



Cavan County Council
Comhairle Chontae an Chabháin

Quality Assurance Report for 2022

Cavan County Council

To Be Submitted to the National Oversight and Audit Commission
(NOAC), In Compliance with the Public Spending Code

Certification

This Annual Quality Assurance Report reflects Cavan County Council's assessment of compliance with the Public Spending Code. It is based on the best financial, organisational and performance related information available across the various areas of responsibility.

Signature of Accounting Officer:



Mr. Brendan Jennings
Acting Chief Executive

Date: 30th May 2023

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Executive Summary

This report fulfils a requirement under the Public Spending Code¹ (PSC) for each Public Body to put in place an internal, independent, Quality Assurance (QA) procedure that reports annually on how the Public Body and its agencies are meeting their PSC obligations.

This Quality Assurance (QA) Report is for the **period 2022** and is the **ninth** QA report to be published by Cavan County Council since the (PSC) came into effect in September 2013 (Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER), *Circular 13/13²*) as amended.

The main findings of the report are summarised below under the five key steps required to be completed under the QA procedure:

Step 1 — Inventory of Expenditure

Cavan County Councils inventory list for 2022 (totalling **€862,239,054.89**), identified **141** Projects / Programmes (**38** Current Expenditure and **103** Capital Expenditure), whose expenditure / estimated lifetime cost exceeded €0.5m.

- **141** Projects/programmes: -
 - **43** projects / programmes were being considered in 2022.
 - **89** projects / programmes incurred expenditure in 2022.
 - **9** projects / programmes ended in 2022.

Step 2 — Procurements valued in excess of €10 million

There are currently 2 projects listed. **1 new project** with Procurements of Contracts in excess of €10m (completed and Contract signed) was listed for the period 2022.

Step 3 — Self-Assessed Compliance Checklists

A set of checklists (7 in total) for the whole organisation were completed based on information received from **18 samples** taken from the projects/programmes in the 2022 Inventory list (representing **9%** of the total value of expenditure on the list). **9 samples** represented **16%** of the total value of current expenditure and the other **9 samples** represented **8%** of the total value of capital expenditure. The samples showed the Council to be broadly compliant with the PSC.

Step 4 — In-Depth Checks

From the Inventory list - the Internal Auditor selected one Current Expenditure programme (**D06 - Community and Enterprise Function**) which represented **4%** of the total value of Current expenditure on the list, and two Capital projects (**R188 Safety Improvement Measures at Rathkenny and 45000012 - Abbeylands Project**) which together represented **6%** of the total value of Capital Expenditure on the list. (The Average % over a 3-year period of Capital Projects /Programmes selected for In-Depth Check(s) (based on value) is **5%**) The checks showed the Council to be **broadly/substantially compliant** with the PSC.

Step 5 — Summary Report

The publication of this report fulfils Cavan County Councils obligation to produce a summary report outlining its expenditure and level of compliance with the PSC. Overall, the report noted that the checklists completed by Cavan County Council showed a high level of compliance with the Public Spending Code and the in-depth checks carried out on a selection of projects / programmes revealed no major issues which would cast doubt on the Councils compliance with the Code.

¹ Public Spending Code, DPER, <http://publicspendingcode.per.gov.ie/>

² Circular 13/13: The Public Spending Code: Expenditure Planning, Appraisal and Evaluation in the Irish Public Services- Standard Rules & Procedures

1. Introduction

The **year under review is 2022**. This is the **ninth year** in which the Quality Assurance process has applied to Local Authorities

Cavan County Council has completed this Quality Assurance (QA) Report as part of its ongoing compliance with the Public Spending Code (PSC). The Quality Assurance procedure aims to gauge the extent to which Cavan County Council and its associated agencies are meeting the obligations set out in the Public Spending Code. The Public Spending Code aims to ensure that the State achieves value for money in the use of public funds.

This Quality Assurance (QA) Report adheres to the:-

- National Oversight and Audit Commissions (NOAC) instruction to all Local Authority Chief Executives dated March 2023,
- **Guidance Document:-***“Public Spending Code (PSC) Quality Assurance Requirements – A Guidance Note for the Local Government Sector – Version 4 - dated February 2021*
- **PSC QA Clarifications**

The Quality Assurance process for the year under review consists of 5 steps;

Step 1 — Project Inventory

Drawing up the inventories of current and capital projects/programmes at different expenditure stages of the Project Life Cycle (Strategic Assessment, Preliminary Business Case, Final Business Case (including design, procurement strategy and tendering), Implementation, Review, Ex-Post Evaluation) whose expenditure / estimated lifetime cost exceed €500,000. The expenditure is examined under 3 expenditure stages namely, expenditure being considered, expenditure being incurred, and expenditure recently ended.

Step 2 — Procurements valued in excess of €10 million.

Publishing summary information on the Councils website of all Procurements of Contracts in excess of €10m (where the procurement process is completed, and a contract is signed) related to projects in progress or completed in the year under review. A new project may become a “project in progress” during the year under review if the procurement process is completed and a contract is signed.

Step 3 — Checklists (Self-Assessed Compliance Checklists)

Seven (7) basic checklists must be completed in respect of the different stages of expenditure. One of each checklist per Local Authority is required. Checklists are not required for each project/programme. The checklists are informed by an appropriate sample taken from the Project Inventory list. The sample could be 5-10% of projects / programmes and should rotate from year to year.

Step 4 — In-Depth Checks

Carry out a more in-depth check on a small number of selected projects/programmes. Capital Projects selected must represent a minimum of 5% of the total value of all Capital projects on the Project Inventory. Revenue Projects selected must represent a minimum of 1% of the total value of all Revenue Projects on the Project Inventory. This minimum can be an average over a three-year period.

Step 5 — Summary Report -

Complete a short report for the National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC)

This includes - Completed Project Inventory of all projects/programmes above €0.5m, Website reference for where the procurements over €10m are published, a copy of completed checklists, the report compiled following any in depth review, and a note of how any inadequacies identified in the QA process will be addressed by the Local Authority.

This report fulfils the fifth requirement of the QA Process for Cavan County Council.

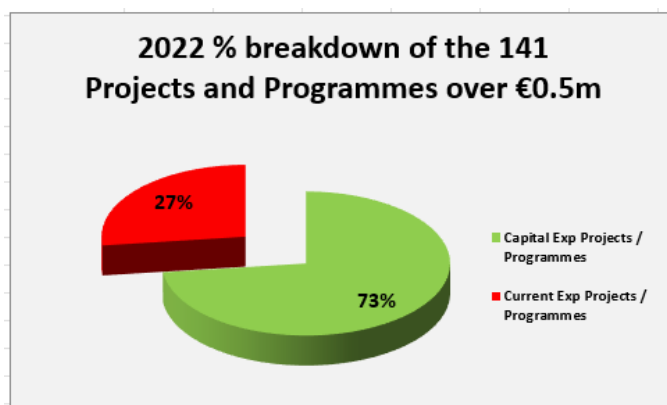
2. Expenditure Analysis 2022

2.1 - Inventory of Projects/Programmes

Cavan County Councils inventory list identifies projects and programmes at various stages of the project life cycle for **2022** whose expenditure / lifetime cost exceed €0.5m. This inventory is divided between current and capital projects / programmes which are further categorised under one of the following relevant areas / stages of expenditure:

- Expenditure being considered.
- Expenditure being incurred
- Expenditure that has recently ended - (Completed/Discontinued)

The Inventory list for 2022, identifies a total number of **141** Projects / Programmes. (**38** Current Expenditure and **103** Capital Expenditure)

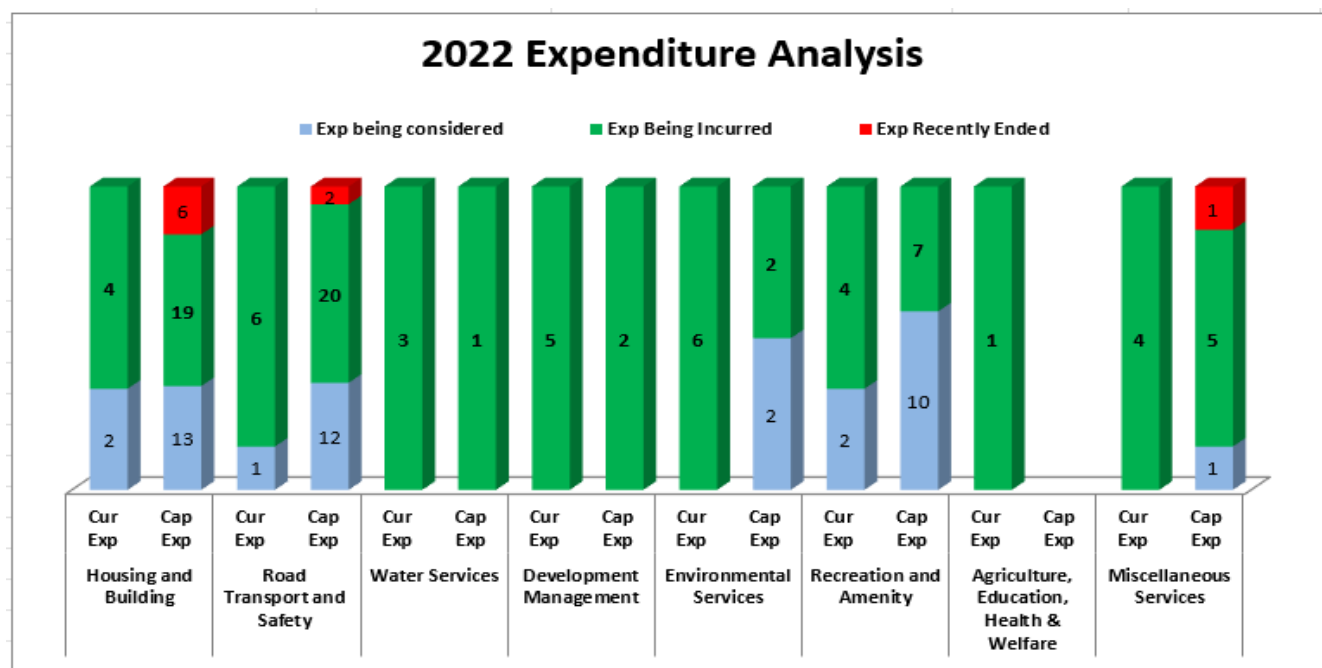


The total value of expenditure from the Councils inventory list for 2022 = **€862,239,054.89**

Inventory List 2022 (Expenditure Types)	Current	Capital	Total Per Expenditure Type
Expenditure being considered 2022 - *Current = Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (contains Value of Budget Increases only of projects / programmes whose Budgets Increased by €0.5m or more in 2023 versus 2022). *Capital = Projected Lifetime Expenditure (Based on Estimated Expenditure Figures)	€3,161,479.96	269,672,614.00	272,834,093.96
Expenditure being incurred 2022 - *Current = Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year– (Based on Actual Current Expenditure figures) *Capital = Projected Lifetime Expenditure (Capital only) (Based on Estimated Expenditure Figures)	€74,460,709.48	€499,635,400.46	€574,096,109.94
Expenditure Ended in 2022 - *Current = Final Outturn Expenditure *Capital = Final Outturn Expenditure (Based on Actual Outturn Expenditure Figures)	€ -	€15,308,850.99	€15,308,850.99
Totals	€77,622,189.44	€784,616,865.45	€862,239,054.89

2.2 – Summary of Inventory Analysis for 2022

The Chart below identifies the number of current and capital projects / programmes for each Service Division of Cavan County Council whose Expenditure / Projected Lifetime cost was above €0.5m in 2022, and further divides each under the relevant areas / stages of expenditure.



Full inventory including details of each project / programme are listed in **Appendix 1**. For the purposes of clarity and accuracy the inventory in appendix 1 was compiled using the suggested template provided by the National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC) that accompanied their letter dated March 2023 to all Local Authority Chief Executives.

Expenditure being considered

There were a total of **43** projects / programmes being considered across the various spending and price categories (36 had values \geq^3 €0.5 million and $<^4$ €5 million, 4 had values \geq €5 million and $<$ €20 million and 3 had a value \geq €20 million). Housing & Building was the primary area with 15 projects/programmes listed.

Expenditure being incurred

89 projects / programmes were identified (69 had values \geq €0.5 million and $<$ €5 million, 15 had values \geq €5 million and $<$ €20 million and 5 had a value \geq €20 million). Road Transportation and Safety was the primary area with 26 projects/programmes listed.

Expenditure that has recently ended - (Completed/Discontinued)

9 projects / programmes ended (all 9 had values \geq €0.5 million and $<$ €5 million). Housing & Building was the primary area with 6 projects/programmes listed.

³ \geq means greater than/equal to.

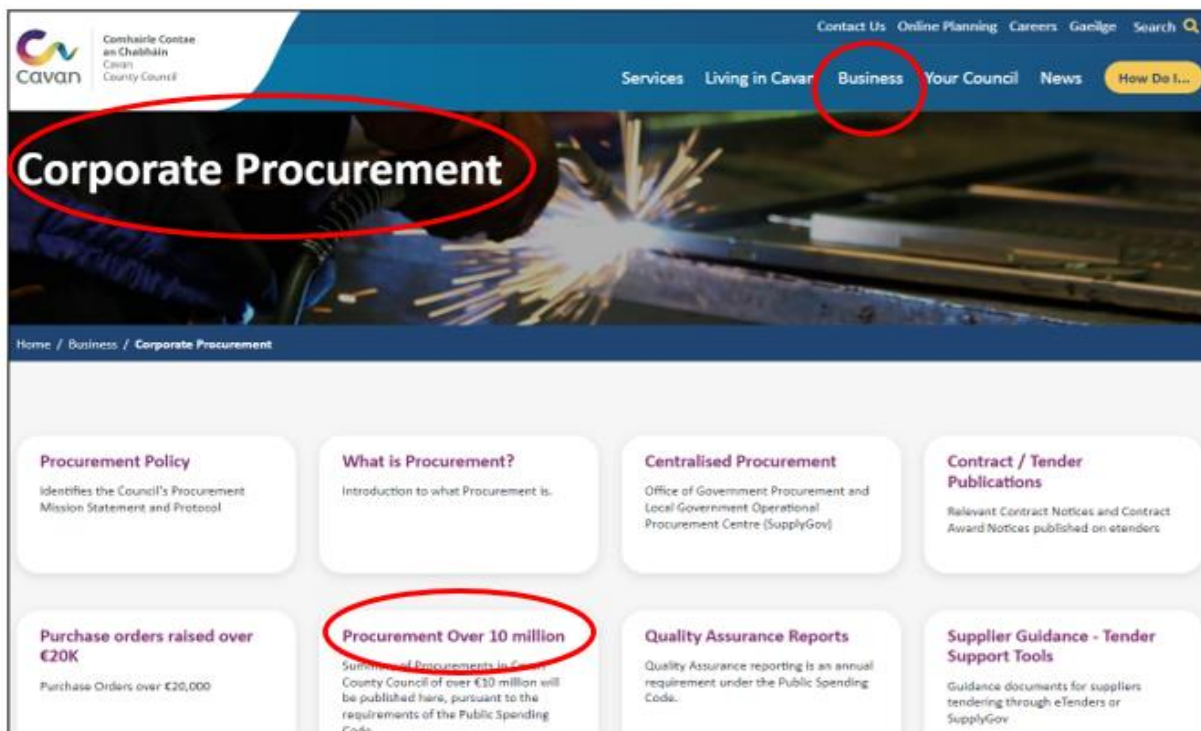
⁴ $<$ means less than.

2.3 - Published Summary of Procurements

As part of the Quality Assurance process Cavan County Council has published, summary information on the Council's website of all Procurements of Contracts in excess of €10m (where the procurement process is completed, and a contract is signed). Listed below is the link to this publication page and an illustration of its location. There are currently 2 projects listed. **1 new project** with Procurements of Contracts in excess of €10m (completed and Contract signed) was listed for the period 2022.

Link to Procurement Publications:

<https://www.cavancoco.ie/business/corporate-procurement/procurement-over-10-million/>



Source: www.cavancoco.ie

3. Assessment of Compliance

3.1 - Checklist Completion:

The third step in the Quality Assurance process involves completing a set of checklists covering all expenditure. The high-level checks in Step 3 of the QA process are based on a sample of self-assessments carried out within the relevant sections / departments of Cavan County Council in respect of guidelines set out in the Public Spending Code.

There are seven checklists in total:

- **Checklist 1:** General Obligations not specific to individual projects/programmes
- **Checklist 2:** Capital Expenditure being considered – Appraisal and Approval.
- **Checklist 3:** Current Expenditure being considered – Appraisal and Approval.
- **Checklist 4:** Incurring Capital Expenditure
- **Checklist 5:** Incurring Current Expenditure
- **Checklist 6:** Capital Expenditure recently completed.
- **Checklist 7:** Current expenditure that (i) reached the end of its planned timeframe or (ii) was discontinued

3.2 – Procedure used:

Checklist 1 - The first checklist captures obligations / good practice that apply to the organisation as a whole. This was completed by the Procurement Officer as Coordinator of the QA Report.

Checklist 2-7 – Cavan County Council, compiled a full set of checklists for the organisation, based on the sample of individual checklists completed by the relevant sections / departments within Cavan County Council.

In accordance with the current Guidelines, an appropriate sample of projects / areas of expenditure (as identified in the Inventory list), from relevant sections / departments within Cavan County Council were chosen to help inform the completion of each relevant overall checklist.

3.3 - Choosing appropriate Samples

The total value of expenditure from the Councils inventory list for 2022 = **€862,239,054.89**.

The following **18 samples** were chosen representing **9%** of this total expenditure.

- a) **Current Expenditure** - Total value of Current Expenditure identified = **€ 77,622,189.44**
 Total value of Current Expenditure sampled = **€ 12,658,290.29**

The following **9** service types were selected from the **38** identified in the inventory list for 2022. These account for **16%** of the total current expenditure identified. To achieve a greater spread of sample, a Service Type under expenditure type 1 was chosen and one Service Type from each relevant Service Division was chosen under expenditure type 2. **Note:** - No Current Expenditure Projects/Programmes ended in **2022**.

Service Division	Expenditure Type	Service Type	Increase in Proposed Exp from 2022 Budget to 2023 Budget
Division B-Road Transport & Safety	1	Level of Increase proposed for 2023 service cost - B04 - Local Road - Maintenance and Improvement	€711,763.25

Service Division	Expenditure Type	Service Type	Service (Current) Expenditure
Division A-Housing and Building	2	A03 - Housing Rent and Tenant Purchase Administration	€ 577,190.58
Division B-Road Transport & Safety	2	B09 - Car Parking	€ 654,546.94
Division C-Water Services	2	C01 - Water Supply	€ 2,796,925.51
Division D-Development Management	2	D06 - Community and Enterprise Function	€ 3,050,025.19
Division E-Environmental Services	2	E05 - Litter Management	€ 634,817.10
Division F-Recreation and Amenity	2	F02 - Operation of Library and Archival Service	€ 2,397,229.65
Division G-Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	2	G04 - Veterinary Service	€ 717,472.84
Division H-Miscellaneous Services	2	H11 - Agency & Recoupable Services	€ 1,118,319.23

Expenditure Type :- 1 = Being Considered, 2 = Being Incurred, 3 = Recently Ended

b) Capital Expenditure - Total value of Capital Expenditure identified = **€784,616,865.45**
 Total value of Capital Expenditure sampled = **€ 63,436,954.05**

The following **9** Capital Projects/Programmes were selected from the **103** Capital Projects/Programmes identified in the inventory list for 2022. These account for **8%** of the total capital expenditure identified. To achieve a greater spread of sample, a minimum of 3 samples from each expenditure type was chosen.

Service Division	Expenditure Type	Project/ Programme Description	Capital Expenditure
Division B-Road Transport & Safety	1	R188 Safety Improvement Measures at Rathkenny	€ 20,000,000.00
Division E-Environmental Services	1	Kingscourt Fire Station	€ 500,000.00
Division F-Recreation and Amenity	1	Killykeen	€ 1,250,000.00
Division A-Housing and Building	2	11506417 - Mullagh-Construction of 19 Units	€ 3,401,296.00
Division D-Development Management	2	45000012 - Abbeylands Project	€ 25,000,000.00
Division F-Recreation and Amenity	2	64802383 - Burren/Shannon Pot Project	€ 6,477,996.00
Division A-Housing and Building	3	2022 Allocation - Housing Adaptation Grant Schemes For Older People and People with a Disability (Private Dwellings) (13500001/13500003(HGD), 13802036/13802037(MOP), 13900001/13900003(HAG), 13700001/13700003(New Build))	€ 1,709,158.00
Division A-Housing and Building	3	11506604 - CAS Scheme - 29 Units at Castlemanor Cavan	€ 2,889,217.50
Division B-Road Transport & Safety	3	2221N873 - N87 Gartaquill to Mullaghduff	€ 2,209,286.55

Expenditure Type :- 1 = Being Considered, 2 = Being Incurred, 3 = Recently Ended

3.4. – Checklist Results:

The full set of checklists for Cavan County Council are set out in **Appendix 2** of this report. In addition to the self-assessed scoring, the vast majority of answers are accompanied by explanatory comments. Each question in the checklist is judged by a 3-point scoring scale – 1 = Scope for significant improvements, 2 = Compliant but with some improvement necessary, or 3 = Broadly Compliant. For questions, deemed not relevant, N/A is entered along with a comment.

3.5 - Main Issues Arising from Checklist Assessment

The completed checklists show the extent to which Cavan County Council believes it complies with the Public Spending Code. Overall, the checklists show a good level of compliance with the Code.

Cavan County Councils set of checklists takes an overview of expenditure covering the organisation as a whole. A sample of individual checklists from relevant sections / departments within Cavan County Council have informed the completion of the Councils overall checklists.

The following are the **main issues arising from the relevant checklist:-**

3.5.1 General Obligations:-

- a) Checklist 1 – General Obligations:** - 2022 is the ninth year of the Public Spending Code (PSC) in Local Government. The Checklist demonstrates good staff awareness and the Councils continued commitment to adhering to the PSC. A National training course/programme on the PSC specific for the Local Government Sector would be welcomed.

3.5.2 Expenditure being considered:-

- a) Checklist 2 – Capital Expenditure:** - The checklist for capital expenditure under consideration suggests good levels of compliance with the PSC in general with regard to areas such as appraisal, and complying with the relevant Approving Authorities requirements.
- b) Checklist 3 - Current Expenditure:** - The only projects and programmes identified under Current Expenditure “Being Considered” are those that had an increase in budget value of €0.5m or more in 2023 versus 2022. The Checklist for Current Expenditure “Being Considered” suggests a good level of compliance with the PSC through appraisal (assessed as part of the Budgetary Process) clear objectives, procurement, and complying with the relevant Approving Authorities requirements.

3.5.3 Expenditure being incurred:-

- a) Checklist 4 – Capital Expenditure:** - Good levels of compliance are evident, with regards, adhering to the relevant Approving Authorities guidelines and requirements, seeking approvals (if required), appointment of Project / Programme Co-Ordinators and Managers, Monitoring and having regular Meetings.
- b) Checklist 5 – Current Expenditure:** - The services identified are primarily rolling year to year. Services provided are statutory functions of the Local Authority and therefore have strict rules and regulations that must be complied with. The checklist provides good evidence of compliance with regards clear objectives, outputs and outcomes as identified in various Legislation, Statutory Regulations/Acts, Schemes, Programmes, Annual Budget Process, Service Delivery Plans, Business Plans and other relevant Plans, Strategies, Service Level Agreements, and other various reports/returns to the relevant Approving Authorities as required.

3.5.4 Expenditure that has recently ended - (Completed/Discontinued)

- a) Checklist 6 – Capital Expenditure:** - It is evident that completion reports or similar are undertaken on an ongoing basis or as and when required. The format for recording such reviews varies and may take place at different intervals as and when required by the project / programme.
- b) Checklist 7 Current Expenditure:** - No current expenditure programmes were ended in 2022.

3.6 - In-Depth Checks

This section details the in-depth checks which were carried out by Cavan County Councils Internal Auditor as part of the Public Spending Code.

The Quality Assurance Guidelines – version 4 (as amended), required closer examination of projects / programmes identified in the Inventory List for the year under review to be undertaken. It stipulates that Capital projects / programmes selected must represent a minimum of 5% of the total value of all Capital projects / programmes identified in the Inventory list and Current projects / programmes selected must represent a minimum of 1% of the total value of all Current (revenue) projects / programmes identified in the Inventory list.

Note: - This minimum can be an average over a three-year period.

For 2022 - The Internal Auditor selected one Current (revenue) Programme and two Capital Projects / Programmes for further in-depth checks. A summary of each is detailed below and the full in-depth checks as laid out in the prescribed forms, are set out in **Appendix 4**.

Current (revenue) Programme Selected –

1. **D06 - Community and Enterprise Function** - Total Current Expenditure Amount in 2022 = **€3,050,025.19**

This represents **4%** of the total value of all Current (revenue) projects / programmes identified in the Inventory list for **2022**.

Capital Projects / Programmes Selected –

1. **R188 Safety Improvement Measures at Rathkenny** - Total Projected Lifetime Expenditure = **€20,000,000.00**

2. **45000012 - Abbeylands Project** - Total Projected Lifetime Expenditure = **€ 25,000,000.00**

The two Capital Projects together represent **6%** of the total value of all Capital projects / programmes identified in the Inventory list for **2022**. The Average % over a 3-year period of Capital Projects / Programmes selected for In-Depth Check(s) (based on value) is **5%**.

Year	% (rounded) of Capital Projects /Programmes selected for In-Depth Check(s) (based on value)
2020	7%
2021	3%
2022	6%
Total % over 3-year period	16%
Average % over 3-year period	5%

3.6.1 D06 - Community and Enterprise Function – Current (revenue) Programme Expenditure Type – Expenditure Being Incurred

The following section presents a summary of the findings of this In-Depth Check on the **D06 Community and Enterprise Function Revenue Expenditure Programme** as managed by Cavan County Council.

Summary of the In-Depth Checks: Under section 4 of the Quality Assurance provisions contained in the Public Spending Code Cavan County Council is required to carry out an in-depth review on a minimum of 1% of the total value of all Revenue Projects on the PSC inventory list, averaged over a three-year period. In line with this requirement an in-depth review of the Council's D06 Community & Enterprise Function Revenue Expenditure Programme was undertaken. The value of this programme with expenditure incurred during 2022 was **€3,050,025.19** which represents approximately **4%** of the total value of the Council's Revenue Expenditure Projects of **€77,622,189.44**. On this basis over the last 3 years an **average of 8%** of the Council's Revenue Expenditure Programmes were selected for In-depth Reviews.

The Department of Community , Enterprise and Tourism is responsible for the Local Community Development Committee, SICAP, Leader Funding, the Clar Scheme, Town and Village Revitalisation, Social Inclusion Initiatives, Health Cavan Initiatives, Cavan Food Strategy, Cavan Sports Partnership, Bridge Street Resource House, Peace Programmes, Comhairle na Nog (Junior Council), Cathaoirleach's Awards, the Tourism Office and other major events such as the Walking Festival, Bike Week and Pride of Place Awards. This Council Department also supports and funds the Public Partnership Network which is an independent network of Community and Voluntary Groups in County Cavan that has a remit for improving engagement with citizens. There were 304 voluntary groups registered with the PPN at 31/12/2022.

The LCDC remit covers oversight of various programmes and funding streams for the county including SICAP (Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme) Leader and Peace Programmes. The LCDC is also responsible for the community elements of the Local Economic Community Plan while the Corporate Policy Group of the Council is responsible for the economic element of this plan. Implementation of the LECP actions is ongoing including the drafting of a new 6 year plan for 2023-2029.

The Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2018-2022 and the Leader Funding Programme are delivered via the Local Development Company, Breffni Integrate CLG on behalf of the LCDC. The relevant procurement / tender procedures were applied to the service contracts with the necessary SLA agreements put in place. During 2022 SICAP supported seven hundred Individuals and 47 local community groups exceeding targets for both KP1 and KP2 performance indicators.

In 2022 there were 13 projects approved for Leader Funding amounting to €888,779.70 with 43 verified claims totalling €2,214,219.09 paid to grant applicants facilitating social, economic and rural development projects throughout the County. Oversight of the Leader Funding grants applications is carried out by the Local Action Group (LAG) with Article 48 Checks undertaken by the Council. In general the Review Team was satisfied that there are stringent internal and external governance controls processes applied to both SICAP and the Leader Funding Programme.

The prime role of the Social Inclusion Unit is to improve services for marginalised communities and to work on an interagency basis to address poverty and exclusion in the County. Over the years there has been significant support provided to social inclusion projects including the Age Friendly

Programme, Cavan Older People's Council, Cavan Traveller Interagency Group, the Childrens and Young People's Services Committee, the Drug and Alcohol Forum, and Social Inclusion Initiatives covered under the LECP and SICAP which supports communities to take advantage of equal opportunities afforded to them by a modern society.

Over 50% of the D06 Revenue Expenditure Programme is government funded while the balance is funded from the Council's own revenue resources or budget. The relevant government funding agreements and allocations notices were available and management of the various elements of programmes appeared to be implemented in accordance with the various department circulars. The Local Economic & Community Plan 2017-2021 together with Local Development Strategy for Leader Programme 2016 and the Annual Business Service Plan for 2022 clearly identifies the core objectives, activities, proposed outputs and outcomes of the Community, Enterprise and Tourism Functions of the Council which are regularly monitored by all the relevant stakeholders.

In general all elements of this revenue programme were appraised, planned and implemented in accordance the annual budget processes, financial management procedures, procurement protocols and risk management procedures of the Council. Ongoing assessments of the key KPIs are undertaken by the Programme Implementor, the LCDC and the Senior Executive Team of Cavan County Council. On completing the review Internal Audit formed the opinion that the D06 Community & Enterprise Function Revenue Expenditure Programme of Cavan County Council appeared to be effectively managed in 2022.

Based on the findings of the In-depth Review Internal Audit is of the opinion that the D06 Revenue Expenditure Programme was **broadly / substantially compliant** with the relevant requirements of the Public Spending Code.

3.6.2 R188 Safety Improvement Measures at Rathkenny – Capital Project Expenditure Type – Expenditure Being Considered

The following section presents a summary of the findings of this In-Depth Check on **the R188 Safety Improvement Measures at Rathkenny Proposed Capital Project** as managed by Cavan County Council.

Summary of In-Depth Checks: Under Section 4 of the Quality Assurance Provisions contained in the Public Spending Code Cavan County Council is required to carry out an in-depth review on a minimum of 5% of the total value of all Capital Projects on the PSC inventory list averaged over a three-year period. The overall estimated lifetime value of Cavan County Council's Capital Projects in 2022 amounts to **€784,616,865.45**. In-depth Reviews were carried out on two capital projects with a combined value of **6%** of all Capital projects identified in the inventory list. The average % over a 3-year period of Capital Projects selected for In-Depth Check(s) (based on value) is **5%**.

An In-depth Review was undertaken on the **R188 Safety Improvement Measures at Rathkenny Road's Capital Project (Under Consideration)**. The estimated lifetime cost of this project is **€20 million** which represents approximately **2.5%** of the overall value of the Council's Capital Projects. A second In-depth Review was undertaken on **Abbeylands Capital Project with (Expenditure Incurred)** by the Council. The estimated lifetime value of this project was **€25 million** which represents approximately **3.2%** of the total value of the Capital Projects in 2022.

This project was derived from a strategic study into the development of an East-West Link Road between Dundalk and Sligo which was initially completed in December 2001 - Strategic Study of the Development of an East West Link Road – 2001 NRA, CCC, Kirk McClure Morton, Brady Shipman Martin, Fitzpatrick Associates. - 5211.00/Dec.2001. With a view of progressing this project a number of studies were subsequently undertaken by the appointed consultants Roughan & O'Donovan – AECOM Alliance JV in 2009 /2010.

A Preliminary Design was completed in 2012 but unfortunately at that time due to funding restrictions it was not possible to progress the Cavan to Dundalk project through to planning and implementation stages.

In 2018 the project was re-appraised by Cavan County Council in accordance with the Department of Transport Tourism and Sport, Common Appraisal Framework for Transport Projects. A draft Stage 1 Preliminary Appraisal was prepared in 2019 by Roughan & O'Donovan – AECOM Alliance JV and submitted to the DOT. Subsequent discussions between Cavan County Council, the Department and ROD-AECOM JV concluded that a risk-based analysis of the route should be carried out to identify high-risk priority sections of the proposed scheme. This was completed in 2022 with the publishing of the following report - Cavan to Dundalk Strategic Regional Route Risk Based Safety Improvement Measures Report on Recommendations – Volume 1 June 2022 RODAECOM JV. Concept safety improvement measures for 9 priority sections within Cavan were identified and assessed using the RibGeom model to assess their effectiveness.

The Council focused on the Rathkenny Bends on the R188 between Cavan Town and Cootehill Town as priority of the 3 locations outlined in the RibGeom analysis. This 3.7 km section of the R188 Regional Road has sub-standard geometry, stopping sight distance and unforgiving verges that has results in a high number of collisions, with six minor collisions, one serious collision and one fatal collision recorded in a 20-year period over. On this basis it is proposed to advance the necessary work for development as a safety improvement scheme.

The Safety Improvement Measures at Rathkenny is currently under consideration and the initial appraisal phases 0 - 2 (Gate 0) of the project lifecycle has just commenced with the appointment

of the technical consultants to prepare the SAR (Strategic Assessment Report) which is required under the TII Project Management Guidelines and the PSC. An assessment of the tenders received for the Technical Consultancy Services for the Preparation of the SAR identified the winning tender with a recommendation to accept the most economically advantageous tender. Roughan & O'Donovan was awarded the contract. As required by the Public Spending Code and the Project Management Guidelines the initial project appraisals (Phase 0- 2) appear to have been strategically managed to date with the view of achieving the prime objective of the scheme and maximising the proposed outputs and outcomes.

Based on findings of the In-depth Review on the Proposed R188 Safety Improvement Measures at Rathkenny Road's Capital Project the audit opinion is that Cavan County Council appears to be **broadly / substantially compliant** with the relevant requirements of the Public Spending Code.

3.6.3 45000012 - Abbeylands Project – Capital Project Expenditure Type – Expenditure Being Incurred

The following section presents a summary of the findings of this In-Depth Check on the **Abbeylands Capital Project** as managed by Cavan County Council.

Summary of In-Depth Check: Under Section 4 of the Quality Assurance Provisions contained in the Public Spending Code Cavan County Council is required to carry out an in-depth review on a minimum of 5% of the total value of all Capital Projects on the PSC inventory list averaged over a three-year period. The overall estimated lifetime value of Cavan County Council's Capital Projects in 2022 amounts to **€784,616,865.45**. In-depth Reviews were carried out on two capital projects with a combined value of **6%** of all Capital projects identified in the inventory list. The **average % over a 3-year period of Capital Projects** selected for In-Depth Check(s) (based on value) is **5%**.

An In-depth Review was undertaken on the proposed **Abbeylands Capital Project with (Expenditure Incurred)** with an estimated lifetime value of **€25 million** which represents approximately **3.2%** of the total value of the Capital Projects in 2022. A second In-depth Review was undertaken on. **R188 Safety Improvement Measures at Rathkenny Road's Capital Project (Under Consideration)**. The estimated lifetime cost of this project is **€20 million** which represents approximately **2.5%** of the overall value of the Council's Capital Projects

This project relates to the regeneration of "Abbeylands", a site of rich historical significance in the heart of Cavan Town, which is under-utilised and under-developed and has the potential to act as a catalyst and an unlocking mechanism for private sector investment. It is proposed to develop and implement a scheme of works to create a public and civic space in the town core with the Abbeylands site as its core and to create the first pedestrianised area to rejuvenate the town centre.

Phase 1 of the Masterplan provides for the construction of a Remote Working Centre / Business Development Hub and a Community Services Centre, both of which are to be framed around a new central civic space and linked pedestrian streets. Cavan Town URDF town core brownfield regeneration project fully adheres to the fundamental principles of the NWR Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy such as Compact Growth, Climate Change, Quality of Life, Education, Job Creation, Community Needs, Housing, Heritage and Urban Regeneration. It provides synergy with Local Plans i.e. Cavan County Council Corporate Plan 2019-2024, Cavan Town and Environs Development Plan 2014-2020, Cavan County Council Climate Adaption Strategy 2019-2024 and the new County Development Plan - Cavan County Development Plan 2022-2028 including a Local Area Plan for Cavan Town area.

In Sept 2018 an application was submitted by CCC for funding under the URDF seeking 75% of the indicative costs of the proposed project with a commitment given that 25% of the overall costs would be funded directly by the local authority. Following the completion of the initial appraisal and planning phases of the project lifecycle CCC received Department approval to progress the Abbeylands Masterplan to Decision Gate 2 of the process. Moving forward CCC tendered for a suitably qualified and experienced consultant firm to provide an Architect led Multidisciplinary Integrated Design Team for the delivery of Phase 1 of the project in full, from Stage (ii) Design through to Stage (v) Handover as per the Construction Works Management Framework (CWMF) and a Project Brief and Procurement Strategy.

The Review found that the initial development assessments of the Abbeylands Project including the submissions to Department to be in accordance with the necessary project appraisals outlined in the Public Spending Code Regulations.

The proposed project appears to have been strategically managed to date with the view of achieving the prime objectives of the Abbeylands Development and maximising the proposed outputs and outcomes. Based on the findings of the In-depth Review of initial phases of the Abbeylands Project the audit opinion is that Cavan County Council appears to be **broadly / substantially compliant** with the relevant requirements of the Public Spending Code.

4. Next Steps: Addressing Quality Assurance Issues

Through the completion of this Quality Assurance (QA) report, Cavan County Council is satisfied that it is meeting the obligations set out in the Public Spending Code (PSC). Assurances have been collated, by sampling various projects / programmes, by conducting in-depth checks and from signed letters/Memos of assurance of compliance with the Public Spending Code submitted annually by each Head of Section / Department.

The completion of the five steps of the QA Process is very important and the process will continue to be embedded into how Cavan County Council conducts its business. However, this report must again note that the QA process is extremely time consuming, and the administrative burden of the QA process has not eased over time as had been expected. This report also recommends the importance of Training and would welcome a national training course/programme on the PSC specific for the Local Government Sector.

Going forward, It is envisaged that the 5 steps of the Quality Assurance element of the PSC will continue to be coordinated by the Procurement Officer with in-depth checks being undertaken by the Internal Auditor. It is also recommended that the Quality Assurance report will continue to be published on the Council's website.

Finally, as not all Sections / Departments will be subject to in-depth checks, Letters/Memos of assurance of compliance with the Public Spending Code will continue to be sought annually from the Heads of each Section / Department. This will provide a basic level of comfort to the Chief Executive and Acting Head of Finance with regard to each section's compliance with the Code.

5. Conclusion

The publication of this report fulfils Cavan County Councils obligation to produce a summary report outlining its expenditure and level of compliance with the PSC. Overall, the report noted that the checklists completed by Cavan County Council showed a high level of compliance with the Public Spending Code and the in-depth checks carried out on a selection of projects / programmes revealed no major issues which would cast doubt on the Councils compliance with the Code.

The inventory outlined in this report clearly lists the current and capital expenditure for the 2022 period under the 3 different expenditure stages - expenditure being considered, expenditure being incurred, and expenditure recently ended (Completed/Discontinued).

Cavan County Council has and will continue to publish details of all procurements of Contracts in excess of €10m (where the procurement process is completed, and a contract is signed) on its website as and when they arise. There was **1 new project** with Procurements of Contracts in excess of €10m (completed and Contract signed) listed for the period 2022. There are currently 2 projects listed with summary information published on Cavan County Council's website.

The samples used to inform the Self-Assessed Compliance Checklists were very useful and showed the Council to be broadly compliant with the PSC.

The in-depth reviews undertaken by the Internal Auditor also showed the Council to be **Broadly/Substantially compliant** (see Appendix 3) with the relevant requirements of the PSC.

This QA report demonstrates Cavan County Councils commitment to meeting its requirements with the PSC and where improvements can be made, they will be addressed accordingly.

Appendix 1

Cavan County Council

2022 Inventory of Projects and Programmes over €0.5m

The following contains an inventory of Expenditure on Projects / Programmes with a value above €0.5m, categorised by: -

- Expenditure **being considered**,
- Expenditure **being incurred** and
- Expenditure **recently ended** (Completed/Discontinued)

Only projects with Total Project Expenditure matching these criteria are included in the Inventory table

Expenditure being Considered - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)

Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Anticipated Timeline	Projected Lifetime Expenditure	Explanatory Notes
Housing & Building							
2023 Allocation - Housing Adaptation Grant Schemes For Older People and People with a Disability (Private Dwellings) (13500001/13500003(HGD),13802036/13802037(MOP), 13900001/13900003(HAG), 13700001/13700003(New Build))	Housing Adaptation Grant Schemes For Older People and People with a Disability (Private Dwellings)	N/a	N/a	N/a	2023 Programme	€1,541,043.00	20% funded by the Local Authority
CAS Scheme - River Street Reconfiguration	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€803,045.00	100% funded by Government Grant
6 Units – Town Centre, Cootehill (Part Construction)	Turnkey Dev	N/a	N/a	N/a	2022-2024 (approx)	€1,843,527.00	100% funded by Government Grant
50 Units – Swellan Lwr, Cavan (Part Construction)	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€10,000,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
12 Units- Derrylurgan Court	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€2,357,101.00	100% funded by Government Grant
8 Units - Ashgrove BJD	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	2021-2025 (approx)	€1,494,414.00	100% funded by Government Grant
3 Units -Dunaree	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€659,044.00	100% funded by Government Grant
31 Units at Lios na Ri Cootehill	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€6,200,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
4 Units Drumbarlow Road Belturbet	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€1,151,436.00	100% funded by Government Grant
13 Units Mossy Meadows Cavan	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€3,486,324.00	100% funded by Government Grant
7 Units Ballyhaise	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€1,895,004.00	100% funded by Government Grant
8 Units Portaliffe	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€1,959,892.00	100% funded by Government Grant
4 Units Yew Park Virginia	Turnkey Dev	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€1,320,349.00	100% funded by Government Grant
Level of Increase proposed for 2023 service cost - A01 - Maintenance & Improvement of LA Housing Units	A01 - Maintenance & Improvement of LA Housing Units	€556,703.05	N/a	N/a	2023	€ -	
Level of Increase proposed for 2023 service cost - A07 - RAS Programme	A07 - RAS Programme	€811,218.80	N/a	N/a	2023	€ -	

Expenditure being Considered - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)

Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Anticipated Timeline	Projected Lifetime Expenditure	Explanatory Notes
Road Transportation and Safety							
N87 Killyaun	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€1,000,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
N87 Swanlinbar to Borim	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€1,000,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
N3 Kilmore Roundabout to Pollamore	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€900,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
N54 Kilnaglare Realignment	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€9,500,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
East West Road (Dundalk to Sligo) SRLR Scheme	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€127,300,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
Cavan Town Multi Storey Car park Refurbishment Project	Cavan Town Multi Storey Car park Refurbishment Project	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€3,000,000.00	100% funded by the Local Authority
RMO Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project	RMO Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€2,600,000.00	10% funded by Government Grant
R188 Safety Improvement Measures at Rathkenny	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€20,000,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
N54 Butlersbridge to border (Phase 1)	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	2023-2024 (approx)	€4,400,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
N54 Butlersbridge to border (Phase 2)	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	2024-2025 (approx)	€4,000,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
N3 Whitegate to Maghera	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	2023-2024 (approx)	€3,600,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
N55 Cavan to Longford border	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	2023-2024 (approx)	€3,000,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
Level of Increase proposed for 2023 service cost - B04 - Local Road - Maintenance and Improvement	B04 - Local Road - Maintenance and Improvement	€711,763.25	N/a	N/a	2023	€ -	
Environmental Services							
Waste Management Corranure	Design, Construction, Monitoring, Maintenance and Capping and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€800,000.00	100% funded by the Local Authority
Kingscourt Fire Station	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	2022-2025 (approx)	€500,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant

Expenditure being Considered - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)

Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Anticipated Timeline	Projected Lifetime Expenditure	Explanatory Notes
Recreation and Amenity							
Cavan Sports Campus	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€30,000,000.00	30% funded by the Local Authority
Ballyjamesduff Regeneration Project Phase 2 Percy French	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€8,000,000.00	25% funded by the Local Authority
Cootehill Enterprise Park	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€880,000.00	25% funded by the Local Authority
Virginia Enterprise Park	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€2,100,000.00	25% funded by the Local Authority
Food Innovation Hub	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€1,330,000.00	100% funded by the Local Authority
Future Regeneration Projects	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€3,800,000.00	25% funded by the Local Authority
Killykeen	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€1,250,000.00	25% funded by the Local Authority
Bailieboro Regeneration Project	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€2,500,000.00	25% funded by the Local Authority
Amenity Park Development	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	2023-2026 (approx)	€500,000.00	100% funded by the Local Authority
Dun A Ri Forest upgrade work and development of a Natural play Area	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	2022-2023 (approx)	€501,435.00	10% Funded by Local Authority
Level of Increase proposed for 2023 service cost - F02 - Operation of Library and Archival Service	F02 - Operation of Library and Archival Service	€575,613.79	N/a	N/a	2023	€ -	
Level of Increase proposed for 2023 service cost - F05 - Operation of Arts Programme	F05 - Operation of Arts Programme	€506,181.07	N/a	N/a	2023	€ -	
Miscellaneous Services							
Museum	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	N/a	N/a	N/a	TBD	€2,500,000.00	15% funded by the Local Authority
Totals		€3,161,479.96	€ -	€ -		€269,672,614.00	

Expenditure being Incurred - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)

Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Anticipated Timeline	Cumulative Expenditure to-date	Projected Lifetime Expenditure (Capital Only)	Explanatory Notes
Housing & Building								
11506417 - Mullagh- Construction of 19 Units	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€1,461,845.95	€ -	2018-2024 (approx)	€2,481,736.24	€3,401,296.00	100% funded by Government Grant
11506509 - Corstruce Ballinagh - Construction of 4 Units	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€268,644.84	€ -	2018-2023 (approx)	€687,186.23	€808,874.00	100% funded by Government Grant
11506517 - St Brigids Terrace Cavan - Construction of 20 Units.	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€402,920.07	€ -	2020-2025 (approx)	€443,841.06	€7,399,817.00	100% funded by Government Grant
11506522 - Elm Grove Cavan - Construction of 13 Units.	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€856,773.00	€ -	2018-2024 (approx)	€1,296,874.31	€3,246,030.00	100% funded by Government Grant
11506531 - 3 Units – Cluin Dara, Kingscourt (Part Construction)	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€14,984.11	€ -	2019-2023 (approx)	€669,840.29	€684,312.00	100% funded by Government Grant
11506533 - 15 Units – Cavan Road, Ballinagh	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€1,669,896.69	€ -	2019-2024 (approx)	€3,099,434.63	€3,391,308.00	100% funded by Government Grant
11506536 - Butlersbridge - Main Street - Construction of 6 Units	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€553,736.57	€ -	2019-2024 (approx)	€1,289,155.78	€1,353,612.00	100% funded by Government Grant
11506585- 45 Units at Eastboro Bailieborough	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€65,614.04	€ -	2020-2025 (approx)	€463,325.63	€13,007,236.00	100% funded by Government Grant
11506625 - ACC CALF 34 Units - The Gallops	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€ -	€ -	2019-2023 (approx)	€2,007,002.49	€2,328,492.00	100% funded by Government Grant
11506635 - 3 Units, Fairymount Close, Kingscourt (Part)	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€131,319.78	€ -	2021-2023 (approx)	€233,502.98	€829,331.00	100% funded by Government Grant
11506640 32 units at Woodlands Ballyjamesduff	Turnkey	€ -	€738.00	€ -	2020-2024 (approx)	€738.00	€8,315,550.00	100% funded by Government Grant
11506671 - 43 units at Mullaghduff Ballyconnell Co Cavan- Turnkey	Turnkey	€ -	€4,133,193.43	€ -	2020-2024 (approx)	€4,183,860.58	€9,442,176.00	100% funded by Government Grant
11506683 - ACC CALF 25 No. Houses (Tuath) Drumalee Manor, Drumalee, Cavan	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€477,300.00	€ -	2021-2023 (approx)	€942,300.00	€1,162,500.00	100% funded by Government Grant

Expenditure being Incurred - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)

Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Anticipated Timeline	Cumulative Expenditure to-date	Projected Lifetime Expenditure (Capital Only)	Explanatory Notes
Housing & Building (condt)								
11506690 - CAS St Killians Housing Mullagh	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	-€230,107.40	€ -	2021-2023 (approx)	€651,567.93	€881,676.00	100% funded by Government Grant
11506693 - 8 Units at Widows Row Belturbet	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€7,961.53	€ -	2021-2024 (approx)	€35,415.09	€2,579,790.00	100% funded by Government Grant
11506736 - 3 Units The Duckin Stool Belturbet	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€4,177.74	€ -	2022-2024 (approx)	€123,827.58	€829,874.00	100% funded by Government Grant
11506763 4 Units Kilnaleck	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€1,457.79	€ -	2022-2025 (approx)	€1,457.79	€873,463.00	100% funded by Government Grant
11506769 7 Units Kilnaleck	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€254,723.04	€ -	2022-2025 (approx)	€254,723.04	€1,546,042.00	100% funded by Government Grant
11506795 5 Units Kilnavara Lane	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€5,153.75	€ -	2022-2025 (approx)	€5,153.75	€1,431,670.00	100% funded by Government Grant
A01 - Maintenance & Improvement of LA Housing Units	A01 - Maintenance & Improvement of LA Housing Units	€3,256,131.35	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
A03 - Housing Rent and Tenant Purchase Administration	A03 - Housing Rent and Tenant Purchase Administration	€577,190.58	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
A06 - Support to Housing Capital Prog.	A06 - Support to Housing Capital Prog.	€603,032.90	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
A07 - RAS Programme	A07 - RAS Programme	€5,404,175.07	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
Road Transportation and Safety								
22100010 - Butlersbridge/Belturbet	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€2,676.39	€ -	1996-2024 (approx)	€50,264,927.18	€51,000,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
22100057 - N3 Virginia Bypass	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€857,624.92	€ -	2018-2030 (approx)	€1,942,801.85	€190,000,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
221002N3 - N3 Virginia Town Pavement	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€593,866.08	€ -	2019-2024 (approx)	€760,332.09	€1,200,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
221008N3 - N3 Virginia Town Safety and Pavement Scheme	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€679,233.39	€ -	2019-2024 (approx)	€1,107,791.99	€1,200,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
221009N3 - N3 Lisgrea Pavement Overlay	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€ -	€ -	2021-2023 (approx)	€34,076.85	€3,280,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant

Expenditure being Incurred - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)								
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Anticipated Timeline	Cumulative Expenditure to-date	Projected Lifetime Expenditure (Capital Only)	Explanatory Notes
Road Transportation and Safety (condt)								
22100N55 - N55 Moynehall to Pollamore Pavement Scheme	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€1,508,359.41	€ -	2022-2030 (approx)	€1,508,359.41	€1,610,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
22101N55 - N55 Ballinagh Traffic Relief Scheme	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€15,965.40	€ -	2022-2030 (approx)	€15,965.40	€19,700,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
22111N3L - N3 Dublin Road Roundabout	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€19,897.71	€ -	2018-2027 (approx)	€104,603.28	€5,000,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
2221155C - N55 -Corduff To South Of Killydoon - Section B	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€504,568.79	€ -	2011-2025 (approx)	€1,889,958.31	€33,921,300.00	100% funded by Government Grant
2221N552 - N55 Ballinagh Town Pavement Overlay	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€943.90	€ -	2019-2023 (approx)	€1,105,396.75	€1,400,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
2221N876 - N87 Gartaquill to Mullaghduff - Phase 2	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€1,586,251.82	€ -	2021-2023 (approx)	€1,604,409.02	€1,720,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
22211550 - N55 -Corduff To South Of Killydoon - Section A	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€ -	€ -	2012-2023 (approx)	€10,859,336.63	€11,409,422.00	100% funded by Government Grant
28700312 - Rampart River Footbridge (River Blackwater Footbridge)	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€12,383.64	€ -	2022-2025 (approx)	€12,383.64	€2,800,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
28700319 - Cavan Urban Greenway - Phase 2	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€36,023.82	€ -	2021-2024 (approx)	€40,280.55	€3,200,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
28700428 - Crossdoney Village Regeneration	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€12,369.15	€ -	2022-2027 (approx)	€12,369.15	€555,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
28700429 - R191 Station Road Cootehill Pedestrian & Cycleway	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€41,171.15	€ -	2022-2025 (approx)	€41,171.15	€1,600,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
28700430 - Cavan Town Light Segregation Cycle Scheme A	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€2,690.01	€ -	2022-2024 (approx)	€2,690.01	€1,500,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
28700431 - Cavan Town Light Segregation Cycle Scheme B	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€34,833.72	€ -	2022-2024 (approx)	€34,833.72	€1,500,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
28702216 - Cavan Flood Relief Scheme	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€138,974.86	€ -	2020-2032 (approx)	€290,108.64	€7,500,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
28880034 - Virginia Carpark	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€6,000.00	€ -	2018-2023 (approx)	€535,337.92	€550,000.00	100% funded by the Local Authority

Expenditure being Incurred - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)

Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Anticipated Timeline	Cumulative Expenditure to-date	Projected Lifetime Expenditure (Capital Only)	Explanatory Notes
Road Transportation and Safety (condt)								
B01 - NP Road - Maintenance and Improvement	B01 - NP Road - Maintenance and Improvement	€2,112,958.61	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
B03 - Regional Road - Maintenance and Improvement	B03 - Regional Road - Maintenance and Improvement	€7,561,321.33	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
B04 - Local Road - Maintenance and Improvement	B04 - Local Road - Maintenance and Improvement	€14,914,094.07	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
B05 - Public Lighting	B05 - Public Lighting	€673,661.74	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
B09 - Car Parking	B09 - Car Parking	€654,546.94	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
B11 - Agency & Recoupable Services	B11 - Agency & Recoupable Services	€1,374,705.77	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
Water Services								
31200755 -Multi-Annual Rural Water Programme 2019 – 2021	Water - Capital Works	€ -	€237,577.45	€ -	2019-2023 (approx)	€772,132.13	€2,107,016.35	85% - 100% funded by Government Grant
C01 - Water Supply	C01 - Water Supply	€2,796,925.51	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
C02 - Waste Water Treatment	C02 - Waste Water Treatment	€1,689,601.60	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
C05 - Admin of Group and Private Installations	C05 - Admin of Group and Private Installations	€5,148,356.86	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
Development Management								
45000012 - Abbeylands Project	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€64,936.34	€ -	2020-2026 (approx)	€1,480,117.42	€25,000,000.00	25% funded by the Local Authority
45000016 - Destination Towns (including overall Town Hall Public Realm)	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€156,655.73	€ -	2022-2023 (approx)	€186,579.80	€1,000,000.00	25% funded by local authority
D02 - Development Management	D02 - Development Management	€1,213,187.93	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
D05 - Tourism Development and Promotion	D05 - Tourism Development and Promotion	€727,296.69	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
D06 - Community and Enterprise Function	D06 - Community and Enterprise Function	€3,050,025.19	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
D09 - Economic Development and Promotion	D09 - Economic Development and Promotion	€1,943,014.04	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
D11 - Heritage and Conservation Services	D11 - Heritage and Conservation Services	€645,353.72	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	

Expenditure being Incurred - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)								
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Anticipated Timeline	Cumulative Expenditure to-date	Projected Lifetime Expenditure (Capital Only)	Explanatory Notes
Environmental Services								
54202054 - Ballyjamesduff Fire Station	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€1,136,826.95	€ -	2000-2023 (approx)	€1,507,444.04	€1,776,296.11	100% funded by Government Grant
54202055 - New Civil Defence Headquarters	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€82,550.99	€ -	2022-2024 (approx)	€82,550.99	€1,000,000.00	15% funded by Government Grant
E01 - Landfill Operation and Aftercare	E01 - Landfill Operation and Aftercare	€547,803.10	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
E05 - Litter Management	E05 - Litter Management	€634,817.10	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
E07 - Waste Regulations, Monitoring and Enforcement	E07 - Waste Regulations, Monitoring and Enforcement	€713,928.64	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
E10 - Safety of Structures and Places	E10 - Safety of Structures and Places	€505,850.97	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
E11 - Operation of Fire Service	E11 - Operation of Fire Service	€3,932,709.19	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
E13 - Water Quality, Air and Noise Pollution	E13 - Water Quality, Air and Noise Pollution	€579,728.05	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
Recreation and Amenity								
62201701 - Virginia Library	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€3,672,737.89	€ -	2018-2023 (approx)	€5,019,526.09	€5,800,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
64801002 Kingscourt Town Centre Regeneration Scheme	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€539,520.47	€ -	2021-2027 (approx)	€594,472.07	€12,000,000.00	25% funded by the Local Authority
64801003 - Cootehill Regeneration Scheme	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€213,490.17	€ -	2022-2024 (approx)	€213,490.17	€600,000.00	10% funded by local authority
64802383 - Burren/Shannon Pot Project	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€303,805.38	€ -	2022-2025 (approx)	€349,750.40	€6,477,996.00	25% funded by the Local Authority
64802385 - Cavan Greenway Project	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€19,567.56	€ -	2021-2026 (approx)	€209,744.02	€30,000,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
64820010 - Ballyconnell to Ballyhead Outdoor Recreation Trail.	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€221.40	€ -	2018-2023 (approx)	€684,520.04	€1,198,500.00	25% funded by the Local Authority
64820015 - Belturbet to Ballyconnell Greenway (Phase 1 to Kilcorby)	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	-€4,885.31	€ -	2018-2023 (approx)	€452,202.58	€1,900,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
F02 - Operation of Library and Archival Service	F02 - Operation of Library and Archival Service	€2,397,229.65	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	

Expenditure being Incurred - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)								
Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Anticipated Timeline	Cumulative Expenditure to-date	Projected Lifetime Expenditure (Capital Only)	Explanatory Notes
Recreation and Amenity (condt)								
F03 - Outdoor Leisure Areas Operations	F03 - Outdoor Leisure Areas Operations	€611,992.97	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
F04 - Community Sport and Recreational Development	F04 - Community Sport and Recreational Development	€1,572,245.84	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
F05 - Operation of Arts Programme	F05 - Operation of Arts Programme	€2,248,236.20	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare								
G04 - Veterinary Service	G04 - Veterinary Service	€717,472.84	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
Miscellaneous Services								
81100506 - Cootehill Industrial Park	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€113,441.41	€ -	2019-2023 (approx)	€1,150,785.93	€1,156,232.00	25% funded by the Local Authority
81101464- Ballyconnell Markethouse Regeneration Project	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€17,229.95	€ -	2022-2023 (approx)	€17,229.95	€883,000.00	10% funded by local authority
81101465 - Bailieboro Courthouse Regeneration Project	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€135,287.64	€ -	2022-2023 (approx)	€135,287.64	€1,574,300.00	10% funded by local authority
81102068 - Land Acquisition Sports Campus	Property Acquisition and Associated costs	€ -	€ -	€ -	2019-2023 (approx)	€503,288.81	€503,289.00	100% funded by the Local Authority
88800023 - Refurbishment Engineers Offices Farnham Street Cavan	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€12,265.82	€ -	2017-2027 (approx)	€177,881.51	€2,500,000.00	100% funded by the Local Authority
H01 - Profit & Loss Machinery Account	H01 - Profit & Loss Machinery Account	€862,087.93	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
H03 - Administration of Rates	H03 - Administration of Rates	€2,644,342.12	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
H09 - Local Representation & Civic Leadership	H09 - Local Representation & Civic Leadership	€1,028,365.75	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
H11 - Agency & Recoupable Services	H11 - Agency & Recoupable Services	€1,118,319.23	€ -	€ -	ongoing	N/a	N/a	
Totals		€74,460,709.48	€22,835,396.93	€ -		€104,575,080.53	€499,635,400.46	

Projects/Programmes Completed or discontinued in the reference year - Greater than €0.5m (Capital and Current)

Project/Scheme/Programme Name	Short Description	Current Expenditure Amount in Reference Year	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Non Grant)	Capital Expenditure Amount in Reference Year (Grant)	Project/Programme Completion Date	Final Outturn Expenditure	Explanatory Notes
Housing & Building							
2022 Allocation - Housing Adaptation Grant Schemes For Older People and People with a Disability (Private Dwellings) (13500001/13500003(HGD), 13802036/13802037(MOP), 13900001/13900003(HAG), 13700001/13700003(New Build))	Housing Adaptation Grant Schemes For Older People and People with a Disability (Private Dwellings)	€ -	€1,709,158.00	€ -	December 2022	€1,709,158.00	20% funded by the Local Authority
11506438 - Mullagh-Construction of 8 Units	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€ -	€ -	January 2022	€1,427,748.15	100% funded by Government Grant
11506556 - Turnkey Housing Development at Ashgrove	Turnkey	€ -	€ -	€ -	January 2022	€2,571,199.93	100% funded by Government Grant
11506590 - CALF Scheme - 19 No Units at Ramparts New Virginia	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€427,500.00	€ -	December 2022	€1,481,262.90	100% funded by Government Grant
11506604 - CAS Scheme - 29 Units at Castlemanor Cavan	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€37,368.00	€ -	November 2022	€2,889,217.50	100% funded by Government Grant
11506797 - CAS Scheme -7 Units at Loretto Woods	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€1,400,000.00	€ -	November 2022	€1,400,000.00	100% funded by Government Grant
Road Transportation and Safety							
22111N3J - N3 Virginia Main Street Safety Scheme	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€ -	€ -	January 2022	€1,120,977.96	100% funded by Government Grant
2221N873 - N87 Gartaquill to Mullaghduff	Design, Construction Works and Associated costs	€ -	€105,995.38	€ -	November 2022	€2,209,286.55	100% funded by Government Grant
Miscellaneous Services							
81102073- Market House Ballinagh	Property Acquisition and Associated costs	€ -	€500,000.00	€ -	December 2022	€500,000.00	38% funded by Government Grant
Totals		€ -	€4,180,021.38	€ -		€15,308,850.99	

Appendix 2

All Self-Assessment Checklists
(1 – 7)

For 2022

Cavan County Council

Checklist 1 – To be completed in respect of general obligations not specific to individual projects/programmes.

	General Obligations not specific to individual projects/programmes.	Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 - 3	Comment/Action Required
Q 1.1	Does the organisation ensure, on an ongoing basis, that appropriate people within the organisation and its agencies are aware of their requirements under the Public Spending Code (incl. through training)?	3	All relevant staff & agencies are notified of their obligations under the PSC, and each Head of Section is required to confirm their compliance by completing an Annual Assurance of Compliance form.
Q 1.2	Has internal training on the Public Spending Code been provided to relevant staff?	3	2022 is the 9th year of the PSC in Local Government. The PSC, the QA guidance (version 4) & the relevant Documents for 2022 were circulated to all relevant staff & they were instructed & advised on same. A National training course/programme on the PSC specific for the Local Government Sector would be welcomed.
Q 1.3	Has the Public Spending Code been adapted for the type of project/programme that your organisation is responsible for, i.e., have adapted sectoral guidelines been developed?	3	Where applicable the PSC is adapted, and each Head of Section is required to confirm their compliance by completing an Annual Assurance of Compliance form.
Q 1.4	Has the organisation in its role as Approving Authority satisfied itself that agencies that it funds comply with the Public Spending Code?	3	Each Head of Section is required to confirm their compliance with same in completing an Annual Assurance of Compliance form.
Q 1.5	Have recommendations from previous QA reports (incl. spot checks) been disseminated, where appropriate, within the organisation and to agencies?	3	Yes - Quality Assurance (QA) exercises, in-depth checks and additional Internal Auditor spot checks are sent to relevant Sections for review & application.
Q 1.6	Have recommendations from previous QA reports been acted upon?	3	Yes – Internal Auditor still conducts Spot checks outside of the PSC. Inventory list is updated Annually & Assurance of compliance with the PSC is sought on an annual basis from the heads of each Section / Departments / Agency
Q 1.7	Has an annual Public Spending Code QA report been submitted to and certified by the Chief Executive Officer, submitted to NOAC and published on the Local Authority's website?	3	Yes – QA Report has been certified by the A/Chief Executive, submitted to NOAC and published on the authority's website
Q 1.8	Was the required sample of projects/programmes subjected to in-depth checking as per step 4 of the QAP?	3	Yes - Required Sample reviewed
Q 1.9	Is there a process in place to plan for ex post evaluations? Ex-post evaluation is conducted after a certain period has passed since the completion of a target project with emphasis on the effectiveness and sustainability of the project.	2	Yes – if required. Historically – Where Post Project evaluations are part of the process, close out reports, and post project annual progress reports are submitted to the relevant Approving Authority as and when requested/required.
Q 1.10	How many formal evaluations were completed in the year under review? Have they been published in a timely manner?	3	2 out of the 9 projects/programmes that ended in 2022 had a completion report or similar carried out in 2022. Under the programme for Housing Adaptation Grant Schemes - All completed jobs were inspected after completion and prior to payment of the grants to ensure that works were done in accordance with the grant approval
Q 1.11	Is there a process in place to follow up on the recommendations of previous evaluations?	2	Historically - each evaluation/Post Project review is very much project specific, and where applicable findings are noted for future consideration.
Q 1.12	How have the recommendations of reviews and ex post evaluations informed resource allocation decisions?	2	Historically - Outcomes and Findings have made staff more aware of the importance of pre-project planning, realistic budgeting, and post project assessment.
Self-Assessed Ratings: 1 = Scope for significant improvements, 2 = Compliant but with some improvement necessary, 3 = Broadly Compliant. Or where appropriate - N/a			

Checklist 2 – To be completed in respect of capital projects/programmes & capital grant schemes that were under consideration in the past year.

	Capital Expenditure being Considered – Appraisal and Approval	Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 - 3	Comment/Action Required
Q 2.1	Was a Strategic Assessment Report (SAR) completed for all capital projects and programmes over €10m?	3	Yes – where applicable SAR's are submitted in accordance with the relevant Approving Authority guidelines and requirements..
Q 2.2	Were performance indicators specified for each project/programme which will allow for a robust evaluation at a later date? Have steps been put in place to gather performance indicator data?	3	Yes – where applicable in accordance with the relevant Approving Authority guidelines and requirements. (e.g. was included in a SAR).
Q 2.3	Was a Preliminary and Final Business Case, including appropriate financial and economic appraisal, completed for all capital projects and programmes?	N/A	Not Applicable, however where required this will be conducted in accordance with relevant Approving Authority guidelines and requirements.
Q 2.4	Were the proposal objectives SMART and aligned with Government policy including National Planning Framework, Climate Mitigation Plan etc?	3	Yes – where applicable in accordance with the relevant Approving Authority guidelines and requirements. (e.g. was included in a SAR).
Q 2.5	Was an appropriate appraisal method and parameters used in respect of capital projects or capital programmes/grant schemes?	N/A	Not Applicable, however where required this will be conducted in accordance with relevant Approving Authority guidelines and requirements.
Q 2.6	Was a financial appraisal carried out on all proposals and was there appropriate consideration of affordability?	N/A	Not Applicable, however where required this will be conducted in accordance with relevant Approving Authority guidelines and requirements.
Q 2.7	Was the appraisal process commenced at an early enough stage to inform decision making?	3	Yes – where applicable in accordance with the relevant Approving Authority guidelines and requirements. (e.g. was included in a SAR).
Q 2.8	Were sufficient options analysed in the business case for each capital proposal?	3	Yes – where applicable in accordance with the relevant Approving Authority guidelines and requirements. (e.g. was included in a SAR).
Q 2.9	Was the evidence base for the estimated cost set out in each business case? Was an appropriate methodology used to estimate the cost? Were appropriate budget contingencies put in place?	3	Yes – where applicable in accordance with relevant Approving Authority guidelines and requirements.
Q 2.10	Was risk considered and a risk mitigation strategy commenced? Was appropriate consideration given to governance and deliverability?	3	Yes – where applicable in accordance with the relevant Approving Authority guidelines and requirements. (e.g. was included in a SAR).
Q 2.11	Were the Strategic Assessment Report, Preliminary and Final Business Case submitted to DPER for technical review for projects estimated to cost over €100m?	N/A	Not Applicable, however where required this will be conducted in accordance with relevant Approving Authority guidelines and requirements.
Q 2.12	Was a detailed project brief including design brief and procurement strategy prepared for all investment projects?	N/A	Not Applicable, however where required this will be conducted in accordance with relevant Approving Authority guidelines and requirements.
Q 2.13	Were procurement rules (both National and EU) complied with?	N/A	Not Applicable, however where required this will be conducted in accordance with relevant procurement rules (both National and EU).
Q 2.14	Was the Capital Works Management Framework (CWMF) properly implemented?	N/A	Not Applicable, however where required the CWMF will be implemented .
Q 2.15	Were State Aid rules checked for all support?	N/A	Not Applicable, however where required this will be conducted in accordance with relevant Approving Authority guidelines and requirements.
Q 2.16	Was approval sought from the Approving Authority at all decision gates?	3	Yes – where applicable,
Q 2.17	Was Value for Money assessed and confirmed at each decision gate by Sponsoring Agency and Approving Authority?	N/A	Not Applicable, however where required this will be conducted in accordance with relevant Approving Authority guidelines and requirements.
Q 2.18	Was approval sought from Government through a Memorandum for Government at the appropriate decision gates for projects estimated to cost over €100m?	N/A	Not Applicable, however where required this will be conducted in accordance with relevant Approving Authority guidelines and requirements.

Self-Assessed Ratings:

1 = Scope for significant improvements, **2** = Compliant but with some improvement necessary, **3** = Broadly Compliant. Or where appropriate - N/a

Checklist 3 – To be completed in respect of new current expenditure under consideration in the past year.

	Current Expenditure being Considered – Appraisal and Approval	Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 - 3	Comment/Action Required
Q 3.1	Were objectives clearly set out?	3	Yes – Projects/programmes have a clear objective.
Q 3.2	Are objectives measurable in quantitative terms?	3	Yes – where applicable - in accordance with the relevant Approving Authority guidelines and requirements.
Q 3.3	Was a business case, incorporating financial and economic appraisal, prepared for new current expenditure proposals?	3	Yes – where applicable - in accordance with the relevant Approving Authority guidelines and requirements.
Q 3.4	Was an appropriate appraisal method used?	3	Yes – where applicable - in accordance with the relevant Approving Authority guidelines and requirements.
Q 3.5	Was an economic appraisal completed for all projects/programmes exceeding €20m or an annual spend of €5m over 4 years?	N/A	Not Applicable,
Q 3.6	Did the business case include a section on piloting?	N/A	Not Applicable,
Q 3.7	Were pilots undertaken for new current spending proposals involving total expenditure of at least €20m over the proposed duration of the programme and a minimum annual expenditure of €5m?	N/A	Not Applicable,
Q 3.8	Have the methodology and data collection requirements for the pilot been agreed at the outset of the scheme?	N/A	Not Applicable,
Q 3.9	Was the pilot formally evaluated and submitted for approval to the relevant Vote Section in DPER?	N/A	Not Applicable,
Q 3.10	Has an assessment of likely demand for the new scheme/scheme extension been estimated based on empirical evidence?	N/A	Not Applicable,
Q 3.11	Was the required approval granted?	N/A	Not Applicable,
Q 3.12	Has a sunset clause been set?	N/A	Not Applicable,
Q 3.13	If outsourcing was involved were both EU and National procurement rules complied with?	3	Yes – where applicable - procurement rules (both National and EU) are complied with.
Q 3.14	Were performance indicators specified for each new current expenditure proposal or expansion of existing current expenditure programme which will allow for a robust evaluation at a later date?	2	Yes – where applicable - in accordance with the relevant Approving Authority guidelines and requirements.
Q 3.15	Have steps been put in place to gather performance indicator data?	2	Yes – where applicable – Data is available and can be given to the relevant Approving Authority if required.
<p>Self-Assessed Ratings: 1 = Scope for significant improvements, 2 = Compliant but with some improvement necessary, 3 = Broadly Compliant. Or where appropriate - N/a</p>			

Checklist 4 – To be completed in respect of capital projects/programmes & capital grants schemes incurring expenditure in the year under review.

	Incurring Capital Expenditure	Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 - 3	Comment/Action Required
Q 4.1	Was a contract signed and was it in line with the Approval given at each Decision Gate?	3	Yes – Contracts were signed and where necessary approval from the relevant Approving Authority was acquired.
Q 4.2	Did management boards/steering committees meet regularly as agreed?	3	Yes – where applicable, Regular Meetings did take place
Q 4.3	Were programme co-ordinators appointed to co-ordinate implementation?	3	Yes – where applicable this is done by Council Staff or outsourced to Consultants/Contractors.
Q 4.4	Were project managers, responsible for delivery, appointed and were the project managers at a suitably senior level for the scale of the project?	3	Yes – the Project Managers appointed were at a suitably senior level for the scale of the project.
Q 4.5	Were monitoring reports prepared regularly, showing implementation against plan, budget, timescales and quality?	3	Yes – where applicable regular monitoring and progress reports were carried out in accordance with the relevant Approving Authorities guidelines and requirements.
Q 4.6	Did projects/programmes/grant schemes keep within their financial budget and time schedule?	3	Yes – However due to challenges in respect of COVID 19, Supply difficulties and Delays, Price Inflation, increase in Fuel and Energy costs etc some agreed changes to budgets and time scales were necessary.
Q 4.7	Did budgets have to be adjusted?	3	Yes – where applicable, Budgets were adjusted.
Q 4.8	Were decisions on changes to budgets / time schedules made promptly?	3	Yes – where applicable
Q 4.9	Did circumstances ever warrant questioning the viability of the project/programme/grant scheme and the business case (exceeding budget, lack of progress, changes in the environment, new evidence, etc.)?	3	Yes – where applicable. Preliminary Business Case (PBC) highlighted inflationary increases from initial proposal
Q 4.10	If circumstances did warrant questioning the viability of a project/programme/grant scheme was the project subjected to adequate examination?	3	Yes – where applicable in accordance with the relevant Approving Authorities guidelines and requirements.
Q 4.11	If costs increased or there were other significant changes to the project was approval received from the Approving Authority?	3	Yes – where applicable
Q 4.12	Were any projects/programmes/grant schemes terminated because of deviations from the plan, the budget or because circumstances in the environment changed the need for the investment?	N/A	Not Applicable

Self-Assessed Ratings:

1 = Scope for significant improvements, 2 = Compliant but with some improvement necessary, 3 = Broadly Compliant. Or where appropriate - N/a

Checklist 5 – To be completed in respect of current expenditure programmes incurring expenditure in the year under review.

	Incurring Current Expenditure	Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1-3	Comment/Action Required
Q 5.1	Are there clear objectives for all areas of current expenditure?	3	Yes – there are clear objectives defined as part of the Annual Budget process, relevant Service Level Agreements / Schemes / programmes, Strategies, various Plans e.g. Development Plans, Corporate Plan, Annual Service Delivery Plans, Business Plans etc, and relevant Statutory Regulations/Acts and Requirements etc.
Q 5.2	Are outputs well defined?	3	Yes – outputs clearly defined in the relevant Statutory Regulations / Acts, Service Level Agreements, Schemes / Programmes, Annual Budget process, Annual Service Delivery Plans and other relevant Plans.
Q 5.3	Are outputs quantified on a regular basis?	3	Yes – outputs quantified regularly and reported to the relevant Approving Authority as required e.g., monthly/quarterly/annually.
Q 5.4	Is there a method for monitoring efficiency on an ongoing basis?	3	Yes – through Service Level Agreements, monitoring Budgets, Expenditure and Performance, Recording Lessons learned, using online systems and various Databases e.g. Debt Management systems and through various Reports e.g. Budgetary Progress Reports.
Q 5.5	Are outcomes well defined?	3	Yes – outcomes are well defined as part of the relevant Statutory Regulations / Acts, Annual Service Delivery Plans and other relevant Plans, Strategies, Schemes / programmes, Annual Budget process and through various Reports e.g. Annual Reports.
Q 5.6	Are outcomes quantified on a regular basis?	3	Yes – outcomes quantified regularly and reported to the relevant Approving Authority as required e.g., monthly/quarterly/annually.
Q 5.7	Are unit costings compiled for performance monitoring?	3	Yes – where applicable, in accordance with the relevant Service Level Agreements and KPI's.
Q 5.8	Are other data compiled to monitor performance?	3	Yes – in Team Meetings, CE Monthly Reports and other various reports/returns to the relevant Approving Authorities as required.
Q 5.9	Is there a method for monitoring effectiveness on an ongoing basis?	3	Yes – through compliance with statutory requirements, Service Level Agreements, Reviewing Lessons Learned, Debt Management systems and other Budgetary Tools, KPI's, Surveys, Annual Service Delivery Plans, and using online systems and various Databases etc.
Q 5.10	Has the organisation engaged in any other 'evaluation proofing' of programmes/projects?	3	Yes – through Service Level Agreements, Schemes / Programmes / National Initiatives, Annual Reports to NOAC, KPI's, Internal Audits etc.
<p>Self-Assessed Ratings: 1 = Scope for significant improvements, 2 = Compliant but with some improvement necessary, 3 = Broadly Compliant. Or where appropriate - N/a</p>			

Checklist 6 – To be completed in respect of capital projects/programmes & capital grant schemes discontinued in the year under review.

	Capital Expenditure Recently Completed	Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 - 3	Comment/Action Required
Q 6.1	How many Project Completion Reports were completed in the year under review?	3	2 out of the 9 projects/programmes that ended in 2022 had a completion report or similar carried out in 2022. Under the programme for Housing Adaptation Grant Schemes - All completed jobs were inspected after completion and prior to payment of the grants to ensure that works were done in accordance with the grant approval
Q 6.2	Were lessons learned from Project Completion Reports incorporated into sectoral guidance and disseminated within the Sponsoring Agency and the Approving Authority?	N/A	Not Applicable
Q 6.3	How many Project Completion Reports were published in the year under review?	N/A	Not Applicable
Q 6.4	How many Ex-Post Evaluations were completed in the year under review?	N/A	Not Applicable
Q 6.5	How many Ex-Post Evaluations were published in the year under review?	N/A	Not Applicable
Q 6.6	Were lessons learned from Ex-Post Evaluation reports incorporated into sectoral guidance and disseminated within the Sponsoring Agency and the Approving Authority?	N/A	Not Applicable
Q 6.7	Were Project Completion Reports and Ex-Post Evaluations carried out by staffing resources independent of project implementation?	3	2 out of the 9 projects/programmes that ended in 2022 had a completion report or similar carried out in 2022. Under the programme for Housing Adaptation Grant Schemes - All completed jobs were inspected after completion and prior to payment of the grants to ensure that works were done in accordance with the grant approval
Q 6.8	Were Project Completion Reports and Ex-Post Evaluation Reports for projects over €50m sent to DPER for dissemination?	N/A	Not Applicable

Self-Assessed Ratings:

1 = Scope for significant improvements, **2** = Compliant but with some improvement necessary,

3 = Broadly Compliant. Or where appropriate - N/a

Checklist 7 – To be completed in respect of current expenditure programmes that reached the end of their planned timeframe during the year or were discontinued.

	Current Expenditure that (i) reached the end of its planned timeframe or (ii) was discontinued	Self-Assessed Compliance Rating: 1 - 3	Comment/Action Required
Q 7.1	Were reviews carried out of current expenditure programmes that matured during the year or were discontinued?	N/A	No programmes relevant to PSC in 2022
Q 7.2	Did those reviews reach conclusions on whether the programmes were efficient?	N/A	No programmes relevant to PSC in 2022
Q 7.3	Did those reviews reach conclusions on whether the programmes were effective?	N/A	No programmes relevant to PSC in 2022
Q 7.4	Have the conclusions reached been taken into account in related areas of expenditure?	N/A	No programmes relevant to PSC in 2022
Q 7.5	Were any programmes discontinued following a review of a current expenditure programme?	N/A	No programmes relevant to PSC in 2022
Q 7.6	Were reviews carried out by staffing resources independent of project implementation?	N/A	No programmes relevant to PSC in 2022
Q 7.7	Were changes made to the organisation's practices in light of lessons learned from reviews?	N/A	No programmes relevant to PSC in 2022
Self-Assessed Ratings: 1 = Scope for significant improvements, 2 = Compliant but with some improvement necessary, 3 = Broadly Compliant. Or where appropriate - N/a			

Appendix 3

Audit Assurance Categories and Criteria

ASSURANCE CATEGORY	ASSURANCE CRITERIA	
SUBSTANTIALLY	Evaluation Opinion:	There is a robust system of risk management, control and governance which should ensure that objectives are fully achieved.
	Testing Opinion:	The controls are being consistently applied
SATISFACTORY	Evaluation Opinion:	There is some risk that objectives may not be fully achieved. Some improvements are required to enhance the adequacy and/or effectiveness of risk management, control and governance.
	Testing Opinion:	There is evidence that the level of non-compliance with some of the controls may put some of the system objectives at risk.
LIMITED	Evaluation Opinion:	There is considerable risk that the system will fail to meet it's objectives. Prompt action is required to improve the adequacy and effectiveness of risk management, control and governance.
	Testing Opinion:	The level of non compliance puts the system objectives at risk.
UNACCEPTABLE	Evaluation Opinion:	The system has failed or there is a real and substantial risk that the system will fail to meet it's objectives. Urgent action is required to improve the adequacy and effectiveness of risk management, control and governance.
	Testing Opinion:	Significant non-compliance with the basic controls leaves the system open to error or abuse.

Appendix 4

Quality Assurance - In - Dept Checks and Reviews

Quality Assurance – In Depth Check

Current (Revenue) Programme

D06 - Community and Enterprise Function

Cavan County Council
Internal Audit Department



Public Spending Code Quality Assurance Appraisal 2022

In-depth Review Revenue Programme
(D06 - Community and Enterprise Function)
Expenditure Being Incurred

Quality Assurance – In Depth Check

D06 - Community and Enterprise Function

Cavan County Council

Section A: Introduction

This introductory section details the headline information on the programme or project in question.

Programme or Project Information	
Name	D06 - Community and Enterprise Function - Revenue Expenditure Programme
Detail	Administration and implementation of Community and Enterprise and Social Inclusion Support Programmes by Cavan County Council
Responsible Body	Cavan County Council – Community, Enterprise & Tourism Section
Current Status	Revenue expenditure being incurred – Ongoing
Start Date	01/01/2022
End Date	31/12/2022
Overall Estimated Lifetime Cost- Annual Programme Expenditure per the 2022 AFS	€ 3,050,025.19

Project Description / Background of Section

The Community, Enterprise and Tourism Department was established primarily to support the role of County Development Board with the implementation of a 10 year Strategy for Economic, Social & Cultural Development of County Cavan for 2002 - 2012. In 2014, the County Development Board was replaced by Local Community Development Committee [LCDC] that is now responsible for planning and oversight of local and community development programmes as set out in the Local Government Reform Act 2014.

In addition to managing the LCDC and the co-ordination and implementation of the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP), the Community, Enterprise & Tourism Department of Cavan County Council co-ordinates a number of other initiatives and programmes including the Sports Partnership, Peace Programme, Age Friendly County Programme, Social Inclusion Unit, Tourism and the Economic Development Unit.

Community & Enterprise Function

Governance Structure

Operations / Remit

Director of Service
Head of Community, Enterprise & Community
Team of 24 Professional Admin / Technical Personnel
Economic Development Staff
Peace Programme Manager
Leader Programme Admin Supports
SICAP Admin Supports
Programme Admin Staff
Sports Partnership Team
SlainteCare Healthy Communities Officer
Healthy Cavan Co-Ordinator
Tourism Officer
Food Strategy Co-Ordinator
LCDC/SIU / AGE Friendly Operations
C & E Capital Project Technical Supports

- Local Community Development Committees & Local Economic & Community Plan
- Economic Development Projects in conjunction with the Local Enterprise Office
- Town and Village Revitalisation
- Town Centre Masterplan Initiative
- Town Centre First
- Cavan Food Strategy 2017-2022
- Cavan Drug and Alcohol Forum
- Age Friendly Programme
- Cavan Comhairle na nÓg
- Cavan County Peace and Reconciliation Action Plan – PEACE IV; PEACE PLUS
- Social Inclusion Unit
- Cavan Traveller Interagency Group
- Cavan Public Participation Network
- Joint Policing Committees
- Cavan LEADER Local Development Strategy
- Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme. (SICAP)
- CLÁR and Town & Village Renewal funding schemes and Streetscape Enhancement Schemes
- Outdoor Recreational Schemes
- Community and Voluntary Grants/Festival Grants/Municipal District Discretionary Scheme Grants/ Community Enhancement Programme Grant Schemes/Social Enterprise Grants/ Community Activities Fund
- Pride of Place Awards
- Playgrounds- securing funding, liaising with Housing Construction on all Cavan County Council playgrounds.
- Healthy Cavan
- Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme

Revenue Expenditure Programme D06

D06 - Community and Enterprise Function - Revenue Expenditure Programme for 2022		
		€
General Community & Enterprise Expenses		
45100001	OPERATION OF DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY & ENTERPRISE	678,233.42
45100003	TASTE OF CAVAN	9.41
45100008	LCDC PLAN	51,720.88
45100010	COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY FORA	110,700.00
45100025	TRAVELLER WORKER CAVAN	20,000.00
45100048	PEACE III OFFICE ADMIN (FLAT RATE)	36.76
45100101	BRIDGE STREET RESOURCE HOUSE	22,990.25
45100120	COMHAIRLE NA NOG 2015 ONWARDS	30,117.59
45101072	PRIDE OF PLACE COMP	4,841.47
45177777	SICAP FUNDING FOR IMPLEMENTING BODIES	997,555.21
45188888	LEADER FUNDING IMPLEMENTION BODY	330,280.03
D0601 - General Community & Enterprise Expenses		2,246,485.02
Social Inclusion		
45100021	SOCIAL INCLUSION	226,293.48
45100037	BIKE WEEK	5,849.64
45100133	STRATEGY PLANNING	8,619.25
45140037	COSTS UKRIANIAN REFUGEES	31,144.72
D0603 - Social Inclusion		271,907.09
Service Support Costs		
ZD06ZZZ	D06 Service Support Costs	531,633.08
D0699 - Service Support Costs		531,633.08
Totals Revenue Expenditure Programme D06		€3,050,025.19

Funding Sources 2022 - Cavan Country Council's Community and Enterprise Function (Revenue Expenditure Programme D06)

Government Dept /Agency	Debtor A/C	Amount €	Programme
Department of Rural and Community Development	99998554	€79,330.00	Operation of the Community & Enterprise Department / Cavan PPN/Social Inclusion Programme
Department of Rural and Community Development	99998554	€997,555.21	SICAP Programme
Department of Rural and Community Development	99998537	€318,667.38	Leader Programme/ Admin
Department of Rural and Community Development	9999876	€69,259.20	Cavan PPN
Department of Rural and Community Development	99998554	€10,000.00	Social Inclusion
Other Local Authorities Meath & Monaghan County Councils	9999562 9999563	€85,848.44	Social Inclusion – recoupment of the salaries of C & E staff secondment to other local authorities
Pobal	9999239	€25,000.00	COMHAIRLE NA NOG
Dept. of Children, Equality,	9999637	€31,144.72	UKRIANIAN / REFUGEES Supports-

Disability, Integration and Youth			Claim submission in progress
Bridge Street Community Resource Centre Ltd	9999571	€6,287.54	LECP
		€5,295.33	Bridge Street Centre (MIs)
NTA	99997563	€5,850.00	Bike Week 2022
54%	Total	€1,634,237.82	Accounts for 53% of D06 Revenue Expenditure

The balance (46%) of the Community & Enterprise D06 Programme Expenditure for 2022 (€1,415,787.37) was funded from the local authority's own sources of revenue.

D06 Revenue Expenditure Overview

The key elements of the community and enterprise functions covered by the D06 Revenue Expenditure Programme are SICAP (Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme)- Job 45177777 and the administration of the Leader Funding Programme -Job 45188888 which account for approximately 44% of the overall annual spend of the related revenue budget.

The combined annual expenditure of Job Code 45100001 the Operation Costs of the Directors of Community Enterprise- (€678,233.42) and Job Code ZD06ZZZ the Shared Service Support Costs- (€531,633.08) represent 40% of the overall D06 Revenue Expenditure Programme.

Approved budgets were in place across all elements of the programme. With the extent of this ever-changing C & E programme there was additional budget expenditure of €70,920.00 incurred in 2022.

Details of all elements of the programme expenditure are outlined below:

D0601 Summary- General C & E Revenue Expenditure

45100001	OPERATION OF DIRECTOR COMMUNITY & ENTERPRISE	€678,233.42
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Nearly 90% of the charges applied to the admin operation costs of the Directors of Community Enterprise revenue job code includes Community & Enterprise salaries, travel & subsistence payments, phone/ communication costs and printing / stationery expenses, advertising costs, leasing payments for rented premises and energy costs together with any associated apportioned costs for the section. This expenditure job also incorporates a payment transfer of €20,000.00 to Cavan Sports Partnership in respect of a contribution towards the salary of the FAI Development Officer. Grant funding of €79,330.00 was received from the Department of Rural & Community Development in 2022. The income was credited to this revenue expenditure job code.

D0699 Service Support Costs

ZD06ZZZZ	D06 Service Support Costs	€531,633.08
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The review team noted that approximately 17% of the D06 programme gross expenditure (€531,633.08) relates to an apportionment of the Central Admin / IT / Financial Shared Support Charges incurred by the Council. As per the AFS for 2022 there were pension payments adjustments of €32,410.00 credited against these central service costs.

45100008	LCDC	€51,720.88
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Local Community Development Committees are established in each local authority. The formation of LCDCs is covered by key provisions under Part 6 of 2014 Local Government Act (commenced on 1st June 2014) which replaced the former County Development Board structure. The committee incorporates many stakeholders including local authority and non-local authority members. Guidelines were issued by the DECLG to provide a general common approach to the establishment and operation of LCDCs.

The **functions** of the LCDC are:

- To prepare and implement community elements of 6 year plan (Local Economic and Community Plan).
- To co-ordinate manage and oversee implementation of local community development programmes e.g. SICAP.
- To improve the co-ordination of publicly funded local and community programmes – reduce duplication services.
- Encourage meaningful citizen and community engagement in delivery of local community development programmes.

Membership of the LCDC - The chief executive of the Council in conjunction with CPG (Corporate Policy Group) decide on the number of members and sectoral interests. Representation must be in favour of the private sector (i.e. 17 member LCDC 8 Statutory and 9 non statutory).

Local Authority member representation also reflects MDs insofar as possible.

Representation from Community Groups is nominated through the PPN.

Local Economic & Community Plan - The LCDC must prepare a six-year Local Economic and Community Plan [LECP] in co-operation with the County Council.

The plan consists of two elements:

- A local economic element
- A community element

The LCDC prepare and adopt the community element of the plan and local authority's Strategic Policy Committee for Economic Development is responsible for the preparation of the economic element of the LECP.

The vision of the existing plan's vision 2016-2021 was:

"That Cavan 2021 will be a place that we can be proud of – a place where people can have a good quality of life. A better place to live, to work, and to enjoy."

Cavan County Council is currently preparing the draft LECP for the years 2023-2029. Revenue expenditure charged to this job relates to the admin staff costs associated with oversight and development of the LCDC plan. €6,287.54 was recouped from Bridge Street Centre in lieu of the admin support that was credited to this revenue job code.

45100010	COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY FORUM / CPPN	€110,700.00
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Public Partnership Network - Cavan Public Participation Network (CPPN) replaced the role and structure of the former Community and Voluntary Forum in July 2014.

The PPN has a flat structure that allows all groups in the PPN to have an equal voice and an equal input into decision making process. There is no leader, no overall spokesperson or chairperson. It is truly a collective approach, accommodating a wide range of diverse views and perspectives. CPPN supports each member to develop new skills and contribute in an equal way to the organisation.

A total of 38 community representatives are elected to act on behalf of all communities in County Cavan. The PPN provides the public with an opportunity to have a voice in decision making processes through non-political means.

These representatives meet with their mandating electorate twice per year to hear local issues to become more informed voices for our community in Cavan and represent public views at a countywide level.

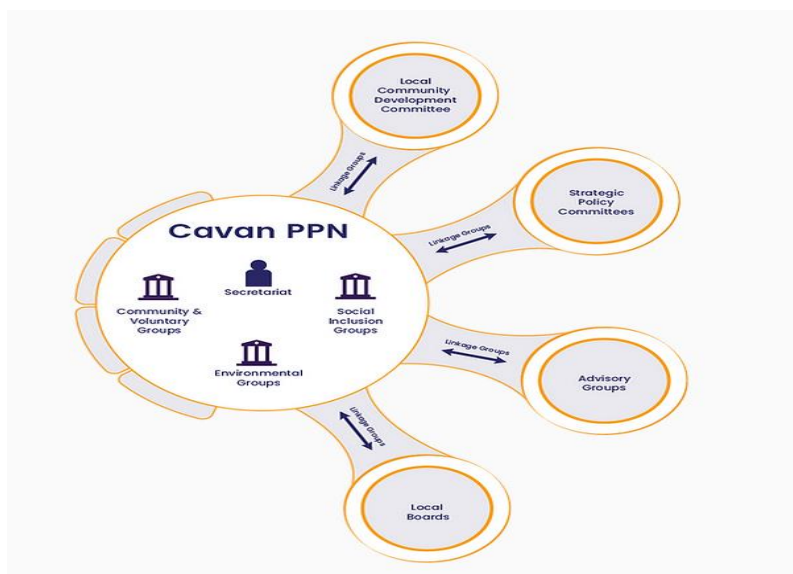
The representatives come from the following sectors:

- Environment Sector
- Social Inclusion Sector
- Community & Voluntary Sector
- Bailieborough/Cootehill Municipal District
- Ballyjamesduff Municipal District
- Cavan/Belturbet Municipal District

The main decision-making body of the PPN is the Plenary (i.e. all the independent member groups) that usually meets at least twice every year to review the workings of the PPN and to set the agenda for the coming period. The elected Secretariat is responsible for the administration of the PPN between Plenary meetings. Subsets of the PPN such as Linkage Groups also inform the process.

The Secretariat (12) is elected by the PPN members, to be representative of the different geographical areas and the three pillars. It is an administrative body only, responsible for overseeing the daily operations of the PPN.

Members of Cavan PPN sit on the board of Breffni Integrated, Cavan Peace Partnership Cavan Co Council SPC'S Heritage Forum, Social Inclusion, Sports Partnership. There were 309 groups registered with Cavan PPN at 31/12/2022.



Cavan PPN is currently hosted by Breffni Integrated with the relevant SLA in place to cover the operation terms, conditions and governance processes. The MOU/SLA agreement was agreed from 01st January 2022 between the Local Development Company and Cavan County Council. The agreed cost for hosting the PPN service was €5,225.00.

The overall budget for CPPN was agreed on an annual basis by the elected members of Cavan County Council with a provision of €110.700 approved for 2022 with CE Order no 01/2022 was signed off on 07/02/2022.

Primarily the expenditure charges relate to the financial support and operation costs of Cavan PPN. A total of €29,099.04 was reimbursed to CPPN to assist with the admin costs incurred while the PI was paid €81,600.96 to cover the wage costs of the PPN and the annual hosting fee. During 2022 Cavan County Council received a PPN funding contribution of €69,259.20 from the Department of Environment, Community & Local Govt.

45100025	TRAVELLER WORKER CAVAN	€20,000.00
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Traveller Movement - Cavan Community, Enterprise and Tourism Department co-ordinates the Cavan Traveller Interagency Group (TIG). This is a statutory group that provides an interagency response to social exclusion issues among the Traveller community. Cavan County Council supports a community development service provided by Cavan Traveller Movement [CTM].

The (TIG) worked with a consultant on the review and strategy planning for Cavan Traveller Interagency Group - 'Promoting New Models of Development within the Traveller Community'.

This expenditure charged to this job relate to the annual contribution of €20,000.00 to Cavan Traveller Movement. CE no 18/2022 dated 23 February 2022 approved this payment. There is an SLA Agreement between Cavan County Council and Cavan Traveller Movement

dated 24/01/2022 to support the members of the Cavan Travelling community living in Co Cavan.

45100101	BRIDGE STREET RESOURCE HOUSE	€22,990.25
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Bridge Street Resource House - The Bridge Street Centre is a community resource facility which is located in Cavan Town and is available for use by local resident associations, family support, community and youth groups in Co. Cavan. The Centre is a three storey building which is owned by Cavan County Council. The centre is in operation since April 2009 and was developed as a flagship project under the RAPID Programme.

The related expenditure is Cavan County Council's contribution in respect of the operation costs of the Bridge Street. The Centre is currently managed via the Cavan County Local Development Company formally Breffni Integrated CLG, with the necessary SLA agreement in place. The Bridge Street Centre received an annual contribution of €9,000.00 and a further €7,332.59 toward the energy bills from the Council while €6,657.66 was paid to Cavan County Local Development Company to cover the cost of providing a staff member to manage the Bridge Street Centre on behalf of Cavan County Council (CE Order 95/2022). The Council received €5,295.33 from Bridge Street Resource Centre re (Mis) Miscellaneous Invoices as a contribution toward their annual utility bills.

45100120	Comhairle na nÓg	€30,117.59
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Comhairle na nÓg - This is a junior council for young people aged 12 to 18 that is aimed at providing a voice for young people. Comhairle na nÓg is led and funded at national level by the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration & Youth Affairs (DCEDIY) under the National Children's Strategy 2000 and Better Outcomes Brighter Futures and the National Policy Framework for Children & Young People, 2014-2020. Funding is administered through Pobal. Youth Work Ireland are currently leading the Comhairle Na nÓg plan for Cavan County Council.

At local level supported by the local authority members of Comhairle na nÓg represent young people from all municipal districts in County Cavan and has three main functions:

1. It is a permanent structure that aims to ensure that young people have a voice in matters that affect their lives.
2. It presents an opportunity to consult young people on matters that affect them.
3. Children and young people are elected from Comhairle na nÓg to Dáil na nÓg (Young people's parliament).

The expenditure charged to this job code included payments to the Youth Work Ireland of €23,408.85 and a Pobal Allocation Refund of €6,708.74. During 2022 Cavan County Council received government funding of €25,000.00 from Pobal - Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration & Youth Affairs toward the Comhairle na nÓg initiative.

45101072	PRIDE OF PLACE AWARDS	€4,841.47
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Pride of Place Awards - This is an initiative established to promote and celebrate the best in community development. The programme incorporates an annual awards event to recognise the selfless efforts of people in making their local neighborhoods better places to live, work and socialise. The 2022 awards recognised the efforts made by community groups over the post pandemic period.

The following initiatives received recognition in 2022 pride of place awards: Cavan GAA County Board 'Stronger Programme', Cavan Comhairle na nÓg Suicide Awareness Campaign, Le Cheile Hub in Cootehill, Killeshandra Camino and Created in Cavan.

The expenditure costs for 2022 included a €3,000.00 contribution to Co-Operation Ireland toward the awards event and art activities, printing and related costs amounted to €1,841.47. As there was no direct government funding this element of the D06 Revenue Expenditure Programme is funded directly from the local authority's own resources.

45177777	SICAP FUNDING FOR IMPLEMENTING BODIES	€997,555.21
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SICAP - The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme 2018–2023 provides funding to tackle poverty and social exclusion through local engagement and partnerships between disadvantaged individuals, community organisations and public sector agencies.

The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2018-2023 is funded by the Government through the Department of Rural and Community Development and co-funded by the European Social Fund under the Programme for Employability, Inclusion and Learning (PEIL) 2014-2020.

In July 2021 the Minister of State for Community Development and Charities announced a 12 month extension to SICAP 2018-22, that is due to cease in December 2023. It is envisaged that a new programme will be rolled out in January 2024.

The programme is managed at local level by Local Community Development Committees (LCDCs), with support from local authorities, and actions are delivered by Local Development Companies (LDCs). A SICAP Funding Agreement was established on 18/12/2017 between the Department, the LCDC and co-signed by the Local Authority.

LDCs work with marginalised communities and service providers using a community development approach to improve people's lives including helping people to find work or to upskill, providing CV training, personal development courses or assisting with work placement programme such as CE or Tús.

SICAP addresses high and persistent levels of deprivation through targeted and innovative, locally led approaches. It supports disadvantaged communities and individuals including unemployed people, people living in deprived areas, people with disabilities, single parent families, people on a low income, members of the Traveller and Roma community and other disadvantaged groups.

The programme has two goals that focus on supporting communities and individuals:

- to support communities and target groups to engage with relevant stakeholders in identifying and addressing social exclusion and equality issues, developing the capacity of local community groups and creating more sustainable communities.
- to support disadvantaged individuals to improve the quality of their lives through the provision of lifelong learning and labour market supports.

The following are the Target Groups:

- Disadvantaged Children and Families
- People living in Disadvantaged Communities
- Disadvantaged Young People (aged 15 – 24)
- People with Disabilities
- Disadvantaged Women
- Roma
- Travellers
- Lone Parents
- The Disengaged from the Labour Market (Economically Inactive)
- Low Income Workers/Households
- The Unemployed
- New Community

County Cavan's SICAP Budget as approved and managed by Breffni Integrated CLG for 2022 was €985,194.00. Following an adjustment of €4,138.78 to counteract a budget underspend in 2018 the quarterly SICAP payments issued to the Programme Implementor (PI) for 2022 totalled €981,055.22. This included an additional payment of €104,564.00 to provide social inclusion supports for Ukrainians. Funding allocation notices were issued 23/06/2022. This was approved by the LCDC . The relevant CE order were in place- CE24/2022 dated 08/03/2022 and CE67/2022 dated 29/07/2022. At the end of the year SICAP actual expenditure figures totalled €972,813.58 (as per the Lot Cost Charge Sheets) with an annual underspend of €12,380.42 to be carried forward to 2023. The expenditure split was as follows: 23% Administration Costs totalling €224,999.16 and 77% Direct Action Costs totalling €747,814.42. Vat on SICAP expenditure in 2022 totalling €16,499.99 was also recouped and paid to the PI.

The KPI SICAP targets as outlined in the annual plan for 2022 were achieved.

The outputs / results were as follows:

KPI 1 – LCG (Local Community Groups): Target Set 36 - Actual Result 47 = 131%

KPI 2 – Individuals: Target Set 405 - Actual Result 700 = 173%

KPI 2 – % in Disadvantaged Area: Targeted figure 18.00% - Actual Outcome 53.09 %

The expenditure charged to this revenue job relates to the quarterly payments of the approved funding allocation and VAT recoupment payments to the Programme Implementor- Breffni Integrated awarded the SICAP contract. The necessary SLA agreement is in place. SICAP is managed and operated in accordance with the terms and conditions of the programme guidelines. Programme & financial control reviews are undertaken both by Internal Audit on behalf of the LCDC and by Pobal on behalf of the Department.

45188888	LEADER FUNDING IMPLEMENTION BODY	€330,280.03
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LEADER - Liaisons Entre Actions de Development de l'Economie Rurale - is a community-led approach to local development funded through Ireland's Rural Development Programme 2014-2020. It is funded under Priority 6 of the Programme, which promotes social inclusion, poverty reduction and the economic development of rural areas. It supports locally identified initiatives (at local or sub-regional level) that seek to address locally identified needs and challenges. It is delivered by a network of Local Action Groups (or LAGs), which have been selected to implement Local Development Strategies for their respective sub-regional areas.

Since its launch in 1991, LEADER has provided rural communities across the European Union with the resources to enable local partners to actively engage and direct the local development of their area, through community-led local development. In Ireland, under the LEADER Programme for 2014-2020, a budget of €250 million was provided to support rural communities and local businesses with Cavan LAG committing €9,558,115.30 up to 31/12/2022. The Local Development Strategy is currently being drafted and the closing date for submission to the Department is 14th July 2023.

A Transitional LEADER Programme came into effect on 1 April 2021. A total of €70 million was allocated to support rural communities and private enterprises during the transitional period. The breakdown is as follows:

- €65 million has been allocated to support locally led rural development across the 29 Local Action Groups (LAGs).
- €3 million has been allocated to support the LEADER Co-operation measure which encourages rural areas to work together on joint projects with mutual benefits for each participating area.
- €2 million was allocated to prepare for the next LEADER Programme.

The €70 million is being financed by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), the European Union Recovery Instrument (EURI) and Exchequer funding.

The LEADER Programme is administered at a local level by 29 Local Action Groups (LAGs) who operate on administrative or county boundaries and are made up of local representatives from the community, public and private sector.

Each LAG is responsible for selecting and awarding LEADER funding to projects within their geographical area. A project must be aligned with the priorities of the Local Development Strategy (LDS). The LDS is a 5 year plan that was developed by the LAG, in conjunction with the rural community, to support the sustainable development of the area. An expression of interest in developing a Local Development Strategy for Co Cavan in the Leader Funding round 2014-2022 was submitted by Cavan LCDC as LAG and Breffni Integrated Ltd as the implementing Partner 15th May 2015. Cavan LDS was approved by the Department on 08/06/2016.

Grant aid is provided to projects under the following priorities/themes:

Theme 1	Theme 2	Theme 3
Economic Development, Enterprise Development and Job Creation	Social Inclusion	Rural Environment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural Tourism • Enterprise Development • Rural Towns • Broadband 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic Services targeted at hard to reach communities • Rural Youth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection and sustainable use of water resources • Local Biodiversity • Renewable Energy

The rates of grant payable are as follows:-

- The rate of aid for commercial type projects is up to 50% of the total cost of the project to a maximum of €200,000.
- Rates of aid for community type projects is up to 75% of the total cost of the project to a maximum of €200,000 (under the sub-theme Basic Services for hard to reach communities a community rate of up to 90% may be available).
- Analysis and Development rates of aid are up to 75% of the total cost of the project for Private and 90% of the total cost for Community to a maximum of €30,000 in both cases.
- The rate of aid for Training for private and community projects is up to 100% to a maximum of €200,000.

Cavan Local Community Development Committee (CLDC) has responsibility for the delivery of LEADER 2014-2020 throughout the county. The key implementation partner is Breffni Integrated CLG. During the period of the programme, LEADER funding was invested in qualifying innovative community and private enterprise projects in County Cavan. Cavan County Council is the financial partner for the delivery of LEADER 2014-2020. €8,522,286 was allocated to County Cavan for LEADER 2014-2020 and additional Transitional Programme budget of €1,307,396 was added for projects from 2020-2022.

Stages of a Project Application

Stage	Action carried out by
1. EOI Submitted	IP Project User
2. EOI Eligible	IP Project User
3. Application Submitted	IP Project User
4. Project Record Checklist #1	IP Project User
5. Application IP Manager Sign Off	IP Manager
6. Application LAG Manager Approval	LAG Manager
7. Project Record Checklist #2	IP Project User
8. Application Article 48 User Check	LFP Article 48 User
9. Application Article 48 Manager Verification	LFP Article 48 Manager
10. Application Decision	IP Project User
11. Project Record Checklist #3	IP Project User
12. Final LAG Manager Approval	LAG Manager
13. Final Article 48 User Check	LFP Article 48 User

14. Final Article 48 Manager Verification	LFP Article 48 Manager
15. Final Project Approval	IP Project User
16. Withdrawn / Other Funding Source	IP Project User
17. Project Rejected	IP Project User
18. EOI Ineligible	IP Project User

Internal Audit carry out Article 48 checks on LEADER Projects and Claims. Since 2019, IA has checked a total of 97 Projects with a total value of €6,716,750.76 including 13 Projects with a total value of €883,779.70 in 2022. Projects checked by Internal Audit under Article 48

Year	No.	Amount
2019	34	€1,938,659.91
2020	34	€2,399,404.26
2021	16	€1,494,906.89
2022	13	€ 883,779.70

Stages of a Claim Application

Stage	Action carried out by
1. Draft	IP Project User
2. IP User / LAG User Check	IP Project User
3. IP Manager / LAG User Sign Off	IP Manager
4. LAG Manager Approval	LAG Manager
5. Article 48 User Check	LFP Article 48 User
6. Article 48 Manager Verification	LFP Article 48 Manager
7. Inspection	Inspector User / Inspector Manager
8. Department Review	Department User
9. Department approval	Department Manager
10. Department Payment	Department User
11. Promoter Paid	LAG User / LAG Manager
12. Promoter Paid – Claim Complete	LAG User / LAG Manager
13. Claim Withdrawn	LAG Manager

Since 2019 Internal Audit has checked a total of 166 Claims valued at €6,926,545.74.

Year	No.	Amount
2019	34	€1,550,206.25
2020	35	€1,318,861.93
2021	54	€1,843,258.47
2022	43	€2,214,219.09

In 2022 IA examined 43 Claims with a value of €2,214,219.09.

	No.	Amount
1 st Claim	23	€1,425,862.90
2 nd Claim	13	€ 535,496.49
3 rd Claim	4	€ 166,434.02
4 th Claim	2	€ 71,402.59
5 th Claim	1	€ 15,023.09

Leader grants payments to the beneficiaries were initially treated by the Council as revenue expenditure but from a financial accounts perspective in 2022 the decision was taken to treat these grants as capital expenditure. On this basis the revenue expenditure charges covered by the D06 revenue expenditure programme only relate to programme admin costs i.e. the quarterly admin costs recouped by the Programme Implementor. CE Order 26/2022 is in place approving the necessary funding allocation to cover the annual advance payments of the Administration / Animation Funding to Breffni Integrated CLG operation costs dated 21/03/2022. A total of €330,280.03 was paid to the PI in 2022. Department Funding was recouped by the Council with €318,667.00 credited to this revenue job for the same period.

The Leader Programme is integral to delivering locally led projects that have brought major benefits to communities across Rural Ireland. LEADER operates on a ground-up approach and is all about empowering local communities to deliver projects that will revitalise our towns and villages.

D0603 Summary- Social Inclusion

45100021	SOCIAL INCLUSION	€226,293.48
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Combating social exclusion and poverty is at the heart of the activities of local government. The aim of the Social Inclusion Unit is to improve the access to and quality of Cavan County Council services for people from disadvantaged communities. It helps to develop socially inclusive policies and projects across the range of local authority services in Cavan. Cavan Local Authorities have named social inclusion as one of the seven cores values which underpin its Corporate Plan.

Over 87% of this revenue expenditure relates to admin salaries. These costs also include a grant payment of €10,000.00 to the LGBTI Organisation and €1,500.00 to the Irish Traveller Movement and Age Friendly Services and related social inclusion costs such as training expenses and advertising costs etc.

Government funding of €10,000.00 was recouped from the DHLGH (Department of Rural and Community Development) and a total of €85,848.44 relates to the recoupage of salaries for social inclusion employees on secondment to other local authorities.

45100037	BIKE WEEK	€5,849.64
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This is a national initiative to create awareness and promote the benefits of Cycling. It is a celebration of cycling. Each local authority creates free cycling events for this national week. The expenditure on this code is the costs associated with running the event and this event is Government funded. In conjunction with National Bike Week from 14th-22nd May, Cavan Sports Partnership organised have a wide range of events in Cavan this year, ranging from Kids Bikefests, Teen Cycles, Family Cycles to Active Adult 50+ cycles. In total 14 events(including family cycle to start the week) were delivered across 8 different locations, which ensured a good geographical spread across the county, with all 291 participants receiving bike goodies.

All related Bike Week costs are charged to this revenue job with the corresponding funding recouped from the National Transport Authority.

45100133	STRATEGY PLANNING	€8,619.25
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The Cavan Drug and Alcohol Forum was established in February 2016 in response to concerns about substance misuse in the county. The Forum is comprised of representatives of relevant statutory and voluntary services across County Cavan. The Forum meets on a quarterly basis and operates several subgroups focusing on Treatment and Rehabilitation, Prevention and Education, Research and Co-ordination. It aims to support the interagency sharing of information and co-ordination of services and focuses on achieving several strategic actions.

€2,500 was paid in respect of developing the Drug and Alcohol Forum Plan for the county from 2022 to 2024. Cavan Age Friendly Strategy sets out the strategic direction towards our goal of creating an Age Friendly County.

Community and Enterprise paid a total of €6,119.25 in respect of the costs of printing the strategy. This related expenditure is funded from the Council's own sources.

45140037	COSTS UKRIANIAN REFUGEES	€31,144.72
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In March 2022 the Dept of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth issued an emergency circular to the Local Authority to put a plan in place to provide emergency accommodation and supports for Ukrainian Refugees fleeing war arriving to Ireland.

All necessary costs incurred would be funded by Department.

Immediately the Civil Defence in conjunction with the C& E personnel undertook to provide the supports required by establish temporary accommodation facilities at Cavan Sports Complex and acquiring the necessary supplies to ensure their essential /personal needs were catered for.

The expenditure incurred at the time totalled €31,144.72. A claim is currently being prepared by the Council to recoup these costs from the DEPT. of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.

Section B - Step 1: Logic Model Mapping

As part of this In-Depth Check, the Roads Design and Internal Audit Unit have completed a Programme Logic Model (PLM) on the **D06 - Community and Enterprise - Revenue Expenditure Programme** to be undertaken by Cavan County Council – A LM is a standard evaluation tool and further information on their nature is available in the [Public Spending Code](#).

Objectives	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of all community and economic development policies , strategies, project funding as outlined by National Government • Ensure that the LCDC is operating effectively and the oversee the implementation of the LECP plan. • Implementation of the Age Friendly Strategy under the social inclusion unit • Ensure all related grants schemes are implemented together with appropriate control procedures Leader Funding, SICAP, the Town and Village Schemes, CLAR , ORIS, RRDF, Discretionary Funding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff Resources. • Training of staff. • Government Funding . • Own Revenue Funding. • Co-operation of community groups, town teams and external stakeholders. • Department Guidance on Schemes. • Community Volunteers / business involvement in the LCDC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of Services & Budgets. • Adherence with public procurement guidelines & Regulations. • Preparation of Service Delivery/ Business Plan. • Risk Management within the Department. • Monitoring Performance • Preparation and Submission of Grant Applications to the Government Dept. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong links with community Groups, Elected Members the wider staff . • Strong links with the Cavan Local Development Company. • 13 Leader project applications valued at €883,779.70 were assessed and approved. There were 43 grant claims paid amounting to €2,214,219.09. • SICAP Direct Action / Interventions - KPI 1 – LCG (Local Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting the Strategic Objectives of Cavan County Council’s Corporate Plan 2015-2019. • Successful implementation of the Strategic Objectives of the current Local Economic Community Plan . • Overall Strategic objectives of LECP Plan achieved • Strategic Objectives of the Leader Programme achieved in accordance with Programme guidelines. • Effective delivering of locally led projects that have brought major benefits to communities across Rural Ireland. • Supported Economic Development within County Cavan.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting the Strategic Objectives of the Leader Programme. • Support the Operations and Governance Structure of Cavan Public Participation Network. • Support the youth work throughout the county via Comhairle na Nog. • Support the Cavan Traveller Movement. • Tackle poverty and social exclusion through local engagement and partnerships between disadvantaged individuals, community organisations and public sector agencies. • Support the growth and development of rural communities and businesses and protecting the rural environment. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversight and Delivery of all the various grants both Government funded and revenue funded. Outsourcing of Schemes. • Engagement of a SICAP & Leader Programme Implementor. 	<p>Groups): Target Set 36 - Actual Result 47 = 131%</p> <p>KPI 2 – Individuals: Target Set 405 - Actual Result 700 = 173%</p> <p>KPI 3 – % in Disadvantaged Area: Targeted figure 18.00% - Actual Outcome 53.09 %</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 304 groups registered with Cavan PPN. • A total of €324,000 allocated to 77 groups under Community and Enterprise Discretionary grants. • Pride of Place competition awarded to Le Cheile Hub in Cootehill under their category. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced Social Inclusion among all communities within Cavan including the Traveller Community, LGBTI and Age Friendly. • Under SICAP- People’s life skills were enhanced with work supports, CV training, personal development courses or work placement programme such as CE or Tús. • Community & Economic Projects enhanced within County Cavan via Leader Funding. • Greater economic development opportunities and funding vehicles available to communities, businesses and individuals. • Maximum Government Funding opportunities sought for County Cavan. Strategic funding allocations to beneficiaries. • Provision of Temporary Ukrainian Refugee Accommodation.
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Description of Programme Logic Model

Objectives: To Deliver the objectives of our Local Economic Community Plan involve delivering all the strategies , polices and government granted schemes to Co Cavan. Community and Enterprise also supports the PPN through the wider community and supporting the youth work via Comhairle na Nog. Community and Enterprise also work closely with Cavan Local Development Office in implementing and delivering the SCIAP programme for the County . They endeavour to support and protect communities by developing funding projects within the environs of County Cavan.

- Supporting the Strategic Objectives of the Leader Programme.
- Support the Operations and Governance Structure of Cavan Public Participation Network.
- Support the youth work throughout the county via Comhairle na Nog.
- Support the Cavan Traveller Movement.
- Tackle poverty and social exclusion through local engagement and partnerships between disadvantaged individuals, community organisations and public sector agencies.
- Support the growth and development of rural communities and businesses and protecting the rural environment.

Inputs: These include Local & Government Funding, adequate staff resources. Community Enterprise and Tourism has 24 staff members ranging from clerical staff to administrative officers. The Community & Enterprise Section relies on the co-operation of Community Groups, elected Members, Local Development Company and their SCIAP staff and Leader Staff.

- Staff Resources
- Training of staff
- Agreed Budget of approximately €3 million
- Government Funding
- Own Revenue Funding

- Co-operation of community groups, town teams and external stakeholders.
- Department Guidance on Schemes
- Community / Volunteers / Businesses involvement in the LCDC

Activities: The key activities includes management and delivery of the actions as outlined in the Annual C& E Business / Service Delivery Plan. All related programmes appear to be implemented in accordance with Department guidelines within the relevant timelines. The necessary revenue budgets and funding allocations were in place. C&E also work closely with Cavan LAG (Local Action Group) in delivering the Leader funding committed to County Cavan. Their Social Inclusion staff worked very closely with the Local Development Company to implement the Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) which aimed to address poverty, long term unemployment and social exclusion through local engagement and partnerships between disadvantaged individuals, community organisations and public sector agencies. Activities included:

- Management of Services & Budgets.
- Adherence with Public Procurement Guidelines & Regulations.
- Preparation of Annual Service Delivery/ Business Plan.
- Risk Management within the Community, Enterprise & Tourism Department.
- Monitoring Performance (KPIs).
- Preparation and Submission of Grant Applications to the Government Dept.
- Oversight and Delivery of all the various grants both Government funded and revenue funded. Outsourcing of Schemes.
- Engagement of a SICAP & Leader Programme Implementor.

Outputs: Cavan County Council has developed strong links with all community groups within the county by working closely with Cavan PPN, Cavan Local Development Company, Cavan LCDC, Cavan LAG and the elected members. Community and Enterprise also works closely with other areas of the Council to develop and implement the various programmes and grants that were rolled out nationally. Outputs included:

- Strong links with community Groups, Elected Members the wider staff.

- Strong links with the Cavan Local Development Company.
- A total of 304 groups registered with Cavan PPN.
- A total of €324,000 allocated to 77 groups under Community and Enterprise Discretionary grants.
- Pride of Place competition awarded to Le Cheile Hub in Cootehill under their category.
- 13 Leader project applications valued at €883,779.70 assessed and approved with 43 grant claims paid amounting to €2,214,219.09.
- SICAP Direct Action / Interventions - KPI 1 – LCG (Local Community Groups): Target Set 36 - Actual Result 47 = 131% KPI 2 – Individuals: Target Set 405 - Actual Result 700 = 173% KPI 3 – % in Disadvantaged Area: Targeted figure 18.00% - Actual Outcome 53.09 %.

Outcomes:

- Supporting the Strategic Objectives of Cavan County Council's Corporate Plan 2015-2019.
- Successful implementation of the Strategic Objectives of the current Local Economic Community Plan.
- Overall Strategic objectives of LECP Plan achieved.
- Strategic Objectives of Leader Programme achieved in accordance with Programme guidelines.
- Effective delivering of locally led projects that have brought major benefits to communities across Rural Ireland.
- Supported Economic Development within County Cavan.
- Enhanced Social Inclusion among all communities within Cavan including the Traveller Community, LGBTI and Age Friendly
- Community & Economic Projects enhanced with County Cavan.
- Greater economic development opportunities and funding vehicles available to communities, businesses and individuals.
- Maximum Government Funding opportunities sought for County Cavan. Funding allocated to the most appropriate beneficiaries.
- Provision of Temporary Ukrainian Refugee Accommodation.

Section B - Step 2: Summary Timeline of Project/Programme

The following section tracks from inception the **D06 - Community and Enterprise - Revenue Expenditure Programme** as managed by Cavan County Council.

↑ Q1 2022

Draft/Approve Community and Enterprise Annual Service Plan 2022.

Conduct Review for AFS 2021.

Roll out of Municipal District Allocation Funding.
Roll out of any Grants Schemes from the Department.

Signing of SLA agreements for various programmes in Community and Enterprise.

Quarterly payment to Cavan Local Development Company in respect of Leader admin costs.

Quarterly payment to Cavan Local Development Company in respect of SCIAP.

Quarterly payment to Cavan PPN in respect of the related costs.

Quarterly recoupment of Bridge Street Salary to CCLD

Quarterly payment to Comhairle na Nog in respect of associated costs .



Q2 2022

Submission of Annual Performance Indicators 2021
Submission of Annual Report Information 2021.
Roll out of CLAR, ORIS Town and Village Renewal Schemes.

Quarterly payment to Cavan Local Development Company in respect of Leader admin costs.

Quarterly payment to Cavan Local Development Company in respect of SCIAP.

Quarterly payment to Cavan PPN in respect of the associated costs.

Quarterly recoupment of Bridge Street Salary to CCLD.

Quarterly payment to Comhairle na Nog in respect of the related costs .

Continuation Roll out of Grants schemes, policies in respect of Community and Enterprise.

Q3 2022

Quarterly payment to Cavan Local Development Company in respect of Leader admin costs.

Quarterly payment to Cavan Local Development Company in respect of SCIAP.



Q4 2022

Quarterly payment to Cavan PPN in respect of the related costs.
Quarterly recoupment of Bridge Street Salary to CCLD
Quarterly payment to Comhairle na Nog in respect of the associated costs .

Preparation of Budget 2023 Submission
Quarterly payment to Cavan Local Development Company in respect of Leader admin costs.
Quarterly payment to Cavan Local Development Company in respect of SCIAP.
Quarterly payment to Cavan PPN in respect of the related costs.
Quarterly recoupment of Bridge Street Salary to CCLD
Quarterly payment to Comhairle na Nog in respect of the associated costs .

Ongoing

Finalising all recoupments in respect of grant funded schemes
Roll out of initial documentation in respect of review of LECP Plan 2023-2029
Expression of Interest in respect of the next tranche of Leader Funding .

Ongoing

Quarterly Health and Safety Returns
Ongoing review of budgets.
Returns as advised by Department of Rural &
Community Development.

Section B - Step 3: Analysis of Key Documents

The following section reviews the key documentation relating to appraisal, analysis and evaluation of the **D06 - Community and Enterprise - Revenue Expenditure Programme** as managed by Cavan County Council.

Project/Programme Key Documents	
Title	Details
<p>1. Financial Controls /Governance Procedures Relating to the D06 Revenue Programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adopted Budget of Cavan County Council including the Community & Enterprise Function D06 Revenue Expenditure Programme for 2022 - Annual Service Delivery Plan for the Community and Enterprise Section for 2022 - Copy of the LECP for 2016-2021 - Local Development Strategy for Leader Programme 2016 dated 15th Jan 2016 - Community & Enterprise Function Dept Risk Register - Health and Safety Procedures Manual 	<p>The annual revenue budget sets out the revenue funds available to manage the income and expenditure of the Community and Enterprise & Tourism Function for the year 2022. The budget was approved by the Elected Members of the Council.</p> <p>The annual service plan clearly outlines the mission statement, strategic objectives of Community Enterprise and Tourism Section including the implementation plan for the year.</p> <p>This is this six-year Local Economic and Community Plan [LECP] consisting of two elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A local economic element. • A community element. <p>Strategy for ongoing input for the Leader Programme.</p> <p>Procedures for managing potential risks to the strategic objectives of the Dept.</p> <p>Documented H & S Protocols of the Department.</p>

<p>2. Various Letters of Funding Offers / Dept Circulars - D06 Revenue Expenditure Programme including the following Schemes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Operations of the Community & Enterprise Dept - LEADER - SICAP Funding Allocation Emails dated 23/06/22 - CPPN Circular Letter CVSP 2/2022 of 10th March 2022 & CVSP Circular Letter 04/2022 Dated 27/10/22 - Comhairle na Nog - Social Inclusion Initiatives - Bridge Street Resource House - Bike Week - Ukrainian Refugees Supports, - Traveller Community <p>Leader Funding Agreement dated 08/07/2016 SICAP Funding Agreement dated 18/12/2017</p> <p>*The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2018-2023</p> <p>*Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Rural & Community Development and CCC on behalf of the LCDC Local Action Group in its role as Lead Financial Partners with regard to the delivery of the Leader 2014-2020 Programme.</p>	<p>Documented Evidence of all funding schemes are announced by the Department and the Community Enterprise and Tourism ensure these schemes are managed, developed and controlled in accordance with the guidelines issued.</p> <p>Relevant Circulars / Guidance for operation of the various schemes covered by the D06 C & E Revenue Expenditure Programme.</p> <p>Documented Funding Agreements between the Department, the LCDC and co-signed by the Local Authority.</p>
<p>3. SLA Agreements with Service Providers CCLD / Breffni Integrated, Cavan Traveller Movement and Cavan PPN.</p>	<p>Documented Evidence of the Service Level Agreements with different agencies implementing the programmes on behalf of the Council and the LCDC.</p>

<p>4. Annual Financial Statements and Financial Records</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CCCC Annual Financial Statement / D06 Income & Expenditure Account for 2022. - Financial Records & Procurement/ Tendering Records of the C & E Department. Access to Council's Financial Management System (Agresso) - Access to the Pobal IT System and Iris System - CE Orders for payments in excess of €10,000.00 	<p>Annual Financial Statements of the Council for 2022 including the details of the C & E's Revenue Expenditure Programme D06.</p> <p>Procurement Documentation / Expense Records / Purchase Requisitions/ Purchase Orders, Invoices, supporting documentation, CE orders, Procurement / Tender Records of Services Outsourced. Copies of Lease Agreements</p> <p>Financial and administration information on both SICAP and Leader Funding</p>
<p>5. Recoupment Records for Scheme Funding</p> <p>Relating to various schemes under the remit of D06 Revenue Expenditure Programme D06</p>	<p>Supporting documentation of funds recouped from the various government department and other local authorities during 2022 as required under the terms of schemes and funding allocations provided.</p>
<p>6. Key Programme Records / Performance Indicators Stats and Copies of Annual Returns to Department</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SICAP (Iris System) - Leader (Pobal Records) 	<p>Provides information of Scheme, Inputs, Activities, Performances, Outcomes and Outputs as implemented by the PI (Breffni Integrated).</p>

Key Documents 1: Financial Controls /Governance Procedures of Relating the D06 Revenue Programme

- Adopted Budget of Cavan County Council including the Community & Enterprise Function D06 Revenue Expenditure Programme for 2022.
- Annual Service Delivery Plan for the Community and Enterprise Section for 2022.
- Copy of the LECP for 2016-2021.
- Local Development Strategy for Leader Programme 2016.
- Community & Enterprise Function Dept Risk Register.
- Health and Safety Procedures Manual.

Key Document 2: Various Letters of Funding Offers for 2022 / Dept Circulars - D06 Revenue Expenditure Programme

- Leader Funding Agreement dated 08/07/2016
- SICAP Funding Agreement dated 18/12/2017

Key Document 3: SLA Agreements with Service Providers relating to the key elements of the programme

(Leader, SICAP, Bridge Street Resource Centre, Cavan Traveller Movement - CCLD / Breffni Integrated and Cavan PPN)

Key Documents 4: Annual Financial Statements and Financial Records

- CCCC Annual Financial Statement / D06 Income & Expenditure Account for 2022
- Financial Records & Procurement/ Tendering Records of the C & E Department.
- Access to Council's Financial Management System (Agresso)
- Access to the Pobal IT System and Iris System Records

Key Document 5: Recoupment Records for Scheme Funding

Relating to various schemes under the remit of D06 Revenue Expenditure Programme D06

Key Document 6: Key Programme Records / Performance Indicators Stats and Copies and Annual Returns to Department

- SICAP (Iris System)
- Leader Funding (Pobal Records)

Section B - Step 4: Data Audit

The following section details the data audit that was carried out on the **D06 Community and Enterprise Revenue Expenditure Programme** as managed by Cavan County Council. It evaluates whether appropriate data is available for the future evaluation of the project/programme.

Data Required	Use	Availability
Financial Controls /Governance Procedures relating to the D06 Revenue Programme- Including Budgets, Annual Service Delivery Plan, Local Economic & Community Plans, Leader Funding Development Strategy, Risk Management Register	The Annual Budget sets out the funds available to manage the income and expenditure activities of the Community & Enterprise Functions for the (2022). The LCEP and the Leader Funding Development Strategy and the Annual Service Delivery Plan sets out the roadmap for the delivery of this programme including the mission statement, strategic objective, the organisational structure, core values, the key players and the potential risks to the output and outcome.	Yes
Letters of Funding Offers from government together with the relevant circulars for all scheme covered by the D06 Revenue Expenditure Programme with a focus placed on Leader Funding- and SICAP PPN Circular Letter CVSP 2/2022 – Allocation €69,259.20 Dated 10/03/2022	Evidence that the necessary funding streams for the main elements of this revenue programme were sanctioned by the relevant government bodies /departments. The related circulars clearly outline the terms and operating conditions of the various funding streams.	Yes
Copies of Programme Funding Agreements and Memorandum of understanding relating to Leader Funding. All Service Level Agreements with Service Providers, the LCDC and the Department.	These documents outline the operating terms of the funding arrangements and the agreed conditions of the service level agreements in relation to outsourced services to the programme	Yes

<p>The Leader Funding Agreement Dated 8th July 2016 Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 Leader- Local Development Strategy (LDS) Framework Guidelines The SICAP Jan 2018 – Dec 2022 Funding Agreement between the Department and Community Development and CCC and Cavan LCDC dated 18/12/2017 SICAP between CLCDC, CCC and Breffni Integrated CLG dated 18/12/2017 The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme Guidelines (SICAP) 2018-2023</p>	<p>implementor- Breffni Integrated.</p>	
<p>CCC Annual Financial Statements and Financial Records - the D06 Revenue Expenditure Programme including Income & Expenditure Records, Procurement / Tender Records and Recoupment Records, Lease Agreement, CE Payments orders- CE Order 01/2022 CPPN Payments totalling €110,700 dated 07/01/2022, CE Order 18/2022 Cavan Traveller Movement Payment of €20,000 dated 23/02/2022, CE 24/2022 SICAP Funding €880,630 dated 08/03/2022, CE67/2022 SICAP Ukrainian Supports €104,564 dated 29/07/2022, CE 26/2022 Leader Programme Advance Payment of Administration / Animation Funding to Breffni Integrated CLG €342,522.00, CE 95/2022 CCLD Voluntary Contribution for Bridge Street Centre €6,657.66.</p>	<p>The Annual Financial Statement sets out the Cavan County Council financial position for 2022. It gives a true and fair view of their financial affairs based on the actual income and revenue expenditure transactions of the various Council Depts including the D06 Community & Enterprise Function Revenue expenditure programme of the Council. The tender documents provides evidence of compliance with procurement regulations and that value for money was achieved in outsourcing SICAP and Leader Services and goods/ services acquired. Copies of invoices and leasing agreements substantiates the particulars of expenditure charged to the programme. CE Orders ensure the necessary controls apply to approval of programme expenditure limits.</p>	<p>Yes</p>

<p>Scheme Records Stats / Performance Indicators Copies of Annual Returns to Department for SICAP & Leader Funding. Pobal & IRIS System Financial & Administrative Records for 2022. Governance Procedures operated by the Programme Implementor.</p>	<p>The key performance indicators / Stats provide evidence of the outputs and outcomes achieved on the key elements of this programme including Leader & SICAP. The financial records and the governance procedures of the Programme Implementor provide evidence that the various schemes within their remit are effectively and efficiently management and operated in line with the terms and conditions of the programme and the agreed terms of the Service Level Agreements.</p>	<p>Yes</p>
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Data Availability and Proposed Next Steps This in-depth review found that all of the necessary information and documentation relating to the operations of D06 Community & Economic Function Revenue Expenditure Programmes was available for inspection. The key documents surrounding the operations of the Revenue Programme included the LCDC Plan 2016-2021, Local Development Strategy for Leader Programme 2016, the Annual Service Plan 2022, the adopted budget for 2022 together with the Annual & Financial Statements for 2022, Community & Enterprise Grant Funding Records, Leader Funding and SICAP Financial Information, Agresso Financial Reports and Procurement Records, Payroll Reports, the Department Risk Register for 2022 and the particulars of Annual KPI Performance Indicators for 2022.

While the ongoing development of Rural Communities and enhancement of a Social Inclusive Society is at the heart of the D06 Community and Economic Function Revenue Expenditure Programme the overall objectives, activities, output and outcomes achieved are very much dependant on the retention of vital government funded programmes such as SICAP and Leader. Maintaining high quality community services / social inclusion supports and the ongoing engagement with the citizens of County Cavan is of utmost importance to all relevant stakeholders including the Programme Implementor, the LCDC, the Community, Enterprise & Tourism Dept and Senior Management Team of Cavan County Council. This can only be achieved by working strategically, creatively and collaboratively together with a range of partners locally, regionally and nationally.

Section B - Step 5: Key Evaluation Questions

The following section looks at the key evaluation questions for the **D06 Community and Enterprise Revenue Expenditure Programme** as managed by Cavan County Council based on the findings from the previous sections of this report.

Does the delivery of the project/programme comply with the standards set out in the Public Spending Code? (Appraisal Stage, Implementation Stage and Post-Implementation Stage)

On completion of this In-Depth Review Internal Audit can provide reasonable assurance that the D06 Community & Enterprise Function Revenue Expenditure Programme as operated by Cavan County Council is effectively managed and adheres to the standards set out in the Public Spending Code. All community initiatives, economic rural development projects and social inclusion elements of this programme appear to be planned, appraised and implemented in accordance with the relevant guidance and terms of the funding circulars issued by the various Department. The necessary LECP and Leader Funding Development Strategy together with the annual business plans support the remit and objectives of this revenue programme. The necessary funding agreements and service level agreements allow the effective implementation of the services provided. The Council strives to provide maximum support to all communities, individuals, voluntary groups and the businesses of County Cavan by utilising the full potential of the government funded programmes available to enhance rural and economic development. This PSC In-depth Review found that the appropriate organisational management structure is in place together with rigorous budget, financial system, governance procedures and risk control procedures applied. The income & expenditure details and the key performance indicators are closely monitored with a view of achieving maximum outcomes that support the strategic objectives of the Council's Corporate Plan 2020-2024.

Is the necessary data and information available such that the project/programme can be subjected to a full evaluation at a later date?

Yes, all relevant information is available to facilitate a full evaluation of the programme at a later date.

What improvements are recommended such that future processes and management are enhanced?

Internal Audit is satisfied that the Community & Enterprise and Tourism Function of the Council strive to comply with all necessary regulations and programme guidelines. It is advised that the draft (LECP) Local Economic and Community Plan for 2023-2029 outlining the proposed programme actions for the next 6 years be completed and approved by the Council as soon as possible.

Section: In-Depth Check Summary

The following section presents a summary of the findings of this In-Depth Check on the **D06 Community and Enterprise Function Revenue Expenditure Programme** as managed by Cavan County Council.

Summary of the In-Depth Checks: Under section 4 of the Quality Assurance provisions contained in the Public Spending Code Cavan County Council is required to carry out an in-depth review on a minimum of 1% of the total value of all Revenue Projects on the PSC inventory list, averaged over a three-year period. In line with this requirement an in-depth review of the Council's D06 Community & Enterprise Function Revenue Expenditure Programme was undertaken. The value of this programme with expenditure incurred during 2022 was **€3,050,025.19** which represents approximately **4%** of the total value of the Council's Revenue Expenditure Projects of **€77,622,189.44**. On this basis over the last 3 years an **average of 8%** of the Council's Revenue Expenditure Programmes were selected for In-depth Reviews.

The Department of Community , Enterprise and Tourism is responsible for the Local Community Development Committee, SICAP, Leader Funding, the Clar Scheme, Town and Village Revitalisation, Social Inclusion Initiatives, Health Cavan Initiatives, Cavan Food Strategy, Cavan Sports Partnership, Bridge Street Resource House, Peace Programmes, Comhairle na Nog (Junior Council), Cathaoirleach's Awards, the Tourism Office and other major events such as the Walking Festival, Bike Week and Pride of Place Awards. This Council Department also supports and funds the Public Partnership Network which is an independent network of Community and Voluntary Groups in County Cavan that has a remit for improving engagement with citizens. There were 304 voluntary groups registered with the PPN at 31/12/2022.

The LCDC remit covers oversight of various programmes and funding streams for the county including SICAP (Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme) Leader and Peace Programmes. The LCDC is also responsible for the community elements of the Local Economic Community Plan while the Corporate Policy Group of the Council is responsible for the economic element of this plan. Implementation of the LECP actions is ongoing including the drafting of a new 6 year plan for 2023-2029.

The Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2018-2022 and the Leader Funding Programme are delivered via the Local Development Company, Breffni Integrate CLG on behalf of the LCDC. The relevant procurement / tender procedures were applied to the service contracts with the necessary SLA agreements put in place. During 2022 SICAP supported seven hundred Individuals and 47 local community groups exceeding targets for both KP1 and KP2 performance indicators.

In 2022 there were 13 projects approved for Leader Funding amounting to €888,779.70 with 43 verified claims totalling €2,214,219.09 paid to grant applicants facilitating social, economic and rural development projects throughout the County. Oversight of the Leader Funding grants applications is carried out by the Local Action Group (LAG) with Article 48 Checks undertaken by the Council. In general the Review Team was satisfied that there are stringent internal and external governance controls processes applied to both SICAP and the Leader Funding Programme.

The prime role of the Social Inclusion Unit is to improve services for marginalised communities and to work on an interagency basis to address poverty and exclusion in the County. Over the years there has been significant support provided to social inclusion projects including the Age Friendly Programme, Cavan Older People's Council, Cavan Traveller Interagency Group, the Childrens and Young People's Services Committee, the Drug and Alcohol Forum, and Social Inclusion Initiatives covered under the LECP and SICAP which supports communities to take advantage of equal opportunities afforded to them by a modern society.

Over 50% of the D06 Revenue Expenditure Programme is government funded while the balance is funded from the Council's own revenue resources or budget. The relevant government funding agreements and allocations notices were available and management of the various elements of programmes appeared to be implemented in accordance with the various department circulars. The Local Economic & Community Plan 2017-2021 together with Local Development Strategy for Leader Programme 2016 and the Annual Business Service Plan for 2022 clearly identifies the core objectives, activities, proposed outputs and outcomes of the Community, Enterprise and Tourism Functions of the Council which are regularly monitored by all the relevant stakeholders.

In general all elements of this revenue programme were appraised, planned and implemented in accordance the annual budget processes, financial management procedures, procurement protocols and risk management procedures of the Council. Ongoing assessments of the key KPIs are undertaken by the Programme Implementor, the LCDC and the Senior Executive Team of Cavan County Council. On completing the review Internal Audit formed the opinion that the D06 Community & Enterprise Function Revenue Expenditure Programme of Cavan County Council appeared to be effectively managed in 2022.

Based on the findings of the In-depth Review Internal Audit is of the opinion that the D06 Revenue Expenditure Programme was **broadly / substantially compliant** with the relevant requirements of the Public Spending Code.

Quality Assurance – In Depth Check

Capital Project

R188 Safety Improvement Measures at Rathkenny

Cavan County Council

Internal Audit Department



Public Spending Code Quality Assurance Appraisal 2022

In-depth Review Capital Programme

(R188 Safety Improvement Measures at Rathkenny Proposed Capital Project)

Under Consideration

Quality Assurance – In Depth Check

R188 Safety Improvement Measures at Rathkenny Proposed Capital Project

Cavan County Council

Section A: Introduction

This introductory section details the headline information on the programme or project in question.

Programme or Project Information	
Name	R188 Safety Improvement Measures at Rathkenny Proposed Capital Project CN/22/28876 Agresso Job No 28880018
Detail	The proposed scheme seeks to remedy a highly sub-standard section of the R188 Regional Road between Cavan and Cootehill at Rathkenny. The 3.7km section of roadway has inadequate sight stopping distance, a high number of junctions and has a collision history over the past twenty years including one fatality.
Responsible Body	Department of Transport (DoT) - Sanctioning Authority Road Design Dept of Cavan County Council - Sponsoring Agency
Current Status	Technical Advisors Appointed to prepare the (SAR) Strategic Assessment Report - Phases 1-2 Decision Gate O of the Project Lifecycle
Start Date	<i>Cavan CC received €50,000 allocation in 2022 for R188 Rathkenny East-West Road.</i> Issue of 'Letter of Acceptance' to Technical Advisors 7 th November 2022
End Date	As it is at such an early stage of the project lifecycle an overall completion date is difficult to predict and will depend on department approvals and availability of funding. It is likely to take several years should the project prove justified and approvals are forthcoming.
Overall Estimated Lifetime Cost	€20 Million

Project Description

This project has derived from a strategic study into the development of an East-West Link Road between Dundalk and Sligo which was completed in December 2001 with the publishing of the following report.

- Strategic Study of the Development of an East West Link Road – 2001 NRA, CCC, Kirk McClure Morton, Brady Shipman Martin, Fitzpatrick Associates. - 5211.00/Dec.2001

The route corridor identified with the greatest potential to meet the objectives and to serve the needs of the study area was Sligo to Manorhamilton to Enniskillen (N16/A4) to Belturbet (A509) to Cootehill to Carrickmacross to Dundalk. The section of the route from Cavan to Dundalk was identified as strategically important for the future economic development of the Border Region. The project was suspended in 2005 as a number of higher priority roads projects were being progressed at the time.

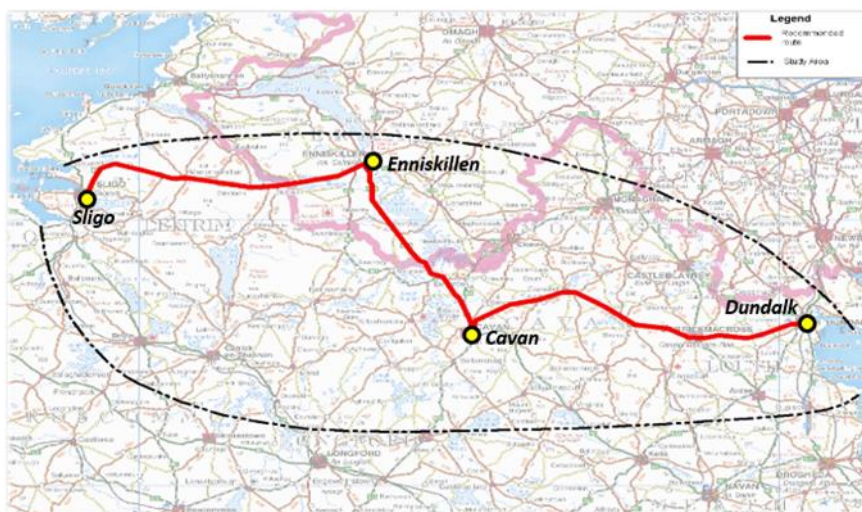


Fig1: East West Link Road

In 2009 Cavan County Council, in conjunction with Monaghan and Louth County Councils, commenced the process to advance the improvement of the Regional Roads that formed the Cavan to Dundalk section of that strategic route.

In March 2009 consultants Roughan & O'Donovan – AECOM Alliance JV was appointed by Cavan County Council to carry out a review of the 2001 Strategic Study and to complete a constraints study, route selection and preliminary design for the Cavan-Dundalk section of the route in accordance with Phase 2 to 4 of the NRA Project Management Guidelines at that time.

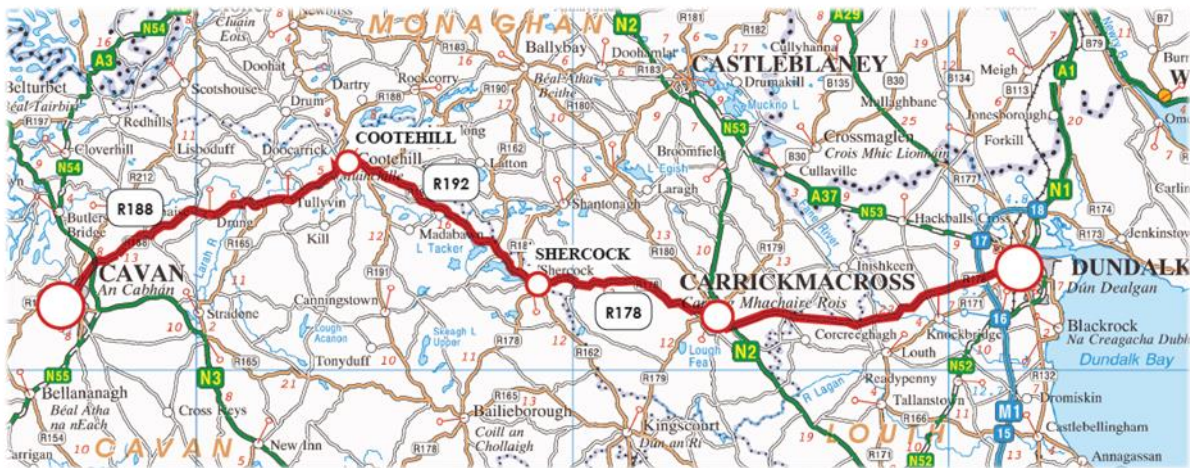


Fig2: Cavan to Dundalk Route

Two reports produced in 2010 by the Roughan & O'Donovan/AECOM JV discussed the feasibility of the Cavan to Dundalk strategic route improvement, including a preliminary project appraisal. These reports were titled,

- Cavan to Dundalk Strategic Route Improvement Scheme Study of the Border Region East-West Transport Corridor Report, April 2010 – RODAECOM JV
- Cavan to Dundalk Strategic Route Improvement Scheme Feasibility Report, October 2010 – RODAECOM JV

Preliminary design was completed in 2012 with the completion of the following reports,

- Route Improvement Strategy Report, February 2011 – RODAECOM JV
- Cavan to Dundalk Strategic Route Preliminary Design Stage 1 Report, November 2012 – RODAECOM JV
- Cavan to Dundalk Strategic Route Preliminary Design Stage 2 Report, October 2015 – RODAECOM JV

Due to funding restrictions, it was not possible to progress the Cavan to Dundalk project through to planning and implementation stages in 2012.

In 2018 Cavan County Council commenced the process of reappraising the scheme in accordance with the then Department of Transport Tourism and Sport, Common Appraisal Framework for Transport Projects and Programmes being developed in accordance with the Public Spending Code. A draft Stage 1 Preliminary Appraisal was prepared in 2019 by Roughan & O'Donovan – AECOM Alliance JV and submitted to the DOT for comment.

In subsequent discussions between Cavan County Council, the Department of Transport and ROD-AECOM JV it was concluded that a risk-based analysis of the route should be carried

out to identify high-risk priority sections. It was agreed that on a pilot basis, the collision risk-based model being developed as part of the TII Risk Based Geometric Design (RibGeom) project would be used for the assessment.

The risk-based analysis was carried out in 2021 and was completed in 2022 with the publishing of the following report.

- Cavan to Dundalk Strategic Regional Route Risk Based Safety Improvement Measures Report on Recommendations – Volume 1 June 2022 RODAECOM JV

The report identified 15 RibGeom sections along the route and highlighted 9 priority sections across the three counties of Cavan, Monaghan, and Louth. Concept safety improvement measures for the 9 priority sections were also identified and assessed using the RibGeom model to assess their effectiveness.

Cavan County Council identified the RibGeom section at Rathkenny Bends on the R188 between Cavan Town and Cootehill Town as its priority section of the 3 locations identified in County Cavan by the RibGeom analysis. It is proposed to advance this scheme for development as a safety improvement scheme.



Fig3: Rathkenny – Project Location

The section of the R188 under consideration weaves around a number of significant drumlins, resulting in an alignment that is highly sub-standard in terms of horizontal geometry, stopping sight distance (SSD) and cross section, including minimal verge widths and roadside hazards, such as signage, telegraph poles and the like as shown in Figure 4 below.



Figure 4. Existing R188

The sub-standard geometry, stopping sight distance and unforgiving roadside results in a high number of collisions, with six minor collisions, one serious collision and one fatal collision recorded in a 20-year period over this 1.8km section of carriageway. Anecdotally there have been many more accidents at this location that have not been officially recorded. The number of public road junctions and direct accesses, distributed along this relatively short section of regional road is also considered very high.

The proposed scheme is currently at the preparation of Strategic Assessment Report (SAR) stage following the appointment of the technical consultants.

The requirement to produce a SAR for this project is set out as the first step for Capital projects in excess of €10million in the Department of Transport’s Memorandum on Grants for Regional and Local Roads effective from 1st March 2021. Major Projects (cost > €20m) and Minor Projects with capital costs in excess of €10m will require a SAR to comply with the PSC. The Strategic Assessment Report (SAR) was introduced by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER) as part of the update of their Public Spending Code (PSC) document in December 2019 and is now the first deliverable in the PSC Project Lifecycle sitting under the ‘Strategic Assessment’ stage.



Section B - Step 1: Logic Model Mapping

As part of this In-Depth Check, The Road Design Office and Internal Audit Unit have completed a Programme Logic Model (PLM) on the **R188 Safety Improvement Measures at Rathkenny Proposed Capital Project** as managed by Cavan County Council -

Objectives	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Improve Safety on the R188 Regional Road. ➤ Improve journey times for motorists on the R188. ➤ Improve Regional Road safety at private accesses along this section of R188. ➤ Improve safety for vulnerable road users on this section of road and for motorists on the surrounding local road network that share junctions with the R188. ➤ Reduce the environmental impacts of the R188. ➤ Improve accessibility and social inclusion in Cootehill and Cavan Town and the wider North-West Region. ➤ Improve integration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Funding from Department of Transport ➤ Cavan County Council's staffing and technical resources. ➤ Buy-in by stakeholders including landowners, community, business, and other groups. ➤ Management of the Project by the Council ➤ Management of Technical Advisors throughout the Planning and Design phases including programming, reporting, meetings, sub-consultants etc. ➤ External Sub-Consultants, Contractors for intrusive and non-intrusive works. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Clearly define the need and objectives of the project. ➤ Prepare a Strategic Assessment Report (SAR) in accordance with PSC and PAG. ➤ Seek relevant Department of Transport approvals to progress the scheme. ➤ Set a programme for the planning and design phases of the scheme. ➤ Procurement of the Technical Consultants. ➤ Progress the scheme in accordance with the Department of Transport's Memorandum on Grants for Regional and Local Roads effective from 1st March 2021. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Planning and Design phases of Department of Transport's Memorandum on Grants for Regional and Local Roads have not yet commenced. ➤ When the scheme is constructed it will deliver the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Improved road safety for all road users of the R188 between Cavan and Cootehill including local road users. ○ Improved environmental conditions. ○ Improved accessibility, social inclusion, integration and physical activity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ When the scheme is constructed: ➤ Overall reduction in the number of collisions / accidents / critical injuries on the R188 Cavan to Cootehill Regional Road and on the surrounding road network. ➤ Reduce the number of RTA fatalities on the R188. ➤ Reduce the risk of accidents. ➤ Support the economy and improve accessibility to deprived rural areas. ➤ Support integration between Cavan, Cootehill and surrounding areas. ➤ Reductions in Journey times and greater certainty of road journey times.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Improve physical activity. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Stage 1 Preliminary Appraisal (The estimated project value requires this project to commence at stage 2A. ➤ Stage 2 Detailed appraisal ➤ Stage 2A Strategic Assessment Report ➤ Stage 3A Planning Design & Statutory Processes ➤ Stage 3B Business Case ➤ Stage 3C Procurement ➤ Stage 3D Implementation and Management of the Project ➤ Stage 3E Post Project Review. <p>The scheme is currently at Stage 2A.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Delivery of the project within budget. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Reduce the Environmental impacts of the existing R188. ➤ Support greater physical activity in the local and wider community.
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A PLM is a standard evaluation tool and further information on their nature is available in the [Public Spending Code](#).

Description of Programme Logic Model

The ‘Cavan to Dundalk Strategic Regional Route Risk Based Safety Improvement Measures Report on Recommendations – Volume 1 June 2022 RODAECOM JV’ assessed the Collision risk along this section of the Cavan to Cootehill R188 Regional Road using the RibGeom risk model. This model has been developed as part of the TII Risk Based Geometric Design (RibGeom) project. That project, which began in 2017, has developed a Risk Model which is based on an analysis of data for over 3,000km of the National Route network. The model, which is based on a combination of international research and Irish data, belongs to one of the most commonly used classes of road safety models, known as negative binomial models. Negative binomial models are in turn a subset of a broader category of statistical models, known as Generalized Linear Models (GLM). This risk-based analysis highlighted the sub-standard nature of the road geometry at Rathkenny and the need for intervention.

The Stage 2A Strategic Assessment Report currently being undertaken, will provide a basis for a decision on whether to proceed with this project in principle or not.

Objectives:

The Project Objectives are to align with the National Planning Framework to;

- Reduce the travel times for access to regional, national and international markets.
- Improve journey time reliability.
- Deliver road network which achieves its required functions in a cost-effective manner.
- Contribute to reductions in air pollution and noise.
- Minimise adverse environmental impacts of new infrastructure.
- Maximise access for the catchment population to education, employment and other services.
- Improve regional accessibility as set out in National Planning Framework (NPF) by improving the connection between Cavan Town (>10,000), Cootehill Town and Dundalk (Regional Centre)

Also to;

- Improve safety for all roads users.
- Improve accessibility and social inclusion in Drung & Tullyvin Villages, Cavan & Cootehill Towns and the wider border region.
- Improve integration.
- Improve physical activity.

Inputs: *The main inputs of the proposed project :*

- Funding from The Department of Transport.
- Cavan County Council's staffing and technical resources.
- Buy-in by stakeholders including landowners, community, business, and other groups.
- Management of the Project by the Council

- Management of Technical Advisors throughout the Planning and Design phases including programming, reporting, meetings, sub-consultants etc.
- External Sub-Consultants, Contractors for intrusive and non-intrusive works

Activities: *The scheme is currently at Stage 2A the preparation of a Strategic Assessment Report.*

The following activities will be necessary to advance to completion the proposed project when the various planning stages are sanctioned and funded by The Department of Transport as the Approving Authority.

- Progress the scheme in accordance with the Department of Transport's Memorandum on Grants for Regional and Local Roads effective from 1st March 2021.
- **Stage 1** Preliminary Appraisal (The estimated project value requires this project to commence at Stage 2A)
- **Stage 2** Detailed Appraisal
- **Stage 2A** Strategic Assessment Report
- **Stage 3A** Planning Design & Statutory Processes
- **Stage 3B** Business Case
- **Stage 3C** Procurement
- **Stage 3D** Implementation and Management of the Project
- **Stage 3E** Post Project Review.
 - Preparation of Technical Consultants Brief for preparation of SAR Report.
 - Procurement and appointment of the Technical Consultants.
 - Prepare a Strategic Assessment Report (SAR) in accordance with PSC and PAG that will clearly define the need and objectives of the project.
 - Seek relevant Department of Transport (DoT) approvals to progress the scheme.
 - Set a programme for the planning and design phases of the scheme.
 - Procurement of the Technical Consultants to progress the project through Planning Design & Statutory Processes.

- Progress the scheme in accordance Regional & Local Roads Capital Projects-Circular RW62018.
- Prepare a detailed Project Brief and Procurement Strategy.
- Management of the Project Budgets.
- Complete and disseminate a Project Completion Report incorporating lessons learned into the sectoral guidance.
- Complete an ex-Post Evaluation Report incorporating lessons learned and potential area for improvement.

Outputs: Stage 3A *The Planning, Design & Statutory processes phase of the project have not yet commenced which will be subject to Department of Transport approval and funding. Stage 2A Strategic Assessment Report is currently in progress.*

When constructed the envisaged outputs of the proposed scheme are:


- Improved road safety for all road users of the R188 Cavan to Cootehill Regional Road and all intermediate Regional & Local Roads.
- Improved environmental conditions.
- Improve accessibility, social inclusion, integration and physical activity.
- Delivery of the project within budget.

Outcomes *on completion of the scheme:*

- Overall reduction in the number of collisions / accidents / critical injuries on the R188 Cavan to Cootehill Regional Road and on the surrounding road network.
- Reduce the number of RTA fatalities on the R188.
- Reduce the risk of accidents.
- Support the economy and improve accessibility to deprived rural areas.
- Support integration between Cavan, Cootehill and surrounding areas.
- Reductions in journey times and greater certainty of road journey times.
- Reduce the environmental impacts of the existing R188.
- Support greater physical activity in the local and wide community.

Section B - Step 2: Summary Timeline of Project/Programme

The following section tracks from inception the **R188 Safety Improvement Measures at Rathkenny Proposed Capital Project** as managed by Cavan County Council.



2001	Strategic Study into the Development of an East West Link Road between Dundalk and Sligo.
2010	Feasibility of the Cavan to Dundalk strategic route Improvement examined, including a preliminary project appraisal
2012	Preliminary design of Cavan to Dundalk Route completed.
2012	Project suspended in 2012 due to funding constraints
2018	Cavan County Council commenced the process reappraising the scheme.
2019	A draft Stage 1 Preliminary Appraisal prepared.
2022	A risk-based analysis was carried out on the Cavan to Dundalk Section of the Sligo -Dundalk Route which highlighted Rathkenny, as the top priority section within County Cavan.
2022	Appointment of Technical Consultants to prepare a Strategic Assessment Report for the R188 Rathkenny Section only.

Section B - Step 3: Analysis of Key Documents

The following section reviews the key documentation relating to appraisal, analysis and evaluation of the **R188 Safety Improvement Measures at Rathkenny Proposed Capital Project** as managed by Cavan County Council.

Project/Programme Key Documents	
Title	Details
<p>1 *Cavan to Dundalk Strategic Regional Route Risk Based Safety Improvement Measures Report on Recommendations – Volume 1 June 2022 RODAECOM JV</p>	<p>This document provides details of the risk-based analysis used to identify high-risk priority sections of the route as advised by Department. It highlights the substandard nature of this section of the R188 at Rathkenny and the need / rationale for the implementation of proposed safety measures.</p>
<p>2 *Department of Transport Grant Allocation Circular for 2022 *Department of Transport Circular RW 02/2023 dated 14th February 2023</p>	<p>Supporting Documentation - Regional & Local Roads Grant Allocations - Cavan County Council received an allocation of €50,000 in 2022 and a further €250,000 for Road Strategic Regional & Local Roads in 2023 in relation to the SRLR R188 Rathkenny East-West Road</p>
<p>3 *Tender Documents for the Technical Consultancy Service Contract to prepare the SAR- Publication Date 20/09/2022 *Copies of Tender Submissions *Quotation Open Record Sheet- Dated 14/10/2022 Quotation Received Record Sheets- Dated 14/10/2022 *Tender Assessment Report RFT 222207 – QUO2200395 Dated 17th Oct 2022 Lowest Tender price €7950 excluding VAT</p>	<p>Evidence of the Procurement Procedures applied to the Service Contract including the specifications of the tender specifications and the 2 submissions</p> <p>1. Roughan & O'Donovan Consulting Engineers 2. RPS Group</p> <p>Tender Assessment Report - This report confirms the process used and the basis for the tender competition and makes a final recommendation for acceptance of a particular tender for consideration by the Employer.</p>
<p>4 *Letter of Intent issued to Roughan & O'Donovan - Dated 24/10/2022</p>	<p>Supporting documentation re the appointment of the contractor. The procurement procedures applied appear to be correct and in accordance</p>

<p>*Unsuccessful Letter issued 24/10/2022 to the tender that ranked 2nd</p> <p>*Health & Safety Competency Assessment Letter issued 02/11/2022</p> <p>*Chief Executives Order No. 22/269 Re the Technical Consultancy Services Contract to Prepare the Strategic Assessment Report. Dated 4th November 2022</p> <p>*Letter of Acceptance and Acknowledgement signed by Roughan & O'Donovan 14/11/2022</p> <p>Contact Award Notice – Transaction 222207 – RFQ dated 28/11/2022</p> <p>Tender And Schedule</p> <p>*Consultancy Contract for the Provision of Strategic Assessments Report for the R188 Safety Improvement Measures at Rathkenny dated 28th November 2022</p>	<p>with the necessary procurement regulations Acceptance of Tender by Roughan & O'Donovan for the provision of Technical Consultancy Services.</p> <p>Evidence of CEO Order approving the appointment of the successful Consultant awarded the SAR contract.</p> <p>The Service Contract outlines the standard conditions of engagement for consultancy Services (Technical) for this project.</p>
<p>5 * Strategic Assessment Report (SAR) at draft stage.</p> <p>* Purchase Order 400189138 - Raised for the Proposed SAR Services to facilitate the payment of the Contractor on completion of the Report.</p>	<p>This Report is still at draft stage and was not available at the time of the review. On completion it will be forwarded to the Department.</p> <p>Evidence of correct procurement / contract payment procedures in place with PO is in place to facilitate the payment of the agreed tender price.</p>

Key Document 1: Cavan to Dundalk Strategic Regional Route Risk Based Safety Improvement Measures Report on Recommendations

– Volume 1 June 2022 RODAECOM JV

This document was prepared to identify the high-risk priority sections of the route as advised by the department. It helps substantiate the rationale and objective for undertaking the proposed safety works on the R188 Route

Key Document 2: Cavan County Council's Regional & Local Roads Grant Allocations.

Evidence of the necessary supporting document for the funding allocations was available on file to allow the project to progress to the next phase whenever the necessary approval is given by the Department on receipt of the SAR with €50,000.00 allocated by the Department of Transport in 2022 & €250,000.00 in 2023 - Circular RW 02/2023.

Key Document 3: Tender Documentation for the Technical Consultant Services to prepare the SAR on the proposed project.

All necessary supporting documentation was in place to substantiate that the correct tender procedures were applied prior to awarding the contract to the successful contract with the most economical advantage tender price.

Key Document 4: Supporting documentation re the appointment of the Successful Contractor- Roughan & O'Donovan at €7,950.00 plus VAT

There was clear evidence available on file that the correct procedures were applied to the appointment of the Technical Consultants to prepare the Strategic Assessment Report on the proposed roads safety measures including the [Letter of Acceptance and Acknowledgement issued to Roughan & O'Donovan 14/11/2022](#) a copy of the CEO approval and signed contract by all relevant stakeholders dated 28th November 2023.

Key Document 5: Strategic Assessment Report (SAR) – Not ready for review yet as still in preparation stage.

As this report is still only in draft format it was not available at the time of PSC In-depth Review. A purchase order was in place to facilitate to payment of the contractor on completion of their work.

Section B - Step 4: Data Audit

The following section details the data audit that was carried out on the **R188 Safety Improvement Measures at Rathkenny Proposed Capital Project** as managed by Cavan County Council. It evaluates whether appropriate data is available for the future evaluation of the project/programme.

Data Required	Use	Availability
Cavan to Dundalk Strategic Regional Route Risk Based Safety Improvement Measures Report on Recommendations – Volume 1 June 2022 RODAECOM JV	Identifies the high-risk priority sections of the route covered by the proposed road safety measure as advised by the department. Evidence of the necessity / rational to undertake the works	Yes
Supporting Documentation - Regional & Local Roads Grant Allocations to CCC	Evidence of the funding available to undertake the initial appraisal of the project to allow it to progress to the next stage of the project life cycle.	Yes
Evidence of the Procurement Procedures applied to the Service Contract including the Specialised Consultancy Services Tendering Documentation, Tender Evaluations,	Evidence that the correct procurement process was applied in line with PSC Guidelines to ensure value for money is achieved in awarding the Consultancy Contract	Yes
Supporting documentation re the appointment of the Successful Contractor-	Verification of the appointment of Service Contract and necessary SMT approval the	Yes

Roughan & O'Donovan at €7,950.00 plus VAT - including the Chief Executive Order, Letter of Appointment & the signed Consultancy Services Contract	related contract.	
Strategic Assessment Report (SAR)	A strategic assessment Reports (SAR) provides details on the investment rational	No - the SAR was not available at the time of the In-depth Review as it was still in draft format.

Data Availability and Proposed Next Steps

Yes - With the exception of SAR the Strategic Assessment Report all supporting documentation to date relating to Phases 0 - 2 of this project is available. The appointed consultants are currently preparing the SAR documentation for submission to the Department to seek Gate (0) Departmental approval to proceed to the next stage of the process.

Section B - Step 5: Key Evaluation Questions

The following section looks at the key evaluation questions for the **R188 Safety Improvement Measures at Rathkenny Proposed Capital Project** as managed by Cavan County Council based on the findings from the previous sections of this report.

Does the delivery of the project/programme comply with the standards set out in the Public Spending Code? (Appraisal Stage, Implementation Stage and Post-Implementation Stage)

This project is under consideration so the initial appraisal phases 0 - 2 (Gate 0) of the project lifecycle of the proposed project has just commenced with the appointment of the technical consultants to prepare the SAR - the Strategic Assessment Report as required under the PSC. To date all necessary appraisal works appear to have been done in line with the TII Project Management Guidelines and the required standards set out in the PSC.

Is the necessary data and information available such that the project/programme can be subjected to a full evaluation at a later date?

Yes, all necessary data and information is available for a full evaluation at a later date.

What improvements are recommended such that future processes and management are enhanced?

As the proposed project is at the initial stages of the appraisal process there are no recommended improvements at this phase. The Project Team has advised that the proposed scheme will be undertaken in accordance with the Department of Transport's Memorandum on Grants for Regional and Local Roads and the latest version of Public Spending Code Regulations.

Section: In-Depth Check Summary

The following section presents a summary of the findings of this In-Depth Check on the **R188 Safety Improvement Measures at Rathkenny Proposed Capital Project** as managed by Cavan County Council.

Summary of In-Depth Check

Under Section 4 of the Quality Assurance Provisions contained in the Public Spending Code Cavan County Council is required to carry out an in-depth review on a minimum of 5% of the total value of all Capital Projects on the PSC inventory list averaged over a three-year period. The overall estimated lifetime value of Cavan County Council's Capital Projects in 2022 amounts to **€784,616,865.45**. In-depth Reviews were carried out on two capital projects with a combined value of **6%** of all Capital projects identified in the inventory list. The average % over a 3-year period of Capital Projects selected for In-Depth Check(s) (based on value) is **5%**.

An In-depth Review was undertaken on the **R188 Safety Improvement Measures at Rathkenny Road's Capital Project (Under Consideration)**. The estimated lifetime cost of this project is **€20 million** which represents approximately **2.5%** of the overall value of the Council's Capital Projects. A second In-depth Review was undertaken on **Abbeylands Capital Project with (Expenditure Incurred)** by the Council. The estimated lifetime value of this project was **€25 million** which represents approximately **3.2%** of the total value of the Capital Projects in 2022.

This project was derived from a strategic study into the development of an East-West Link Road between Dundalk and Sligo which was initially completed in December 2001 - Strategic Study of the Development of an East West Link Road – 2001 NRA, CCC, Kirk McClure Morton, Brady Shipman Martin, Fitzpatrick Associates. - 5211.00/Dec.2001. With a view of progressing this project a number of studies were subsequently undertaken by the appointed consultants Roughan & O'Donovan – AECOM Alliance JV in 2009 /2010.

A Preliminary Design was completed in 2012 but unfortunately at that time due to funding restrictions it was not possible to progress the Cavan to Dundalk project through to planning and implementation stages.

In 2018 the project was re-appraised by Cavan County Council in accordance with the Department of Transport Tourism and Sport, Common Appraisal Framework for Transport Projects. A draft Stage 1 Preliminary Appraisal was prepared in 2019 by Roughan & O'Donovan – AECOM Alliance JV and submitted to the DOT. Subsequent discussions between Cavan County Council, the Department and ROD-AECOM JV concluded that a risk-based analysis of the route should be carried out to identify high-risk priority sections of the proposed scheme. This was completed in 2022 with the publishing of the following report - Cavan to Dundalk Strategic Regional Route Risk Based Safety Improvement Measures Report on Recommendations – Volume 1 June 2022 RODAECOM JV. Concept safety improvement measures for 9 priority sections within Cavan were identified and assessed using the RibGeom model to assess their effectiveness.

The Council focused on the Rathkenny Bends on the R188 between Cavan Town and Cootehill Town as priority of the 3 locations outlined in the RibGeom analysis. This 3.7 km section of the R188 Regional Road has sub-standard geometry, stopping sight distance and unforgiving verges that has results in a high number of collisions, with six minor collisions, one serious collision and one fatal collision recorded in a 20-year period over. On this basis it is proposed to advance the necessary work for development as a safety improvement scheme.

The Safety Improvement Measures at Rathkenny is currently under consideration and the initial appraisal phases 0 - 2 (Gate 0) of the project lifecycle has just commenced with the appointment of the technical consultants to prepare the SAR (Strategic Assessment Report) which is required under the TII Project Management Guidelines and the PSC. An assessment of the tenders received for the Technical Consultancy Services for the Preparation of the SAR identified the winning tender with a recommendation to accept the most economically advantageous tender. Roughan & O'Donovan was awarded the contract. As required by the Public Spending Code and the Project Management Guidelines the initial project appraisals (Phase 0- 2) appear to have been strategically managed to date with the view of achieving the prime objective of the scheme and maximising the proposed outputs and outcomes.

Based on findings of the In-depth Review on the Proposed R188 Safety Improvement Measures at Rathkenny Road's Capital Project the audit opinion is that Cavan County Council appears to be **broadly / substantially compliant** with the relevant requirements of the Public Spending Code.

Quality Assurance – In Depth Check

Capital Project

45000012 - Abbeylands Project

Cavan County Council
Internal Audit Department

Public Spending Code Quality Assurance Appraisal 2022

In-depth Review Capital Programme
(Abbeylands Proposed Capital Project)

Expenditure Being Incurred



	<p>Tionscadal Éireann Project Ireland 2040 Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF)</p>	 Cavan Comhairle Contae an Chabháin Cavan County Council
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Quality Assurance – In Depth Check

Abbeylands Capital Project

Cavan County Council

Section A: Introduction

This introductory section details the headline information on the programme or project in question.

Programme or Project Information	
Name	Abbeylands Capital Project Capital Project Job Code
Detail	<p>This project relates to the regeneration of “Abbeylands”, a site of rich historical significance in the heart of Cavan Town, which is under-utilised and under-developed and has the potential to act as a catalyst and an unlocking mechanism for private sector investment.</p> <p>It is proposed to develop and implement a scheme of works to create a public and civic space in the town core with the Abbeylands site as its core and to create the first pedestrianised area to rejuvenate the town centre.</p> <p>Phase 1 of the Masterplan provides for the construction of a Remote Working Centre / Business Development Hub and a Community Services Centre, both of which are to be framed around a new central civic space and linked pedestrian streets.</p>
Responsible Body	Cavan County Council (CCC) (Sponsoring Agency)
Current Status	Capital expenditure being incurred – ongoing
Start Date	2018 commencement of URDF Application Category B (URDFCav001)
End Date	Envisaged 2025
Overall Estimated Lifetime Cost	Approximately €25 Million

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Cavan County Council (CCC), in collaboration with key stakeholders, propose to undertake a structured scheme of works to redevelop a significant area of backlands, with the purpose of rejuvenating the town core which has been in steep decline in recent years. This part of the town core which is known as 'Abbeylands' is an open green space in the heart of Cavan Town, that is currently only accessible from a single point of access. It is the old town core and currently serves no commercial purpose despite its location in the heart of the town. It is surrounded by the rear of properties that front Main Street, Abbey Street, Town Hall Street and Bridge Street.

Abbeylands is a site rich in historical significance in the heart of Cavan Town, under-utilised and underdeveloped but has the potential to act as a catalyst and an unlocking mechanism for private sector investment. It centres around the site of a former Franciscan Friary, or St Mary's Abbey. All that remains is the Bell Tower, the oldest building in Cavan Town. Owen Ruadh O'Neill, who was killed by Oliver Cromwell at nearby Lough Oughter Castle, was buried in the Friary but his grave was not marked.

Aerial Photo of Abbeylands Below :



This project has been in the planning since 1994 and has been revisited on numerous occasions by Cavan County Council as follows:-

1994 – Urban Improvements and Conservation Study by Shaffrey Associates first came up with the concept of a new Public space at Abbeylands including a landscaped Park, paved area, outdoor performance area and also mapped out a series of access streets to the main streets in the town including Bridge Street and Main Street.

1998 – Design ideas for Bridge Street backlands to Abbeylands site and streetscape – This project looked at opportunities for businesses. One business created a beer garden to its rear but Abbeylands never progressed.

2007 – Cavan Urban Design Framework – O'Mahony Pike – Examined Cavan town in its entirety and suggested major redevelopment around Abbeylands as untapped potential.

2008 – Cavan Town and Environs Development Plan – This adopted the Urban Designed framework incorporating Abbeylands.

2012 – Dara Hilliard Concept Drawings: Landscape proposal for Cavan Town Council – A sketched proposal for carrying out works on Abbeylands site, creation of Paved area adjacent to the old graveyard and creation of new pedestrian access routes.

2014-2020 Cavan Town and Environs Development Plan – This document again revisits Abbeylands and identifies opportunities to create a pedestrian Urban Park.

2018 – Blackwood Associates Architects – Commissioned by CCC to carry out a public realm study of Abbeylands and the Market Square area of the town. This scoping document provides a framework providing guidance on essential works required to enable the site to be opened up, potential access points, and sites with potential for development as part of a scheme.

However, the project never proceeded to planning stage primarily for 2 reasons:

- (1) Key properties abutting the site were in private ownership and the owners were not positively disposed towards the scheme;
- (2) No fund such as the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) previously existed to act as a catalyst for the capital investment required.

The Blackwood document ultimately provided the roadmap for URDF 2018 CAT B application.

Letters of support have been secured from key property owners adjoining the Abbeylands site which confirm the conditions are now finally in situ after 24 years for this scheme to proceed to development/implementation stage.

PARTICULARS OF FUNDING – Urban Regeneration Development Fund (URDF) 2018

The URDF is a flagship element of Project Ireland 2040. Under the stewardship of the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage (Department), the Fund was established to support more compact and sustainable development, through the regeneration and rejuvenation of Ireland's five cities and other large towns, in line with the objectives of NPF (National Planning Framework 2040) and NDP (National Development Plan 2021-2030). This enables a greater proportion of residential and mixed-use development to be delivered within the existing built-up footprint of our cities, and to ensure that more parts of Ireland's urban areas can become attractive and vibrant places, in which people choose to live and work, as well as to invest and to visit.

Applications are assessed under the following criteria :

1. Strategic Alignment to NPF National Strategic Outcomes and national Policy on Climate Action and Compatibility with RSES and MASP where appropriate.
2. The proposal must be intrinsic to a High Quality strategic vision that will be instrumental in the achievement of transformational, place-based change.
3. Proposal must deliver qualitative lasting impacts well beyond the life of the project, which will become self-sustaining and which will outweigh and outlast the initial public investment involved.
4. Collaboration between promoting parties and level of endorsement of key local and sectoral authorities for proposal.
5. An innovative approach, and in particular initiatives that will contribute to low carbon, climate resilience and environmental sustainability, is an important and fundamental consideration in terms of a projects long term sustainable success.
6. Match Funding & Additionality.
7. Governance & Management Capacity of partners to deliver project as envisaged and to meet Public Spending Code and governance requirements.
8. Extent to which the proposal can deliver on key policy priorities.

9. Overall quality of proposal and Value for Money.
10. Additionality.

URDF Call 1 Funding

In September 2018, CCC sought Category B grant funding from the URDF to prepare a Masterplan and Part 8 Application for the Abbeylands area. Preliminary approval for 75% URDF funding of €262,500 (**URDF_089 [renamed URDFCav001 in December 2020]**) was received in June 2019 towards "Technical assistance to develop a structured scheme of works to develop backlands in the town core and rejuvenate the town centre". CCC 25% match funding contribution was €87,500.00.

URDF Call 2 Funding

In May 2020, CCC sought Category A grant funding from the URDF towards the roll out of the Capital Works related to Phase 1 of the Masterplan. Preliminary approval for 75% URDF funding of €14,493,750 (**URDFCav002**) was received in August 2021 towards the initial indicative costs of €19.325m. CCC clearly demonstrated their commitment to progressing this project with confirmation provided by the local authority that the 25% match funding contribution of €4,831,250.00 was in place.

MASTERPLAN & PART VIII Application

Procurement - CCC publicly procured and commissioned a multi-disciplinary design team to develop the project design through from Masterplan Stage to the Phase 1 Planning.

The design team brief included for the preparation of a detailed masterplan to include access, parking, building footprints, scale/height, indicative design, public/open spaces and land use. The design team were tasked with identifying separate independent development zones within Abbeylands and to develop a phasing programme for delivery of the scheme.

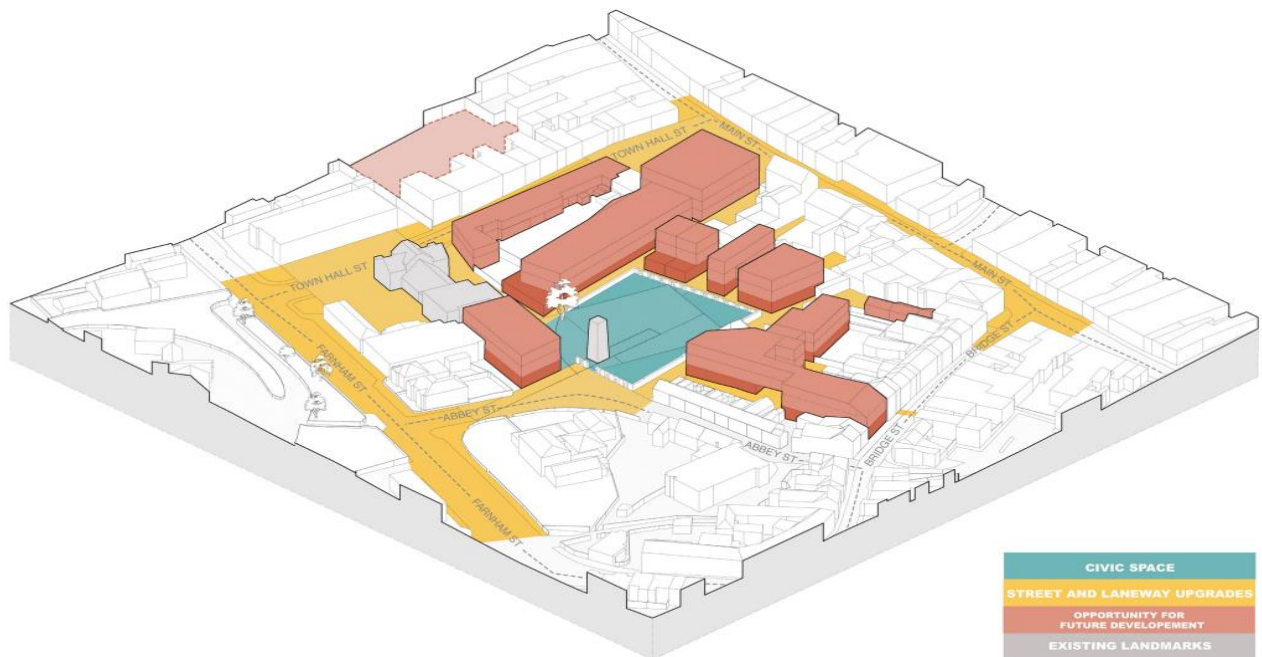
Outcome – The joint venture Cooney Architects Ltd and DHB Architects Ltd were appointed by CCC CE Order dated 16th December 2019.

Aim - The main aim of the Masterplan was to identify and develop a structured scheme of works to create a public and civic space in the town centre with the Abbeylands site as its core and create the first pedestrianised area in the town. It also aimed at opening up for redevelopment a significant area of backlands in the town core with the purpose of rejuvenating the town centre.

In collaboration with key stakeholders, these works to redevelop Abbeylands would help stimulate private sector investment, commercial activities and tourism whilst reversing existing vacancy and dereliction, with the purpose of rejuvenating the town core, boosting the local economy, creating employment opportunities and an attractive place to live within.

The masterplan identified appropriate land usages which informed the development brief for specific buildings within the Phase 1 Part VIII application. The consultants were tasked with providing complete Architectural, Engineering, Transportation, Archaeological services and all planning documentation (including drawings, Screening for Appropriate Assessments and Environmental Reports and all other relevant information required for Part 8 / Planning Application Planning process).

Phase 1 of the Masterplan provides for the construction of a Remote Working Centre / Business Development Hub (on the site where McIntyres old warehouse was located) and a Community Services Centre (where Donohoe's Foodfare was located), both of which are to be framed around a new central civic space and linked pedestrian streets.



Adoption - The Cavan Abbeylands Masterplan was adopted in September 2021, following extensive community, landowner and business consultation and has identified a series of high value and transformational interventions, supported by key partners, devised to stimulate social, cultural, economic and amenity regeneration in the heartland of Cavan Town.

PART VIII - Following a detailed planning assessment CCC received Part VIII planning approval (subject to 11 listed items of immaterial matters being agreed with the Planning Section) on 27th March 2023.

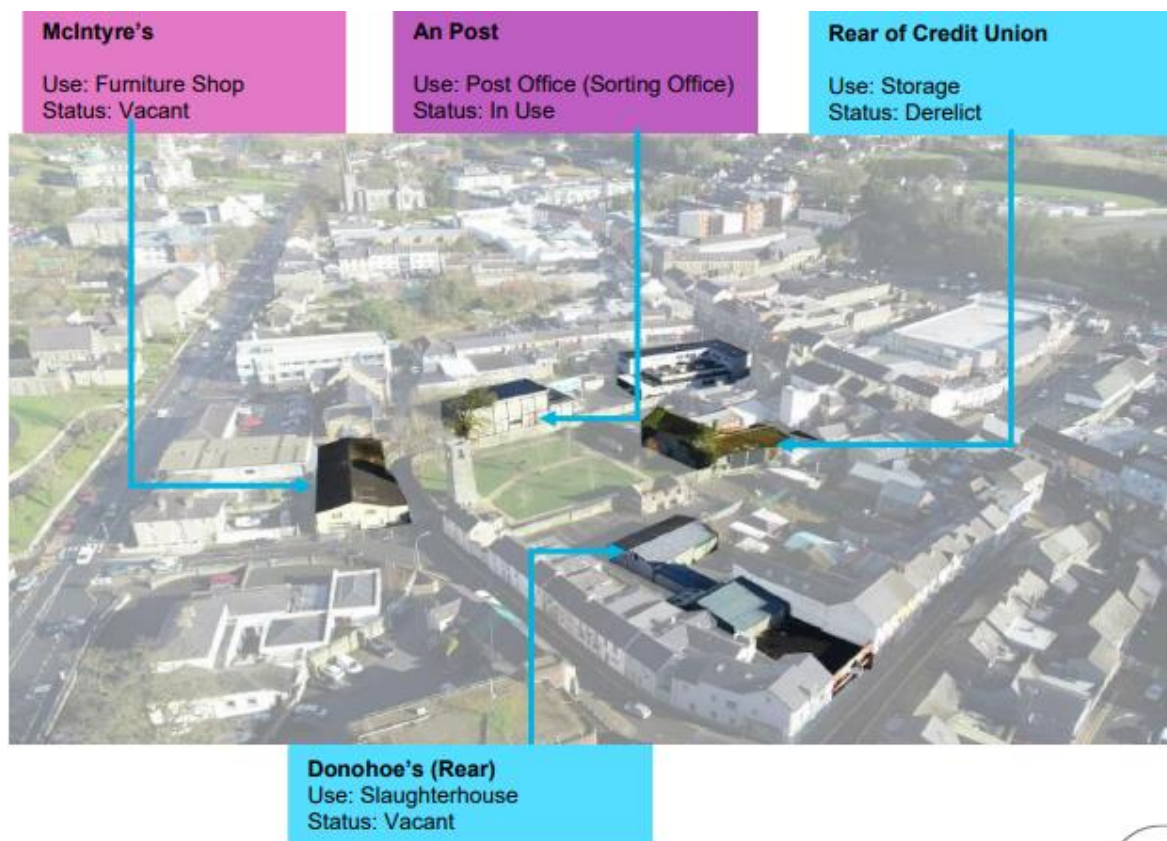
Legal Title: As a condition of the grant funding, CCC are required to hold legal title to the premises upon which the development works are taking place. CCC therefore took the strategic decision, with the agreement of the URDF, to proceed with the acquisition of four key properties, at a cost of €1.394m, ensuring the Council is in a position to act as a key partner in this important regeneration project. These properties are:-

- (1) **McIntyres Furniture Store/Warehouse** – site of the proposed new 3-storey Cultural and Remote Working / Business Development Building. Cavan County Council is registered owner (Folio CN35016F) since 26th August 2019. The cost of purchase, including legal fees - €353,000.
- (2) **Donohoe's Foodfare** - site of the proposed new part 2-storey, part 3-storey, Community Services building. Cavan County Council is the registered owner (Folio CN36640F) since 20th June 2022. The cost of purchase, including legal fees - €750,000,
- (3) **No. 18 Abbey Street** (formerly O'Donoghue's residence) which is a vacant residential property located at the entrance to the Abbeylands Park and which will be converted to commercial use. Cavan County Council are registered owners of this property (Folio CN36667F) since 20th July 2022. The cost of purchase, including legal fees - €118,000.
- (4) **Access alleyway and outbuildings to rear of Credit Union**

This property was purchased to create a new pedestrian linkage through to Main Street.

This property is in the ownership of Cavan County Council since 16th February 2021. The cost of purchase, including legal fees - €173,000.00.

The location of properties 1, 2 & 4 which constitute development works, together with the location of the An Post building are illustrated on the map below:



PUBLIC SPENDING CODE (PSC) – PROJECT LIFECYCLE

Under the PSC, a project must work its way through a project lifecycle, namely a series of steps and activities which are necessary to take the proposal from concept to completion and evaluation. This Lifecycle involves the following six stages:-

- Strategic Assessment Report (SAR)
- Preliminary Business Case (PBC)
- Final Business Case (including design, procurement strategy and tendering)
- Implementation
- Review
- Ex-Post Evaluation

1. Decision Gate 0 - Strategic Assessment Report (SAR)

Following an announcement in August 2021 that CCC were successful in their application to the second call of URDF's capital programme, confirming preliminary approval for the inclusion of the Abbeylands proposal, the URDF confirmed that the application which was submitted in respect of the proposal, was deemed to constitute and satisfy the SAR Stage.

2. Decision Gate 1 - Preliminary Business Case (PBC)

This stage requires the preparation of a detailed PBC. The PBC process is a critical stage in the assessment of potential project proposals. It provides a framework to assess costs, benefits, affordability, deliverability, risks and sensitivities associated with the potential project options and

inform decisions on the viability and desirability of the proposed project. The PBC will address all aspects relating to the construction, operation and future management of the project including:

- Strategic relevance of project
- Affordability
- Risk and Risk Management
- Economic and Financial appraisal (demand analysis and description of assumptions)
- Procurement
- Delivery risk
- Implementation, Operation and Governance
- Monitoring and Evaluating

Procurement - CCC sought tenders in March 2022 for a multidisciplinary Consultancy Service for the preparation of a PBC for the redevelopment of Abbeylands, Cavan (Phase 1) as approved under the URDF. The Brief stated that the PBC should provide a strong narrative with evidence based rationale for each of the public spending code requirements aligned with project objectives.

Outcome & Findings - An external consultancy firm, FPM Accountants (Ireland) Limited [formerly PKF-FPM Accountants (Ireland) Limited], were commissioned by CCC in April 2022. The PBC resulted in costs being revised upwards to take account of inflation and resulted in new indicative costs of c.€25m.

The original SMART objectives from the SAR, relating to provision of new infrastructure, reduced vacancies, increased footfall/pedestrianisation, new job creation and increased town core residencies were revisited and updated.

A financial appraisal was also carried out to examine the viability and sustainability of the project. This focused on whether the options outlined represent value for money (taking account of wider costs and benefits), the primary focus of which is on affordability and financial impact.

A detailed Risk Assessment concluded that the risks identified were not insurmountable and that CCC appear to have sufficient skills, experience and knowledge to implement the project as identified.

A review of the most appropriate structure from which to operate the new facilities was undertaken, as CCC recognises the importance of ring fencing these facilities from the Council's current business. The use of a Designated Activity Company (DAC) is recommended given that it offers flexibility in terms of reuse of any potential surplus to accrue.

Recruitment of a Business Development Manager (BDM) 6-12 months prior to completion of the project is also recommended for the ongoing operation, management and promotion of the centres.

The completed Preliminary Business Case was submitted to the Department in October 2022 with approval to proceed to the next stage received on 15th May 2023.

3. Decision Gate 2 – Final Business Case (FBC) – Pre-tender approval

As part of the Final Business Case process, a detailed Project Brief and Procurement Strategy is required for the Approving Authority to provide approval to proceed to tender.

Procurement – CCC sought tenders in March 2023 for a consultant multi-disciplinary design team to deliver Phase 1 of the project in full, from Stage (ii) Design through to Stage (v) Handover as per the Construction Works Management Framework (CWMF) structure. The successful tenderer will be responsible for the contract administration of these works in two stages:-

- (1) A 'DeRisk' Contract using the 'Public Works Investigation Contract' PW-CF71; and
- (2) A main building works contract using the 'Building Works designed by the Employer' contract PW-CF12.

Outcome & Findings - Closing date for receipt of tenders was 30th March 2023 and tenders are currently being evaluated.

4. Decision Gate 3 – Final Business Case (FBC) – Approval to proceed

The FBC is required for the Approving Authority to provide Approval to Proceed to the implementation stage of the project. It is required to be submitted to the Approving Authority after the tendering process but before the award of the main construction contract.

The purpose of the FBC is to reassess the assumptions and findings in the PBC with a more detailed and updated understanding of the costs, benefits, risks, deliverability and affordability of the project.

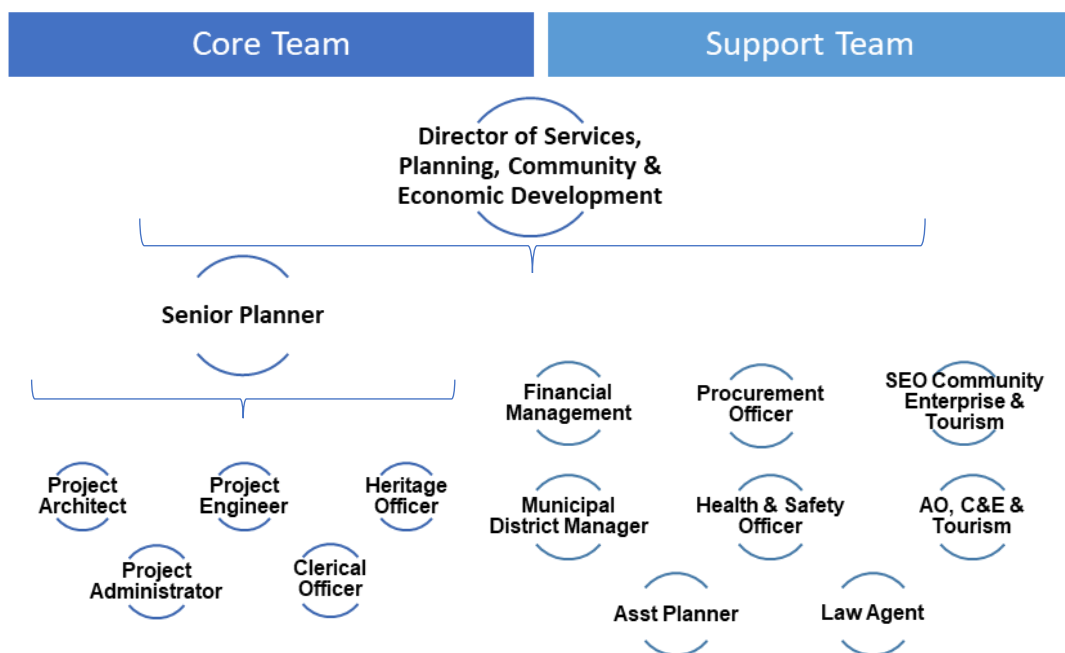
Part of the duties of the successful multi-disciplinary Design Team (procured under 3 above) will be to provide updated information for completion of the Final Business Case for submission to the Department.

Management and Oversight

CCC have taken this proposal from its initial concept and progressed it through to Decision Gate 1 (as outlined above) and are now focused on the next stage of the project lifecycle Decision Gate 2 – the Final Business Case and approval to proceed to Construction stage.

CCC is an experienced public sector body in administering significant government funding and in developing large capital projects. As lead partner, it is the responsibility of CCC to exercise appropriate cost control and to deliver the project in full compliance with the Public Spending Code (PSC) and, in respect of the capital works, with the Capital Works Management Framework (CWMF). CCC will take ultimate responsibility for ensuring the project succeeds in achieving its objectives.

In this regard, CCC have put in place a dedicated and experienced team of planning, architectural, engineering, heritage, procurement, finance, legal and administrative staff who have the necessary project management skills and expertise to deliver this project.



Elected Representatives

Elected Members participation and endorsement is being delivered through existing Municipal District and plenary Council structures, using existing management and council business structures. This includes statutory meetings, workshops and public consultations, consideration of progress reports and consideration of Part VIII's.

URDF FUNDING DRAWDOWN

Drawdown of Category B grant funding from the URDF, towards the completion of the Masterplan and Part 8 Application for Abbeylands (Project ref: URDFCav001) is governed by Appendix 5 – URDF Funding Principals of Allocation Letter which outlines 15 General Conditions to follow.

All claims for recoupment must be submitted on the official URDF Recoupment Claim Form, which must be signed by a Director of Services or equivalent officer. This must be accompanied by a statement of expenditure from the Applicant's financial management system showing the project cost centre and description and signed off by the relevant Director of Services verifying that the expenditure shown complies with the URDF Funding Principle.

To date CCC have **claimed €242,432 leaving a balance of €20,068 to be drawn down** under this grant approval. Covid-19 affected the timeline of the project with the Part VIII process only being completed in early 2023.

Also, as a result of the impact of Covid-19, the Department per Circular URDF 02/2020 dated 12th May 2020, allowed for a **temporary increase in the rate of recoupment** in respect of Local Authority cash outlay on URDF supported projects, to help alleviate cash flow issues for Local Authorities and maintain the program momentum. This allowed for recoupment at a rate of 100% of eligible vouched cash expenditure going forward together with 100% recoupment on any past claims, subject to up to 95% of the fixed URDF allocation. 5% or €13,125 will be held back until then project is satisfactorily completed. Claims 3 & 4 apply.

With regard to the Category A grant funding from the URDF (Project Ref: URDFCav002) towards the roll out of the Capital Works related to Phase 1 of the Masterplan, no funds have yet been drawn down under this grant approval.

Administration Costs

Circular URDF 1/2019, issued 27th November 2019, set out arrangements for Local Authorities to claim a sum of €60,000 per annum to assist with the costs incurred in respect of administration and management of their URDF Programme.

Subsequently Circular URDF 02/2020 allowed for this grant to be drawn down in two half yearly recoupments of €30,000 each, still subject to the conditions of Circular URDF 1/2019.

A sum of €60,000 per year has been received from 2019 to 2022 inclusive giving a total of €240,000 received to date.

Section B - Step 1: Logic Model Mapping

As part of this In-Depth Check, the Planning Section and Internal Audit Unit have completed a Programme Logic Model (PLM) on the **Abbeylands Capital Project** to be undertaken by Cavan County Council –

A PLM is a standard evaluation tool and further information on their nature is available in the [Public Spending Code](#).

Objectives	Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and regenerate Abbeylands – a prominent but under-utilized town centre site. • Safeguard and rejuvenate the old medieval centre of Cavan town. • Create a vibrant town centre space with new pedestrian streets and public spaces. • Open up a significant area of backlands in the town core for redevelopment. • Act as a catalyst and confidence builder for additional private sector investment. • Redress increasing vacancy and dereliction in the town core. • Increase Social & 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing funding from Department under the Project Ireland 2040 Urban Regeneration and Development Fund. • CCC owned properties. • CCC’s staffing and technical resources. • CCC Match funding. • Buy-in by stakeholders i.e. partner organisations, landowners, community, business and other groups. • Management of the Project by the Council in conjunction with project partners. • Procurement and Management of Multi-Disciplinary Teams throughout the project. • External Sub-Consultants, Contractors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearly identify the objectives and outcomes of the project. • Navigate the project through the various approval gateways under the PSC. • Drawdown project funding under the URDF and management of project budgets. • Purchase of various properties necessary for the project. • Set a programme for the planning & design phases of the project. • Procurement of Multi-Disciplinary Teams for each phase of the project. • Appoint Project Management Team to oversee the project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cavan Abbeylands Masterplan completed. • Preliminary Business Case completed. • Part 8 planning secured. • Procurement process for Multi-disciplinary team to deliver Phase I of project commenced. • To complete Phase I of the project as approved by for URDF funding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of a new attractive central public plaza in the town core • Enhancement and protection of a heritage & cultural quarter in the town • Provision of new commercial/public buildings • A new revitalised and vibrant town centre which can ultimately lead to increased town centre employment opportunities, commercial activity, greater business confidence for private sector investors, improved quality of life for local residents and increased visitor numbers and tourism

Economic Activity in the town core.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage with partner organisations & other private sector property owners to capitalise on the potential for further development. Collaborate with public and private sector partners at all stages . 		<p>income.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in town centre vacancy and dereliction. Enhanced community and social accessibility of the town centre Support to green initiatives through the reuse of existing material assets Provision of a space and place to promote a good quality of life
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Description of Programme Logic Model

This project relates to the regeneration of “Abbeylands”, a site of rich historical significance in the heart of Cavan Town, which is under-utilised and under-developed and has the potential to act as a catalyst and an unlocking mechanism for private sector investment. It also aims to open-up for redevelopment a significant area of backlands in the town core with the purpose of rejuvenating the town centre.

It is proposed to develop and implement a scheme of works to create a public and civic space in the town core with the Abbeylands site as its core and to create the first pedestrianised area in the town.

Phase 1 of the Masterplan provides for the construction of a Remote Working Centre / Business Development Hub and a Community Services Centre, both of which are to be framed around a new central civic space and linked pedestrian streets.

Objectives: In collaboration with key stakeholders, CCC proposes to undertake a structured scheme of works to redevelop Abbeylands, help stimulate private sector investment, commercial activities and tourism whilst reversing existing vacancy and dereliction, with the purpose of rejuvenating the town core, boosting the local economy, creating employment opportunities and an attractive place to live within.

Inputs: Department funding under the Urban Regeneration & Development Fund (URDF), Cavan County Council (CCC) Match funding, Abbeylands site, associated/relevant properties purchased to facilitate the project, planning / technical services, in-house local authority funding and staff / admin resource supports, buy-in from all stakeholders & procurement and management of relevant, consultants, sub consultants and contractors.


Activities: Navigation of the Project through the various Approval Gateways under the Public Spending Code (2019). This includes identification and clarification of the main objectives and expected outcomes of the project, securing and drawdown of approved funding, procurement, appointment & management of consultants, reporting and meetings, public consultations, design of the project, completion of the Cavan Abbeylands Masterplan to guide the project, purchase of various properties necessary for the development, and the Part 8 planning process, appointment of contractors for the construction phase and management of the overall project and project budget. Complete and disseminate a project completion report incorporating lessons learned and also an ex-Post Evaluation report.

Outputs: The proposed Project will bring about a “once in a generation” transformation of the town. In addition to the obvious benefits, it will also trigger significant private investment in the town core. It will alter the trajectory of the town core to a significant positive degree, from a current path of reducing footfall and increased vacancy and dereliction.

Outcomes: This project will build on works already carried out / in progress, strengthening Cavan’s position as a hub for enterprise and innovation. Specifically, an over-arching co-designated “place based” strategy is necessary to provide a coordinated, collaborative and urban design-based approach, that makes Cavan Town a more vibrant and attractive place for people to live, work, study, invest and visit. In turn, a strong and vibrant Cavan Town will support neighbouring communities and the entire region.

Section B - Step 2: Summary Timeline of Project/Programme

The following section tracks from inception the **Abbeylands Capital Project** as managed by Cavan County Council.



1994 – Urban Improvements and Conservation Study by Shaffrey Associates first came up with the concept of a new public space at Abbeylands including a landscaped Park, paved area, outdoor performance area and also mapped out a series of access streets to the main streets in the town including Bridge Street and Main Street.

1998 – Design ideas for Bridge Street backlands to Abbeylands site and streetscape – this project looked at opportunities for businesses. One business created a beer garden to rear but Abbeylands never progressed.

2007 – Cavan Urban Design Framework – O’Mahony Pike – Looked at Cavan town in its entirety and suggested major redevelopment around Abbeylands as untapped potential.

2008 – Cavan Town and Environs Development Plan – This adopted the Urban Design framework incorporating Abbeylands.

2012 – Dara Hilliard Concept Drawings: Landscape proposal for Cavan Town Council – A sketched proposal for carrying out works on Abbeylands site, creation of Paved area adjacent to the old graveyard and creation of new pedestrian access routes.

2014-2020 Cavan Town and Environs Development Plan – This document again revisits Abbeylands and identifies opportunities to create a pedestrian Urban Park.

2018 – Blackwood Associates Architects – Commissioned by CCC to carry out a public realm study of Abbeylands and the Market Square area of the town. This scoping document provides a framework providing guidance on essential works required to enable the site to be opened up, potential access points, and sites with potential for development as part of a scheme.

27.09.2018 - CCC sought grant funding from the URDF to prepare a Masterplan and Part 8 Application for the Abbeylands area.

18.06.2019 - Departmental Approval (in principle) received from the URDF for grant funding of €262,500 – Project Ref: URDF 089 (renamed URDFCav001).

21.06.2019 - Invitation to Tender on eTenders for the Procurement of an Architect Led Project Management Team for the Design and Redevelopment of Abbeylands – preparation of a Masterplan and Part VIII application.

16.12.2019 - Letter of Acceptance appointing the consultants – joint Venture of Cooney Architects Ltd and DHB Architects Ltd.

05.02.2020 - First Public Consultation Event held by CCC in Cavan Townhall – notice of preparation of Masterplan.

22.05.2020 - CCC sought grant funding from the URDF towards the roll out of the Capital Works related to Phase 1 of the Masterplan.

09.07.2021 - Second Public Consultation Event held by CCC in Cavan Townhall – Draft Masterplan for consideration.

24.08.2021 - Departmental Approval (in principle) received for grant funding of €14,493,750 towards the roll out of the Capital Works related to Phase 1 of the Masterplan - Project Ref: URDFCav002.


27.09.2021 - Adoption of the Cavan Abbeylands Masterplan.

10.03.2022 - Invitation to tender on eTenders for the provision of multi-disciplinary Consultancy Services for the preparation of a Preliminary Business Case for the redevelopment of Abbeylands, Cavan – Phase 1.

26.04.2022 - Appointment of PKF-FPM Accountants Limited (subsequently name changed to FPM Accountants (Ireland) Limited) to prepare PBC.

05.10.2022 - PBC submitted to the URDF for approval.

19.01.2023 - Consultation Procedure commences with Part VIII Newspaper Notice (Anglo Celt), Notices of Proposed Development to Prescribed Bodies & Site Notice Erected.



18.02.2023 - Invitation to Tender on eTenders for the procurement of an Architect led Multidisciplinary Integrated Design Team for the delivery of Phase 1 Redevelopment Building and Public Realm works at Abbeylands, Cavan. - Tenders are presently being evaluated.

27.03.2023 - Part VIII planning approval granted by CCC.

15.05.2023 - Approval received, in writing, from the Department to proceed to the next Decision Gate of the PSC.

Section B - Step 3: Analysis of Key Documents

The following section reviews the key documentation relating to appraisal, analysis and evaluation of the **Abbeylands Capital Project** as managed by Cavan County Council.

Project/Programme Key Documents	
Title	Details
URFD Application 2018 (27.09.2018) Departmental URDF Approval (18.06.2019)	Application Form for the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund CAT B & Approval Letter.
CCC Design Brief for Procurement of Architect Led Project Management Team for the Design and Redevelopment of Abbeylands, Cavan (21.06.2019)	Design Brief for Procurement of an Architect Led Project Management Team for the preparation of Abbeylands Masterplan & Part VIII application.
URFD Second Call 2020 Application (22.05.2020) Departmental URDF Approval (24.08.21)	Application Form for the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund Capital Works related to Phase 1 of the Masterplan & Approval Letter.
Cavan Abbeylands Masterplan (Adopted 27.09.2021)	Masterplan prepared for CCC by consultants, Cooney Architects Ltd & DHB Architects Ltd (Joint Venture).

<p>CCC Project Brief for Procurement of multi-disciplinary Consultancy Services for the preparation of a Preliminary Business Case for the redevelopment of Abbeylands, Cavan (Phase 1) (10.03.2022)</p>	<p>Project Brief for Procurement of Consultants to provide a multi-disciplinary team to prepare a Preliminary Business Case for the redevelopment of the Abbeylands.</p>
<p>Preliminary Business Case – Regeneration Project Abbeylands, Cavan Town – Phase 1 (20.09.2022) Departmental Approval Letter (15.03.23)</p>	<p>An independent report prepared for CCC by FPM Accountants (Ireland) Limited ('FPM') & Approval Letter.</p>
<p>Part VIII Planning Assessment Report & Recommendation of Approval (27.03.2023)</p>	<p>Planning Assessment Report and Recommendation of Approval under Part VIII prepared by Senior Executive Planner, CCC.</p>
<p>CCC Project Brief for Procurement of an Architect Led multi-disciplinary Integrated Design Team Services for Stage (ii) to Stage (v) of the Capital Works Management Framework in Phase 1 of Redevelopment Building & Public Realm Works at Abbeylands, Cavan (18.02.2023)</p>	<p>Project Brief for Procurement of an Architect Led multi-disciplinary Integrated Design Team Services.</p>
<p>Match Funding Letters from CCC (2018 / 2022)</p>	<p>25% match funding support letters from CCC.</p>
<p>Financial Records</p>	<p>Purchase Requisitions/ Purchase Orders, Invoices, supporting documentation, CE Orders.</p>

Key Document 1: Application Form for the URDF 2018 (27.09.2018) & Approval (18.06.2019) - As required CCC submitted the standard application template for URDF Category B Funding provided by the Forward Planning Section of the Department. This application was for Category B funding towards a proposal to undertake a structured scheme to works to redevelop a significant area of backlands in the town core of Cavan Town with an estimated €12 to €15M capital investment. The total envisaged cost of proposal was €350,000 including 25% match funding from CCC. The application contained the relevant supporting documentation i.e. cover letter from lead partner, maps, CCC funding letter, supporting letters, previous plans, design brief, regeneration officer position details, etc.

File Ref : URDFCav001 (formerly URDF_089) - Approval in Principle – Technical assistance to develop a structured scheme of works to develop backlands in the town core and rejuvenate the town centre - €262,500

Key Document 2: CCC Design Brief for Procurement of Architect Led Project Management Team for the Design and Redevelopment of Abbeylands, Cavan (21.06.2019) - A brief for the preparation of a detailed masterplan to include access, parking, building footprints, scale/height, indicative design, public/open spaces and land use. The design team were tasked with identifying separate independent development zones within Abbeylands and to develop a phasing programme for delivery of the scheme.

Key Document 3: Cavan Abbeylands Masterplan Phase 1 (27.09.2021) - A Masterplan prepared for CCC by Cooney Architects Ltd & DHB Architects Ltd (Joint Venture) to identify and develop a structured scheme of works to create a public and civic space in the town centre with the Abbeylands site as its core and create the first pedestrianised area in the town. It also aimed at opening up for redevelopment a significant area of backlands in the town core with the purpose of rejuvenating the town centre. Phase 1 also provides for the construction of a Remote Working Centre and a Community Services Centre, both of which are to be framed around a new central civic space and linked pedestrian streets.

Key Document 4: URDF Second Call 2020 Application (22.05.2020) & Approval (24.08.21) - As required CCC submitted the standard application template for URDF Capital Funding provided by the Forward Planning Section of the Department. This application was for Capital funding towards the roll out of the Capital Works related to Phase 1 of the Masterplan. The total envisaged cost of proposal was €14,493,750 towards the initial indicative costs of €19.325m including 25% funding from CCC. The application contained the relevant supporting documentation i.e. cover letter from lead partner, maps, CCC funding letter, supporting letters, previous plans, design brief, regeneration officer position details, etc.

File Ref : URDFCav002 – In August 2021 CCC received preliminary approval for 75% URDF funding of €14,493,750 towards the initial indicative costs of €19.325m

Key Document 5: CCC Project Brief for Procurement of multi-disciplinary Consultancy Services for the preparation of a Preliminary Business Case for the redevelopment of Abbeylands, Cavan (Phase 1) (10.03.2022) - A brief inviting tenders from suitably qualified and experienced Consultants to provide a multi-disciplinary team to prepare a Preliminary Business Case for the redevelopment of the Abbeylands, Cavan Town (Phase I) as approved under the URDF. The brief stated that the PBC should provide a strong narrative with evidence based rationale for each of the public spending code requirements aligned with project objectives.

Key Document 6: Preliminary Business Case – Regeneration Project Abbeylands, Cavan Town – Phase 1 (20.09.2022) & Approval (15.05.2023) - An independent report prepared for Cavan County Council by FPM Accountants (Ireland) Limited ('FPM') which comprises a Preliminary Business Case (PBC) in line with the new Public Spending Code (2019), in respect of a regeneration project entitled 'The Redevelopment of Abbeylands, Cavan Phase 1'.

The PBC resulted in costs being revised upwards to take account of inflation and resulted in new indicative costs of c.€25m. Verifies that: The original SMART objectives from the SAR, relating to provision of new infrastructure, reduced vacancies, increased footfall/pedestrianisation, new job creation and increased town core residencies were revisited and updated. A financial appraisal was carried out to examine the viability and sustainability of the project.

Department Approval to proceed to the next stage was received on 15th May 2023.

Key Document 7: Part VIII Planning Assessment Report & Recommendation of Approval (27.03.2023) - Planning Assessment Report and Recommendation of Approval under Part VIII prepared by Senior Executive Planner, CCC.

Development Description : Development of a new Public Realm, New Linkages to Main Street, Bridge Street and Town Hall Place, New Cultural and Remote Working Building, New Community Services Building, Eatery and change of existing residential to Commercial Space, at the Abbey Tower, Abbey Graveyard and adjacent lands, Abbey Street, Cavan Town.

The site is recorded on the record of Monuments (CV020-055 Abbey land). The Abbey Tower and Abbey Graveyard have the status of Protected Structures (Reg. No. CV0003 and Reg. No. CV0001) under Part IV of the Planning and Development Act 2000. The proposed works materially affect the character of these protected structures.

Key Document 8: CCC Project Brief for Procurement of an Architect Led multi-disciplinary Integrated Design Team Services under the Government's Standard Conditions of Engagement for Stage (ii) to Stage (v) of the Capital Works Management Framework in Phase 1 of Redevelopment Building & Public Realm Works at Abbeylands, Cavan (18.02.2023) - The purpose of this document is to provide prospective consultants design-teams with information regarding the scope of service to be provided and invite technical proposals from Architect Led Multidisciplinary Design Teams with suitable experience of successfully completing similar projects or scale and complexity to this. This document forms part of the Instruction to Tender (ITT) documents and should be read in conjunction with those documents. The applicants should also refer to Volume 3 Service Requirements for detailed description on the expected scope of services.

Key Document 9: 25% Match Funding Letters from CCC

2018 - Letter from the Head of Finance confirming the match funding required for the Cavan Town Urban Regeneration and Development Fund Application would be provided by CCC should the application be successful. The total funding sought for the Cavan Town project is €400,000 with CCC match funding contribution being €100,000. Funding towards the appointment of the Enterprise Regeneration Officer was refused so this match funding requirement subsequently reduced to €87,500 towards €350,000 approved costs.

27.05.2022 - Letter from A/Head of Finance confirming that funding is in place to support the Abbeylands URDF Project. The Abbeylands Urban Regeneration Project forms part of CCC's 3 year Capital Programme 2019-2021 and will be included in future Capital programmes. The 25% matched funding for CCC is €4,831,250.

Key Document 10: Financial Records – Drawdown Requests, Purchase Requisitions, Purchase Orders, Invoices, supporting documentation, CE Orders.

Section B - Step 4: Data Audit

The following section details the data audit that was carried out on the **Abbeylands Capital Project** as managed by Cavan County Council. It evaluates whether appropriate data is available for the future evaluation of the project/programme.

Data Required	Use	Availability
URDF Applications and Approval Letters	Evidence of relevant funding applications & approval from the sanctioning authority to progress project.	Yes
Multi-Disciplinary and other Specialised Consultancy Services Tendering Documentation, Tender Evaluations, Chief Executive Order, Letter of Appointment & Consultancy Services Contract Consultants Contract Tendering Documents	Evidence that the correct procurement process was applied in line with PSC Guidelines to ensure value for money is achieved in awarding the Consultancy Contract.	Yes
The Cavan Abbeylands Masterplan	Evidence of identification and development of structured scheme of works to realise project including estimated costings and all relevant assessments.	Yes
Part VIII Application	Evidence of planning application, report and approval, ratification at Municipal District level.	Yes
Preliminary Business Case	Evidence of Preliminary Business Case in line with new Public Spending Code (2019).	Yes

Data Availability and Proposed Next Steps

Yes, all documentation relating to Phases 0-1 are available for future assessment with written approval received in writing from the Department in May 2023 to proceed to the Decision Gate 2 the PSC. CCC have commenced the next stage of the project lifecycle Decision Gate 2.

Section B - Step 5: Key Evaluation Questions

The following section looks at the key evaluation questions for the **Abbeylands Proposed Capital Project** as managed by Cavan County Council based on the findings from the previous sections of this report.

Does the delivery of the project/programme comply with the standards set out in the Public Spending Code? (Appraisal Stage, Implementation Stage and Post-Implementation Stage) Yes

CCC has been approved funding from the URDF for the delivery of capital works associated with the redevelopment of the Abbeylands in Cavan Town. The total value of the URDF proposal is estimated at €25m and the construction period anticipated is 3-4 years.

CCC submitted the Preliminary Business Case to the Department and received approval to proceed to the next Decision gate under the PSC on 15th May 2023.

CCC have commenced the next stage of the project lifecycle **Decision Gate 2 – Detailed Project Brief and Procurement Strategy** and have invited open competition tenders from suitably qualified and experienced consultant firms to provide an Architect led Multidisciplinary Integrated Design Team for the delivery of Phase 1 of the project in full, from Stage (ii) Design through to Stage (v) Handover as per the Construction Works Management Framework (CWMF) structure.

Is the necessary data and information available such that the project/programme can be subjected to a full evaluation at a later date?

Yes, all necessary data and information is available for a full evaluation at a later date.

What improvements are recommended such that future processes and management are enhanced?

While acknowledging the extensive planning and appraisal work undertaken to date on the proposed project (Gates 0-1) the Review Team noted that on receipt of verbal approval from the Department CCC progressed the project to Decision Gate (2) and commenced the process of having a Detailed Project Brief and Procurement Strategy prepared via an open competition seeking tenders from suitably qualified and experienced consultant firms to provide an Architect led Multidisciplinary Integrated Design Team for the delivery of Phase 1 of the project in full, from Stage (ii) Design through to Stage (v) Handover as per the Construction Works Management Framework (CWMF) structure. Formal written approval to progress to Decision Gate 2 was subsequently received by the Council in May 2023. To ensure compliance with the PSC Regulations it is advised that all documented evidence of Department approval should be in place prior to progressing to the next phase of the project.

Section: In-Depth Check Summary

The following section presents a summary of the findings of this In-Depth Check on the **Abbeylands Capital Project** as managed by Cavan County Council.

Summary of In-Depth Check:

Under Section 4 of the Quality Assurance Provisions contained in the Public Spending Code Cavan County Council is required to carry out an in-depth review on a minimum of 5% of the total value of all Capital **Projects** on the PSC inventory list averaged over a three-year period. The overall estimated lifetime value of Cavan County Council's Capital Projects in 2022 amounts to **€784,616,865.45**. In-depth Reviews were carried out on two capital projects with a combined value of **6%** of all Capital projects identified in the inventory list. The **average % over a 3-year period of Capital Projects** selected for In-Depth Check(s) (based on value) is **5%**.

An In-depth Review was undertaken on the proposed **Abbeylands Capital Project with (Expenditure Incurred)** with an estimated lifetime value of **€25 million** which represents approximately **3.2%** of the total value of the Capital Projects in 2022. A second In-depth Review was undertaken on **R188 Safety Improvement Measures at Rathkenny Road's Capital Project (Under Consideration)**. The estimated lifetime cost of this project is **€20 million** which represents approximately **2.5%** of the overall value of the Council's Capital Projects

This project relates to the regeneration of "Abbeylands", a site of rich historical significance in the heart of Cavan Town, which is under-utilised and under-developed and has the potential to act as a catalyst and an unlocking mechanism for private sector investment. It is proposed to develop and implement a scheme of works to create a public and civic space in the town core with the Abbeylands site as its core and to create the first pedestrianised area to rejuvenate the town centre.

Phase 1 of the Masterplan provides for the construction of a Remote Working Centre / Business Development Hub and a Community Services Centre, both of which are to be framed around a new central civic space and linked pedestrian streets. Cavan Town URDF town core brownfield regeneration project fully adheres to the fundamental principles of the NWR Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy such as Compact Growth, Climate Change, Quality of Life, Education, Job Creation, Community Needs, Housing, Heritage and Urban Regeneration. It provides synergy with Local Plans i.e. Cavan County Council Corporate Plan 2019-2024, Cavan Town and Environs Development Plan 2014-2020, Cavan County Council Climate Adaption Strategy 2019-2024 and the new County Development Plan - Cavan County Development Plan 2022-2028 including a Local Area Plan for Cavan Town area.

In Sept 2018 an application was submitted by CCC for funding under the URDF seeking 75% of the indicative costs of the proposed project with a commitment given that 25% of the overall costs would be funded directly by the local authority. Following the completion of the initial appraisal and planning phases of the project lifecycle CCC received Department approval to progress the Abbeylands Masterplan to Decision Gate 2 of the process. Moving forward CCC tendered for a suitably qualified and experienced consultant firm to provide an Architect led Multidisciplinary Integrated Design Team for the delivery of Phase 1 of the

project in full, from Stage (ii) Design through to Stage (v) Handover as per the Construction Works Management Framework (CWMF) and a Project Brief and Procurement Strategy.

The Review found that the initial development assessments of the Abbeylands Project including the submissions to Department to be in accordance with the necessary project appraisals outlined in the Public Spending Code Regulations.

The proposed project appears to have been strategically managed to date with the view of achieving the prime objectives of the Abbeylands Development and maximising the proposed outputs and outcomes. Based on the findings of the In-depth Review of initial phases of the Abbeylands Project the audit opinion is that Cavan County Council appears to be ***broadly / substantially compliant*** with the relevant requirements of the Public Spending Code