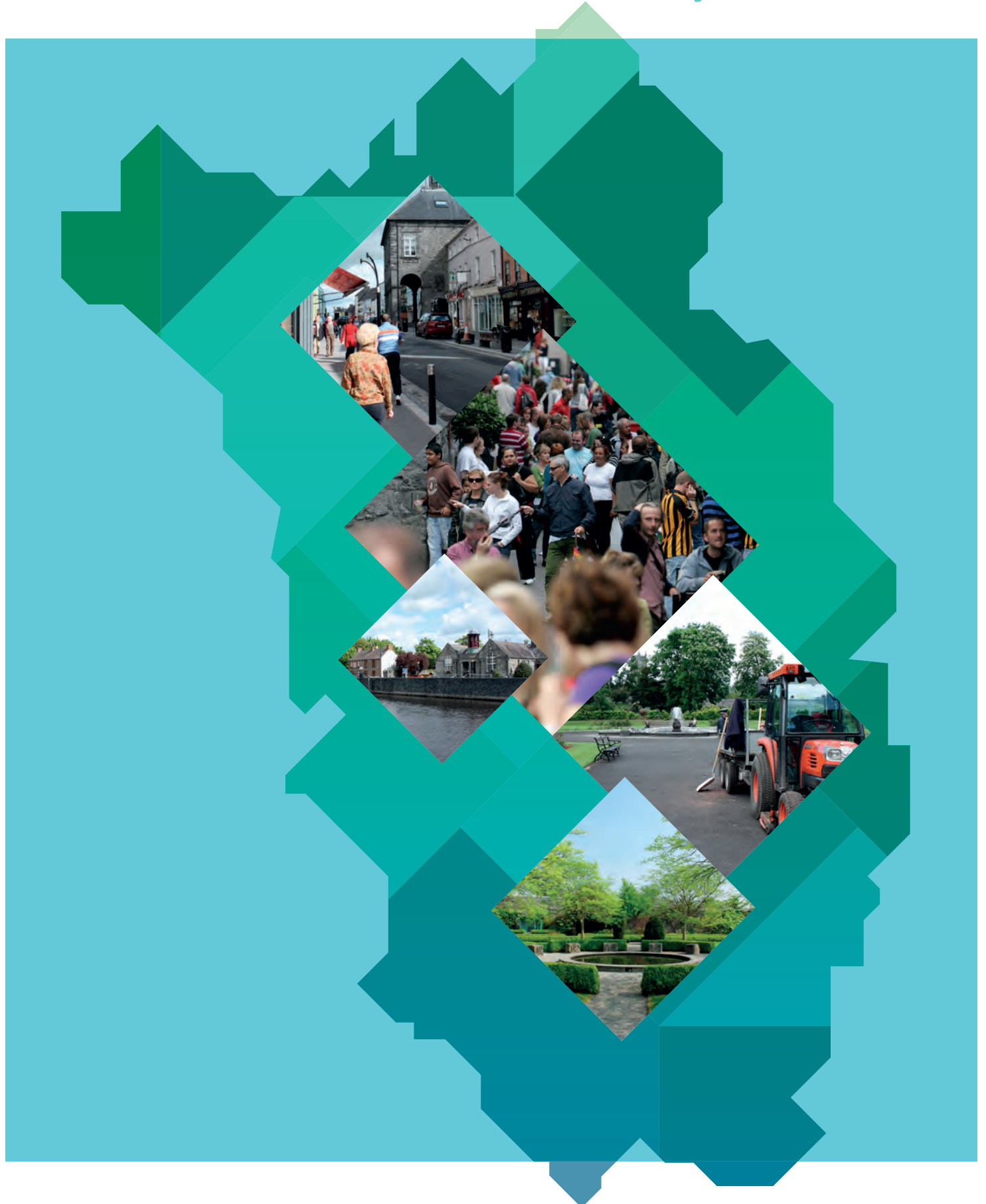
Rev: Revenue Collection (Rev1 - Rev5)	01/01/12 - 31/12/12 (Annual)	01/01/13 - 31/12/13 (Annual)
Rev.1 House Rent		
A. Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due from House Rent	88.81	90.5
B. Percentage of arrears on House Rent that are up to 4 weeks old	6.6	5.13
C. Percentage of arrears on House Rent that are 4-6 weeks old	5.5	4.99
D. Percentage of arrears on House Rent that are 6-12 weeks old	6.7	7.25
E. Percentage of arrears on House Rent that are more than 12 weeks old	81.2	82.63
Amount due at year end from House Rent	7287709.19	7390292
Amount collected at year end from House Rent	6472057.45	6687991
Amount of arrears at year end from House Rent	865081	702301

Rev: Revenue Collection (Rev1 - Rev5)	01/01/12 - 31/12/12 (Annual)	01/01/13 - 31/12/13 (Annual)
Amount of arrears on Housing Rent that are up to 4 weeks old	57123	39548
Amount of arrears on Housing Rent that are 4-6 weeks old	47925	38500
Amount of arrears on Housing Rent that are 6-12 weeks old	58257	55908
Amount of arrears on Housing Rent that are more than 12 weeks old	701746	637365
Rev.2 Housing Loans		
A. Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due from Housing Loans	62.4	74.3
B. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are up to 1 month old	3.55	5.3
C. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are 1-2 months old	2.23	3.2
D. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are 2-3 months old	1.36	2.3
E. Percentage of arrears on Housing Loans that are more than 3 months old	92.86	89.2
Amount due at year end from Housing Loans	3215451.25	3476986
Amount collected at year end from Housing Loans	2006459.82	2583243
Amount of arrears at year end from Housing Loans	1329555	893743
Amount of arrears on Housing Loans that are up to 1 month old	47214	52885
Amount of arrears on Housing Loans that are 1-2 month old	29631	31762
Amount of arrears on Housing Loans that are 2-3 months old	18026	22655
Amount of arrears on Housing Loans that are more than 3 months old	1234684	896835
Rev.3 Commercial Rates		
Amount collected at year-end as a percentage of amount due from Commercial rates	81	86
Rev.4 Refuse Charges		
Percentage of households paying refuse charges (including waivers) at year end	100	100
Rev.5 Non-Domestic Water Charges		
Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due for Non-Domestic Water Charges	82	73

R: Roads (R1)	01/01/12 - 31/12/12 (Annual)	01/01/13 - 31/12/13 (Annual)
R1: Road Restoration Programme		
Number of kilometres of local and regional roads improved and maintained under the Restoration Programme per annum	127	73
Number of kilometres of local and regional roads constructed under the specific improvement grants scheme per annum	0	124

Appendix 4

Details of Conferences attended by *Members*



Date	2013 Conference Details & Cllr Attendance	Location
11-12 Jan 2013	Civil Liability Legislation and how it affects LA's Maurice Shortall, John Brennan, Andrew McGuinness	Westport, Co Mayo
11-13 Jan 2013	Budget 2013 Pat Dunphy	Carlingford, Co Louth
18-19 Jan 2013	The Criminal Consequences of breaching LA regulations Andrew McGuinness	Tralee, Co Kerry
18-20 Jan 2013	Local Electoral Area Boundaries Maurice Shortall, John Brennan	Letterkenny, Co Donegal
25-27 Jan 2013	Disputes between neighbours & the law Maurice Shortall, John Brennan	Limerick
25-27 Jan 2013	Debt Solutions-The New Personal Insolvency Legislation Catherine Connery, Eamon Aylward	Rosscarbery, Co Cork
1-2 Feb 2013	The Finance (Local Property Tax) Bill Matt Doran, Eamon Aylward	Galway
1-3 Feb 2013	Domestic Water meters for Ireland Maurice Shortall, Martin Brett, Tommy Prendergast Michael O'Brien	Bunratty, Co Clare
1-3 Feb 2013	Local Govts Impacts on major flooding and freezing spells Fidelis Doherty	Dungarvan, Co Waterford
1-3 Feb 2013	Scoil Gheimhridh Merriman Pat Millea	Westport, Co Mayo
8-10 Feb 2013	Tourism Seminar 2013 Jane Moran	Carlingford, Co Louth
15-16 Feb 2013	AMAI Spring Seminar Catherine Connery, Martin Brett, Fidelis Doherty	New Ross, Co Wexford
22-24 Feb 2013	Cash for Gold; Burglaries-Drugs Fidelis Doherty	Cahir, Co Tipperary
22-24 Feb 2013	HSE Tobacco Control Policy Michael O'Brien, Sean Treacy	Rosscarbery, Co Cork
28 Feb-1 Mar 2013	Mid West Regional Auth Annual conf Tomas Breathnach	Horse and Jockey, Co Tipperary
1-2 Mar 2013	Action Plan for Jobs Pat Millea, John Coonan, Jane Moran, Andrew McGuinness	Galway
7-9 Mar 2013	ACCC Annual Conference Mary Hilda Cavanagh, Martin Brett, William Ireland Michael O'Brien, Pat Dunphy, Fidelis Doherty Sean Treacy	Tower Hotel, Waterford
8-9 Mar 2013	Supporting Volunteerism Pat Millea, Andrew McGuinness	Manor West, Tralee
8-10 Mar 2013	Local Authorities as drivers of Local Development Michael O'Brien	Carlingford, Co Louth
8-10 Mar 2013	Time & Priority Management for Cllrs Maurice Shortall, Tommy Prendergast	Bunratty Castle, Co Clare
12 Mar 2013	Energy Action European Fuel Poverty Malcolm Noonan	Ballsbridge, Dublin

Date	2013 Conference Details & Cllr Attendance	Location
16-17 Mar 2013	TGR Community & Local Development Jane Moran	Carlingford, Co Louth
22-23 Mar 2013	Superior Training Local Government Job Creation Tommy Prendergast	Bunclody, Co Wexford
5-6 April 2013	LAMA Spring Seminar Maurice Shortall, John Brennan, Martin Brett, William Ireland Catherine Connery, Tom Maher, Tommy Prendergast, Fidelis Doherty	Gorey, Co Wexford
11-12 April 2013	Richard Cantillon 2013-A forum for fresh thinking Maurice Shortall, Tommy Prendergast	IT Tralee, Co Kerry
13 April 2013	1916 Conference Fidelis Doherty	Enniscorthy, Co Wexford
12-13 Apr 2013	The future of Local Government Mary Hilda Cavanagh, Sean Treacy	Kingsvalley Hotel, Galway
12-14 Apr 2013	Procurement Exp & Revenues in Local Government Pat Millea, John Coonan	Salthill, Co Galway
18-20 April 2013	National Tourism Conference John Brennan, Catherine Connery, Pat Dunphy	Leighlinbridge, Co Carlow
19-20 Apr 2013	Water Services Bill Tom Maher, Cora Long	Westport, Co Mayo
23 April 2013	EPA Climate Change Malcolm Noonan	Dublin
25 April 2013	Transport Ireland 2013 Malcolm Noonan	Dublin
3-4 May 2013	Public Service Agreement Mary Hilda Cavanagh, Cora Long	Connacht Hotel, Galway
3-5 May 2013	Countdown to Local Elections 2014 Maurice Shortall, John Brennan	Letterkenny, Co Donegal
10-11 May 2013	HSE Tobacco Control Maurice Shortall, Tommy Prendergast, Eamon Aylward	Carlingford, Co Louth
10-11 May 2013	Tourism and the local councillor Fidelis Doherty	Wexford town.
17 May 2013	Irish Public Bodies AGM Fidelis Doherty	Dublin
17-18 May 2013	Dealing with unfinished housing estates Mary Hilda Cavanagh	Tralee, Co Kerry
17-18 May 2013	Access funding for Comm. Programmes Tommy Prendergast, Pat Dunphy, Fidelis Doherty	Portlaoise, Co Laois
24-26 May 2013	West Cork Tourism Jane Moran	Rosscarbery, Co Cork
31May-1 Jun 2013	Nursing Home Support Scheme Mary Hilda Cavanagh	Galway
7-9 June 2013	Ace Training-European Legis and LA's Eamon Aylward	Carlingford, Co Louth
7-9 June 2013	Standard for rented houses Cora Long	Westport, Co Mayo

Date	2013 Conference Details & Cllr Attendance	Location
7-8 June 2013	Cllrs successfully access funding for comm. Projects Jane Moran, Sean Treacy	Bunratty, Co Clare
14-15 June 2013	Supporting Enterprise Local Dev and Econ Growth Mary Hilda Cavanagh	Galway
21-23 June 2013	Sean MacDiarmuida Summer School Michael O'Brien	Kiltyclogher, Co Leitrim
28-30 June 2013	European Movement Ireland Mary Hilda Cavanagh	Rosscarbery, Co Cork
5-7 July 2013	Mental Health and wellbeing Jane Moran	Kenmare, Co Kerry
12-13 July 2013	Climate Change towards 2050 Mary Hilda Cavanagh	Westport, Co Mayo
19-20 July 2013	Taxing Goods and service Maurice Shortall, John Brennan, Mary Hilda Cavanagh, Matt Doran	Tralee, Co Kerry
26-27 July 2013	Future is food Tom Maher	Rosscarbery, Co Cork
27-29 July 2013	How the elected member can help combat crime Jane Moran	Killarney, Co Kerry
2-3 Aug 2013	Rural Crime prevention and Detection Pat Dunphy	Letterkenny, Co Donegal
5-8 August 2013	William Carleton Summer School Pat Millea	Co Monaghan
16-17 Aug 2013	Building safer communities Matt Doran	Galway
23-24 Aug 2013	Community Development Mary Hilda Cavanagh	Galway
28-29 Aug 2013	Urbach Summer School Malcolm Noonan	Dublin
30-31 Aug 2013	Changing Social Relations of Housing Tenure John Coonan, Matt Doran	Westport, Co Mayo
30 Aug-1 Sept 2013	Effect of BIM on Local Authorities Tommy Prendergast, Michael O'Brien	Carrick on Shannon, Co Leitrim
12-14 Sept 2013	Kennedy Summer School Fidelis Doherty	New Ross, Co Wexford
18-21 Sept 2013	Kerry Environmental and Cultural Heritage Cora Long, Eamon Aylward	Ballybunion, Co Kerry
27-28 Sept 2013	Pathways to work 2013 Matt Doran	Galway
27-28 Sept 2013	The Life and Times of Michael Collins Mary Hilda Cavanagh, Pat Crowley	Rosscarbery, Co Cork
27-28 Sept 2013	Poverty and Migration in Ireland today Tommy Prendergast	Bunratty, Co Clare
4-6 Oct 2013	Internet Elections Fidelis Doherty	Dublin

Date	2013 Conference Details & Cllr Attendance	Location
4-6 Oct 2013	New tendering Req for LA's Marie Fitzpatrick, Michael O'Brien, Eamon Aylward	Carlingford, Co Louth
10-11 Oct 2013	NFLA Seminar Pat Millea	Galway
11-12 Oct 2013	LAMA Autumn Seminar Catherine Connery, Martin Brett, William Ireland	Ennistymon, Co Clare
18-19 Oct 2013	LG and Enterprise Development William Ireland	Bundoran, Co Donegal
25-27 Oct 2013	Guidelines for P&D of Rural Housing Matt Doran, William Ireland, Eamon Aylward	Rosscarbery, Co Cork
25-26 Oct 2013	Future Energy Needs John Coonan	Letterkenny, Co Donegal
1-2 Nov 2013	Poverty and Migration Jane Moran	Bunratty, Co Clare
1-2 Nov 2013	P&D Act 2013 Andrew McGuinness	Westport, Co Mayo
1-2 Nov 2013	Electoral Local Government & Planning Pat Millea	Westport, Co Mayo
1-3 Nov 2013	Council Budgets Catherine Connery, Matt Doran	Killarne, Co Kerry
8-9 Nov 2013	LA Rates and diminishing returns John Coonan, Andrew McGuinness	Galway
8-10 Nov 2013	A practical guide to Budget 2014 Marie Fitzpatrick, William Ireland, Cora Long, Tommy Prendergast, Michael O'Brien, Eamon Aylward	Carlingford, Co Louth
13-15 Nov 2013	Tourism, Technology & Competitiveness Marie Fitzpatrick	Rosscarbery, Co Cork
15-16 Nov 2013	Fostering Stronger Communities John Coonan, Matt Doran	Galway
15-17 Nov 2013	LA Budgets 2014 John Brennan, William Ireland, Tom Maher	Letterkenny, Co Donegal
22-23 Nov 2013	Community based CCTV Pat Millea, Andrew McGuinness	Westport, Co Mayo
29-30 Nov 2013	Early Education and childcare Pat Millea, Catherine Connery, John Coonan, Jane Moran Cora Long, Tommy Prendergast, Andrew McGuinness	Tralee, Co Kerry
13-15 Dec 2013	Tourism, Technology & Competitiveness Catherine Connery, Cora Long, Tommy Prendergast Michael O'Brien, Marie Fitzpatrick	Rosscarbery, Co Cork
20-21 Dec 2013	Improving road safety Catherine Connery	Westport, Co Mayo
20-22 Dec 2013	Microsoft Excel Training for Councillors Marie Fitzpatrick, William Ireland	Rosscarbery, Cork

Notes

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