



Mayo LCDC Annual Report 2023



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Foreword by LCDC Chairperson



I am pleased to present the Mayo Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) Annual report for 2023. Mayo LCDC held ten meetings in 2023 all of which were blended. Another busy year saw allocations made to County Mayo through LEADER, Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP), Healthy Ireland, Sláintecare Healthy Communities (SHC) and other funding streams.

In 2023 LCDC members continued to work co-operatively to deliver a variety of programmes focusing on Social Inclusion, Health and Well Being and Training and Education. I commend their commitment and approach. This willingness to work together ensures that maximum benefit is achieved for the programmes delivered.

I want to acknowledge and thank the team in the Community Section of Mayo County Council who support the LCDC and the LAG (Local Action Group) and work to ensure that Mayo maximises its offerings under the programmes and funding opportunities available. Thanks also to the teams of our various partners in South West Mayo Development Company, Comhar na nOileán, Moy Valley Resources, Kiltimagh IRD and Mayo North East LEADER Partnership.

Thank you to Cllr Neil Cruise who, as Chair over the past three years was committed to the delivery of the extensive work programme of the LCDC. He provided ongoing support to the team and was an active participant in programme implementation.

I look forward to working collaboratively in 2024 and delivering the new Local Economic and Community Plan and a Local Development Strategy for the LEADER Programme 2023 - 2027 for County Mayo.

Cllr Al Mc Donnell, Chair of Mayo LCDC

1. Introduction

This document constitutes the Annual Report for the Mayo Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) for the year ended 31st December 2023. The report has been prepared in the context of Chapter 2 Section 128 B(1)(i) of the Local Government Act 2001, as inserted by the Local Government Reform Act 2014, which states that one of the functions of a Local Community Development Committee is: “not later than 31 March in each year, to prepare, adopt and submit to the local authority a report in relation to the performance of its functions during the year immediately preceding the year in which the report is submitted”.

Background Legislation

Section 49A of the Local Government Act 2001, as inserted by the Local Government Reform Act 2014, provides for the establishment of Local Community Development Committees.

The LCDC functions set out in the Act are as follows:

1. Developing, co-ordinating and implementing a coherent and integrated approach to local and community development.
2. To prepare the community elements of a 6-year Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP). To implement, or arrange for the implementation of, the community elements of the Plan.
3. To review the community elements of the Plan at least once within the period of 6 calendar years and, if necessary, to amend the community elements of the Plan.
4. To monitor on an on-going basis the implementation of the community elements of the Plan and, if appropriate, to revise the actions and strategies set to achieve the objectives of the community elements of the Plan.
5. To coordinate, manage and oversee the implementation of local and community development programmes that have been approved either by the relevant local authority or by agreement between the LCDC and a relevant public authority (e.g., government department, State agency etc.).
6. To improve the coordination of public-funded local and community development programmes and reduce duplication.
7. In addition to public-funded programmes, to coordinate the local and community development programmes within the operational area of the LCDC.
8. To consider a draft of the economic elements of the Plan and adopt a statement for consideration of the Council in this regard, and;
9. To prepare an annual report on the performance of its functions.

It is also responsible for the oversight of local and community development expenditure including the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 (LEADER), SICAP, Healthy Ireland and Community Enhancement Programme.

2. Membership and Meeting Attendance 2023

LCDC Membership

The Mayo LCDC was established in July 2014 and has 19 members which includes representatives from Local Authority members and staff, representatives of Public Bodies; representatives of local social partner interests; local community representatives; and representatives of publicly funded or supported local development bodies. Most members must be from the non-statutory sector.

For the purposes of the oversight of the LEADER programme the LCDC increased its number of seats from 19 to 22 to include all the local development interests involved in the delivery of the programme. This is referred to as the LCDC led Local Action Group (LAG).

Meeting Attendance 2023

LCDC Meeting Attendances 2023		Dates of Meetings						
Members Name	Organisation	Jan 24th	Feb 28th	Apr 25th	Jun 13th	Jul 25th	Sep 19th	Nov 21st
Cllr. Neil Cruise (Chair)	Mayo County Council	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
Cllr. Al McDonnell	Mayo County Council	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cllr. Richard Finn	Mayo County Council	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
Mr Kevin Kelly	Chief Executive-MCC	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Mr. John Magee	Head of Enterprise-MCC	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Mr Laurence Gaughan	HSE		✓	✓			✓	
Mr Pat Howley	MSLETB	✓		✓		✓		✓
Mr. Martin O'Toole	Dept. Social Protection				✓	✓	✓	✓
Mr. Sean O'Coisdealbha	Udaras na Gaeltachta			✓	✓	✓		
Ms Sabina Trench	SWMDC	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mr. Justin Sammon	MNE	✓		✓		✓		✓
Ms Siobhan Gough	PPN-Community & Voluntary	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
Mr Billy Freeley	PPN-Community & Voluntary	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mr Austin F O'Malley	PPN - Social Inclusion	✓	✓			✓	✓	
Mr Bernard Joyce	PPN - Environmental		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Mr. James O Doherty	Chamber of Commerce	✓	✓	✓				
Mr Michael Lennon	Chamber of Commerce					✓	✓	✓
Mr John Comer	Farming Pillar							
Ms Bernadette Heneghan	Trade Council	✓	✓		✓		✓	
Ms Mary Jackson	PPN - Social Inclusion	✓						✓

This Annual Report includes both LCDC and LCDC led LAG activities.

3 Oversight of Programmes

3.1 SICAP 2018-2022 Programme:

The Mayo LCDC has a management and oversight function in relation to the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme 2018-2022 (SICAP). This is a national programme which aims to tackle poverty, social exclusion, and long-term unemployment. Its vision is to improve the life chances and opportunities of those who are most marginalised in society, living in poverty or in unemployment through community development approaches, targeted supports, and interagency collaboration.

In 2018 Mayo LCDC contracted SICAP Programme delivery to two Programme Implementors (PIs) and it monitors the delivery of both financial and non-financial aspects of the Programme in the three Mayo SICAP Lots. In July 2021, the Department of Rural and Community Development extended the SICAP programme by a further year to 31st December 2023.

In 2023 Mayo LCDC set up tender competition for the new SICAP programme starting in 2024-2028. By the end of 2023 two of the three Mayo Lots were awarded as follows:

- South West Mayo Development Company (SWMDC) is contracted to deliver the SICAP in Lot 29-3 Castlebar and Claremorris Municipal Districts.
- Mayo North East LEADER Partnership (MNELP) is contracted to deliver the SICAP programme in Lot 29-2 - Ballina and West Mayo Municipal Districts.

The following is a summary of the SICAP Lot Budgets and KPI Targets for 2023:

Lot	Annual Budget	KPI 1 Target	KPI 2 Target
Lot 29-1 Mayo Islands	€51,099.00	4	22
Lot 29-2 Ballina & West Mayo	€1,055,726.00	29	441
Lot 29-3 Castlebar & Claremorris	€787,819.00	36	256

3.2 Rural Development Programme LEADER:

The LEADER Programme provides support to rural communities across the European Union to actively engage and to direct the local development of their area, through community-led local development. LEADER is a bottom-up approach to delivering support to communities under the national Rural Development Programme 2014-2020. Grants are awarded by Local Action Groups (LAGs) to projects that support delivery of a locally prepared Development Strategy under three (3) main themes: Rural Economic Development, Enterprise Development and Job Creation, Social Inclusion and Rural Environment.

The Mayo LCDC led LAG is the final decision-making body for LEADER allocations. Development and animation support is provided to project promoters based on their geographical region in the county by Local Development Companies. These are South West Mayo Development Company, Mayo North East LEADER Partnership, Moy Valley Resources, Comhar na nOileán and Kiltimagh IRD. Mayo County Council is the programme's local financial partner with funding administered nationally through the Department of Rural and Community Development.

The LEADER Programme 2014-2020 was extended to 31st March 2021. The Transitional LEADER programme and EURI (European Union Recovery Instrument) Funding Programmes commenced in 2022. Final allocation of funding under these schemes extended out to the 31st of December 2023, and all expenditure under these schemes to be incurred by 31st March 2024, with final claims submitted to the DRCD by June 2024.

2023 Summary

- Mayo LAG met 10 times in 2023.
- LEADER Project Approvals – 9 Projects to the value of €176,379.21
- LEADER Project Claims – 61 claims to the value of €1,810,108.63

Mayo LCDC prepared and submitted a Local Development Strategy (LDS) to the Department of Rural & Community Development to be considered eligible to deliver the EU co-funded LEADER Programme for the period 2023-2027 for the whole of Co. Mayo. Extensive consultation and research was undertaken in the development of the LDS. This is a competitive process and no outcome had been received by year end 2023.

3.3 Community Support Fund 2022/2023 under the Community Enhancement Programme (CEP):

The **CSF (Community Support Fund)** is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development (*the Department*) and administered by the Local Community Development Committees (LCDCs) in each Local Authority area.

The Department provides funding to each Local Authority (LA) area and the LCDCs then administer this funding locally to ensure funding is targeted appropriately towards addressing disadvantage in the areas that need it most.

The Community Support Fund supported community & voluntary groups,

- With their non-pay running costs such as utility bills (electricity costs, refuse charges, heating charges) or other non-pay operating costs for e.g., rental/lease costs, insurance bills.
- Groups were also able to use the funding to carry out necessary capital expenditure - repairs and improvements to their facilities, purchase equipment for e.g., such as tables and chairs, tools and signage, laptops and printers, lawnmowers, canopies, and training equipment etc.

As this was the first time this scheme was administered online through the Consult platform, two (2) online training courses were provided. A total of 222 applications were received online.

Mayo was allocated €378,225.72 and the LCDC awarded the funding as follows;

	Funding Approved Cat 1 (grants <€1000)	Funding approved Category 2 (grants > €1000)
Capital	€16,650	€174,049
Current	€19,221	€168,151
	€35,871	€342,200

All eligible claims were paid out by end of December 2023.

4. Mayo's Ukrainian Community Response Forum

Initially established by Mayo County Council in March 2019 as a response to the Covid-19 pandemic this group now provides a collaborative interagency response to the Ukrainian crisis. Members include representatives from Mayo County Council incl. (Mayo Sports Partnership, Mayo Public Participation Network, Age Friendly Mayo, Healthy Ireland, Housing), Mayo Volunteer Centre, An Garda Síochána, Tusla, HSE, Department of Social Protection, Citizens Information Centre, CYPSC, Local Link, Local Development Companies, Mayo Sligo Leitrim Education Training Board and Ukrainian Support Groups.

The role of the Forum is to coordinate the Mayo response in the provision of local supports required by refugees, including liaising with local service providers, identifying service gaps and solutions and encouraging collaboration among service providers in Mayo.

This group meet fortnightly to coordinate the provision of targeted responses to the challenges presented by the war on Ukraine. These responses include:

Information evenings on various supports and services available to Ukrainians, development of Ukraine webpage on Mayo County Council website, provision of information on supports including GP and medical cards, transport, information of entitlements, enrolling into schools and provision of English classes.

5 Local Economic and Community Plan (Community Elements)

During 2023, Mayo LCDC continued to monitor and implement the community elements of the Local Economic and Community Plan.

The work was conducted through 4 working groups:

- Training, Education and Skills – Chair, Mr Pat Howley
- Social Inclusion and Community Development – Chair, Cllr Neil Cruise
- Health and Wellbeing – Chair, Mr Laurence Gaughan
- Heritage, Environment, Language and Culture – Chair, Mr Justin Sammon

Activities of the working groups and affiliated structures for 2022 included:

5.1 Training, Education and Skills Working Group:

In 2023, the Education, Training and Skills Working Group of the LCDC continued to implement the education elements of the Local Economic and Community Plan.

The LCDC Training, Education and Skills Working Group is chaired by Pat Howley MSLETB. Their remit includes the promotion of educational and training opportunities for all. The four (4) core meetings were held throughout 2023.

An event coordinator was engaged for Careers Fair 2024. The working group member organisations are Mayo County Council, MSLETB, Údaras na Gaeltacta, ATU Mayo, Mayo Recovery College, Mayo Sports Partnership, South West Mayo Development company, Mayo North East and the HSE.

5.2 Social Inclusion and Community Development Working Group:

A key element of the Mayo LECP is supporting and promoting Social Inclusion and Community Development. The Social Inclusion and Community Development Working Group is an interagency subgroup of the LCDC, chaired by Cllr. Neil Cruise. The Working Group met four times throughout 2023. This working group steer the LGBTI+ Network.

Mayo LGBTI+ Network

Mayo LGBTI+ Network was set up to try to coordinate support for the LGBTI+ community living in Mayo. In 2023 funding received under Dormant account funding through the DRCD was used to support Mayo North East Development Company to employ a part time LGBTI+ worker. In 2023, this has delivered support for Outwest, Sing Outwest, Mayo Pride.

Mayo Social Inclusion Awareness Week 2023

In 2023, the Social Inclusion and Community Development Working Group led out on the delivery of Social Inclusion Awareness Week (MSIAW).

Mayo Social Inclusion Week (MSIAW), delivered in October 2023 was used as an opportunity to promote and highlight the incredibly positive work that the public and the community sectors do on a day-to-day basis to reduce discrimination, racism, poverty, and social exclusion. The aim of the week was to support initiatives throughout the county that foster inclusion and equality and it is also an opportunity to celebrate the diversity of people in County Mayo.

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Mayo Social Inclusion Awareness Week (MSIAW) 2023 Launch and Brochure of events.



Launch of Mayo Social Inclusion Week 2023 in Ballina Library

Mayo Says No to Racism Group

The **Mayo Says No to Racism Group** aims are to make County Mayo “A No Racism” zone. Membership of the group comprises community activists, community and voluntary sector members and a statutory body. The Group was established in 2020. In 2023 they organised and rolled out a Seminar on Racism for MSIAW 2023.

Entitled **Cairdeas le Chéile**, this seminar took place at Ballina Arts Centre on Wednesday October 11th and featured speakers and panel discussion around racism and the lived experience of people in Mayo around racism. This event featured a keynote address from Dr John Mulloy ATU, an address from Ballina native Declan Walsh, Chief Africa correspondent for The New York Times, Paddy Maughan, Mayo North East, Celeste Khosa South West

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Mayo, Sharon Murphy Singer/Songwriter, Martin Angolo Comedian along with other contributors.



5.3 Health and Wellbeing Working Group:

At the start of 2023 the Health and Wellbeing Working Group developed a new programme of works that would run for the duration of Healthy Ireland Round 4 2023 – 2025. The Health & Wellbeing working group selected two areas of focus namely **Physical Activity** and **Mental Health**

The methodology used to develop the Healthy Ireland Round 4 Programme of works was informed by a context review guided by local and national strategy documents and consultation with the Health & Wellbeing working group, advocating on behalf of the key priority groups. Outcomes were chosen based on locally identified needs over four (4) consultation and planning workshops in January 2023.

Healthy Ireland Round 4

Actions included:

- Partnering up with Mayo Sports Partnership for roll out of the Mini Mini Fun Run on April 30th with over 1000 children taking part.
- Delivery of **Come and Try Sports Days, Sports Participation Programmes** from Mayo Sports Partnership and **Exercise Classes** with over 100 participants.
- A Nature Walk programme rolled out in North Mayo, through Mayo Mental Health Association

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- Social Farming placements across the county.
- The launch of Cultural Companions, an Age & Opportunity Arts initiative comprising a network of older people interested in arts and culture who can attend events together as a group and to provide increased opportunities for older people to engage with Mayo's vibrant arts and cultural scene.
- The roll out of a series of Connect Cafe's, an event aimed at bringing people together to connect and start conversations, strengthening the connection with others and with our communities.

Healthy Mayo Communications Plan 2022 – 2025

The Health & Wellbeing Working Group Communications subgroup continued roll out of actions included in the Healthy Mayo Communications Plan. The document is a framework for communicating the messaging of Healthy Mayo in a cohesive, effective manner over the next four years. The plan provides a dynamic document that aims to improve the reach of Healthy Mayo across the county.

Notable Actions included in the plan include:

- Roll out of a 90 second daily slot on Midwest Radio, in partnership with Mental Health Ireland and various other partners including the HSE, providing a platform for health messaging across the County.
- Development of Health and Wellbeing information boards for distribution within community settings.



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Additional Projects:

Ukrainian Refugee Health and Wellbeing Support Fund

Healthy Mayo was responsible for the roll out and delivery of the Ukrainian Health and Wellbeing Fund to the value of €38,100. The purpose of the fund was to promote the health and wellbeing of Ukrainian Refugees who have sought protection in Ireland, as part of the international humanitarian crisis arising from the war in Ukraine.

Mayo North East Leader Partnership and South West Mayo Development Company rolled out initiatives that included:

- 17 Art Therapy classes,
- 10 family day excursions,
- 32 yoga workshops
- 20 meter Polytunnel erected, being utilized by many Ukrainian residents daily at Lough Lannagh and surrounding areas.

Period Poverty

The Department of Health allocated funding for roll-out of period poverty mitigation measures. In 2023, €10,000 was made available and Mayo County Council worked with local partners to distribute free dispensers and period products in the various community-based facilities used in the Mayo Sláintecare Healthy Communities geographic area which included Achill Island; the Erris region and North Mayo to combat hygiene security faced by many women.

5.4 Heritage, Environment, Language and Culture Working Group:

The Heritage, Environment, Language and Culture Working Group, chaired by Justin Sammon, the group held three meetings in 2023.

Focused on progressing and organising a Conference on Republicanism in 2024 which hopefully will be held in ATU (Atlantic Technological University) (formerly GMIT- Castlebar) in 2024.

6. Mayo Comhairle na nÓg 2023

Mayo Comhairle na nÓg had another busy year in 2023. Projects worked on during the year included:



- The Committee continue with their work on the podcast '**Conversations with Comhairle**' which aims to raise awareness around Mental Health. Through the podcast they are interviewing guest speakers from local mental health services, sports personalities and their peers.
- The Committee members continued with their research on the exploration of the impact of distance on accessing mental health services in communities in County Mayo. They received training in research skills and have already collected some information using field and desk research. Their goal is to present their findings to relevant decision makers to hopefully source some resources or funding for some of the more rural areas.
- The group participated in a **Young Social Innovators Workshop** where they linked mental health to some of the sustainable development goals. They wish to carry out some of this topic through the **Young Social Innovators Ignite Programme** in 2024, where their work will be promoted and celebrated.
- The members attended the Comhairle Showcase Awards in Dublin and promoted their work. This included the working rights leaflets for young people, hidden disability project, promotion of their podcast and their research proposal.
- The committee members helped plan, facilitate and participated in an Intergenerational Project. This project was a collaboration between the OPW, Mayo Comhairle na nÓg and hosted by the Castlebar Library.
- Mayo Comhairle participated in local and national consultations which focused on drug use, Comhairle branding, and the rights of a child.
- The **Annual Youth Conference** took place on Wednesday 25th of October in the Ivy Tower, Castlebar. It was attended by 178 young people from 14 different schools across Mayo.

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The consultation aspect of the event consisted of two workshops, the first utilised the open space method which presented a question to the delegates, 'What are the biggest issues for young people in Mayo today?'. The issues arising were explored in the second workshop called World Café. Those in attendance had the opportunity to examine all three topics through questions and debate. The topic that received the highest number of votes was School/Exam Stress.

- The Mayo Comhairle na nÓg Youth Conference 2023 was successful with 20 young people expressing an interest in joining the Committee for 2024.

7. Mayo Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme



Sláintecare Healthy Communities (SHC) prioritised two themes (1) physical activity and (2) community engagement in 2023.

The physical activity programme aimed to enhance opportunities and increase the percentage of people who meet the minimum recommended standards. Implementing an exciting Activator Walking with Poles Programme in collaboration with Mayo Sports Partnership delivered in Keel, Achill, Corran Bellmullet, Ballycastle, Geesala, Ballycastle, Ballycroy captivated 180 enthusiastic participants.

The Programme has been adopted in the Bellmullet to target Individuals with COPD and chronic pain through the living well programme. In 2023 the programme celebrating the completion of volunteers successfully ensuring the sustainability of the programme in Achill, Corran and Mulranny. In May 2023 a collaboration with Mayo Sports partnership was successful in securing funding for physical activity for health worker one of only six (6) throughout the country. All Activator Poles Programme, offered the opportunity to complete the classes outdoor on existing trails and walks.

The fourteen (14) new trainers have now been recruited and new programmes including Chair Yoga, Strength and Conditioning Training for Women and Seniors alongside Pilates for Bone Health programme has been delivered in Achill and Ballycroy.

The success of the programme was recognized in June 2023 with the launch of our Mayo Sláintecare Healthy Communities Fit stick Trails by Minister Hildegard Naughton with the event been captured by TV Ireland.

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Community engagement was identified as a priority in early scoping meetings in 2022. Throughout 2023 the Local Development Officer (LDO) has represented the programme at 17 public information events, 36 Interagency Meetings, met with 49 community groups over 10 Slaintecare Healthy Communities locations including Achill, Belmullet, Geesala, Ballycastle, Lacken, Bangor Erris Ballycroy Glenamoy, Carrow Tighe and Cornboy and engaged with over 180 participants.

Some of the programme highlights.

Educate By Nature: Collaboration with MSLETB Achill Outdoor Pursuits.

Introducing green and blue social prescribing to the local community in Achill linking improvement in mental health to engagement with the outdoors. The project introduced the benefits of green and blue social prescribing providing an opportunity to address the multifaceted needs of adolescents and the local community by promoting physical, mental, and social wellbeing through engagement with nature. This nature-centric intervention represents a proactive and holistic approach to fostering wellbeing.

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The intervention was designed to create a supportive and enriching environment that fosters positive developmental outcomes for adolescents and the wider community.

- 6 workshops delivered to 25 transition Year Students in Colaiste Acla.
- 3 community workshops delivered to the community in Achill.

Community Art Project collaboration with Glor na dTonn, Corran

The project was developed in collaboration with the community in Corran to:

- Raise awareness about beach pollution and its impact on marine ecosystems.
- Engage and educate the community on the importance of environmental conservation.
- Transform discarded beach litter into beautiful art installations.
- Foster community participation, collaboration, and a sense of ownership.

Outcomes included:

- The immediate measurable outcome was that three truckloads of rubbish were removed from local beaches.
- Building community capacity through new friendships made by sharing time and space in the creative process of making art accumulating in an exhibition of art pieces in Nov 2023.

Erris Men's Health Project in collaboration with Aras Inis Gluaire and HSE Health and Wellbeing team.

The project was developed to enhance the lives of Men over 60 living the Erris Area. Funding was provided by the National Lottery and Slaintecare Healthy Communities for the initiative. Interventions included physical exercise programmes, health information workshops, workshops on food and nutrition, history heritage and trips to relevant centres. The project has worked with 35 men. Erris Men's Health Initiative was part funded with HSE lottery funding and delivered with implementing partner Aris Inis Gluaire.

'Buail Isteach' Initiative in collaboration with Comhlacht Forbartha Áitiúil Acla Teo

This initiative is aimed at all older people with particular emphasis on those who live alone and are without transport in the Achill area. The weekly gathering is open to all members of the public with an interest in the social activities and the Irish language. This initiative was designed to primarily combat social isolation for a vulnerable group in a sparsely populated area. The emphasis on arts, music and language will build confidence and will have a positive effect on the participant's mental health. From a community perspective, this initiative brings together different people from the locality and shows them that they are a cared for and a valued part of the community.

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Other Collaborations were undertaken with:

- Achill Interagency Group, Achill Foroige on Féile Cill Damhnait Youth Day August 2023 Dooga.
- HSE Health and Wellbeing team, Six Health fairs throughout the region
- Neart Acla, funding for floor for community shed.
- Seirbhisí Curam Chill Chomáin Teo, support for transport for physical activity programme.

Looking Forward to 2024 we have a Health Literacy Research project in progress with Healthy Ireland Local Government, Dublin City University and Sláintecare Healthy Communities Finglas and Cabra

Confirmation of timeline for National Health Literacy report and launch:

February: A comprehensive draft report will be submitted by DCU at the end of February for

March: DCU and Sláintecare will facilitate in person co-design workshops in partner areas with outcomes incorporated in final report

April: Comprehensive report (including executive summary) will be submitted by DCU at the end of April.

In addition:

DCU will deliver a webinar to Sláintecare Healthy Communities staff and partners, which can be shared on website.

Eight (8) Community Workshops will be delivered involving Corran Community, Achill Men's Shed, Purteen Community Shed, Erris Women's Group, Erris Men's Group, Bangor Erris Women's Shed, Wednesday Group.



Closing Statement

2023 was another busy but productive year for Mayo LCDC. Under the leadership of Cllr. Neil Cruise and Cllr. Al Mc Donnell the LCDC continued to embark upon an ambitious work programme which included the oversight of many funding programmes.

Acknowledgement must be given to the co-operation of all members and partners of the Mayo LCDC over the past year. The structure and operation of the Mayo LCDC ensures that programmes are delivered effectively and that funding opportunities are maximised for the communities in County Mayo. My thanks to Cllr. Neil Cruise for the commitment and support he provided as Chair. We look forward to continuing this work through our new Chair, Cllr. Al Mc Donald.

The staff of the Community and Integrated Development section of Mayo County Council and our colleagues in the Local Development Companies continue to show their commitment to delivering for Mayo through working together and building networks of support. I commend their ability to deliver and adapt to the ever-changing needs and work programme requirements. Again in 2023 we saw the strength and resilience of the community and volunteer sector in Mayo. Our work would not be possible without this shared focus on enhancing the lives of those who live in Mayo. We look forward to 2024 and continuing to work with you all for the benefit of Mayo.

Deirdre Finnerty
Chief Officer



For further information on the Mayo LCDC and LAG please contact the Community and Integrated Development Section Mayo County Council community@mayococo.ie