



**Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall**
Donegal County Council

3-Year Capital Budget 2019 - 2021

20th November 2018

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1. Chief-Executive's Report

Context

The Draft Capital Budget for the period 2019 – 2021 is prepared having regard to the amount of capital funding that is already confirmed from external or internal sources and, as is the case in the majority of the 2020 and 2021 predictions, is based on best estimates at this time. The outturn on the 2017 capital expenditure was €44,006,646, with the 2018 budget amounting to €95,898,740.

Efforts are continuing to maximise opportunities in accessing funding for the various capital programmes. In addition to Departmental or National agency allocations, the targeting of funding under cross-border, including trans-European funding is continuing. In this regard, I can confirm that the Council will participate in continuing to make such submissions as appropriate and relevant as we progress through the various European funding programmes for 2016 - 2020.

Some of the primary areas of expenditure in 2019 will be:

- The commencement of 138 social housing units in 2019 with an estimated cost of €16m during year 1.
- The projected acquisition of 76 Turnkey Housing Units in 2019 at a projected cost of €14.3m.
- Under the Social Housing Investment Programme, the acquisition of 30 units during 2019 at an estimated cost of €4.2m.
- Further interventions in the Social Housing area through the Buy and Renew Initiative, Capital Assistance schemes through Approved Housing Bodies, Voids Programme and Adaptation Works.
- Advancement of the Ten-T project in 2019 on the N13, N14 and N15.
- The further progression of the N56 Dungloe-Glenties and N56 Mountcharles to Inver schemes. Completion of major projects N56 Coolbooy-Kilmacrennan, and N56 Mountcharles-Drumbeigh.
- Continuing investment through the Marine Capital programme for piers and harbours.
- A continuing programme of investment in strategic economic infrastructure supporting the community and tourism sections and including iconic attractions.
- Continued investment through EU sourced funds and across multi-sectoral areas.
- The commencement of a multi-annual programme to maintain the Councils capacity in the areas of Information and Communications Technology.
- The further progression of Taking-in-Charge estates and in the completion of works to remediate unfinished housing estates.
- Investment in environmental areas including landfill remediation, recycling, beach improvement and leisure centres.

Co-funding from Own Resources

The principal sources of generating the local contributions needed to co-fund external Capital Investment are:

1. The Development Contribution Scheme (DCS)
2. Loans
3. Transfers from Revenue
4. Use of Reserves

The level of income available from the DCS Fund can only be applied to new works in any given year to an equivalent value of cash collected in the same year. Similarly, the availability of transfers from Revenue as a source of co-funding Capital Investment remains limited, as the members will be aware from our annual Revenue Budget discussions and meetings. Additionally, the judicious use of limited Capital Reserves, generally established through operational surpluses through the Revenue Account, provides additional capacity in limited, but targeted areas. The Council's ability to service new borrowings in respect of Capital Works is, as always, determined by the extent of the Council's capacity to fund repayments from the Revenue Account, and will of necessity have regard to existing commitments.

Notwithstanding the considerable co-funding constraints outlined, I will continue to seek to ensure that the Council is best placed at any given time to be in a position to draw down potential Capital Investment for the good of the County and its citizens.

Irish Water

Irish Water, as a separate utility, has by statute taken up the role of 'Water Authority' in respect of the vast majority of water functions previously carried out by the Local Authority sector in the Water Service Area. In this context Irish Water is also now responsible for the financing of, and the progressing of, the Water Service Capital Programme in the County since 2014.

Proposals for the 3 year Capital Programme 2019 – 2021

A three year Capital programme in the sum of €417,850,902 is presented for the period 2019 – 2021 broken down per Programme Group as detailed in the Statutory Tables.

The Statutory Tables reflect the gross estimated expenditure for the period 2019 – 2021 (noting my earlier comments relating to uncertainty of availability of capital funding generally in respect of 2020 and 2021).

For reasons outlined, and as previously alluded to, it is only the first year of the three-year programme that can be presented in a more detailed manner. The detailed proposals for this earlier element of the programme are presented broken down per directorate/expenditure-heading. Each Director of Service has provided an analysis of proposed expenditure by project, which is included in the detail of this report. The following table provides an overview summary.

Directorate/Spend-Heading	Estimated Expenditure 2019 (€)
Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services	
Social Housing Investment Programme	35,988,000
Improving the Social Housing Stock	1,550,000
Voluntary Housing	2,200,000
Housing Grants	2,000,000
Traveller Accommodation	200,000
Library / Cultural Services	227,962
Facilities Maintenance and Improvement	500,000
Total	42,665,962
Roads & Transportation	
National Primary & National Secondary	52,500,000
General Road Improvements including Development Charges Schemes	250,000
Marine	1,615,000
Total	54,365,000
Community, Enterprise & Planning Services	
Unfinished Housing Estates	850,000
Takeover of Housing Estates	495,653
RDP/Leader	4,640,500
Community Development	3,576,000
Town & Village Renewal	1,000,000
Designated Urban Grant Scheme (DUGS)	1,000,000
Total	11,562,153
Water & Environment Services	
Rural Water Programme	635,000
Leisure Centres	300,000
Beach Management	138,000
Public Conveniences	100,000
Waste Management	714,000
Other	125,000
Total	2,012,000
Economic Development, Information Systems & Emergency Services	
Local Enterprise Office/Enterprise Development	417,000
Tourism Projects	56,605
Buncrana Digital Hub	1,000,000
Information Systems Infrastructure	869,950
Total	2,343,555
Roads Management Office	3,166,000
Overall Total	116,114,670

The total estimated Capital spend as indicated of €116,114,670 in 2019 is conditional on a range of factors and assumptions including the allocation of grants, level of DCS collectable, loan sanction approval from DHPLG, and availability of matching finance.

Seamus Neely
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

2. Head-of-Finance's Report

In preparing the Three-year Capital Plan, the Council is required, as per Section 135(3) of the Local Government Act 2001, to ensure that;

"In considering the question of resources likely to be available to it, the local authority shall so consider-

- (a) on the basis of a realistic and prudent assessment of the position, and
- (b) on the basis of the information available to it at the time and having regard to the measures proposed by the authority to raise funding itself."

The Council continues to apply a stringent approach to the management of existing capital projects, with a continued focus on managing projects within available, identified and confirmed budget lines. The objective of this is to ensure that no unfunded capital balances arise.

Available budgets from all external sources (departmental allocations, other grants etc.) and all internal sources (own resources, DCS etc.) are reflected in the reports. DCS, in line with audit requirements, is reflected on a cash-collection basis, i.e. the best estimate available for collection in 2019 is the figure utilised in the attached service reports where appropriate.

Similarly, it should be noted that proposals can also include current best estimates as to funding elements and sources, in instances where confirmation is still awaited on a definitive funding package for a project area. It should be noted that projects will only proceed on confirmation of a complete funding package.

The current uncertainty of availability of capital funding in the medium to long term generally, means that only 2019 is presented in specific detail, with the remaining two years being a best estimate, reflecting the lack of certainty, at this time, as to the level of funding available for those years.

Richard Gibson ACCA
A/HEAD OF FINANCE

3. Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services

Section 3.1 – Local Authority Housing

3.1.1 - Housing Construction Programme 2019-2021

Donegal County Council will progress the following Social Housing Developments over the period 2019-2021.

Location	No. of Units
Social Housing Projects at Construction Stage 2019	
Buncrana	21
Raphoe	11
Killybegs	9
Long Lane Letterkenny	29
Donegal Town	34
Malin	8
St. Johnston	6
Ramelton (Acquisition & Upgrade)	20
Sub Total	138
Design Stage 2019	
Dunfanaghy	4
Donegal Town	16
Bundoran	20
Buncrana	30
Oran Hill, Letterkenny	30
Sub Total	100
Overall Total	238

Projects are subject to Part VIII & DHPLG approval.

A total of 238 units will be constructed by Donegal County Council from 2019 to 2021. Projected costs are shown below. It should be noted that projects at design stage will be supplemented by additional schemes during the lifetime of the Capital Plan.

	2019	2020	2021
Construction Programme	€16,000,000	€20,000,000	€20,000,000

3.1.2 – Land Acquisition

The Council's existing land bank is reviewed on an ongoing basis in the context of the social housing need, and with the aim of developing further schemes during the lifetime of the 3-Year Capital Programme. Donegal County Council will, where necessary, acquire lands for future social housing development in the context of housing need, value for money, complementary infrastructure, and departmental approval.

3.1.3 – Social Housing through Turnkey Acquisition

The turnkey acquisition model has the potential to deliver a significant number of high quality housing units in a timely manner. It is one of the key mechanisms being used to meet the social housing need under the current Social Housing Investment Programme.

The Council recently completed the acquisition of a turnkey development of 21 units at Mullindrait, Stranorlar. This has made a significant contribution to meeting the social housing need in this area. The Council is also acquiring a further turnkey development at Crievesmith, Letterkenny, consisting of 34 no. units. Phase I of the development, consisting of 16 units, is now complete. Phase II (18 units) is due to be completed in the second quarter of 2019.

The Council is in the process of acquiring additional units via the turnkey mechanism, having commenced a Competitive Dialogue Procurement Process in 2018, seeking 2, 3 and 4 bed units in 17 towns around the County. Below are the projected acquisitions over the period 2019-2021:

Year	Projected Turnkey Acquisitions	Projected Spend
2019	76	€14,288,000
2020	150	€28,200,000
2021	137	€25,756,000
Total	363	€68,244,000

3.1.4 – House Acquisition Programme (Single Units)

In 2017, the Council completed the acquisition of a total of 51 housing units with an investment of €7,140,000. This Programme continued to be rolled out in Donegal in 2018. It is expected that 60 acquisitions will be completed by the end of 2018 at a cost of approximately €8,400,000.

This Programme will continue under the Social Housing Investment Programme over the period 2019-2021, subject to departmental sanction. Projections are outlined below:

Year	Projected Acquisitions	Estimated cost
2019	30	€4,200,000
2020	30	€4,200,000
2021	30	€4,200,000
Total	90	€12,600,000

3.1.5 – Specific Instance Properties (SI’s)

The Housing Capital Section is working in conjunction with the Area Housing Teams to progress the design of a number of Specific Instance houses on foot of applications received. It is expected that a programme of construction works will commence in 2019 and run for the duration of the three-year capital programme. Projected expenditure for the three-year period is set out below:

	2019	2020	2021
Specific Instance	€500,000	€500,000	€500,000

3.1.6 – Buy and Renew Initiative

Donegal County Council has identified a number of properties for consideration under the Buy & Renew Initiative. This initiative will facilitate the provision of social housing whilst also tackling dereliction, town centre vacancies and improving streetscapes in towns and villages.

	2019	2020	2021
Buy and Renew Initiative	€1,000,000	€2,000,000	€3,200,000

3.1.7 – MICA in Council Housing Stock

The Report of the Expert Panel on Concrete Blocks, which was published in June 2017, highlighted the emergence of dwellings exhibiting structural distress manifesting as a particular pattern of external wall cracking. The presence of deleterious materials in the aggregate constituent of the concrete blocks, combined with freeze-thaw action, was suggested as being one of the main factors contributing to the deterioration in the concrete blocks, resulting in associated cracking.

The Report of the Expert Panel on Concrete Blocks recommended that a protocol be developed to assess and categorise the damage; to establish the extent of the problem; to identify the scope of the testing required; and to aid the selection of an appropriate remedial solution.

In September 2017, the National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) instigated the recommendation of the Expert Panel and worked to develop a new protocol, known as the IS 465, which will be used to assess and categorise the damage in properties where the concrete blocks are suspected to contain mica or pyrite. The protocol has been published and the Council will be engaging with the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government with regard to funding for remedial works on affected houses.

3.1.8 – Approved Housing Body Sector

Through extensive inter-agency engagement with the Health Service Executive, and the Approved Housing Body Sector, schemes under the Capital Assistance Programme are now specifically targeted to the provision of special needs accommodation where the traditional forms of social housing supports will not deliver on this need.

Discussions are ongoing with various parties and the Department in relation to projects throughout the County, and it is anticipated that a number of projects (comprising 105 units) will commence during 2019 in Letterkenny, Dungloe, Castlefin and Donegal Town. Other potential projects are at early stages of evaluation. Projected spend over the next three years in this regard is as follows:

	2019	2020	2021
Capital Assistance Scheme	€2,200,000	€4,600,000	€3,700,000

In addition to the provision of accommodation under the Capital Assistance Scheme, the Approved Housing Body Sector is engaging with the Department and the Council in the context of delivering further units under the Capital-Advance-Leasing-Facility/Payment-&-Availability-Agreement-Scheme. Based on current proposals in place, it is anticipated that a minimum of 125 units will be provided over the next three years under this funding stream.

3.1.9 – Improving the Social Housing Stock

There are a number of programmes under which improvements to the Social Housing stock are carried out, as set out below:

a) Fabric Upgrade Energy Efficiency Programme

Under this Programme, the Council is in the process of arranging improvement works to over 400 dwellings, with funding from the Department to a value of almost €1,000,000. This will bring the total number of housing units improved under this scheme to 2,500.

It is expected that this funding stream will continue into future years, thereby making significant improvements to the energy efficiency of our stock. While the Council expects to have Phase 1 substantially completed during 2019, an annual spend of €1,000,000 is projected for 2020 and 2021 under Phase 2.

b) Returning Void/Vacant Properties to Productive Use

The Council has been proactive in sourcing monies from the Department under the voids programmes since 2014. By the end of this year, the Council will have sourced Departmental funding of nearly €5 million in this regard, and has refurbished 700 vacant properties to a high standard for re-letting.

It is intended to make a further bid for funding for 2019. The expenditure and income associated with the operation of this programme is accounted for in the Revenue Account.

c) Once-off Adaptation Works

Following a submission to the Department, this Council received an allocation of €517,891 during 2018 to carry out small-scale adaptation works, including extensions to its social housing stock. In most cases, this is for tenants with special needs and/or disabilities, with around 50 households benefiting from works carried out under this programme on an annual basis. An annual spend of €550,000 is anticipated in this regard. 90% Department funding is provided, with the remainder from own resources.

3.1.10 – Assistance to Persons Improving Houses

There has been a significant increase in demand under the Housing Adaptation Grant, Mobility Aids Grant and the Housing Aid for Older People Grant schemes during 2018. The Department provides 80% funding towards the Grants Schemes. Annual expenditure of up to €2.0m is provided for in this regard for 2019 to 2021 inclusive.

3.1.11 – Traveller Accommodation

The current Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014 – 2018 is in its final year, and work is underway for the preparation of a new programme covering the period 2019 – 2023.

Significant refurbishment works at the halting site at Big Isle, Manorcunningham, are under construction currently, with an estimated project cost of €200,000.

The Ballintra halting site was completely refurbished and upgraded in 2017 at a cost of €140,000. Additional works are proposed at the site before the end of the year.

Several other separate Traveller-specific projects (dwelling refurbishments) have also been completed, and two other projects are presently being advanced to address the specific needs of two Traveller families.

These projects are in addition to a range of other accommodation solutions provided on an ongoing basis to meet the needs of the Traveller Community through the Social Housing Investment Programme.

In line with commitments in the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014 – 2018, the Council will exceed the 6 units of accommodation as committed to in the Programme.

It should also be noted that on review of the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014 – 2018 (now in its final year of implementation), all of the accommodation objectives have been achieved.

	2019	2020	2021
Traveller Accommodation	€200,000	€200,000	€200,000

Section 2 – Corporate Facilities

3.2.1 - Corporate Buildings

The five Public Service Centres and Lifford Headquarters will have building fabric improvements carried out in the period 2019-2021. This will include energy efficiency measures to assist in meeting our National Energy Action Plan targets, and we continue to maximise opportunities to qualify for external funds/grants, while limiting the demand for co-funding from internal sources. The projected budgetary commitment for 2019 is €500,000.

Section 3 – Cultural Services Division

3.3.1 - Projects Planned

Donegal Town Library, Community and Digital Hub	Dept of Rural and Community Development / Credit Union / Own Resources / other agencies.	Donegal Town Credit Union approached the Council with an innovative proposal for a facility to incorporate a public library and other community organisations and services. The Council has been successful in securing funding of €1 Million from the Department of Rural and Community Development for the project. The Council has also made application under the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund for further funding to include the provision of digital enterprise space to complement the library and community services.
Archives Centre / Records Centre	Own resources	The Council is exploring options for the development of an Archives Centre / Records Centre. The Council is custodian of invaluable archives that date from at least the early 18 th century. There has been a dramatic increase in the level of, and demand for, preservation and access to archives in recent years. Many of the Council's current and semi-current records will become archives of the future.
Libraries, County Museum, other Cultural Services buildings	Own resources	Works to accommodate self-service facilities, including essential redesign and renovation to meet accessibility and health & safety standards.
Regional Cultural Centre, Letterkenny	Own resources	Facilities upgrade to ensure the building is fit for purpose and supports the annual RCC programme now and into the future.

3.3.2 – Projected Spend

Category	Description	Projected Cost Per Annum			Proposed Sources of funding 2018 - 2020	
		2019 €	2020 €	2021 €	Council €	External €
Central Library	Self-service installation, renovation, ground floor redesign	100,000	68,000		100%	
Cultural Services buildings	Facilities upgrade	100,000	50,000	20,000	100%	
County Museum	Conversion of workshop into public space	27,962			50%	50%
Total		€227,962	118,000	20,000		

4. Roads & Transportation

4.1 National Roads Major Capital Projects

The National Roads Office, based in Donegal Town Public Services Centre, is currently managing the biggest program of roadworks in the history of the County. Between 2019 and 2021, it is estimated that planning, design and construction of capital schemes on national roads in Donegal will be funded to a value of in excess of €130m. All projects are fully funded by Transport Infrastructure Ireland.

4.1.1 TEN-T Priority Route Improvement Project, Donegal N13/N14/N15

The Ten-T project in Donegal is one of the biggest and most important projects in the County's infrastructural development. It involves completing three priority sections of the National Road Network in Donegal. The three sections involved are:

- N15/N13 Ballybofey – Stranorlar Urban
- N56/N13/N14 Letterkenny to Manorcunningham, including the Dual Carriageway, Four Lane Road, and Letterkenny Relief Road.
- N14 Manorcunningham to Lifford Realignment Scheme, including the link to the A5 Route in Northern Ireland.

The route selection phase of this project is currently ongoing. Preliminary route options were developed, and significant Public Consultations were held during Q1 to Q3 of 2018. Further public consultations will be held, and a preferred route is to be presented and adopted by Donegal County Council in 2019.

The upcoming program deliverables and key milestones for the scheme are:

- Preferred Route Selection /Adoption Q1 2019
- Detailed Design Q2 2020
- CPO/EIS Publication Q1 2021

This major strategic project is congruent with national and local policies and objectives, including Donegal County Council's County Development Plan, The Northern and Western Regional Assembly's Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (draft), and the Government's National Planning Framework 2040.

A continued TII allocation of approximately €2.9m and €2.5m are projected for the TEN-T project in 2019 and 2020 respectively. This follows on from expenditure in 2018 of €1.35m.

The Ten-T Project has a projected construction cost of in excess of €400m.

4.1.2 N14/N15 to A5 Link

This scheme is a cross-border project to provide a link between the N15 at Lifford and the proposed A5 Western Transport Corridor (A5 WTC) in Strabane. The Environmental Impact - Statement / Environmental Statement was published on both

sides of the border in July 2011. The scheme was approved by An Bord Pleanála in May 2012.

The Statutory Process for the Northern Ireland element of the N14/N15 to A5 Link is included in the overall statutory processes for the A5WTC currently under ongoing legal challenge.

It is expected that an allocation of €30,000 will be provided in 2019 to complete the Statutory Process in tandem with the A5WTC, if progressed. The expenditure profile beyond 2019 is tied into both the Ten-T and A5 WTC progression.

4.1.3 N56 Dungloe to Glenties

This significant 29.1 km road project commenced construction in 2012. Since then, two phases of the scheme have been completed and another is currently ongoing. Each section completed to date has provided a vastly improved road, as well as over 10km of continuous independent cycle/footways. The road and cycleway are significant new resources, which have the potential, if marketed, to result in significant commercial/tourism gains to the area, as well as the clear social and connectivity benefits.

It is proposed to design, tender and construct the final sections of the scheme within the current capital program 'Building on Recovery Infrastructure and Capital Investment 2016 - 2021'.

The estimated capital expenditure on the scheme 2019 to 2021 is €45m. Land acquisition for all phases of the project is substantially complete, and an allocation of €400,000 has been sought for 2019 to substantially close out this element. Total expenditure on land acquisition is over €9.5m.

4.1.4 N56 Mountcharles to Inver

The road from Donegal town to Killybegs is an important and busy section of the N56. Phase 1 of this project, N56 Mountcharles to Drumbeigh, is currently underway and will be completed by mid 2019. This project realigns a section of the N56, particularly at Turris Hill, and connects to the N56 Mountcharles bypass.

Contract appointment and construction start is expected for phase 2 (N56 Drumbeigh to Inver) by the end of 2019. This scheme is funded under 'Building on Recovery Infrastructure and Capital Investment 2016 to 2021'

The estimated capital expenditure on the scheme for 2019 to 2021 is €25m.

4.1.5 N56 Coolboy to Kilmacrennan

The N56 Coolboy to Kilmacrennan project involves 3.5km of major works on a poor section of the N56 North of Kilmacrennan, including realignment of the 'Blue Banks' bends. The project follows on from the N56 Mountaintop Phases 1 and 2 completed in 2008. The scheme incorporates a new major Letterkenny trunk and distribution water main as part of the ongoing Golland to Letterkenny network upgrade. Funding to allow

for scheme completion in mid 2019 will be provided by the TII. The estimated capital expenditure on the scheme 2018 to 2020 is €18.7m.

4.2 National Road Safety Projects

The principal measures which generate capital improvement works under safety are the TII HD15 Network Safety Ranking, to identify high collision locations and NRA HD17 Road Safety Inspection under which visual Road Safety Inspections are performed on existing national roads to identify safety issues and defects that require maintenance.

As well as analysis of High Collision Locations and Road Safety Inspection, locations are identified and referred locally for appraisal.

Six significant projects are currently been progressed under HD15/17 as shown in the following table:

National Roads Safety Projects

HD15/17 Ref	Proposed Works	Feasibility Report	Detailed Design	2018 Expected Outturn	Current Status
N56DL_157.5 Four Lane	Installation of Central Median and Pedestrian Provision	Complete	Ongoing	€421,900	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part 8 Approved at DCC meeting 24th July 2017. Detailed design ongoing. Irish Water capital project to be completed in advance of scheme construction. Tender Docs by Q4 2018 Construction start Q3 2019.
N15DL_026.0 Cappry (Blackburn Br)	Localised widening, vertical alignment improvements, speed limit reduction and traffic calming, resurfacing. <i>NB: In conjunction with Pavement Project.</i>	Complete	Complete	€1,325,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part 8 Approved at DCC meeting 29th May 2017. Project tendered as joint project with adjacent section of pavement upgrade. Contract commenced on site in June 2018 Substantial completion due in Q4 2018
N15DL_019.0 Corcam	Minor realignment and surfacing.	Complete	Ongoing	€110,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocation approved by TII Safety for Design Cost. Part 8, CPO and Detailed design in 2019. Tender for construction to follow.
N15DL_044.0 Lough Eske Junction	Examination of warrant for ghost island turning facility.	Complete	Ongoing	TBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public consultation undertaken for Road Closure Detailed design ongoing to address items raised in public consultation.
N14 Tullyrap (High Accident Location)	Scope ongoing	Started	Ongoing	€240,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roughan O'Donovan appointed as designer Preliminary design complete Part 8 programmed for Q4 2018 Tender Q2 - 2019
N15 McGroary's Brae	Scope ongoing	Started	Ongoing	€200,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barry Transportation appointed as designer Preliminary Design Complete Part 8 programmed for Q4 2018 Tender Q2 - 2019

4.3 Bridge Management

Under the North West Bridges Rehabilitation Programme - Contract 2 - Donegal Bridges, works have been substantially completed on 14 structures in 2018. Assessment of National Road bridges is ongoing. As well as continued maintenance, a new program of bridge rehabilitation projects will be considered going forward.

4.4 National Pavement Strengthening Design and Construction

A major TII funded National Road pavement improvements program commenced in 2018.

49km of pavement projects to a construction value of €14m were designed in 2018. A maximum possible of €9m of works was completed on the ground. Expenditure over the budget period is expected to be €9m in 2019, €6m in 2020, and €6m in 2021.

Maintenance and resurfacing works under HD-28 also continue to be funded by the TII in 2018.

4.5 National Roads - Estimated Capital Spending for 2019, 2020 and 2021

The table below sets out the expected capital spend for 2019. The capital allocation is estimated for 2020 and 2021.

SCHEME	2019 €m	2020 €m	2021 €m
TII Support Grant (NRO and DCC RDO)	2.4	2.4	2.4
National Roads Capital Projects (Design and Construction)	33.8	32.0	40.0
Invasive Species Control	0.1	0.1	0.1
National Road Pavement Strengthening (NS and NP)	9.0	6.5	6.0
National Road Safety Projects (HD15/HD17)	1.2	1.0	1.0
Bridge Management (Maintenance, Refurbishment and Rehabilitation)	0.5	1.0	1.0
ANNUAL TOTALS	47.0	43.0	50.5

4.6 Non-National Roads Projects

Generally all non-National Roads projects are funded through the Dept of Transport, and, while some may be regarded as capital, all of the projects are accounted for in the Annual Council Revenue Budget.

In particular, the Council will endeavour to progress the following projects through the project development stages, subject to DTTAS, TII and DPER approval as appropriate:

- Fintra Bridge and Realignment Project
- Corcam Bends
- Letterkenny Southern Relief Road and bridges
- Logues Bridge
- Mill Bridge
- Aghilly Road Realignment
- Meenirroy Bridges and Road Realignment Projects

4.7 Public Lighting

The Council has approximately 17,500 public lights, much of it old and energy inefficient. The Council retains a full inventory survey, including mapping of each light, on its DeadSure public lighting management information system.

Much of the lighting stock is old, with many of the fittings both corroded and energy-inefficient. A number of lights in the past few years have had to be replaced, as they were badly rusted. The whole stock needs an assessment and significant upgrading. Upgrading falls into two main categories; the lamps themselves, and the supporting fixtures & fittings (columns, brackets, etc.).

Commencing in 2016, the Council has embarked on upgrading public lighting from traditional SOX/SON lamps to energy efficient LED lamps through various projects and funding sources.

In 2018, TII provided significant funding for upgrading lights on National routes through the NW Bypasses project, and through specific applications. However, so far, upgrades on non-National routes and housing estates have had to rely on the Council's own resources and a €500,000 loan (approved in 2016) for funding. This loan has now been fully utilised.

By the end of 2018, it is expected that in excess of 3,100 lights will have been upgraded, i.e. over 17% of the total. Energy savings of up to 50% or more can be achieved when replacing the oldest/most-inefficient lights.

The RMO is currently examining public lighting requirements for the sector as a whole. It is hoped that further central funding will become available to assist with capital upgrades to the public lighting system. The order of magnitude to complete upgrading of all lights in the inventory to LED is estimated in the range of €9m to €11m. Upgrading of the support infrastructure would require separate funding.

The production of SOX lamps has been wound down and is set to cease completely by 2019. During 2018 it was necessary to commence the use of alternative lamps for replacement purposes, in addition to the use of the last of the available SOX lanterns. Going forward, all replacements of lanterns will be through the use of LED lanterns. The RMO will roll out a regional contract which Donegal County Council will avail of to complete any outstanding retrofits.

4.8 Footpath and Lighting Programme

The Council adopted a motion in 2017 to provide funding to implement a three-year footpath and public lighting programme utilising a combination of funds from IPBMI, State/Agency Grants, Development Charges and Own Resources. The programme will be delivered over the coming years. Some work on agreeing priority lists at Municipal District level has already been completed, and some work is already underway.

4.9 Marine Capital Development Report 2018 - 2020

4.9.1 Major Capital Schemes

The following is a list of facilities where development is considered warranted, but where only preliminary assessments have been completed to date:

- Rathmullan Pier Refurbishment (Letterkenny MD)
- Burtonport – development of car parking and other facilities (Glenties MD)
- Leenan Pier – design (Inishowen MD)
- Bunrana Pier – design (Inishowen MD)
- Magheraroarty Pier – design of breakwater (Glenties MD)
- Rannagh Pier (Glenties MD, also an island pier)
- Inver Pier Extension (Donegal MD)
- Portsalon Pier Refurbishment (Letterkenny MD)

Rathmullan Pier is located on Lough Swilly at Rathmullan Town, approximately 10km northeast of Letterkenny. The pier provides berthing for vessels at a 43m long pierhead, and has a low water depth of 7.9m. It is a valued facility as it can accommodate very large vessels. The pierhead, which was constructed in 1957, is accessed by a 120m viaduct, which dates back to 1934. A small private marina and a slipway are located adjacent to the pier. A roll-on-roll-off car ferry operates from the slipway at Rathmullan to Bunrana during the summer months. As the pier is constructed from structural concrete and is approaching the end of its design life, it is proposed to replace many of the structural concrete elements of the pier and viaduct. A structural assessment carried out as part of a recent review of all Council-owned pier/harbour facilities during 2017 found that Rathmullan Pier has suffered significant deterioration, and major structural remediation measures are recommended.

Burtonport Harbour is situated on the west coast of Donegal and is one of the County's busiest commercial maritime facilities. In addition to significant fishing activity, it also serves as the base for the Arranmore Island ferry services. The space and facilities struggle to cope with the level of activity, particularly at peak demand times. Traffic management and inadequate parking are particular problems. Provision of additional parking facilities adjacent to, but separate from, the harbour is a key to

improving the overall operational efficiency and user experience of the harbour. An application for funding was submitted under the RRDF process in September 2018 for this project.

Leenan Pier is situated on the western side of the Inishowen peninsula at the entrance to Lough Swilly. It is an extremely exposed pier with a continuous swell and is completely unsuitable for permanent berthing. Fishing boats have to make a 3-hour trip to Fahan Marina for shelter in advance of any stormy conditions. An extension/breakwater or slipway facility would provide safer berthing, and enable smaller boats to be brought ashore when conditions are unsuitable. A foreshore licence would be needed to facilitate such an upgrade.

The provision of a new lifeboat berth in **Buncrana** would reduce the need for dredging in the harbour. Dredging can cost in excess of €50,000 annually. RNLI has indicated that it may be prepared to partially fund design works.

Magheraroarty Pier is located on the north coast of Co. Donegal. It is the main pier serving the Tory Island ferry. Sand has been depositing at Magheraroarty pier since the construction of the pier in the 1970s. In 2002, an L-shaped extension was added to the pier, and this has increased the build-up of sand at the base of the pier. To date, annual maintenance dredging is required to remove sediment from the basin. The dredged material is then returned to the adjacent beach, replenishing areas which have been eroded. It is believed construction of a breakwater would eliminate the need for annual dredging, and it is therefore proposed to design a suitable breakwater that could also act to facilitate a safe haven at Magheraroarty. However, any such development would be subject to detailed studies and modelling, as well as all necessary statutory approvals.

Rannagh Pier is situated on Arainn Mhor (Arranmore Island), off the western coast of Donegal, and is accessed by ferry from Burtonport. Both fishing and leisure vessels use the pier here. However, it has very limited water depths and restricted room for berthing. More critically, the pier deck is low and is submerged during high tides. A swell continually rolls in from the Atlantic and makes berthing and unloading of catches often quite difficult. It is proposed to construct a new pier, which would provide adequate water depth and sufficient berthing to unload equipment and fish catches. It is proposed to apply for funding to construct the Rannagh Pier project on a phased basis over a number of years, as it contains two separate elements (pier & breakwater).

Inver Pier is situated on the north-western shoreline of Inver Bay, west of Donegal Town. Because of the layout and level of the existing pier, users have difficulties utilising the pier fully. One problem, the pier deck being awash on the highest tides, was addressed in 2017. The deck was raised using funding provided under DAFM's *Fishery Harbour and Coastal Infrastructure Development Programme*; also, ladders were provided for better access to boats. To address another problem, the berths drying out at low tide, a larger scale project is required. It is proposed to construct a 50m L-shaped extension, which would provide adequate water depth and sufficient permanent sheltered berthing.

Portsalon Pier is located on the eastern side of Fanad Head on Lough Swilly. The pier is in very poor condition, particularly the dog-leg section, which has suffered extensive damage to the South Eastern side of the pier. The proposed remedial work will provide a new sheet-piled permanent face to the exposed side of the dog-leg, and a new reinforced concrete wall on the inner face of the dog-leg. The proposed remedial work will also comprise the demolition of the existing wave wall, and construction of a new wave wall of increased height. A new deck slab and steps would also be provided.

Currently, there is no definite funding stream available to the Council for such large-scale projects.

4.9.2 Marine Leisure

In addition to, and in support of, other marine leisure activities ongoing by the Council and others, it is recommended by the Piers & Harbours Section that funding is sought in 2019 for the provision of marina type facilities at Mulroy Bay, Burtonport and Teelin.

Mulroy Bay is a well sheltered inlet between the Rosguil and Fanad peninsula. However there are no suitable facilities to cater for leisure craft, and particularly for visiting boats that could stop off while sailing around the Donegal coast. It is recommended that a facility be provided at Mevagh that could provide berthing for leisure craft and visiting yachts, as it is a safe haven and well located within this popular bay.

Burtonport is located on the northwest coast of Donegal, in an area which is seeing increased leisure activity. However, the existing facilities that were provided for commercial fishing are not exactly suited to leisure activity, and therefore require some adaption. The location provides a safe haven for visiting boats seeking shelter. It is recommended that facilities be put in place here to facilitate the increased leisure activity in the area. An application for funding was submitted under the RRDF process in September 2018 for this project.

Teelin is located on the southwest coast of Co. Donegal, and not far off the route of anyone circumnavigating the Irish Coast. It provides good natural shelter from prevailing winds. It is the preferred stopover particularly for vessels en route from Galway and Mayo. Teelin was once a vibrant fishing harbour. However, it has gone into decline in recent years and now shares its facilities with the tourist and leisure industry. While it has good natural attributes, Teelin is lacking in infrastructure to facilitate the growing demand from the tourist and leisure industry. A pontoon was provided here in 2014 to facilitate tourists going to view the cliffs at Sliabh League, and it is recommended that this be enhanced to provide berthing for local and visiting leisure craft.

4.9.3 Greencastle Harbour Project

The construction of the breakwater at Greencastle has been suspended since 2008 due to the economic downturn which has meant that funding could not be provided. The next phase of the project is to complete the construction of the breakwater at an

estimated cost of in excess of €10million. This is likely to require €2.5million in match monies from the Council. This capital report does not make any provision for this match funding requirement. A special decision and provision from the Council would be required.

In addition, Derry Port and Harbour are promoting cruise liners coming to the region, and have identified Greencastle as the most suitable location for docking. The proper docking facility will require extensive capital works, and, while no specific monies are being made available in this capital report, the Council will pursue separate cross-border funding.

A submission was made to the Government, under the Mid-Term Review of the Capital Plan: Building on Recovery 2016-2021, for funding to be provided to finish the Greencastle project, which was suspended when the economic downturn occurred. An application for funding was submitted under the RRDF process in September 2018 for this project.

4.9.4 Minor Capital Works

The Department of Agriculture Food and Marine (DAFM), under its Fishery Harbour and Coastal Infrastructure Development Programme, provides funding for minor capital works projects each year. The maximum project cost permitted is €150,000. The Department will provide up to 75% of the necessary funding, with the Council providing the remainder. Invitations for applications usually issue in January or February each year.

The draft revenue budget for 2019 has a limited provision of €100,000 for new matching monies. It is anticipated that each case would be discussed on its merits if the Department offers funding in excess of that for which matching funding has been provided.

There are a number of projects that will require specialist assessment and design, prior to seeking DAFM funding. An allocation of approximately €100,000 will be required to progress same.

Pier Number	Pier Name	DCC 2019 Specialist Consultant Funding
67	Magheraroarty.	€5,000.00
37	Rathmullan.	€50,000.00
10	Portaleen, Glengad.	€20,000.00
18	Portevlin, Leenan.	€13,000.00
20	Dunree.	€1,500.00
Total		€89,500.00

In addition, €37,500 is required for surveys and design of existing sheet piles that are deteriorating at various piers.

4.9.5 Marine Capital Budget 2019 - 2021

The following sets out some of the projects that have been identified as being suitable for funding applications in 2019. The Department ultimately decides which projects it will fund.

2019 Projects	Marine Capital - Project Details	Total Cost €	Lead Funding Agency	Counter funding (Council)
Safety Measures - 1	In late 2016, Donegal County Council engaged the services of a consulting engineer company to undertake safety inspections of 100 piers and harbours at various locations throughout County Donegal. The resulting report, finalised in Autumn 2017, identifies a range of measures to help ensure, in as far as is practicable, that these working piers and harbours in public ownership are safe for their various uses. It is intended to seek funding to carry out a package of commonly recommended safety upgrade works – ladders, railings, etc. Each pier/harbour safety project will be identified separately as per discussed with DAFM and it is anticipated that there will be 13 such applications for 2019 of varying cost (average cost of 75,000 applied)	975,000	731,250	243,750
Access to Aids to Navigation	Donegal Co. Council is the local lighthouse authority and is responsible for the maintenance and upgrading of approximately 200 navigation aids along our coast. Access to these is difficult and is mainly carried out from a boat. It is intended to seek funding over the coming years to enhance the access and improve safety to these beacons.	100,000	75,000	25,000
Leenan Pier Slipway	It is proposed to construct a slipway at Leenan pier for retrieving boats from the water in storm conditions. A foreshore licence will be required.	150,000	112,500	37,500
Mulroy Bay	It is proposed to provide a pontoon facility for leisure boats at Meevagh in Mulroy Bay.	100,000	75,000	25,000
Portnablagh pier	Portnablagh pier is constructed from cut stone and dates back to the 1850's. Some of the lower stones particularly at the head of the pier are becoming undermined and voids are occurring behind them. It is proposed to carry out an underpinning operation using reinforced concrete to safeguard this structure into the future. It is also intended to extend the slipway at this location.	60,000	45,000	15,000
Greencastle Pier	Provide new quay wall along boat yard for berthing of smaller boats.	150,000	112,500	37,500
Crane	Provide a new crane at appropriate Pier for landing fish	80,000	60,000	20,000
	Total	1,615,000	1,211,250	403,750

4.9.6 Large-Scale Projects

Review and tender documentation is required to progress the Greencastle Breakwater project.

Full design documentation is required for the following projects:

- Structural refurbishment of the pier at Rathmullan
- Extension of the pier at Leenan
- Burtonport Harbour Regeneration Project

Detailed studies (including modelling) are required to assess feasibility and suitability of the following proposed projects:

- Provision of a new lifeboat berth at Bunrana
- Magheraroarty Breakwater

2019 – 2021 Projects	Project Name	Total Cost €	Lead Funding Agency	Counter funding (Council)	
	Greencastle Breakwater	12,000,000	9,000,000	3,000,000	
Projects requiring design & statutory approvals in 2019	Rathmullan Pier Refurbishment	2,600,000	1,950,000	650,000	
	Burtonport Harbour and car park development	3,000,000	2,250,000	750,000	
	Leenan Pier	1,000,000	750,000	250,000	
	Lifeboat Berth at Bunrana	500,000	375,000	125,000	
	Groyne/Breakwater at Magheraroarty	2,000,000	1,500,000	500,000	
	Rannagh Pier	2,300,000	1,725,000	575,000	
	Inver Pier	2,200,000	1,650,000	550,000	
	Portsalon Pier Refurbishment	1,400,000	1,050,000	350,000	
		Total	27,000,000	20,250,000	6,750,000

4.10 Roads Projects Funded from Development Charges

The total estimated amount of General Development Charges that will be provided for the Roads Directorate is currently estimated at €250,000 annually for the period 2019 to 2021. The estimates for 2020 and 2021 will be the subject of further review in advance of each respective budget year, and will take into account the payment trend of DCS at that time to update the expected available budget accordingly.

The particular projects to be built under available Development Charges will be prioritised by the Municipal Districts.

In addition to general DCS, the Council collects Specific Development Charges for specified works associated required to facilitate particular developments and these charges will be expended on the items for which they are levied.

4.11 Projects Funded from Private Works Contributions

From time to time, monies are made available to the Roads Department to undertake specified works on the public road network. An example of this would include funding for the repair of roads damaged by third parties (e.g. Eircom, Water Services, etc.).

Projects of this nature are reported as capital projects. However, they tend to be of low value, short duration and impossible to predict in advance with any certainty. Such projects are mentioned here for completeness, but will not form part of the Roads Capital Budget.

4.12 North West Greenway Network

In 2015, Derry City & Strabane District Council (DCSDC) in partnership with Donegal County Council (DCC), Transport NI, and Sustrans, established the Active & Sustainable Travel Forum (ASTF).

The Forum's North West Greenways Action Plan – known as the North West Greenway Network – forms the basis of a strategic and co-ordinated plan for the development of a network of greenways throughout the North West. The Forum's overriding vision strives to encourage cycling and walking as modes of transport in everyday life:

"To develop a cross border network of greenways that link people with places locally, regionally and nationally - bringing social, economic & environmental wellbeing to all."

In line with the aims and vision set out within the North West Greenway plan, in 2016 partners Derry City & Strabane District Council, Donegal County Council, Transport NI (TNI) and Sustrans secured funding approval for a project costing €14,861,188, with 85% of the funding coming from the EU's INTERREG VA 2014-2020 programme (administered by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB)) and 15% matching funding provided by the two governments. This has enabled the partners to progress with design, development & delivery of the following cross-border greenway routes to achieve a rise in modal shift:

- Route 1 – 32.5km: Derry-Buncrana: this route commences at Pennyburn in Derry and extends to Bridgend in Donegal at the border crossing and continues onto Buncrana and Letterkenny via Tooban Junction and Inch Wildlife Reserve. The route comprises a mix of shared use space, new route development and utilisation of disused railway lines
- Route 2 – 10.5km: Muff-Derry: links Muff in Donegal to the commuter settlement of Culmore in Co. Derry, connecting to Derry City along realigned shared routes, including a bridge over Pennyburn at Bay Road Park linking to the existing greenway network

- Route 3 – 3.5km: Strabane to Lifford- connecting the border towns utilising the existing bridge that spans the River Foyle connecting the CB link with the DCC owned building located on the Letterkenny Rd, formerly in use as an army barracks.

The objectives of the North West Greenway Network are aligned to the key messages associated with the funding. Types of activity to be promoted include:

- a. Increase modal shift – move away from a car-dependent culture
- b. Contribute to the region’s overall sustainability by providing health, social, economic and environmental benefits
- c. Create and promote a strong unifying brand
- d. Supporting the local authorities in promoting access and infrastructural improvements
- e. Developing a connected region
- f. Promoting health, wellbeing and the wider societal benefits of cycling/walking

Although predominantly targeting commuters, the project has the potential to allow organisations to use it to further their own vision and goals.

The project life span is five years, from 1st January 2017 to 31st December 2021. DCC has recruited and appointed a 3-person team to work on the project full time, in tandem with a similar project team in DCSDC. As lead partner, DCSDC is providing the overall Programme Manager. The projects are progressing well, with all 3 phases anticipated to have completed their respective planning processes in 2019. Significant land owner liaison and public consultation has taken place to date. Donegal County Council funding of approximately €1.45 million will be required to complete this project as per the terms of the offer.

5. Water & Environment Services

5.1 WATER SERVICES

5.1.2 Irish Water

The Water Services (No. 2) Act of 2013 transferred responsibility for policy and funding for public water services from local authorities to Irish Water. This has had a significant impact for the Council's overall Capital Programme. The provision of water service infrastructure accounted for a considerable element of the Council's annual capital expenditure in previous years. The responsibility for investment programmes, including the prioritisation of projects, has transferred to Irish Water.

The Council's capital and design division continues to play a key role in the rollout of projects locally on behalf of Irish Water, under the terms of the Service Level Agreement with Irish Water. There is an extensive programme of major water and wastewater projects being progressed through planning, design and construction stages in Co Donegal as part of the current Irish Water Capital Investment Plan (2017-2021) and beyond.

Minor capital upgrades/replacement requirements to wastewater treatment infrastructure have been identified at a number of locations throughout Donegal by the Elected Members and Water Services staff in recent years. This was highlighted as requiring investment during the County Donegal Development Plan 2018-2024 process. These needs include essential upgrades required to wastewater treatment plants that impact negatively on designated bathing water quality, and increase risk as regards the retention of our highly-valued Blue Flag beaches. The programme also includes investment required in advance of the rollout of the Irish Water Capital Investment Plan (2017-2021), and essential upgrades of prioritised housing estate wastewater treatment plants.

Funding of €80,000 per annum is estimated as being required for this, with the sources being a variety of external sources.

Wastewater Advance Investment by Donegal Co Co	Estimated Funding Allocations		
	2019	2020	2021
	€80,000	€80,000	€80,000

Takeover of Group Water Schemes is being examined and prioritised to coincide with the Irish Water Capital Investment Plan.

5.1.3 Criteria for Group Water Schemes to be Eligible for Takeover by IW

The three main criteria for group water schemes to be eligible for Takeover by Irish Water are compliance with all Technical, Legal and Financial requirements. The Irish Water takeover process requires that the three aforementioned criteria are to the standards set out by Irish Water.

5.1.4 Resourcing

Under the Multi-Annual Rural Water Programme funding may be available to assist the group water schemes in the Takeover process.

Donegal County Council's Rural Water team has been engaging with group water committees and Elected Members to focus on three main aspects when progressing the takeover programme:

Focus 1 - GWS's with active committee members who are applying for annual subsidies and have minor works required to achieve takeover.

Focus 2 - GWS's with active committee members who are applying for annual subsidies and have medium works required to achieve takeover.

Focus 3 - GWS's with active committee members who are applying for annual subsidies and have major works required to achieve takeover.

5.1.5 Rural Water Programme

The Rural Water programme has provided a very effective and beneficial programme for delivering improvements to water services at a local level over the past decade. The programme has delivered approximately €21 million over the period, which improved the water quality for numerous Group Water Supply Schemes. This programme was based on a public/private partnership initiative. The improvements ranged from basic network extensions to the construction of water treatment works, reservoirs, pumping stations and distribution networks. Significant watermain rehabilitation and water conservation works have also been delivered. The primary focus was to improve water quality and supply to the private group scheme consumers and bring the schemes into compliance with the Drinking Water Directive.

The focus of the programme over the last number of years has been directed principally by the Department towards water quality deficient schemes which have been cited in European Court of Justice Judgements.

Projects which have progressed through planning and statutory requirement stages in 2016, 2017 and 2018 are expected to continue to be funded under the Rural Water Programme in 2019. The bulk of this funding will go towards the upgrade of water quality deficient Group schemes.

Donegal County Council received additional funding of €131,000 for 2018 from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government to resource dedicated staff in the Council's Rural Water section, with similar funding anticipated for 2019 and 2020 respectively. This funding will facilitate the formal takeover process of a number of Group Water Schemes through the new Irish Water takeover process.

The following table sets out the total allocation anticipated for County Donegal under the Rural Water Programme for 2019, 2020 and 2021.

Rural Water Programme	Estimated Funding Allocations		
	2019	2020	2021
	€0.635million	€0.835 million	€0.95million

5.2 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

5.2.1 Landfill Restoration Programme

Donegal County Council was granted waste licences by the EPA for six landfill facilities under the Waste Management Act 1996. All six facilities are now closed. The waste licences granted required the Council to carry out engineered restoration works at all six facilities within a certain timescale following closure. Five of these facilities have been restored, including the Churchtown site where restoration works were completed in recent years. Details of these projects, along with further infrastructural works required at a number of the other landfill sites, are outlined in the following sections.

Donegal County Council is progressing plans to appoint a dedicated resource for the period 2019-2021 to progress the landfill capital infrastructural programmes outlined below on an 'Invest-to-Save' basis. Approval has been sought from the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment to partly fund this resource with the remaining funds to be provided from the Council's own resources. The resource will allow landfill capital works to be progressed, thereby optimising the available external funds, as well as significantly reducing leachate haulage costs and other operational costs.

5.2.2 Churchtown Landfill Facility

The Council explored the innovative use of bio-technologies as part of the recently completed restoration of the landfill facility at Churchtown. The project incorporated the use of willow crop in combination with Integrated Constructed Wetlands. The outcome has been a highly successful, sustainable and cost-effective solution to restoring landfills, in terms of both capital investment and maintenance costs. The works have now being commissioned, and a Waste Licence review is required by the EPA to regularise the discharge to the River Finn.

5.2.3 Balbane Landfill Facility

The EPA has directed that works for this final restoration programme at Balbane are commenced as a matter of urgency, and that funding be secured to allow the project to proceed. The Council has secured a commitment from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government for exceptional grant funding support for the final restoration of Balbane Landfill Site utilising bio-technology.

A similar type of solution as used successfully at Churchtown has been provisionally approved by the EPA for the Balbane Landfill Site. It is anticipated that consultants will be appointed in early 2019 to advance the detailed design and tender stages of the project, with construction anticipated to commence in 2020.

The estimated cost to advance detailed design, tender and construction works to restore the Balbane site is €1.62m. The Council is committed to working with the EPA and the Department to implement practical solutions at a reasonable cost and within the anticipated timeframe (2019-2021).

Total Project	Funding Allocation Sought		
Cost Estimate	2019	2020	2021
€1.62million	€0.16million	€1.20million	€0.26million

5.2.4 Other Landfill Works

Hydro-geological studies have been completed at all six licensed landfills in recent years, as required by the EPA. These studies have given rise to a programme of further investigation and remedial works at all six sites. A cost estimate of €220,000 over three years is estimated.

Leachate from Ballynacarrick landfill is currently transported to Letterkenny Wastewater Treatment works for treatment. This operation cost approximately €200,000 in 2017, with a similar cost anticipated in 2018. This will increase when Irish Water introduces charges for treatment. It is proposed to develop an Integrated Constructed Wetland (ICW) at Ballynacarrick Landfill site as a lower-cost alternative. An ICW with associated leachate recirculation is estimated to cost €910,000. This capital investment is planned over three years 2019 to 2021.

Minor capital upgrades/replacements are an ongoing feature of landfill maintenance at all sites, with an estimated €50,000 being required annually.

Welfare facilities are required at the Churchtown site at an estimated cost of €15,000.

The estimated cost of progressing the above listed works is summarised in the table below. Delivery of the projects will depend on securing funding from the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment as well as some co-financing from Donegal County Council.

Landfill Minor Works	Annual Funding Allocations Sought		
	2019	2020	2021
Hydrogeological Costs	€75,000	€85,000	€60,000
Ballynacarrick ICW / Leachate Re-circulation	€375,000	€325,000	€210,000
Minor Capital Replacement	€50,000	€50,000	€50,000
Churchtown Welfare facilities	€15,000	-	-
Total annual Cost Estimate	€515,000	€460,000	€320,000

5.3 Recycling Centres

The Council-owned Recycling Centres at Letterkenny, Milford, Stranorlar, Carndonagh, Laghey and Dungloe are managed and operated by a contractor on behalf of the Council.

Extensive capital infrastructure has been advanced at the six centres, each of which has an area where recyclables may be recycled free of charge, and also an area where

charges apply. Items such as glass, cans, textiles, batteries and electrical goods are all accepted free of charge.

At the Letterkenny Recycling Centre, recyclables from the six recycling centres around the county are sorted and mechanically baled. A covered-in structure is proposed to enhance the facility. It will allow work to continue during inclement weather conditions, enhance the working conditions for staff on site and also improve the quality of materials that are stored on site.

Total Project	Funding Allocation Sought
	2019-2021
Cost Estimate €50,000	€50,000

5.4 Bring Banks

Donegal County Council has progressed capital works at 73 Bring Banks sites throughout the County where members of the public may recycle their glass, cans and textiles.

An incremental programme of upgrading the Bring Bank facilities in County Donegal is ongoing. Depending on the site, upgrading works can include the installation of fencing around the site, construction of a plinth, signage, and the installation of CCTV. The annual cost of this work is estimated to be in the region of €3,000 per site.

Bring Banks are maintained to a high standard. These plastic receptacles are subject to high levels of wear and tear, and the banks and internal cables are monitored regularly. Donegal County Council replaces banks where needed. The cost of purchasing a new bring bank is €550. There are approximately 452 bring banks throughout County Donegal. A programme of replacing 20% of banks annually is needed in order to maintain these facilities and sustain their use by the public. An annual provision of €36,000 over the three years 2019 – 2021 is required.

The above capital programmes for recycling centres and bring banks will require funding from the County Council. Opportunities to reduce the financial burden on the Council will be pursued if new grants arise.

Bring Banks	Annual Funding Allocations Sought		
	2019	2020	2021
Bank replacement	€36,000	€36,000	€36,000
CCTV	€3,000	€3,000	€3,000
Annual Cost Estimate	€39,000	€39,000	€39,000

5.5 Donegal Air Quality Monitoring Programme

The Environment and Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee reviewed the rollout of the National Ambient (Air Quality) Monitoring Programme in late 2017 and early 2018.

Donegal County Council is proposing to install a number of Air Quality Real-Time Indicator Monitors, one per Municipal District based on population size.

- The review has concluded that where information on local air quality and its impact on the environment and health is available to the public, it helps to change the attitude of those still choosing to burn smoky coal or other specified fuels.
- The proposed installation of 5 live PM10 / PM 2.5 monitors would enable the public to check results on line at any time on the Council’s web site.
- According to the Asthma Society of Ireland, there are 13,000 Asthma sufferers in Donegal; smoky coal is one of the known triggers of Asthma attacks.

The estimated cost of the installation is €15,000 per site. It is proposed to install three air quality monitors in 2019 and two in 2020. It is anticipated that Donegal County Council will continue to expand its air quality monitoring network in 2021 and subsequent years.

The estimated cost of this air quality monitoring programme for the three years 2019 – 2021 is €105,000, to be funded through a combination of Department and Council funding.

Donegal Air Quality Monitoring Programme	Annual Funding Requirements		
	2019	2020	2021
	€45,000	€30,000	€30,000

5.6 Public Convenience Capital Investment Programme

There is a variety of public-convenience services provided across the County at 52 locations. This ranges from:

- 28 x permanent Council-owned structures (some of which are open on a seasonal basis), which are maintained by a combination of Council staff and community groups
- 5 x permanent privately-owned facilities operated with Council subvention
- 16 x temporary beach services during the bathing season,
- 3 x year-round temporary services at key Community and Enterprise promoted locations

A review of the type of public conveniences that are appropriate for different situations throughout the county was carried out through the Environment and Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee in 2017 and 2018. This review has informed the infrastructural investment required in future years.

A summary of the recommendations from the review includes:

- Development of a capital investment programme to carry out essential improvements at prioritised existing public conveniences
- Improved accessibility at public conveniences
- That the Council should enhance the public convenience service provided through increased engagement with community groups and the business community

The Rathmullan Public Conveniences were completed and opened to the public in 2018, while upgrade works were carried out at a number of other locations.

The estimated cost of the public convenience capital investment programme for the three years 2019 – 2021 is summarised in the following table.

Public Conveniences Upgrade	Annual Funding Allocations		
	2019	2020	2021
Cost Estimate €300,000	€100,000	€100,000	€100,000

5.7 Coastal and Beach Improvement

The Donegal mainland coastline is 1,134km long, and constitutes over 17% of the total national coastline. Donegal County Council actively maintains and promotes twenty-one key beaches under varying National initiatives (Blue Flag, Green Coast and Designated Bathing Waters). These twenty-one beaches alone require considerable maintenance and investment. Whereas every effort will be made to identify grant assistance the programme will essentially depend on Donegal County Council for funding.

Beach access is an ongoing challenge in an ever changing environment. Coastal erosion, accretion and wind-blown sand can pose year-round difficulties. Dune erosion has become a concern at many beaches and poses a threat to the Blue Flag and Green Coast status of a number of beaches if it is not addressed. This problem is due primarily to pressures from beach visitors trampling the dunes and repeatedly raised by An Taisce and the National Parks and Wildlife Service. Proper dedicated beach access is required at these beaches and protection measures introduced to allow the dunes recover.

Of the twenty-one designated beaches, twelve beaches have had infrastructural improvements to improve accessibility by visitors of all abilities. A further seven beaches now require investment to allow safe access. The cost estimate for these works is €90,000 per annum. The 2019 programme includes a specific requirement for €30,000 for a number of coastal erosion projects throughout the county.

Coastal Erosion / Beach access	Annual Funding Allocations Sought		
	2019	2020	2021
Annual Cost	€90,000	€90,000	€90,000

An increasing number of visitors are enjoying our coastline each year. This coastal tourism is promoted by the Wild Atlantic Way campaign, with specific locations being promoted through initiatives such as the international Blue Flag and Green Coast beach awards. There is a need to meet the requirements and expectations of the visitors to our coastline to complete their experience.

Car parking at the twenty-one beaches referred to above must be upgraded and resurfaced as necessary. This will include the provision of speed restrictions, lined parking spaces, designated disabled parking, designated emergency vehicle parking, and hatched areas for emergency vehicle access.

During the summer bathing season over forty-five beach lifeguards are hired annually to supervise and ensure the safety of visitors at fourteen key beaches. With the promotion of our coastline and increasing visitor numbers, this is a very demanding position of responsibility.

Temporary lifeguard stations have been hired to accommodate these staff. These facilities are not always satisfactory and have been highlighted in Irish Water Safety beach risk assessments. A lifeguard station must be clearly identifiable, have clear vision of the water and be fit for purpose. Only one such station has been provided at Shrove Beach). A further ten stations are needed to fulfil staff needs and public requirements. The cost estimate for these works is €18,000 annually.

The table below summarises the funding required for Beach and Coastal Improvement Programme:

Beach and Coastal Improvement Programme	Annual Funding Allocations Sought		
	2018	2019	2020
• Coastal Erosion / Beach Access	€90,000	€90,000	€90,000
• Beach Car-Park Facilities	€30,000	€30,000	€30,000
• Beach Lifeguard Facilities	€18,000	€18,000	€18,000
Total annual Cost Estimate	€138,000	€138,000	€138,000

5.8 Leisure Centres

The proposed redevelopment of Bunrana Community Leisure Centre continues to be progressed by Donegal County Council and Bunrana Community Leisure Centre Committee. Contract Documents were submitted for the approval of the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport before going to tender. The Department of Transport Tourism & Sport technical team requested clarification/amendments on certain issues. The clarifications/amendments were returned to the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport.

The project is currently estimated to cost €6,200,000. Progression of this project is subject to the availability of financing. Donegal County Council and Bunrana Community Leisure Centre Committee (BCLCC) have had a series of meetings in recent months, with the following matters being progressed:

- Clarifications on the proposed business plan submitted by BCLCC
- Options for the management model for the leisure centre
- The most cost-effective options for the development of the new facility
- Match-funding requirements for the project

It is anticipated that more detailed proposals will be presented to the Elected Members for their consideration as early as possible in 2019.

There is an emerging need for capital replacement works at each of the existing leisure centres in the county. This is necessary to protect the initial investment and to

maintain each facility to a required standard to attract and retain customers. Capital replacement requirements will be informed by periodic structural and fabric assessments of the various facilities. Information to date indicates a requirement of approximately €300,000 per annum, over the 3 year Capital period. This programme will depend on funding from Donegal County Council and external sources where available.

Leisure Centres Capital Replacement	Annual Funding Allocations Sought		
	2019	2020	2021
	€300,000	€300,000	€300,000

6. Community Development & Planning Services

The Community Development & Planning Services Directorate continues to manage a wide ranging capital programme which will be presented under the following headings:

Section 6.1: Community Development Division

Section 6.2: Planning Services Division

The planned programme of investment set out below aims to maximise the opportunity to source external funding while limiting the demand for co-funding from internal resources where possible.

Section 6.1 – Community Development Division

6.1.1 Projects in Progress

Project Name	Funder(s)	Details
Rural Development Programme (RDP/LEADER).	EU/Dept.	€12m to be allocated by the Local Action Group in Donegal (the LCDC) in the period 2018-2020.
Sliabh Liag Strategic Development Project.	SEUPB INTERREG IVA/ Failte Ireland/ Own Resources.	A major flagship tourism project for Sliabh Liag which includes the development of visitor amenities and access improvements. Capital works commenced in 2012 and are on schedule to be completed by the end of 2018. It is envisaged that the visitor centre will open in Q1 of 2019.
Designated Urban Centres Grant Scheme – Letterkenny.	DECLG – administered through the Northern & Western Regional Assembly.	The Designated Urban Centres Grant Scheme prioritises investment in Gateway Towns as the engine of the regional economy. The Council made a successful application for funding under this scheme for Letterkenny which contains three elements: (i) Social Enterprise Building; (ii) Town Centre Improvements and (iii) works on the Joe Bonner Link Road. This Directorate is responsible for developing the Social Enterprise Building which received €1,000,000 in grant funding with a further €2,500,000 to be provided from Council own resources and the possibility of additional funding from external sources. A design team was appointed to the project in Q2 of 2018. Preliminary design, taking account of the budget available, envisages that the social enterprise building will have a floor area of just under 1,000 sq. metres over a number of floors and aims to create a communal space that will house some of the key community and voluntary groupings currently based in Letterkenny and across the county. It is anticipated that a Part VIII planning application will be submitted in Q1 of 2019 followed immediately by the procurement of a contractor, with construction to get

		underway in Q4 of 2019 and completion by the end of 2020.
2017 Town & Village Renewal Scheme.	Dept / Own Resources.	Thirteen T&V Renewal Schemes are currently being completed and include projects in Dunkineely, Mountcharles, Burtonport, Falcarragh, Convoy, Arranmore Island, Ballyliffin, Churchhill, Newtowncunningham Kilcar, Carrigart/Downings St. Johnston and Rathmullan. The total expenditure on the 13 projects is €1,448,750.
2018 Town & Village Renewal Scheme.	Dept / Own Resources.	Eleven towns and villages across the county are set to benefit from the 2018 Town and Village Renewal Scheme: Donegal Town; Glenties; Moville; Kerrykeel; Portsalon; Killygordan; Killybegs; Buncrana; Muff; Kilmacrennan; and Castlefinn. Total Funding €1.375M.
2018 CLAR Scheme Measure 1.	Dept / Own Resources.	Six Schools and two projects across the county are set to benefit from the 2018 CLAR Scheme Measure 1: St. Catherine's Vocational School; Scoil Fhionain N.S.; Scoil Mhuire Caiseal; Commeen N.S.; Scoil Mhuire Pettigo; Meenagowan N.S.; CAKE/Red Hughs and Tullagh Beach Car Park. Total Funding: €304,070.
2018 CLAR Scheme Measure 2.	Dept / Own Resources.	Six National Schools across the county are set to benefit from the 2018 CLAR Scheme Measure 2: St. Riaghan's N.S.; Trentagh N.S.; Dunkineely N.S.; Welchtown N.S.; Scoil Roisin N.S.; and Craigtown N.S. Total Funding: €213,032.
Donegal Craft Village.	External Sources.	In the period 2018-2020 works to include: construction of additional units and a public toilet, extension to the car park and the opening of direct access from the regional road subject to securing external funding. A section of footpath leading to the Craft Village from the town will also be extended.
Tullan Strand, Bundoran.	Own Resources.	Development of access and public amenities at Tullan Strand.
Malin Head Phase II.	Failte Ireland.	Construction of a toilet block, additional car parking and lay-bys were completed and opened to the public in June 2018. Development and implementation of a Visitor Management Plan for the Malin Head Signature Discovery Point is to get underway in Q4 of 2018 with the plan to be fully completed in 2019. The plan will shape future development in Malin Head in the years ahead.
ASCENT.	EU – NPA.	DCC received €568,580 to lead the ASCENT project. Errigal mountain was chosen as the site for the project and over three years there will be three areas of activity: partner learning & expertise exchange; management planning and intervention design, training and solution trialling. The project is due for completion in 2019 with a management plan and designs and planning for an upland path to be finalised.

Peace IV.	SEUPB (Peace IV).	The Donegal Peace IV Action Plan has been approved to the value of €5.5m. This Plan sets out the types of activities to be supported under three main headings: 'Children & Young People'; 'Shared Spaces & Services' and 'Building Positive Relations'. These programmes will be rolled out during 2019 and 2020.
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6.1.2 Projects Planned:

Project Name	Funder(s)	Details
Playgrounds.	External/Own Resources.	Refurbishment of equipment at eight existing playgrounds over the period 2018-2020. Proposed expenditure (subject to securing external funding) will total €360,000: 2018: €110,000; 2019: €125,000; 2020: €125,000.
CLAR	Dept/Own Resources.	Funding applications to be submitted when 2019 CLAR Scheme opens.
Town & Village Renewal Scheme.	Dept/Own Resources.	Funding applications will be developed and submitted when the 2019 T&V Scheme opens.

6.1.3 Development of Greenways Strategy

The Community Development Division is to take the lead role in developing a Greenways Strategy for County Donegal, building on the work that has already been undertaken, including the North West Greenway Project (detailed information at Section 4.12 on page 26) funded through the INTERREG programme, Donegal Co. Council, and Derry City & Strabane District Council.

There are a number of funding programmes which the Council will target in terms of accessing the necessary resources to help deliver on the agreed schemes, as follows;

- National Greenway Development Fund
- Outdoor Recreation Fund
- Own Resources

Work on the development of the countywide Greenway Strategy will commence in the coming weeks. However, the Council proposes to make applications under the National Greenway Development Fund with respect to the following schemes, by 30th November 2018, being the closing date for receipt of applications:

- Letterkenny to Burtonport (project straddles 2 No. MDs, Letterkenny & Glenties)
- Continuation of North West Greenway (Inishowen MD)
- Barnesmore Gap - Ballybofey to Donegal Town (project straddles 2 No. MDs, Stranorlar & Donegal)

The development of a countywide Greenways strategy over the next 6 -12 months will highlight additional projects to be included in future applications. Additional engineering/technical resources are being assigned to the Community Development Division in the coming weeks, with the initial scheme to be progressed being the Letterkenny to Burtonport scheme, in line with previous commitments given.

Section 6.2 – Planning Division

6.2.1 Projects in Progress:

Project Name	Funder(s)	Details
HERICOAST.	EU – Interreg.	Heritage & Cultural tourism project with a budget of €322,256 (project substantially completed at end Sept 2018).

6.2.2 Housing Estate Improvement Works/Unfinished Housing Estates

The Council is working through the remaining unfinished estates that received funding under the government’s Site Resolution Funding. There are still 4 no. estates that were allocated funding under SRF that remain to be completed. Some works have been carried out on these estates in 2018 and the completion of the resolution works is part of the 2019 UFHD’s Work Programme with an expected spend of €250,000.

The remaining Public Safety Initiative monies (€100,000) relate to the provision of a foul pumping station for An Gleann Rua housing development in Letterkenny, which will be provided in 2019.

A number of unresolved sites continue to be addressed using funds realised from developers' bonds. In the region of €300,000 was spent on such estates during 2018. It is anticipated that around €500,000 from such sources will be spent in each year during 2019-2021.

6.2.3 Taking in Charge - Residential Housing Estates

The Council has progressed the taking-in-charge of residential estates throughout 2018, and will continue this process throughout 2019. The planning authority received funding under the Government’s National Taking in Charge Initiative. This funding was awarded for two different types of residential developments which are:

- Estates connected to the public foul network: expenditure in 2018 is likely to be €80,000, with the remaining funds (€120,000) to be spent in 2019, and
- Estates (8 no.) serviced by developer provided infrastructure [allocated funding of €625,653]: expenditure in 2018 is likely to be €250,000, with the remaining funding (including 3 no. Bridgend estates) to be spent in 2019.

Funding was made available subject to the developments being taken in charge by the Council.

The planning authority has formally taken in charge approximately 35 residential housing estates in the majority of Municipal Districts in 2018, and will continue throughout 2019 to maximise the number of estates taken in charge.

The Government's recent budget has made funding available for the connection of housing developments served by Developer Provided Infrastructure (stand alone treatment plants) to the foul public network. The planning authority will be making an application for funding from this source in 2019.

6.2.4 Development Charges/Development-Contribution Scheme

In accordance with Circular Letter Finance 08/2008 I set out the following:

Estimate of development contributions (DCS & Specific charges) to be collected in 2019 (based on the receipts to date in 2018) is €1,341,000. There is an end-of-year protocol for the Water & Sewer DCS element collected to be paid to Irish Water.

**Community Development & Planning Services Directorate Capital Table
2019-2021 (Projects in Progress)**

Description	Projected* ¹ Cost Per Annum			Proposed Sources* ¹ of funding 2019 – 2021	
	2019 €	2020 €	2021 €	Council €	External €
RDP/LEADER.	4,640,500	4,640,500			9,281,000
Sliabh Liagh.	125,000			75,000	50,000
Letterkenny (DUCGS)/Social Enterprise Building.	1,000,000	2,250,000	250,000	2,500,000	1,000,000
Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2018.	1,000,000			200,000	800,000
Donegal Craft Village.	65,000	85,000			150,000
Tullan Strand, Bundoran.	200,000	75,000		275,000	
Malin Head, Phase II.	40,000				40,000
Malin Head, Phase III.	250,000			65,500	184,500
ASCENT.	146,000			51,100	94,900
Peace IV.	2,750,000	2,500,000			5,250,000
Unfinished Housing Dev-SRF & PSI Works.	350,000				350,000
Unfinished Housing Dev-Developers' Bonds.	500,000	500,000	500,000		1,500,000
Take Over of Housing Estates.	495,653				495,653
Totals:	11,562,153	10,050,500	750,000	3,166,600	19,196,053

***1 Due to the nature of external funding applications, projected costs and timelines are best estimates**

7. Economic Development, Emergency Services & Information Systems

Economic Development

7.1 Economic Division

- 7.1.1 A newly formed Economic Division is being established alongside the existing Local Enterprise Office (LEO)/Small Business Support Division as part of a reformed Economic Development, Emergency Services and Information Systems Directorate. This new division will incorporate the Tourism Marketing Unit and a range of Economic Development interventions including areas of Capital Investment.
- 7.1.2 Both the Economic Division and the Small Business Supports Division (LEO) will contribute to the delivery of the Urban and Rural Regeneration Development Funds, alongside colleague Council services. The decisions on the applications submitted in September 2018 are awaited at time of writing.
- 7.1.3 Notwithstanding this, it is expected that a number of these applications will be successful and will require co-financing during the period 2019-2021. The total value of applications and potential co-financing requirements are detailed in the table below.

	Funding Application	Overall Cost	DCC Contribution
UR&DF	Letterkenny 2040	€7,752,000	€1,938,000
RR&DF	Greencastle Harbour Breakwater	€12,000,000	€3,000,000
RR&DF	11 Towns & Villages	€1,219,000	€304,750
RR&DF	Fort Dunree	€637,000	€159,325
RR&DF	Swan Park, Bunrana	€2,304,056	€576,014
RR&DF	Island House, Killybegs	€1,630,360	€307,590
RR&DF	Ramelton Mall	€3,426,137	€856,534
RR&DF	Glenfin St, Ballybofey	€1,066,734	€0
RR&DF	Donegal Town Community & Digital Hubs	€3,748,000	€600,000
RR&DF	Ailt an Chorráin / Árainn Mhór	€4,324,427	€0
CA	Donegal Public Services Climate Action Project	€1,545,018	€779,713
	Total Investment Required	€39,652,732	€8,521,926

- 7.1.4 A full schedule of approvals, co-financing requirements, indicative timescales and specific recommendations on financing methodology will be brought to the Council once the details of approvals are known.

7.1.5 The Economic Development Division will also, as part of its remit in 2019, be advancing proposals with implications for capital expenditure in the following areas:

- Land and buildings optimisation for economic development purposes
- Opportunity site acquisition for economic development purposes
- Funding and investment opportunities from Central Government and State Agencies for economic development purposes
- As appropriate, downstream Brexit investment requirements in a Donegal context, for economic development purposes

7.1.6 It is premature, as part of this year's 3-year Capital Budget proposals, to provide multi-annual detail and costings, as these will evolve over time following the establishment of this Division.

7.1.7 A number of Council led applications for funding under the Enterprise Ireland led Regional Enterprise Development Fund (REDF) are either approved or pending decisions. These include the Buncrana Digital Hub, which will be progressing to construction in 2019.

Economic Development Capital Investment Programme 2019 – 2021

Description	Projected*¹ Cost Per Annum			Proposed Sources*¹ of funding 2019 – 2021	
	2019 €	2020 €	2021 €	Council €	External €
Buncrana Digital Hub	1,000,000	500,000		300,000	1,200,000
Totals:	1,000,000	500,000		300,000	1,200,000

***1 Total costs of co-financing requirements subject to final costings and procurement**

7.1.8 As part of the Economic Development Division, the E.U. Funding Unit will initiate a proactive programme of engagement with potential external support bodies and agencies, with the objective of linking opportunities with local Council services, and to maximise funding opportunities to enable further development in the County.

7.2 Tourism Marketing

7.2.1 The Tourism Unit is extremely proactive in marketing the County to a wide range of markets, namely, local, regional, national and international markets via a number of media such as social media platforms, printed material, exhibitions and the 'Go Visit Donegal' website.

7.2.2 In order to reduce the possible impact of the forthcoming BREXIT, a strong emphasis has been placed on markets outside the United Kingdom, particularly Germany, France, China and America.

7.2.3 The Unit has also secured external funding for a number of promotional projects. This external funding assists in reducing the need to utilise the Council’s internal funds to promote our county to a wider audience.

Projects in Progress:

Project Name	Funder(s)	Details
Atlantic On Bike	INTERREG Atlantic Area Programme	The Donegal Cycling Route is now part of a new three-year European Project called Atlantic On Bike. Based on the transnational cycle route EuroVelo 1 (the Atlantic Coastal Route), Atlantic On Bike is a cycle tourism development project which aims to achieve positive economic outcomes by increasing visitor numbers, boosting local economies and creating new jobs within the tourism industry. Total funding to cover all project partners is €4.5m.
CAPITEN	INTERREG Atlantic Area Programme	CAPITEN encourages local communities and visitors to experience coastal maritime activities and seeks to deliver a viable portfolio of events to attract visitors to Atlantic Area partner regions. The project will assist Donegal in enhancing our profile internationally as a maritime destination of excellence and will also assist in strengthening our maritime sporting activities, provide support for activity providers and maximise the economic, social and environmental benefits of events. Total funding to cover all project partners is €2.9m.
Wildsea Atlantic Ocean Heritage Route	COSME-EASME	The Wildsea Atlantic Ocean Heritage Route (“WAOH! Route”) is the first European, Sustainable Diving Route connecting world-class diving sites from the extreme south in Portugal and Spain to the coastlines of Donegal. Through this Project, tourism destinations and experience providers will gain access to collaborative marketing tools and capacity building to enhance their market visibility and sustainability performance. Total funding to cover all project partners is €375,000.

Projects Approved:

Project Name	Funder(s)	Details
TIDE	INTERREG Atlantic Area Programme	TIDE, or 'Atlantic Network for Developing Historical Maritime Tourism', is a new cooperation project. Donegal will work with partners from the UK, Ireland, France, Spain and Portugal to develop new types of historical maritime tourist packages based on using digital transformation technologies to link cultural attractions on Europe's Atlantic. Total funding to cover all project partners is €2.4m

Tourism Marketing Capital Investment Programme 2019-2021

Description	Projected* ¹ Cost Per Annum			Proposed Sources* ¹ of funding 2019 – 2021	
	2019 €	2020 €	2021 €	Council €	External €
Atlantic On Bike	106,000	103,000		52,250	156,750
CAPITEN	65,000	65,000		32,500	97,500
WAOH Project	30,500			6,000	24,500
TIDE	TBC* ²			TBC* ²	TBC* ²
Totals:	201,500	168,000		90,750	278,750

*1 Due to the nature of external funding applications, projected costs and timelines are best estimates

*2 Detailed letter of offer and conditions awaited

7.2.4 The tourism marketing unit, in conjunction with Donegal Tourism and sectoral interests, will combine to contribute to and inform policy and investment decisions in the tourism product development areas led by colleagues in various Council services.

7.3 Local Enterprise Office / Small Business Supports Division

7.3.1 The Local Enterprise Office, in addition to providing a range of direct and indirect supports to small business, also leads on a range of specific, multi-annual interventions delivering added value programmes. A number of these will be in collaboration with initiatives to provide economic infrastructure to support business start ups and expansions.

Projects in Progress:

Project Name	Funder(s)	Details
Donegal Creative Hub Network	Dept. of Rural & Community Affairs/ Dept. BEI/Own Resources.	To set up and support a County network of creative hubs and co-working spaces for cultural and creative professionals and entrepreneurs.
Enterprise Europe Network	EU – COSME	COSME funded 6 year programme involving the LEO network led by DCC LEO, Enterprise Ireland and the Chambers of Commerce in Dublin and Cork. Programme aims to assist local businesses in identifying and developing export opportunities. The project provides an additional resource to LAs to assist firms address the potential challenges of Brexit.
NICHE	EU – Interreg	A European project in which the Local Enterprise Office is a partner, aims at increasing the level of innovation in the added value food chain within the food and agri-food sector. The project lead is the Western Romania Development Agency and during 2019 and 2020 the focus will be on the implementation of the local action plan.
Co Innovate	Interreg	An €18m project led by Inter Trade Ireland with other partners being Scottish Enterprise; Highland and Highlands Enterprise; Enterprise NI and border Local Enterprise Offices(LA's). Its aim is to increase the proportion of SME's engaging in cross-border and innovation activities with over 1,400 businesses to be targeted. Project was approved in 2016 and delivery began in May 2017.
Everywhere International SME's	Interreg	This European project, accessed through the Local Enterprise Office, aims at promoting internationalisation in SME's within the participating regions. The project is being led by Hampshire County Council. The project commenced in March 2017 and the first phase of the project (2 years) will finish in December 2018 with the focus on the implementation of the local action plan in 2019 and 2020.

Projects Planned:

Project Name	Funder(s)	Details
DELTA.	Donegal County Council/ Enterprise Ire/LEO/Don egal County Enterprise Fund.	Development and delivery of the enterprise accelerator programme for the medical and health sectors, an incubator building of some 23,000 sq. ft. and a VC fund of €15m. Pilot programme to commence in early 2019. €150,000 from DCC over three year period.
Trail Gazers	Interreg	This project sets out to quantify the multiplier effect of investing in walks and recreational trails within the region and to work with local businesses on developing business to consumer initiatives that will enhance this impact. Donegal County Council is the lead partner in the project which has been approved (October 2018) under the INTERREG Atlantic Area Programme.

LEO/Small Business Supports Capital Investment Programme 2019-2021

Description	Projected* ¹ Cost Per Annum			Proposed Sources* ¹ of funding 2019 – 2021	
	2019 €	2020 €	2021 €	Council €	External €
Donegal Creative Hub Network	26,000	200,000	200,000	213,000	213,000
Enterprise Europe Network	200,000	200,000	200,000	90,000	510,000
NICHE Project	71,000	65,000	20,000	23,400	132,600
Co Innovate	30,000	30,000	15,000	0	75,000
Everywhere International SME's	90,000	80,000	15,000	35,166	149,834
Totals:	417,000	575,000	450,000	361,566	1,080,434

*1 Due to the nature of external funding applications, projected costs and timelines are best estimates.

7.4 Information Systems

Introduction

7.4.1 Donegal County Council's Information Technology infrastructure serves 107 locations countywide and is one of the largest Local Authority networks in Ireland.

The infrastructure comprises

- 94 Servers
- 1,240 Desktop & Notebook Computers
- 460 Printers/Scanners/Plotters
- 115 Tablets
- 640 Mobile Phones
- 200 Other Data devices
- 900+ Telephone handsets and 1,800 Extensions/DDI's

Together with this ICT infrastructure, a wide range of Council business systems and applications are managed on an ongoing basis.

7.4.2 In addition to operational support on the networks and applications, a comprehensive systems programme is implemented annually. The systems programme is designed to support the Council's Corporate Plan and Customer Services Action Plan. It assists business units in Donegal County Council to work more efficiently and effectively, as well as delivering improved customer service applications.

Capital Investment Programme

7.4.3 Ongoing Revenue budgets fund maintenance and support of existing applications on an annual basis including contributions to the Local Government Management Agency.

7.4.4 New upgraded networking, hardware, telephony, security and system development projects are funded through the Capital Programme.

Over the period 2019 – 2021 the I.S. Division Capital Expenditure will fall into the following broad categories:

- Networking Improvements (Wide Area Network Upgrades/Government Networks Connections)
- Telephony Systems Replacements / Upgrades
- Hardware
- Software Licensing
- Information Security / Cyber Security / GDPR
- New / Improved Information Systems
- Additional Council Buildings – Network Connectivity
- External Project Partners / Staffing

- 7.4.5 The Council's main Wide Area Network was largely implemented at the time of the Decentralisation Programme 15 years ago. It is now necessary to substantially upgrade this network to provide improved internal connectivity as well as improved connectivity to Government Networks nationally. Similarly telephony systems which were implemented in the Council at the same time now require to be upgraded.
- 7.4.6 During the financial emergency, public bodies were advised by Government not to upgrade software on a regular basis but to sweat current software assets for as long a period as possible. As a result, the Council is operating on software programmes which are, generally, over 10 years old. A major enhancement programme will now take place over the next 2 years to bring software products up to current versions as part of a sectoral Microsoft Enterprise Agreement.
- 7.4.7 Over the last number of years cyber attacks and similar forms of criminal activity have wreaked havoc across the globe for organisations and businesses, including public authorities. These attacks are almost a daily occurrence at this stage. The Council, in common with other public authorities, needs to keep abreast of these threats by using the best defence mechanisms available. General Data Protection Regulation became law in 2018, with increased obligations for bodies holding personal data, and increased fines for breaches of these enhanced obligations. Ongoing investment in this area is required to protect Council systems and data, as well as ensure compliance with regulation.
- 7.4.8 Over the period 2019 – 2021, the ongoing systems implementation/upgrade programme will continue. Work will be prioritised on an annual basis, and will target systems and applications with significant payback for the Council in terms of operational efficiencies. In addition, solutions such as print management extension and electronic meetings will bring significant benefits and financial savings to the Council. It should be noted that there will, from 2019, be an increase to the Council Revenue Budget for software licensing, estimated at €200,000 initially but increasing in subsequent years as further software licenses become effective across the organisation for various uses and end users.

Information Systems Capital Investment Programme 2019 - 2021

Description	Projected* ¹ Cost Per Annum			Proposed Sources of funding 2019 – 2021	
	2019 €	2020 €	2021 €	Council €	External €
Infrastructure /Networking	100,000	225,000		325,000	
Wide Area Connectivity	75,000			75,000	
Telephony	75,000	75,000		150,000	
Hardware	87,750	40,000	40,000	167,750	
Software Licensing	240,000			240,000	
Security Programme	40,000	35,000	25,000	100,000	
Systems Programme	62,200	75,000	50,000	187,200	
Additional Buildings	65,000			65,000	
External Project Partners & Staffing	125,000	250,000	125,000	500,000	
Totals:	869,950	700,000	240,000	1,809,950	

*1 Projected costs are best estimates pending procurement

7.5 Emergency Services

Donegal County Council Fire Service - Fire Stations

7.5.1 Following the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government advising in 2016 that the Department was open to considering a suitable fire station project for the south of the county from Donegal County Council, an evidence based consultancy report was completed in mid 2018, with a subsequent recommendation from the Chief Fire Officer that a single location, two pump station, supplemented by a hydraulic platform and serviced by a fifteen member crew be submitted to the Department for funding. The elected members did not accept this recommended approach and resolved that the preference was for the retention of two locations and stations. This position, along with request for a delegation to meet the Minister in this regard has been submitted to the Department

7.5.2 Initial submissions to the Department to build a new station in Glencolmcille were followed by submissions to renovate the existing station. More recently a

submission was made to assess the Department's willingness to fund a smaller scale, yet fit for purpose facility, given the number and scale of callouts in this brigade area. An estimated cost of some €600,000 would be applicable to this proposal and a response is awaited from the Department in this regard. It is not anticipated that this project will progress until the fire station project in the south of the county is substantially advanced or concluded.

Fire Appliances & Associated Vehicles

- 7.5.3 Approval for a new Class B Fire Appliance was given, by the Department, in September 2017, and it is expected in line with normal procurement timelines that this will be completed by mid 2019.
- 7.5.4 With funding provided by the Department, the purchase of a number of pre owned class B appliances will continue in 2019, to reduce the age profile of the fleets.
- 7.5.5 An upgraded emergency tender has been funded by the Department in 2018 in an amount of €50,000 and is scheduled to be fitted out and on the run from December 2018/January 2019. This vehicle is used to support major incidents County-wide and will carry a range of specialist support equipment in this regard.
- 7.5.6 In addition to requesting funding from the Department for class B appliances, funding has also been sought for two water tankers. If funded, the water tankers would be strategically located so as to provide a fire fighting water supply at wildfires, industrial/commercial fire and at incidents where the available water supply may not be adequate.
- 7.5.7 In line with appropriate practise, it is also intended to explore funding options in 2019 with the Department for funding for an incident control vehicle, from which appropriate command and control can be exercised at major incidents and across all prevailing weather conditions and locations.

7.6 Civil Defence

- 7.6.1 An additional parking bay area was completed for the Civil Defence HQ, Stranorlar, to appropriately store and protect various vehicles used by the service. The total cost of the project was €46,820 with the Department of Defence part-funding the project to the value of €22,000. The balance of the grant-aid will be met locally, which facilitated the completion of these works in 2018.

8. Roads Management Office (RMO)

The Roads Management Office (RMO) was established to provide local authorities in Ireland with centralised supports, forums, guidelines and technology to support and foster:

- improved roads asset management outcomes
- best practice and capacity in Local Authorities
- efficient management of road licensing activities
- technical input to national policy development on road and transport issues
- consistency in road maintenance and investment

The RMO is a shared service owned by, controlled and operated on behalf of all local authorities in Ireland. Donegal County Council is the lead local authority and, as such, the RMO currently makes use of Donegal County Council financial management and other support systems.

Since 2015, the RMO has provided shared services to local authorities, TII and DTTAS to assist in their management of roads infrastructure under the headings of Pavement Management and Roadworks Licensing. All work areas have seen significant growth during 2018.

Pavement Management

- The updating of the legacy road schedule records in each authority to a national standard (OSI Prime2) and its future proofing has been resource intensive.
- The support to authorities to assist them in their compliance with DTTAS RW3/2018 circular and reporting for NOAC is expected to be similarly resource intensive.

Roadworks Licensing

- Volumes have increased by over 100% with the implementation of licensing by Irish Water for network management and by 15% in other areas.
- Over 32,000 licences are expected to be processed using the system.

Work will increase in 2019 to cover the scope of the business case, and to address areas prioritised by stakeholders including DTTAS. Priority areas include:

General:

- Provision of MapRoad Pavement Management and MapRoad Roadworks Licensing Systems
- Supports to local authority staff
- Updating and maintenance of the roads schedule

Licensing Support:

- Leadership in the implementation of revised Purple Book including developing training with LASNTG, streamlining of business processes associated with licensing, developing use of directions (under Road Traffic Act) and standard conditions, preparation of billing files for authorities to improve efficiency in licence processing
- Implementation of a national deposit management scheme for licensing to support risk management and administrative cost reductions in authorities and utilities
- Full implementation of the licensing system with Irish Water and ESNB across all business areas to ensure cost recovery for local authorities costs
- Management of insurance over the lifetime of licences across over 600 applicant users to support risk management

Pavements Support:

- Verification, with authorities, of data for submission to NOAC and government departments to ensure fiscal and auditory compliance
- Centralised Procurement and Contract Management for condition surveys of roads networks for Local Authorities in order to achieve costs efficiencies
- Supporting LASNTG and DTTAS in the development of policy and procedures, as well as training, to improve quality for management and assessment of pavements

In late 2018 the office has also been given a leadership role supporting local authorities in completing the retrofit of the existing public lighting infrastructure with more efficient LED units.

Expenditure in relation to the RMO is accounted for on an 'Agent Works Recoupable' basis. As such, it is not reported in the Council's Revenue Budget. For the purpose of transparency, it is reported on herein as part of the 3-Year Capital Budget.

It is anticipated that the level of expenditure over the 3-year period 2019 – 2021 will be in the order of €8m.

9. Statutory Tables

LOCAL AUTHORITY - COMHAIRLE DHÚN NA NGALL CAITEACHAS AGUS IONCAM DO 2019 - 2021

CLÁRGHRÚPAÍ	CAITEACHAS		IONCAM		Ranníoc Chomhairle Contae Dhún na nGall
	MEASTACHÁN	GLACTHA	MEASTACHÁN	GLACTHA	
1. TITHÍOCHT & TÓGÁIL					
1.1. Tithíocht An Údaráis Áitiúil	€149,194,000		€149,194,000		€6,365,000
1.2. Cúnamh Do Dhaoine Ag Cur Tithíochta Ar Fáil Dóibh Féin	€10,500,000		€10,500,000		
1.3. Cúnamh Do Dhaoine Ag Cur Feabhasúcháin Ar Thithe	€6,000,000		€6,000,000		€1,200,000
1.8. Riarachán Agus Ilghnéitheach	€600,000		€600,000		
IOMLÁN-CLÁR 1	€166,294,000		€166,294,000	€0	€7,565,000
2. IOMPAR DE BHÓTHAR & SÁBHÁILTEACHT					
2.2. Feabhsúchán Bóithre	€154,540,000		€154,540,000		€6,840,000
2.3. Trácht Ar Bhóithre					
2.8. Riarachán Agus Ilghnéitheach	€8,166,000		€8,166,000		€0
IOMLÁN CLÁR 2	€162,706,000	€0	€162,706,000	€0	€6,840,000
3. SOLÁTHAR UISCE & SÉARACHAIS					
3.1. Soláthar Uisce Poiblí					
3.2. Scéimeanna Poiblí/Séarachais	€240,000		€240,000		€0
3.3. Feistiú Príobháideach	€2,420,000		€2,420,000		€0
3.8. Riarachán Agus Ilghnéitheach					
IOMLÁN-CLÁR 3	€2,660,000	€0	€2,660,000	€0	€0
4. DREASACHTAÍ FORBARTHA & RIALÚCHÁN					
4.1. Pleanáil Úsáide Talún					
4.2. Forbairt Thionsclaíoch					
4.3. Dreasachtaí agus Rialú Forbartha	€2,345,653		€2,345,653		€0
4.5. Cur Cum Cinn Suinne I Measc An Phobail Aitiúil					
4.8. Riarachán Agus Ilghnéitheach					
IOMLÁN-CLÁR 4	€2,345,653	€0	€2,345,653	€0	€0

**LOCAL AUTHORITY - COMHAIRLE DHÚN NA NGALL
CAITEACHAS AGUS IONCAM DO 2019 - 2021**

CLÁRGHRÚPAÍ	CAITEACHAS		IONCAM		Ranníoc Chomhairle Contae Dhún na nGall
	MEASTACHÁN	GLACTHA	MEASTACHÁN	GLACTHA	
5. COSAINT CHOMHSHAOIL					
5.1 Díúscairt Dramhaíola	€3,082,000		€3,082,000		€332,000
5.2 Úirleachas					
5.3 Sábháilteacht Struchtúr Agus Áiteanna	€324,000		€324,000		€324,000
5.4 Cosaint In Aghaidh Dóiteáin	€0		€0		€0
5.5 Measúnú Truailiúcháin	€105,000		€105,000		€52,500
5.8 Riarachán Agus Ilghnéitheach			€0		€0
IOMLÁN-CLÁR 5	€3,511,000	€0	€3,511,000	€0	€708,500
6. ÁINEAS AGUS TAITNEAMHACHT					
6.1 Linn Snámha	€900,000		€900,000		€900,000
6.2 Leabharlanna	€365,962		€365,962		€351,981
6.3 Páirceanna, Spásanna Oscailte, Ionaid Áineasa					
6.4 Áineasa/Taitneamhachtaí Eile	€47,968,337		€47,968,337		€9,672,092
6.8 Riarachán Agus Ilghnéitheach					
IOMLÁN-CLÁR 6	€49,234,299	€0	€49,234,299	€0	€10,924,073
7. TALMHAÍOCHT, OIDEACHAS & SLÁINTE & LEASA					
7.1 Talmhaíocht	€28,615,000		€28,615,000		€7,153,750
7.8 Riarachán/Ilghnéitheach					
IOMLÁN-CLÁR 7	€28,615,000	€0	€28,615,000	€0	€7,153,750
8. SEIRBHÍÍ ILGHNÉITHEACHA					
8.1 Ceannach Talún Agus Forbairt					
8.2 Planda Agus Ábhair					
8.5 Riaracháin Chosaint Cheartais/Tomhaltóra Tomhaltóra					
8.6 Damáiste Do Mhaoin					
8.8 Riarachán Agus Ilghnéitheach	€2,484,950		€2,484,950		€2,184,950
IOMLÁN-CLÁR 8	€2,484,950	€0	€2,484,950	€0	€2,184,950
IOMLÁN NA GCLÁRGHRÚPAÍ UILE	€417,850,902	€0	€417,850,902	€0	€35,376,273

**LOCAL AUTHORITY - DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL
EXPENDITURE AND INCOME FOR FINANCIAL YEARS 2019 - 2021**

PROGRAMME GROUP AND PROGRAMME	EXPENDITURE		INCOME		DCC Contribution
	ESTIMATED	ADOPTED	ESTIMATED	ADOPTED	
1. HOUSING & BUILDING					
1.1. Local Authority Housing	€149,194,000		€149,194,000		€6,365,000
1.2. Assistance to Persons Housing themselves	€10,500,000		€10,500,000		
1.3. Assistance to Persons Improving Houses	€6,000,000		€6,000,000		€1,200,000
1.8. Administration and Miscellaneous	€600,000		€600,000		
TOTAL	€166,294,000		€166,294,000	€0	€7,565,000
2. ROAD TRANSPORTATION & SAFETY					
2.2. Road Improvement	€154,540,000		€154,540,000		€6,840,000
2.3. Road Traffic					
2.8. Administration & Misc (RMO)	€8,166,000		€8,166,000		€0
TOTAL	€162,706,000	€0	€162,706,000	€0	€6,840,000
3. WATER SUPPLY & SEWERAGE					
3.1. Public Water Supply Scheme*					
3.2. Public Sewerage Scheme	€240,000		€240,000		€0
3.3. Private Installations	€2,420,000		€2,420,000		€0
3.8. Administration & Miscellaneous					
* Historical expenditure included					
TOTAL	€2,660,000	€0	€2,660,000	€0	€0
4. DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES & CONTROLS					
4.1 Land Use Planning					
4.2 Industrial Development					
4.3 Development Incentives & Control	€2,345,653		€2,345,653		€0
4.5 Promotion of Interest - Local Community					
4.8 Administration & Miscellaneous					
TOTAL	€2,345,653	€0	€2,345,653	€0	€0

**LOCAL AUTHORITY - DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL
EXPENDITURE AND INCOME FOR FINANCIAL YEARS 2019 - 2021**

PROGRAMME GROUP AND PROGRAMME	EXPENDITURE		INCOME		DCC Contribution
	ESTIMATED	ADOPTED	ESTIMATED	ADOPTED	
5. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION					
5.1 Waste Disposal	€3,082,000		€3,082,000		€332,000
5.2 Burial Grounds					
5.3 Safety of Structures & Places	€324,000		€324,000		€324,000
5.4 Fire Protection	€0		€0		€0
5.5 Pollution Control	€105,000		€105,000		€52,500
5.8 Administration & Miscellaneous			€0		€0
TOTAL	€3,511,000	€0	€3,511,000	€0	€708,500
6. RECREATION & AMENITY					
6.1 Swimming Pools	€900,000		€900,000		€900,000
6.2 Libraries	€365,962		€365,962		€351,981
6.3 Parks, Open Spaces, Recreation Centres etc.					
6.4 Other Recreation & Amenity	€47,968,337		€47,968,337		€9,672,092
6.8 Administration & Miscellaneous					
TOTAL	€49,234,299	€0	€49,234,299	€0	€10,924,073
7. AGRICULTURE, EDUCATION HEALTH & WELFARE					
7.1 Agriculture	€28,615,000		€28,615,000		€7,153,750
7.8 Administration & Miscellaneous					
TOTAL	€28,615,000	€0	€28,615,000	€0	€7,153,750
8. MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES					
8.1 Land Acquisition					
8.2 Plant & Materials					
8.5 Administration of Justice & Consumer Protection					
8.6 Property Damage					
8.8 Administration & Miscellaneous	€2,484,950		€2,484,950		€2,184,950
TOTAL	€2,484,950	€0	€2,484,950	€0	€2,184,950
ALL PROGRAMME GROUPS TOTAL	€417,850,902	€0	€417,850,902	€0	€35,376,273