



Comhairle Contae an Chláir  
Clare County Council

## Budget 2016

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## Introduction

The adopted budget together with my report for the financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016 is presented to your herewith.

The prescribed period for the holding of the 2016 budget meeting is from the 2nd November 2015 to 27th November 2015. The statutory meeting for Clare County Council to consider the draft budget was fixed for Friday 20th November 2015. The budget was adopted at this meeting.

While the main objective of the budget for 2016 is the maintenance of existing levels of service, this has proven to be a significant challenge for Clare County Council.

## Local Property Tax

In September the council was advised of the provisional Local Property Tax (LPT) Allocation which was based on the Revenue Commissioners projections of LPT income for 2016. In September the council decided to vary the LPT rate for 2016 downwards by 15% from the standard rate.

The LPT situation for 2016 after the rate variation can be summarized as follows:

	€m
Total LPT Projected 2016 at Unvaried LPT Rate (100%)	9.86
Amount to National Equalisation Fund (20%)	<u>(1.97)</u>
LPT Retained Locally	7.89
Local Rate Variation (-15%)	(1.48)
Compensation Amount (DECLG)	<u>0.03</u>
LPT Retained Locally	6.44
Allocated to Housing Grants	<u>(3.27)</u>
LPT Retained Locally - Discretionary Purposes	<u>3.17</u>

In summary the amount available from LPT retained locally for discretionary purposes is the same in 2016 as it was in 2015.

## Payroll and Pensions

In recent years the trend has been that reductions in overall payroll and pensions cost, due to both declining staff numbers or reductions in pay, have contributed to

achieving a balanced budget as income sources declined or other costs increased. However, in 2015 the Public Service Stability Agreement 2013-2018 (the Lansdowne Road Agreement) provided for a number of matters including changes to the impact of the Financial Emergency Measures in Public Interests Act. In 2016 these changes will result in increases in the thresholds applicable to the application of the Pension Related Deduction (PRD). The agreement also provides for partial restoration of pay for employees on less than €31,000 per annum. (The increases are 2.5% for employees on pay levels up to €24,000 per annum and 1% for employees on pay levels over €24,000 and less than €31,000). In July, the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform also announced changes to Public Service Pension Reductions. These changes will take effect over three years starting in 2016. It is estimated that the cost to the council of these changes will amount to €0.83m in 2016, with further cost increases in subsequent years. The Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government (DECLG) has advised that central funding will be available to partially defray this financial impact. The budget provides for income of €0.67m in this regard.

### **Vacant Properties**

One of the effects of the economic conditions of recent years has been an increase in the level of vacant commercial properties in the county. In some cases properties have been unused for a long period of time. The budget contains provision for a grant scheme to be developed in 2016 to provide financial assistance to a new occupier of a long vacant property. The terms and conditions of the scheme will be communicated in due course. In general terms the scheme will be targeted to small and medium size properties, i.e. those with rates payable of €5,000 per annum or less. It is envisaged that the grant would be payable where a property that was vacant for more than two years is occupied by a new occupier. At the end of the first year of occupation, and subject to the rates payable on the property being fully discharged, the occupier may apply for a grant equal to 75% of the rates for the period subject to a maximum grant of €3,750 in the first year. Subject to continued occupation, and rates payment, it is envisaged that a grant may also be paid at the end of years two and three, at the rate of 50% and 25% respectively and subject to caps of €2,500 and €1,250 respectively for those years.

## **Rates Payment Incentive Scheme and Rates Harmonisation**

The council is considering a rates payment incentive scheme for 2016 in respect of occupied properties. It is noteworthy that a large proportion (79%) of the commercial properties in the county were liable to rates less than €5k per annum in 2015. It is envisaged that the incentive will be provided by way of a grant to the occupier when all the rates payable on an occupied property have been discharged on time. The scheme would provide flexibility to accommodate payment plans which clear the rates due within the first eight months of the year. The grant arising would be applied to the rate payers account on assessment of the status of the account at the end of quarter three 2016, and the credit arising and applied to the account would be available for set off against the rates arising in the subsequent year.

In considering the structure of such a scheme the council is mindful of the need to mitigate as much as possible the impact of the requirement to harmonise the rates multiplier in the county. (The Local Government Reform Act 2014 set out a process whereby the differences in rates multipliers between the former towns and the unified county have to be eliminated over time). The budget provides for a payment incentive scheme for occupied properties, and for the commencement of the harmonisation process. The two changes will interact in such a way as to mitigate the impact of the harmonisation process, especially for the occupiers of properties that have rates payable of less than €5k per annum. In addition, the rates payment incentive scheme will provide a reduction in overall rates payable in the former county area. As the gap to be bridged for harmonisation of the two former towns is different, the rates payment incentive for two former towns is also different, in line with the mitigation objective mentioned above.

The budget provides for harmonisation in 2016 to bridge 50% of the multiplier gap between the former town areas and the unified county rate.

The tables below summarise the main features of the harmonisation change and payment incentive scheme changes for 2016.

<b>Area</b>	<b>Rates Payment Incentive Grant (Occupied Properties)</b>	<b>Harmonisation Adjustment</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Former Ennis Town Council Area	Lower of 5% of 2016 Rates Cost or €250	5.76%	<b>1</b>
Former Kilrush Town Council Area	Lower of 6% of 2016 Rates Cost or €300	8.93%	<b>2</b>
Former County Council Area	Lower of 3% of 2016 Rates Cost or €100	None	<b>3</b>

## Notes:

1. In 2015 approximately 80% of occupied properties in the former Ennis area have a rates liability for the year of less than €5k. For these properties that avail of the grant the net effective increase in cost will be less than 1% in 2016. The average cost increase for properties less than €5k per annum will be circa €15 per annum after the grant.
2. In 2015 approximately 88% of properties in the former Kilrush area have a rates liability for the year of less than €5k. For these properties that avail of the grant the net effective increase in cost will be circa 3% in 2016. The average cost increase for properties less than €5k per annum will be circa €45 per annum after the grant.
3. Circa 67% of occupied properties in the former county area may qualify for a grant amounting to 3% of the rates payable, while a further 8% may qualify for a grant in the 2% - 3% range.

Thus the scheme, if availed of, will reduce the net cost to all former county rate payers next year.

The overall gross rates income for the budget 2016 is €41.9m which is a reduction of €0.5m from 2015. During 2015 the Valuation Office carried out revaluations of a number of utility companies the net effect of which was to reduce the valuation for rates. This has had a significant negative impact on the rates income for 2016.

The Local Government Reform Act 2014 provided for a change to rating law in relation to the refund of commercial rates on vacant properties. It provided discretion to the elected members of the council to vary the level of rates refunds that apply in a local electoral district or districts. Currently in all areas of the county a 100% refund applies for properties that are unoccupied for the full year. The budget has been prepared on the basis that the current rate of 100% refund for unoccupied properties continues in 2016.

## **Roads**

The government grant allocations for expenditure on roads have not yet been notified to local authorities and it is anticipated that levels of funding will be advised in February 2016. The budget has been prepared on the basis that the total road grants received in 2015 will be received in 2016.

The draft Schedule of Municipal District Works will be presented to the elected members early in 2016 following notification of the roads grants.

## **Capital Investment Programme**

The Section 135 Report for the 3 year period 2016 – 2018 is attached at Appendix 2. The Local Government Act 2001 requires that such a report be prepared to identify the Capital Investment Programme. The level of investment is determined by resources available and the level of resources has declined in recent years consequent on the economic situation.

## **Conclusion**

The preparation of the Budget 2016 has been challenging due to pressures arising from increased costs with limited increases in income available to meet these cost increases.

I wish to acknowledge the involvement of all the elected members in the budgetary process. I particularly wish to thank the members of the Corporate Policy Group with whom extensive consultation has taken place in relation to the strategic budgetary decisions which have been required.

I particularly wish to thank the Cathaoirleach for his support and positive engagement.

I wish to thank the directors and all employees in all departments of the Council for their engagement in the preparation of the budget 2016. A rapid change in the national economy has impacted on local authorities and has required adaptation and response to national demands and the changing external environment. This has resulted in a new set of challenges which the Council must face during 2016. Meeting these challenges during 2016 will require a continuing effective and positive relationship between the executive and elected members.

Finally, I wish to thank the Head of Finance, Mr. Niall Barrett and the staff of the finance department who have faced significant challenges in recent months to manage the complex financial challenges consequent on the reform process and other matters to which I have referred above.

Mar chríoch, a Chathaoirleach, ba mhaith liom m'fhíor-bhuíochas a ghabháil leatsa agus leis na Comhairleoirí go léir as ucht na cabhrach, an chomhoibrithe, na tacaíochta agus as an gcairdeas a thug sibh dom le linn na bliana seo.

Is mise le meas,



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Tom Coughlan,  
Chief Executive.

## **Division A - Housing and Building**

### **Housing Construction and Acquisitions**

The new Social Housing Strategy 2015-2017 sets out an ambitious delivery Programme to deal with the Council's social housing waiting list. Programmes are in place to include Housing Construction, Acquisition, delivery through the Capital Assistance Scheme by Approved Housing Bodies and the return of void properties to use.

The Council has received approval to proceed with the construction of 21 social housing units at Tullyglass Shannon. A design team is in place and the project is currently at planning stage. Departmental approval was also announced during the year for the construction of 10 units at Sea View Park, Quilty. Part 8 approval is in place and the detailed design of the Scheme is now commencing. It is anticipated that both Schemes will be completed in mid to late 2017.

Proposals are also under consideration for housing construction projects in Feakle, Clonlara, Ennis and Ennistymon subject to Department approval. A framework for consultant design services has been procured in order to supplement and support this high intensity design investment in Clare and to assist the in-house architectural team with the delivery of high quality and value for money housing.

The Council is at an advanced stage in acquiring properties throughout the county to meet social housing needs. Sales have been agreed for a total of 65 houses and contracts have been signed for 27 no. with sales closed in the case of 15 properties. Excellent value is available and it is estimated that capital funding of close to €7m will be invested in this Programme over a 3 year period.

### **Voluntary Housing**

There are currently close to 400 units of accommodation in County Clare provided by Approved Housing Voluntary Bodies. In 2015 Cúan an Chláir at Cahercalla, Ennis completed the construction of 12 units of accommodation for the elderly and a day-care facility. These units were occupied earlier this year. There are also 4 units of accommodation being provided by Thomond Housing Association in Meelick and 5 in Roo East, Ardnacrusa for people with intellectual disabilities who are transitioning

from congregated settings and these units will shortly be occupied following HIQUA approval.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is presently at tender stage in the construction of 3 self contained units of supported accommodation at Laurel Lodge in Ennis. Three new projects were announced this year under the Capital Assistance Scheme which will see the delivery of 31 units of accommodation with an investment of over €2.4m, namely:

- the construction of 7 units for the homeless/domestic abuse victims at Kildysart Road by Clare Haven Services;
  - the acquisition of 12 units by Focus Ireland for homeless youth in Ennis and Shannon;
- the construction of 12 units at Doonbeg for the elderly/disabled by Kilkee Housing Association.

### **Returning Vacant Stock to Productive Use**

The Department has advised that funding for vacant housing units will be linked to the Council putting in place ongoing maintenance programmes to address the issue of vacant properties. The Council has this year received funding allocations from the Department of Environment Community and Local Government (DECLG) which it is expected will result in up to 90 units being available for tenants. An investment over and above the provision by the Department is needed if the Council's objective is to be met of returning social housing in a timely manner where it is most needed whilst obtaining value for money.

The Council has in place a contractors' procurement framework which is ideally suited to expediting competitive tendering, in line with national procurement requirements, in a short timeframe. This programme is an important step in reducing the number of families in the Council's waiting list, breathing new life into local communities and also achieving best use of resources.

The Council is continuing to carry out adaptation works to Council-owned dwellings to facilitate tenants with disabilities. Works such as level access showers, provision of ramps and handrails, upgrade of heating systems, and provision of stair lifts are being undertaken in 27 Council-owned houses and an allocation of €203k was

received for this purpose in 2015. Part of this allocation is being funded from Local Property Tax Revenue.

### **Energy Efficiency**

The Energy Efficiency Scheme has been very successful to date with energy/fabric upgrades completed to over 1,800 tenanted and untenanted houses. Works were progressed on an estate wide basis in 2015 and 343 houses were upgraded with cavity wall insulation, attic insulation, insulation of primary pipe work along with the ventilation of the attic space and all habitable rooms. A BER cert was produced for each property upgraded.

The Council will be commencing Phase 2 of this Programme as soon as funds are made available. This will involve energy/fabric upgrade works to houses of solid block, hollow block or mass concrete construction. These works will apply to older stock of houses located in mature housing estates in Ennis and Kilrush. Works will typically include external clad insulation or internal dry-lining, retrofitting of adequate ventilation, attic insulation including insulation of pipework, draught-proofing and pre and post BER assessment.

This Programme will lead to an improvement in insulation standards and overall energy performance of our social housing stock.

### **Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)**

The RAS Scheme involves the Council seeking housing in the private market and with voluntary groups, for claimants of rent supplement who are in receipt of supplementary welfare allowance payments from the Department of Social Protection for more than eighteen months. The Council's role is to enter into medium and long-term contract agreements with landlords to provide suitable accommodation for letting exclusively to participants in the scheme.

There are currently 423 households on RAS. Of these households 328 are in private accommodation and 95 households are accommodated with Approved Housing Bodies.

The Council also has a responsibility to inspect private rented properties in accordance with the Private Rented Regulations 1992. 420 properties were inspected in 2014 and circa 400 will be inspected by the end 2015.

### **Social Leasing Scheme (SLS)**

The SLS provides for the leasing of privately owned accommodation to provide social housing for households on the Council's waiting list. Leases may be short term (up to 10 years) or long-term (10-20 years). The Council commenced implementing this scheme towards the end of 2010 and to date the Council has 99 leases under short-term arrangements, 31 long-term leases and 37 leases with Approved Voluntary Housing Bodies.

Leased properties are allocated to applicants from the Council's social housing list. Discussions are ongoing with landlords with a view to securing further properties for lease and it is estimated that 71 additional units can be provided under this scheme in 2016. The leased properties are located throughout the County in areas of on-going need for social housing.

### **Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)**

HAP commenced in Clare on the 29<sup>th</sup> June 2015. The purpose of the scheme is to transfer responsibility for the provision of housing rent assistance to those with long-term housing needs from the Department of Social Protection (under rent supplement) to local housing authorities. As the rent supplement scheme was never intended to be a long term payment, HAP has been designed in order to better serve the needs of those who require more long-term housing support. For a person(s) to be eligible for HAP they must be on the Council's Housing List. The target set for Clare for 2015 is 210 HAP tenancies and it is expected that this target will be met.

### **Homelessness Services**

The Council works in partnership with the Department of Social Protection to deliver homelessness services, e.g. assistance with retention of tenancy, sourcing rented accommodation, completion of forms and applications, seeking emergency accommodation and providing financial assistance. By year end it is expected that almost 1,000 persons have been assisted in 2015 in Homelessness clinics, the cost

of which is borne by the Department of Social Protection. Clare County Council provides financial assistance to cover operational costs to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul who manage Laurel Lodge, a 13 bed hostel for the emergency accommodation of homeless men, 90% of which is recovered from the Department of Environment Community and Local Government.

Clare Haven Services, who provide information, support and refuge accommodation to women and their children who are at risk of domestic abuse are funded by TUSLA.

### **Housing Maintenance**

2015 saw an increase in demand for housing maintenance from local authority tenants. The nature of housing maintenance requests is varied in terms of type and priority, and responses reflect these variables. Due to resource constraints the Council prioritises maintenance requests which are deemed necessary to preserve the safety and health of tenants.

The age profile of the housing stock, coupled with the Council's obligations to ensure housing standards are met is putting increased pressure on the housing maintenance budgets.

In the year to date 2,026 maintenance calls were logged in respect of 2,319 properties. The 2016 budget provides for ongoing essential maintenance works at similar levels to 2015.

### **Repairs to Casual Vacancies**

The Council received significant Departmental funding during the year to return vacant stock to productive use. Work is in progress and it is expected that some 80 social housing units throughout the County will be refurbished at year end. This represents an important step in reducing the numbers on the Council's housing waiting list. The key objective of the programme is to return targeted vacant stock to a lettable, energy efficient condition at reasonable cost whilst complying with the minimum standard for rented accommodation.

It is not presently known whether or not capital funding will be available in 2016 to continue the vacant stock work programme.

## **Housing Assessments and Allocations**

To date this year 346 applications for social housing support have been assessed by the Housing Department. At present there are approximately 3,239 approved applicants on the Council's housing waiting list. Based on experience to date it is likely that a significant proportion of these applicants are interested in housing support via rent supplement only and do not wish to be considered for standard local authority housing.

The Housing Department has allocated 68 new tenancies in the Council's standard housing stock to date this year.

## **Traveller Accommodation**

The 2016 budget includes the sum of €242k in respect of maintenance of group housing schemes. During the year upgrades were carried out at the Deerpark, Ballymurtagh and Knockanean. Currently there are 4 unoccupied units, 2 of which are badly fire –damaged and 1 is undergoing refurbishment for an identified household.

## **Division B - Road Transport and Safety**

### **National Roads**

The Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) (formerly the NRA) provides funding for all maintenance and improvement works on Clare's motorway and national primary and secondary roads. In 2015, Clare County Council received an initial grant allocation of €2.56m of which €77k related to national primary roads, with the remaining balance €2.49m for national secondary roads.

The National Primary and Secondary network in Clare is managed and maintained totally by the TII since August 2013. Public Lighting is an exception to this with these costs incurred by Clare County Council. Of the allocation of €2.56m referred to above, an amount of €170k was allocated towards the cost of the public lighting on both the national primary and secondary networks.

As part of the National Secondary network improvement a number of applications have been made to TII to facilitate realignment improvements on the National Secondary network. Approval has recently been received to appoint consultants for the stretch of national secondary roadway at Kilnamona.

For the purposes of the 2016 budget all allocations received towards improvement works on the national roads both primary and secondary will be dealt with in the Revenue Budget, unlike in previous years where they formed part of the capital expenditure.

The budget has been prepared on the basis of receiving similar funding levels in 2016 as 2015.

### **Non National Roads**

Clare County Council received an initial allocation of €12.8m in 2015 in respect of non national roads. An additional allocation of €1m was received during the year. The budget is prepared based on a similar level of allocation as 2015.

### **Own Resources**

The 2016 budget for Own Resources represents a similar level of funding as 2015 having adjusted for pay costs.

### **Road Safety/School Warden**

The Road Safety Strategy 2014 - 2020 shapes road safety policy during the period. There is no reduction being proposed in the budget for road safety promotion, which will continue to fund the Junior School Warden Scheme, training for safe cycling and promotional campaigns.

## **Division C – Water Services**

### **The Council as an Agent of Irish Water**

As members will be aware, the role of the Council changed significantly on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014, consequent on the signing of the Service Level Agreement with Irish Water. At the current time, the Water Services Transition Office is co-ordinating the inputs of the Local Authority sector in meeting with Irish Water to conduct the 2 year review of the Service Level Agreements signed in late 2013.

Since the initial changeover date, many changes have taken place in contact arrangements for customers, how capital works are approved and progressed and the issue of performance on all water supply and waste water treatment is a key element in the Annual Service Plan prepared each year between Irish Water and Clare County Council.

It is clear that further changes are to take place in the coming years as the impact of regulation of the industry takes the form of a new Water Industry Operating Framework.

The budget for Division C for 2016 for C01 (water supply), C02 (waste water treatment), C03 (billing and collection of non-domestic water charges) and C06 (Support to the Capital Programme) represents the costs to be paid by Irish Water to Clare County Council for managing and operating the above services on its behalf under the terms of a Service Level Agreement. The recovery of such costs is reflected on the income side.

While Irish Water is the billing authority for non-domestic water charges, the Council continues to act as an agent of Irish Water in the billing and collection of non-domestic customers.

### **C05- Group Water and Sewerage Schemes**

Clare County Council has retained its statutory function for Group Water Supply Schemes, Group Sewerage Schemes and bored well grants. The revenue budget contains a modest provision of €20k towards the shortfall in Government funding for the administration of the rural water services, the costs of water quality testing of

group schemes and also for the payment of the operational subsidies to Group Schemes. The latter is recouped in full.

### **Developer Provided Infrastructure**

The Council continues to deal with situations in private estates where developer provided infrastructure is problematic and at risk of causing environmental pollution. As Irish Water claim no responsibility for such scenarios, the Council must step in where necessary in the interests of public and environmental health. The costs associated with such intervention relate to desludging, maintenance, insurance, energy and health and safety and currently there is no source of recoupment for such expenditure. A provision of €25k has been included in the 2016 budget towards these costs.

## **Division D - Development Management**

### **Forward Planning**

The statutory process for the review of the County Development Plan 2011-2017 and the preparation of the Draft Clare County Development Plan 2017-2023 commenced in early 2015. Public consultation resulted in a total of 51 submissions. The Members issued their Directions to the Chief Executive on the content of the new Plan. The draft County Development Plan will go on public display in early December 2015. The Development Plan will guide the development of the County and zoning for settlements, including the areas formerly covered under the Ennis and Kilrush Development Plans. Provision has been made in the budget for the preparation of the County Development Plan to facilitate its adoption by the statutory date of January 2017.

### **Strategic Integrated Framework Plan (SIFP) for Shannon Estuary**

The SIFP for Shannon Estuary, a major inter-jurisdictional land and marine based framework to guide the future development and management of the Shannon Estuary was adopted as Variation No. 2 to the Clare County Development Plan on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2014. The plan provides for zoning of 2 sites at Cahiracon and Moneypoint for Marine Related Industry

In 2015, the marketing of the Estuary as a location for investment has been prioritised with the establishment of a working group on marketing and promotion consisting of all key stakeholders including the IDA.

### **Aviation & Airport Development**

During 2015 the Council has continued to work closely with the Shannon Group in assisting and facilitating overall plans for development and expansion of activities at the Airport and the associated surrounding landbank. In July following the granting of an Event Licence, the Shannon Airport Air Display was held, attracting 40,000 visitors. The high level of engagement and interaction between the Planning Authority and Shannon Group will continue.

## **Development Management**

The number of planning applications received by the Planning Authority continues to increase. Currently there are 45% more applications in the system than for the same period in 2014 with an associated increase in income from Planning Fees.

The Planning Authority continues to work with the Department of Environment in relation to the implementation of the electronic referral of planning applications to the Department (e-referral) and proposes to continue investment in the best use of technology in the planning system. A provision has been made in the Budget to continue this work. The Department itself has initiated a review of current process of referring planning application to all prescribed bodies and has sought the input of local authorities in this regard. The intention is to streamline and enhance the efficiency of the referral process through an expanded use of technology.

A protocol was put in place in 2015 to facilitate the payment of planning application fees by EFT.

## **Development Contributions**

The Council's Development Contribution Scheme formally adopted in late 2013 will continue to remain in place until 2017. The revised scheme provides for a reduced scale of development levies generally and specific incentives for industrial and economic development with a particular focus on strategic locations at Shannon Airport and on the Shannon Estuary. The Council continues also to use the facility of phasing development contributions in developments to assist stimulating economic activity.

The Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015 came into effect on the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015 and is aimed at incentivising the activation of existing and new planning permissions in order to increase the supply of housing. A notable change is the amendment to Section 48 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) to provide that where a new development contribution scheme is adopted by the planning authority providing for lower contributions than those in place under the previous development contributions scheme, the reduced contributions under the newly adopted scheme shall have retrospective effect for existing permissions that have yet to be activated.

## **Architectural Conservation & Heritage**

Funding for protected structures and buildings in Architectural Conservation Areas (ACAs) was reintroduced in 2015 by the Department of Arts Heritage and the Gaeltacht in the form of the Structures at Risk Fund (SRF). The DAHG invited only two applications from each local authority for consideration and Clare received an allocation of €30,000 towards one of its applications submitted.

Funding of €27,000 from the Heritage Council to progress heritage projects relating to Lough Derg, a Bridge Survey, Graveyard Conservation and a Study of trees in Towns and Villages was secured in 2015.

## **Taking in Charge**

The area of Taking in Charge is a continued focus of the Local Authority and presents ongoing challenges in terms of financial resources. In March 2015 a Memorandum of Understanding and TIC Protocol was introduced to provide clarity on the roles and responsibilities of both the planning authority and IW in the process for the taking in charge of water services assets of residential estates to the point of transfer of these assets to Irish Water. While such clarity is welcome, it provides a further layer of consultation and complexity to the statutory process for Taking in Charge. In 2015 to date, 9 estates have been taken in charge with issues on a further 3 developments (which were advertised for Taking in Charge earlier this year) likely to be addressed through the preparation of a Site Resolution Plan between the local authority and Irish Water, in accordance with the protocol.

Further progress is anticipated on many other developments before year end through various means as the Council continues to progress the resolution of the remaining 166 estates on the current register of estates for County Clare.

## **Economic Development**

In 2015, the Council put a strong focus on town and village renewal. This has included identifying and working with owners of “opportunity sites” in our towns and villages. Technical assistance was also provided to a range of Tidy Towns groups including some of those funded under the Public Area Enhancement Scheme. Assistance was provided to Kilrush Tidy Towns, culminating in its winning Gold in the

Entente Florale. In addition, working in partnership with the community, and following a socio-economic study and technical assistance by Clare County Council a temporary pontoon was secured for Doonbeg pier to enhance the marine tourism and economic potential of the area.

### **Public Area Enhancement Scheme**

The Council provided funding of €100k towards a public area enhancement scheme again in 2015. This funding, from the Council's own resources, was also provided in 2014 and has resulted in very significant projects been undertaken by local community groups throughout the county. It has been an important scheme in the delivery of environmental and other improvements in town and villages throughout the county.

### **Local Enterprise Office**

The Local Enterprise Office (LEO) offers a range of enterprise supports including priming grants, business development grants as well as extensive mentoring and training programmes. The LEO is fully embedded within the local authority structure and will in 2016 continue its efforts to support and promote an enterprise culture. The current arrangement for the Local Enterprise Office requires the local authority to provide and fund additional staffing from its own resources.

### **Economic Development and Promotion**

Provision for the incentive scheme for long vacant properties has been made under this heading. Details of the proposed scheme have been set out in the introduction to this report.

### **CEDRA**

The report of the Commission for Economic Development of Rural Areas (CEDRA) was published in 2014. The elected members decided to set up a working group to examine the recommendations of the report and how Clare could benefit from such recommendations. A detailed submission was prepared and approved by the full Council. Following an invitation from the Department for submissions for pilot Rural Economic Development Zones (REDZ) the Council submitted three applications for

Ennis, Shannon and Scariff. The Council was notified in October 2015 of total funding of €184k for the three applications submitted.

### **Ennis Market Redevelopment**

The procurement process for Phase I of the Market Redevelopment project for Ennis was completed in October 2015. Construction on this project will commence in the latter part of 2015 with an anticipated completion date of mid 2016. This €1.75m project represents a major investment by the Council in the rejuvenation of a core area in the county town. Funding for the project is through loan finance. Provision for the loan repayments has been made in the budget.

### **Enforcement**

Up to September 2015 the Planning Authority has issued a total of 124 warning letters and 33 Enforcement Notices.

A total of 10 queries have been received from the Ombudsman in relation to enforcement files, and with a further 16 Freedom of Information requests received so far this year.

The Planning Authority have also embarked on a new IT project, CRM (Customer Relationship Management), which will provide for the processing, updating and online management of enforcement files. This project is at the development stage and is expected to be rolled out by the end of the year. It is expected that this project will streamline the processing of enforcement files and allow for more efficient management of same.

As part of the CRM project, the scanning of enforcement files and all new complaints is required. This process is underway. Any new files will be scanned internally within the Department.

### **Local Community Development Committee**

The Local Government Reform Act 2014 provided for the establishment of a Local Community Development Committees (LCDC). The LCDC is actively involved in the preparation of the community elements of a 6-year Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP), which is due to be completed by the end of the year. It is also involved in coordinating and overseeing the delivery of the Social Inclusion and Community

Activation Programme (SICAP) with a Mid-Term review due by end Sept and End of Year review due by Dec 2015. As a Local Action Group (LAG), the LCDC submitted a successful Expression of Interest (EOI) for the development of a Local Development Strategy (LDS).

### **Public Participation Networks**

The Public Participation Network (PPN) structures were established during 2015. Elections for the purposes of selecting representatives to the various committees of the Council (four Strategic Policy Committees, the Local Community Development Committee, the Joint Policing Committee) and the Secretariat concluded in April 2015. The ten member Secretariat, drawn from the Municipal District PPN's and the three electoral colleges is in operation.

The Council organised training for the Secretariat during the year and this was delivered by Social Justice Ireland. By circular dated 24<sup>th</sup> June 2015, the Department advised that an allocation of €50k will be made available from central government to support the PPN structure locally with the expectation that the Council will match this funding with the sum of €30k from its own resources. The budgetary provision for the PPN in 2016 has been provided on the basis that the circumstances outlined in the Circular will again apply in 2016.

### **Clare Age-Friendly Strategy**

Clare County Council supports the delivery of the County's inter-agency 'Age-Friendly Strategy'. The strategy sets out more than 50 actions to be delivered over the period 2014-2016 by more than seven agencies. Implementation of the strategy has to-date contributed significantly to enhancing the quality of life of the County's Older People. The Annual Report for 2014 was published earlier in 2015.

### **Wild Atlantic Way**

Remedial works to the relevant Wild Atlantic Way Sites in Clare have been completed. A further contract for the installation of interpretation panels and photo points was signed in August 2015. It is expected that this work will be completed in the first quarter of 2016.

## **Cliffs of Moher Visitor Experience**

Following record levels of visitor numbers in 2014, strong growth continued in 2015. It is expected that visitor numbers will be in the region of 1.2 million at year's end. The Cliffs of Moher Visitor experience is the second most visited attraction in the country and is indicative of the quality tourism product available in County Clare.

A major refurbishment of the Waste Water Treatment plant was undertaken in 2015. The planning process was completed for a new coach entry and reception point with works due to start late 2015/early 2016. Investment in the facility will continue throughout 2016 with improvements planned to O'Brien's Tower, internal upgrades within the centre and some drainage works. Further work will be advanced on the drainage requirements for the car park with a view to upgrading this part of the site. A private park and ride scheme is also expected to be in operation from Doolin and Liscannor and management will need to assess the impacts of these services on the Cliffs operations during the year.

## **Events and Conferences**

The Council has played a key role in securing Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann for Ennis in 2016. The event, led by the local Comhaltas branch, will see some 400,000 people in Ennis during mid August 2016. The event is estimated to be worth some €40m to the local economy. The Council is involved in the overall management structure put in place to plan, coordinate and manage this large scale event.

The staging of the Fleadh provides a platform to further promote Clare as a County of Culture. Plans are being advanced to progress this initiative and will include a launch event, a festival and events guide and other activities to promote the county. The Council has already sought expressions of interest for festivals and events that will celebrate Clare as a County of Culture. A key highlight of the year will be the staging of Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann and it is planned that activities will also take place in other parts of the county during Fleadh week.

During 2015, the Council has continued to work with agencies and organisations with a view to attracting events and conferences to the county. Rás na mBan and the Junior Tour of Ireland were hosted in Clare again during 2015 and as Clare proved

so popular last year, the National Pride of Place Awards will again take place in Ennis in November 2015.

Funding under the Community Tourism Diaspora Fund 2015 was approved for fifty one festivals and events taking place around the county during the year. This fund is provided by Clare County Council, IPB and Failte Ireland.

### **Lough Derg**

The work of the Lough Derg Marketing Group is focused around the delivery of the strategy 'A Roadmap for Experience Development and Destination Marketing 2014-2017'. A number of projects which will benefit County Clare have been identified and these will be funded from the €2m Stimulus Fund operated by Failte Ireland. These projects include the Killaloe to Ballycuggeran footpath extension, the Ballycuggeran Amenity Upgrade, a visitor management plan for Holy Island, the Lough Derg Signage strategy and a proposed Lough Derg Canoe Trail.

### **EU LIFE Project**

The Burren and Cliffs of Moher Geopark EU LIFE Programme is at the mid-term stage in the project. The project is working towards the delivery of actions which will best demonstrate the environmental and economic benefits of a sustainable approach to tourism development in landscapes of high conversation value. The programme is funded by EU contributions and contributions in kind from the various participating agencies and will conclude in December 2017.

The Burren and Cliffs of Moher Geopark was successful in retaining the UNESCO supported Geopark status for a further four year period. The Geopark programme works with local businesses, schools and agencies to deliver training, community projects and visitor experiences that support sustainable practices. The Burren Food Trail secured the European Destination of Excellence (EDEN) award in May 2015.

### **Clare Tourism**

Clare Tourism Forum was re-structured during 2015. The Steering Group has been selected through an election process and is now branded as Clare Tourism. A new brand identity will be launched later this year and the focus is on marketing and promoting the county by working with key agencies and organisations. Clare Tourism

was represented at Milwaukee Irish Fest again this year and continues to participate in key trade/consumer events.

### **Tourism Product Development**

The Council announced the acquisition of Holy Island in Mountshannon in June 2015 and the medium term focus is on the preparation of a visitor management plan for the island. This is a very important project and has the potential to rejuvenate tourism in the east Clare area. The island is also on the Ireland's tentative list for World Heritage Site status.

Following on the completion of the €6m new pier at Doolin, the Council is progressing a proposal for the development of a Visitor Services facility at this location. The procurement process for a design team is nearing completion which will facilitate the preparation of a master plan and the detailed design of visitor facilities.

### **Twinning**

The work programme for 2016 will focus on the development of the twinning links with China (Yunnan Province) following the signing of two Agreements in May 2015 between County Clare and the Yunnan Province, China and between the Burren and Cliffs of Moher Geopark and the Stone Forest Geopark in Yunnan. Both of the Agreements are for a five year period. Following on from the signing of the Friendship agreement, a very successful meeting was arranged by Clare County Council between representatives of Kunming University, Yunnan and the University of Limerick at the Clare Campus UL.

The work programme will also focus on a national Sister Cities Initiative for 2016 as part of the overall programme for the commemoration of 1916; supporting the links already developed with Clare Valley, Australia; the Student Ambassador Programme with Phoenix Arizona, the Student Exchange Programme with Langenfeld, Germany, the Sports Exchange event with Newry & Mourne, and identification of a possible twinning partner in the UK.

## **Division E - Environmental Services**

### **General**

The legislative and regulatory framework for the work of the environment section is extensive. Waste and water legislative and regulatory requirements have increased through 2015 and this process is expected to continue in the coming years. A new Southern Region Waste Management Plan was approved in 2015. Clare County Council is one of the constituent members of the Southern Waste region. The new plan sets out the waste policy and objectives for the region and the county for the next 7 years to cover the period 2015 to 2021. Preparation is also underway at present for the second round of the Water Framework Directive River Basin Management Plans. The plan which is now being prepared is due to be approved by the end of 2017. The 2<sup>nd</sup> round plan will set the objectives for water resource quality for the county in the period up to 2021. In particular it will characterise the waters in the county in terms of their status and the trend in that status. Council work programmes are now focused towards achieving these goals.

### **Focus on Improving the Environment**

In order to deliver on the key requirement of improving and enhancing the environment Clare County Council continues to implement a coordinated strategy on environmental improvement in the section. This strategy comprises of a number of key elements including a focus on intermediate outcomes for environmental improvement which are tangible and measurable. These outcomes reflect key national and international regulatory requirements in accordance with the requirements of the EPA and the Department of the Environment Community and Local Government. This focus is accompanied by education and awareness initiatives to assist the public in achieving compliance. Clare County Council also engages in comprehensive planning and management of inspections across a wide range of environmental indicators. Finally, sanctions are applied where required in order to provide a level playing pitch for business. Clare County Council is working on a number of key areas including waste, water, air quality and noise and agriculture

## **Waste Management**

The market conditions for waste management nationally and locally have continued to be volatile in 2015. The recycling facilities remain open and small quantities of household black bag waste will continue to be accepted at Ballyduff Beg, Scarriff and Lisdeen. There has been a continuing decrease in volumes of residual wet waste and recyclables deposited at the Council's waste management facilities in 2015. This presents a challenge in terms of reduced income for wet waste and recyclables although there is in turn a reduction in costs associated with a reduced number of lifts. The rate of slowdown of these streams has however reduced. Clare performs very well against national statistics in recycling. Clare County Council has a very well developed waste management infrastructure and the use of our facilities by the public remains high. The new pay by weight regulations will be fully operational in 2016. Changes to the collection practice will be required at our wet waste collection facilities at Ballyduff Beg, Scarriff and Lisdeen to ensure that household waste collection is paid for based on the weight of waste brought to the centres by the customer. Certain additional costs may be incurred as a result of these new legislative requirements; however the legislation is not published as yet so the detail of these additional costs are not known.

## **Landfill Remediation**

Since the landfill at Ballyduff Beg ceased accepting waste the issue of the final closure, remediation and aftercare plan at the facility remains to be resolved and revised works for permanent closure needs to be developed. It is intended at present that this work will be completed in 2016, subject of course to available funding. In compliance with EU Regulations, Clare County Council has been implementing a remediation programme for closed landfills in the County. Works remain to be done on the Lisdeen landfill site and Clare County Council is awaiting grant approval in this regard.

A detailed assessment process has been undertaken in accordance with an EPA Code of Practice to give a risk classification to each of eight historic closed landfills in County Clare. As part of the Southern Region Waste Management Plan a process is underway to prioritise the remediation of these landfills. Clare County Council has one high risk, 2 medium risk and 5 low risk historic landfills. As such the risk from

these is relatively low to those in other counties. As a result it is likely that the landfills in Clare will be lower down the priority list and will likely be scheduled for remediation in the period 2020 to 2025.

In 2013 the EPA reviewed the licences for all licensed facilities nationally to ensure compliance with the Groundwater regulations. All 5 licensed landfills in County Clare had their licences amended to cater for this requirement. As a result of the revised licence conditions a risk assessment of the potential effects to ground water from the licensed facilities has been undertaken and completed. Of the 5 landfills, the landfill at Doora has potentially the greater risk associated with groundwater effects. The work associated with the risk assessment and developing remediation strategies is underway.

### **Recycling facilities**

Clare County Council currently operates recycling facilities at Scariff, Ennis, Shannon, Lisdeen and Ballyduff Beg. Tendering was completed during 2015 for all recyclable contracts and new contracts are now in place. Due to the volatility in the market for recyclables there will be further pressure on these contracts for the future. In addition some streams which provided an income such as metals are now decreasing in value. The council will continue to tender these contracts as they arise but the market is now such that costs in this area are likely to increase. Therefore the expenditure in this area for 2016 is unchanged from 2015 but will need to be reviewed carefully during 2016. In addition income continues to come under pressure.

The Recycling Service is funded by a combination of income which includes a WEEE subvention, subsidies under the Packaging Regulations, and income from clothes, scrap metals, aluminium cans and batteries as well as income generated from recycling charges collected at the various facilities. The most significant source of income however is the Recycling Centre Operational Grant payable from the Environment Fund which has been subject to very significant decreases over the past couple of years. Current indications are that the 2015 allocation will be at least €35k less than the previous year with the potential for even further decline in 2016. The budget for 2016 takes account of these factors by estimating an overall decrease in income of €89k under this heading. If this trend towards reduced grant

assistance continues over the coming years it is likely to pose a challenge in delivering services at the current level.

The impact of legislative changes and in particular the increase in landfill levy are built into the costs charged for depositing wet waste at the council's recycling facilities at Lisdeen, Scarriff and Ballyduff Beg. It is not intended to increase the costs for recycling or wet waste at the council's facilities in 2016.

### **Bring Banks**

Clare County Council currently operates a network of 54 bring banks throughout the County. The provision of additional bring bank facilities has proven difficult for most local authorities in terms of identifying suitable sites for such facilities. Improvements however have taken place at some locations in providing concrete bases for the banks, better cleaning arrangements and improved signage. Costs for removal of bottles have increased over the past number of years and the market conditions do not show any improvement in this at present.

### **Litter Management**

A revised Litter Management Plan for the period 2015 to 2018 is being developed. Littering continues to be a problem in certain parts of the county and the waste enforcement team has prioritised a number of initiatives in this area for 2016. There is an additional requirement in 2016 which derives from a commitment contained in the new Waste Management Plan to allocate 15 cent per head of population towards funding of local waste prevention initiatives (€17k). No specific provision has been made in Budget 2016 but the expenditure will have to be met from within existing resources.

### **Environmental Awareness and Education**

Clare County Council operates a very extensive range of environmental initiatives including co-ordinating and supporting participation of schools under the Green Schools Programme. Clare County Council works in partnership with An Taisce in delivering the Green Schools Programme. In Clare there are 121 schools registered under the Green Schools Programme and 100 schools have received the Green Flag. Each school has to be assessed for each green flag obtained and these

assessments are carried out by the Environment Awareness Officer with support of staff from the Environment Section and An Taisce. Clare County Council is also heavily involved in initiatives such as National Tree Week, National Spring Clean, Recycling Week, European Week for Waste Reduction, Winter Awareness Programme, Real Nappy Awareness Events, Master Composting Workshops, Food Waste Awareness, Household Hazardous Waste Campaign, LAPN (Local Authority Prevention Network) projects and other very worth-while environmental awareness and prevention initiatives.

### **Shannon/Western River Basin District Projects**

The River Basin Management Plans, which were approved in 2010, are at the end of their implementation stage. In Clare there is emphasis in particular on activities which will maintain and protect human health. Council activities concentrate therefore on protecting drinking water sources, bathing waters and shell fish waters. Preparation for the next round of the River Basin Management Plans, including revised governance arrangements, have been implemented during 2015. The second round of River Basin Management Plans will be approved in 2017. The 2<sup>nd</sup> round plans will concentrate on the characterization of our waters in terms of their status and the trend in that status. This will result in targeted programmes of work to maintain status and improve problematic trends. For 2015 all of the bathing waters in Clare have maintained excellent test results. In addition Clare's shellfish Waters have the highest status nationally for shellfish water quality.

### **Water resource management**

One of the key goals of the River Basin Management Plans is the management of water as a resource. The Environment Section looks after this area of water resource management. The section operates a water scientific services team and laboratory. These teams have been busy throughout 2015 with drinking, bathing water and shellfish water management. Some of this work is being done in accordance with the SLA with Irish Water, however, water resource issues which are outside the remit of Irish Water are being dealt with as well. One particular area which is being implemented is the inspection programme for domestic waste water treatment systems. A new national inspection plan was published at the end of 2014. In the

2013 and 2014 period 88 Inspections were completed which is in excess of the requirements of the EPA for that period. In 2015 and in each of the next 3 years 49 Inspections will need to be completed annually and these are underway.

### **Limerick Clare Energy Agency**

The Limerick Clare Energy Agency continues to play a major role in energy management and progressing the climate change agenda for the Clare and Limerick local authorities. The Agency has provided valuable assistance to the Council on design advice for new build projects, on tariff negotiation for energy use, plant efficiency and specific energy audits at Council facilities. This work has already resulted in savings on energy related expenditure and assists Clare County Council in meeting its statutory obligations in this regard.

### **Flooding**

The OPW are the competent authority for implementing the Floods Directive nationally. The draft Flood Maps were finalised in 2015. Clare County Council has been assisting the OPW in this process. Work will continue on this item in 2016 for preparation of the Flood Risk Management Plans and finalising the flood maps. Clare County Council will be working on delivering these items in 2015 and through 2016 in conjunction with the OPW and its team.

### **Beaches and Water Safety**

The International Blue Flag awards in 2015 saw the award of 9 blue flags for Lahinch, Kilkee, Cappagh Kilrush, Whitestrand Doonbeg, Whitestrand Milltown Malbay, Fanore, Ballycuggeran, Mountshannon and Spanish point. In addition 2 green coast awards were obtained for Bishopsquarter and Seafield Quilty. This is the highest number of awards obtained by Clare County Council and is testament to the quality of the bathing waters and experience at the county's' beaches. It is intended to maintain these flags into the future. .

In total Clare County Council has 12 bathing waters which are tested in accordance with the EU bathing water regulations including all of the blue and green flag beaches above. All of these are rated excellent in terms of water quality based on these regulations for 2015. The implementation of the new Bathing Water

Regulations and the effects of Climate Change are however likely to continue to present particular challenges in maintaining the high standards of our beaches in future years. The Environment Section is examining mitigation strategies to ensure bathing water compliance in accordance with EU directives for 2016 and beyond.

The provision for water safety will allow for a similar level of lifeguarding services in 2016 as in 2015.

### **Gardening Section**

The Council's Gardening Section continues to maintain very high standards in ensuring the attractiveness of our towns and villages in the county. The magnificent floral displays and attractive planting schemes as well as the support and assistance provided to the various Tidy Towns Committees has ensured that the county continues to build on its successes in the National Tidy Towns competition. 2015 was no exception with Kilrush and Ennis retaining gold medals in their respective categories with Mountshannon, Tuamgraney, Ballynacally , Kilkee and Clarecastle also receiving awards.

2015 saw Kilrush represent Ireland in the Village category in the European Entente Florale competition following on from its success as Irelands' Tidiest Small Town in 2014. The competition was judged in July and the awards ceremony took place in Bristol in September where Kilrush were awarded the prestigious Gold Medal.

### **Burial Grounds**

Draft Burial Ground Bye-Laws for the County have been prepared and the statutory public consultation has been completed. The byelaws when adopted will improve the overall management arrangements for burial grounds under the control of the local authority.

Provision has again been made for 2016 in the Budget for priming grants to assist voluntary burial ground committees in the maintenance of approximately 160 burial grounds throughout the County. 34 applications were received in 2015. The work carried out by these voluntary, community and parish committees is invaluable to the maintenance of burial grounds.

Provision has also been made to continue with the annual maintenance contracts for Drumcliff and Corrovorin burial grounds in Ennis and Illaunamanagh burial ground in Shannon.

## **Derelict Sites**

The focus on eliminating derelict sites on approach roads to towns and villages and within towns and villages remains a priority of the Council. Given the significance of tourism to the County and in particular the staging of Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann next year, the need to address derelict sites all around the county will be particularly important.

## **Fire & Building Control**

A summary of activities in the area of Fire & Building Control in 2015 are:

### **Fire Service Operations**

- A slight *decrease* of 7% in incidents attended (Jan – September) on last year's figures - unfortunately there was a the large increase in the number of Forest/Bog/Grass fires,
- Completion of a substantial Training Programme for Fire Service Personnel
- Introduction of the use of incident control IT applications (on handheld tablet devices) onto all 1<sup>st</sup> Turnout Vehicles
- Maintenance contract of Personal Protective Clothing revised
- Ongoing progress in the delivery of the National Standard Operating Guidance programme

### **Fire Prevention**

- Risk Based Inspection Programme continued – Substantial number of high risk premises has been inspected in recent years including Nursing Homes, Apartment Buildings & Hostels
- One major focus in 2015 has been towards the 2016 Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann, and increasing fire safety awareness in various groups.
- Slight Decrease in Fire Safety Certificate Applications on 2014 figures.

- Piloted the use of the Council's Social Media (Facebook & Twitter) to raise Carbon Monoxide and Fire Safety Awareness during 2015

### **Health and Safety**

- The fire service successfully retained the OHSAS 18001 Accreditation following the NSAI's Audit in February 2015.

### **Building Control**

- Rate of inspections of new developments remains similar to previous years at approximately 15 per cent of all such developments.
- Increase of 22 per cent in Disability Access Certificate Applications.
- The national Building Control Management System is still going through development stages, and many of the queries raised about the system by building owners/advisors are being dealt with locally.
- The recent SI 365 of 2015, includes an opt out arrangement for the construction of single dwelling and extension of same, it is likely that this will have an impact on the workload of the Building Control Authority as such applications may require additional monitoring.

## **Major Emergency Management**

### **Participation at the Regional Steering and Working Groups on Major Emergency Management.**

- Ongoing Training Courses and Preparation for the implementation of the Major Emergency Plan should it be required.
- External Emergency Plans for Moneypoint Power Generating Station and Shannon Airport Fuel Terminal in conjunction with the other Local Competent Authorities.
- Shannon Estuary Serious Incident and Major Emergency Strategic Co-ordination Document in conjunction with the other Estuary based Organisations and Agencies.

## Dangerous Structures

- Slight increase in cases reported to the Local Authority, however it is still proving difficult to ascertain ownership details in many cases, and dealing with receivers does extend the time delays in getting works progressed.
- Additional difficulties in getting builders/property owners to carry out required works due to financial constraints. In some instances, the works are being carried out by the Local Authority, with recoupment of costs being progressed as set out in the Local Government (Sanitary Services) Act 1964.

## Civil Defence

- The budget provision for Civil Defence at €154k has been maintained at the 2014 level.
- The role of Civil Defence has become increasingly important in recent years including search and recovery operations, community initiatives, assisting the local authority with cover for their personnel working in or around water and the upskilling of existing members.
- Reflecting this role, further investment was undertaken in 2015 in providing a second Ambulance, a new 17 seat mini-bus and the first ever Rescue Water Craft introduced to the Civil Defence organisation.

The very high professional standard evident, from what is a voluntary service, is exceptional and the small investment required to ensure adequate facilities are available represents outstanding value for the Council and the Clare community. A recruitment campaign that was undertaken in late 2014, in order to ensure that the level of trained members will be maintained and enhanced in 2015 and future years has show success in 2015 with 12 new volunteers beginning training for the 2015/16 training year.

## Expectations for 2016 include:

- Continuation of the National Standards Operating Guidance Programme.

- Expansion of the Risk Based Fire Safety Inspection Programme, with particular emphasis on the upcoming Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann and the number of people that will be attending same.
- Continuing to monitor and enforce as necessary to ensure that new development meet National Building Control standards throughout Clare.
- Ongoing updating and delivery of the Major Emergency Management Programme.
- Continued accreditation of Fire and Building Control Section Occupational Health and Safety Management System to OHSAS 18001.
- Civil Defence will continue to provide support to the front line emergency services in dealing with severe weather, flooding, major accidents and searching for missing people. Civil Defence will continue to assist local community events, together with larger events throughout the county. It is expected that Civil Defence will have a large part to play in August 2016 when Ennis hosts Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann 2016, and their various skills will be brought to the fore in ensuring that the event is run successfully and safely.

## **Division F – Recreation and Amenity**

### **Active Ennis Sports & Leisure Facilities**

Active Ennis Leisure Complex continues to expand its range of fitness classes and swimming programmes offered to members of the public. The facility has secured funding under the Energy Efficiency Upgrade and Enhanced Disabled Access Initiative 2015 to undertake necessary works to the facility. These works include the installation of a Combined Heat and Power Plant, the upgrade of the Building Management System, lights and tiling works to the changing area.

Facilities at Lees Road, Tim Smyth Park, Coote Park, Glenina and Kilrush continue to see growth in usage.

### **Library Service**

Up to the end of September 2015 the number of book issues and the level of library membership have remained at a similar level to those pertaining in 2014, while in the same period internet usage was recorded at over 38k hours.

The book fund remains the lifeblood of the service with €187,000 allocated to the purchase of books, CD's, etc, for 2016. The reading of adult fiction continues to be popular with over 27% of all books issued in this category, adult non-fiction issues account for over 13% in comparison. Undoubtedly, the highest consumers of books are young people with 47% of all issues relating to usage in this age category; with teenagers making up an additional 3.5% of issues. The remainder of stock availed of consists of audio books, music CD's, book promotions and literacy fiction.

The library service is an inclusive service and programming continues across a number of distinct areas targeted at engaging public interest, enriching library usage for our clients and ensuring that all citizens find some benefit from library membership.

With 30% of library members under 14 years of age – activities and programming for this age group continues to be a priority. Initiatives around reading for recreation, support to the curriculum in both Primary and Post Primary schools and early child-parent shared reading projects continued to be a focus for Children's services throughout 2015. Work in areas of disadvantage is also a key focus with

collaboration's continuing with local DEIS schools and summer reading camps. The Children's Summer Reading Challenge continues to motivate children to continue their reading over the summer holidays with over 800 children completing the challenge in 2015. Children's Summer Library Clubs were run in Ennis, Ennistymon, Kilrush, Scariff and Shannon libraries featuring activities from art workshops and word games to library treasure hunts. Teen Week events in Ennis and Kilrush were well supported by schools in the area. The teenagers attended talks by authors; and workshops on video production, drumming and art were also held. Over 4,000 children are expected to attend the more than 50 events organised throughout the branch library network for Children's Book Festival this October. Shane Hegarty, author of the internationally renowned *Darkmouth* series, is this year's main event in Glór. An audience of 500 schoolchildren from throughout the County are expected to attend. Clare County Library in collaboration with the Laureate na N'Óg and Clare Arts Office brought a two day storytelling festival to North Clare in May with a team of 6 authors and storytellers entertaining children from 12 schools in the area.

Working with and exploiting the book stock to better advantage has been the purpose of activities around promoting books. A book promotion entitled "Words of War" featuring novels, poetry, memoirs and factual accounts of World War 1 was launched and is touring the branches in 2015. A further book promotion to mark the 1916 Rising will be produced in 2016 as a library initiative as part of the 1916 commemoration activities. In line with the Clare Age-Friendly County Strategic Plan the library compiled a Positive Ageing reading list with a supply of the recommended books available throughout the branch network. The library continues to host events and book displays to mark national and international events such as World Book Day, World Refugee Day and Seachtain na Gaeilge. Book clubs, either attached to individual libraries, or availing of library stock, continue to be a feature of the adult reading service.

A number of ICT related initiatives were undertaken in 2015. These included the addition of free public Wifi and a printing facility at Shannon library. In addition software to enhance the management of public access internet PCs in branch libraries was rolled out. Increased content was added to the libraries online photographic content while the music section of the website was also extended.

Shannon library is also piloting an enterprise support initiative which was launched in September.

The marketing and promotion of services is an important, and ongoing feature of library activities. The Adult Learners' Festival; Bealtaine; Heritage Week and Culture Night were just some of the national events that the library participated in this year, along with a variety of craft events such as hat-making, knitting and painting.

Outreach to Day Care Centres and hospitals continued. Several exhibitions were created in-house at the library headquarters, for example, the 'Lusitania and Clare' exhibition marked the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the sinking. An 'Alice in Wonderland' exhibition marked the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first edition of this book. The library newsletter 'Speaking Volumes', along with regular media releases, promotes library issues and events throughout the year.

## **Arts Service**

The Arts Office continued its core arts programmes in 2015 with support from the Arts Council. These programmes included Arts & Health projects in Raheen Hospital, Tuamgraney and St. Joseph's Hospital, Ennis, the Embrace Arts and Disability Programme, the Artist in Schools Scheme, and the Bealtaine Festival celebrating creativity in older age. Bursaries were awarded to Clare participants to avail of professional development opportunities. Clare Youth Theatre continued to meet weekly.

The Arts Council also supported the visual arts programme of the Ennistymon Courthouse Gallery and the Burren College of Art. The Arts Office organised over 30 art exhibitions in Ennis, Scariff and Kilkee. Occupancy at the Tulla Stables Studios rose to 100% during the year.

Over 45 events took place county-wide as part of Culture Night, supported by funding from the Department of Arts.

The Riches of Clare traditional music concerts continued over the summer. The Arts Office also worked closely with the Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board (ETB) on the development of the Clare Music Education Partnership. This initiative is financially supported by the Council. The Partnership has to date delivered instrumental tuition to children in Ennis, Kilrush and Ennistymon, a choral

programme in over 25 schools countywide, a pilot pre-school programme in Ennis, and a PHD is being offered through the University of Limerick to support the programme.

There was increased programming of Cultúrlann Sweeney in Kilkee in 2015. The Public Art Programme saw the commissioning of a new artwork at Cuan an Chláir, Ennis.

The Arts Office was involved in the planning and administration of the 1916 Commemorative Programme of events as well as the County of Culture Initiative. Almost 100 grants were administered to local groups, festivals and artists.

### **Clare Museum**

In March 2015, Clare County Council adopted new Collection, Loan, Disposal or Exhibition Policies for Clare Museum, along with a strategic Plan, all which were necessary for Interim Accreditation under the Heritage Council's Museum Standards Programme. The museum achieved Interim Accreditation in June and the policies and plans have been placed on the website for the benefit of the public. Three temporary exhibitions have showcased this year: An exhibition from the Museum's reserve collection to commemorate the Clare 1914 All-Ireland winning teams has been the main temporary exhibition this year, running from April 2015 to March 2016. A booklet on the topic has been researched and will be made available to the public shortly. 'Stories in Box' is a temporary exhibition of items chosen by students in Cloughleigh National School to represent their lives. This project was carried out in partnership with Clare VEC. Since September 2015, an exhibition on the Lusitania sinking has been on display. Public activities have included Storytelling workshops for a week in February around St Brigid's Day for local Primary schools, 'Be an Archaeologist for a day' workshops held weekly for Transition Year Students over the months of April and May and for the general public during Heritage week in September. Curatorial activities have included ongoing cataloguing of the collection and renewal of loan agreements with lenders.

Visitor numbers have increased in 2015 with over 27,000 visitors up to September of this year.

## **Archives' Service**

The Archives Service's digitisation project has continued with the digitisation of more than sixty large volumes of Board of Guardian Minute Books. These volumes will accompany the already digitised material, such as the Grand Jury Presentments and the Electoral Registers dating from the 19<sup>th</sup> century, that are to be made available on the on-line archives' portal interface in 2016. An important archival collection, The McMahon Collection, was catalogued and made available to the public. An exhibition and accompanying catalogue were produced surrounding this collection and exhibited in Clare Museum for Heritage Week 2015.

## **Glór**

Glór continues to bring an exciting programme to audiences featuring performing and visual arts while acting as a resource space for festivals and events such as Fleadh Nua, the Ennis Book Club Festival and The Ennis Street Festival.

Throughout 2015, Glór has increased the programming and has increased the level of artistic programming on offer, in particular, touring theatre, dance, opera and music. However, direct costs have increased in line with this growth in activity so Glór continues to seek to develop other funding streams including increased funding from public sources, fundraising and sponsorship to assist with this reality. Glór has developed three primary events in 2015 for delivery this year - the MÓRGLÓR AWARD to Eoin O'Neill in October, Glór @ Dromoland in November and a number of new education and outreach programmes to be put in place in early 2016 including a children's book project, a choral project with older people and an artist in residence programme with Music Generation Clare. Glór has consolidated its partnership with Nolan & Lambe Cafe and Cultúrlann Sweeney Theatre, Kilkee during 2015 and continues to work together to enhance the offering of theatre suppers, and food and film events.

## **Division G – Agriculture,**

### **Higher Education Grants**

Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI) has been responsible for handling all new applications for Higher Education Grants, including where students are changing course or progressing to a new course, since 2012.

Clare County Council retains responsibility for the awarding of grants in 2016 for existing grant holders who are progressing to the next year of the same course. As students complete degree course the number of students receiving grants via the council are decreasing year on year. The expenditure incurred by the Council is recouped directly from the Department of Education and Skills. The cost of administering Higher Education Grants is borne by the Council.

The budget for 2015 for the payment of Higher Education Grants is €175k and will further reduce in future years as outlined above.

### **Veterinary Services**

The Service Level Agreement with the Food Safety Authority of Ireland in relation to the supervision of operational hygiene at abattoirs and meat processing plants is due to expire at the end of 2015. This function in the future is planned to operate under a Shared Service arrangement with a Lead Authority responsible for administration and management in each of the regions. Cork County Council has been selected as the Lead Authority for the Southern Region.

### **Dog Control**

The contract for provision of Dog Warden services was retendered during 2015 and it is anticipated that the new contract will be awarded very shortly. The successful tenderer will carry out the Council's statutory functions in this area with the exception of the making of Byelaws and the taking of prosecutions. The 2016 provision shows a marginal increase to reflect the outcome of the recent procurement exercise.

**Other Animal Welfare Services**

This allocation provides for the control of horses where the services of a private security firm are employed to carry out certain functions on behalf of the Council. In recent years the Department of Agriculture and Food have reduced the amount which can be recouped by the Council towards the costs of running this service resulting in a shortfall of approximately €20k which must be met by the Council. Actual costs are dependent on the numbers of horses impounded in a given year which has shown a decline in 2014 and 2015 over previous years.

## **Division H – Miscellaneous Services**

### **Administration of Rates**

This service includes the budget provision for salaries and administrative expenses for the collection of Rates together with the provision for Commercial Rates Refunds and Irrecoverable Rates. The Local Government Reform Act 2014 amended the legislation in relation to rates refunds so that, as a reserved function, a local authority may decide that in a local electoral district or districts a revised refund proportion may apply in respect of vacant properties. Currently in all areas of the county a 100% refund applies for properties that are vacant for the full year. The budget for 2016 has been prepared on the basis that the current refund arrangements continue.

As outlined earlier in this report the council is planning to introduce an incentive grant scheme for ratepayers that discharge their rates liability on time in relation to occupied properties. The cost of the grants arising are provided for under this heading.

The council continues to make every effort to put in place flexible payment plans with businesses that are facing cash flow difficulties over the course of the year. Where customers fail to engage and agree payment arrangements for accounts outstanding, recovery of the debt by legal proceedings may become necessary.

### **Motor Tax**

A majority of motor tax customers in Clare are now using the online motor tax facility [www.motortax.ie](http://www.motortax.ie) to tax their vehicles. Off road vehicle declarations can also be made online.

Online motor taxing in Clare has grown from 55% in July 2014 to 60% in July 2015. The July 2015 statistic ranks Clare 13th in terms of online usage, with Dublin City, Kildare and Meath being the top 3 in the 75 - 80% online bracket.

The benefits of the online facility have been highlighted on the council's website and on the public signage displays in the motor tax office.

The delivery of motor taxation nationally is currently being reviewed, as part of the national service efficiency reform agenda.

### **Coroners Service**

The Council has made provision in the Budget for the cost of the coroner's service as required by the Coroners Act, 1962 and this is fully funded by the Council.

## **Division J – Central Management Services**

### **Irish Language Activities**

The Council will continue to meet its obligations under the Official Languages Act, 2003. Provision is again made for Scéim Deontais na Gaeilge which provides small grants to organizations promoting events to stimulate interest in the Irish language throughout the county.

### **Human Resources Department**

The Human Resources Department has a corporate wide role supporting both management and staff. The department has a central role to play in the planning, organisation and management of the staff employed by the Local Authority.

Each of the following service areas within the Human Resources Department are supported by and linked to agreed HR policies and procedures in the HR Strategy.

The total number of employees at the end of September 2015 was 841.

The Council is actively participating in the Governments Labour Activation Programmes, namely, the Jobbridge National Internship Scheme and the Gateway Scheme.

### **Employee Assistance Programme**

The Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005 places obligations on the Council as an employer to safeguard employee's welfare. The continued development and focus on the Council's Employee Welfare Scheme aims to provide and improve assistance and is a significant support for employees. This service includes the provision for employees of external independent and confidential counselling and coaching services, in addition to the support from the internal Employee Welfare Officer. The programme also provides support for staff following critical incidents/personal trauma. A Wellness Programme is planned each year providing an opportunity for staff to focus on, and take part, in health and wellbeing opportunities.

## **Staff Training and Development**

Training and Development is the process from which employees acquire the capabilities to perform their jobs and is an essential part of improving the effectiveness of the organisation as a whole. Training and Development of staff is a management priority. Investment in training benefits the organisation, through the up-skilling of employees and it also facilitates continuous personal development. Management's objective is to ensure that all staff would be adequately trained in the skills and competencies needed to achieve organisational, team and individual objectives.

The Performance Management & Development System (PMDS) has been in place since 2005. It is a process that brings together many people management practices including learning and development. It is a process which contributes to the effective management of individuals and teams in order to achieve improved levels of individual and organisational performance and development.

In 2015, the key training focus will continue to be on the delivery of mandatory Health & Safety training. The Training Unit will continue to support staff to pursue further education through its Continuing Education Scheme.

## **Workplace Partnership**

The Partnership Committee is a positive forum for the discussion between management and staff outside of the industrial relations arena. Discussions in 2015 centered on key sector and organisational issues which were significant from both a staff and management perspective. As part of the Partnership process and to create an awareness and understanding of Partnership and its benefits, Staff Information Sessions were rolled out to all staff over a series of 10 sessions.

## **Industrial Relations**

Industrial Relations are dealt with at a Corporate level. Significant consultation, discussions, and negotiation with Staff and representative Trade Unions took place during the year. The Haddington Road Agreement (HRA) which came into effect on the 1st July 2013 and covers the period to the 30th June 2016 is still the relevant

National Agreement. The HRA includes a number of significant changes in pay/allowances, attendance patterns and work practices.

### **Core HR System**

The Core HR System is a national system containing both HR and Financial functions. The benefits of this system include increased speed and efficiency of HR, Payroll and Superannuation processes; increased accuracy and availability of data from the reporting function of the system. One of the major tasks that the Core project team were involved in during 2015 was the Implementation of the nationally Revised Sick Leave Scheme which also involved monitoring of balances and the development of operational manuals.

### **Superannuation**

The principle function of the Superannuation Section is to administer the Local Government Superannuation (Pension) Scheme and since 1<sup>st</sup> January 2013, the Single Public Service Pension Scheme, which incorporates both the Spouse & Children and Widow's & Orphan's Pension Schemes. The Superannuation Section is the trustee of both schemes.

### **Health and Safety**

During 2015 Clare County Council continued to develop, implement and manage its Occupational Health & Safety Management System. In an effort to reduce Accidents, Near Misses and Dangerous Occurrences as reported a focus in 2015 was on embedding and implementing the Top level Health and Safety Objectives to ensure that the existing Health & Safety Management System is working effectively across the organisation and without adding further documentation to the system.

Clare County Fire and Rescue Service also maintained their certification to the OHSAS 18001 Standard for their Occupational Health & Safety Management System following an independent surveillance audit by the National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI).

In 2016 Clare County Council will continue to develop, implement and manage its Occupational Health & Safety Management System and will set Health and Safety Objectives for implementation in each section in order to continuously improve its Health & Safety performance.

## **Information Technology**

The Information Technology department supports user departments by providing the systems and network infrastructure necessary for the council's operations. The department works with users to increase effectiveness and efficiency through the increased use of available technology throughout the council.

During 2015 the department has been active in the area of system expansion and rollout, with the majority of the development work required being carried out in-house. This work will continue in 2016 with the further expansion of certain council database applications including the Content Management System, and Document Imaging.

It has been necessary to make provision for the replacement of elements of the council's infrastructure that supports the council's access to Government Networks which support key systems hosted in Dublin.

In 2016 the council will be participating in the upgrade of its Financial Management System – Agresso / Milestone 4. This upgrade is part of a national programme and will impact all of the councils operations. A project team will be in place during 2016 to support the development and transition work involved.

In line with current trends, Clare County Council has committed to utilising social media platforms such as Twitter and Facebook in an effort to improve communication and enhance the provision of information to the public. In this regard, resources have been provided for the successful implementation and management of this facility. These services will also be complimented by our existing website [www.clarecoco.ie](http://www.clarecoco.ie) which currently experiences an average of 25,000 hits per month.

**Clare County Council 2016 Budget Tables**



Table A – Calculation of Annual Rate on Valuation

Summary by Service Division	Summary per Table A 2016				Estimated Net Expenditure Outturn	
	Expenditure	Income	Adopted Net Expenditure 2016			
	€	€	€	%	€	%
<b>Gross Revenue Expenditure &amp; Income</b>						
Housing and Building	13,721,966	12,762,939	959,027	2.1%	1,674,597	3.6%
Road Transport & Safety	26,298,270	18,012,429	8,285,841	17.9%	8,291,843	17.6%
Water Services	12,958,805	12,540,631	418,174	0.9%	406,623	0.9%
Development Management	13,454,173	7,405,134	6,049,040	13.1%	5,702,562	12.1%
Environmental Services	13,854,849	2,213,064	11,641,785	25.1%	11,492,154	24.4%
Recreation and Amenity	9,299,936	1,238,593	8,061,343	17.4%	7,784,500	16.5%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	1,008,334	607,382	400,952	0.9%	418,920	0.9%
Miscellaneous Services	12,612,526	2,095,656	10,516,870	22.7%	11,390,935	24.2%
	103,208,860	56,875,827	46,333,033	100%	47,162,133	100%
Provision for Debit Balance						
<b>Adjusted Gross Expenditure &amp; Income</b>	(A) 103,208,860	56,875,827	46,333,033		47,162,133	
<b>Financed by Other Income/Credit Balances</b>						
Provision for Credit Balance						
Local Property Tax / General Purpose Grant			3,166,584		3,858,584	
Pension Related Deduction			1,288,751		1,730,000	
<b>Sub - Total</b>	(B)		4,455,335		5,588,584	
Amount of Rates to be Levied	<b>C=(A-B)</b>		41,877,698		41,573,549	
Base Year Adjustment			383,215			

Amount of Rates to be Levied net of BYA	(D)	42,260,914
Net Effective Valuation	(E)	578,996
General Annual Rate on Valuation	D/E	72.99

Table B Expenditure and Income for 2016 and Estimated Outturn for 2016

## Housing and Building

Division & Services		2016				2015			
		Expenditure		Income		Expenditure		Income	
Code	Housing and Building	Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated Outturn	Adopted by Council	Estimated Outturn
		€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
A01	Maintenance/Improvement of LA Housing Units	2,470,612	2,469,793	5,113,339	5,113,339	2,478,362	2,526,042	4,943,074	5,089,932
A02	Housing Assessment, Allocation and Transfer	603,127	603,225	13,059	13,059	612,050	605,751	13,840	13,536
A03	Housing Rent and Tenant Purchase Administration	659,246	656,882	12,031	12,031	717,960	706,171	14,350	14,034
A04	Housing Community Development Support	732,781	729,854	14,828	14,828	675,244	673,889	14,746	14,421
A05	Administration of Homeless Service	421,900	421,759	325,956	325,956	641,209	421,563	529,960	318,895
A06	Support to Housing Capital Prog.	1,734,656	1,734,323	712,633	712,633	1,593,345	1,560,843	14,272	13,958
A07	RAS Programme	4,511,818	4,511,504	4,783,817	4,783,817	4,026,009	4,056,876	4,090,576	4,041,212
A08	Housing Loans	889,094	889,330	485,934	485,934	959,944	846,008	555,996	475,754
A09	Housing Grants	1,515,541	1,515,537	1,301,342	1,301,342	1,566,750	1,562,019	1,302,888	1,302,825
A12	HAP Operations	183,190	183,135	-	0	0	0	0	0

	Service Division Total	13,721,966	13,715,342	12,762,939	12,762,939	13,270,872	12,959,163	11,479,703	11,284,567
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Table B Expenditure and Income for 2016 and Estimated Outturn for 2016

## Road Transport and Safety

Division & Services		2016				2015			
		Expenditure		Income		Expenditure		Income	
Code	Road Transport and Safety	Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated Outturn	Adopted by Council	Estimated Outturn
		€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
B01	NP Road - Maintenance and Improvement	98,932	98,685	2,107	2,107	121,080	121,568	28,885	1,844
B02	NS Road - Maintenance and Improvement	2,411,405	2,409,466	2,248,277	2,248,277	582,229	638,681	434,088	487,503
B03	Regional Road - Maintenance and Improvement	7,668,942	7,662,758	6,514,593	6,514,593	6,069,884	7,798,281	4,658,617	6,572,994
B04	Local Road - Maintenance and Improvement	12,444,747	12,296,037	7,484,579	7,484,579	11,980,736	12,245,276	7,302,216	7,471,270
B05	Public Lighting	1,630,989	1,630,099	171,124	171,124	1,678,031	1,675,360	209,749	171,227
B06	Traffic Management Improvement	122,225	119,533	277	277	117,370	113,889	372	364
B07	Road Safety Engineering Improvement	308,221	306,887	240,000	240,000	261,028	312,929	195,000	240,000
B08	Road Safety Promotion/Education	369,449	369,285	9,393	9,393	304,547	344,090	9,298	9,093
B09	Car Parking	831,758	830,053	1,325,078	1,325,078	934,281	904,362	1,341,719	1,308,046
B10	Support to Roads Capital Prog.	411,603	407,694	17,001	17,001	426,845	418,008	18,672	18,261
B11	Agency & Recoupable Services								

	Service Division Total	26,298,270	26,130,497	18,012,429	18,012,429	22,476,031	24,572,443	14,198,616	16,280,601
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Table B Expenditure and Income for 2016 and Estimated Outturn for 2016

## Water Services

Division & Services		2016				2015			
		Expenditure		Income		Expenditure		Income	
Code	Water Services	Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated Outturn	Adopted by Council	Estimated Outturn
		€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
C01	Water Supply	5,883,754	5,881,896	11,588,850	11,588,850	6,222,513	6,121,743	12,006,447	11,387,076
C02	Waste Water Treatment	3,435,957	3,432,988	83,126	83,126	3,630,811	3,272,643	75,604	73,941
C03	Collection of Water and Waste Water Charges	1,880,956	1,880,817	37,885	37,885	1,621,773	1,542,013	38,921	38,065
C04	Public Conveniences	184,864	184,865	4,759	4,759	184,493	183,786	4,776	4,768
C05	Admin of Group and Private Installations	1,018,961	1,018,875	10,946	10,946	1,214,424	1,213,929	11,579	11,325
C06	Support to Water Capital Programme	529,313	529,225	815,065	815,065	665,398	581,777	1,019,523	1,019,093
C07	Agency & Recoupable Services	25,000	25,000	-	-	-	25,000	-	-
	Service Division Total	12,958,805	12,953,665	12,540,631	12,540,631	13,539,413	12,940,891	13,156,851	12,534,268

Table B Expenditure and Income for 2016 and Estimated Outturn for 2016

## Development Management

Division & Services		2016				2015			
		Expenditure		Income		Expenditure		Income	
Code	Development Management	Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated Outturn	Adopted by Council	Estimated Outturn
		€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
D01	Forward Planning	1,292,617	1,292,624	30,795	30,795	1,211,682	1,225,835	31,069	30,385.8
D02	Development Management	1,354,715	1,354,582	350,662	350,662	1,168,774	1,227,393	261,682	316,116.9
D03	Enforcement	1,029,364	1,028,954	24,690	24,690	1,063,571	985,540	27,760	26,703.9
D05	Tourism Development and Promotion	6,102,439	6,099,312	5,744,053	5,744,053	5,540,046	6,338,330	5,201,219	6,001,169.7
D06	Community and Enterprise Function	1,029,338	1,024,052	17,778	17,778	850,399	929,659	16,071	15,761.9
D07	Unfinished Housing Estates	222,958	222,694	6,320	6,320	148,640	144,224	4,493	4,394.2
D08	Building Control	382,216	381,933	17,570	17,570	382,806	373,277	18,333	18,105.3
D09	Economic Development and Promotion	1,597,668	1,597,532	1,109,628	1,109,628	1,469,466	1,154,899	897,559	670,219.3
D10	Property Management	77,683	77,678	78,970	78,970	78,196	103,113	79,048	79,024.9
D11	Heritage and Conservation Services	240,175	239,515	24,668	24,668	233,913	238,085	25,022	29,911.4
D12	Agency & Recoupable Services	125,000	125,000	-	-	174,173	174,000	-	-
	Service Division Total	13,454,173	13,443,875	7,405,134	7,405,134	12,321,667	12,894,355	6,562,255	7,191,793

**Table B Expenditure and Income for 2016 and Estimated Outturn for 2016****Environmental Services**

Division & Services		2016				2015			
		Expenditure		Income		Expenditure		Income	
Code	Environmental Services	Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated Outturn	Adopted by Council	Estimated Outturn
		€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
E01	Landfill Operation and Aftercare	1,532,210	1,532,183	446,181	446,181	1,580,505	1,577,677	447,002	447,277
E02	Recovery & Recycling Facilities Operations	1,832,405	1,832,410	510,359	510,359	1,754,393	1,800,025	600,479	473,149
E05	Litter Management	947,851	947,407	61,729	61,729	897,703	833,952	72,007	62,567
E06	Street Cleaning	1,767,303	1,766,596	43,027	43,027	1,779,377	1,775,989	46,530	45,507
E07	Waste Regulations, Monitoring and Enforcement	612,049	611,970	452,396	452,396	672,430	623,156	411,615	455,227
E08	Waste Management Planning	186,786	186,785	87,623	87,623	188,227	187,198	87,915	87,829
E09	Maintenance of Burial Grounds	277,193	277,008	70,230	70,230	279,537	277,677	70,403	70,350
E10	Safety of Structures and Places	733,810	733,653	105,572	105,572	738,909	746,645	108,898	106,526
E11	Operation of Fire Service	4,527,884	4,527,699	254,592	254,592	4,384,039	4,429,869	240,000	240,000
E12	Fire Prevention	554,026	554,035	153,995	153,995	555,784	554,076	127,978	157,648
E13	Water Quality, Air and Noise Pollution	845,205	845,081	17,360	17,360	822,562	821,718	18,147	17,748
E14	Agency & Recoupable Services	38,125	38,125	10,000	10,000	38,000	38,000	10,000	10,000
	<b>Service Division Total</b>	<b>13,854,849</b>	<b>13,852,952</b>	<b>2,213,064</b>	<b>2,213,064</b>	<b>13,691,467</b>	<b>13,665,982</b>	<b>2,240,973</b>	<b>2,173,828</b>

Table B Expenditure and Income for 2016 and Estimated Outturn for 2016

## Recreation &amp; Amenity

Division & Services		2016				2015			
		Expenditure		Income		Expenditure		Income	
Code	Recreation & Amenity	Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated Outturn	Adopted by Council	Estimated Outturn
		€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
F01	Leisure Facilities Operations	1,788,062	1,787,917	774,238	774,238	1,721,640	1,720,816	824,068	773,538
F02	Operation of Library and Archival Service	4,120,495	4,120,291	187,559	187,559	4,090,546	4,102,595	194,309	191,992
F03	Outdoor Leisure Areas Operations	2,028,168	1,947,795	116,525	116,525	1,971,271	1,940,252	104,618	97,554
F04	Community Sport and Recreational Development	84,824	84,529	-	-	103,775	82,854		
F05	Operation of Arts Programme	1,278,387	1,198,363	160,271	160,271	1,098,985	1,162,574	114,914	161,505
	Service Division Total	9,299,936	9,138,894	1,238,593	1,238,593	8,986,217	9,009,090	1,237,908	1,224,590

Table B Expenditure and Income for 2016 and Estimated Outturn for 2016

## Agriculture, Health and Welfare

Division & Services		2016				2015			
		Expenditure		Income		Expenditure		Income	
Code	Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated Outturn	Adopted by Council	Estimated Outturn
		€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
G02	Operation and Maintenance of Piers and Harbours	44,401	44,105	1,356	1,356	44,408	40,315	1,487	1,465
G04	Veterinary Service	654,698	654,660	439,131	439,131	659,753	661,608	447,108	433,276
G05	Educational Support Services	233,110	233,105	166,895	166,895	1,620,529	1,174,333	1,476,402	1,098,684
G06	Agency & Recoupable Services	76,125	76,125	-	-	37,798	76,088	-	-
	Service Division Total	1,008,334	1,007,995	607,382	607,382	2,362,488	1,952,344	1,924,996	1,533,424

Table B Expenditure and Income for 2016 and Estimated Outturn for 2016

## Miscellaneous Services

Division & Services		2016				2015			
Code	Miscellaneous Services	Expenditure		Income		Expenditure		Income	
		Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated Outturn	Adopted by Council	Estimated Outturn
		€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
H01	Profit/Loss Machinery Account	402,881	402,885	42,218	42,218	392,890	437,839	44,991	44,001
H02	Profit/Loss Stores Account	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
H03	Adminstration of Rates	8,673,231	8,673,254	23,427	23,427	8,657,834	8,616,104	25,821	25,330
H04	Franchise Costs	248,831	248,816	3,673	3,673	252,376	267,284	3,972	3,885
H05	Operation of Morgue and Coroner Expenses	211,366	211,366	4,102	4,102	210,571	214,109	4,439	4,342
H06	Weighbridges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
H07	Operation of Markets and Casual Trading	6,264	6,113	40,000	40,000	5,889	5,856	39,000	39,000
H08	Malicious Damage	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
H09	Local Representation/Civic Leadership	1,522,219	1,520,243	24,591	24,591	1,612,536	1,613,385	27,947	27,332
H10	Motor Taxation	1,327,096	1,322,327	71,929	71,929	1,448,506	1,356,484	78,372	77,748
H11	Agency & Recoupable Services	220,639	220,637	1,885,715	1,525,715	121,364	137,645	371,558	1,036,134
	Service Division Total	12,612,526	12,605,639	2,095,656	1,735,656	12,701,968	12,648,706	596,100	1,257,771

	OVERALL TOTAL	103,208,860	102,848,860	56,875,827	56,515,827	99,350,124	100,642,975	51,397,403	53,480,842
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Table C – Calculation of Base Year Adjustment

	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)
Rating authority	Annual Rate on Valuation 2015	Annual Rate on Valuation 2014	Base Year Adjustment 2015	Net Effective Valuation	Value of Base Year Adjustment
			(ii)-(i)		(iii)*(iv)
	€	€	€	€	€
<b>Clare County Council</b>	72.99				
<b>Former rating authority areas</b>					
Kilrush Town Council		67.46	-5.53	11,636	-64,346
Ennis Town Council		69.22	-3.77	82,266	-310,143
Clare County Council		72.99	0.00	485,094	0
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>578,996</b>	<b>-374,489</b>



**Table D – Analysis of Budget Income 2016 from Goods and Services**

<b>Source of Income</b>	<b>2015</b>
	€
Rents from Houses	6,500,000
Housing Loans Interest & Charges	269,000
Parking Fines/Charges	1,308,289
Commercial Water & Waste Water	0
Irish Water Income	11,438,996
Planning Fees	301,000
Sale/Leasing of Other Property/Industrial Sites	352,000
Landfill & Transfer Station Income	440,000
Fire Charges	335,000
Recreation / Amenity/Culture	6,327,000
Library Fees/Fines	89,000
Local Authority Contributions	84,000
Superannuation	1,300,254
NPPR	160,000
Miscellaneous	1,477,300
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,381,839</b>

### Table E – Analysis of Budget Income 2016 from Grants and Subsidies

<b>Department of the Environment, Community &amp; Local Government</b>	
	€
Housing and Building	5,067,000
Water Services	800,000
Development Management	0
Environmental Services	611,000
Recreation and Amenity	0
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	0
Miscellaneous Services	1,190,000
Recreation and Amenity	30,000
LPT Self Funding	600,000
	<b>8,298,000</b>
<b>Other Departments and Bodies</b>	
NRA / Department of Transport	16,346,689
Defence	90,000
Education and Skills	166,075
Arts Council	59,500
Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation	1,091,724
Other	442,000
	<b>18,195,988</b>
<b>Total Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>	<b>26,493,988</b>

### Table F – Comprises Expenditure and Income by Division at Sub-Service Level

Division to Sub-Service Level

### Housing and Building Expenditure

Code	Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2016		2015	
		Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Manager €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
0101	Maintenance of LA Housing Units	1,407,820	1,407,820	1,496,840	1,496,750
0102	Maintenance of Traveller Accommodation Units	267,667	267,667	241,937	323,450
0103	Traveller Accommodation Management	167,202	167,202	116,334	117,410
0199	Service Support Costs	627,923	627,104	623,251	588,430
	<b>Maintenance/Improvement of LA Housing Units</b>	<b>2,470,612</b>	<b>2,469,793</b>	<b>2,478,362</b>	<b>2,526,040</b>
0201	Assessment of Housing Needs, Allocs. & Trans.	354,688	354,688	345,379	340,600
0299	Service Support Costs	248,439	248,537	266,671	265,150
	<b>Housing Assessment, Allocation and Transfer</b>	<b>603,127</b>	<b>603,225</b>	<b>612,050</b>	<b>605,750</b>
0301	Debt Management & Rent Assessment	333,733	333,733	367,659	357,860
0399	Service Support Costs	325,513	323,149	350,301	348,300
	<b>Housing Rent and Tenant Purchase Administration</b>	<b>659,246</b>	<b>656,882</b>	<b>717,960</b>	<b>706,170</b>
0401	Housing Estate Management	375,240	375,240	336,326	336,490
0402	Tenancy Management	53,800	53,800	52,087	52,200
0499	Service Support Costs	303,741	300,814	286,831	285,190
	<b>Housing Community Development Support</b>	<b>732,781</b>	<b>729,854</b>	<b>675,244</b>	<b>673,880</b>
0501	Homeless Grants Other Bodies	304,000	304,000	530,000	310,000
0599	Service Support Costs	117,900	117,759	111,209	111,560
	<b>Administration of Homeless Service</b>	<b>421,900</b>	<b>421,759</b>	<b>641,209</b>	<b>421,560</b>
0601	Technical and Administrative Support	470,045	470,045	350,921	319,530
0602	Loan Charges	955,619	955,619	980,619	981,000
0699	Service Support Costs	308,992	308,659	261,805	260,310
	<b>Support to Housing Capital Prog.</b>	<b>1,734,656</b>	<b>1,734,323</b>	<b>1,593,345</b>	<b>1,560,840</b>

## Housing and Building Expenditure

Code	Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2016		2015	
		Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated Outturn
A0701	RAS Operations	2,582,000	2,582,000	2,541,836	2,447,000
A0702	Social Leasing	1,357,537	1,357,537	907,122	1,040,267
A0799	RAS Service Support Costs	572,281	571,967	577,051	569,609
	<b>RAS Programme</b>	<b>4,511,818</b>	<b>4,511,504</b>	<b>4,026,009</b>	<b>4,056,876</b>
A0801	Loan Interest and Other Charges	540,975	540,975	624,328	520,873
A0802	Debt Management Housing Loans	143,911	143,911	148,512	139,098
A0803	Service Support Costs	204,208	204,444	187,104	186,037
	<b>Housing Loans</b>	<b>889,094</b>	<b>889,330</b>	<b>959,944</b>	<b>846,008</b>
A0904	Other Housing Grant Payments	1,315,000	1,315,000	1,315,000	1,315,000
A0905	Mobility Aids Housing Grants	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000
A0999	Service Support Costs	70,541	70,537	121,750	117,019
	<b>Housing Grants</b>	<b>1,515,541</b>	<b>1,515,537</b>	<b>1,566,750</b>	<b>1,562,019</b>
A1201	HAP Operations	113,867	113,867	0	0
A1299	Service Support Costs	69,323	69,268	0	0
	<b>HAP Programme</b>	<b>183,190</b>	<b>183,135</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
	<b>Service Division Total</b>	<b>13,721,966</b>	<b>13,715,342</b>	<b>13,270,872</b>	<b>12,959,163</b>

## Housing and Building Income

Income by Source	2016		2015	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Manager €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>Government Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>				
Environment, Community & Local Government	5,067,000	5,067,000	4,761,700	4,362,000
LPT Funding	600,000	600,000	0	0
Other	60,000	60,000	68,000	55,000
<b>Total Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>	<b>(a) 5,727,000</b>	<b>5,727,000</b>	<b>4,829,700</b>	<b>4,417,000</b>
<b>Goods and Services</b>				
Rents from houses	6,500,000	6,500,000	6,055,800	6,347,700
Housing Loans Interest & Charges	269,000	269,000	331,000	260,000
Superannuation	110,939	110,939	106,203	103,867
Other income	156,000	156,000	157,000	156,000
<b>Total Goods and Services</b>	<b>(b) 7,035,939</b>	<b>7,035,939</b>	<b>6,650,003</b>	<b>6,867,567</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>c=(a+b) 12,762,939</b>	<b>12,762,939</b>	<b>11,479,703</b>	<b>11,284,567</b>

## Roads Transportation and Safety Expenditure

<u>Code</u>	Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2016		2015	
		Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Manager €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
B0105	NP - General Maintenance	0	0	27,000	0
B0199	Service Support Costs	98,932	98,685	94,080	121,568
<b>National Primary Road – Maintenance and Improvement</b>		<b>98,932</b>	<b>98,685</b>	<b>121,080</b>	<b>121,568</b>
B0204	NS - Winter Maintenance	160,000	160,000	155,000	160,000
B0206	NS - General Maintenance	325,853	325,853	277,401	325,853
B0207	NS – General Improvement Works	1,760,500	1,760,500	0	0
B0299	Service Support Costs	165,052	163,113	149,828	152,828
<b>National Secondary Road – Maintenance and Improvement</b>		<b>2,411,405</b>	<b>2,409,466</b>	<b>582,229</b>	<b>638,681</b>
B0301	Regional Roads Surface Dressing	394,019	394,019	375,753	394,019
B0303	Regional Road Winter Maintenance	481,000	481,000	80,000	481,000
B0304	Regional Road Bridge Maintenance	642,600	642,600	0	642,600
B0305	Regional Road General Maintenance Works	5,311,258	5,311,258	4,773,960	5,441,363
B0399	Service Support Costs	840,065	833,881	840,171	839,299
<b>Regional Road – Improvement and Maintenance</b>		<b>7,668,942</b>	<b>7,662,758</b>	<b>6,069,884</b>	<b>7,798,281</b>
B0401	Local Road Surface Dressing	1,504,911	1,504,911	1,520,991	1,502,561
B0402	Local Rd Surface Rest/Road Reconstruction/Overlay	4,688,268	4,688,268	3,987,640	4,663,608
B0405	Local Roads General Maintenance Works	1,421,757	1,421,757	1,476,994	1,484,941
B0406	Local Roads General Improvement Works	0	0	339,318	0
B0499	Service Support Costs	4,829,811	4,681,101	4,655,793	4,594,166
<b>Local Road - Maintenance and Improvement</b>		<b>12,444,747</b>	<b>12,296,037</b>	<b>11,980,736</b>	<b>12,245,276</b>
B0501	Public Lighting Operating Costs	1,563,000	1,563,000	1,612,500	1,613,000
B0599	Service Support Costs	67,989	67,099	65,531	62,360
<b>Public Lighting</b>		<b>1,630,989</b>	<b>1,630,099</b>	<b>1,678,031</b>	<b>1,675,360</b>

## Roads Transportation and Safety Expenditure

Code	Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2016		2015	
		Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated Outturn
		€	€	€	€
B0699	<b>Service Support Costs</b>	<b>122,225</b>	<b>119,533</b>	<b>117,370</b>	<b>113,889</b>
	<b>Traffic Management Improvement</b>	<b>122,225</b>	<b>119,533</b>	<b>117,370</b>	<b>113,889</b>
B0701	<b>Low Cost Remedial Measures</b>	<b>240,000</b>	<b>240,000</b>	<b>195,000</b>	<b>240,000</b>
B0702	<b>Other Engineering Improvements</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
B0799	<b>Service Support Costs</b>	<b>68,221</b>	<b>66,887</b>	<b>66,028</b>	<b>72,929</b>
	<b>Road Safety Engineering Improvements</b>	<b>308,221</b>	<b>306,887</b>	<b>261,028</b>	<b>312,929</b>
B0801	School Wardens	219,517	219,517	200,748	238,817
B0802	Publicity and Promotion Road Safety	21,579	21,579	21,576	23,518
B0899	Service Support Costs	128,353	128,189	82,223	81,755
	<b>Road Safety Promotion/Education</b>	<b>369,449</b>	<b>369,285</b>	<b>304,547</b>	<b>344,090</b>
B0901	Maintenance and Management of Car Parks	142,616	142,616	212,088	215,342
B0902	Operation of Street Parking	58,797	58,797	57,625	52,946
B0903	Parking Enforcement	382,012	382,012	409,796	382,754
B0999	Service Support Costs	248,333	246,628	254,772	253,320
	<b>Car Parking</b>	<b>831,758</b>	<b>830,053</b>	<b>934,281</b>	<b>904,362</b>
B1001	Administration of Roads Capital Programme	27,902	27,902	31,114	24,532
B1099	Service Support Costs	383,701	379,792	395,731	393,476
	<b>Support to Roads Capital Programme</b>	<b>411,603</b>	<b>407,694</b>	<b>426,845</b>	<b>418,008</b>
B1101	Agency & Recoupable Service	0	0	0	0
B1199	Service Support Costs	0	0	0	0
	<b>Agency &amp; Recoupable Services</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
	<b>Service Division Total</b>	<b>26,298,270</b>	<b>26,130,497</b>	<b>22,476,031</b>	<b>24,572,443</b>

## Road Transport and Safety Income

Income by Source	2016		2015	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Manager €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>Government Grants</b>				
NRA / Department of Transport	16,346,689	16,346,689	12,502,799	14,586,189
<b>Total Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>	<b>(a)</b>	<b>16,346,689</b>	<b>12,502,799</b>	<b>14,586,189</b>
<b>Goods and Services</b>				
Parking Fines & Charges	1,308,289	1,308,289	1,322,789	1,289,532
Superannuation	281,051	281,051	307,432	300,669
Other income	76,400	76,400	65,596	104,211
<b>Total Goods and Services</b>	<b>(b)</b>	<b>1,665,740</b>	<b>1,695,817</b>	<b>1,694,412</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>c=(a+b)</b>	<b>18,012,429</b>	<b>14,198,616</b>	<b>16,280,601</b>

## Water Services - Expenditure

<u>Code</u>	<u>Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service</u>	<u>Adopted by Council</u>	<u>Estimated by Manager</u>	<u>Adopted by Council</u>	<u>Estimated Outturn</u>
		€	€	€	€
C0101	Water Plants & Networks	3,960,026	3,960,026	4,164,119	4,167,500
C0199	Service Support Costs	1,923,728	1,921,870	2,058,394	1,954,243
	<b>Water Supply</b>	<b>5,883,754</b>	<b>5,881,896</b>	<b>6,222,513</b>	<b>6,121,743</b>
C0201	Waste Plants and Networks	2,190,687	2,190,687	2,605,981	2,264,900
C0299	Service Support Costs	1,245,270	1,242,301	1,024,830	1,007,743
	<b>Waste Water Treatment</b>	<b>3,435,957</b>	<b>3,432,988</b>	<b>3,630,811</b>	<b>3,272,643</b>
C0301	Debt Management Water and Waste Water	1,432,021	1,432,021	1,304,351	1,226,400
C0399	Service Support Costs	448,935	448,796	317,422	315,613
	<b>Collection of Water and Waste Water Charges</b>	<b>1,880,956</b>	<b>1,880,817</b>	<b>1,621,773</b>	<b>1,542,013</b>
C0401	Operation and Maintenance of Public Conveniences	179,602	179,602	179,514	178,835
C0499	Service Support Costs	5,262	5,263	4,979	4,951
	<b>Public Conveniences</b>	<b>184,864</b>	<b>184,865</b>	<b>184,493</b>	<b>183,786</b>
C0504	Group Water Scheme Subsidies	800,000	800,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
C0599	Service Support Costs	218,961	218,875	214,424	213,929
	<b>Admin of Group and Private Installations</b>	<b>1,018,961</b>	<b>1,018,875</b>	<b>1,214,424</b>	<b>1,213,929</b>
C0601	Technical Design and Supervision	349,506	349,506	392,566	310,500
C0699	Service Support Costs	179,807	179,719	272,832	271,277
	<b>Support to Water Capital Programme</b>	<b>529,313</b>	<b>529,225</b>	<b>665,398</b>	<b>581,777</b>
C0802	Local Authority Sanitary Services	25,000	25,000	0	25,000
	<b>Agency &amp; Recoupable Services</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25,000</b>
	<b>Service Division Total</b>	<b>12,958,805</b>	<b>12,953,665</b>	<b>13,539,413</b>	<b>12,940,891</b>

**Budget 2016**  
**Water Services Income**

Income by Source	2016		2015	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Manager €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>Government Grants</b>				
Environment, Community & Local Government	800,000	800,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
<b>Total Grants &amp; Subsidies (a)</b>	<b>800,000</b>	<b>800,000</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>
<b>Goods and Services</b>				
Irish Water	11,438,996	11,438,996	11,867,258	11,250,950
Superannuation	297,235	297,235	285,193	278,919
Other Income	4,400	4,400	4,400	4,400
<b>Total Goods and Services (b)</b>	<b>11,740,631</b>	<b>11,740,631</b>	<b>12,156,851</b>	<b>11,534,268</b>
<b>Total Income c=(a+b)</b>	<b>12,540,631</b>	<b>12,540,631</b>	<b>13,156,851</b>	<b>12,534,268</b>

## Development Management – Expenditure

<u>Code</u>	Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2016		2015	
		Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Manager €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
D0101	Statutory Plans and Policy	869,360	869,360	792,765	809,306
D0199	Service Support Costs	423,257	423,264	418,917	416,529
	<b>Forward Planning</b>	<b>1,292,617</b>	<b>1,292,624</b>	<b>1,211,682</b>	<b>1,225,835</b>
D0201	Planning Control	782,167	782,167	646,539	708,134
D0299	Service Support Costs	572,548	572,415	522,235	519,259
	<b>Development Management</b>	<b>1,354,715</b>	<b>1,354,582</b>	<b>1,168,774</b>	<b>1,227,393</b>
D0301	Enforcement Costs	658,283	658,283	676,158	600,335
D0399	Service Support Costs	371,081	370,671	387,413	385,205
	<b>Enforcement</b>	<b>1,029,364</b>	<b>1,028,954</b>	<b>1,063,571</b>	<b>985,540</b>
D0501	Tourism Promotion	287,750	287,750	286,128	285,925
D0502	Tourist Facilities Operations	5,531,000	5,531,000	4,988,470	5,788,470
D0599	Service Support Costs	283,689	280,562	265,448	263,935
	<b>Tourism Development and Promotion</b>	<b>6,102,439</b>	<b>6,099,312</b>	<b>5,540,046</b>	<b>6,338,330</b>
D0601	General Community & Enterprise Expenses	377,050	377,050	281,175	347,928
D0602	RAPID Costs	65,118	65,118	47,582	65,040
D0603	Social Inclusion	63,504	63,504	62,734	60,398
D0699	Service Support Costs	523,666	518,380	458,908	456,293
	<b>Community and Enterprise Function</b>	<b>1,029,338</b>	<b>1,024,052</b>	<b>850,399</b>	<b>929,659</b>
		<b>2016</b>		<b>2015</b>	

Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service		Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated Outturn
<u>Code</u>		€	€	€	€
D0701	Unfinished Housing Estates	151,499	151,499	99,459	95,323
D0799	Service Support Costs	71,459	71,195	49,181	48,901
	<b>Unfinished Housing Estates</b>	<b>222,958</b>	<b>222,694</b>	<b>148,640</b>	<b>144,224</b>
D0802	Building Control Enforcement Costs	289,123	289,123	290,727	281,723
D0899	Service Support Costs	93,093	92,810	92,079	91,554
	<b>Building Control</b>	<b>382,216</b>	<b>381,933</b>	<b>382,806</b>	<b>373,277</b>
D0901	Urban and Village Renewal	61,934	61,934	62,597	62,580
D0903	Town Twinning	18,000	18,000	18,500	19,000
D0905	Economic Development & Promotion	75,000	75,000	0	0
D0906	Enterprise , Jobs and Innovation	1,116,005	1,116,005	1,052,957	759,570
D0999	Service Support Costs	326,729	326,593	335,412	313,749
	<b>Economic Development and Promotion</b>	<b>1,597,668</b>	<b>1,597,532</b>	<b>1,469,466</b>	<b>1,154,899</b>
D1001	Property Management Costs	63,229	63,229	63,198	88,200
D1099	Service Support Costs	14,454	14,449	14,998	14,913
	<b>Property Management</b>	<b>77,683</b>	<b>77,678</b>	<b>78,196</b>	<b>103,113</b>
D1101	Heritage Services	67,203	67,203	64,933	66,682
D1102	Conservation Services	74,568	74,568	71,732	74,710
D1199	Service Support Costs	98,404	97,744	97,248	96,693
	<b>Heritage and Conservation Services</b>	<b>240,175</b>	<b>239,515</b>	<b>233,913</b>	<b>238,085</b>
D1299	<b>Service Support Costs</b>	<b>125,000</b>	<b>125,000</b>	<b>174,173</b>	<b>174,000</b>
	<b>Agency &amp; Recoupable Services</b>	<b>125,000</b>	<b>125,000</b>	<b>174,173</b>	<b>174,000</b>
	<b>Service Division Total</b>	<b>13,854,173</b>	<b>13,443,875</b>	<b>12,321,667</b>	<b>12,894,355</b>

Budget 2016  
Development Management Income

Income by Source	2016		2015	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Manager €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>Government Grants</b>				
Environment, Community & Local Government	0	0	0	0
Other	1,091,724	1,091,724	876,885	650,000
<b>Total Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>	<b>(a) 1,091,724</b>	<b>1,091,724</b>	<b>876,885</b>	<b>650,000</b>
<b>Goods and Services</b>				
Planning Fees	301,000	301,000	221,000	271,000
Sale/Leasing of other property/Industrial Sites	352,000	352,000	409,000	409,000
Superannuation	142,409	142,409	139,870	136,793
Other income	5,518,000	5,518,000	4,915,500	5,725,000
<b>Total Goods and Services</b>	<b>(b) 6,313,409</b>	<b>6,313,409</b>	<b>5,685,370</b>	<b>6,541,793</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>c=(a+b) 7,405,134</b>	<b>7,405,134</b>	<b>6,562,255</b>	<b>7,191,793</b>

**Budget 2016**  
**Environmental Services – Expenditure**

<u>Code</u>	Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	Adopted by	Estimated by	Adopted	Estimated
		Council	Manager	by Council	Outturn
		2016 €		2015	
E0103	Landfill Aftercare Costs	525,222	525,222	544,746	544,930
E0199	Service Support Costs	1,006,988	1,006,961	1,035,759	1,032,747
	<b>Landfill Operation and Aftercare</b>	<b>1,532,210</b>	<b>1,532,183</b>	<b>1,580,505</b>	<b>1,577,677</b>
E0201	Recycling Facilities Operations	1,272,511	1,272,511	1,250,811	1,277,437
E0202	Bring Centres Operations	95,000	95,000	70,000	95,400
E0299	Service Support Costs	464,894	464,899	433,583	427,188
	<b>Recovery &amp; Recycling Facilities Operations</b>	<b>1,832,405</b>	<b>1,832,410</b>	<b>1,754,393</b>	<b>1,800,025</b>
E0501	Litter Warden Service	69,074	69,074	72,080	70,416
E0502	Litter Control Initiatives	162,627	162,627	162,400	164,448
E0503	Environmental Awareness Services	268,306	268,306	196,363	193,717
E0599	Service Support Costs	447,844	447,400	466,860	405,371
	<b>Litter Management</b>	<b>947,851</b>	<b>947,407</b>	<b>897,703</b>	<b>833,952</b>
E0601	Operation of Street Cleaning Service	1,434,127	1,434,127	1,433,894	1,434,265
E0699	Service Support Costs	333,176	332,469	345,483	341,724
	<b>Street Cleaning</b>	<b>1,767,303</b>	<b>1,766,596</b>	<b>1,779,377</b>	<b>1,775,989</b>
E0702	Enforcement of Waste Regulations	402,695	402,695	447,926	399,931
E0799	Service Support Costs	209,354	209,275	224,504	223,225
	<b>Waste Regulations, Monitoring and Enforcement</b>	<b>612,049</b>	<b>611,970</b>	<b>672,430</b>	<b>623,156</b>
E0801	Waste Management Plan	128,759	128,759	128,666	127,977
E0899	Service Support Costs	58,027	58,026	59,561	59,221
	<b>Waste Management Planning</b>	<b>186,786</b>	<b>186,785</b>	<b>188,227</b>	<b>187,198</b>
E0901	Maintenance of Burial Grounds	181,667	181,667	181,490	185,684
E0999	Service Support Costs	95,526	95,341	98,047	91,993
	<b>Maintenance and Upkeep of Burial Grounds</b>	<b>277,193</b>	<b>277,008</b>	<b>279,537</b>	<b>277,677</b>

**Budget 2016**  
**Environmental Services - Expenditure**

<u>Code</u>	<b>Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service</b>	2016		2015	
		Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council	Estimated Outturn
		€	€	€	€
E1001	Operation Costs Civil Defence	148,468	148,468	148,376	148,220
E1002	Dangerous Buildings	41,487	41,487	41,483	41,446
E1003	Emergency Planning	88,033	88,033	89,955	82,427
E1004	Derelict Sites	45,440	45,440	45,057	44,857
E1005	Water Safety Operation	277,737	277,737	281,888	298,298
E1099	Service Support Costs	132,645	132,488	132,150	131,397
	<b>Safety of Structures and Places</b>	<b>733,810</b>	<b>733,653</b>	<b>738,909</b>	<b>746,645</b>
E1101	Operation of Fire Brigade Service	3,493,238	3,493,238	3,430,799	3,482,790
E1103	Fire Services Training	125,000	125,000	125,000	125,000
E1199	Service Support Costs	909,646	909,461	828,240	822,079
	<b>Operation of Fire Service</b>	<b>4,527,884</b>	<b>4,527,699</b>	<b>4,384,039</b>	<b>4,429,869</b>
E1201	Fire Safety Control Cert Costs	2,000	2,000	2,000	10,000
E1202	Fire Prevention and Education	392,090	392,090	388,552	384,655
E1203	Inspection/Monitoring of Commercial Facilities	18,000	18,000	23,000	18,000
E1299	Service Support Costs	141,936	141,945	142,232	141,421
	<b>Fire Prevention</b>	<b>554,026</b>	<b>554,035</b>	<b>555,784</b>	<b>554,076</b>
E1301	Water Quality Management	585,679	585,679	571,791	572,376
E1399	Service Support Costs	259,526	259,402	250,771	249,342
	<b>Water Quality, Air and Noise Pollution</b>	<b>845,205</b>	<b>845,081</b>	<b>822,562</b>	<b>821,718</b>
E1401	Agency & Recoupable Service	38,125	38,125	38,000	38,000
E1499	Service Support Costs	0	0	0	0
	<b>Agency &amp; Recoupable Services</b>	<b>38,125</b>	<b>38,125</b>	<b>38,000</b>	<b>38,000</b>
	<b>Service Division Total</b>	<b>13,854,849</b>	<b>13,852,952</b>	<b>13,691,467</b>	<b>13,665,982</b>

## Environmental Services - Income

Income by Source	2016		2015	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Manager €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>Government Grants</b>				
Environment, Community & Local Government	611,000	611,000	594,000	579,250
Defence	90,000	90,000	90,000	90,000
Other	76,000	76,000	99,000	76,000
<b>Total Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>	<b>(a)</b>	<b>777,000</b>	<b>777,000</b>	<b>783,000</b>
<b>Goods and Services</b>				
Landfill and Transfer Station Income	440,000	440,000	440,000	440,429
Fire Charges	335,000	335,000	308,000	338,000
Superannuation	180,064	180,064	178,973	175,036
Local Authority Contributions	84,000	84,000	84,000	84,000
Other income	397,000	397,000	447,000	391,113
<b>Total Goods and Services</b>	<b>(b)</b>	<b>1,436,064</b>	<b>1,436,064</b>	<b>1,428,578</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>c=(a+b)</b>	<b>2,213,064</b>	<b>2,213,064</b>	<b>2,240,973</b>
			<b>2,240,973</b>	<b>2,173,828</b>

## Recreation and Amenity - Expenditure

		2016		2015	
<u>Code</u>	<b>Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service</b>	<b>Adopted by Council</b>	<b>Estimated by Manager</b>	<b>Adopted by Council</b>	<b>Estimated Outturn</b>
		€	€	€	€
F0101	Leisure Facilities Operations	1,166,105	1,166,105	1,120,510	1,121,371
F0103	Contribution to External Bodies Leisure Facilities	305,500	305,500	305,500	305,500
F0199	Service Support Costs	316,457	316,312	295,630	293,945
	<b>Leisure Facilities Operations</b>	<b>1,788,062</b>	<b>1,787,917</b>	<b>1,721,640</b>	<b>1,720,816</b>
F0201	Library Service Operations	2,806,676	2,806,676	2,751,530	2,797,278
F0202	Archive Service	149,541	149,541	177,164	148,895
F0204	Purchase of Books, CD's etc.	187,000	187,000	187,000	187,000
F0205	Contributions to Library Organisations	18,200	18,200	22,200	22,200
F0299	Service Support Costs	959,078	958,874	952,652	947,222
	<b>Operation of Library and Archival Service</b>	<b>4,120,495</b>	<b>4,120,291</b>	<b>4,090,546</b>	<b>4,102,595</b>
F0301	Parks, Pitches & Open Spaces	1,285,666	1,205,666	1,202,841	1,177,261
F0302	Playgrounds	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
F0303	Beaches	227,842	227,842	241,202	241,251
F0399	Service Support Costs	484,660	484,287	497,228	491,740
	<b>Outdoor Leisure Areas Operations</b>	<b>2,028,168</b>	<b>1,947,795</b>	<b>1,971,271</b>	<b>1,940,252</b>
F0401	Community Grants	70,500	70,500	91,350	70,500
F0499	Service Support Costs	14,324	14,029	12,425	12,354
	<b>Community Sport and Recreational Development</b>	<b>84,824</b>	<b>84,529</b>	<b>103,775</b>	<b>82,854</b>
F0501	Administration of the Arts Programme	768,173	688,173	630,392	660,916
F0502	Contributions to other Bodies Arts Programme	59,514	59,514	59,514	59,514
F0503	Museums Operations	349,336	349,336	315,636	349,233
F0599	Service Support Costs	101,364	101,340	93,443	92,911
	<b>Operation of Arts Programme</b>	<b>1,278,387</b>	<b>1,198,363</b>	<b>1,098,985</b>	<b>1,162,574</b>
	<b>Service Division Total</b>	<b>9,299,936</b>	<b>9,138,894</b>	<b>8,986,217</b>	<b>9,009,090</b>

**Budget 2016**  
**Recreation and Amenity - Income**

Income by Source	2016		2015	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Manager €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>Government Grants</b>				
Arts Council	59,500	59,500	58,240	58,000
Environment, Community & Local Government	30,000	30,000	0	30,000
<b>Total Grants &amp; Subsidies</b> (a)	<b>89,500</b>	<b>89,500</b>	<b>58,240</b>	<b>88,000</b>
<b>Goods and Services</b>				
Library Fees/Fines	89,000	89,000	89,000	89,000
Recreation/Amenity/Culture	859,000	859,000	883,000	843,500
Superannuation	156,093	156,093	162,668	159,090
Other income	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000
<b>Total Goods and Services</b> (b)	<b>1,149,093</b>	<b>1,149,093</b>	<b>1,179,668</b>	<b>1,136,590</b>
<b>Total Income</b> c=(a+b)	<b>1,238,593</b>	<b>1,238,593</b>	<b>1,237,908</b>	<b>1,224,590</b>

## Agriculture, Education, Health &amp; Welfare - Expenditure

<u>Code</u>	<b>Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service</b>	2016		2015	
		Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Manager €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
G0299	Service Support Costs	44,401	44,105	44,408	40,315
	<b>Operation and Maintenance of Piers and Harbours</b>	<b>44,401</b>	<b>44,105</b>	<b>44,408</b>	<b>40,315</b>
G0401	Provision of Veterinary Service	161,916	161,916	162,407	160,208
G0402	Inspection of Abattoirs etc	148,423	148,423	147,598	165,937
G0404	Operation of Dog Warden Service	177,064	177,064	169,429	170,137
G0405	Other Animal Welfare Services (incl Horse Control)	40,000	40,000	50,000	35,750
G0499	Service Support Costs	127,295	127,257	130,319	129,576
	<b>Veterinary Service</b>	<b>654,698</b>	<b>654,660</b>	<b>659,753</b>	<b>661,608</b>
G0501	Payment of Higher Education Grants	176,075	176,075	1,485,000	1,107,000
G0502	Administration Higher Education Grants	23,645	23,645	42,464	24,018
G0505	Contribution to VEC	0	0	49,525	0
G0506	Other Educational Services	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
G0599	Service Support Costs	29,390	29,385	39,540	39,315
	<b>Educational Support Services</b>	<b>233,110</b>	<b>233,105</b>	<b>1,620,529</b>	<b>1,174,333</b>
G0601	Agency & Recoupable Service	76,125	76,125	37,798	76,088
	<b>Agency &amp; Recoupable Services</b>	<b>76,125</b>	<b>76,125</b>	<b>37,798</b>	<b>76,088</b>
	<b>Service Division Total</b>	<b>1,008,334</b>	<b>1,007,995</b>	<b>2,362,488</b>	<b>1,952,344</b>

## Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare - Income

Income by Source	2016		2015	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Manager €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>Government Grants</b>				
Education and Science	166,075	166,075	1,474,680	1,097,000
Other	256,000	256,000	279,420	256,000
<b>Total Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>	<b>(a)</b>	<b>422,075</b>	<b>422,075</b>	<b>1,754,100</b>
<b>Goods and Services</b>				
Superannuation	14,807	14,807	16,896	16,524
Other income	170,500	170,500	154,000	163,900
<b>Total Goods and Services</b>	<b>(b)</b>	<b>185,307</b>	<b>185,307</b>	<b>170,896</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>c=(a+b)</b>	<b>607,382</b>	<b>607,382</b>	<b>1,924,996</b>

## Miscellaneous Services – Expenditure

<u>Code</u>	Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service	2016		2015	
		Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Manager €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
H0199	Service Support Costs	402,881	402,885	392,890	414,245
	<b>Profit/Loss Machinery Account</b>	<b>402,881</b>	<b>402,885</b>	<b>392,890</b>	<b>437,839</b>
H0301	Administration of Rates Office	122,583	122,583	115,303	117,530
H0302	Debt Management Service Rates	456,718	456,718	496,207	448,866
H0303	Refunds and Irrecoverable Rates	7,717,250	7,717,250	7,668,907	7,674,442
H0399	Service Support Costs	376,680	376,703	377,417	375,266
	<b>Administration of Rates</b>	<b>8,673,231</b>	<b>8,673,254</b>	<b>8,657,834</b>	<b>8,616,104</b>
H0401	Register of Elector Costs	87,954	87,954	87,930	103,775
H0499	Service Support Costs	160,877	160,862	164,446	163,509
	<b>Franchise Costs</b>	<b>248,831</b>	<b>248,816</b>	<b>252,376</b>	<b>267,284</b>
H0501	Coroner Fees and Expenses	183,236	183,236	183,271	186,964
H0599	Service Support Costs	28,130	28,130	27,300	27,145
	<b>Operation and Morgue and Coroner Expenses</b>	<b>211,366</b>	<b>211,366</b>	<b>210,571</b>	<b>214,109</b>
H0799	Service Support Costs	6,264	6,113	5,889	5,856
	<b>Operation of Markets and Casual Trading</b>	<b>6,264</b>	<b>6,113</b>	<b>5,889</b>	<b>5,856</b>

**Budget 2016**  
**Miscellaneous Services – Expenditure**

<b>Expenditure by Service and Sub-Service</b>		<b>2016</b>		<b>2015</b>	
		<b>Adopted by Council</b>	<b>Estimated by Manager</b>	<b>Adopted by Council</b>	<b>Estimated Outturn</b>
<u>Code</u>		€	€	€	€
H0901	Representational Payments	464,000	464,000	463,820	463,820
H0902	Chair/Vice Chair Allowances	54,000	54,000	54,000	48,000
H0903	Annual Allowances LA Members	169,000	169,000	169,148	169,148
H0904	Expenses LA Members	112,000	112,000	127,000	127,000
H0905	Other Expenses	28,000	28,000	43,954	28,000
H0907	Retirement Gratuities	9,000	9,000	54,926	55,000
H0908	Contribution to Members Associations	16,000	16,000	16,000	16,000
H0909	General Municipal Allocation	193,000	193,000	193,000	193,000
H0999	Service Support Costs	477,219	475,243	490,688	513,417
<b>Local Representation/Civic Leadership</b>		<b>1,522,219</b>	<b>1,520,243</b>	<b>1,612,536</b>	<b>1,613,385</b>
H1001	Motor Taxation Operation	710,073	710,073	813,060	724,660
H1099	Service Support Costs	617,023	612,254	635,446	631,824
<b>Motor Taxation</b>		<b>1,327,096</b>	<b>1,322,327</b>	<b>1,448,506</b>	<b>1,356,484</b>
H1101	Agency & Recoupable Service	95,500	95,500	0	0
H1102	Non Principle Private Residence	79,103	79,103	68,114	84,698
H1199	Service Support Costs	46,036	46,034	53,250	52,947
<b>Agency &amp; Recoupable Services</b>		<b>220,639</b>	<b>220,637</b>	<b>121,364</b>	<b>137,645</b>
<b>Service Division Total</b>		<b>12,612,526</b>	<b>12,605,639</b>	<b>12,701,968</b>	<b>12,648,706</b>

## Miscellaneous Services - Income

Income by Source	2016		2015	
	Adopted by Council €	Estimated by Manager €	Adopted by Council €	Estimated Outturn €
<b>Government Grants</b>				
Environment, Heritage & Local Government	1,190,000	830,000	0	0
Other	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
<b>Total Grants &amp; Subsidies</b>	<b>(a)</b>	<b>1,240,000</b>	<b>880,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>
<b>Goods and Services</b>				
Superannuation	117,656	117,656	133,764	130,821
Other income	738,000	738,000	412,336	1,076,950
<b>Total Goods and Services</b>	<b>(b)</b>	<b>855,656</b>	<b>546,100</b>	<b>1,207,771</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>c=(a+b)</b>	<b>2,095,656</b>	<b>1,735,656</b>	<b>596,100</b>
				<b>1,257,771</b>

**Clare County Council**

**Budget 2016**

**Appendices**

## Appendix 1 –Summary of Central Management Charge

	2016		2015
	Adopted by Council	Estimated by Manager	Adopted by Council
	€	€	€
Area Office Overhead	1,799,782	1,739,782	1,611,139
Corporate Affairs Overhead	1,758,102	1,758,102	1,749,780
Corporate Buildings Overhead	2,536,544	2,536,544	2,564,424
Finance Function Overhead	1,723,618	1,723,618	1,728,568
Human Resource Function	1,878,000	1,878,000	1,930,307
IT Services	1,178,625	1,178,625	1,228,165
Print/Post Room Service Overhead Allocation	601,711	601,711	591,303
Pension & Lump Sum Overhead	6,996,524	6,996,524	6,455,031
<b>Total Expenditure Allocated to Services</b>	<b>18,472,906</b>	<b>18,412,906</b>	<b>17,858,717</b>

## Appendix 2 – Summary of Local Property Tax Allocation

Discretionary Local Property Tax - Revenue Budget ( Table A)		3,166,584
Local Property Tax Self Funding - Revenue Budget ( Table E)		
- Housing & Building	600,000	
- Road Transport & Safety	-	
		600,000
<b>Total Local Property Tax - Revenue Budget</b>		<b>3,766,584</b>
Local Property Tax Self Funding - Capital Budget		
- Housing & Building	2,670,409	
- Road Transport & Safety	-	
<b>Total Local Property Tax - Capital Budget</b>		<b>2,670,409</b>
<b>Total Local Property Tax Allocation ( Post variation)</b>		<b>6,436,993</b>

## **Appendix 3 - Report on Capital Programme 2016 – 2018**

12 November, 2015

### **Report on Capital Programme 2016-2018**

Don Chathaoirleach agus gach Ball den Chomhairle

A Chomhairleoir, a chara

This report outlines the proposed capital programme for the period 2016 to 2018. The ability of the Council to progress the capital programme is dependent on the availability of adequate funding which is sourced from a combination of government grants, loan finance and development contributions. These funding sources have reduced considerably in recent times and are expected to remain limited for the foreseeable future. Prior to the advancement of projects the source(s) of income will have to be identified.

It is important to note that the Government monitors all local government and national borrowings, surpluses and deficits across the wider Government sector. The Government has set a limit nationally on local government's annual contribution to deficits in the General Government Balance (GGB)

**Report on Capital Programme 2016 – 2018****Housing****House Construction**

Significant capital funding will be available under the Social Housing Strategy for the provision of social housing units. The Council's programme will include a scheme at Shannon (21 units) and Quilty (10 units) together with other schemes that may be approved by the Department of Environment Community and Local Government (DECLG) under the programme. The Council would also hope to proceed with individual acquisitions under the overall programme.

**Voluntary Housing**

There are currently 400 units of accommodation in County Clare that are provided by approved housing bodies. Projects are currently proceeding or will proceed as follows:

3 no. self contained units at Laurel Lodge, Ennis by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul

7 No. units at Kildysart Road by Clare Haven Services

12 units at Doonbeg by Kilkee Housing Association

Further projects may be approved by the DECLG during 2015/2016.

**Voids Retrofitting Programme**

The Department allocated funding during 2015 for a programme to facilitate the return of vacant stock to productive use. The Council would propose to continue with this programme in 2016 subject to capital funding being made available by the DECLG.

**Energy Efficiency**

The Energy Efficiency Scheme has been very successful to date with energy/fabric upgrades completed to over 1,800 tenanted and untenanted houses. The Council will be commencing Phase 2 of this Programme as soon as funds are made available.

**Traveller Accommodation**

Upgrades will be carried out at sites as requirements arise and as funding is approved by the DECLG.

**TRANSPORTATION**

An Bord Pleanála granted approval for the Killaloe Bypass, Shannon Crossing and R494 improvement scheme in 2013. However, presently, this scheme is subject to a judicial review. The High Court hearing was heard in December 2014 and the decision of the court is awaited.

The Preliminary Design of the Limerick Northern Distributor Road is ongoing. The formal variation pertaining to the Clare section of the project was passed in July – both in respect of the County Development Plan and the South Clare Local Area Plan. The equivalent proposed variation of the Limerick County Development Plan was defeated by Limerick Councillors on July 29th last. At present, available options are being considered with a view to determining the most appropriate way forward. It is not possible to specify anticipated expenditure for 2016 until the assessments outlined are completed.

With regard to Blakes Corner, Ennistymon - Clare County Council received an allocation of €100k in 2015 from the NRA to facilitate Planning/Design of the scheme. A Non-Statutory Public Consultation event was held on June 10th in the Falls Hotel, Ennistymon to facilitate members of the general public who wished to consult on the issue or to make submissions in relation to the recommended solution or the other options which are still considered to be feasible. The project consultants are continuing to examine the content of submissions received with a view ultimately to recommending on what proposal should go forward to the formal planning process later in the year. It is anticipated that there may be expenditure of €500k in 2016.

The Doolin Pier construction project was completed in mid-June of this year and the official unveiling took place on June 19th. The Council is continuing the process to procure a team of Consultants to facilitate design and ultimate implementation of an overall master plan for the Harbour area to incorporate the development of an accommodation building, enhanced parking, traffic management etc – the process is almost completed. Anticipated expenditure in 2016 is €100k.

The Ennis South Flood Relief Scheme in the townlands of Clonroadmore, Ballybeg and Clareabbey will involve the following works:

Flood Overflow Culvert from St. Flannan’s Stream to the Clare Abbey flood plain, with associated overflow structure and outfall structure

Flood Overflow Culvert from Ballybeg Stream to the Clare Abbey flood plain, with associated overflow structure, outfall structure and open drain

Upgrade of the existing flood defence embankment between the Quin Road and the Clarecastle tidal barrage, including rehabilitation and construction of sluices and modification of the existing backdrain.

Planning approval has been confirmed by An Bord Pleanala in respect of the Ennis South Flood Relief Scheme and Clare Co Council is awaiting approval of funding from the OPW to facilitate construction. Anticipated expenditure in 2016 is €2m pending funding approval.

**Storm Damage**

A framework of consultants was established in 2014 so that appointments could be accelerated in situations where substantial or complex works are required and where approval is confirmed by the OPW to proceed to carry out feasibility studies in the context of coastal defence strengthening requirements.

The following table sets out the current position in relation to Strengthening and significant Remediation projects:

<b>Project</b>	<b>Current Situation</b>
Cloughaninchy	Feasibility Study substantially completed and will be submitted to OPW shortly.
Kilkee	Contract temporarily suspended until after tourist season. North terrace substantially completed and construction of South terrace to be completed before the 2016 tourist season.

New Quay/Aughinish	Approval confirmed by OPW to proceed to Feasibility. Consultant appointed and commission getting underway.
Doolin	Consultant procurement process ongoing.
Liscannor Bay Cleahane Adjacent to Pitch and Putt course Liscannor Lehinch North	Consultants appointed and Feasibility Study underway.
Lehinch Central (Promenade Area)	Part VIII ongoing. Pending Part VIII approval, construction contract to get underway in Q4, 2015.
Lehinch South	Consultants appointed – design work and Planning preparation underway.
Whitestrans (Milltown Malbay)	Consultants appointed – Feasibility Study underway.
Spanish Point	Ditto
Quilty	Ditto
Whitestrans (Doonbeg), Rhyngonnaught, Carradotia (Moneypoint), Cappagh.	Going to tender shortly – all retaining wall construction jobs.
Doonmore (Doonbeg)	Consultant appointed – design work ongoing – preparation for formal planning process ongoing.

Knock	Sea wall remediation – tender process ongoing.
Ross Bay	Strengthening requirements – not yet approved to go to Feasibility Stage.
Kilbaha	Consultants appointed and Feasibility Study underway.
Kilcredaun	Consultants appointed – design work ongoing – preparation for Planning process ongoing.
Ballycar, Newmarket on Fergus	Road reconstruction underway.

Expenditure in 2014 closed out at €5.8m – leaving a balance available of more than €11.8m out of the €17.6m allocated by the Department of the Environment in February of last year.

A programme of works on foot of the outstanding elements of the funding package which was originally confirmed early last year was prepared and submitted to the Department of the Environment and the OPW at the beginning of this year as required. The primary characteristics of the programme are:

Distribution of repair funding (€11.8 million) across approximately 20 sites – it is envisaged that approximately 85% of this fund will be expended in 2015 with the remaining balance to be spent in 2016.

Preparation of Feasibility Studies and commencement of implementation of strengthening works at up to 10 locations – subject to funding approval on foot of outputs of Feasibility Studies – see above table.

Most of the proposed repair works are to be carried out in 2015 while much of the proposed strengthening works (if approved) will extend beyond 2015 through 2016, 2017 and 2018.

## **TOURISM & COMMUNITY**

### **Tourism Product Development Projects**

The Council has a range of projects at various stages including the Visitor Services Building at Doolin, Holy Island, Loop Head Lighthouse, Ballycuggeran Amenity area, the Cliffs of Moher Visitor Experience, and the Lough Derg Canoe Trail infrastructural works and the Lahinch Promenade Improvement Scheme.

All projects will require financial support from national sources including schemes operated by Failte Ireland as well as a contribution from own resources. It is expected that a call under a national Tourism product Development Scheme may be made in 2016 and the Council needs to have schemes available in the event of any such call.

The EU LIFE Burren and Cliffs of Moher Geopark project will continue until the end of 2017. While the programme is funded from combination of EU funding and contributions from the individual partners, funding for small demonstration projects including land acquisition costs will be required.

### **Burial Grounds**

It is anticipated that Drumcliff Burial Ground will have reached full capacity within the next 8 – 10 years. In this regard, a number of potential sites have been identified and site investigation works at a cost of €10k will be carried out during 2016. It is estimated that the acquisition and development of a new burial ground will be approximately €300k.

Remedial works and improvements may also be required at a number of burial grounds in the county for which funding will require to be sourced.

### **Kilrush Sports Complex – upgrade of sports facilities**

The GAA pitch on the Cooraclare Road, Kilrush is in need of upgrade works and these have been costed at €200k. Funding sources for such a project have not yet been identified.

### **Active Ennis Sports Facilities**

Energy Efficiency works to Active Ennis Leisure Centre will be undertaken during 2016 and will be part funded under the government's Energy Efficiency Upgrade and Enhanced Disabled Access Initiative 2015. The balance of the funding will be met by the Council.

The replacement and upgrade of gym equipment is also necessary and will cost €150k. The Lees Road facility also requires capital investment for electrical upgrade works, upgrade of CCTV, provision of lane barriers and a running track turnstile. These costs are estimated at €32k. Funding sources for these two projects require to be identified.

### **Economic Development**

Work will commence before year end on phase one of the Market Regeneration project at Garraunakilla, Ennis. The overall scheme costing some €1.75m is funded from a loan obtained by the Council. Provision has been in the budget for loan charges arising.

### **Planting of Trees in Shannon Town Park**

Following the severe storms in early 2014 there was significant damage caused to trees in Shannon Town, and in particular in Shannon Town Park near the municipal district office. An allocation of €200k was provided as part of the storm damage funds to carry out repair works in the Town Park and in other areas of the town. In the Town Park these works consist of the removal of damaged trees, some replanting works and the development of some landscaped and pedestrian areas. The storm funding available addresses the repair element and will not complete the redevelopment of the Town Park to the degree required and as envisaged in the Shannon Town Green Infrastructure Plan. In this regard, it is estimated that a further sum of at least €100k could be spent in 2016, with further expenditure required in future years, subject to funding being available. Recently the council has applied for grant funding that would assist in this regard, but matching funding will be required from the councils own resources.

### **New toilet/changing facilities at Lahinch, Spanish Point and Kilkee.**

Estimated cost €0.9m (this is a contingency figure).

Funding – Development Levies, loan, own resources; possibility of grant funding under Tourism initiatives.

The existing toilet/changing facilities at all three resorts are inadequate for the numbers of visitors and require modernisation and improved accessibility. There are also certain restrictions on opening times. Consultants are being procured to scope and design new and improved facilities at all three locations. The newly designed facilities will need to cater for the numbers of visitors and the various uses as well as taking into account particular features such as coastal flood risk, prominent exposed locations etc. It is anticipated that work will progress to planning stage at least in 2016.

## **LIBRARIES AND CULTURAL**

### **Library**

The priority project continues to be the provision of a new county library for Ennis with ancillary services. During the year the project advanced with a tender process conducted for an architect led design team. The estimated cost of the project is circa €8.6m with the main funding source being government capital grant aid, but this grant funding has not been secured as yet. The balance of funding will be from council's own resources/loan funding. It is intended to further progress the planning phase of the project in 2016 which will require expenditure on design proposals. The expenditure in 2016 is estimated at circa €270k.

## **WATER SERVICES**

### **Rural Water Programme**

While the public water supply and sewerage schemes capital programme is now under the remit of Irish Water, Clare County Council is still responsible for the management of projects for new or upgrading of Group Water and Sewage Schemes and for the provision of grants for domestic Bored Wells. Funding for these continues to be provided by the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government as follows:

### **Group Water Supply and Sewerage Schemes**

In late Spring each year, the Council generally receives its allocation for funding for the Rural Water Capital Programme after the Department has considered the council's requests for funding. A programme of works is then determined by the Council in conjunction with the Group Scheme committees. It should be noted that the allocation for 2015 (€538k) was only about half of the 2014 allocation (€1m) and it is thus difficult to predict what allocation will be received for 2016.

A further issue in this area is that where a Group Water or Sewerage scheme applies to be taken in charge or where the scheme proposes to connect to public mains, the approval of Irish Water is required. The protocols in this area are not yet finalised by Irish Water.

### **Bored Wells**

The provision or improvement of individual bored well supplies for domestic use is managed in the Council's capital account. Any grants paid out are fully recoupable from the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government.

## **ENVIRONMENT**

Capital projects to commence in period 2016 – 2017

### **Closure Restoration and Aftercare Management Plan (revised) for Ballyduff Beg closed landfill.**

Estimated cost €1m (this is a contingency figure, as the revised Closure Restoration and Aftercare Management Plan (CRAMP) is not complete).

Funding – Loan, own resources; possibility of DECLG allocating remediation grants for closed landfills.

The status of the landfill at Ballyduff Beg has changed to being a closed landfill. In order to re-open the landfill effectively the equivalent of a licence application is now required. A revised CRAMP is required in accordance with the landfill licence. This revised CRAMP will need to be agreed with the EPA. Once the revised CRAMP is approved by the EPA, the plan will have to be implemented and may require some capital works including treating the inter phase area between the completed Phase 3 and Phase 4 which was not developed. Preparation of this revised CRAMP is now underway.

**Compliance with revised EPA waste licence terms at Doora, Scarriff, Lisdeen and Ballyduff Beg licensed landfill sites.**

Estimated cost €1m (this is a contingency figure, as the assessment of these sites is not complete)

Funding – Loan, own resources; possibility of DECLG allocating remediation grants for closed landfills.

The EPA revised the licence conditions at the Council's licensed landfills in 2012 in order to comply with the requirements of the groundwater regulations. These revised conditions placed additional requirements in terms of assessing the risks to groundwater at licensed facilities and remediating these landfills where required. Assessments were completed during the year and remediation is underway in accordance with the licence. Assessments were carried out at all four landfills. However there are particular risks at Doora landfill due to the proximity of the River Fergus and exploratory work was undertaken there in 2015. Further assessment and a pilot project on bioremediation are underway. It is possible that further work will be required in 2016 and the contingency sum outlined above which is uncertain at present is to cater for possible remediation at that site during 2016 into 2017.

**Remediation under EPA licence of disused landfill at Lisdeen**

Estimated cost €0.7m

Funding – Loan and own resources; application for grant made to DECLG; grant may meet up to 75% of cost – Application made in 2008 but no decision made by DECLG.

At present this project is one of a large number of remediation projects for completion which have been submitted nationally to the Department. In addition the funding for these types of remediation project has reduced nationally in the past few years with the reduction in the Environment Fund. It is likely that the higher risk sites will be given priority in deciding on grant funding. There is a significant risk that Clare County Council may not get either grant approval or loan approval for this project in 2016 but it will be resubmitted for funding in 2016.

**Remediation of unregulated historical municipal landfills closed before 1996  
Waste Management Act – 8 Landfills in County Clare**

Estimated cost €5m (this is a contingency figure, as the assessment of these sites is not complete).

Funding – Loan, own resources; possibility of DECLG allocating remediation grants for old landfills.

Tier 1 Assessment of all eight sites is complete. Funding for further exploratory work was obtained in 2009 for Whitegate high risk site and in 2010 for the Kilrush medium risk site and this work has been completed in both cases. Six sites remain to be assessed through Tier 2 and Tier 3 Assessments and possibly remediated. All eight sites will require a Certificate of Authorisation from the EPA when assessments are complete and certificates may require remediation works to be carried out within a defined time period. The Southern Region Waste Management Plan has outlined that a phased programme to obtain the required certificates is being developed. This will likely concentrate initially on the high risk sites. Due to the risk profile of the sites in Clare it is likely that the County will feature towards the end of the programme and possibly five years from now. The project will remain on the Section 135 report in the interim as the work will have to be completed.

**Remediation of Sites with Asbestos**

Clare County Council has been investigating a number of sites in the Kilkee and Kilrush area which contain asbestos cement pipe material. The phased investigation includes a site investigation process to establish the extent of the issue. Should the investigation conclude that material requires to be removed and/or the various sites remediated, the required works may become an item of capital expenditure during 2016. The nature, scale and extent of any such works is not known at present.

# Appendix 4 - Amendment agreed at budget meeting 20<sup>th</sup> November 2015



20<sup>th</sup> November 2015

Don Cathaoirleach agus Gach Ball Den Chomhairle

**RE: Draft Budget 2016**

A Chomhairleoir, a Chara,

I wish to advise that I have been informed by the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government that an element of funding will be made available to the Council in relation to rates income 2016. I anticipate that the funding available will be approximately €360,000.

I advised the CPG of this development today and the CPG recommends to the Council that the €360,000 be allocated within the 2016 Budget as follows:-

Payroll – General Operatives/Area Offices	-	€200,000
Operational costs incurred by Clare County Council in relation to the Fleadh 2016	-	€50,000
Matching contribution towards 1916 Commemoration events	-	€30,000
Public Area Enhancement Scheme	-	€80,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>€360,000</b>

Mise le meas,

Tom Coughlan,  
Chief Executive.

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Foilsíodh comhionannas dáta 2015.11.20  
 Comhairle Contae an Chláir  
 o Chathairín Éilíní maith  
 leorann an t-ádhacht i gcóir



Clare County Council is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from all sections of the Community  
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