

**MINUTES OF ROSCOMMON MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING HELD IN THE LOUGHNANEANE SUITE, ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, ROSCOMMON ON 25<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2017 AT 2.30 P.M. TO DISCUSS THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL ALLOCATION AND DRAFT BUDGETARY PLANS FOR 2018**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Nigel Dineen, Cathaoirleach      **PRESIDED**

**MEMBERS:** M. Creaton, D. Connolly, O. Leyden, P. Fitzmaurice, K. Shanagher

**OFFICIALS:** Mr. Derek Caldbeck, A/ Head of Finance, Housing, ICT & Roscommon Municipal District  
Ms. Breeda Burke, Staff Officer, Roscommon Municipal District  
Mr. John Mockler, Roscommon Municipal District Co-ordinator

Mr. Derek Caldbeck informed the members as follows:

The Local Government Act 2001 Section 102, as amended by the Local Government Reform Act 2014, provides the legislative basis for the revised budget process. It states that *“In the case of a county or city council, the Chief Executive shall consult the Municipal District Members for each Municipal District in the Local Authority’s functional area in the preparation of a Draft Local Authority Budget and, for that purpose, a Draft Budgetary Plan for the Municipal District shall be prepared under the direction of the Chief Executive and submitted for consideration by the Municipal District Members for each Municipal District in the manner and in the format that may be prescribed by regulations made by the Minister.”*

The Draft Budgetary Plan refers to discretionary funding only.

In producing the Draft Budgetary Plan the following was considered:

1. The needs and resources available or likely to be made available to the Local Authority
2. The resource needs of each Municipal District, including where appropriate km of roads, population, location of facilities, etc.

The Corporate Policy Group considered the basis for apportionment for Roads expenditure on 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2017 and it was agreed to continue with the current basis of apportionment of 75% km of road/25% population.

The purpose of a Draft Budgetary Plan is to provide each Municipal District an opportunity to allocate its proportion of the General Municipal Allocation according to its priorities.

**Schedule of Municipal District Works and Service Delivery Plans**

Section 103(A) (1) provides that, following the adoption of the Local Authority Budget, a schedule of proposed works of maintenance and repairs to be carried out during 2018 in each Municipal District shall be prepared under the direction of the Chief Executive, having regard to the availability of resources.

The Schedule of Municipal District Works shall be considered by the Municipal District Members concerned and be adopted by resolution, with or without amendment. In making an amendment, the Municipal District Members shall have due regard to the Local Authority Budget adopted in accordance with section 103(9).

**General Municipal Allocation and Municipal District Draft Budgetary Plans**

The General Municipal Allocation (the total for the three Municipal Districts) totals €2,315,100. The General Municipal Allocation distributed to the Roscommon Municipal District is €860,500.

Mr. Caldbeck drew attention to the following-

- €59,000 previously included in the GMA under Economic & Community Development is not included for 2018 as it is now been administered centrally.
- The taking in charge figure for each Municipal District for 2018 has been reduced from €20,000 to €10,000
- The €20,000 taking in charge amount included as part of the 2017 budget will be transferred to capital and set aside for use in 2018 for that purpose
- The increase in the Recreation & Amenity Figure of €20,000 relates to funding for Tidy Towns Groups. It is part of a total overall fund of €60,000 split now over the 3 Municipal Districts and it was further clarified that Roscommon Municipal District will not be curtailed to expenditure of €20,000. The split between the three Municipal Districts will in fact be more in line with the breakdown for the past number of years as there are more tidy towns groups in some areas than others.
- The discretionary Municipal District Fund of €85,000 has been maintained as has the €17,000 funding for each of the town teams.
- The Roscommon Municipal District will retain €461,300 for Local Roads General Maintenance Works in 2018

**48.17** A discussion took place regarding hedge cutting and  
On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Fitzmaurice

**SECONDED** by Councillor Creaton

It was **AGREED** to make €10,000 of the Local Roads General Maintenance fund available for a pilot community hedge cutting grant scheme in the Roscommon Municipal District. Details of the scheme shall be agreed with the Roads Department.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Creaton

**SECONDED** by Councillor Shanagher

It was further **AGREED** by all the members that any money not spent by October would be transferred back into the Local Roads General Maintenance allocation.

**49.17** A discussion took place regarding road markings at playschools and national schools especially on busy routes.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Fitzmaurice

**SECONDED** by Councillor Leyden

It was **AGREED** to ring fence €5,000 of the Local Roads General Maintenance fund and spend it on road marking at playschools and national schools where there are safety concerns.

John Mockler indicated that he was not prepared to erect road markings outside Play Schools without a policy on the matter. He also indicated that if the members had concerns in relation to specific locations he was prepared to look into the matter to achieve a solution.

**50.17** On the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor Creaton

**SECONDED** by Councillor Shanagher

It was **AGREED** to adopt the Roscommon Municipal District Budget as presented subject to the allocations agreed by the members at the meeting.

The members requested the following items be discussed at the next Municipal District meeting

- Ring fencing an amount of money from the Roscommon Municipal District Fund 2018 to make it available to complete work around the Roscommon Community Sports Park as footpaths and lighting in particular are required to finish off this project

- Review the Roscommon Municipal District Fund Grant scheme
- Discuss grave digging at the Roscommon Town Cemetery

**This concluded the business of the meeting.**

The foregoing Minutes are  
Confirmed and Signed:

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**Meetings Administrator**

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**Cathaoirleach**

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**Countersigned**