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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF TRALEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, TRALEE ON MONDAY 2nd NOVEMBER 2015.

MIONTUAIRISCÍ NA CRUINNITHE DE CHEANTAR BARDASACH THRÁ LÍ A THIONÓLADH I SEOMRA NA COMHAIRLE, ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, TRÁ LÍ, AR AN LUAN 2 SAMHAIN 2015.

PRESENT/I LÁTHAIR

Councillors/Comhairleoirí

**P. Daly
T. Ferris
G. Spring**

**N. Foley
S. Locke
P. McCarthy**

**T. McEllistrim
T. O'Brien
J. Finucane**

In attendance/i láthair

Mr. C. O'Sullivan	Delegated Executive for the MD of Tralee
Mr. G. O'Brien	Meetings Administrator
Mr. C. Lynch	E.E.
Mr. J. Fitzgerald	E.E.
Ms. J. Foley	M.D. Officer
Mr. C. Mangan	S.E.E.
Mr. F. Hartnett	S.E.E.
Mr. G. Riordan	S.E.
Mr. T. O'Connor	S.O.
Ms. J. O'Sullivan	C.O.

The meeting commenced at 11.10 a.m.

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. T McEllistrim took the Chair.

At the outset Cllr. T. McEllistrim proposed a vote of sympathy for the family of Mr. Jerome McEllistrim. He said Mr. McEllistrim had a great interest in politics and in GAA where he was always involved to some capacity.

Cllr. N. Foley seconded this.

All members wished to be associated with this vote of sympathy.

15.11.02.01 Confirmation of Minutes

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. T. O'Brien SECONDED by Cllr. J. Finucane, it was agreed that the Minutes of the meeting of the members of the Municipal District of Tralee held on the 7th September be confirmed.

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. S. Locke SECONDED by Cllr. T. McEllistrim, it was agreed that the Minutes of the special meeting of the members of the Municipal District of Tralee held on the 23rd October be confirmed.

15.11.02.02 Presentation from SIRO

Cllr. T. McEllistrim welcomed Mr. Stephen O'Connor and Mr. Robert Tucker from SIRO.

Mr. O'Connor thanked the members for offering them the opportunity to speak to them. He said SIRO will deliver a 100% fibre-to-the-building broadband network, with speeds of 1,000Mbps, and will propel Tralee into the ranks of the world's fastest broadband towns up to the standard of Tokyo and Hong Kong. He said that Broadband was key for economic growth and jobs.

Works will commence in Tralee on the 1st December by local contractor TLI. These works will be carried out on a phased basis and works will take 9 months.

SIRO was launched in May and is a joining together of the ESB and Vodafone. Tralee is included in the first ten towns in phase one of the 450 million euro project.

Stephen O'Connor said that SIRO broadband will have a speed of 1GB per second which is four times better than the best service currently offered in Dublin.

Cllr. T. McEllistrim welcomed Mr. O'Connor and congratulated him on his presentation. He said that fast and high speed Broadband was crucial for investment and for creation of jobs.

Cllr. P. Daly congratulated Mr. S. O'Connor on his presentation. He said that this was a very exciting development for Tralee.

Cllr. J. Finucane welcomed the presentation. He also welcomed SIRO's partnership with TLI who are a local company and asked if works are to be carried out on a phased basis and when the works are expected to be completed.

Mr. S. O'Connor said that works will be carried out in clusters starting in Oakpark with works expected to take 9 months with Ballybeggan being their hub area.

Cllr. T. Ferris said that this was a good news story for Tralee giving the town a competitive advantage over other towns and cities and bringing business into the town. She asked were levies on profits discussed at government level as she would be worried that the more lucrative areas would be looked at more favourably than the smaller areas as they would be more profitable. She welcomed SIRO's involvement with TLI and asked if they have won other contracts in other parts of the country and will there be a need for more employment.

Mr. S. O'Connor said that during 2016-2020 there is 275 million euro assigned for Broadband intervention with the cost being met 50/50 by the Government.

Cllr. G. Spring said that this was exciting and great news for Tralee. He asked if a business survey was done and was there a high level of interest by the IDA. He congratulated them on their partnership with TLI.

Mr. S. O'Connor said that SIRO have not done a one to one with businesses yet. They have carried out a desktop survey of the entire town and this is how they picked their top 10 towns. He said that they are dealing with the IDA at a national

level and also Enterprise Ireland. He said that SIRO need the public to make this a success.

Cllr. P. McCarthy welcomed the presentation. He said that this was a good news story for Kerry and for Ireland. He asked if there was a costing carried out for businesses and private owners and also asked if he had information in relation to the 6-10 mile loop in Ballymacelligott where works are being carried out by Kelly Communications.

Mr. S. O'Connor said that SIRO are a wholesaler, they sell to the retailer and what the retailer sells it for then is their decision but he believed that it would be competitively priced as SIRO have ambitious targets for take up and that the prices will reflect this.

Cllr. S. Locke said that this will be welcome for new businesses. He said that a public meeting should be held as anything to advance business has to be welcomed.

Mr. S. O'Connor said they were hoping to have an open evening in December with commencement date on the 1st of December.

Cllr. N. Foley welcomed the presentation. She said that this was a good news story and has the potential for knock on effect to make the town more attractive. She said she would be apprehensive dealing with businesses in December as it is a very busy month for retailers. She said that there should be a consultation process where the Local Authority would be engaged on an ongoing basis.

Mr. S. O'Connor said that they would be delighted with a partnership with Kerry County Council and the Tralee Municipal District. He said that today's presentation came following a conversation with Mr. Colm Lynch, and intends to continue this association.

Mr. C. O'Sullivan thanked Mr. O'Connor for his excellent presentation. He said that this would have a positive impact on the town where any benefits outweigh the inconveniences. He asked in connection to the carrying out of works in December to take on board that it is a very busy holiday season and with works taking 9 months to complete this will run into the tourism season. He asked what the timeframe for the commencement of Phase 2 was.

Mr. S. O'Connor said that Phase 1 is run over 3 years, but SIRO will not be waiting for phase 1 to be complete before they commence phase 2, if the performance on the ground is good then phase 2 will be looked at quickly and said that SIRO will be conscious when carrying out works during the holiday and tourism season to keep disruption to a minimum.

15.11.02.03 To note update report from the Water Services Directorate

It was agreed to note the following report which was circulated:

TRALEE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL and IRISH WATER UPDATE ON WATER SERVICES

*Achoimre Stádais ar an 23rd Deireadh Fómhair, 2015
Status Summary at 23rd October, 2015*

Funding Priorities for Capital Projects

Irish Water has indicated that it will prioritize funding for capital projects based on the key issues to be addressed.

In Water, priority will be given to any Scheme to which a Boil Water Notice (BWN) applies, and any Scheme on the EPA Remedial Action List (RAL) and/or on a legal Direction from the EPA.

In Wastewater, priority will be given to towns (agglomerations) to which ECJ Ruling apply, and on meeting the requirements of the EPA Discharge Licenses.

IRISH WATER CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2014-2016

The Irish Water Capital Investment Programme 2014-2016 was launched in May 2014. A total of 8 wastewater Schemes (total value of " 10.7 million) and 7 Water schemes (total value of " 24 million) in Kerry are included in the IW Capital Investment Programme. The schemes listed in the CIP which affect the Tralee Municipal District are outlined in the following tables:

CLÁR INFHEISTÍOCHTA CAIPITIL - TIONSCNAIMH SHOLÁTHAIR UISCE CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME - WATER SUPPLY PROJECTS			
Tionscnamh Project	Description	Value	Stádas Status
Mains Rehabilitation Project	Tralee Estates St Brendan's Pk., Connolly Pk., Riverside, Kerin's Pk., Lohercannon and Marian Pk. Mains Replacement Works	" 1,835,000	The Certificate of Substantial Completion was issued to Wills Bros. Contractors on 29.05.15. The Snags and Reinstatement is being carried out over the maintenance period. The cast iron mains and lead service pipes have been disconnected.
Central Regional Water Supply Scheme	Lough Guitane Water Treatment Plant . Design, Build and Operate	" 22,000,000	Tenders for the development of a new Water Treatment Plant were received in May 2015. A recommendation has been sent to IW and the go-ahead to appoint the Contractor is expected in the coming short-term.

CLÁR INFHEISTÍOCHTA CAIPITIL - TIONSCNAIMH FUÍOLLUISCE CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME - WASTEWATER PROJECTS	
Tionscnamh Project	Stádas Status
Ardfert SS	The Scheme is included in Irish Water's Capital Investment Programme 2014 - 2016. The final Contract Documents have been submitted to Irish Water. Subject to IW's approval, it is anticipated that the Tender process will be conducted over

	the coming months.
Fenit SS	The Scheme is included in Irish Water's Capital Investment Programme 2014 - 2016. Contract Documents have been submitted for review to Irish Water. Agreement has been reached with the landowner for the purchase of the site the budget for which has recently been approved by Irish Water.

IRISH WATER MINOR CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2014-2016

Irish Water has also launched a Minor Capital Works Programme 2014-2016. This is a rolling programme of **Minor Improvement Works** which can be added to as the need arises. The list of works in the Tralee Municipal District for which Kerry County Council has applied under the Minor Capital Works Programme is outlined in the following table:

CLÁR OIBREACHA BEAGA CAIPITIL - MINOR CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME

<i>Tionscnamh / Project</i>	<i>Cuir Síos / Description</i>	<i>Meastachán Estimate</i>	<i>Stádas Status</i>
Castleisland Church St. Sewer	Replace collapsed length of sewer	" 3,500	Completed
Castleisland Limerick Rd. Sewer	Replace collapsed length of sewer	" 4,500	Completed
Fenit Sewerage Scheme	Replace 50m of sewer damaged by storms	" 25,400	Completed
Fenit Sewerage Scheme	Repair storm damage to Plant	" 12,800	Completed
Fenit Sewerage Scheme	Upgrade of pumping stations at Tawlaght and Tralee Rd.	" 65,000	Requested
Fenit Water Supply	Replace 300M old 2+watermain Tawlaght	" 12,000	Approved
Brosna Knocknagoshel WSS - Dooneen Res.	Provide Security Fencing	" 8,000	Approved
Dromultan Scartaglin Pumping Station	Lay pipe to eliminate pumping station	" 35,000	Approved
Meenleirim Brosna WS Pump	Provide Storage Tank	" 12,000	Approved
Lyreacrompane WTP - Sludge Treatment	Complete Sludge Treatment Plant	" 50,000	Underway
Lyreacrompane Water Supply	Install new Scour Valves and provide sampling points on existing scour-outs	" 17,000	Requested
Tralee Sewerage Scheme (Knockmoyle)	Lay 100m of dedicated 225mm diameter Storm pipe and manholes	" 14,000	Complete
Tralee SS - WWTP UV	UV Disinfection System upgrade	" 32,139	Complete
Tralee SS - Castlemaine Road Pumpstation	Pump replacement and Upgrade of Control Panel	" 15,422	Approved

Tralee SS – Mulgrave's Bridge Pumpstation	Upgrade PLC system	" 6,224	Complete
CRWSS - Knockawaddra	Install inline booster pumps	" 18,300	Complete
Garryruth and Cloghers Sewage Pumping Stations	Provision of mobile electricity generator	" 20,000	Requested
Pembroke St Tralee Water	Decommission cast iron main	" 5,900	Complete
Prince's St Tralee	Replace 30M of 100MM cast iron main	" 6,400	Complete
Ardfert South WSS	Installation of 3no. PRVs and 9no. Air Valves	" 24,500	Underway

**CLÁR OIBREACHA BEAGA CAIPITIL - MINOR CAPITAL WORKS
PROGRAMME *cont'd***

<i>Tionscnamh / Project</i>	<i>Cuir Síos / Description</i>	<i>Meastachán Estimate</i>	<i>Stádas Status</i>
Cloonafineela Kilflynn WS	Upgrade SCADA/Telemetry	" 6,400	Complete
Fenit SS	Upgrade Outfall Pipe	" 23,000	Complete
Ard na Lí, Oakpark, Tralee.	Replace existing C.I. mains	" 88,000	Approved
Castle Demesne Tralee	Replace existing C.I. mains	" 30,000	Underway
Total approved to-date		€ 433,480	

THE RURAL WATER PROGRAMME

The administration and development of the Group Scheme sector continues to be a function of the Local Authorities under the guidance and supervision of the DoEC&LG and Irish Water has no authority, responsibility or involvement.

A total Block Grant Allocation of €780,100 has been allocated to Kerry County Council for the various measures under the Rural Water Programme in 2015.

Takeover of Group Schemes

Since 1 January 2014, Irish Water has responsibility for the Takeover of Group Schemes. Nationally, discussions are ongoing between the DoEC&LG, the County and City Managers Association and Irish Water to develop a protocol to facilitate the Takeover of Group Schemes.

Group Sewerage Schemes

General Background

The DOEC&LG Grant for any proposed Group Sewerage Schemes (GSSs) was increased to " 6,500 per house or 75% of the cost of the scheme, whichever is the lesser, in December 2012. The members of a proposed group scheme must contribute the balance of the initial capital / construction costs. It is also necessary that each GSS and Irish Water agree, in advance of the Scheme's construction, that Irish Water will take over that scheme on its satisfactory completion. Kerry County Council has discussed this with Irish Water and does not anticipate any difficulty in obtaining the consent of IW.

Alderwood Road Group Sewerage Scheme

This Road is located north east of Oakpark in Tralee. There are approx 100 houses on the route and a sewer line of approx 3.1 km is necessary. There is a difficulty in that sections of the existing sewer system ~~downstream~~ are unable to cope with any proposed increase in sewage volume. A local Consulting Engineer on a **Feasibility Study** for the proposed connection of this district to the existing public sewer has been completed in October 2015. **This Feasibility Study is now being evaluated by Kerry County Council.**

Killeen Road Group Sewerage Scheme

This proposed scheme is located off the Oakpark Road, Tralee. A Contractor has been selected and it is expected that work will commence in the coming weeks. The Scheme involves the connection of seven existing houses, currently served by private septic tanks, to the public network.

Mr. C. Mangan said that there was a further submission of " 45,000 made to Irish water in connection with the Mains Rehabilitation Project. In connection with the Central Regional Water Supply Scheme the tenders have recently been assessed and the contract will be commenced in 2016. He said that the Ardferf Sewerage Scheme has not yet gone to Tender but he has spoken to Irish Water and it may go to tender in 2015.

He said that there is also progress with Fenit Sewerage Scheme and the Water Services department is optimistic that this Scheme too will go to Tender in 2016. Meanwhile the contractor EPS is onsite to upgrade the pumping stations at Tawlaght and Tralee Road, Fenit.

Mr. C. Mangan said that in connection with the Alderwood Road proposed Group Sewerage Scheme, a Consulting Engineer's Feasibility Report has now been received and this is now under consideration.

Cllr. J. Finucane said that there are 100 houses involved in the Alderwood Road Group Scheme and that there is a big issue with the quality of water in the big river. Mr. C. Mangan said that the report outlines the difficulties with the existing network. He said that the Report proposes the use of a holding tank where during times of flooding that the holding tank would hold effluent until the ~~load~~ abates on the downstream pipes. He said that the proposed group scheme would be looked at and how the network can be upgraded. The estimated cost of a group scheme would be in the region of " 500/600,000 and the local involvement and contribution would be important

Cllr. N. Foley asked what was the time frame for the water mains replacement works to commence in Ard Na Lí.

Mr. C. Mangan said that these works will be carried out by direct labour and at the moment the Tralee crews are re-laying pipes in the Castle Demesne area and when finished will commence at Ard Na Lí . perhaps before the year's end.

Cllr. N. Foley asked how many locations will be affected by the remaining cast iron / lead pipes Mains Rehabilitation Programme in Tralee.

Mr. C. Mangan said it will be 29 locations.

Cllr. P. Daly asked what was the update on the pipes entering the river at Killeen Road

Mr. C. Mangan said that he received a report that the pipes were from individual properties and the development of a privately organised group sewerage scheme may help this situation.

Cllr. T. Ferris asked if the water supply in Ballytobin, Ardfert can be reconnected to its original source.

Mr. C. Mangan said that according to the local water services engineer that there was no change in supply to this area, but that he will follow up on this.

15.11.02.04 Job Creation / Sustainable Economic Development Directorate

Cllr. S. Locke said in a previous meeting he brought forward an initiative to enhance the Wetlands, Tralee and to introduce a fishing programme where the small lake at the Wetlands was filled with stock but became contaminated. He asked if the large lake at the Wetlands could be stocked with fish as this would enhance tourism and create employment.

Mr. C. O'Sullivan said that the matter would be investigated.

(b) Notices of Motion:

1. Cllr. T. McEllistrim: To upgrade the sign at the Farmers Market at its location opposite the Brandon Hotel with logo and time 10 to 2.30 - 7 days a week. Also, to erect a perplex shelter like bus shelter for the Farmers Market and provide mini chalets stalls for Farmers Market similar to those used for the German Food Fair and to provide common buntings for all stalls at the Farmers Market.

REPLY: Jean Foley, Municipal District Officer has met with both the Farmers Market Committee and the traders. The traders have indicated that they wish to remain trading at their current location. On that basis, the current signage at the front of the Brandon Car Park was discussed. It was agreed that the Committee would prepare a draft design for revised signage which will then be considered by the Council. Once agreement is reached on the revised design, it is hoped that the Council will be in a position to fund the associated costs. The cost of erecting an all weather enclosure would not be feasible at the moment. The mini chalets used for a previous market would not be suitable as they are sizeable and would have to be installed and removed on a weekly basis. However, the Committee have been advised to submit a proposal to the Council for funding additional buntings etc. Once submitted, the proposal will be considered by the Council. Kerry County Council will continue to work with the Committee and the traders in addressing any issues that may arise in the future.

Cllr. T. McEllistrim welcomed this reply.

2. Cllr. N. Foley: Have the issues regarding the walkway in the Rock Street area been resolved as of yet.

REPLY: The issue in question relates to the boundary wall between the Dunnes Stores property on the North Circular Road and the Amenity trail between Rock St and Edward St.

Kerry County Council contacted the owners of the adjoining commercial unit at the design stage of the project requesting an alteration to the wall. The alteration proposed would have seen the height of the wall reduced and a railing installed on the top of the reduced height remaining wall. Kerry County Council was anxious to carry out the works to make the amenity trail a more attractive and safer walkway.

The initial response from the owners was positive to the proposal subject to a number of conditions being met. Kerry County Council addressed the conditions set out by and it was indicated by the owners that they were satisfied with the undertakings given. However when Kerry County Council asked for final confirmation that the works could proceed, they indicated that they were no longer in favour of the proposal. We asked them to reconsider but no response has been received to date.

We have given the owners of the store a considerable length of time to review their position and it appears that they are not going to give permission for the works on the wall to proceed. The deadline for the completion of the works is fast approaching so we have no alternative at this stage but to proceed and complete the works on the trail with the wall remaining as is. We are also very conscious that the residents of Casements Avenue have been very patient on the completion of the works and we do not wish to delay the completion any further.

Cllr. N. Foley acknowledged the work that was being carried out but disappointed that the store owners were not going to co-operate. She said that the residents of Casements Avenue have been very patient and asked if there would be any possibility that they would reconsider.

Mr. C. O'Sullivan said that works on the walkway need to move forward with the wall remaining as it is.

Cllr. N. Foley asked if the door could be left open for future negotiations

15.11.02.05 (a) Update from the Sustainable Communities / Quality of Life Directorate

It was agreed to note the following report which was circulated:

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES/QUALITY OF LIFE DIRECTORATE

TRALEE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING

MONDAY 2ND NOVEMBER

Environmental Protection Services Report for October 2015

Business Unit Manager – Mr. Liam Quinlan, Senior Executive Officer

Environmental Awareness Initiatives in the Tralee Municipal District

Kerry County Council Dog and Litter Wardens carried out joint patrols along dog walking route around Tralee during September, in an effort to raise awareness amongst dog owners of their responsibility to license and control their dogs and to clean up after them in public places. The wardens have reported that 80% of dog owners spoken to carried a dog foul bag which they use when walking their dogs. Others were asked to carry a bag in the future. The patrols will continue on a regular basis throughout the year.

The week long series of events based on Sustainable Energy Use was held in Tralee Library from Oct 27th . 31st, this was a very successful event which culminated in the launch of the Tralee Energy Cooperative. Events included films on Climate Change, interactive exhibition highlighting the work of local growers in including a short film that features Transition Kerry and the Energy Group at the Transition Village during the Tralee Food Fair and other displays. Guest speakers during the week included, Ciaran Nugent, Transition Kerry, Xavier Dubuisson, XD Sustainable Energy Consulting Ltd, Sylvia Thompson, Member Energy Group.

Library Service Report for October 2015

Business Unit Manager – Tommy O'Connor, Co. Librarian

Library service:

~ The 2015 summer reading programme at Kerry Library was an outstanding success. This year, Kerry participated in a national pilot initiative, supported by the LGMA (Libraries Development) with 13 other local authority libraries. Over 1,200 children participated county wide. 170 children were presented with certificates by the Mayor of Tralee, Cllr. Tom McEllistrim at Tralee Library on Saturday, 12 September.

~ Library usage throughout 2015 to date continues to be quite positive. 489,213 items have been borrowed from libraries county wide during the period January to 20 September, 75% of the 2014 figure. In addition, 345,761 individual visits were recorded across the service. There has been a significant increase in the use of the online services now available via the library website www.kerrylibrary.ie with 66,669 so far this year.

~ A series of Renewable Energy Week events will take place at Tralee Library from 27th . 31st October [copy attached]. These have been made possible following receipt of a " 1,000 grant from ENFO [the national environmental information service]. Tralee Library now also has a designated ENFO information point.

Community Services & Engagement Report for October 2015

Business Unit Manager – Mr. Brian Looney, Senior Executive Officer

Management Changes:

Mr. Michael Scannell will be taking responsibility for the LCDC and LECP development with him to his new portfolio as Acting Director for Economic Development

Mr. Brian Looney has been assigned management responsibilities for the staff and functions of the Community Services & Engagement Section, while continuing as Head of Information Systems.

Joint Policing Committee

The first meeting of the JPC took place on Sept 11th under the Chair of Cllr Niall Kelleher. Tralee MD is well represented in terms of Councillor & PPN representatives.

In the period ahead, the priorities are to establish the JPC strategy and an annual plan for 2016. The themes which were raised at the initial meeting for consideration of the JPC included:

- Installation and monitoring and maintenance of town CCTV systems
- Anti social behaviour and tackling same
- Youth facilities available
- Development of the Juvenile intervention programme
- Drug use and drugs related trends
- Development of the purple flag model for towns
- Development of more cohesive and resilient communities
- Working with transport providers on servicing the night time economy
- Targeted annual programmes for safety of different sectors such as elderly, school children etc
- Dog control and safety issues
- Enhanced Road Safety awareness
- Boy racers+and dealing with issues associated
- Increased amount of burglaries and tackling same
- How the JPC could assist tourism matters such as festivals and events

Kerry Public Participation Network.

Work on the design of the new PPN website . which will be a key resource for PPN members and community groups around the county, is being advanced during October with the Council's Online Services team

Community Support Fund.

While a significant amount of projects in the Tralee MD have already claimed and received their funding, we have been in communication with successful applicants who have not yet claimed to make sure to draw down the assigned funding in the CSF timeframe.

The late applications which were reviewed by Tralee MD members at your last meeting have been notified of the outcomes.

Local Economic & Community Plan.

A number of consultative workshops have been organised recently in the areas of Retail and Rural Economic Development which had strong recurring Community development themes.

Further workshops were held in October in the areas of economic development, Social Inclusion and Quality of Life with good stakeholder participation.

Broadband.

Although we consider Broadband to primarily an Economic driver, there are a number of Higher-level Goals in the LECP draft which Broadband is essential for or can assist in both the Quality of Life theme and the Social Inclusion theme.

The Council has made a detailed submission to the DCENR under the National Broadband Plan . draft Intervention Strategy consultation call.

Most of this Municipal District outside of Tralee town will have very low likely penetration of commercial services and conversely the greatest need for intervention.

We have advocated a number of priority developmental interventions and Tralee MD has a number of identified priority locations based on economic criteria we used.

We have also been assisting a private sector company who are working on a rural Fibre-to-the-Home pilot project which could connect up to 400 homes and businesses with fibre powered broadband in a part of this M.D.

Sports Partnership

Work on development of a Sports & Recreation Strategy is well advanced under the auspices of the Kerry Recreation and Sport Partnership Board. A suitable replacement Chair Micheal Ó Muircheartaigh is being actively pursued.

Each MD now has a rep on the Board which is regarded as important by the Irish Sports Council. The Board last met in early October to review the first draft of the Strategy.

Emergency Services Report for October 2015

Business Unit Manager – Mr. Michael Heisson, Chief Fire Officer

Fire Safety and Prevention:

- September is the month when the greater part of annual renewal of licences applications come before the Courts. Fire Officers have to date this year carried out inspections of various premises in the county for dance, restaurant, transfer of pub, club licences, etc. Over 300 such applications have been received this year. For each inspection recommendations are provided by the Fire Service.
- Fire Officers carried out during performance inspections at a number of premises in the county.
- A pre event exercise was conducted at Listowel racecourse in advance of the Listowel Racing Festival. Brigades from Listowel and Ballyunion took part in this exercise, which involved the use of Breathing apparatus and a search & rescue scenario in the Main Stand building.

Operation of the Fire Brigade Service:

- Operational volumes of work up to the end of September 2015:

There were 832 incidents up to the end of September 2015 compared to 772 incidents for the same period in 2014.

- The training for recruit fire fighters was completed during September. This is to fill positions in Tralee, Killarney, Killorglin and Castleisland.
- The upgrade of the floors in Castleisland and Killorglin Fire Stations was completed during September.

Major Emergency Management

- Regional participation has been ongoing. The third quarterly meeting of the Regional Working Group for 2015 was held during September.

Statistical details in respect of the Fire Service and Building Control for the period 1 Jan 2015 to 30 September 2015 along with the details of 2014 for reference purposes:

		1 Jan 2014 to 30 Sep 2014	1 Jan 2015 to 30 Sep 2015
Fire Service Operations	Total Incidents	772	832
	Total Mobilisations	881	919
	Number of Fires	337	474
	Of which: Chimney Fires	85	107
	Gorse	99	218
	Number of Special Service Incidents	292	232
	Of which: Road Traffic Accidents	127	105
Building Control	Fire Safety Certificate Applications Received	88	98
	Disability Access Certificate Applications Received	55	64
	Commencement Notices Received	295	262

Housing Services Report for October 2015

Business unit Manager - Ms. Kathleen Moriarty, A/Senior Executive Officer

Additional Allocation for Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and People with a Disability

The Council has received notification from DOECLG of an additional allocation under the Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and People with a Disability Grant Scheme of " 225,000 of which " 45,000 is to be provided from our own resources. This will allow the Council to allocate further grants for applications on hand, in accordance with our Priority Scheme.

Housing Programme 2015 - 2017

As advised at the October Corporate Policy Meeting and also as discussed at the October Meeting of the Council, we continue to make all efforts to deliver on the targets set out in the Housing Acquisition and Construction Programme 2015 . 2017. Through a combination of House Purchases, the RAS Programme, Leasing, Voids Programme and the House Construction Programme we expect to provide an additional 400 housing units by year end.

Social Housing Activity Report at 23rd October 2015 Tralee Municipal Area (T.M.A.)

<u>Social Housing Applicants</u>		2015
Accommodation offers made for property located within Municipal Area		59
New Tenancies Commenced		51
Accommodation refusals		4
<u>Social Houses</u>		
Vacant properties within Municipal Area		
Under/awaiting Repair (excl those subject to major refurbishment)		19
Awaiting Allocation		13
Choice Based Letting (Excluded from Above)		9
Construction Programme		
Single Rural Dwellings - Transfer Stage		1
Single Rural Dwellings - under construction		0
Extensions - applications on hands		
Extensions - under construction		0
<u>Rental Accommodation Scheme</u>		
	<u>County</u>	<u>T.M.A.</u>
Total Active Tenancies	856	404
New tenancies in 2015	128	59
Tenancies terminated in 2015	39	24
<u>Leasing</u>		
	<u>County</u>	<u>T.M.A.</u>
Leased Properties	99	22
Leases under negotiation	26	10
<u>Housing Adaptation Grants (County Wide)</u>		
	<u>No.</u>	<u>"</u>

2015 Allocation		" 2.014m
New Grants Allocated 2015	337	" 1.807m
Total 2015 Commitment	234	" 1.262m
Grants Paid	216	" 1.071m

(b) Notices of Motion

1. Cllr. T. Ferris: What plans do the Tralee Municipal District have in place to ensure our towns and villages obtain maximum funding through the recently announced " 30m renewal scheme.

REPLY: The Council has submitted a detailed development proposal for the Denny site in Tralee as number one priority under the Designated Urban Centre Grant Scheme - Southern & Eastern Operational Programme 2014 – 2020. The proposal involves the demolition of the site, its interim use as an amenity area and the preparation of a Master Plan for its future long term development. The submission also deals with the sites connectivity to the town centre and the improvement of adjoining streetscapes in conjunction with the smarter travel programme. The project proposal is in excess of three million euro.

When further details emerge in relation to the town and village renewal scheme the council will submit detail proposals for the villages within the Tralee Municipal District and for other areas of the county. Research carried out during the preparation of the Local economic and Community Plans confirms the importance of these centres for the rural economy. Details will be brought before the council in due course.

Cllr. T. Ferris said she was not satisfied with this reply. She said that details of this Renewal Scheme were announced at the recent Ploughing Championship. She also expressed here disappointment that there are not similar projects available within the Local Authority.

Mr. C. O'Sullivan said that the only scheme that is receiving funding is the Urban Renewal Scheme where submissions have been made to include the Denny site and other areas linked to this.

Cllr. N. Foley asked if proposals could be in place when information of the funding comes in place for the Rural Renewal Scheme.

Cllr. T. Ferris asked can plans that are drawn up for these Schemes be conveyed to the local communities.

Ms. J. Foley said that there was 5 submissions made for projects in Kerry to include Ballyseedy Woods, the Town Park, the loop walk in Fenit and other priority areas, these have been submitted to the Dept but no reply has been received as of yet, she said that she will make contact with the Dept to follow up on these and also to clarify funding available.

2. Cllr. N. Foley: That illegal dumping in the vicinity of Michael O'Regan terrace be addressed.

REPLY: We will ask our Litter Warden to monitor the situation and examine any litter dumped for evidence of the offender.

Cllr. N. Foley welcomed the reply.

3. Cllr. N. Foley: That this Municipal District would immediately seek funding for rural towns and villages in our electoral area under the new regeneration scheme.

REPLY: The Council has submitted a detailed development proposal for the Denny site in Tralee as number one priority under the Designated Urban Centre Grant Scheme - Southern & Eastern Operational Programme 2014 – 2020. the proposal involves the demolition of the site, its interim use as an amenity area and the preparation of a Master Plan for its future long term development. The submission also deals with the sites connectivity to the town centre and the improvement of adjoining streetscapes in conjunction with the smarter travel programme. The project proposal is in excess of three million euro.

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Cllr. N. Foley asked that in connection with the Town and Village renewal scheme can applications be prepared for submission in advance.

15.11.02.06 (a) Update from the Operations, Health & Safety Directorate

It was agreed to note the following report which was circulated:

Report from the Director of Operations, Health & Safety

1. Reorganisation Project

The following staff are based at the Kerry County Council Tralee Municipal District Operations Office at Prince's Quay (former Tralee Town Hall)

Frank Hartnett Senior Executive Engineer

Siobhan Horgan . Senior Administrator

Area Engineers:

- **John Fitzgerald** (Roads and Environmental)
- **Colm Lynch** (Roads and Environmental)
- **Aidan Harty** (Housing)

2. Road Works Programme for November/December

Metropolitan Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Roads and Footpath works in Roads Programme are now complete • Footpaths at Upper Rock Street and at Dairymaster ongoing; as well as footpath works at Balloonagh Estate, Riverside, Derrylea • Paving repairs at The Mall • CSMDO Works at Footpaths on National Secondary Route opposite Castlemorris Terrace • Surfacing of new walkway at Green Area at Racecourse Lawn (contractor) • Grass cutting finished; Tree trimming commenced
Tralee Municipal District East	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Primary Maintenance Works • LIS / Hardship & Emergency Scheme Works • CSMDOF Works (County Councillor Allocations) • ESBi Works • Local & Regional Road Maintenance Works • Killarney Municipal District Works
Tralee Municipal District West	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoration Improvement & Maintenance Completion Works • National Primary & Secondary Maintenance Works • CSMDOF Works - County Specific Municipal District Operation Fund Works - County Councillor Allocation Works (CCA) • Restoration Improvement & Maintenance Strengthening Works • Tralee . Fenit Railway Walk (Edward Street to Rock Street, Tralee) Works • Regional & Local Road Maintenance Works

3. Housing

Maintenance work is ongoing

Work will be undertaken to the following vacant units in November/December.

	54 Cois Abhann 48 An Fearann, Ardfert 135 Connolly Park 1 St Josephs Estate
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This concludes our Report for November/December 2015.

Cllr. T. Ferris asked why are there delays in allocating property to tenants where vacant properties are available.

Mr. T. O'Connor said in Shanakill there are 4 houses ready for tenancy and 5 more to be upgraded with the intention of allocating the 9 houses together when finalised in early nearly 2016.

Cllr. T. Ferris asked if there was a possibility that these would be ready before Christmas.

Mr. T. O'Connor replied that it would be 2016 before they are ready for tenancy.

Cllr. T. Ferris said that when rent is being reassessed the rent arrears is being backdated to April, where in some cases the arrears can amount to large sums of money and is proving very difficult for people to repay. She suggested that when rent is being reassessed any increase in the rent should only come into effect from the date being reassessed and not backdated.

Mr. T. O'Connor said that when a tenant forwards all details and does not withhold any information that the rent should not be backdated.

Cllr. T. Ferris said that she knows of a case where the rent was backdated even after forwarding all information to the Local Authority.

Mr. T. O'Connor said that he will look into the individual case.

Cllr. P. Daly said that he has had some queries where investigating officers call out to a property and the tenant is not informed of the reason for the officer calling. He asked if correspondence can be forwarded to the tenant in advance of the Investigating officer calling to give the purpose of the visit.

Mr. T. O'Connor said that he will bring this to the Investigating officers attention.

Cllr. T. O'Brien welcomed the progress in Shanakill. He also said that when Kerry County Council are taking control of houses that some of the windows and doors being disposed off seem to be in good quality and a lot of money seems to be wasted on the disposing of these.

Mr. G. O'Riordan said that Kerry County Council carry out the maximum amount of work to bring the house up to current standards and some doors would not be suitable for children under current regulations where works are being carried out and may have to be changed. He said that Building Regulations change constantly and that grants are availed of to upgrade doors and windows, there is also energy and wiring elements to be looked at in older houses.

Cllr. T. Ferris said that she understands that some houses that are vacated need to have some upgrading but that disposing of built in wardrobes, tiles etc that meet

building standards is a pointless exercise. She suggested that when a new tenant is moving in that they sign a disclaimer to say that they happy to leave the original items in the house.

Mr. C. O'Sullivan said that in the last two months that there was a review of the policy and if funding becomes available through grant aid that the Local Authority optimise this and upgrade the houses to an adequate standard.

Cllr. T. Ferris asked for the update on the vacant house at Shanakill where illegal dumping has been carried out and there are rats and an infestation of flies present.

Mr. T. O'Connor said that the last update he had on this property was that Kerry County Council were in the process of re-possessing it.

Cllr. T. Ferris said she understood that the Gardai and social services were informed of this situation and that it appeared that there was no investigation carried out. She wanted this to be brought to the attention of the Gardai and Social Services.

Mr. T. O'Connor said that it was an issue for the Environment Dept.

Cllr. S. Locke asked how private properties which are overgrown can be addressed. He said in some cases no contact can be made with the family of the homeowners and asked is there some form of mechanism where these houses can be addressed.

Mr. C. O'Sullivan said that it would be an Environment issue but that the Local Authority would have no power without consent. He said that he would speak with Mr. L. Quinlan.

Cllr. S. Locke said that vegetation has also taken over the internal of the building. He asked if the introduction of a by-law in these cases would help the community.

(b) Notices of Motion.

1. Cllr. P. Daly: That this council will arrange for the Big River at Oakview to be tidied.

REPLY: Following the storm in the middle of September 2015, Kerry County Council undertook substantial clean up works and repairs. This included the Big River at Oakview, Tralee.

Cllr. P. Daly asked that this area can be monitored as this will be part of the new Walkway.

2. Cllr. P. Daly: In advance of the National 1916 Celebration Event at Banna Strand next year that this Council will improve the road signage for Banna from Tralee.

REPLY: Signage along the R551 (Regional Road) from Tralee to Ardfert & Ballyheigue, which leads to Banna, is in accordance with the Traffic Signs Manual. Additional signage was erected in 2014 as part of the Wild Atlantic Way in which Banna is identified as a Discovery Point

Cllr. P. Daly asked if extra signs can be erected on the by-pass or at the roundabouts outside Ardfert.

Cllr. T. McEllistrim said that there is also an issue with some of the Signs at Banna being removed.

Mr. J. Fitzgerald said that temporary signage can be erected in the run up the National 1916 Celebration Event at Banna Strand.

3. Cllr. P. McCarthy: That Kerry County Council carry out traffic calming measures on the Short Mountain Road and to ask when will this road be resurfaced and that necessary drainage works at the side of the road be included

REPLY: The L-6516 Short Mountain Road has been upgraded / surfaced over the past number of years. The road is in a good condition. Any maintenance works, including drainage, will be undertaken where required. The Tralee Municipal District Operations Department has not received any complaints in relation to speeding (the alignment consists of a series of bends prior to the final ascent). The Tralee Municipal District will monitor this section of roadway.

4. Cllr. P. Daly: That this council will provide some extra litter bins in Tralee Town Centre.

REPLY: Kerry County Council are currently reviewing a number of locations throughout the town with regard to the provision of litter bins. However there are additional costs associated with the ongoing operation of these bins which will have to be considered in the context of the overall total number of litter bins in the town.

Cllr. P. Daly said that he acknowledged the reply. He said that there was a shortage of bins on Rock Street and also on the new Walk Way.

5. Cllr. J. Finucane: That the Council would put in a footpath or pedestrian access on the old Killarney Road (Mile Height) where there is at present a Cul De Sac to allow walkers to continue a route which would bring them on the new bypass road at the roundabout at Ballygarry.

REPLY: The provision of pedestrian access parallel to the old road will require more detailed design and investigation in relation to land registry and land acquisition agreements. These have been requested from the NRDO in order to clarify the possible routes to tie it into the Tralee Bypass cycle path. The preliminary estimate for a non surfaced pedestrian access is in the order of €12,000.

6. Cllr. T. McEllistrim: Signposts in Ballymacelligott parish that need to be corrected, at T Junction above O'Riadas Bar, signpost should read Gleann na gCaointe and signpost at turnoff for O'Brennan school near Potally bridge should be Scoil ní Bhréanainn.

REPLY: These existing finger post signs have been referred to Kerry County Council's Irish Office to check their translations. If amendments are required the Tralee Municipal District Operations Department will undertake the necessary changes

Cllr. T. McEllistrim acknowledged this reply.

7. Cllr. T. McEllistrim: To replace two trees at entrance to Castlecountess Estate, Tralee and replace two trees at the triangle roundabout in Castlecountess Estate Tralee.

REPLY: Kerry County Council will shortly be commencing its tree maintenance program for Winter/Spring 2015/2016. The above location will be considered in this context

Cllr. T. McEllistrim asked if the trees in this area can be included in the program for next year.

8. Cllr. T. McEllistrim: To erect a more visible stop sign at Ballyseedy crossroads, as one approaches from Ballyseedy Castle Hotel to the N21."

REPLY: The Stop-Sign on the L-6547 Ballyseedy Castle approach to the N21 Ballyseedy Junction will be re-located to a more visible location.

Cllr. T. McEllistrim acknowledged this and said that the sign is on a corner and is not visible.

9. Cllr. T. McEllistrim: To repair/replace footpath outside houses 46-47 St. Johns Park, Tralee.

REPLY: Kerry County Council has examined this location and repairs will be undertaken during December 2015.

Cllr. T. McEllistrim welcomed this reply.

10. Cllr. T. McEllistrim: To erect a signpost for the Immaculate Conception Church, Ballymcelligott on the approach road from the John Cronin Roundabout to the Ballymacelligott Church exit road.

REPLY: The N21 was re-signed in accordance with the Department of Transport's Traffic Signs Manual under a National Roads Authority Signs Contract in 2011 / 2012. The supply, erection and maintenance of signage on the National Road network is carried out directly by TII (Formerly the NRA). We will refer the matter to them for consideration.

Cllr. T. McEllistrim said that many people attending events at this church have to stop to get directions or confuse it with the other church in the area.

11. Cllr. P. Daly: That this Council will construct an official gateway on to the Fenit Walkway from Gort Na Greine.

REPLY: The existing palisade fence and gate will be removed and a new pedestrian access will be provided to facilitate connectivity between the local estates and the Walkway

Cllr. P. Daly said that he welcomed this reply.

12. Cllr. P. McCarthy: That Kerry County Council would address the condition of the surface of the Short Mountain Road.

REPLY: The L-6516 Short Mountain Road is in a good condition. The Tralee Municipal District Operations Department will patch the road if / where required.

13. Cllr. T. Ferris: That the ongoing issue with tree roots destabilising a wall at Johns park would be addressed. The residents would also request that the trees in the estate would be trimmed.

REPLY: Further to the recent report in relation to the stub wall at St. John's Park, the wall was examined and found to be stable; some pointing works will be necessary to prevent future problems; these works will be undertaken during November.

Cllr. T. Ferris welcomed this reply.

14. Cllr. T. Ferris: What safety measures do Kerry County Council intend to introduce to address the number of accidents occurring at Tubrid cross.

REPLY: Following an examination of the Accident Database (for the L-2009 / L-2003 Tubrid Cross) there are no recorded accidents (2000-2012) for this junction. However, the Tralee Municipal District Operations will install additional signage / replenish road markings at the said junction.

Cllr. T. Ferris said she did not understand how there was no record of any accidents at this cross as she knows of some incidents that occurred recently, in one incident a person had to be cut out of the car. She also said that the stop sign had to be replaced a number of times from being hit.

Mr. J. Fitzgerald said that the Accident Data included information up to 2012 and that more recent data was unavailable.

Cllr. T. Ferris said that there were no fatalities at this junction but a lot of injuries.

Mr. J. Fitzgerald said that a number of extra signs would be erected. He also said that Driver error was also a factor as there are good sight lines at this area.

15. Cllr. N. Foley: That the damaged footpath before and after the entrance to Castlewood Park, Killerisk, Tralee, be repaired as a matter of urgency.

REPLY: Kerry County Council has examined the footpath at this location. Repair works will take place in December 2015.

Cllr. N. Foley welcomed this reply.

16. Cllr. N. Foley: That the issue of illegal parking at Michael O'Regan Terrace be examined urgently and addressed, as it is a serious health and safety issue for residents.

REPLY: There is a limited number of parking spaces fronting the houses at Michael O'Regan Terrace, with the remainder of the roadside having double

yellow line; the issue of parking by people visiting the hospital will be monitored and, if necessary, parking fines will be issued for illegal parking; however, parking of cars outside of the houses by non-residents cannot be prevented.

Cllr. N. Foley said that illegal parking was an ongoing issue for these residents and at times is a Health and Safety issue as at times the residents cannot get their own cars out from where they are parked. She said she appreciates that this will be monitored and that parking fines will be issued. She said that the punitive charges at General Hospital for parking cause a knock on effect at Michael O'Regan Terrace and Marian Park. She proposed that a letter is written to the Kerry General Hospital in connection to their parking rates.

17. Cllr. N. Foley: That the Municipal District examine the potential to upgrade and improve Courthouse Lane, Tralee and put in place an action plan for the regeneration of this area as soon as possible.

REPLY: Courthouse Lane was upgraded a number of years ago along with Ashe Street. It is our intention to carry out remediation works in early 2016 to stabilise the existing paviers.

Cllr. N. Foley said that she accepted that the Courthouse lane was upgraded but that there is massive potential for further upgrading of this area. She wanted to acknowledge the great work that the businesses in this area are carrying out and that it adds to the town. She asked if there could be intervention from the Local Authority to upgrade this area e.g. hanging baskets and that this area has the potential to be an invigorating and inviting part of the town and asked if Kerry County Council could meet with some of the businesses there.

Mr. C. O'Sullivan said they Kerry County Council could engage with the Community group that is active in this area.

18. Cllr. N. Foley: That the damaged roadway at the entrance to Fortfield, Killerisk, Tralee be repaired.

REPLY: Kerry County Council has examined the roadway/footpath at this location. Repair works will take place in December 2015.

Cllr. N. Foley welcomed this reply.

15.11.02.07 Motions / Questions relevant to other Directorates or issues not relevant to Kerry County Council business

(a) Notice of Motion

1. Cllr. P. Daly: That this Council will commemorate Paddy Casey the former Mayor of Tralee in 1922 who arranged the Purchase of the Green/Town Park from the Denny Estate.

REPLY: This is a matter for consideration by the members

Cllr. P. Daly said that he was approached by a family member of Mr. Paddy Casey if he could be commemorated in some way.

Mr. G. O'Brien said that this was raised at a previous meeting where it was agreed to plant a tree in the Town Park to commemorate Mr. Casey.

Cllr. T. Ferris said that there is a bench in Fenit where a family wish to erect a plaque and asked would permission need to be sought from Kerry County Council or can the local community erect it.

Mr. C. O'Sullivan said that approval at Tralee Municipal District level would need to be sought for this.

2. Cllr. N. Foley: That the Municipal District request the Courthouse Services to flood light the Courthouse building as it is an iconic and historical structure that deserves to be highlighted from an architectural point of view.

REPLY: This is a matter for consideration by the members

Cllr. N. Foley asked if this could be considered under the total upgrade of the Courthouse. She said that if the Courthouse was illuminated it would enhance the town.

Cllr. T. O'Brien asked if a response was received from the Court Services in connection to access to the building.

Mr. G. O'Brien said no response yet but will follow up with them.

Cllr. P. Daly said that no response was received yet in connection to Mr. C. Kerins and asked if a reminder letter could be forwarded to them.

15.11.02.08 Dates for next Tralee Municipal District meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the members of the Municipal District of Tralee would be held on Monday 11th January 2016 at 10.45 am. Submissions for Notices of Motion to be forwarded by 18th December.

15.11.02.09 Any Other Business

Reception for the Kerry Team that received an award at the National final of the Student Local Enterprise Awards in April.

Cllr. N. Foley asked if this could be acknowledged.

Mr. G. O'Brien said that a Mayoral letter or certificate could be forwarded to them.

Christmas Parking

Cllr. T. McEllistrim proposed free parking from 5th December 2015 to 5th January 2016 from 1pm as part of the traditional Christmas free parking in Tralee. This was seconded by Cllr. P. McCarthy.

This was agreed.

Meeting concluded at 1.05pm

Gerard O'Brien
Meetings Administrator

Mayor of the Municipal
District of Tralee