



CORK CITY COUNCIL
COMHAIRLE CATHRACH CHORCAÍ

ANNUAL REPORT

2004





CORK CITY COUNCIL COMHAIRLE CATHRACH CHORCAÍ

Annual Report 2004 Tuarascáil Bhliantúil 2004

Mission Statement

We will be a responsive and innovative local authority, central to improving the quality of life in Cork and taking the lead role in meeting the needs of our communities

CONTENTS

	Page
Lord Mayor's Foreword	2
City Manager's Foreword	3
Members of Cork City Council	4
Management team of Cork City Council	6
Planning & Development	7
Docklands Development	14
Recreation, Amenity & Culture	18
Roads & Transportation	20
Community & Enterprise	22
European Capital of Culture 2005	26
Housing & Community	28
Environment	31
City Architect's Department	34
Information Systems Department	37
Statutory Section	41
Finance	42
Programme Areas	44
Service Indicators	51
Operation of Council	58
Local Government Act 2001	58
Recruitment Gender Balance	59
Corporate Plan 2001-2004	61
Final Progress Report	



Lord Mayor's Foreword

2004 has been an exceptional year for Cork. Great strides have been made in our infrastructure and our built environment. Many schemes which appear in the following pages have come to fruition during this year and progress on social inclusion and community development has been consolidated. Cork's star is, without doubt, in the ascendant.

None of this would have been possible of course without the continuing support of a number of sectors in our society. I want to take this opportunity to publicly thank our business community who through rate payments and through the work of the Chamber of Commerce and the Cork Business Association, contribute on so many levels to Cork's continued success. I want to thank the general public - those who pay their refuse charges and housing rents - those citizens whose pride in their city helps to make it what it is. I want to pay tribute to the majority of those children and the adults who choose not to litter but instead want to see their city looking attractive and clean. I want to acknowledge the tremendous work done by our emergency services - the Gardaí, the Fire Service, Civil Defence and our doctors and nurses.

The contribution of our voluntary and community organisations must also be acknowledged. With-



out them
our society
would be so much the
poorer in every sense.

I want to express my gratitude to the staff of Cork City Council for their courtesy and professionalism during 2004.

My final word of thanks must go to my fellow councillors on Cork City Council. As policy makers their role is often a difficult one and I commend them for their dedication and vision.

The achievements of 2004 have contributed in no small way to maintaining Cork in its position as Ireland's second city and have confirmed Cork as a vibrant and modern European city whose citizens enjoy an enviable quality of life. Corcaigh Abú !

Seán Martin
Lord Mayor of Cork



City Manager's Foreword

I welcome the publication of the Annual Report for the Year 2004. Local Government has seen considerable change over the past number of years, both in the manner in which policy is formulated, and in the structures for the delivery of that policy. The new structures are now successfully embedded in our organisation and the City Council continues to enhance the delivery of its services to its customers.

Cork has seen considerable infrastructural development over the past 12 months. The commissioning of the Carrigrennan Wastewater Treatment Plant marks the successful culmination of the €300m CMD scheme. The renewal of the public realm continues apace and the opening of the refurbished St. Patrick's Street in September marked an important milestone in the renewal programme. This work reflects Cork's position as a modern, dynamic European city and contributes to Cork maintaining its position as Munster's premier shopping destination.

Through its Development Plan the Council has facilitated considerable levels of private investment and development in the city. Developments at Lavitts Quay, Lapp's Quay, Camden Quay and Mahon are transforming the city and its environs and the coming year will see a continuation of this trend with numerous proposals already at design or planning stage.

Work on preparing the city for its year as European Capital of Culture in 2005 made tremendous

advances in 2004.

This prestigious accolade acknowledges Cork's cultural wealth and highlights its attractions as one of Europe's foremost urban tourism destinations. We look forward to the opportunity to place Cork in the international spotlight during 2005.

I would like to thank the staff of the City Council at all levels for their work and commitment throughout 2004. I would also like to thank the Lord Mayor and the Members of the City Council for their contribution to the betterment of the city and for their continuing support and co-operation.

The ongoing challenges which the city faces are being met and addressed, ensuring that Cork can look forward with confidence as a city with a quality physical environment which is socially inclusive, globally competitive and culturally enriched.

Joe Gavin,
City Manager.

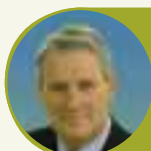


Members of Cork City Council

North-East Electoral Area



Cllr. Máirín Quill
PD



Cllr. Tim Brosnan
FF



Cllr. John Kelleher
Lab



Cllr. Dara Murphy
FG



Cllr. Annette Spillane
SF

North-Central Electoral Area



Cllr. Mick Barry
SP



Cllr. Catherine Clancy
Lab



Cllr. Gary O' Flynn
FF



Cllr. Damien Wallace
FF



Cllr. Patricia Gosch
FG

North-West Electoral Area



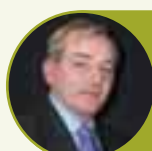
Cllr. Jonathan O' Brien
SF



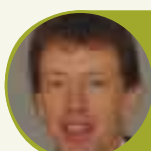
Cllr. David McCarthy
FF



Cllr. Colm Burke
FG



Cllr. Michael O' Connell
Lab



Cllr. Tony Fitzgerald
FF



Members of Cork City Council

South East Electoral Area



Cllr. Deirdre Clune
FG



Cllr. Donal Counihan
FF



Cllr. Chris O' Leary
GP



Cllr. Denis O' Flynn
Lab

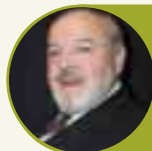


Cllr. Terry Shannon
FF



Cllr. Jim Corr
FG

South-Central Electoral Area



Cllr. Con O' Connell
NP



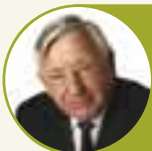
Cllr. Ciarán Lynch
Lab



Cllr. Seán Martin
FF

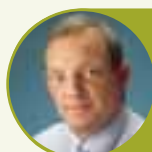


Cllr. Tom O' Driscoll
FF



Cllr. Denis Creegan
FG

South-West Electoral Area



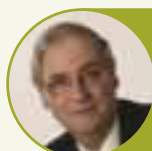
Cllr. Jerry Buttimer
FG



Cllr. Fergal Dennehy
FF



Cllr. Mary Shields
FF



Cllr. Brian Bermingham
FG



Cllr. Michael Ahern
Lab

Management Team of Cork City Council



Principal Officers

Front Row L to R:

Jim O'Donovan, Director of Services, Planning & Development, **Deborah G. Hearty**, Law Agent, **Joe Gavin**, City Manager, **Ruth Buckley**, Head of IS, **Joe Kennelly**, Director of Services, Recreation, Amenity & Culture, **John D. Flynn**, Director of Services, Corporate Affairs.

Back Row L to R:

Gerard P. O'Halloran, Personnel Officer, **Denis O'Mahony**, Director of Services, Environment, **Tim Healy**, Head of Finance, **Stephen Kearney**, Director of Services, Housing & Community, **Pat Ledwidge**, Director of Services, Community & Enterprise, **Jack Healy**, A/City Architect, **Dan Buggy**, Assistant City Manager and Director of Docklands Development and Special Projects, **Kevin Terry**, Director of Services, Roads & Transportation and City Engineer.



Cork City Council
Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí



Planning & Development

Planning & Development



The Planning and Development Directorate promotes and controls development in order to create a high quality environment where people can live, work, invest and spend their leisure time. The functions of the Directorate include the development of Planning policies for the City, promoting and facilitating orderly development through the Development Control process and ensuring compliance by Planning Enforcement.

Planning Policy involves preparing the City Development Plan which was adopted in December 2003 for the period 2004 to 2009 which co-ordinates the activities of the City Council in areas such as housing, roads and sanitary services and also guides the use of land within Cork City for residential, employment and other purposes. Other activities include the renewal and development of the city through Local Plans, Development Briefs, Urban Renewal Initiatives and Conservation of the built environment and Archaeology.

The Development Control system operates by obliging prospective developers to obtain planning permission for new development or changes of use of existing buildings. It is one of the major statutory responsibilities undertaken by City Council. The buoyant National economy has been reflected in Cork City with the large number of planning applications, many of which are of a very complex nature. The Section pro-actively encourages pre-planning discussions with prospective applicants, in order that key planning issues can be considered and addressed, prior to the planning application being lodged.

The Directorates Planning Enforcement function ensures that developers comply with the planning permissions granted and that no unauthorised development takes place.

PLANNING POLICY SECTION

Cork City Development Plan

The Cork City Development Plan was launched in 2004, and runs to late 2009. The plan sets out Cork City Council's policies for the development of Cork City and seeks to direct policy towards the improvement of the city under a number of headings, including, social, economic, culture and the environment. The plan is set within the strategic framework of the Cork Area Strategic Plan 2001-2020 (CASP). A progress report on the implementation of the Plan will be prepared at the end of 2005.

The Plan's three primary goals are:

- To promote and provide for the sustainable development of Cork City as a National Gateway City within the framework set out in CASP.
- To promote social inclusion and facilitate equality of access to employment, education, transport, suitable housing and social and cultural infrastructure.
- To provide for a high quality natural and built environment and improve the quality of life for those living and working in Cork and visiting the city.

The key policies of the Plan seek to promote

1. A City Centre regenerated in physical, economical and social terms.
2. An integrated and balanced transport system.
3. Policies for the Cork City Docklands which set out the potential for the creation of an new city quarter of mixed uses and sufficient scale to bring about an urban renaissance in Cork and elevate it to a city of European significance
4. Policies for landscape protection which conserve and enhance the strongly distinctive landscape character of the city.
5. Policies for high quality urban design which provide for conservation of existing buildings and Areas of Special Character, but which also encourage high quality, contemporary and innovative architecture.



The Cork City Development Plan 2004 plots a course for significant physical growth and renewal, high quality employment and economic activity and a socially and culturally inclusive city which is internationally recognised as an excellent place in which to live, work and invest.

- **Promoting New Development**

A central role of the Planning and Development Directorate is to promote and facilitate new development in the city. During 2004 the enhancement of the public realm in the City Centre set the stage for the regeneration of the City Centre and Docklands. By December construction was well underway on over 40,000sqm of new office space that had been permitted the previous year. Significant new residential and hotel developments were also under construction in the city centre with planning permission also granted for major retail developments, in particular the former Guys site on Cornmarket Street.

In the suburbs development activity is similarly strong. Major retailing and other commercial development were virtually complete by the end of 2004 at Mahon and Blackpool.

With regard to residential developments upwards of 1000 apartments are under construction in the inner city and in the areas benefiting from financial incentives in the designated area stretching from Carrolls Quay northwards into the Blackpool Valley. Residential developments are also underway in Mahon/Blackrock. To date permission has been granted for approximately 1,500 units for student accommodation, many of which have been completed or are under construction. Construction is also underway for major expansions at UCC, CIT and Cork University Hospital.

- **Local Planning**

During 2004 the Planning Policy team commenced the process of further detailing the Development Plan policies for particular parts of the city through a series of local area plans, action plans and development briefs. These plans proactively encourage and promote redevelopment and rejuvenation of

the city. A draft Action Plan for the Cornmarket Street Area was issued for consultation during 2004. A Plan for the renewal of the Blackrock Village and Harbour area was prepared in 2004 and an implementation strategy will follow. Preparation of a Local Area Plan for the North Docks also commenced during the year. Development Briefs were prepared for sites including the Water Street site and the proposed Blackpool/Kilbarry railway station.

- **Cornmarket Street Area Action Plan**

The Cornmarket Street Action Plan sets out a vision for the transformation of the area which has the potential to become a thriving urban quarter, attractive for business and in which to live, work and visit. The plan envisages that the area will be a focus for new City Centre commercial uses, including an expansion of the prime City Centre retail area onto the Guy's site and the southern end of Cornmarket Street. It also proposes the upgrading of the public realm and of the street market. Preparatory work on an architectural competition to be held for a series of waterfront sites on Kyrils Quay also commenced during 2004.

- **North Docks Local Area Plan**

The North Docklands Area is strategically located at the eastern gateway to the City Centre within walking distance of the central core. It is an area identified in both the City Development Plan 2004 and the Docklands Development Strategy 2001 as having significant development potential crucial to the City in that re-development will unlock the wider strategy for the Docklands in general.

The purpose of the Local Area Plan is to identify the key issues in relation to development opportunities, land uses, transport and urban design, to provide a more detailed form of guidance for the City Council, landowners, developers and other interested parties.

- **Archaeology**

During 2004 significant discoveries were made in the South Main Street area arising from excavations carried out in connection



with two major planned developments. Almost 5000 sq m of the historic core of Cork City will be subject to impact arising from these two proposed residential and hotel developments. These were two of the largest and most worthwhile excavations ever carried out in Cork City. The riverside revetments and Viking age houses (late 11th and 12th Century) are among the most significant finds. The excavations are scheduled to recommence late in 2005. Meanwhile excavations of 16th and 17th Century material are underway on the eastern side of Cornmarket Street in advance of construction.

The annual conference of the European Association of Archaeologists (EAA) will take place in Cork in September 2005. Cork City Council is organising the event which will see over 600 archaeologists from 30 countries attending the 5 day conference.

- **Conservation**

Three Areas of Special Character have been designated within the City, i.e. North Main Street, Wellington Road/St. Luke's and Grattan Hill. The purpose of this designation is to protect the character of such areas, facilitate appropriate development and integrate the actions of private developers, local authorities and state bodies. Information leaflets have been prepared for the first two areas to help the property owners and general public appreciate the implications of the designation.

A Conservation Grant Scheme continues to support the efforts of property owners in undertaking appropriate refurbishment/restoration works on historic properties. During 2004 in excess of €130,000 in grants was paid out in respect of some 19 properties. Even though individual grants represent only a partial contribution to the overall cost of such conservation projects, in most cases the grant has been a stimulus to property owners and represents a recognition of their efforts in the area of building conservation.

Key conservation successes in the city in 2004 included:

- The refurbishment of Skiddys Almshouses by the Social Housing Development Co. commenced in 2004 as did the reuse of the Lee Road Waterworks as the Sustainable City Campus.
- Opening of the Glucksman Gallery – an example of how to build a major modern structure in a historic setting in a way that positively contributes to its setting.
- The building of the Clarion Hotel at Lapps Quay, involved the reconstruction of the limestone quay walls, using the original stonework to face the underground elements.
- Refurbishment and repair of St. Anne's Church tower at Shandon.
- Conservation works to the Red Abbey, in association with the creation of a new amenity area.

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL SECTION

The continued and welcome growth in the Cork economy has been reflected in the following significant developments, processed by the Development Control Section, which have been either commenced or completed in 2004:

(a) Residential Schemes

- 800 inner city apartments at various sites including George's Quay, Lavitt's Quay, Knapp's Square, Carroll's Quay, Lancaster Quay, Leirim Street and Copley Street.
- 550 houses (including refurbishment of Convent) at Ursuline Convent, Blackrock.
- 300 apartments at Our Lady's Hospital.
- 120 houses at former Silversprings Golf Course, Tivoli.
- Refurbishment of the Mill Building, Fr. Matthew Quay for apartment use.
- Watercourse Road - 120 apartments.
- 300 houses / apartments, Rivers Edge, Mahon.
- Social and affordable housing schemes at Mount Rivers, Rope Walk and Boreenmanna Road.



(b) Student Apartments

- 1200 new student bed spaces at Victoria Cross, Curraheen Road, The Tennis Village, Model Farm Road and Lower Glanmire Road.

(c) Commercial Schemes

- Retail warehousing, cinema, offices and hotel at the Polefield, Blackpool.
- Regional shopping centre and retail warehousing in Mahon.
- Tesco supermarket at Wilton.
- Offices / retailing for the O'Callaghan Group at Lavitt's Quay.
- Hotel / offices at Lapp's Quay by Howard Holdings.
- Offices by O'Flynn Construction at Lapp's Quay.
- New Regional Webworks at Albert Quay.
- New Jury's Hotel at Lancaster Quay (180 beds) and 230 apartments.
- New Kingsley Hotel, Carrigrohane Road.
- AIB Banks at Patrick Street and Watercourse Road.
- Leisure Complex, Old Mallow Road.

(d) Institutional Developments

- City Hall extension.
- New County Hall.
- Significant developments by UCC including
 - » The Glucksman Art Gallery;
 - » School of Pharmacy;
 - » New Library;
 - » New Honan Square and
 - » Schools of Medicine, Pharmacy and Nursing at Brookfield House, College Road.
- New St. John's VEC Campus at South Terrace.
- School of Music, Union Quay.
- Major expansion of academic and leisure facilities at CIT, Bishopstown.
- New Bus Station at Parnell Place.
- Significant new buildings at Cork University Hospital, Wilton including a new Maternity Hospital and Renal Dialysis building.
- The sustainable City Campus at Lee Road.

(e) Other significant permitted developments in 2004 include for:

- major retail development at the Guys site, Cornmarket Street;

- a 150 apartment scheme at Water Street in The Docklands;
- a Business Technology scheme at Centre Park Road and
- a new hotel at Crosses Green.

(f) Sites which will be the focus of applications for permission for significant developments in 2005 include for the following:

- A residential / commercial scheme of 50,000m² including an 18 storey tower at Eglinton Street.
- 2 comparison retail sites at St. Patrick's Street for 25,000m² of comparison retailing.
- Redevelopment of Blackrock Harbour Area.
- Commercial redevelopment of the Kenny site at St. Patrick's Quay.
- Various opportunity sites within the Cork Docklands including Kent Station, Horgan's Quay and the South Docks.
- Redevelopment of The Capitol Cineplex, Grand Parade as a department store.

Planning Enforcement Section

Cork City Council, in accordance with the statutory requirements set out in the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2002, seek to secure compliance with planning controls and prevent unauthorised developments. Although every effort is made to ensure compliance with the planning code by agreement, enforcement action is taken when required. A standard complaint form is available on the Council's website www.corkcity.ie

In May 2002 a new Planning Enforcement IT System was installed by the Local Government Computer Services Board, in liaison with the Council's IS Department and is being utilised to administer the City Council's Planning Enforcement Process.

Action with regard to non - compliance with planning conditions including planning development contributions, bonds in respect of housing estates are also administered by this section.



Statutory Key Performance Indicators 2004

Performance Indicators

Summary Report

Planning Enforcement

Total number of cases subject to (written) complaints that are investigated	292
Total number of cases dismissed	0
Number of enforcement procedures taken through warning letters	193
Number of enforcement procedures taken through enforcement notices	9
Total number of injunction sought (0) and number of prosecutions (0)	1

One of the primary objectives of the Enforcement Section of the Planning and Development Directorate is to secure compliance with the planning code. This approach may include negotiation with respondents on foot of written complaints received. Where feasible, respondents are advised to submit formal application for retention of development. This occurs following discussions between the Enforcement Section and the relevant Area Planner. This approach also facilitates complainants in allowing them to make written submissions to the Planning Authority or in some cases to An Bord Pleanála.

Where permission is granted and the development is carried out in accordance with the permission, the enforcement file is closed. Details of the numbers of such instances are being recorded from January 2005.

Where permission is refused the enforcement action continues. Details of such instances will also be recorded from January 2005.

Other significant enforcement indicators for 2004 are as follows:

- Number of cases closed / resolved 280
(includes cases for 2004 and previous years)
- Number of Warning Letters issued 485

- Number of Section 8 notices issued 262
(Notice to establish title)

Development Financial Contributions

In accordance with the provisions of Sections 48/49 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, Cork City Council adopted a General Development Contributions Scheme and a Supplementary Development Contribution Scheme on the 12th January 2004. Both schemes set out the scale of development contributions which apply to all relevant planning permissions determined by Cork City Council from the 13th January 2004. Details of both schemes, which are updated on a monthly basis in line with the Consumer price Index, are available on the City Council's website www.corkcity.ie

Section 48 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, also provides for the payment of a Special Contribution in respect of a particular development where specific exceptional costs, not covered by the General Scheme, are incurred by Cork City Council, in respect of public infrastructure and facilities which benefit a proposed development.

The General Scheme applies to the provision of classes of infrastructural services/facilities on a citywide basis. The Supplementary Scheme provides for charges to be levied in respect of the Cork Suburban Rail project, on developments within specified areas of Cork City. The lifetime of the current City Development Plan 2004 –2009 shall be the relevant period/term for which both schemes shall apply.

Implementation of the Housing Strategy (Part V - Planning and Development Act 2000-2002):

Pursuant to the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended by the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2002, an applicant for planning permission for the development of



dwellings (4 or more units or on land greater than 0.1 hectare), on land which is subject to a zoning requirement to reserve land for social and affordable housing, must specify the manner in which he/she propose to comply with a condition of planning implementing the social/affordable housing objectives of the Housing Strategy, which was adopted by Cork City Council on the 8th October, 2001.

In order to facilitate the effective implementation of this function, Cork City Council prepared a **Developers Guide on the Implementation of the Housing Strategy**. The Guide is available on the Cork City Council website www.corkcity.ie

Derelict Sites

In compliance with the objectives of Cork City Council's Corporate Plan, the Planning and Development Directorate is pro-active in encouraging the development of derelict sites through the use of the Derelict Sites Acts and the Planning and Development process. A Working Group of Planning and Housing Staff meet on a regular basis to review progress and issues. Development Briefs are prepared to identify the potential/limitations of the sites in question, some of which are either put on the open market or developed by the City Council.

Outdoor Events Licences

Under Part XVI of the Planning and Development Act 2000 and Part XVI of the Planning and Development Regulations, a licence is required for the holding of large scale 'outdoor' events,

In 2004 Cork City Council had one application in respect of the St. Patrick's Day Festival, which was held on the 17th March 2004. However, with Cork's designation as the European Capital of Culture in 2005, it is anticipated that there will be increased activity in this area during 2005.

Control of Funfairs (Fairground Equipment):

From the 1st March 2004 a person who intends to hold or organise a funfair shall give two (2) working days notice in writing, addressed to the designated officer within Cork City Council (at present Neil Fitzpatrick, Senior Executive Officer, Planning and Development, Navigation House, Albert Quay, Cork). The notice must be accompanied by a copy of the valid Certificate of Safety for the fairground equipment to be used at the funfair and give details of the names of the organisers, the owner(s) of the fairground equipment and the location and dates on which the funfair is to be held. In 2004 two such notifications were received

Licences for Fingerpost Signs

Licence Applications for siting of structures on/ over public roads — Section 254

The siting of specified appliances, apparatus and structures on/under/over a public road requires a licence under Section 254 of the Planning and Development Act 2000. The Planning and Development Directorate processes licence applications for fingerpost signs, whilst applications for other types of street furniture, such as advertisement, telephone kiosk, vending machine etc. are processed by the Roads Directorate.

A database to facilitate the more effective administration of the fingerpost sign licences has been developed in 2004.

There were 20 fingerpost licence applications in 2004, 10 of which were granted and 10 refused. Two applications for bus shelters were also granted in 2004.



Cork City Council
Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí



Docklands Development

Docklands Development



Docklands Development

With construction now completed on the rejuvenation of Lapp's Quay – a €100 million project – the implementation of the Cork Docklands Strategy, which will give the city a new urban quarter, can be said to have begun in earnest.

The Docklands Strategy was completed in 2002 and incorporated into the City's Development Plan. It is a visionary plan that will shape the city of the future, adding new amenity, educational, residential and commercial facilities to the eastern flank of the city in a vibrant and imaginative mix. The mission statement for the Docklands was set out by the City Council as follows:

"To actively encourage, influence and facilitate the development of the Docklands into a new, high quality, mixed-use urban quarter, where people, knowledge and innovation will flourish, with the Docklands acting as a key driver, supporting Cork's ambitions as a confident, competitive, friendly city of the 21st century".

At Lapp's Quay, we now see tangible evidence of the strategy in action. The developers have completed the first major element of the Docklands Project, a 200 – bedroomed, 80,000 sq.ft. hotel, some 20,000 sq.ft. of commercial space and an conference centre, all contained within two, linked six storey buildings. This development has raised the corporate profile of the city and there has been a very positive response to the development from both the people of Cork and the Commercial Sector, awakening strong demand in the sector. This is reflected with the shortly to be commenced Web Works Project at Albert Quay and a planning application on the former An Post site for a large mixed use commercial and residential scheme has also been received and is progressing through the system.

One of the key objectives of the Cork Area Strategic Plan (C.A.S.P.), the Docklands Project

is perhaps the most ambitious renewal plan ever conceived for Cork. Under its auspices, high quality contemporary design and a mix of varied uses will transform the Docklands into a waterfront area of which Cork and its citizens will be proud. This has been endorsed by the National Spatial Strategy (NSS) where Cork has been nominated as a "Gateway" to further "strengthen" economic growth and prosperity of the City and the Region and where Docklands redevelopment is a key objective of this "strengthening".

With the completion of the Cork Main Drainage Scheme in 2004, the River Lee has now been restored to a high quality and will return the river to the people as a major amenity in which water-based recreation will be possible once again. The rebirth of water-based recreation will see the construction of as many as 6,000 new homes with some six million sq.ft. of non-residential space for office, educational institutions, retail outlets as well as cultural and leisure activities on both the North and South Docks. High quality landscaped parks and walking routes, as well as moorings for pleasure craft and a new boating marina, will make the new Urban Quarter a sought after location over the next 25 years as the project unfolds on a phased basis.

It is intended that the rejuvenated Docklands Area will become an integral and essential part of the historic city, bringing a new dynamism to it, and that it will offer unique investment opportunities in a public/private partnership approach. On the public side alone, an estimated €450 million will be spent on





of Kent Station moving it closer to the river and City Centre by facing it onto the river. There will be a mixed used commercial development centred around the Station and also a proposal for a large Convention/Event Centre on the site. 1,200 residential units are proposed along the river frontage. Also included will be a central park and riverside public amenity with leisure and boating facilities making it the most sought after location in the Greater Cork Area. The adjacent Water Street Site has also made progress, and a planning application is imminent for a large residential scheme with a signature building. The above developments in the North Docks Area will be facilitated and controlled by the proposed North Docks Local Area Plan which is due to be published in 2005 and will bring greater certainty and detail to the City Development Plan in this area.

infrastructure, paving the way for private sector investment of up to €3 billion during the life of the plan. To facilitate the significant infrastructure deficit, a number of studies have been undertaken and completed this year in the areas of water and surface water drainage and the access issues including the feasibility study for the new bridge at Water Street is progressing with completion anticipated next year.

The role of the City Council, as architects of the unique strategy, will be to facilitate each phase of development, making it one of the most attractive private investments schemes in the State.

The Horgan's Quay Development made progress during the year and an announcement of the joint venture between C.I.E. and a private developer for mixed use development is imminent. This very large development involves the re-development

The new railway station will facilitate and integrate with the proposed increased mainline rail services and the upgrading of the rail-line between Mallow and



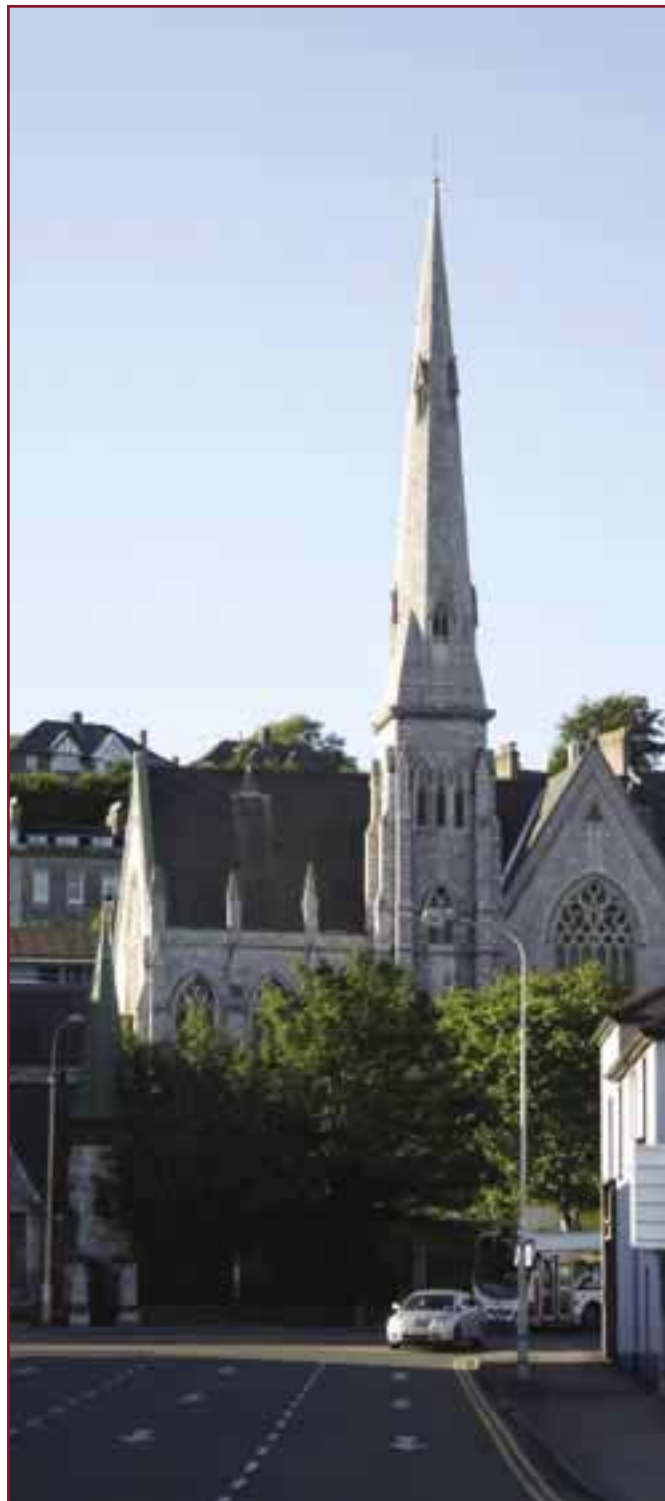


Cork and eastwards to Midleton. This is a major public transport objective of C.A.S.P. and the project was approved by the Government and announced by Minister Micheál Martin during the year. The station will provide rail links to proposed new stations at Kilbarry, Monard/Rathpeacon, serving the northern rim of the city, where a new settlement is to be located bringing with it, jobs, housing and a new prosperity to this part of Cork.

The Bus Station which was started in 2004, will become the focal point of a dedicated City Centre Transport Strategy with three new main arteries. Routes will include Mahon to City Hall, City Hall to Kent Station and the South/North Docks, using the loop which will be provided by the proposed new bridge at Water Street, and City Hall/Kent Station to U.C.C. and C.I.T. via Mac Curtain Street, St. Patrick's Street and Western Road. In the newly created Urban Quarter, there will be a high emphasis on reliable and efficient public transport to ensure a seamless link between the new facilities and the City Centre.

With significant progress achieved in the North Docklands and the City expansion eastwards, the attention and focus will now be on the South Docklands and a Local Area Plan for this area is also progressing with a view to publishing it in late 2005. The re-development of the South Docklands presents an even greater challenge with a larger number of land holdings, non-conforming quayside land uses and involvement with other key stakeholders such as Port of Cork, IDA, Enterprise Ireland as well as developers.

It is important now that the correct balance of mixed uses be achieved with emphasis on high quality development and public realm, with high tech knowledge based industry being part of the land use mix. To achieve progress in bringing the Docklands to the market, these diverse interests will require to be integrated in a manner that will increase the pace of development to meet with the targets set out in C.A.S.P., which can be achieved by the Docklands Development Office.





Cork City Council
Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí



Recreation, Amenity & Culture

Recreation, Amenity & Culture



Parks Development Works

The City Council's Corporate Plan and Parks Strategy set out clear objectives for the provision of parks, playgrounds, amenity walks and for Landscape Enhancement Works in order to provide much needed facilities for active and passive recreation and to enhance the visual appearance of the City.

Considerable progress has been made in providing and developing local parks. These are Tory Top Park Ballyphehane, Clashduv Park Togher, Gerry O'Sullivan Park Churchfield, Meelick Park Ballyvolane and Shalom Park. These parks have been developed in consultation with local representatives, residents, clubs and associations in these areas. These parks are valued by local residents particularly children, retired people and senior citizens.

Work commenced in 2004 on the provision of two new local parks, one at Loughmahon Road, Mahon and the other at Glenamoy Lawn, Mayfield. Both parks will encompass new playgrounds.

Landscape enhancement works include the planting of semi-mature trees in the City Centre, open space areas and roadside verges, the provision of floral beds and tubs at important locations throughout the City and the planting of naturalised bulbs.

Cork Public Museum

The development of a state-of-the-art extension to the City Museum at Fitzgerald's Park which commenced in 2003 was completed in 2004. Among the material on display for the first time ever was an ethnographic collection of native artefacts for such diverse places as Australia, Africa, New Guinea and the South Sea Islands. An exhibition devoted to the Cork International Exhibition, Cork sport, including a Roy Keane Manchester United UEFA Cup Jersey and singlet belonging to Sonia O'Sullivan were also on display. The new costume case displayed a Regency dress, 19th century wedding dress, Hugeunot costume as well as Hooded Cloaks from West Cork.

Cork Arts Office

In the lead in to 2005 the Arts Office commenced consultation for the new 5 year Arts Plan for Cork City Council with a number of direct consultations with the Arts Sector. The Plan will be published in 2005.

Festival House, supported by Cork City Council, opened at No 15 Grand Parade during 2004. The office, which includes a ground floor information desk and office space, houses the Midsummer Festival, the Cork St. Patrick's Festival, the Cork International Choral Festival and the Folk Festival. The box office is also used by various other festivals during the year.

On May 1st Cork celebrated the enlargement of the European Union and welcomed Slovakia to the European Family. A concert and food fair took over St. Patrick's Street, with other events for children and young people in Emmet Place as well as associated events in a number of venues. Over 80,000 people enjoyed the day in the company of the Slovakian Premier.

The Triskel Arts Centre and the Everyman Palace Theatre both received direct grant aid of €160,000 towards the refurbishment of their premises in advance of Cork celebration of Cork 2005, European Capital of Culture. This work was all completed in 2004.

Libraries

The old Tory Top Library building, opened in the early 1970s, was demolished in February 2004 to allow construction begin on the new library building. In the autumn of the year planning permission was granted for a new library in Bishopstown.

In September the Council invited public submissions on the future of the library service. More than 200 submissions were received and these were used by staff in the preparation of a five-year strategic plan for the service which was nearing completion by the end of the year. A new initiative, with long-term implications began in 2004: the digitization of text, maps and images for inclusion in the Library website.

The Music Library was dedicated in the name of Rory Gallagher in October by Cllr Seán Martin, Lord Mayor, in the presence of Rory's mother Monica and brother Donal, and around 200 fans from all around the world. The Deputy Lord Mayor, Cllr Mary Sheilds, launched the Cork City Libraries Cork 2005 programme in December.



Cork City Council
Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí



Roads & Transportation

Roads & Transportation



Highlights of the year included the continuing construction work on the €11 million St. Patrick's Street Refurbishment Scheme which has now brought a new and revitalized ambience to the street, from St. Patrick's Bridge to Daunt Square.

Work is progressing on schedule and is due for completion in July 2005, well in time for the Capital of Culture celebrations in 2005.

Work also continued on the €1.7 million Shandon Street Renewal Scheme, which will give a much needed fillip to this historic quarter of the city. In addition work continued on the €3.5 million Watercourse Road/Thomas Davis Street Urban Renewal Scheme in Blackpool.

Installation of the Cork Metropolitan Area Broadband Network was completed in 2004. Funded by the Department of Communications, Marine & Natural Resources, Cork City Council and the EU, the 60km. new network is a vital component of the upgraded infrastructure which the city is developing to meet future growth potential which Cork's "gateway" designation under the National Spatial Strategy will provide. The network will be of great assistance in providing modern, fast communication facilities for commerce, industry and public offices.

Work commenced in 2004 on the refurbishment of Oliver Plunkett Street. This €5 million project will transform the street into a first class shopping area for the city centre. The work is due for completion in mid 2005.

Also during 2004, a continuing road resurfacing programme was undertaken on 64 traffic routes and

34 estate roads, whilst defective footpaths were replaced on another 60 roads.

As part of the Cork Area Strategic Plan (CASP), implementation of the 10 new Green Routes continued, with the first two routes from the city centre to both Curraheen and Frankfield being opened in late 2004.

Work was completed on the provision of the new 920 space Park & Ride facility at the Black Ash and the new terminal building waiting area for passengers was opened by the Minister for Transport in December.

Disc parking control areas were extended outwards and the Urban Traffic Control System was introduced to more areas of the city. New City Centre cycle parking stands were installed together with improved facilities for cyclists and additional streets restored to a two-way system.

Electronic handheld units were introduced in the Traffic Warden Service to facilitate the issuing of on-street fines. This then allowed for the introduction of a new on-line system for the payment of traffic fines in the Traffic Division which allowed for the payment of fines within 24 hours of the offence.





Cork City Council
Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí



Community & Enterprise

Community & Enterprise



The Community and Enterprise Directorate is responsible for local agenda 21, community development, social inclusion and enterprise/economic development.

During 2004, the Community and Enterprise Directorate was engaged in the following:

Social Inclusion Unit

<http://www.corkcity.ie/ourservices/communityenterprise/siu.shtml>

In 2003, the Unit created a Social Inclusion Audit of the activities of the City Council. Arising from this audit, the Unit then published a Social Inclusion Action Plan, which contains detailed actions and indicators for each Department and Directorate of the City Council. The Action Plan was adopted by Council in December 2003 and the City Manager and the Lord Mayor officially launched it in the Millennium Hall in May 2004. In conjunction with the Action Plan, a photographic exhibition ("Picture This") was commissioned by the Social Inclusion Unit. This was an important exercise in awareness-raising and the aim of this exhibition was to provide a greater understanding of the reality of social exclusion and the initiatives being used to combat both existing and potential exclusion. The exhibition was launched on the same day as the Action Plan and a number of venues throughout

the city (e.g. Blackpool Shopping Centre, Douglas Shopping Centre, U.C.C., C.I.T., libraries, etc.) subsequently hosted it over the following four months. The nature of these venues ensured that the exhibition reached the largest number of people possible.

Another project undertaken by the Social Inclusion Unit in 2004 was the preparation of a poverty profile of Cork; this has now given Cork City Council a detailed picture of poverty in the city.

The Unit was also successful in its application to the Combat Poverty Agency for a grant of €30,000. These funds were used to enhance the embedding of Social Inclusion principles in the new Corporate Plan through seminars for staff and research into disadvantaged areas and groups in the city.

RAPID

<http://www.corkcity.ie/ourservices/communityenterprise/rapid.shtml>

RAPID stands for "Revitalising Areas through Planning, Investment and Development". The programme is currently being delivered in 45 areas throughout the country (four in Cork city) to target disadvantage and to integrate services in these areas.





The four Cork City RAPID areas are:

- Knocknaheeney/Hollyhill/Churchfield
- Blackpool/The Glen/Mayfield
- Fairhill/Gurranabraher/Farranree
- Togher/Mahon

As the RAPID programme has progressed, the Government is giving it increased prioritisation. The clearest evidence of this has been the level of investment into the RAPID areas and the ongoing funding initiatives that are aimed at specific themes. An estimated total of more than €10m has been invested in Cork City through various RAPID programmes. In 2004 €288,000 was allocated to develop playground facilities in each of the four RAPID areas.

€934,000 was allocated by the Dept of Justice, Equality and Law Reform (under its Equality for Women Measure) to projects in Cork City. This funding is specifically focused on improving the quality of life for women living in RAPID areas.

The Dormant Accounts Fund has allocated €1.7m to projects in the RAPID areas; the grants have ranged from €5,000 to

€485,000. (A full list of allocations is available at www.dormantaccounts.ie)

Sports Capital funding in 2004/2005 has been prioritised for RAPID areas. Sports Capital Applications in 2004 saw the allocation of €1.3m to projects across the four RAPID areas. In addition to this amount, the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs' Leverage Fund allocated an extra 10% to each project endorsed by the local Area Implementation Teams.





Strategic Cork

Strategic Cork may be viewed at <http://www.corkcity.ie/strategiccorkguide/>

Strategic Cork is a marketing booklet designed to bring Cork City to the attention of economically active organisations, individuals (such as investors or those coming to work in Cork City - especially highly-skilled workers and researchers) and organisations seeking to attract the above. It is also aimed at organisations seeking to attract additional operations to their current operations in Cork.

The booklet (which was published with an accompanying CD, containing an expanded version of the booklet in English, French, German and Spanish) has the information needed to inform life decisions or shows where that information is available through web addresses.



Local Agenda 21

The Community and Enterprise Directorate is responsible for Local Agenda 21, Community Development, Social Inclusion (through its Social Inclusion Unit) and Enterprise & Economic Development.





Cork City Council
Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí



European Capital of Culture 2005

European Capital of Culture 2005



In 2004 the Cork 2005 office developed, commissioned and launched the official programme for Cork's designation as European Capital of Culture. The huge Programme of events, consisting of 236 creative projects contained the best of international arts practice as well as new and ambitious creative work in Cork, with many free events presented in public spaces. The programme developed was diverse in its celebration of Culture covering eight disciplines: Architecture, Design and Visual Arts; Festivals; Film Media and Sound; Literature, Publications and Conferences; Music; Residencies, Research and Process; Sport; and Theatre and Dance. The main body of work undertaken by the expanded Cork 2005 team consisted of developing all two hundred and thirty six selected and commissioned projects to delivery stage for the 2005 year.

During 2004, the Cork 2005 team reached its target complement of staff of 25. Cork 2005 also welcomed the Lord Mayor, Cllr. Sean Martin as its new Chair, taking over from the outgoing Lord Mayor Cllr. Colm Burke.

International promotion of Cork continued during the year with many visits from ambassadors, delegations, and foreign journalists. Frenetic activity, and hundreds of meetings took place with the programme's project partners, the artists, writers, theatre companies, dancers, community groups, and organisations whose creative ideas make up over 70 percent of the programme. Planning and preparations were also well in train for the opening ceremony, with the huge logistics involved in staging the event occupying much time in the office of 2005.

On October 7th the official programme was launched by the Minister for Arts, Sports and Tourism, Mr. John O'Donoghue. Over seventy members of the International press attended the launch, together with local and national journalists and key figures from the arts and from the business world and the citizens of Cork. The programme was launched to local, national and international acclaim.

Speaking at the launch, Director of Cork 2005 John Kennedy said he was delighted with the programme: "Next year will be truly extraordinary, with a programme that reflects Cork, Ireland and Europe. As the smallest city ever to be awarded this prestigious designation, Cork faced the challenge of taking its place alongside some of the great European cities that have previously held the title - Copenhagen, Madrid, Helsinki and Prague to name a few. Cork has answered that challenge emphatically and in its own unique and personal way."

Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism, John O'Donoghue told a large audience in the Crawford Municipal Art Gallery that what will take place in 2005 captures the creative personality of Europe as well as the soul of Cork and Ireland. "Cork is a beautiful city, hidden and unexpected - a small city by European terms perhaps, but in 2005, through the designation of the European Capital of Culture, Cork will take its place on the European stage."

Lord Mayor of Cork Cllr. Seán Martin spoke of Cork's sense of newness as the designation dawns: "It is hugely appropriate that now, as Cork is about to experience a great era of rejuvenation, the brilliant programme which the team at Cork 2005 have created comes to fruition alongside the restored and enhanced cityscape of Cork streets. As Cork 2005 welcomes Europe we as a city and a people are ready to embrace our year as European Capital of Culture."

By the end of 2004, the city was building up to the Opening Ceremony, and preparations were underway to receive over 100,000 people into the city, locals and visitors alike, from all over the country, and from many countries in Europe. There is no doubt that the place to be in Europe in 2005 will be Cork, European Capital of Culture.



Cork City Council
Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí



Housing & Community

Housing & Community



5-year Strategic Plan

In 2004 the third and final phase of area based management commenced in the south of the city. The introduction of an area-based system of housing management is a core element of Cork City Council's Housing Directorate's 5-year Strategic Plan (2000-2004).

The area based system has been broadly welcomed by the people in the area. It affords them access to discuss all housing issues such as rent and estate management issues.

The functions to be managed locally comprise of the following:

- Rent assessment and arrears control
- Housing allocation and transfers
- Void control
- Response maintenance
- Assessment of planned maintenance
- Tenancy breaches
- Tenant participation

Social and Affordable Action Plan

The Social and Affordable Action Plan (2004-2008) sets out the proposals of Cork City Council for the provision of new housing within the next five years as well as the regeneration, maintenance and management of the existing stock and also addresses provision by the voluntary and co-operative housing sector. The plan envisages the delivery of approximately 3000 units of both social and affordable housing. Major refurbishment of housing stock in Knocknaheeny and the Glen, Sunvalley Drive and Cushing Place is catered for in the plan as well as the decanting and redevelopment of Deanrock flats.

Housing Capital

257 no. units were completed or were nearing completion at the end of 2004.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| • Willowbank | 52 units |
| • Glenfields | 86 units |
| • Glen Infill | 48 units |
| • John Philpott Curran Street | 2 units |
| • Mount Saint Josephs | 30 units |

- | | |
|----------------|----------|
| • Regina Mundi | 39 units |
|----------------|----------|

The following major schemes will continue in 2005 :

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| • Berlingford Drive | 42 units |
| • Caseys Land | 47 units |
| • Shandon | 35 units |
| • Seminary Road | 31 units |
| | 155 units |

Housing Purchases

The purchase of property to meet housing need is in line with Government policy to counteract social segregation. In 2004, the Cork City Council agreed purchase terms for 90 no. houses.

Affordable Housing

The following is the position with regard to the current activity in the provision of affordable housing:

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| • Casey's Land, Castle Road
Under Construction | 53 units |
| • Blackpool
Construction due to commence | 20 units |
| • Glenfields
Work Completed | 23 units |
| • Buckley's field
Under Construction | 32 units |
| • Berlingford Drive
Under Construction | 14 units |
| • Hollyhill Lane 2
Contracts to be signed | 28 units |
| | 170 units |

Refurbishment/Regeneration Schemes

The Glen

Work is ongoing on Phase 1 of the Glen Regeneration Project. This phase of the work is due for completion in July, 2005. Consultation and design has commenced on Phase II of this project.



Knocknaheeny Masterplan

The City Council has received approval from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government to invite tenders from Contractors for Block D. This Contract will be in the region of €22m.

Togher – Deanrock

A detailed Planning Brief has now being prepared for the site. The complex is currently being decanted with a view to inviting proposals under a Public/Private partnership arrangement for the development of the site.

Voluntary Housing

Funding for the provision of accommodation by the Voluntary Sector is available under the Capital Assistance Scheme and the Capital Loan and Subsidy Scheme. The importance of the Voluntary Sector is recognised in maximising the output of accommodation to meet social housing need and in particular in providing for special needs and sheltered accommodation. Activity by the Voluntary Sector has increased substantially in recent years and this progress continued throughout 2004 with further projects scheduled to commence in 2005. A summary of schemes is given hereunder:

Capital Assistance Schemes

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| 1. Respond! Voluntary Housing
Blackpool Flats
Under Construction | 50 Units |
| 2. Bishopstown Senior Citizens
Under Construction | 25 Units |
| 3. Farranree Sheltered Housing
Under Construction | 39 Units |
| 4. Skiddy's Almshouse
Under Construction | 15 Units |
| 5. Cork Simon Community
Under Construction | 13 Units |
| 6. Shanbally Housing Assoc.
Under Construction | 1 Unit |
| 7. Respond – 28/29 Dublin St.
Tenders to be invited | 12 units |
| 8. Respond – Thomas Davis St.
Design being undertaken | 7 units |



Capital Loan and Subsidy Scheme

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| 1. Broad Lane, Blackpool
Cluid Housing Association
Under Construction | 28 Units |
| 2. Respond! Voluntary Housing
Blackpool Flats
Under Construction | 12 Units |





Cork City Council
Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí



Environment

Environment



Cork Main Drainage Scheme

To comply with the EU Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive and the Government's Environmental Action Programme, the City Council has now completed the Cork Main Drainage Scheme. The Scheme is co-financed by the European Union's Cohesion Fund and the Government's National Development Plan via the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

The works, which in total comprised 18 major civil engineering contracts, involved:

- Collection of all discharges of untreated effluent to the river and pumping the sewage via a Header Chamber to the new treatment plant.
- Construction of a new foul water sewer system for the Central Island of the City.
- Construction of a new wastewater treatment plant for Cork City and surrounding areas in a green field site at Carrigrennan in Little Island.

The Cork Main Drainage Scheme has cost over €300m.

In 2005, following completion of the Cork Main Scheme, a total change in treatment and disposal of urban sewage will be underway, with all foul sewage being treated and discharged in the upper harbour rather than discharged directly untreated to the Lee within the city. This involves a major new pumping station at Atlantic Pond, Header Chamber at Ballinure, Siphons at Custom House and Loughmahon and fourteen additional pump houses. The new Treatment Plant at Carrigrennan is being operated on a contract basis by Northern Lyonnaise Ltd. on behalf of the Joint Venture Group who were contracted to design, build and operate the plant. As a result of this work the waters of the Lee and Lough Mahon and Lower Harbour will dramatically improve.

Lee Road Waterworks

Under the National Development Plan 2004–2006, €15 million has been allocated for the modernisation of the Waterworks. The project

will go to tender in 2005 with construction beginning in 2006. An International Consortium – Halcrow, Fehilly, Timoney & Associates are the City Council's Client's Representative having been appointed in accordance with EU Procurement Directives.

Proposed Supplementary Supply

The Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government has approved contract documents for the provision of a new water/fire main from the Glashaboy Water Supply Scheme to serve Tivoli Industrial Estate and to connect to the City Network there. The estimated cost of the proposed watermain is €2 million and will be constructed in 2005.

Cork City Council Improving its Water Supply

Rehabilitation of water mains

The Water Conservation Investment Programme includes an allocation of €13.03 million (Phase 2, Network Rehabilitation) for rehabilitation works in Cork City. Significant lengths of watermains have been renewed or rehabilitated in conjunction with Cork Main Drainage Scheme Contracts.

A draft Preliminary Report on the Needs for rehabilitation of the Water Distribution Network – Phase 2 was prepared by Consulting Engineers Ryan Hanley/ Carl Bro Ireland. The partnership approach adopted involved both Consultant staff and City Council staff working together on the project. The Report is the most comprehensive analysis ever carried out on the city's water distribution network.

The purpose of this report was to examine the findings of the investigations into the city's water supply distribution network and to recommend the extent and scope of the rehabilitation work required to address leakage, structural and water quality issues identified during the investigations. This work builds on the extensive knowledge and understanding established during Phase 1 of the Water Conservation Programme.



The report outlines an integrated approach to water main rehabilitation based on a number of factors such as water quality, structural condition of the pipes and hydraulic performance and sets out proposals for the way forward for the rehabilitation of the water network.

The report sets out a short/medium strategy and a long term strategy for mains rehabilitation.

The short/medium strategy envisages rehabilitation of 18.62Km of water mains in one district meter area in addition to the rehabilitation of 29 high priority water mains at an estimated cost of €9.672 million between 2004 and 2006.

The long-term strategy envisages the rehabilitation of 423km of water mains at a total cost of €110 million between 2004 and 2016.

This is to deal with the backlog of rehabilitation work required on the basis of present condition and performance and is recommended for implementation over a 10-year period.

Docklands Development Area

A Feasibility Study has been prepared by Carl Bro – Ryan Hanley Consulting Engineers regarding the future development of the water network to serve the ultimate demand of the Docklands Development Area Plan.

Strategic Water Study of Cork County Council (Southern Division) and Cork City.

This study is underway and is being undertaken by RPS- MCOS Consulting Engineers based in Innishmore, Ballincollig. The comprehensive Strategic Water Study will cover all the water supply needs of the Study Area for the next 25- 30 years.

Water Services Investment Programme 2004–2006

Under the Government's Water Services Investment Programme 2004–2006:

- a. €15 million for the refurbishment of Lee Road Water Works.
- b. €4,400,000 for the provision of a new water storage reservoir at Shanakiel.
- c. €1,700,000 for replacement of the old rising mains to the Shanakiel Reservoirs.
- d. €10,000,000 for the Docklands Water and Drainage Schemes.
- e. €1,340,000 for a Water Strategy Study of Cork County Council (Southern Division) and Cork City.
- f. €2,000,000 for the construction of the Little Island to Tivoli water main.





Cork City Council
Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí



City Architect's Department

City Architect's Department



The City Architect's Department provides architectural services and advice to the City Council, City Manager, Directors of Service and Heads of Function. In addition to providing these services, the City Architect's Department has a wider role in advising on the care of municipal buildings and also in the promotion and encouragement of design and architectural awareness in the city.

This Department has been especially focused during 2004/5 on the need to prepare for the City's new status this year as European Capital of Culture.

The proposed new Civic Offices facilities

This project began on site in November 2004 and is progressing on target. The site is between the City Hall and the Fire Station on Anglesea Street. The proposed building will become the administrative centre of Cork City Council. The existing City Hall will remain as the Cultural and Political centre of Cork City Council. The proposed Civic Offices will provide both public reception and meeting facilities for an improved public interface, as well as private offices and support services for a number of Cork City Council departments. The offices will provide high quality staff facilities including modern, open plan offices, a crèche for up to 23 young children and a canteen. High quality office accommodation suitable for commercial letting will also be provided.

The proposed development will make a major contribution to the City, taking pride of place next to the City Hall.

The Government's Policy Action on Architecture 2002-2005

This policy on Architecture aims to place architecture on the political and cultural agenda and in so doing to remove impediments to the achievement of a built environment of good quality. While a Government Policy on Architecture cannot, by itself, deliver good architecture, it can:

1. Recognise the social and cultural importance

of architecture in society.

2. Promote improvement in the quality of the built environment, by fostering conditions conducive to the production of good architecture and the protection of the architectural heritage, and by stimulating improved practice in both the public and private sectors.
3. Promote the concept of sustainability in design, construction, operation, maintenance and improvement of buildings.
4. Set an example for the community at large by the quality of what the State builds, and the care it displays towards the buildings it inherits.
6. Promote high standards of environmental provision in local government, Semi-State and private sectors through legislation, regulation and financial measures as appropriate.
7. Help to create and sustain an ethos that values quality in buildings through education and encouragement.

The Architectural Services Provided:

- Consultation/brief preparation
- Design
- Project Management
- Maintenance
- Refurbishment
- Conservation and Restoration

Work currently in progress:

Status at 31st December 2004

- **Glen Regeneration Phase 1**
On site
- **Glen Regeneration Phase 2**
Design Stage
- **Housing extensions**
Varies
- **Knocknaheeny Regeneration, stage D**
Due to commence on site June 2005
- **Knocknaheeny Regeneration, stages EFGH**
Design Stage
- **Offices at Anglesea Street/Eglinton Street**
On site
- **Tory Top Library, Ballyphehane**
Due May 2005
- **English Market - artworks**
Design Stage
- **Archives in Blackpool**
On site



- **Turners Cross Housing**
Due to commence on site July 2005
- **Library at Wilton**
Tender Stage
- **Ringmahon House, Mahon**
Tender Stage
- **Museum Phase 3, Fitzgerald's Park**
Tender Stage
- **Suzie's Field Housing**
Design Stage
- **Civil Defence buildings, Blackpool**
Completed
- **St John's Well Housing**
On site
- **City Hall facades & railings**
On site

Major works recently completed

	Value
Washington Street Courthouse	€26.5m
Millennium Hall RIAI Award	€6.25m
Ballyvolane Fire Station	€1.50m
Lotamore Sustainable Housing	
50 Units	€6.60m
Knocknaheeny (C)	
Refurbishment/Infill Units	€5.50m
Extension to Museum at Fitzgerald Park	
RIAI Award	€2.00m
Ramp to west entrance City Hall	€0.12m
Glenamoy Lawn Refurbishment/New	
Housing 106 Units RIAI Exhibition	€7.70m

Responsibilities and Affiliation

- The Housing Capital Programme
- The Libraries Capital Programme
- Fire Department Capital Programme
- Civic Buildings
- Conservation





Cork City Council
Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí

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A to Z

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Citi

News

About Cork

Enterprise

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M

Welcome to Cork City Council

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Forms

Register of Electors

ment

Guide to Cork

LATEST NEWS & EVENTS AT CORK CITY COUNCIL

Andrea Bocelli Concert - July 15th 2005
in Collins Barracks, Cork.

30/03/

New Wi-Fi network launched throughout Cork City

23/03

New Bus Lanes in Grange and South
Terrace/Georges Quay

23/0

Lord Mayors Golf Classic

21

Burning Rubbish is Illegal

Proposed Variation No. 1 of Cork City
Development Plan 2004

Kyrl's Quay Architectural Design Competition

REGULAR NEWS ITEMS:

→ Road Closures

→ T

Information Systems

Information Systems



2004 marked the first year of our new Information Services strategy. The strategy identifies ten key projects to be implemented within a three year time frame. Five of these projects began in 2004.

The implementation of our SAN (storage access network) will support the re-organisation of our network and the creation of several key knowledge centres. Several new on-line services such as the ability to pay parking fines and refuse charges via the website were also implemented as part of an on-going organisation wide e-government programme. 30 technical staff were trained to adopt new CAD (computer aided design) tools and standards. Work began with our Fire Department to identify new systems which would support the emergency services, with improved decision making tools while on-site, at incidents. Finally the [corkcity.ie](http://www.corkcity.ie) website was completely re-engineered and re-designed. The project took eight months to complete and involved all departments. The Lord Mayor hosted a successful launch in November. The new site reflects best practice according to national accessibility standards. The site was the only local government site to be nominated for an award under the accessibility category of the national e-government awards.

Financial Systems

The Financial Applications section undertook a number of initiatives during 2004 to promote improvements to existing processes and to support the introduction of a comprehensive eGovernment programme. Some of these initiatives included:

- The introduction of electronic funds transfer for accounts payable including electronic distribution of remittance
- The introduction of internet banking for Paypath, EFTS, Direct Debit and Savings Deductions
- The introduction of On-line credit card payments for refuse charges
- Supported the introduction of On-line Annual Quotations

- Introduced direct debit for commercial debts and simplified and automated the process for domestic debts
- Completed the introduction of a national house loans system including
 - » Integration and interface with ERP
 - » Design and routing of HL documentation
 - » Consolidation of HL and TP systems
 - » Supported the introduction of Handheld units for pay parking
- Commenced live operation of on-line and IVR payments including integration with back office system
- Completed introduction of Courts System Integration
- Supported Local and European Elections including extracts and printing of polling information

All of this was achieved while providing ongoing technical support for over 300 users of the JD Edwards Financial Management System including:

- Testing and implementation of updates
- Database Administration
- Functional Enhancements
- Document Design and Routing

Support was also provided for several related systems across the organisation including Payroll, Planning Contributions, Management Reporting.

General Applications

The last year was one of development in new technologies with the General Applications Section. Our primary website www.corkcity.ie was completely redeveloped with primary objectives of accessibility, citizen friendliness and a richer content. The site went live in December 2004 and was nominated for an eGovernment Award for Accessibility in February 2005. The improvement of our other websites is a key objective in 2005.

We have now commenced developing browser based application using the Microsoft .NET framework and to this end have successfully deployed applications for Franchise and Personnel in this medium. The council's intranet



has also seen a major revamp with a new homepage maintained by Corporate Affairs.

The team are currently involved in many varied projects within the organisation. Document management using the iDocs application is being rolled out within the Planning department. We are working closely with the Library on the development of a Cork Libraries website and with Community and Enterprise on the development of the Connect Cork website to improve knowledge and awareness of technology within the city.

The team were also involved in the upgrade and support of key applications within the organisation including iPlan, STARS Risk Management System and the Roadmap application. The team were also involved in the selection and rollout of new applications including a legal system and trade refuse system. The section on average deals with 50+ Helpdesk issues a month.

Mapping Information Systems:

Data accessibility for wider City Council user groups has been the focus of major projects over the past year. With this in mind the IS department recommended a change in web mapping software to Autodesk MapGuide to facilitate the publishing of OSI, City Council and third party relevant data sets via our intranet. All personnel with access to the intranet can browse city mapping with ease. The Planning & Development Directorate have further functionality to access standard planning application data and link to the 'iplan' database if necessary. It is anticipated that this functionality will be rolled out to the public via the Cork city council website.

For many years Bentley's Microstation has been the corporate CAD application. With increased partnership between the City Council and private companies, the need to function at a standard level was identified. We installed a number of network licensed copies of AutoDesk Map 3D and AutoDesk Architectural Desktop for use by architects and technicians. All relevant personnel have received introductory training on the software.

Network Administration

The Network Administration Section is primarily responsible for all IT hardware within the City Council. Development and designing of the City Council Network to 34 Sites within the City Boundary and the Jack Lynch Tunnel. The section determines the specifications of new IT hardware procured by the IS department on behalf of the departments and directorates. The section maintains all data links and security of the data. This is becoming an increasingly difficult area due to the proliferation of Viruses and Trojans.

Some of the major projects implemented by the Network Administration section in 2004 include:

- New 1 Gigabit link installed to service Fire Station from City Hall.
- New Remote access via Internet for external users.
- Spam Protection introduced across the email system to combat unsolicited email.
- Introduced hourly updating of Anti Virus Software.
- Radio link between Navigation House and Norwich Union installed. This is to allow either Norwich Union House or Navigation House access to City Hall in the event of their present links failing.
- Installation of On-line server.
- Upgrade the existing backup software.
- Tender for Storage Access Network complete and company selected.
- Bio Observation scanning for inappropriate Material on all Computers introduced including Public Access computers.
- Tunnel LAN Linked to City Hall LAN by Fibre.
- Pay Parking move to Angelsea Street and VHI House.
- Pilot of Open Source Software in Library on some Staff and Public access PC.
- Intranet made available in all branch libraries.
- Public Internet Access in Central Library upgraded from ISDN to 256k leased line and all branch libraries have access to this link.
- Archives linked to City Hall LAN.
- Fire Brigade Control van onboard Computer linked to City hall LAN for uploading and downloading information.



- Installation of 2 House loans Servers .
- Installation of 2 Servers for implementation of new Pay Parking systems with new Warden Handhelds and Pay by Phone.

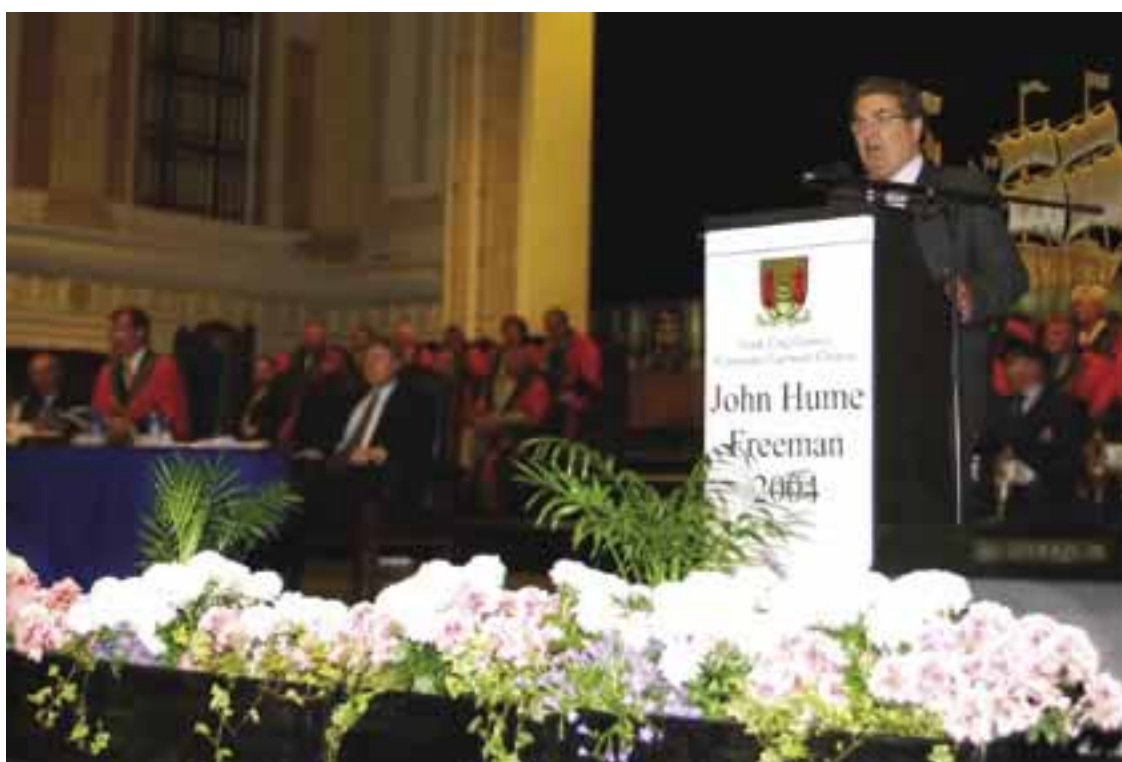
The Service Desk:

The IS Clerical Section is responsible for the logging of all help-desk calls. Our help-desk system is structured so that the IS Clerical section is the single point of contact between the IS Department and approximately 702 PC users in Cork City Council. Part of this function includes assigning these support calls to the relevant IS support team. In excess of five thousand calls were logged by the Section in 2004.

The procurement of IT equipment for Cork City Council is centralised through the IS Clerical Section who are responsible for liaising with various suppliers for the purchasing of hardware and software. This Section also consults the

Local Government Computer Services Board with regard to our Microsoft Enterprise Agreement, under which all Microsoft products are purchased. Purchase orders are generated through the JD Edwards system and all invoices within the IS Department are processed by this Section.

Completion and recording of forms to implement e-mail and Internet Policies are also undertaken.





Cork City Council
Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí



Statutory Section

Statutory Section



BALANCE SHEET AT 31st DECEMBER 2004

	2004 €	2003 €
Fixed Assets		
Operational	1,412,524,882	1,401,725,306
Infrastructural	1,218,489,345	1,226,234,867
Community	41,079,765	39,595,825
Non-Operational	16,000,000	16,000,000
	2,688,093,992	2,683,555,998
Work in Progress and Preliminary Expenses	556,516,755	389,790,194
Long Term Debtors	61,880,264	67,900,650
Current Assets		
Stocks	193,083	162,850
Trade Debtors & Prepayments	23,688,326	19,146,853
Bank Investments	59,055,532	29,336,097
Cash on Hand	16,692	16,051
	82,593,633	48,661,851
Current Liabilities (Amounts falling due within one year)		
Bank Overdraft	6,190,521	8,236,329
Creditors & Accruals	14,444,662	11,164,205
Finance Leases	75,111	56,317
	20,710,294	19,456,851
Net Current Assets / (Liabilities)	62,243,339	29,205,000
Creditors (Amounts falling due after more than one year)		
Loans Payable	130,377,208	95,637,474
Finance Leases	3,161,242	2,767,001
Refundable deposits	3,724,415	2,250,428
Other	1,085,189	1,370,880
	138,348,054	102,025,783
Net Assets	3,230,386,296	3,068,426,059
Financed by		
Capitalisation Account	2,688,093,992	2,683,555,998
Income WIP	524,745,778	350,099,808
Specific Revenue Reserve	167,364	69,465
General Revenue Reserve	(611,915)	(851,179)
Other Balances	17,991,077	35,551,968
Total Reserves	3,230,386,296	3,068,426,059



INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2004

The Income and Expenditure Account Statement brings together all the revenue related income and expenditure. It shows the surplus/(deficit) for the year.

Expenditure by Programme Group	Gross		Net Expenditure	
	Expenditure	Income		
	2004	2004	2004	2003
Housing & Building	24,925,970	21,714,376	3,211,594	3,741,203
Roads Transportation & Safety	27,105,630	19,458,421	7,647,209	9,504,529
Water & Sewerage	15,583,677	10,067,129	5,516,548	6,503,222
Development Incentives & Controls	4,458,712	1,141,991	3,316,721	2,325,899
Environmental Protection	33,055,551	18,182,237	14,873,314	10,122,976
Recreation & Amenity	15,227,393	1,641,746	13,585,647	13,210,114
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	9,261,872	8,139,029	1,122,843	872,363
Miscellaneous	7,522,013	2,060,639	5,461,374	5,703,329
Total Expenditure/Income	137,140,818	82,405,568		
Net cost of programmes to be funded from Rates & Local Government Fund			54,735,250	51,983,635
Rates			45,822,914	43,622,400
Local Government Fund - General Purpose Grant			21,337,275	18,270,475
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year before Transfers			12,424,939	9,909,240
Transfers from/(to) Reserves			(12,185,675)	(9,666,152)
Overall Surplus/(Deficit) for Year			239,264	243,088
General Reserve @ 1st January			(851,179)	(1,094,267)
General Reserve @ 31st December			(611,915)	(851,179)



PROGRAMME AREAS

Roads, Transportation & Safety

Total Programme Expenditure

Gross Expenditure 2004 €	Income 2004 €	Net Expenditure 2004 €
27,105,630	19,458,421	7,647,209

Revenue Programme

Included, National Routes, Regional Routes, Local Primary Routes, Other Local Routes, Traffic Control & Management, Public Lighting, On/Off Street Parking, Others including Safety, Administration, Public Liability, etc.

Capital Programme

Including, Road Improvements, National Roads, Non-National Roads-traffic routes, Resurfacing non-national roads-minor routes, Regional Traffic Management Grant, Low Cost Accident Prevention Schemes, Green Route and Park 'n Ride facility

Lengths of Road

National Routes 34km
Regional Routes 37km
Local Routes 349km
Road Gully Maintenance 14,000
Public Lighting 13,700 Lanterns

Traffic Management

121 Traffic Signal Controlled Junctions
74 Pedestrian Signalized Crossings
14 Zebra Crossings
13,000 traffic information and regulatory signs
35 school wardens and 2 traffic warden schemes

Car Parking

On Street - 2,100
Off Street - 5,570
Park and Ride Facility - 920 spaces

2004 Highlights

Road Design/Construction Division

- Continuation of St. Patrick's Street Refurbishment Scheme
- Continuation of Shandon Street Renewal Scheme
- Cork Metropolitan Area Broadband Network Project rollout completed
- Upgrading of the Watercourse Road/Thomas Davis Street Area continued
- Commencement of road widening to facilitate the construction of the Kinsale Road Interchange
- Construction of the Shandon pedestrian bridge



PROGRAMME AREAS

Road Traffic Division

- This year saw the opening of the new 920 space Black Ash Park & Ride facility on a 8.5 acre remediated landfill site near the Kinsale Road roundabout
- Extension of the SCOOT Urban Traffic Control system to over 90 traffic light controlled junctions in the City and also the continued implementation of bus priority facilities at each junction.
- Two Green Routes to facilitate the movement of public transport and cyclists to/from the city centre, as per the recommendations of the Cork Area Strategic Plan, were completed from the Grange/Frankfield area and also from the Curraheen/University Hospital area.
- Continued to convert part of the Municipal fleet vehicles to operate on rapeseed oil and also facilitated the provision of clean urban zones in the city via the introduction of time controlled bollards in trial areas of the central business district.
- On-line traffic fines payment system introduced.

Road Maintenance Division

- During 2004 an extensive Road Resurfacing and Footpath Renewal Programme was undertaken.
- The road resurfacing programme, carried out under three major contracts, included 64 traffic routes and 34 minor (estates) roads as well as repairs on other roads. Footpath renewals were also carried out on many of these roads. The resurfacing of city centre streets following completion of the Cork Main Drainage scheme received particular attention.
- Footpath renewals and overlays were carried out separately on another 60 roads approximately.
- Other regular maintenance work included road patching/pothole repairs, a multitude of footpath repairs and erection of bollards.
- Drainage gully maintenance throughout the city and weed control on selected roads and footpaths continued.

Road Control Division

- Closure of 10 pedestrian laneways in an effort to combat anti social behaviour.
- Introduction of a Licencing System for Skip Hirers and Skip Placements
- Improved Licencing System for the placement of tables and chairs outside restaurants etc. in conjunction with An Garda Síochána.
- Introduction of Cycle Training Scheme to Primary Schools
- Streamlined procedures for issue of Taxi/ Hackney Licences
- Introduced a new taxi fare structure



PROGRAMME AREAS

Planning and Development

Development Incentives and Control

Total Programme Expenditure

Gross Expenditure 2004 €	Income 2004 €	Net Expenditure 2004 €
4,458,712	1,141,991	3,316,721

No. of Planning Applications Processed	877
Total Income from Planning Fees	€948,732
Population of Cork City (2002 Census)	123,338
Cork City Land Area (hectares)	3,731
No. of households within City (2002 Census)	41,294

The Planning and Development Strategic Policy Committee held 4 meetings in 2004

The following items were considered.

- Record of Protected Structures
- Development Contribution Scheme
- Reports on Census 2002
- Cork Economic Monitor
- Regional Planning Guidelines
- Cornmarket Street Area Action Plan
- Cycle Standards Policy

2004 Highlights

- Launch of the Cork City Development Plan 2004 to 2009
- Launch of On Line Planning enquiry facility on www.corkcity.ie
- Implementation of the Development Contribution Scheme with effect from the 12th January 2004.



PROGRAMME AREAS

Recreation and Amenity

Total Programme Expenditure

Gross Expenditure 2004 €	Income 2004 €	Net Expenditure 2004 €
15,227,393	1,641,746	13,585,647

Ted McCarthy Municipal Golf Course

Attendance figures

30,312

Fees collected

€482,772

Swimming Pools

Attendance Figures

90,766

Cork City Library

Registered Readers

19,340

Book Issues

971,186

Music Issues

141,175

Library Charges

€234,553

2004 Highlights

- Hand over of new golf pavilion, Mahon Golf Club
- Redevelopment of Matt Talbot Pool, Churchfield
- Redevelopment of parks at St. Anne's, Shandon
- Redevelopment of park at Loughmahon Road
- Redevelopment of park at Glenamoy Lawn
- Redevelopment of park at Tory Top Road, Library
- Redevelopment of phase 2 Museum Extension
- Commencement of new Archives Premises
- Commencement of new Civil Defence Premises
- Commencement of new Library at Tory Top Road
- Refurbishment works at Red Abbey
- New playgrounds at Mahon, The Glen, Popham's Field and Knocknaheeney
- Achievement of ISO 14001 Certificate for environmental management systems

PROGRAMME AREAS

Environmental Protection

Total Programme Expenditure

Gross Expenditure 2004 €	Income 2004 €	Net Expenditure 2004 €
33,055,551	18,182,237	14,873,314

Fire Brigade - Call outs	4,136
Civil Defence Volunteers	97
No. of licences under Dog Control Act	1,200
No. of Fire Safety Certificate applications during 2004	286

Housing and Building

Total Programme Expenditure

Gross Expenditure 2004 €	Income 2004 €	Net Expenditure 2004 €
24,925,970	21,714,376	3,211,594

Housing stock in Cork City	36,039
Private	-
Local authority rented	7801
Local authority purchased	-
Total number on housing list at 31/12/04	4,766
Number housed from waiting list	338
Average weekly rent	€35.68
Total rental income	€13,973,101
Maintenance costs	€8,739,960
Contribution to voluntary housing groups	€47,000
House purchase loans issued	7
Reconstruction loans issued	8
Disabled persons grant (approved)	174
Approvals issued under shared ownership scheme	87
No. of shared ownership completions	5
No. of voluntary housing units under construction	193
No. of voluntary housing units for which funding has been approved	19

Highlights for 2004

- 257 no. units were completed or were nearing completion at the end of 2004
- Purchase terms were agreed for 90 no. houses during the year.
- The re-development of the Blackpool flats and the Glen Regeneration Project are nearing completion.
- Opening of South Area Office in March 2004
- Publication of Social and Affordable Action Plan 2004-2008



PROGRAMME AREAS

Environment

Water Supply and Sewerage

Total Programme Expenditure

Gross Expenditure 2004 €	Income 2004 €	Net Expenditure 2004 €
15,583,677	10,067,129	5,516,548

Length of Water Pipes	approx 650km
Cork City Water Demand (Cubic meters per day)	approx 66000
Length of Sewers	approx 517km

2004 Highlights

Water Services (Water Supply and Sewerage)

- The construction, commissioning and testing of the Waste Water Treatment Plant in Carrigrennan was completed in 2004. It is now in the operational phase of the contract.
- Completion of the Little Island Sewerage Scheme
- Completion of the Glen, Bride and Kiln Culvert in Blackpool.
- Completion of the remaining works of the City Centre Island Contract No.2 (Cork Main Drainage)
- Rehabilitation of water mains in the City Centre in conjunction with Cork Main Drainage.
- Rehabilitation of water mains in conjunction with public realm and other schemes in Blackpool and Shandon Street.



PROGRAMME AREAS

Miscellaneous Services

Total Programme Expenditure

Gross Expenditure 2004 €	Income 2004 €	Net Expenditure 2004 €
7,522,013	2,060,639	5,461,374

Rate in the Euro	€ 64.52
Rates Collected	€46,009,512
Refuse Charges Collected (incl. Commercial)	€ 10,791,529

No. of Slaughter houses operating under license within the County Borough	1
No. of animals slaughtered	12,000
No. of retail outlets on Registered Dairymen within the County Borough	0

Support Services

Support Services contribute to the aims of the eight programmes by providing the following principal services, the cost of which are apportioned over the various programmes.

- Selection and recruitment of staff
- Provision of suitable staff structures
- Staff training and development, welfare and industrial relations
- Legal Department Compensation
- Insurances Audit
- Members Expenses
- Payments to outside bodies
- Maintenance of Accommodation
- Personnel

Total staff (all grades) including part-time and temporary employed by Cork City Council at 31/12/2004:	1596
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SERVICE INDICATORS



SERVICE INDICATORS

A & C: Arts and Cultural Services

A & C.1 Arts Grants

- number of arts grants allocated	80
- total value of arts grants allocated per 1,000 population	2863

CP: Community Participation and Cooperation - Your Local Authority

CP.1 Percentage of local schools involved in the local Youth Council/ Comhairle na n-Og scheme

0

C: Corporate Issues

C.1 Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through

- certified leave	3.45
- uncertified leave	0.79

C.2 Expenditure on Training and Development as a percentage of total payroll costs

3.37

E: Environmental Services

Water

E.1 Percentage of river channel which is

(a) Unpolluted	5
(b) Slightly polluted	10
(c) Moderately polluted	10
(d) Seriously polluted	75

General comment for E.1: The river Lee is currently being monitored both under fish life and bathing water parameters. There are no designated bathing places on the river within Cork City Council administrative area and consequently if the river water condition is considered under the fish life standard, which would appear more appropriate in Cork's case, 90% of the river would be deemed unpolluted and 10% moderately polluted.

E.2 Percentage of drinking water analysis results in compliance with statutory requirements with regard to

- public schemes	96.3
- private schemes (where appropriate)	N/A

Fire Service

E.3 Average time, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in

- full time stations	1.23
- part time stations	N/A

E.4 Percentage of attendances at scenes where

- first attendance is at scene within 10 minutes	83.43
- first attendance is at scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	15.45
- first attendance is at scene after 20 minutes	1.12

E.5 Fire prevention - Total number of fire certification applications

- received	286
- processed	244

Waste Management

E.6 Percentage of households provided with segregated waste collection

75

E.7 Percentage of household waste recycled

2.55

A door to door segregated refuse collection commenced on the 1st August 2004 and these figures will significantly increase in 2005.



SERVICE INDICATORS

E.8 Percentage of household waste going to landfill 97.45

E.9 Recycling facilities

Glass

Number of Bring Sites	36
Number of Civic Amenity Sites	1
Total Number of Facilities	37
Number of locations per 5000 of population	1.5
Tonnage of waste collected for recycling per 5000 of population	65.87

Cans

Number of Bring Sites	7
Number of Civic Amenity Sites	1
Total Number of Facilities	8
Number of locations per 5000 of population	0.33
Tonnage of waste collected for recycling per 5000 of population	59.71

Textiles

Number of Bring Sites	1
Number of Civic Amenity Sites	0
Total Number of Facilities	1
Number of locations per 5000 of population	0.04
Tonnage of waste collected for recycling per 5000 of population	2.1

Batteries

Number of Bring Sites	0
Number of Civic Amenity Sites	1
Total Number of Facilities	1
Number of locations per 5000 of population	0.04
Tonnage of waste collected for recycling per 5000 of population	0.58

Oils

Number of Bring Sites	0
Number of Civic Amenity Sites	1
Total Number of Facilities	1
Number of locations per 5000 of population	0.04
Tonnage of waste collected for recycling per 5000 of population	0.93

Others

Number of Bring Sites	5
Number of Civic Amenity Sites	1
Total Number of Facilities	6
Number of locations per 5000 of population	0.33
Tonnage of waste collected for recycling per 5000 of population	59.71

LITTER PREVENTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT

E.10 Litter - Number of Litter Wardens

Total number of full-time litter wardens	3
Total number of part-time litter wardens	0
Number of litter wardens (both full and part-time) per 5000 population	0.12
Number of on-the spot fines	475
Number of prosecution cases taken because of non-payment of on the-spot fines	0
Number of prosecutions secured	0

Percentage of areas within the local authority that are

- unpolluted (i.e. litter- free)	2
- slightly polluted with litter	60
- moderately polluted with litter	35
- significantly polluted with litter	3
- grossly polluted with litter	0



SERVICE INDICATORS

E.11 Environmental Complaints and Enforcement

- total number of cases subject to complaints concerning environmental pollution (relating to waste, litter, water pollution, noise pollution, air pollution) 2060
- number of complaints investigated 2060
- number of enforcement procedures taken 480

General E.11: Total complaints/queries were 2060 all of which were investigated. 85 were dismissed as being unsubstantiated. Enforcement procedures were taken in 480 cases and in relation to the remainder the files were closed, as the problems had been resolved.

E.12 Percentage of Schools participating in environmental campaigns

- secondary schools 10
- primary schools 10

H: Housing

H.1 Housing Vacancies

Total number of dwellings in local authority stock	7801
Overall % of dwellings that are let	97.7
Overall % of dwellings that are empty	4.6
% of empty dwellings subject to major refurbishment schemes	55.1
% of empty dwellings unavailable for letting	79
% of empty dwellings available for letting	21

H.2 Average time taken to relet dwellings available for letting (in weeks)	4
--	---

H.3 Number of repairs completed as a percentage of the number of valid repair requests received	93
---	----

H.4 Average time taken to inform applicants of local authority's decision on applications for:

- the shared ownership housing scheme (in days) 5
- housing loans (in days) 9
- local authority housing (in days) 32

H.5 Traveller Accommodation

Total number of traveller families accommodated as a percentage of the targets set in the local traveller accommodation programme	92
---	----

L: Library Services

L.1 Public opening hours

- average number of opening hours per week for full-time libraries 38.5
- average number of opening hours per week for part-time libraries (where applicable) N/A

L.2 Number of registered library members as a percentage of the local population	17.28
--	-------

L.3 Number of items issued per head of population (county/city wide) for

- (a) Books 6
- (b) Other items 0.8

L.4 Percentage of libraries that offer Internet access to the public	100
--	-----

L.5 Number of Internet sessions provided per 1,000 population	454
---	-----



SERVICE INDICATORS

M: Motor Taxation

M.1: Percentage of motor tax transactions which

- are dealt with over the counter	N/A
- are dealt with by post	N/A
- are dealt with in other ways (e.g. online, by telephone)	N/A

M.2: Number of postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc/driver licence issued) from receipt of the application

(a) On the same day	N/A
(b) On the third day or less	N/A
(c) On the fifth day or less	N/A
(d) Over 5 days	N/A

% of overall postal applications which are dealt with (i.e. disc/driver licence issued) from receipt of the application

(a) On the same day	N/A
(b) On the third day or less	N/A
(c) On the fifth day or less	N/A
(d) Over 5 days	N/A

M.3 Public opening hours

- average number of opening hours per week	N/A
--	-----

P: Planning and Building Control

P.1 Planning Applications - Decision Making

Individual Houses

No. of applications determined	91
--------------------------------	----

% of complete applications determined within 8 weeks	97
--	----

Average length of time taken to determine an application where further information is sought (in days)	78
--	----

Includes the statutory period of 56 days

% of grants	67
-------------	----

Of the 877 decisions issued, 701 were permissions granted

% of refusals	33
---------------	----

There were 30 cases out of a total of 176. Of these 176 approx 60 related to developments of housing units, apartments, etc in either rear sites to existing houses or back land development. These can cause serious difficulties for residents in privacy, blocking light, etc. Some were for development at Protected Structures. Most development is brown field/infill sites/urban renewal. Green site availability is not like other LAs.

% of cases where the decision was confirmed by An Bord Pleanála	17
---	----

General to this column (F): Of the 110 decisions 41 relates to the number of decision, which were confirmed by An Bord Pleanála.

% of cases where the decision was varied by An Bord Pleanála	58
--	----

General to this column (G): Of the 110 decisions 50 related to cases where the decision of the City Council was upheld but the conditions were modified/amended.

% of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanála	25
--	----

General to this column (H): Of the 110 decisions 13 related to cases where the decision of Cork City Council was reversed by an Bord Pleanála. In relation to the remaining 6 cases, 2 were dismissed by An Bord Pleanála and 4 were withdrawn.

Housing Development

No. of applications determined	108
--------------------------------	-----

% of complete applications determined within 8 weeks	91
--	----

Average length of time taken to determine an application where further information is sought (in days)	79
--	----

Includes the statutory period of 56 days

% of grants	58
-------------	----

% of refusals	42
---------------	----



SERVICE INDICATORS

Out of a total of 176 refusals 45 were for housing development

% of cases where the decision was confirmed by An Bord Pleanala	53
% of cases where the decision was varied by An Bord Pleanala	41
% of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	6

Other: not requiring EIA

No. of applications determined	675
% of complete applications determined within 8 weeks	98
Average length of time taken to determine an application where further information is sought (in days)	77

Includes the statutory period of 56 days.

% of grants	85
% of refusals	15

Out of a total of 176 refusals 102 were for this category

% of cases where the decision was confirmed by An Bord Pleanala	37
% of cases where the decision was varied by An Bord Pleanala	49
% of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	14
No. of applications determined	3

The three developments in this case were significant developments which could not be considered within the 8 week time period and time extensions were granted in each of these cases.

% of complete applications determined within 8 weeks	0
Average length of time taken to determine an application where further information is sought (in days)	78

Includes the statutory period of 56 days.

% of grants	100
% of refusals	0
% of cases where the decision was confirmed by An Bord Pleanala	0
% of cases where the decision was varied by An Bord Pleanala	100
% of cases where the decision was reversed by An Bord Pleanala	0

P.2 Planning Enforcement

- total number of cases subject to complaints that are investigated	292
Primary objectives is to secure compliance with the planning code. This includes negotiation with respondents on foot of written complaints received. Where feasible respondents are advised to submit formal application for retention of development. This facilitates in allowing to make written submissions to the Planning Authority or An Bord Pleanala.	
- total number of cases subject to complaints that are dismissed	0
There were 280 cases that were closed/resolved (includes cases for 2004 and previous years).	
- number of enforcement procedures taken through warning letters	193
There were 485 warning letters issued.	
- number of enforcement procedures taken through enforcement notices	9
There were 262 section 8 notices issued.	
- number of prosecutions	1

P.3 Public opening hours

- average number of opening hours per week	31
--	----

P.4 Average length of time from request for consultation with local authority planner to actual formal meeting for pre-planning consultation (in days)

10

P.5 Buildings inspected as a percentage of new buildings notified to the local authority

52



SERVICE INDICATORS

Rec: Recreational Services

Rec.1 Number of children's playgrounds per 1,000 population

- directly provided by the local authority	0.65
- facilitated by the local authority	0

Rec.2 Number of visitors to local authority facilitated by swimming facilities per 1,000 population

4656

Rev: Revenue Collection

Rev.1 House Rent

(a) Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due	92.81
(b) Percentage of arrears	
(i) 4-6 weeks old	9.27
(ii) 6-12 weeks old	17.67
(iii) more than 12 weeks old	57.24

Rev.2 Housing Loans

(a) Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due	89.91
(b) Percentage of arrears	
(i) 1 month old	25.53
(ii) 2-3 months old	25.46
(iii) more than 3 months old	49.01

Rev.3 Commercial Rates

Amount collected at year-end as a percentage of amount due	91.25
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Rev.4 Refuse Charges

Percentage of households paying refuse charges at year end	75.49
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Rev.5 Non-Domestic Water Charges

Amount collected at year end as a percentage of amount due	42.53
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R: Roads

R.1

Local and regional roads surface dressed per annum (square meters)	N/A
Percentage of local and regional roads surface dressed per annum	N/A



OPERATION OF COUNCIL

	No. Of Meetings 2004	No. Of Council Members
Southern Health Board	6	6
City of Cork Vocational Education Committee	13	8
Port of Cork	11	2
Joint Cork City Council/Cork County Council Committee	6	10
Association of the Municipal Authorities of Ireland	-	-
General Council of County Councils	-	-
Southern & Eastern Regional Assembly	10	2
South West Regional Authority	6	10
Historical Monuments Advisory Committee	-	-
School Meals	1	3
Cork Public Museum Advisory Committee	n/a	n/a
Cork Public Library Committee	n/a	n/a
Community Development Committee	3	16
Arts Committee	7	9
Public Art Advisory Committee	1	1
Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee	10	8
An Coiste Stiurtha	0	5
Management Advisory Committee of Cork Regional Sports Complex	3	3
Management Advisory Committee of Mayfield Sports Complex	2	1
Management Advisory Committee of Recreation Centre Scoil Stiofan Naofa	n/a	n/a
Management Advisory Committee of Recreation Centre Scoil Mhic Shuibhne	n/a	n/a
Management Committee of Municipal Golf Course	0	6
Board of Firkin Crane Development Co. Ltd.	-	-
Board of Everyman Palace Theatre	-	-
Board of Cork Opera House	-	6
Board of National Sculpture Factory	6	2
Munster Agricultural Society	-	-
Housing Committee	11	15
Environmental Committee	6	15
Finance & General Purposes/Planning & European Affairs Committee	6	15
Roads Transportation & Safety Committee	10	15
Corporate Policy Group	11	6
Housing & Community Services SPC	1	6
Roads & Transportation SPC	2	6
Development & Planning SPC	4	7
Environment SPC	1	6
Recreation, Amenities & Culture SPC	3	6

Local Government Act 2001

Section 75 of Local Government Act 2001 enables Cork City Council to enter into arrangements with regard to twinning activities etc. In 2004 Cork City Council expended **€49,764**.

Among the activities carried out were:

1. Receiving Mayors from Twin Cities
2. Twinning Grants
3. Rennes Fair 2003

Section 76 of the 2001 Act

Entertainment and Associated Expenses

€69,219

Civic Receptions

€66,973



RECRUITMENT GENDER BALANCE

Competition

	No. of applicants Male/Female	Placed on panel Male/Female	Appointed Male/Female
Resident Engineer (Roads)	27/3	8/2	3/0
Assistant General Foreperson (Cleansing Dept)	20/2	5/0	1/0
General Foreperson (Roads & Transportation)	7/0	1/0	1/0
Temp Technician Grade II (Landfill Site)	21/18	7/8	1/1
Resident Engineer (Churchfield Swimming Pool)	11/2	5/2	1/0
Third Officer Fire Department	10/0	10/0	3/0
Library Assistant	51/103	8/17	6/5
Attendant (Cork Archives Institute)	126/13	9/2	2/0
Assistant General Foreperson (Roads)	4/0	2/0	1/0
Temp Sports & Community Facilities - Development Officer	10/13	0/3	0/0
Station Officer	6/0	6/0	3/0
Sub-Station Officer	12/0	8/0	5/0
Leading Firefighter	16/0	8/0	5/0
Clerical Officer	104/336	17/59	1/0
Clerical Officer Secretarial	16/229	1/44	1/0
Clerical Officer Special	23/22	6/4	0/0
Temporary Mason	1/0	1/0	1/0
Temporary Executive Engineer	5/2	0/1	0/1
Temporary Plumber	1/0	1/0	1/0
Temporary Driver/Helper - General Operative	4/0	3/0	4/0
Temporary General Operative - Cleansing	40/0	16/0	12/0
Acting Senior Engineer - Confined	14/2	6/2	1/0
Arts Officer - Confined	0/3	0/1	0/1
Cemetery Supervisor - Confined	4/0	No candidates qualified	
Executive Solicitor	0/8	0/1	0/1
Communications Officer (special responsibility for Irish)	14/32	1/2	0/0
Project Resident Engineer (Kinsale Rd Interchange)	11/0	1/0	0/0
Senior Resident Engineer (Kinsale Rd Interchange)	18/1	5/1	0/0
Resident Engineer (Kinsale Rd Interchange)	28/4	10/0	1/0
Clerk of Works (Kinsale Rd Interchange)	15/1	8/0	0/0
Temporary Technician Grade2	3/1	1/1	1/1
Foreperson Electrical (Traffic)	2/0	1/0	1/0
Administrative Officer	23/26	6/7	0/1
Executive Planner	4/8	1/4	0/0
Foyer Manager (Housing)	6/6	No candidates qualified	
Temporary Executive Architect	0/1	0/1	Offer Refused
Chief Technician	16/1	3/0	1/0
Senior Executive Technician	14/3	7/0	1/0
Executive Technician	12/5	5/1	2/0
Technician Grade I	13/1	5/1	1/0



RECRUITMENT GENDER BALANCE

Civil Technician Grade 2	10/11	6/0	0/0
Architectural/Building Technician Grade II	8/2	4/1	0/0
Chief Water Inspector (Confined)	4/0	4/0	1/0
Temporary Painter	5/0	3/0	3/0
Cemetery Supervisor	25/3	2/0	0/0
Building & Street Inspector (Confined)	19/2	5/1	3/0
Clerk of Works (Confined)	7/0	4/0	2/0
Safety Officer (Confined)	1/0	1/0	0/0
Operations & Maintenance Inspector (confined)	4/0	2/0	1/0
Trainee Assistant Greenkeeper (Confined)	1/0	No candidates qualified	
Foyer Manager – Housing (2 nd Competition)	2/2	2/2	0/0
Temporary Fitter/Mechanic – Parks	3/0	1/0	1/0
Executive Engineer	11/4	5/2	0/0
Assistant Planner	18/12	4/5	0/0
Heritage Officer	10/26	0/0	0/0
Library Assistant	-	-	-
Temporary Mason	2/0	2/0	1/0
Plumber	4/0	4/0	1/0
Operations & Maintenance Inspector (Traffic)	4/0	2/0	1/0
Civil Technician Grade 2	10/11	5/0	2/0
Administrative Officer	10/17	2/6	1/0
Assistant Staff Officer	74/178	2/6	0/2
Senior Staff Officer	17/33	7/8	1/0
Staff Officer	25/57	9/6	0/1
Assistant Engineer	17/8	6/1	4/0
Executive Planner	3/8	1/2	1/1
Executive Engineer	18/5	9/0	2/0
Temporary Co-ordinator to the RAPID Programme	16/33	1/7	0/1
General Operatives	190/1	71/1	21/1
Probationary Firefighters	4/53	17/40	0/6

Overall Total Percentages

Female Applicants	43%
Male Applicants	57%
Female Panellists	35%
Male Panellists	65%



CORPORATE PLAN

FINAL PROGRESS REPORT - CORPORATE PLAN 2001 - 2004

Cork City Council's Corporate Plan 2001 – 2004 was adopted by the City Council at its meeting of 26th March, 2001. The following is a final report which outlines the progress made by the main service providers up to December 2004 in achieving the targets set out in the Plan.

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY

The Housing Construction programme identified the provision of 1000 housing units, and this target was exceeded by 100. The number of units provided by the voluntary sector also exceeded the target of 300 with 447 units completed.

Affordable Housing Schemes over the period have resulted in 138 units provided, 67 units under construction and 345 units at planning stage.

Regeneration schemes are in progress or planned for The Glen, Togher and Knocknaheeny areas of the city.

Area Housing Offices have opened in the North West and North East areas of the city.

The South Area Office is located at City Hall. The Area Offices are responsible for rent assessment, collection, arrears, control and enforcement.

70% of rent collection is now received through automatic deduction systems which exceeds the original target of 50%.

To ensure that accommodation for homeless persons is properly managed and maintained, a Homeless Unit has been established. A Homeless Officer and Outreach Worker have been appointed. A detailed analysis of homelessness was conducted and the Integrated Homeless Strategy has been completed and approved. Implementation of this strategy is underway and progress is currently being reviewed.

A dedicated Section has been set up to deal with anti-social behaviour and disruption within our housing stock.

To ensure efficient usage of stock several initiatives have been introduced. A Downsizing

Scheme for private houses has been approved and is currently being rolled out. Proposals and incentives to encourage under-occupiers to transfer to smaller units have been completed. In addition turnaround time for housing stock has been reduced from an initial 23 weeks to 16 weeks currently.

To assist in creating a clearer understanding of the tenant/landlord relationship, a Tenants Handbook was developed and issued to all tenants during 2003. Newsletters have been issued and a revised letting agreement has been applied.

ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION

The St. Patrick's Street refurbishment project was completed in 2004, and feedback on same has been extremely positive.

Progress on the Street Renewal/Urban regeneration programme of the city centre is continuing – Phase 1 of Shandon Street/Church Street is completed and Thomas Davis Street is 70% complete. Works on Oliver Plunkett Street and Watercourse Road are on target to be completed for 2005.

Work on the construction of South Ring Road/Kinsale Road Interchange will commence in 2005. A Feasibility Study on Cork North Ring Road is now underway.

A Park & Ride Facility at Black Ash came into operation in November 2003. It is now fully operational with a capacity of 920 spaces. This facility has proved very popular with over 120,000 people availing of the service in 2004.

Progress in developing and providing 10 green routes is continuing. The construction of 2 green routes as envisaged in CASP has been completed and are in operation, 2 more are under construction and a further 2 are now in the Part 8 consultation process.



In promoting the use of new technologies and to provide more choice and flexibility for customers, an IVR telephone and online WEB payment systems have been introduced for parking offences payments. A new initiative of "Park by Phone" has also been introduced.

An annual Road Resurfacing, Renewal and Planned Maintenance Programme has been put in place with 6% of surfaces per annum being renewed. The footpath renewal scheme has been expanded.

The licensing system for controlling works to roads and footpaths was reviewed and "Directions for the control of Roadworks in Cork City" was introduced in 2003. Road Safety Programmes continue to be implemented in partnership with the National Road Safety Council and Gardai in a continued effort to promote safety in all aspects of roads and transportation.

RECREATION, AMENITY AND CULTURE

Improvement works have been carried out and are ongoing at parks and amenity walks in the city. A completion date of 2005 is now set for the Mardyke Riverside Walk. The contract for a pedestrian bridge has been put in place and negotiations regarding the line of the walk are underway with UCC and the Mercy Hospital.

Leisureworld were appointed course administrators of the Ted McCarthy Municipal Golf Course in July 2003 and a new club house was opened in 2004.

A Draft Recreational Needs study was published in September 2003.

A Working Group has been set up to prepare a brief for a proposed new Central library, with the brief expected to be ready in Spring 2005. Discussions are continuing regarding a site for a Blackrock-Mahon Library.

Construction work commenced on a new library at Tory Top Road in 2004 and the completion date

is early 2005. The design phase for Bishopstown Library is now complete and went to tender in 2004.

Additional library opening hours have been introduced, with Monday and lunchtime opening available at all branches. Douglas Library also has late night opening.

New initiatives have been introduced for older persons including book clubs, music groups and Irish language groups. An outreach service to housebound elderly was delivered from Mayfield Library. Encouraging and promoting reading for children continued with two major initiatives introduced - the library Summer Programme and the Children's Book Festival.

The Cork City Museum extension is now complete and temporary exhibitions are being provided in this space. The permanent museum display was also developed.

Cork Arts Plan 2000-2005 was developed and is being implemented. This plan will promote and develop the arts and cultural sector within the local authority area.

Planning for a new Fire Sub-Station in the South West suburbs progressed.

ENVIRONMENT

The Cork Main Drainage Scheme was completed in 2004. Following completion of the scheme a total change in treatment and disposal is underway. All foul sewage is treated at a state-of-the-art treatment plant at Carrigrennan rather than discharged untreated into the River Lee. As a result of this work the waters of the River Lee and the Loughmahon Estuary will dramatically improve.

Culverting of the Glen, Bride and Kiln rivers were completed by the end of 2003 and all stormwater will be effectively and efficiently collected and conveyed to watercourses, thus alleviating flooding problems.



Glasheen River improvement works to relieve flooding in Clashduv were completed in early 2003. Under the Water Services Investment Plan €15 million has been allocated for the modernisation of the Lee Road Waterworks Treatment Plant. Modernisation will enable the plant to cater efficiently for the volumes required to satisfy current and predicted future demand. It is hoped the project will go to tender in 2005.

Work on the rehabilitation and replacement of the watermain network continues. Substantial progress has been made on improving the water services customer database. A programme for the installation of meters to non-domestic properties has been developed.

In accordance with the Government's Water Services Pricing Policy a combined water/wastewater charge was introduced in 2004.

In encouraging recycling of waste, a pilot kerbside dry recyclable collection system was introduced in 2004 and will operate citywide by early 2005.

Arrangements were put in place for a pay-per-volume system for both domestic waste collection and disposal operations to be implemented in 2005. Almost all City Council customers have been provided with wheelbins.

Work continued in developing, implementing and monitoring the Waste Management Plan 1999-2004.

A review of the Litter Management Plan was carried out in 2002, and we continue to operate within its terms.

41 new bring sites were introduced by the end of 2004.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

The Planning and Development Directorate relocated to new premises, with dedicated parking facilities for customers in 2002.

A total of 3425 planning applications were determined during the period 2001 to 2004

inclusive.

The Development Plan covering a 6 year period to 2010 has now been adopted following extensive consultation with stakeholders and with regard to the new procedures set out in the Planning and Development Act 2000.

Another step towards preparing and monitoring the implementation of planning policy for the city was the preparation and adoption of a Record of Protected Structures and Residential Density Guidelines.

A City Docks Strategy was completed in 2001 and the Cork Area Strategic Plan was adopted and published in March 2002.

Work to promote the implementation of the Blackpool/Shandon Integrated Area Plan is ongoing, as is the promotion, facilitation and evaluation of the Living-Over-The-Shop Scheme.

To encourage the development of derelict sites, a new corporate database has been developed. In addition a cross-directorate working group has been established to identify and be pro-active in encouraging the development of derelict sites. This will assist in ensuring that the city is developed to a high standard.

A new enforcement module was introduced to assist in responding to complaints relating to unauthorised development and to ensure compliance with planning permissions and conditions.

CUSTOMER ACTION PLAN

A Contact Management System was introduced in 2002. The system allows for a more effective and efficient method of tracking correspondence received into the organisation. The system was piloted to track representations received from elected representatives. The system now also deals with complaints and appeals arising from breaches of our Customer Charter.

A One Stop Shop at City Hall opened in 2003. It acts a single point of contact for all visitors to



City Hall. Staff working there are able to issue/ accept applications on a whole range of services in addition to providing information. The feedback has been very positive and staff deal with an average of 150 visitors per day.

In order to ensure convenience to our customers all City Council Offices are now open during lunchtime since May 2004.

A Customer Charter and Code of Conduct were developed and implemented in 2004 and are on display at all our public offices. In parallel a Complaints and Appeal system based on breaches of our Customer Charter was also introduced.

In an effort to receive feedback comment cards are now available at all public counters and can also be completed online.

Using new technology the range of payment choices was expanded. Online payments for Refuse Charges and Parking Offences can now be made and a 24 hour automated telephone service allows for payment of parking offences by credit card.

The City Council website www.corkcity.ie was redeveloped in 2004 to take account of the changes that have taken place since Better Local Government. Accessibility and Disability proofing were important aspects of this project and the website was shortlisted for an Irish eGovernment Award. The introduction of an A-Z of Services allows users to quickly obtain details on our main services.

A customer survey was carried out in 2004 and a summary of the findings are available on our website.