



Comhairle Contae
Ros Comáin
Roscommon
County Council



MINUTES OF MONTHLY Meeting OF ROSCOMMON COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNCIL Chamber, Áras an Chontae, Roscommon
MONDAY, 27TH JULY, 2026 AT 2.15 pm.

PRESENT: Councillor Domnick Connolly **PRESIDED**

MEMBERS: Cllr L. Brennan, Cllr V. Byrne, Cllr L. Callaghan, Cllr R. Conboy, Cllr T. Crosby, Cllr L. Cull, Cllr N. Dineen, Cllr V. Duffy, Cllr L. Fallon, Cllr P. Fitzmaurice, Cllr M. Frain, Cllr E. Kelly, Cllr J. Keogh, Cllr S. Moylan, Cllr M. McDermott and Cllr T. Ward.

OFFICIALS: Shane Tiernan, Chief Executive
Caitlín Conneely, Director of Services
Chris Flynn, Director of Services
Mark Keaveney, Director of Services
Cáit O'Grady, Financial Management Accountant
Karen Hanley, Meetings Administrator
Claudette Collins, Staff Officer
Michaela Finneran, Assistant Staff Officer

Apologies: Cllr M.Holland.

97.26 DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST (SECTION 177 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001 AS AMENDED)

There were no Disclosures of Conflict of Interest declared by Members.

98.26 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Fallon

SECONDED by Cllr. Callaghan

It was **AGREED** to adopt the minutes of the Annual Meeting of 22.06.2026.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Conboy

SECONDED by Cllr. Kelly

It was **AGREED** to adopt the minutes of the Plenary Meeting of 22.06.2026.

99.26 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

100.26 MANAGEMENT REPORT

- Management Report for Q2 2026 noted.

101.26 CORRESPONDENCE

Noted as circulated in advance of the meeting.

102.26 LOCAL TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Director of Services, Mr. Chris Flynn, advised that the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee (LTACC) is a statutory consultative committee established under the Housing Traveller Accommodation Act 1998. The Committee's role is to advise the Council on matters relating to the provision and management of accommodation for members of the Traveller community, including the preparation, implementation and review of the Traveller Accommodation Programme. The LTACC also serves as an important forum for liaison and consultation between members of the Traveller community, Elected Members and Council officials.

Mr. Flynn requested Members' approval for the appointment of Council officials and representatives to serve on the committee.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Crosby

SECONDED by Cllr. Byrne

It was **AGREED** to approve the following members and representatives:

- Chris Flynn, Director of Services
- Ann McHugh, Senior Executive Officer
- Vincent Walsh, Senior Executive Engineer
- Martina Flanagan, Administrative Officer
- Jeanette Dolan, Housing Liaison Officer
- Gail Murray, Project Co-ordinator Roscommon Traveller Health Project
- John Ward, Representative of the Traveller Community
- John McDonagh, Representative of the Traveller Community

103.26 ANNUAL SERVICE DELIVERY PLAN 2026

The Annual Service Delivery Plan 2026 was noted.

104.26 FRANCHISE PRESENTATION

Director of Services, Ms. Caitlín Conneely, introduced a presentation on the implementation of Voter.ie, the new national electoral registration system established under the Electoral Reform Act 2022. She advised that this represents the most significant reform of electoral registration in recent years.

Administrative Officer, Ms. Karen Hanley, informed Members that the new system modernises the voter registration process through online applications, stronger identity verification measures, pre-registration for 16 and 17-year-olds, and the creation of a single national electoral registration platform.

Ms. Hanley outlined the significant preparatory work undertaken by staff since January 2025 including extensive data cleansing, the removal of duplicate and deceased electors, and the standardisation of address and polling information.

Registration activity in 2025 resulted in 1,455 new electors being added to the register, 1,133 elector records being updated, and 2,253 records being removed as part of ongoing data quality improvements.

Ms. Hanley also noted the range of voter registration awareness initiatives carried out across the county, including school registration events, fieldworker engagement, library information days, direct communications and social media campaigns.

She advised that Roscommon successfully migrated to Voter.ie in July 2026 as part of the national rollout programme. The new system provides improved services for voters, enhanced data quality controls for local authorities, and more accurate and consistent electoral registers.

It was noted that the focus will now be on maintaining register accuracy, supporting ongoing voter registration activity, and continuing public awareness campaigns to promote the new Voter.ie platform.

Members thanked Ms. Hanley for the comprehensive presentation and raised a number of queries and observations, including:

- The significant improvements delivered by the new system.
- Complements to all staff involved for the significant amount of work undertaken.
- Whether the electoral register could be linked to death registration records to prevent polling cards being issued to deceased persons.
- Clarification on registration deadlines in advance of electoral events.
- Concerns regarding inaccurate address information on the register.
- The reasons for the high number of elector records removed during the update process.
- Whether there was potential for collaboration between the electoral register and An Post Geo Directory.
- Whether the new system would make first-time voter registration easier.
- Whether the introduction of Voter.ie could lead to electronic voting in the future.

In response, Ms. Hanley advised that:

- The system is linked to death registration data to identify potential deceased electors; however, all removals must be verified by staff.
- Registration deadlines in advance of electoral events are determined nationally and will apply across all local authorities.
- Register accuracy is monitored on an ongoing basis, and electors are encouraged to keep their details up to date.
- The high number of records removed reflects the extensive data cleansing undertaken prior to migration, including the removal of duplicate and deceased records.
- Electoral register data may only be used for electoral purposes, and the local authority has no authority to require data-sharing arrangements with external organisations.
- The new system simplifies voter registration while retaining paper-based application options.
- Electronic voting is a national policy matter and is outside the remit of the local authority.

105.26 CAPITAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME - ROSCARA HOUSING ASSOCIATION

Director of Services, Mr. Chris Flynn, advised that Roscara Housing Association CLG are seeking a loan of €268,500 for the acquisition of a 4-bed detached bungalow at 8 The Oaks, Frenchpark, Co. Roscommon for the purpose of assisting the provision of housing accommodation under Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1992. He requested Members' approval for the loan to allow the project to proceed.

Members welcomed the proposal and noted the importance of securing suitable accommodation for persons with disabilities, given the limited availability of such housing.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Fitzmaurice

SECONDED by Cllr. Callaghan

It was **AGREED** that Roscommon County Council approve the making of a loan of €268,500 to Roscara Housing Association CLG, Lanesboro Street, Roscommon Town pursuant to the provisions of Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1992 and in accordance with the terms of Circular/Memorandum VHU2/02 and Circular 11/25 for the acquisition of 4-bed detached bungalow at 8 The Oaks, Frenchpark, Co. Roscommon to meet needs of social housing applicants with a disability.

106.26 NOTICES OF MOTION

106.26a CLLR. BYRNE - M10:26 - CE SCHEME ELIGIBILITY

That Roscommon County Council calls on the Minister for Social Protection and Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht to review the current eligibility criteria for CE Schemes, with particular regard to age limits, to allow participants to remain on CE Schemes up to the age of 70 years where they wish to do so.

The Meetings Administrator read the following reply: This motion requires a resolution of the Council.

Cllr. Byrne outlined the importance of CE Schemes to towns and villages throughout the county and expressed concern regarding the potential impact of a reduction in participant numbers. She stated that the cost of extending the age limit would be relatively low and would deliver significant benefits. While a review of CE Schemes is currently underway, she considered that this issue should be prioritised to avoid the loss of experienced participants.

Members expressed broad support for the motion and highlighted:

- The difficulty in recruiting and retaining participants for CE Scheme positions.
- The low rate of pay associated with the schemes.
- The vital role CE participants play in maintaining public realm projects and community amenities, including Tidy Towns initiatives and cemeteries.
- The benefits of allowing older participants to remain active, particularly as life expectancy and health continue to improve.
- The need for CE Scheme eligibility to align with legislation permitting individuals to work until the age of 70.
- The positive contribution of CE Schemes in addressing rural isolation and supporting labour activation.
- Calls to extend similar provisions to Rural Social Scheme (RSS) participants.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Byrne

SECONDED by Cllr. Fallon

It was **AGREED** to call on the Minister for Social Protection and Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht to review the current eligibility criteria for CE Schemes, with particular regard to age limits, to

allow participants to remain on CE Schemes up to the age of 70 years where they wish to do so.

106.26b CLLR. CROSBY - M11:26 - ROAD SIGNAGE

That Roscommon County Council, in consultation with Transport Infrastructure Ireland, undertake a review of directional signage throughout County Roscommon to provide clear and consistent signing to Ireland West Airport, recognising its strategic importance to the economic, tourism and transport development of the region. The review should also identify opportunities to provide heritage and tourism signage on route leaving the airport along the old N5 corridor, highlighting key visitor attractions including Rathcroghan, Percy French's birthplace, the National Famine Museum, and Tarmonbarry on the River Shannon, thereby encouraging visitors to explore and support the towns, villages and businesses along this important route.

The Meetings Administrator read the following Reply:

Roscommon County Council recognises the strategic importance of Ireland West Airport, Knock to the economic, tourism and transport development of Roscommon, the western region and internationally. Similarly, the importance of cultural heritage and other tourist attractions to the economic, social and community development of the County cannot be underestimated.

The provision of tourism and destination, directional and confirmatory/ information signage along both national and non-national roads is a matter that merits consideration in Roscommon and in most counties.

Roscommon County Council, with our partners in Transport Infrastructure Ireland and other organisations including the Department of Transport, Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, and Failte Ireland, will seek funding to review the current position regarding signage to Ireland West Airport and the principal tourist destinations with a view to updating current signage as appropriate.

Signage, in accordance with the Traffic Signs Manual and the Policy on the Provision of Tourist & Leisure Signage on National Roads, is included as part of the new N5 Ballaghaderreen to Scramoge Road Project and includes for Knock Airport and the main tourist attractions along and near the route.

Cllr. Crosby reiterated his motion, stating that the proximity of the county to an international airport presents a significant opportunity for tourism growth and that improved signage could be delivered at relatively low cost while having a substantial positive impact.

Members expressed strong support for the motion and highlighted its potential benefits for tourism, particularly with the progressing N5 road project.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Crosby,

SECONDED by Cllr. Frain

It was **AGREED** to support the motion.

106.26c CLLR. KELLY - M12:26 - UISCE ÉIREANN

I am calling on Roscommon County Council to write to Uisce Éireann (UE) requesting a review of water pressure valves which were recently installed in parts of the county. This is causing significant disruption to household technology and resulting in increased costs on households due to low water pressure.

The Meetings Administrator read the following reply: This motion requires a resolution of the Council.

Cllr. Kelly advised that the issue is affecting a number of areas in South Roscommon and has resulted in excessive pressure on plumbing systems, leading to damage to household appliances. She noted that while pressure readings recorded during Uisce Éireann inspections often fall within acceptable ranges, longer term monitoring indicates that water pressure levels are frequently below what is required. She further stated that the issue appears particularly prevalent where water supplies are shared with farm connections.

Members supported the motion and raised the following points:

- Consideration should be given to providing redress where appliances have been damaged as a result of low water pressure.
- Concerns were expressed regarding the effectiveness of Uisce Éireann's centralised reporting system, particularly in dealing with smaller-scale emergencies in rural areas.
- The age and condition of existing water infrastructure was highlighted, with members noting the need for ongoing repairs and investment.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Kelly

SECONDED by Cllr. McDermott

It was **AGREED** to call on Roscommon County Council to write to Uisce Éireann requesting a review of water pressure valves which were recently installed in parts of the county. This is causing significant disruption to household technology and resulting in increased costs on households due to low water pressure.

106.26d CLLR. FITZMAURICE - M13:26 - COST RENTAL SCHEME

Notice of motion calling on the Government and Minister for Housing to fully fund the purchase of houses under 'the cost rental scheme' by local authorities. The cost rental scheme is available to local authorities at present to help individuals and families above the income threshold get rental accommodation but unviable under its current terms and conditions.

The Meetings Administrator read the following reply: This motion requires a resolution of the Council.

Cllr. Fitzmaurice advised that a cohort of individuals and families earn above the income threshold for social housing support but continue to face significant difficulties accessing affordable housing. He noted that while the Cost Rental Scheme is intended to assist households on moderate incomes, uptake by local authorities has been limited due to the requirement to partially finance acquisitions through borrowing, unlike social housing developments which are fully funded by Government. He queried how many local authorities have availed of the scheme.

Members expressed support for the motion and highlighted:

- The anomaly whereby households above the social housing income threshold continue to experience significant housing affordability challenges.
- Concerns that the current system may discourage employment progression.
- The increasing difficulty faced by households on modest incomes in securing suitable accommodation.
- The potential of the Cost Rental Scheme to address housing need if fully funded.

- The wider challenges within the housing market and the need for comprehensive reform.

Cllr. Fitzmaurice thanked Members for their support and requested that correspondence to the Department include a query on the number of local authorities that have availed of the scheme. He also requested that the motion be circulated to all local authorities.

Director of Services, Mr. Chris Flynn, advised that he was unaware of the number of local authorities directly participating in the scheme outside of arrangements involving Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs). He noted that significant risks associated with the current funding model would need to be addressed before Roscommon County Council could consider direct delivery of cost rental housing, although the Council remains open to working in partnership with AHBs in this area.

107.26 CHIEF EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

Nothing further for discussion.

108.26 COUNCILLORS CONFERENCES - PAYMENT/ATTENDANCE

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Callaghan

SECONDED by Cllr. McDermott

It was **AGREED** to adopt the list of payments for training and conferences as circulated.

109.26 VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS AND SYMPATHY

Congratulations were extended to the Mayo senior football team on their All-Ireland success.

Sympathies were extended to the Allen family, Strokestown, on the passing of John and the Moylan family, Ballinlough, on the passing of Ann.

110.26 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

North West Regional Assembly (NWRA)

On the **PROPOSAL** of Cllr. Duffy

SECONDED by Cllr. Conboy

It was **AGREED** that Roscommon County Council write to NWRA to request a presentation of their work, in particular on the Regional Spatial Economic Strategy.

Local Democracy Task Force

Cllr. Brennan advised Members that the Association of Irish Local Government (AILG) had recently highlighted the publication of the Local Democracy Task Force Final Report and Implementation Plan. He encouraged Members to attend the upcoming AILG webinar and Autumn Seminar, at which the report and its recommendations would be discussed and Members would have an opportunity to participate in a question-and-answer session.

Castlerea Rose Festival

Cllr. Fitzmaurice invited Members and the public to attend the Castlerea Rose Festival, which was taking

place during the week.

Local Link – South Roscommon

Cllr. Callaghan advised Members of discussions at a recent Local Link meeting regarding the lack of public transport services in parts of South Roscommon. He noted that a proposal is being considered for a new three or four-day return service linking Roscommon, Athleague, Four Roads, Ballyforan, Dysart, Brideswell and Athlone. He encouraged Members to raise the proposal with Ministers and senior public representatives to support its progression.

Standing Orders Committee

Cllr. Crosby advised that he would be requesting a meeting of the Standing Orders Committee to discuss issues relating to third party reporting of Council meetings.

NEXT MEETING

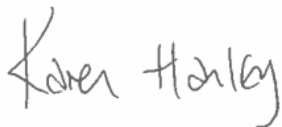
The next meeting will be on Monday, 28th September, 2026.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

The foregoing Minutes are
Confirmed and Signed:



Meetings Administrator



Countersigned



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Electoral Registration Changes

July 2026

Presentation to Elected Members



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County Council

Electoral Reform Act 2022

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Major reform of the electoral registration process

Together, these changes created the basis for Voter.ie - a national registration service.

01 Rolling Register

A simpler registration process for electors and local authorities.

02 Pre-registration opened

16 and 17 year olds can pre-register to vote.

03 Protected registration

Anonymous and no fixed abode registration.

04 Online applications

Ability to apply through an online registration process.

05 Stronger data requirements

PPSN, date of birth and related data improve register accuracy.

06 Single national system

A national system supports local authorities in fulfilling registration duties.

LGERS Project

The structure
to develop
Voter.ie as
the national
registration
system

PROGRAMME SETUP



Established mid 2021 to oversee delivery of the national electoral registration system.



The Department funds the project; the local authority sector funds the operational service from 2026.

DELIVERY MODEL



Voter.ie development

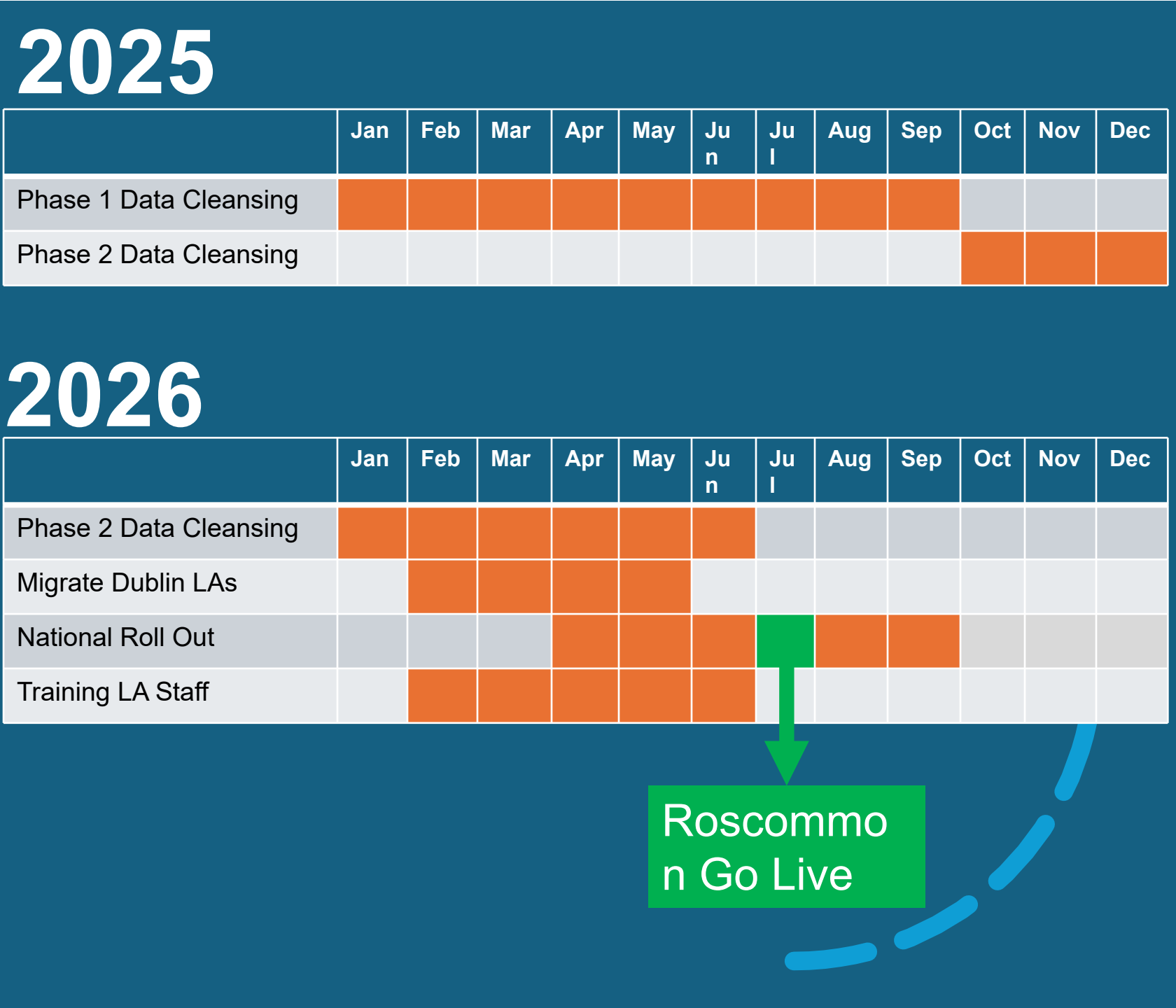
Identified as the platform for the national electoral registration system.



Delivery

Dublin City Council leads implementation with local authorities franchise teams.

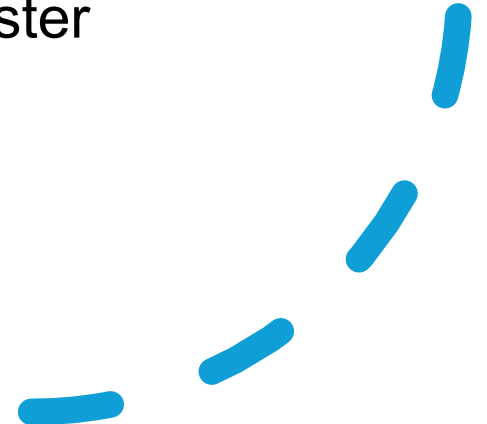
Project Timelines



Data Quality & Standardisation Tasks

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- Townlands, Polling Stations, Polling Districts and Electoral Divisions updated to include full English & Irish address
- Potential duplicate electors contacted to confirm registration details and appropriate action taken
- Deceased electors identified using the death events service from the General Register Office were removed



Roscommon Registration activity results at a glance

FY 2025 Data

116

polling places
updated

2,648

applications
received

1,455

new electors
added

1,133

electors
updated

2,253

electors removed
(774 deceased)

2,626

townlands
updated

52,885 Electorate

Registration activities

County Roscommon

2025 & 2026

Page 219

Multi-channel voter registration outreach

01 Fieldworkers

Fieldwork programme supporting registration updates county-wide.

02 Direct communications

Outbound contact verified and updated elector registration details.

03 Advertising campaign

Facebook, X, Instagram and print advertising raised awareness.

04 School registration days

Four school registration days across local post-primary schools.

05 Library information days

Information days in Castlerea, Ballaghaderreen and Roscommon libraries.

06 National registration day

Media campaign plus staff registration and information drive.



New National Electoral Registration System

Consistent national service delivery while preserving local register accountability.

01

Single national system

One national electoral registration system provides a common service foundation.

02

Local authority ownership

Local authorities remain responsible for maintaining their own electoral registers.

03

National system reporting

System performance and functionality are reported nationally to the Electoral Commission.

04

Regional register reporting

Local authorities continue to report regional register information to the Commission.

Changes for Electors

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Elector service upgrade at a glance

1 New Voter.ie destination

Replaces www.checktheregister.ie with one clear registration service.

2 Real-time elector info

Customer-focused website provides current registration information.

3 Streamlined applications

Online process supports both MyGovID and PPSN authentication.

4 Document upload built in

Applicants can upload supporting evidence during the application process.

5 WCAG 2.2 accessibility

Accessible design follows the recognised standard for users of all abilities.

6 Official languages compliance

System design supports the Official Languages (Amendment) Act 2021.

CheckTheRegister.ie

checktheregister.ie

Logout

CheckTheRegister > Request Options

Welcome to check the register. Use this site to register to vote, or update your name and address online.

In order to vote you must be eligible and included on the electoral register for the area in which you live.
For more information on eligibility please go to the [FAQ page](#).

I'm already registered

Check your details

- If your name and address are correct on the register and you are eligible to vote at upcoming polls you will be able to do so
- If you have changed your name and/or address, complete the online application to update your details
- Add your PPSN and DOB to confirm your details and assist your local authority in the broader electoral register data quality project - [more information](#)

I'm not registered

Apply online to register

- You will need your PPSN and Eircode to use this site
- If you are 16 or 17 you can pre-register and your name will be added to the register when you turn 18

Forms for postal voting, special votes and other arrangements

Download a form

Choose this if you

- to register or update your details on a paper form (without PPSN)
- to update your citizenship
- to apply for a special or postal vote (conditions apply)
- want to apply to be an anonymous elector (conditions apply)
- if you need more information please see the [FAQ](#) section or [contact your local authority](#)

Third party updates

Third party request form

- If you know that there is an incorrect entry on the register, for example a family member who is deceased, you can let your local authority know by downloading and submitting this form

New platform: Voter.ie



Rialtas Áitiúil Éireann
Local Government Ireland

Voter.ie

Gaeilge

Main Menu ▾

Home

 **Information**

This website is currently for Dublin, Kerry, Longford, Wexford and Wicklow only. Please use www.CheckTheRegister.ie for the rest of the country.

Welcome to Voter.ie

Use this site to register to vote, update your electoral details, or check your details online.

Forms for postal or special voting and other types of applications can be downloaded [here](#).

I want to check or update my record

Check the Register

Choose this if you...

- want to check if you're registered
- want to update your record

I am not registered

New registration

Choose this if you...

- have not registered before
- want to check if you can register

I want to report an error on the Register

Third party request

Choose this if you...

- believe that an entry in the Register about another person is inaccurate



Rialtas Áitiúil Éireann
Local Government Ireland

[Download a form](#)

[FAQs](#)

[Contact List](#)

[Accessibility Statement](#)

[Privacy Statement](#)

Changes for LA users

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Faster case handling, stronger register quality, and easier movement between authorities.

01

Integrated back-office + portal

Online applications move through a single connected back-office and portal process.

02

Quality alerts for LA review

Potential duplicate records and deceased electors are flagged for local authority users.

03

Simplified inter-authority transfers

Change-of-address transfers between local authorities follow a clearer handover process.

Changes for Elected Members

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QUALITY
STANDARDS

Accurate

+

Consistent

A more accurate, comprehensive register is supported by a consistent, standardised approach across local authorities.

CLEARER REGISTER OUTPUTS

Register of Electors

Sorted alphabetically by surname within townlands/address rather than by dwelling.

Canvassing Purposes

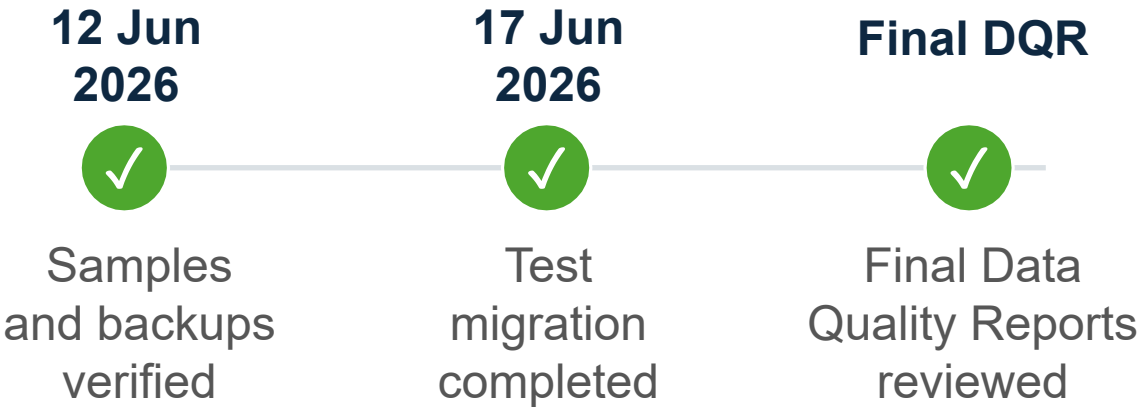
Sorted by dwelling order within townlands/address.

Migration Wave 3

Roscommon migration completed through two validation waves

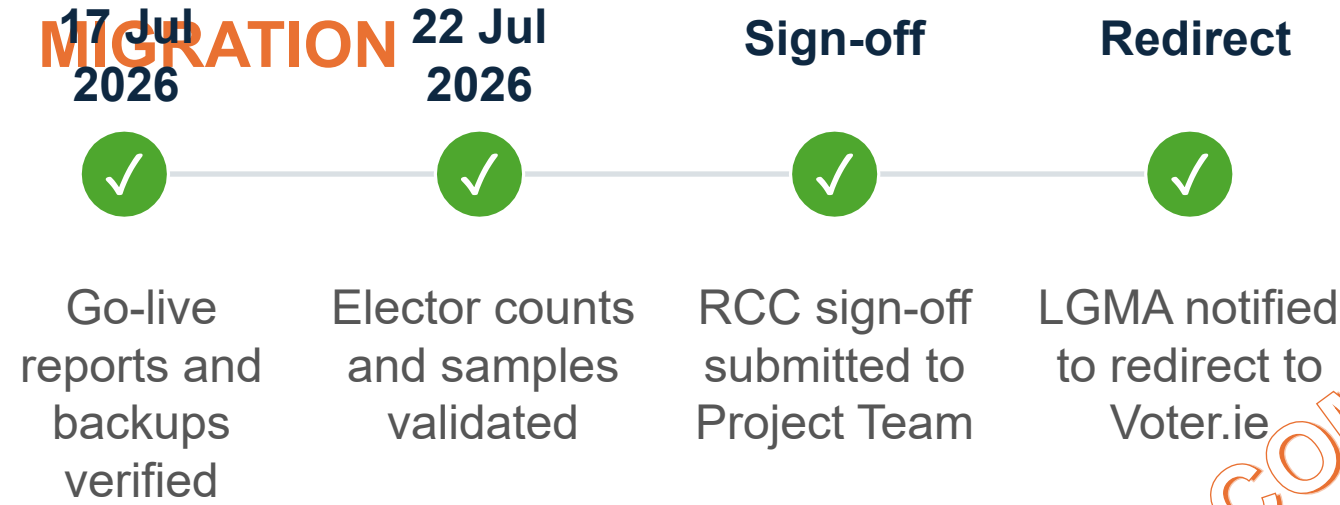
Success timeline

TEST MIGRATION



COMPLETE

GO LIVE MIGRATION



COMPLETE

Comms Toolkit

Digital, bilingual and community channels reinforce the same registration change.

CORE MESSAGE

CheckTheRegister.ie → Voter.ie



Summary & Next Steps

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Migration to Voter.ie delivered Focus on continued registration support and public awareness

DELIVERED



Data cleansing

Major effort across
2025–26



Key stages met

Roscommon
delivered every
major milestone



Voter.ie live

Moved successfully
on 23 July 2026

CONTINUING ACTIVITY



Registration days

Schools and local venues
remain active registration
touchpoints



Field work continues

Household calls to verify
and maintain records

THANK YOU



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