

CASTLEBAR MUNICIPAL DISTRICT



ANNUAL REPORT 2021



CASTLEBAR MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

Castlebar Municipal District governs the town of Castlebar and the general Castlebar area. It has a population of 30,000 and has 28 Electoral Divisions.



Pictured at the AGM in June 2021 is the newly elected Cathaoirleach Cllr. Martin McLoughlin (FF) at front from left to right:

Cllr. Donna Sheridan (FG), Cllr. Ger Deere (FG), Cllr. Cyril Burke (FG), Mr. Iarla Moran, Ms. Karen Ruane, Cllr. Blackie Gavin (FF), Cllr. Michael Kilcoyne (Ind), Cllr. Al McDonnell (FF).

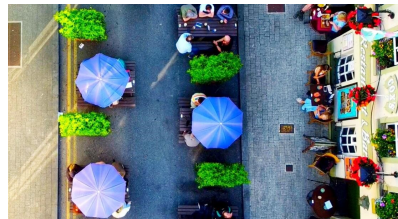
There are 7 elected Members in Castlebar Municipal District since the Local Elections in June 2019 and they meet on the last Wednesday of every month to discuss the development and implementation of policies across a broad range of areas. The members work closely with the Director of Service, Head of Municipal District, the Senior Executive Engineer and the support staff of Mayo County Council to ensure that the Castlebar area continues to thrive, both socially and economically.

The town of Castlebar is actively twinned with Höchststadt in Germany, Auray in France, and in the USA, Dixon, Illinois, Westchester, New York State and Peekskill, also in New York State. These are seen as important cultural links.

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- › **Christmas Lighting Event:** The turning on of the Christmas Lights took place at Market Square in November. Pictured below is Cllr. Martin McLoughlin, Cathaoirleach who switched on the lights and also in attendance are elected members of Castlebar Municipal District.
- › **Visit of Jack Chambers TD:** Jack Chambers, T.D., Minister of State for Gaeltacht and Sport visited Lough Lannagh Leisure Complex on the 11th July, 2021 alongside Cathaoirleach Martin McLoughlin and elected members of Castlebar Municipal District, Alan Dillon T.D and Senator Lisa Chambers to review the Lough Lannagh Masterplan and the proposal for a climbing wall at the Leisure Centre.
- › **Outdoor Dining on Tucker Street:** Seven local restaurants came together to work alongside Mayo County Council in creating a unique dining experience on the street, this commenced on the 6th July, 2021 and ran until the 5th October, 2021.

The street was transformed into a continental style dining space where the tables are taken from the restaurants and set up on the street.



- **Moore Hall Developments:** Some development works have been carried out to transform the grounds and gardens at the historic estate of Moore Hall. The works included the restoration of the Walled Garden, which had fallen into disrepair, as well as new visitor facilities including walkways, seating, play areas and signage. Funding of €350,000 for Moore Hall was approved under the Rural Development (LEADER) and Cross Border Co-operation Programmes.



- **Glenisland Bridge:** Deputy Hildegard Naughton, T.D., Minister of State at the Department of Transport TD, officially opened the R312 Glenisland Bridge Scheme on the 1st November, 2021 alongside Cllr. Martin McLoughlin, Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Michael Kilcoyne, Cllr. Al McDonnell, Cllr. Cyril Burke, Cllr. Blackie Gavin, Cllr. Donna Sheridan, Cllr. Sean Carey, Alan Dillon, T.D., Maria Walsh, M.E.P, Senator Lisa Chambers, Dara Calleary, T.D., and Kevin Kelly, Chief Executive.



The R312 is a strategic connection to the Erris region of Northwest of Mayo, which serves a very large rural catchment area and is the largest Gaeltacht area in Mayo. It is of particular importance to the economical, tourism and regional development of the Erris Region and is the main access from South Mayo and further afield. The purpose of this scheme was to replace a section of carriageway which was substandard in width and alignment and provide a new safer realigned section of carriageway.

- **Promotion of Mayo's Historical Houses and Gardens:** A two-part documentary titled Discovering Mayo's Historical Houses and Gardens was produced by Atlantic productions. The series featured Moore Hall & the National Museum of Ireland – Country Life. The programme was broadcasted on the 1st July 2021 on SKY Channel 191.

- **Bofeenau Playground:** The official opening of Bofeenau playground took place on the 29th June, 2021 and was carried out by Cathaoirleach Cllr Blackie Gavin.



Also in attendance were Cllr. Michael Kilcoyne, Cllr. Martin McLoughlin and Rose Conway-Walsh T.D.

- **Lahardane Town & Village:** Town and Village Grant funding was awarded to Mayo County Council under the Town & Village Renewal Scheme. The objective of the project was to enhance the adjacent public realm and memorial park approach and in particular to improve footway surfaces, create widened standing areas and to facilitate visitors crossing the carriageway by reducing the width of the carriageway and the installation of a pedestrian crossing.



- **Town & Village Renewal Scheme: Bofeenau Community Hall Remedial Works.** Under the Town & Village Renewal Scheme with matched funding provided by Mayo County Council, the project was to carry out essential remedial works and to support a Rural Broadband Hub. This is a partnership project with Bofeenau Community Council. The project involved a remedial works intervention strategy to address the significant issue of damp and moisture ingress in addition to wall insulation, upgraded access arrangements, upgrade works including wiring, electrical and data trunking for the broadband hub. **Broadband Connection Points (BCPs)** are public locations which have been selected to receive 150Mb high-speed broadband connectivity in the first year of the National Broadband Plan. 10 locations were selected in County Mayo including Bofeenau Community Centre.



- **A new turnkey development of 9 three bedroom semi-detached houses acquired at Heathervale, Castlebar**



- > **Castlebar Urban Greenway Link Project** Funding of €2.5 million has been secured under the Urban Regeneration Development Fund (URDF) from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government to develop the last remaining town centre section of the Greenway from Lough Lannagh, Castlebar, to Turlough.

The URDF fund is a government initiative under Project Ireland 2040 as part of a commitment to balanced regional development.

The Great Western Greenway in County Mayo, which is deemed a model of sustainable thinking, now links vast areas of the county and was extended from Westport in 2015 to connect Islandeady, Castlebar and Turlough House Park and Gardens (National Museum of Country Life).

The signing of contract for the Castlebar Urban Greenway Link Project took place on the 9th March, 2021 in the Castlebar Municipal District Chamber.

In attendance were Councillor Blackie Gavin, Cathaoirleach, Ciaran McTigue of Paraic McTigue Contractors Castlebar Ltd., Padraig Kelly, Executive Architect, Mayo County Council, and Iarla Moran, Head of the Castlebar Municipal District.



ACTIVE TRAVEL PROJECTS

funded by the National Transport Authority (NTA) €1,392,003

- **Castlebar Transport & Mobility Plan**
- **Turlough Road footpaths and pedestrian crossings**
- **Moneen Road Cycle Way**
- **Lannagh Cycle Track**
- **Permeability scheme – Hanley’s Lane, Station Road & Lane at Hopkin’s Road**
- **Pontoon Road Cycle Lane**
- **Footpaths at Turlough village, Islandeady, Balla, Crimlin, Heathervale, Pavillion Road, Bellavary.**
- **Mayo Abbey footpath – Safe to School Programme**



Moneen Road Active Travel Scheme 2021



Mayo Abbey Paths - Safe to Schools Programme Works funded by the NTA 2020 & 2021



Lannagh Cycle Track funded by the National Transport Authority 2021



2021 IN NUMBERS

11 Castlebar Municipal District meetings were held in 2021, including the Annual General meeting. Meetings were held online from January to May.

25 Burial Ground Committees in the Castlebar Municipal District area received funding of **€28,000** from the General Municipal Allocation.

Councillors agreed a General Municipal Allocation of **€41,000** each to fund clubs , communities, festival & event organisers and residents associations.

Tenancies allocated to **23** households by Castlebar Municipal District.

6 workshops were held, and **5** delegations gave presentations to the Municipal District meetings.

HOUSING

- 1 Housing Loan approved to the value of €24,890.
- 79 grants under the Housing Aid for Older People Scheme approved to the value of €418,148.91.
- 38 Mobility Aids Grants approved to the value of €137,216.00.
- 24 Housing Adaptation Grants approved to the value of €218,182.62.
- 139 applications for Social Housing Support received in 2021.
- There are 418 social housing units in the ownership of Mayo County Council within the Municipal District.
- 47 new Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) tenancies were set up in 2021.
- 27 new Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) placements in 2021.
- 38 persons presented as homeless in 2021.



COIS CAIRN, PARKE

2021 ROAD WORKS

REGIONAL ROADS

- Regional Roads overlay of 4.3km with expenditure €1,058,406.00 with major schemes on the R311 Newport Road, R312 Belmullet Road and the R315 Pontoon to Lahardaun Road.
- 105km of verge trimming on regional roads

LOCAL ROADS

- Overlay of 17.3km with expenditure of €2,242,925.00
- Surface dressing of 68km with expenditure of €979,449.00
- 826 km of verge trimming on local roads

LIS 2021

- 23 Schemes
- 8565m of non public access roads improved

225 km of Community Hedgecutting Schemes. Tree Cutting in 31 locations

NOTICES OF MOTION 2021

- 32 projects
- 11 road strengthening and surfacing projects
- 9 road drainage improvements
- 4 road widening projects
- 8 vision improvements, hedge/tree pruning, etc.



GENERAL MUNICIPAL ALLOCATION

EXCLUDING ALLOCATION TO COUNCILLORS & GRAVEYARDS

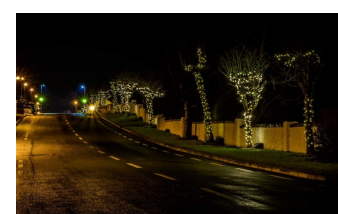
PROMOTION OF CASTLEBAR	15,000
CHRISTMAS EVENT	13,500
VISIT CASTLEBAR TOURISM OFFICE	10,000
LINENHALL ARTS CENTRE	40,000
TWINNING	10,000
CASTLEBAR SOCIAL SERVICES	6,500
CASTLEBAR LIGHTING	32,000
HORROR IN THE BARRACKS	5,000
PLAYGROUND BOARDS	2,000
CASTLEBAR CCTV	7,000
TOWN SURVEY/CASTLEBAR.IE	15,000
TAKEOVER SUPPORT	10,500
TOWN CLOCK	3,500
MICHAEL DAVITT MUSEUM	5,000
TOTAL	175,000



Balla Christmas Lights



Ballyheane Christmas Lights



Lahardane Christmas Lights