

An Chomhairle Oidhreachta  
The Heritage Council



**CELEBRATING**  
**20 YEARS 1995-2015**

Working for heritage | Working with communities

# Annual Report 2014



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Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.



# CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME



June 2014 saw the Heritage Council meet in Donegal, an occasion that afforded us the opportunity to engage with a wide range of communities from the north-west and feed off their energy, commitment and knowledge. The occasion also allowed me to present to Council for its consideration a paper which set out the ambitions we should have on behalf of the heritage sector as a whole, and most significantly how the Heritage Council should develop as an organisation in the months and years to come if it is to enhance the quality and level of public service that the public both expects and demands.

Drawing our inspiration from the magnificence of Donegal's landscapes and seascapes, and the support and enthusiasm of the communities which live there, our objective is quite clear - an understanding of our first 20 years and setting out our approach for the next 20.

Over the last 20 years, with a range of partners, the Heritage Council has imagined and built a unique, community-based heritage infrastructure.

To do so it has harnessed its policy function to its grant-giving capacity and shown what is possible with small and regular ongoing investment in a range of communities. The resultant infrastructure is based on valuing and understanding the importance of people, their communities and place, and has shown itself to be resilient, innovative and sufficiently flexible to survive the worst that an economic crisis can throw at it.

Over the next 20 years, imagine what could be achieved through working with, enabling and empowering communities in this manner. Such an approach offers immense potential in terms of Ireland's economic, social and environmental development. Realising that potential requires investment in both the capacity of the Heritage Council and the sector as a whole over the period 2016-2026.

Our objective is to secure that investment in a phased and targeted manner.

Conor Newman  
Chairman

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT 2014



The most significant aspect of 2014 turned out to be that it was the year before 2015, the year during which Council would celebrate its 20th birthday. This allowed us to look back over what had been achieved (understanding our own heritage) so that we might better set out a vision for the next 20 years.

All of this had to be done against a background where, in 2014, five successive years of budget cuts had been arrested but our capacity remained severely restricted through an ongoing failure to secure sanction for key posts. This is generating real stresses and strains within the organisation not only in trying to compensate for missing skill sets but also in terms of the age-profile, where now only one member of staff is less than 30 years old. This is not a healthy sign for any organisation and is something we need to be allowed to address quickly.

Our mid-term review of our current Strategic Plan 2012-2016 shows that we are continuing to deliver way beyond what our current capacity should allow. Whilst I want to thank everyone involved (internal and external to the organisation) for the part they are playing in that ongoing work, I continually ask myself, is the current level of effort sustainable, or indeed healthy? National Heritage Week continues to astound, Heritage in Schools reaches more and more primary pupils and our heritage infrastructure maintains every ounce of its innovation and flexibility.

We continue to propose policies and priorities that make the case for, and demonstrate the worth of, the heritage sector. This requires regular and ongoing investment and support for communities right the way across the country. Our capacity needs to be increased to allow this to happen and one day the potential this offers will be fully realised and every citizen and visitor to Ireland will reap the benefits.

Michael Starrett  
Chief Executive



# ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE ANNUAL REPORT 2014

AA	Appropriate Assessment.
ACA	Architectural Conservation Area.
CDPs	County Development Plans.
CHPs	County/City Heritage Plans.
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.
COE	Council of Europe.
DoAFM	Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine.
DoAHG	Department of the Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
DoCENR	Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources.
DoECLG	Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government.
DTTAS	Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport.
EHL	European Heritage Label.
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment – the ‘process’.
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement – the EIA ‘output’/report.
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency.
EU JPI CH	European Union Joint Programming Initiative on Cultural Heritage.
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment.
HTI	Historic Towns Initiative.
IBM	International Business Machines.
ICOMOS	International Council on Monuments and Sites.
ICRI	Institute of Conservators-Restorers in Ireland.
INSTAR	Irish National Strategic Archaeological Research Programme.
LAHOP	Local Authority Heritage Officers Programme.
LAP	Local Area Plan.
LCA	Landscape Character Assessment.
MSPI	Museums Standards Programme for Ireland.
NHW	National Heritage Week.
NIA	Northern Ireland Assembly.
NIAH	National Inventory of Architectural Heritage.
NLS	National Landscape Strategy.
NPWS	National Parks and Wildlife Service.
NSDS	National Spatial Data Strategy.
OPW	Office of Public Works.
RPS	Record of Protected Structures.
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment.
SEAI	Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland.
SMEs	Small and Medium Enterprises: Small Enterprises defined as 0<50 employees with an annual turnover/balance sheet total not exceeding €10m. Medium Enterprises defined as 50-249 employees with an annual turnover not exceeding €50m or an annual balance sheet total not exceeding €43m.
VAS	Visitor Attitude Surveys produced annually by Fáilte Ireland.

# HERITAGE COUNCIL BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF 2014



Council Board Members	
1.	Conor Newman (Chair)
2.	Dr Ciara Breathnach
3.	Professor Gabriel Cooney (M)
4.	Ted Creedon
5.	Dr Brendan Dunford (M)
6.	Dr Caro-Lynne Ferris (M)
7.	Catherine Heaney
8.	Ms Mary Keenan
9.	Dr Fidelma Mullane
10.	Dr Kieran O'Connor
11.	Michael Parsons



Staff	
1.	Michael Starrett (Chief Executive)
2.	Anne Barcoe
3.	Gerard Croke
4.	Ian Doyle
5.	Paula Drohan
6.	Alison Harvey
7.	Beatrice Kelly
8.	Martina Malone
9.	Anna Meenan
10.	Colm Murray
11.	Amanda Ryan (M)
12.	Christena Ryan (M)
13.	Isabell Smyth
14.	Liam Scott (M)

Project Consultants	
1.	Lesley-Ann Hayden
2.	Liam Mannix
3.	Eimear O'Connell
Graduate Intern	
1.	Irene Wall (M)

(M) - Missing from photograph

THE HERITAGE COUNCIL – 2014 IN FIGURES



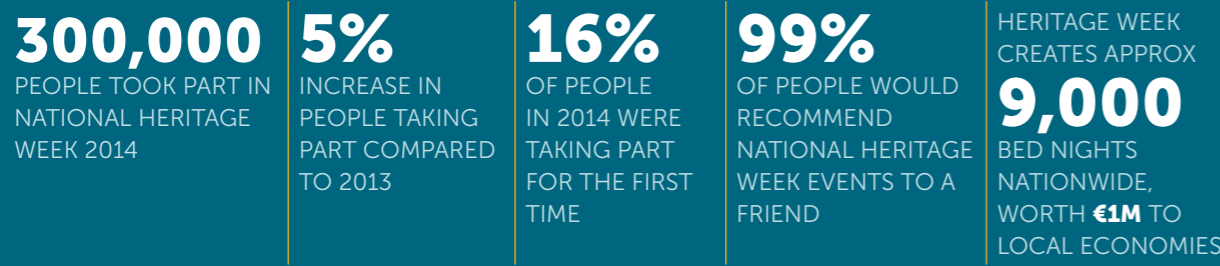
INVESTED IN 2014



HERITAGE IN SCHOOLS



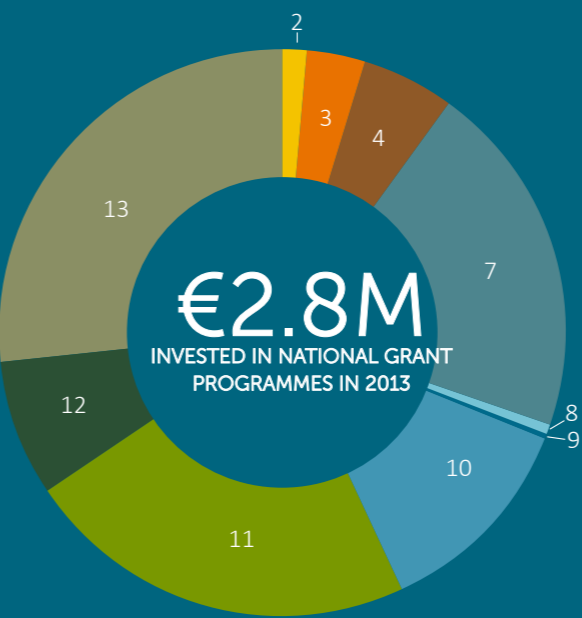
NATIONAL HERITAGE WEEK 2014



SOCIAL MEDIA ACTIVITY

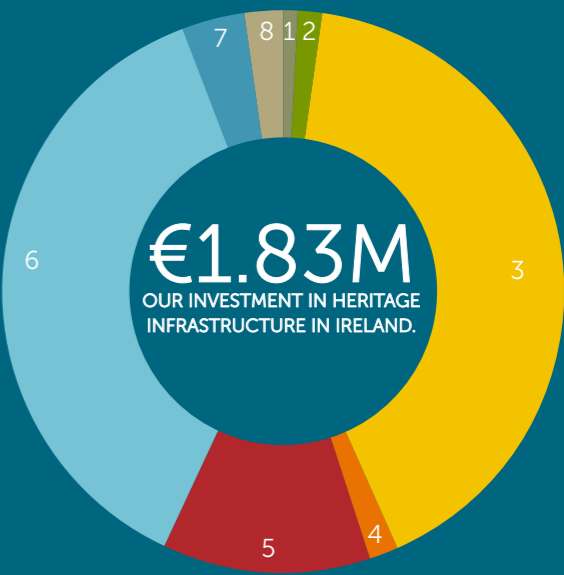


SUPPORT FOR  
NATIONAL HERITAGE  
GRANT PROGRAMMES



		€
1	Buildings at Risk	0
2	Irish National Strategic Archaeological Research	43,873
3	Irish Walled Towns Network Grants towards Walled Towns Days	97,111
4	Irish Walled Towns Network Grants towards Capital Works	145,824
5	Research Grants	0
6	Education Grants	0
7	Management Grants	569,168
8	Conservation Led Plan Grants	20,838
9	Museum Standards Programme of Ireland Commemoration Conservation Grants	1,248
10	Policy & Infrastructure Grants	340,015
11	County Heritage Plan Grants	634,845
12	Irish Landmark Trust Ltd. Note 14	220,000
13	Discovery Programme Ltd. Note 15	750,000
TOTAL		2,822,922

SUPPORT FOR  
NATIONAL AND  
REGIONAL HERITAGE  
INFRASTRUCTURE  
IN IRELAND –  
ALLOCATION OF FUNDS



Heritage Infrastructure	Heritage Element	Location/Base	HC Funding in 2014 (€)	2014 %
1. Bere Island	Cultural Landscapes/ Seascapes	Bere Island, Co. Cork	20,000	1.1
2. Burrenbeo Trust	Cultural Landscapes and Biodiversity	Kinvara, Co. Galway	25,000	1.4
3. Discovery Programme	Archaeology	Dublin	750,000	40.9
4. Ireland Reaching Out	Genealogy	Loughrea, Co. Galway	30,745	1.7
5. Irish Landmark Trust	Built Heritage and Landscapes/Seascapes	Dublin	220,000	12.0
6. National Biodiversity Data Centre	Biodiversity	Waterford	683,272	37.3
7. Wicklow Uplands Council	Cultural Landscapes	Roundwood, Co. Wicklow	65,000	3.5
8. Woodlands of Ireland	Native Woodland Species	Murrough, Co. Wicklow	40,000	2.2
Total			1,834,017	100



# 1 BACKGROUND TO HERITAGE & THE HERITAGE COUNCIL – STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES, RESOURCES AND SUSTAINABILITY

## Valuing Ireland's Heritage – A 'National Asset'

Ireland's world-renowned National Heritage (i.e. built, cultural, and natural heritage) has an intrinsic socio-economic, environmental and cultural value within Irish society and the Irish diaspora worldwide. Our National Heritage is what we inherit, but more specifically heritage is what we retain of this inheritance<sup>1</sup>. Innovative and effective on-going management of our national heritage strengthens and enhances:

- Socio-economic, scientific and cultural growth, innovation and development;
- Social, cultural and building capital; and
- Natural capital ecosystems and green infrastructure (GI);
- Tourism activity<sup>2</sup> i.e. from both domestic and overseas markets.

Critically, valuing and promoting our national heritage helps to create vibrant communities and distinctive places, and transforms lives; contributes to our overall quality of life, health and well being; and generates a unique sense of belonging and sense of place. In addition, Heritage can play a key role in urban and rural revitalisation and community renewal, as well as the development of heritage and cultural tourism opportunities and the enhancement of a village, town or city's public image – a key requirement in attracting investment including Foreign Direct Investment (FDI).

**What does your National Heritage mean to you?**  
– let us know –  
by visiting our Facebook page, Tweeting us on Twitter, taking part in National Heritage Week, or by getting involved in a Heritage Group in your local neighbourhood.

<sup>1</sup> Valuing the Priceless: The Value of Historic Heritage in Australia, Research Report No.2, 2005 – Prepared for the Heritage Chairs and Officials of Australia and New Zealand.

<sup>2</sup> Tourism, an abstract export industry, is included in the invisible balance of the national balance of trade, which measures the relationship between our national imports and exports – i.e. whether we operate what is termed a trade surplus or a trade deficit.

## WHAT IS IRELAND'S NATIONAL HERITAGE?

Ireland's rich and varied National Heritage is made up of what is known as built, cultural and natural heritage – in other words – historic landscapes and seascapes (both urban and rural); unique habitats including rivers and loughs, plants and animal species native to Ireland; and museum collections, archives and historical papers, artefacts and objects.

Heritage also includes tangible heritage, i.e. something that you can touch and see, for example a medieval town wall, market square or historic village green, and intangible heritage, i.e. a process or skill, including folklore/mythology, storytelling and traditional skills such as thatching, stonework and the making of musical instruments. Our National Heritage is an invaluable and finite resource which generates wide-reaching economic, social and community benefits both at home and abroad.



## The Heritage Act 1995 – Role of the Heritage Council - An Chomhairle Oidhreachta

The Heritage Council - An Chomhairle Oidhreachta - is a national public organisation and statutory 'prescribed body'<sup>3</sup> based in the former Bishop's Palace in the heart of medieval Kilkenny City. The council was established by the Irish Government under the Heritage Act 1995 in order to:

- Propose policies and priorities for the identification, protection, preservation and enhancement of the national heritage;
- Promote interest, education, knowledge and pride in, and facilitate the appreciation and enjoyment of, the national heritage;
- Cooperate with other bodies in the promotion of its functions; and
- Promote the coordination of all activities relating to its functions.

Ireland's National Heritage is defined in the 1995 Act<sup>4</sup>, as including:

'monuments, landscapes, archaeological objects, seascapes, heritage objects, wrecks, architectural heritage, geology, flora, heritage gardens and parks, fauna, inland waterways, and wildlife habitats.'

## Heritage Council Strategic Plan 2012-2016

Since its inception almost 20 years ago, the Heritage Council has played a leading role in imagining, supporting and creating an innovative and participative heritage management system and infrastructure in Ireland. Community engagement/participation and development is at the very heart of all the Heritage Council's operations and programmes. Through innovative partnerships in the community, the Heritage Council ensures that socio-economic empowerment and opportunity is linked to Ireland's unique built, cultural and natural heritage and environment. Although a very small organisation in terms of resources (i.e. staff and funding), it is the Heritage Council's Vision 'that the value of our national heritage is enjoyed, managed and protected due to the significant contribution it makes to our sense of identity, quality of life, and future well-being'.

## Heritage supporting



STRATEGIC PLAN 2012 - 2016

An Chomhairle Oidhreachta  
The Heritage Council

<sup>3</sup> Under provisions of Irish Planning Legislation.

<sup>4</sup> See Section 6 of the Heritage Act 1995 - <http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/1995/en/act/pub/0004/index.html>

## Strategic Objectives (4 No.)

Under the current Heritage Council Strategic Plan 2012-2016<sup>5</sup>, the Heritage Council has four key strategic objectives, as follows:

- I. Supporting employment and job creation;
- II. Supporting education and awareness;
- III. Supporting heritage-based tourism; and
- IV. Supporting modern frameworks and mechanisms.

In pursuit of its overall Objectives, the Heritage Council is also committed to working in close partnership with international bodies, all levels of government in Ireland – north and south – local communities, the private sector – particularly SMEs and micro-enterprises<sup>6</sup>, and heritage-based NGOs, to enhance and promote Ireland's world-renowned national heritage for the benefit of existing and future generations of Irish citizens living in Ireland and further afield, and also for the benefit of visitors to the island of Ireland. The Heritage Council complements and, importantly, builds on the work of other state heritage bodies that have primary responsibility for the care of sites and property in state ownership and for the designation and sustainable management of protected areas.

Through collaborative partnerships and shared stewardship, the Heritage Council ensures that socio-economic and cultural activities and opportunities are linked to our national heritage.

## Heritage Council Strategic Plan Mid-Term Review undertaken during 2014

As per Strategic Plan 2012-2016 commitments, a mid-term review was undertaken during 2014 in order to:

- I. Assess progress to date in implementing the Strategic Plan 2012-2016;
- II. Examine the necessity of any changes in direction during the remaining period of the plan (2015-2017); and
- III. Set up discussion for a successor Strategic Plan to cover the period from 2017 onwards.

An independent administration review of the grants was also undertaken by Mazars in July 2014 to support and inform the mid-term review. The Heritage Council's Strategic Plan 2012-2016 sets out 16 Key Objectives under four key themes, three main goals and 105 individual actions, as illustrated below.



## I. Heritage Council Strategic Plan Progress to Date (2012-2014)

An assessment of activities and progress during the mid-point of the Plan reveals that:

- 56% of all SP actions (105 no. actions) have been undertaken or are ongoing, 24% are partially undertaken and 20% have not been commenced.
- The Heritage Council committed €2.8m to a range of grant projects in 2012 and €1.07m in 2013;
- Council's investment in the 2012 Heritage Management Grants Programme of €870,000 was matched by €1.1m in financial investment and an additional value of €350,000 in voluntary and in-kind contributions;
- The outcome of a Government Review of the Heritage Council in 2012 was positive but it had a knock-on effect as significant HC internal resources were diverted to provide input; and
- Council has prepared 25 policy submissions to government since 2012 in areas such as the Integrated Marine Plan (Harnessing our Ocean Wealth), the On-Shore Wind Farm Sector in Ireland, the Rural Development Plan (RDP) and Nos. 14-17 Moore Street Dublin.

While much progress has been achieved, it is clear that further investment is essential, e.g. in grants programmes, to allow heritage infrastructure in Ireland to thrive and grow and to recruit core skills to the Heritage Council staff, which have been depleted during the recession as a direct result of the public sector recruitment freeze. In addition, this freeze has led to the situation where only one full-time staff member of Council is less than 30 years of age.

In the absence of these core resources, and the infusion of youthful vigour and insight, it is difficult to see how momentum can be maintained over the remaining period of the current Strategic Plan. These ongoing constraints are clearly recognised in the heritage sector and are a recurring theme in conversations among staff, board members and external partners.

## II. Necessity of any changes in direction during the remaining period of the Plan (2015-2016)

A number of issues require further assessment, in relation to changes in direction during the remaining period of the Plan, including:

- Re-development of a sustainable comprehensive grants programme so as to widen support for communities caring for and managing heritage resources and assets;
- Ongoing development of Heritage Viewer as an important springboard into the digital economy and to realise the full potential role of heritage within this innovative sector; and
- Ongoing support for the development of existing heritage infrastructure organisations, to ensure that they complement the role of the Heritage Council, and in addition, to identify infrastructure, which needs development/mentoring.

The Mid-Term Review found that there were several important policy areas that require further examination during the remainder of the plan period including, but not limited to:

- Management of Urban Heritage - to build upon the Peter Bacon Associates fiscal incentives report and the development of the IWTN and the Historic Towns Initiative (HTI), in the context of growing concern within Irish society as to the long-term future of Irish Towns;
- Implementation of the National Landscape Strategy (NLS, DoAHG);
- Need for a National Cultural Policy and a Cultural Tourism Strategy and a cultural research agenda;
- Renewable Energy and Heritage; and
- Advancing proposals for High Nature Value (HNV) Farming.

<sup>5</sup> The Heritage Council's Strategic Plan 2012-2016 is available at – [www.heritagecouncil.ie](http://www.heritagecouncil.ie)

<sup>6</sup> Micro enterprises are defined as <10 employees (Source: Enterprise Ireland).



### III. Set up Discussion for a successor Strategic Plan from 2017 onwards

The critical issue that was raised consistently throughout the mid-term review (both internally and externally) was the need to strengthen the capacity of the organisation and the wider heritage sector in Ireland. The impact of several years of severe budgetary cuts remains the primary issue and the levels of implementation demonstrated in the mid-term review are not sustainable unless there is a significant increase in staffing levels and resources for the Heritage Council, and its associated infrastructure.

#### Heritage Council Board – Key Activities in 2014

As a result of a Government Review undertaken in 2012, the Heritage Council's Board was reduced from 16 to 11 members during 2013<sup>7</sup>. Therefore, 2014 was the first full year that the Heritage Council operated with its reduced board. Provision for the change in Board size is included in the Heritage (Amendment) Bill 2013, which is currently making its way through the legislative process. The current Membership of the Heritage Council is listed at the start of this annual report. The Heritage Council Board met formally on six occasions during 2014, as follows:

1. February 6th 2014 - Kilkenny
2. April 10th 2014 - Kilkenny
3. June 5th 2014 - Gweedore - at the invitation of Donegal County Council (DCC)
4. July 29th 2014 - Kilkenny
5. October 2nd 2014 - Kilkenny
6. December 5th 2014 - Kilkenny

Donegal County Council's Chief Executive Mr Seamus Neely invited the Heritage Council Board and staff to hold their June Board meeting in the county. The Heritage Council used this visit to meet with the County Donegal Heritage Forum, members of the heritage network and heritage craftspeople living and working in Donegal. A number of knowledge exchange events were organised by the DCC Heritage Officer Dr Joe Gallagher including facilitated site visits throughout the county to a number of important heritage sites, cultural landscapes/seascapes and heritage grant recipients, as follows:

- Teach Mhici Mhic Gabhann<sup>8</sup> – recently restored vernacular house in west Donegal with its rope-thatched roof, its slate room addition and *cailleach* (bed outshot);
- Old Church, Derrybeg and meeting with Fr Pádraig Ó Baoighill P.P., President of the Donegal Historical Society. The former chapel was badly flooded in 1880 and also in 2009;
- Old Cooperage, Burtonport - the Congested Districts Board established a cooperage (which is now derelict) at the fishing port of Burtonport;
- Templecrone Historic Church & Graveyard, Termon, Maghery - the ruined church and historic graveyard in Maghery are Recorded Monuments protected under the National Monuments Acts. The graveyard also contains some interesting examples of fragile and inscribed slate gravestones;
- Ballysaggart Friary, St. John's Point - the ruins of the fifteenth-century Ballysaggart Friary is located near the small inlet at Ballysaggart Pier and adjacent to a traditional thatched cottage;
- Magee of Donegal – hand weaving is a traditional skill in County Donegal. Magees, established in 1866, prepares bespoke fabric (by hand and by loom) for export to some of the top design and couture houses throughout the world; and
- Brown Hall, Ballintra - visit to eighteenth-century Brown Hall, a Protected Structure in the ownership of the Hamilton Family.

### Heritage Council – Staff and Investment in Staff Training in 2014

#### Staff (14 no., as of start and end of 2014)

In accordance with the provisions of existing and proposed national heritage legislation, the Heritage Council started 2014 with a very small team consisting of 14 full-time employees. This includes administrators, technical staff, a financial officer, and the Chief Executive. The Heritage Council also had one graduate intern from May 2014, Irene Wall, who was appointed through the JobBridge Scheme.

The Heritage Council's post of Wildlife Officer remains unfilled due to the on-going freeze on public sector appointments, which has been in place since 2008. It should also be highlighted that the post of the Heritage Council's Museums Officer has also remained unfilled since 2009 - again due to the recruitment freeze. These core staff reductions, coupled with the substantial reduction in the annual budget year on year since 2008, have had an enormous knock-on effect on policy formulation, programmes, and initiatives aimed at the promotion, conservation, and protection of Ireland's world-renowned built, cultural and natural heritage.

### Consultants (3 no., as of end of 2014)

Due to its diminished budget and staff numbers, the Heritage Council has three consultants who project manage the following heritage programmes and initiatives:

1. All-Island Irish Walled Towns Network (IWTN) – established by the Heritage Council in April 2005;
2. Museum Standards Programme for Ireland (MSPI) – established by the Heritage Council in 2006; and
3. EU Joint Programming Initiative on Cultural Heritage (JPI CH) – established by the EU in 2010 - co-ordination action was set up in 2011.



[irishwalledtownsnetwork.ie](http://irishwalledtownsnetwork.ie) [www.jpi-culturalheritage.eu](http://www.jpi-culturalheritage.eu)



<sup>7</sup> The 1995 Act provides for a maximum of 17 board members.

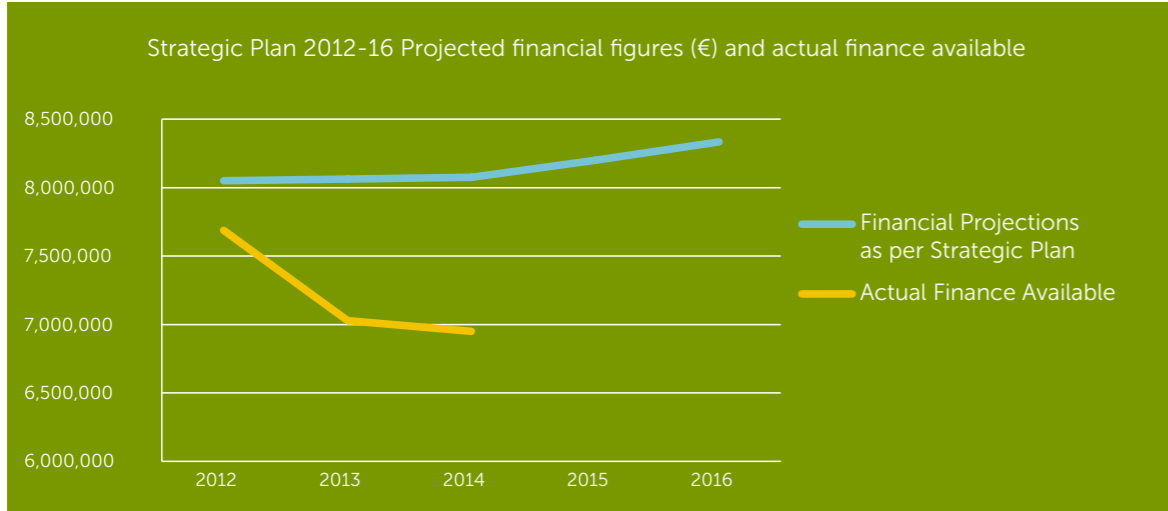
<sup>8</sup> It is the homeplace of Mici Mac Gabhann (1865-1948) who worked as a seasonal labourer on farms in 'The Laggan' and Scotland before emigrating to the United States. Unlike many of his contemporaries, he returned to Ireland and his life story was recorded by the Irish Folklore Commission and published as 'Rotha Mór an tSaoil' / 'The Hard Road to Klondike'.

# HERITAGE COUNCIL BUDGET 2008-2014

## - 'DID YOU KNOW?'

Between 2008 and 2014, the Heritage Council's annual budget was reduced by €15,637,073.

This 72% has had an enormous impact on the Council's ability to plan and deliver much-needed community, education, heritage-related tourism, and physical programmes and initiatives.



### Staff Training in 2014 – Investing in People

The Heritage Council is committed to continuing professional development (CPD) for all staff and to protecting and enhancing staff welfare on a day-to-day basis. Internal and external staff training undertaken in 2014 focused on a wide range of topics, as follows:

- Board Governance (along with Heritage Council Board Members);
- Digital Media Marketing;
- Energy Conservation;
- Health and Safety;
- Information Technology (IT) – Microsoft 8;
- Landscape Management and Landscape in Heritage;
- Lime mortar and lime rendering;
- Planning Law and legislative developments;
- Renewable energy; and
- Urban planning and regeneration.

### Sustainability – ‘Dual Use’ of Heritage Council HQ Building and Overview of Energy Usage in 2014

#### ‘Dual Use’ of HQ Building

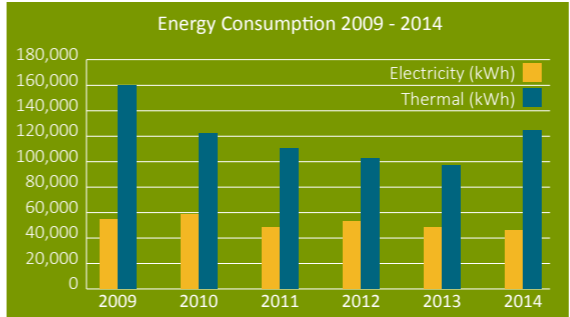
The Heritage Council's national headquarters – Áras na hOidhreacht (formerly the Church of Ireland Bishop's Palace) is a national landmark building and protected structure on an elevated historic site in Kilkenny City Centre within the medieval Cathedral Quarter. The HQ building plays an important role in the daily life of Kilkenny City and is available for use throughout the year by the local community and public bodies as a venue for meetings and events, both during the day and in the evening. A list of organisations that used the Heritage Council facilities in 2014 include (in alphabetical order):

- Allegro Community Orchestra;
- Barnstorm Theatre;
- HSE Health Promotion Department;
- Kilkenny Arts Festival;
- Kilkenny Scouts;
- LEADER Groups;
- Mountaineering Ireland;
- The Butler Gallery; and
- Representative Church Body (RCB) Bishop of Cashel & Ossory, the Right Reverend Michael Burrows.

### HQ Building - Overview of Energy Usage in 2014

The Heritage Council's headquarters dates from the fourteenth-century<sup>9</sup>. The restoration of the building during 2007 took great care in preserving and protecting as much of the original fabric of the building as possible. It is difficult to introduce modern energy-conscious materials to a building of this kind while protecting its history. In 2014, The Heritage Council consumed 170.12 mWh of energy, consisting of **47.1 mWh of electricity and 123.02 mWh of fossil fuels (Natural Gas)**.

Although the energy use for 2014 is up on the previous two years, it is still in line to meet the 2020 deadline for a 33% reduction on the 2009 baseline. Energy usage is illustrated in the diagrams below.



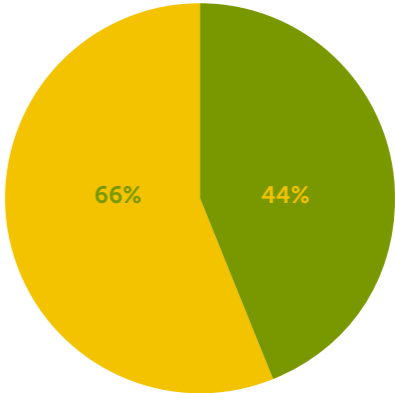
### HQ Energy Actions Planned for 2015

Council continues to strive to implement energy-saving and efficiency practices at its Headquarters in Kilkenny, which it has already accrued in recent years, and to encourage sustainable modes of travel by its staff and contractors. In pursuit of reducing its overall energy consumption and following on from the Energy Audit for the HQ undertaken in 2014, Council will introduce a Staff Energy Awareness Programme in 2015 to support National and EU Climate Change and Energy Policies.

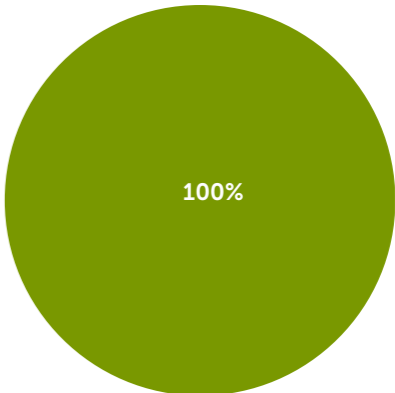
### Sustainable Travel - Heritage Council Travel to Work Area (TTWA) and Mode of Travel

The Heritage Council has a travel to work area (TTWA) which includes County Wicklow and County Carlow in the East, Wexford Town in the south east, and Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny, in the south.

- 44% of the Heritage Council Team (8 out of 18 staff members (including an intern) walk, cycle, or get a lift to work either all year or during part of the year; and



- 100% of the Heritage Council Team (6 out of 6 staff members) who live in Kilkenny City walk, cycle or get a lift to work.



The number of overall Heritage Council staff cycling to work has increased in recent years due to the Cycle to Work Scheme, which was introduced by the Irish Government in 2009.

<sup>9</sup> Heritage Council HQ – Record of Protected Structures (RPS) Ref. B19 and NIAH Ref. 12003011 and 12003012.

## JANUARY

- Local Authority County/City Heritage Plan funding assessments undertaken for 2014.
- Launch of *Heritage Council's Assessment of Possible Fiscal Incentives in Relation to the Built Heritage in Ireland's Towns* report by Minister Deenihan T.D. in Dublin.
- Assessment of REPS4 Traditional Farm Building Scheme (TFBS) Grant applications for 2014.

## FEBRUARY

- Approval of REPS4 Traditional Farm Building Scheme grants & County/City Heritage Plan Projects 2014.
- Heritage Council wins the IPI's National Planning Award at Dublin Castle for Innovative Planning Practices and Procedures for its Community-led VDS Toolkit.
- Planning input at NESC Stakeholder Workshop – Renewable Energy.
- Submission of abstract on Repairing Old Farm Buildings as a means of conserving the Irish Rural Landscape, re. 18th ICOMOS General Assembly in Italy, on Heritage and Landscape as Human Values.
- 2014-2020 Rural Development Programme (RDP) policy submission.
- Irish Walled Towns Network (IWTN) AGM in Dublin and publication of IWTN's Third 3-Year Action Plan.

## JULY

- Mid-term review of the Heritage Council's Strategic Plan 2011-2016 concludes – findings presented to the Heritage Council Board.
- Final Draft of the Conservation Plan for the State-owned lands at the historic Hill of Tara, Co. Meath is submitted to the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht by joint consultative group consisting of: Discovery Programme, Meath County Council, National Monuments Service, and Office of Public Works (OPW).
- Mazars Final Report, Heritage Council Grant Administration Review issued and presented to Council.

## AUGUST

- National Heritage Week 2014 – 23rd to 31st August – 'Discover the Past. Build the Future...'
- 1,800 events held and 300,000 people take part in Heritage Week 2014, many for the first time.
- IWTN Walled Towns Day attracts over 40,000 people, mostly during Heritage Week.
- IWTN-supported Kilkenny Pop up Museum runs throughout August to explore alternatives to heritage centres in historic towns.
- Open Day at Clonmines deserted medieval town in Co. Wexford. A survey and condition assessment is funded under the 2014 Heritage Management Grants Scheme.

## MARCH

- JPICH Steering Committee meetings in Rome – Ireland represented by the Heritage Council.
- MSPI Advisory Group Meeting at RIA, Dublin.
- Joint briefing for public sector colleagues with Coillte on Public Value of our forests in RIA.
- Joint briefing for TDs and Senators with Coillte on Public Value of our forests at Buswells Hotel.
- Official Launch of National Pilgrim Paths Day in St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin.

## SEPTEMBER

- Four-day visit by Kosovo delegation to Heritage Council to learn about heritage management best practice and exchange.
- IWTN Paper at Best of Heritage Event, Dubrovnik. IWTN's Education Programme inducted into the Europa Nostra Excellence Club.
- Julianstown, Co. Meath, (National Pilot for the CLVDS Toolkit) wins National Tree Council Award.
- Europarc Conference in Killarney, Co. Kerry<sup>11</sup>.
- Meeting with Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council re. review of County Development Plan.
- Heritage Council mans stand at the National Ploughing Championship in Co. Laois.
- Ongoing support/care for landowners/ archaeological monuments through the Field Monument Advisors in Fingal, Galway and Clare.
- [www.heritageportal.eu](http://www.heritageportal.eu) reaches 300,000 page views.

## APRIL

- Presentation of paper at the IPI National Planning Conference, Limerick, on the award-winning Community-led VDS Toolkit & Multi-disciplinary Training Workshop for 100 people.
- Workshop organised by the Heritage Council in association with Archaeology Scotland on the development of an Adopt a Monument Programme in Ireland.
- National Pilgrim Paths Day – 19th April.

## MAY

- Blacksmith training event in Tipperary as part of the ICOMOS Ireland vernacular national sub-committee annual field trip.

## OCTOBER

- IWTN publishes summary of NUIM Geography students' research on tourism in Trim.
- IWTN runs two 1-day town wall maintenance courses in Drimnagh Castle, Dublin.
- Heritage Council takes part in South Dublin County Council's Key Stakeholder Workshop entitled – A Vision for South Dublin's Future part of the review of the County Development Plan.
- Presentation of IWTN paper at Fingal County Council's Cultural Tourism Conference entitled: Heritage Interpretation for Historic Towns.
- Submission by the Heritage Council on the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of Ireland's Forestry Programme 2014-2020.
- Engagement with Eirgrid in relation to Community-led VDS Toolkit and effective methods for public participation in planning.

## NOVEMBER

- Traditional Skills training day in partnership with Teagasc on a REPS4 grant applicant's farm in Co. Laois – 60 attendees.
- Hot lime & clay mortars workshop in partnership with the Building Limes Forum of Ireland, Drimnagh Castle – 70 attendees.
- Presentation of paper Repairing Old Farm Buildings as a means of conserving the Irish Rural Landscape at the 18th ICOMOS General Assembly in Italy.
- EU Life+ Peatlands Strategy Planning Workshop organised by the HC in Athlone for the Border Midlands Region's Planners.
- Solving our Own Problems IWTN workshop event in Carrick-on-Suir.
- Student Historic Towns Research Awards Ceremony held at the RIA, Dublin.

## JUNE

- Planning input at NESC Workshop on Renewable Energy and formal launch of NESC Report 'Wind Energy in Ireland: Building Community Engagement and Social Support.
- IWTN runs two-day training course for community groups – How to be a Tour Guide!
- Heritage Council reps visit the three pilot towns in the Historic Towns Initiative (HTI) – Listowel, Westport & Youghal.
- A pair of rare Barn Owls with a clutch of chicks discovered as a result of a survey carried out under the REPS4 TFBS.
- 1st Meeting of Irish JPI representatives at DJEI – JPICH represented by the Heritage Council.

## DECEMBER

- Meeting with Wicklow County Council re. review of County Development Plan.
- DIT Planning & WIT Architecture Students conduct IWTN-supported research in Carrick-on-Suir and New Ross, respectively.
- Bored of Boards: Ideas for Interpreting Heritage Sites is published by the IWTN.
- Solving Your Own Problems Report, including a template enabling other towns to run their own workshop, is published by the IWTN.
- Heritage Council represented at Ireland-Scotland Archaeological Collaboration Opportunities Workshop in Edinburgh Castle.
- Submission to An Bord Pleanála re. proposed Emlagh Windfarm in Co. Meath<sup>12</sup>
- Ongoing engagement with EirGrid re. effective methods for public participation in planning.

## 2 OUR PERFORMANCE IN 2014 – NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL AWARDS RECEIVED BY THE HERITAGE COUNCIL

The Heritage Council was conferred with the following national and international awards in 2014:

1. Irish Planning Institute (IPI), National Planning Award for Innovative Planning Practices and Procedures, presented by Minister O'Dowd T.D. at Dublin Castle, February 2014; and
2. Best in Heritage Event (in partnership with EU Europa Nostra) in Dubrovnik – IWTN Education Programme inducted into the Excellence Club, September 2014.



**1. Irish Planning Institute (IPI), National Planning Award for Innovative Planning Practices and Procedures, presented by Minister Fergus O'Dowd T.D. at Dublin Castle, February 2014**

In February 2014, the Heritage Council and Partners' Community-led Village Design Statements in Ireland Toolkit scooped the National Award for Innovative Planning Practices and Procedures at the Irish Planning Institute's National Planning Awards Ceremony held in Dublin Castle. The Irish Planning Institute's National Planning Awards, which are held every two years, seek to recognise and celebrate outstanding planning achievements in Ireland and internationally. The IPI Awards honour recent programmes, plans and projects, which have made an outstanding contribution to the quality of life in urban and rural Ireland and further afield. The Community-led LVDS Toolkit (100 pages) and accompanying multidisciplinary Toolkit Training Workshop for 100 people (which was over-subscribed) were developed by the Heritage Council in collaboration with the local village communities in Julianstown (rural pilot) and Sandymount (urban pilot) along with Meath County Council and Dublin City Council.



For further information on the Irish Planning Institute's National Planning Awards, please contact the IPI HQ at [info@ipi.ie](mailto:info@ipi.ie) or visit their website – [www.ipi.ie](http://www.ipi.ie)



Photo L to R: Clare Burke, Emer Dolphin, Niamh Bn Ui Loinsigh (all Julianstown and District Community Association/JDCA), Mary Crowley (President of IPI), Alison Harvey (Heritage Council & Author of CLVDS Toolkit), Minister for State Fergus O'Dowd T.D., Jackie O'Shea (JDCA), IPI Award Sponsors: Dara Keogh (General Manager, GeoDirectory) and Conor Linehan (William Fry Solicitors). Photograph reproduced courtesy of the Irish Planning Institute.



**2. Best in Heritage Event (in partnership with EU Europa Nostra) in Dubrovnik – IWTN Education Programme inducted into the Excellence Club, September 2014**

In September 2014, the Education Programme of the Irish Walled Towns Network (IWTN) was inducted into the Excellence Club at the Europa Nostra Best in Heritage event in Dubrovnik. Best in Heritage is the only international survey of award-winning museum, heritage and conservation projects. Each year, 24 projects are invited to present a paper and be inducted. The IWTN's Education Programme is the first Heritage Council initiative to be entered and to receive this honour.

The objective of the IWTN Education Programme is to develop a more tangible and sustainable bond between people living in medieval and/or walled towns and the heritage and historic landscape that surrounds them. The programme is aimed at communities and professionals living within IWTN member towns and focuses on three key areas: conservation; town centre economy/planning; and heritage tourism/community group development.



For further information on the Europa Nostra Awards, please contact the secretariat at [info@europanostra.org](mailto:info@europanostra.org) or visit their website – [www.europanostra.org](http://www.europanostra.org)



Photo: IWTN Project Manager Liam Mannix takes part in the Best of Heritage Event in Dubrovnik.



## 3 2014 KEY HIGHLIGHTS – POLICY ADVICE, PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

Mount Errigal Donegal

Despite ongoing budgetary and staff reductions in 2014, the Heritage Council continued to support, promote, and enhance Ireland's unique, world-renowned national heritage by focusing on its four key objectives of supporting employment and job creation, education and awareness, supporting heritage-based tourism, and modern frameworks and mechanisms. Information on key highlights in 2014 is provided below.

### HC OBJECTIVE NO. 1 - SUPPORTING EMPLOYMENT AND JOB CREATION

The Heritage Council awarded €2.8m in the Heritage Council National Grants Programme in 2014.

In 2014, the Heritage Council supported 84 heritage-related projects undertaken by Local Authority Heritage Officers in partnership with local stakeholders - these projects totalling €634,845 gave significant support to local economic and community development throughout the state.

Council continues to advocate for fiscal support for Ireland's unique built heritage and launched a detailed report entitled **Assessment of Possible Fiscal Incentives in Relation to the Built Heritage in Ireland's Towns** in January 2014.

Building on the successful inaugural colloquium in 2012 and the setting up of a **Traditional Building Skills Working (TBSW) Group** in 2013, Council further developed its TBSW Group in 2014 by the commissioning of research into the Irish Labour Market in Construction Conservation.

Council also continued to invest in the enhancement and promotion of Ireland's historic medieval walled and fortified towns through its all-island **Irish Walled Towns Network (IWTN)**. During 2014, 37 projects (e.g. conservation, festivals and educational activities) were undertaken in 24 historic walled towns. The IWTN published its third **Three Year Action Plan 2014-2016** in February 2014 and held its inaugural Student Historic Towns Research Awards Ceremony in the Royal Irish Academy (RIA, Dublin) in November.

Approximately €545,000 was invested in the **REPS 4 Traditional Farm Buildings Grant Scheme** in 2014 to ensure that traditional farm buildings, which play such a positive role in the scenery and landscape of our country, continue to be used to serve as cultural and economic assets for the benefit and enjoyment of all.



## HC OBJECTIVE NO. 2 - SUPPORTING EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

Council invested €240,000 in the **Heritage in Schools Scheme (HIS)** in 2014 - 865 schools took part during 2014 and the scheme involved **96,644 pupils** and **2,001 school visits** by heritage experts – up from 1,331 visits in 2013 - a **50% increase**. The scheme exceeded all expectations in 2014 with funding running out after seven months and, as a result, further bookings from schools had to be suspended from September 2014!

Collaboration with **Third-level Institutes** continued throughout 2014 with the Heritage Council working to progress the design & delivery of heritage-related courses at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

The all-island **Irish Walled Towns Network (IWTN)** delivered five training events during the year including the innovative two-day workshop in Carrick-on-Suir entitled *Solving our Own Problems*. A report on the workshop event (with a template transferable to other towns) and an advisory booklet – *Bored of Boards: Ideas for interpreting heritage sites* were both published in December. Approximately 200 people attended IWTN training events in 2014 and the IWTN Education Programme was inducted into the Best of Heritage Event in Dubrovnik in September 2014.

Through its continued involvement in the **EU Joint Programming Initiative (JPI)** on Cultural Heritage during 2014, the Heritage Council funded a research team at University College Dublin (UCD) to collaborate on a trans-national research project entitled *SHUC: A Sustainable Future for the Historic Urban Core*.

The Heritage Council continued to support **Conservation Internships** in The National Gallery of Ireland, The National Library of Ireland, Chester Beatty Library, and the Old Library, Trinity College. Council also supported a partnership between the National Archives of Ireland and the Valuation Office.

The Heritage Council's **Social Media Activities (i.e. Facebook and Twitter)** and hence Council's global reach, increased substantially during 2014. For example, the recorded 'likes' on the Heritage Council's Facebook page went from 4,029 at the start of the year to 4,997 by year end – **an enormous increase of approximately 25%** during 2014. Our Twitter followers @HeritageHubIRE also increased from 1,921 at the start of the year to 3,025 by the end of 2014 – representing a **57% increase**.

## HC OBJECTIVE NO. 3 - SUPPORTING HERITAGE-BASED TOURISM

**National Heritage Week 2014** experienced an overall increase in activities for the seventh year in a row despite a reduced budget and appalling weather. In total, 1,800 events took place - up 5% from 2013. Interestingly 16% of people in 2014 were taking part for the first time. Overall, 300,000 people took part in Heritage Week 2014.

Collaboration on the management and promotion of historic towns for the benefit of both locals and visitors continued in 2014 with all three of the **Historic Towns Initiative's** pilot projects in Listowel, Westport and Youghal preparing HTI Action Plans. The HTI is a partnership between the Heritage Council, the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, and Fáilte Ireland.

**Irish Walled Towns Days** festivals and celebrations across the island of Ireland in 2014 were the largest yet with 18 walled towns and 40,000 people taking part in IWTN-sponsored festivals. Tourism-related training workshops/seminars were held and the IWTN also assisted a visionary project in Galway to create a medieval wing at the city museum.

The **Museums Standards Programme for Ireland (MSPI)** saw the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland and the Little Museum of Dublin join MSPI in 2014; bringing the total number of participating sites on the island of Ireland to 59 by the end of 2014.

**Hill of Tara Conservation Plan** – the final draft of a Conservation Plan for the State-owned archaeological complex at the Hill of Tara (Cnoc na Teamhrach), Co Meath, was submitted to the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht in July 2014. A joint consultative group, made up of representatives from the Discovery Programme, Meath County Council, Heritage Council, National Monument Service and Office of Public Works (OPW), oversaw the preparation of the plan, which sets out a wide range of actions to retain and promote the significance of the iconic Hill of Tara, both nationally and internationally.

## HC OBJECTIVE NO. 4 - SUPPORTING MODERN FRAMEWORKS AND MECHANISMS

The Heritage Council undertook a comprehensive review of its grant schemes and grant policy in 2014. An *Action Plan* was prepared and will be implemented based on available resources.

Through its ongoing involvement in the **EU Joint Programming Initiative (JPI) on Cultural Heritage**, the Heritage Council continued to manage the Heritage Portal Website – [www.heritageportal.eu](http://www.heritageportal.eu) – on behalf of the JPICH Consortium. Visitor numbers to the European Heritage Portal website, as well as to its associated social media pages, continued to grow substantially in 2014 reaching 300,000 page views.

Council's award-winning **Community-led Village Design Statements in Ireland Toolkit (CLVDS)** continued to be rolled out at a national, regional and local level. Local Authorities, Tidy Towns Groups, the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI), and EirGrid are all using the 100-page step-by-step Toolkit. Council was also invited to present papers on the CLVDS Toolkit at the National Tidy Towns Conference in Fermoy, Co. Cork in February and at the Irish Planning Institute's National Planning Conference in Limerick in April 2014.

Promotion of emerging technologies continued in 2014 with further investment in the **GIS Heritage Maps**, a web-based geographical information system (GIS) for spatial heritage data, i.e. built, cultural and natural, around Ireland and off shore.

Council made another detailed policy submission in early 2014 to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in relation to the public consultation as part of the formulation of a new **Rural Development Programme (RDP) 2014-2020**.

In September 2014, the Heritage Council was invited to organise and facilitate a spatial planning and project management (PM) workshop for the proposed **EU Life+ Peatlands Strategy for the Border Midlands Area**. The workshop was held with planners from the region's local authorities in Athlone in November 2014 - work will continue in 2015 with the new regional assemblies.

**ICOMOS General Assembly** – In November 2014, Council delivered a paper on the REPS4 Traditional Farm Building Grant Scheme at the ICOMOS Triennial General Assembly and Scientific Symposium in Florence, Italy. The paper was entitled '**Repairing old farm buildings as a means of conserving the Irish rural landscape**'.

**National, Regional and Local Policy Submissions** were prepared/meetings held throughout 2014 in relation to the formulation/preparation of:

- **Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2016-2022;**
- **SEA of Ireland's Forestry Programme 2014-2020;**
- **Section 28 Development Management Guidelines (Section 28 P&D Act 2000, as amended);**
- **South Dublin County Development Plan 2016-2022; and**
- **Wicklow County Development Plan 2016-2022.**

In addition, the Heritage Council took part in two stakeholder NESC Renewable Energy Workshops (February & June 2014), was invited by EirGrid in October 2014 to engage in relation to best practice heritage management and public participation in spatial planning, and also met regularly with the Environmental Protection Agency's Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Unit throughout 2014 in relation to Best Practice SEA for Land-use Plans in Ireland<sup>13</sup>.

<sup>13</sup> According to research undertaken by the EPA's SEA Unit in 2013, 82% of all SEAs prepared in Ireland relate to land-use plans.



## 4 SUPPORTING EMPLOYMENT AND JOB CREATION (HC OBJECTIVE NO. 1)

*Launch of Cork Heritage Open Day in St Luke's Church  
L to R Niamh Twomey Heritage Officer, Tom Higgins, Robert Higgins and Theo Dorgan poet and writer*

The Heritage Council's day-to-day operations and activities focus on the strategic objectives of supporting employment and job creation, education and awareness, heritage-based tourism, and supporting modern frameworks and mechanisms. An overview of core activities undertaken in 2013 in relation to supporting employment and job creation is set out below.

### **4.1 Local Authority Heritage Officers Programme (LAHOP)**

The Local Authority Heritage Officers Programme has been a tremendous success since its inception in the late 1990s. The national programme enables the Heritage Council to provide a well-structured and co-ordinated heritage service at a county and local level in partnership with 27 local authorities<sup>14</sup>. Heritage Officers are employed in local authorities throughout the country, giving the Heritage Council a much-needed interface and connection with local community and environmental groups in accordance with the UNECE Aarhus Convention. Contact details for all the Heritage Officers are provided on the inside rear cover of this annual report.

<sup>14</sup> The following local authorities were without a Heritage Officer Post in 2014: Carlow, Leitrim, Westmeath and Wexford (Leitrim County Council employed a Heritage Officer from January 2015).



Local authorities have formally adopted county and city heritage plans (CHPs) and their formulation and implementation is co-ordinated by Heritage Officers in conjunction with County Heritage Forums (fora). In 2014, the Heritage Council supported 84 heritage-related programmes and projects, which were project managed by Local Authority Heritage Officers in partnership with local stakeholders. These projects - totalling €634,845 - gave significant support to local economic and community development throughout the state. County and city heritage programmes and projects supported by the Council in 2014 include (but are not limited to) the following:

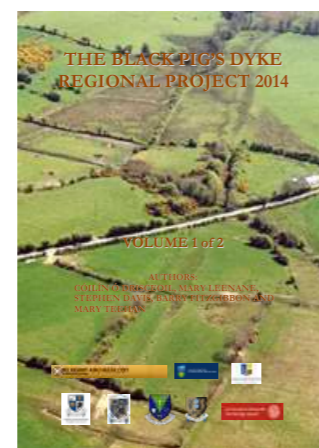
- Audio Guide for Sligo City Heritage Trail;
- Black Pigs Dyke Regional Project – Cavan, Longford, Monaghan and Roscommon;
- Cork City Heritage Open Day and Heritage Week 2014;
- County Dublin Archaeology GIS Project;
- County Kildare Habitat Mapping;
- DRAWN – Built Heritage Awareness Programme in Monaghan, 2014;
- Exploring Wicklow's Viking Heritage;
- Fingal Industrial Heritage Project;
- Heritage Interpretation with the local community on the Wild Atlantic Way;
- 20th Century Architecture in Dublin City;
- Kilkenny City Walls – Medieval Talbot's Tower Interpretative Signage (6 no. boards);
- Longford and the Great War Commemoration Project;
- Lough Derg Management Project – Clare, Galway and Tipperary County Councils' Partnership;
- Louth Wetland and Hedgerow Surveys;
- People and Nature: Galway County Biodiversity Project;
- Preban Graveyard Project, Wicklow;
- River Suir Heritage Audit; and
- The Holy Wells of Waterford.

Five LAHOP projects are examined in greater detail below in order to show the range and depth of these heritage projects and, crucially, to show the involvement and to demonstrate the role of the local population working in partnership with local authority Heritage Officers and other heritage experts. The sample projects are as follows:

1. Black Pigs Dyke Regional Project – Cavan, Monaghan, Leitrim, Armagh and Down;
2. Cork City Heritage Open Day and Heritage Week 2014;
3. DRAWN – Built Heritage Awareness Programme in Monaghan, 2014;
4. Kilkenny City Walls – Medieval Talbot's Tower Interpretative Signage (6 No. boards); and
5. Lough Derg Management Programme – Clare, Galway, and Tipperary County Councils and Heritage Council Partnership.

#### 1. Black Pigs Dyke Regional Project - Cavan, Monaghan, Leitrim, Armagh and Down

In 2014, Cavan, Longford, Monaghan and Roscommon County Councils commissioned an expert team comprising Kilkenny Archaeology, UCD and NUIM to undertake a project to collate and research the earthworks associated with the Black Pigs Dyke in the Border Region. This is the first time in Ireland that the earthworks have been examined from a regional perspective, and using aerial, available Lidar and some geophysical survey work, a new picture is emerging of the significance of these earthworks.



The earthworks research project has been groundbreaking and thorough. Part of the work was to look at the feasibility of establishing a multi-layered cultural project for the Border Region, and accessing EU Funding. This innovative cross-border project is continuing with Heritage Council funding in 2015.

**This project was undertaken with financial assistance from the Heritage Council Local Authority Heritage Officers Programme 2014.**

#### 2. Cork City Heritage Open Day and Heritage Week 2014

Cork Heritage Open Day, which began when Cork was European Capital of Culture in 2005, was held on Saturday 23rd August 2014 to celebrate 10 years of unique insights into Cork City's rich built heritage. Beginning with just 20 buildings and 5,000 visitors in 2005, the Open Day event has grown year-on-year to include a record 40 iconic buildings, an extensive programme of events and over 25,000 visitors in 2014.

The open day is part of National Heritage Week and is supported by the Heritage Council and Cork City Council. Theo Dorgan, acclaimed poet and writer launched Cork City Heritage Open Day 2014 along with Cork City Council's Heritage Officer.

Landmark buildings that were open to the public included: Cork Circuit Court House, Cork City Hall, Cork Savings Bank, AIB Bank, Ambassador Hotel, Fitzgerald House, the Masonic Hall and University College Cork. Many of Cork's historic churches, which are steeped in history and heritage, also opened their doors including: Cork Baptist Church, St Anne's Church, St Fin Barre's Church, the Quaker Meeting House and Graveyard. Cork Heritage Open Day also involved puppet shows for children, Water Heritage Open Day at the Living Lab, a replica WWI trench in the Cork Public Museum, a Children's Open Day Treasure Hunt and the Coal Quay Family Festival.

**This project was undertaken with financial assistance from the Heritage Council Local Authority Heritage Officers Programme.**



#### 3. DRAWN – Built Heritage Awareness Programme in Monaghan, 2014

During 2014, Monaghan County Council Heritage Office concentrated on one key aspect of heritage (as defined by the Heritage Act 1995) for communications and public awareness and delivered this through one branded programme entitled **DRAWN**. Programme events included six illustrated talks, held mid-week in the Market House, Monaghan, commencing in March and a full-day seminar in May which concentrated on built heritage and best practice conservation.



Attendance at DRAWN was excellent, with 40 people on average attending each of the six illustrated talks, and 60 people attending the May seminar. The DRAWN series was hugely successful in building awareness and understanding locally of the quality, variety and importance of Monaghan's built heritage. The programme also created an audience nationally for the architectural heritage of County Monaghan through its promotion by the national agencies and their involvement as expert speakers in DRAWN. The thematic nature of the public awareness programme for 2014 was useful in building capacity and momentum for this area of heritage in the county. DRAWN concentrated minds, and allowed for better knowledge transfer, exchange and discussion among participants. The involvement of key national figures as speakers at events also helped to galvanise the overall understanding of the 'value' of the unique and rich built heritage within County Monaghan.

**This project was undertaken with financial assistance from the Heritage Council Local Authority Heritage Officers Programme.**

4. Kilkenny City Walls – Medieval Talbot’s Tower Interpretative Signage (6 no. boards)

Talbot's Tower (c. thirteenth-century) is regarded as the most significant and impressive upstanding historic building within the Medieval Kilkenny City Walls circuit. The Kilkenny City Walls Conservation Plan, commissioned in 2005 by the Heritage Council in partnership with Kilkenny Borough Council, set out a clear framework for its conservation. Work on the conservation and repair of Talbot's Tower began in 2007 with funding from the Irish Walled Towns Network (IWTN) in partnership with Kilkenny Local Authorities.

The conservation project, which has been undertaken on a phased-basis as funding allowed, involved a multi-disciplinary team of engineers, conservation architects, archaeologists, building archaeologists, archaeobotanists, Heritage and Conservation Officers and stone masons. The conservation and repair works to Talbot's Tower were completed in early 2014 and the final phase of the project, Landscaping and Interpretative Signage, are on-going. Funding from the IWTN and Kilkenny County Council in 2014 was used to research and design 6 no. interpretive panels (in English and Irish), as illustrated below:



This project was undertaken with financial assistance from the Heritage Council Local Authority Heritage Officers Programme.

5. Lough Derg Management Programme – Clare, Galway and Tipperary County Councils, and Heritage Council Partnership

Heritage Officers from Clare, Galway and Tipperary County Councils in partnership with the Heritage Council developed this project to increase the public awareness of the rich heritage value of Lough Derg and to enhance the overall visitor experience. A Natural Heritage Trail publication was prepared and published in 2014. The purpose of the nature trail is to highlight the rich natural biodiversity of Lough Derg, to promote knowledge and awareness of these sites, and to encourage locals and visitors to engage with the biodiversity of the area.

The 2014 trail publication will complement the Lough Derg (on the Shannon) Heritage Trail brochure and app produced in 2013, which focused on historical and archaeological sites around Lough Derg. The Heritage Officers held social media training for local communities around Lough Derg and also worked on an EU Life application for Lough Derg during 2014, which will progress in 2015.



This project was undertaken with financial assistance from the Heritage Council Local Authority Heritage Officers Programme.

4.2 REPS 4 Traditional Farm Buildings Grant Scheme

The hugely popular REPS 4 Traditional Farm Buildings Grant scheme, which was set up in 2008, is managed by the Heritage Council in partnership with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. The programme recognises the significance and value that traditional farm buildings, often of humble construction, make to the unique character and distinctiveness of the Irish landscape. When repaired, the beneficial effects of the scheme includes positive support for the management of our landscape, conservation of a cultural and economic asset, and the fostering of traditional building skills as well as the protection of natural habitats and endangered species including various types of bats, birds and owls.

4.3 Traditional Building Skills Working (TBSW) Group

In 2014, Council's Traditional Building Skills Working (TBSW) Group commissioned *Research on the Irish labour market in Construction Conservation*, which was carried out by Maol Íosa Molloy and Associates, Architects. This established an evidence base for policy proposals on training to improve the provision of craft skills for heritage building conservation. It is effectively a critical review of the Irish construction industry to establish how it meets the needs of the built heritage sector. The initial methodology to collect statistical/quantitative data proved to be of limited efficacy; however, the in-depth interview techniques used by the authors has yielded qualitative data that presents a robust evidence base and a sound basis for the conclusions and recommendations reached.



4.4 Assessment of Possible Fiscal Incentives in Relation to the Built Heritage in Ireland's Towns

As a result of the challenge set out by the Secretary General of the Department of Finance at the launch of the Heritage Council report in January 2014 - *Assessment of Possible Fiscal Incentives in Relation to the Built Heritage in Ireland's Towns*, to 'spell out the instrumental benefits of heritage-led urban renewal for Irish society and economic recovery', Council in response drew up a policy document on *The Heritage Value of Small- to Medium-sized Towns*. This document sets out the case for the intangible heritage value of the vitality of smaller towns, and provides six high-level recommendations for improving their prognosis. The report emerged from the deliberations of an Urban Policy Working Group, which met on four occasions during 2014 to discuss the issues, tease out requirements and to formulate solutions.

4.5 Irish Walled Towns Network (IWTN)

The Heritage Council established the all-island Irish Walled Towns Network in April 2005 to unite and co-ordinate the strategic efforts of local authorities involved in the management, conservation and enhancement of historic walled towns in Ireland, both north and south. The IWTN is formally linked to European Walled Towns, the international association for the sustainable development of walled and fortified towns and cities. In 2014 the IWTN funded seven major conservation projects. This helped to directly support the jobs of conservation practitioners. All seven conservation projects were obliged to conduct at least three community information actions including open days, press releases, signage, and social media updates. In 2014, the IWTN grant-aided 37 projects (e.g. conservation, festivals and educational activities) in 24 towns and cities.



Heritage Infrastructure	Heritage Element	Location/Base	HC Funding in 2014 (€)	2014 %
1. Bere Island	Cultural Landscapes/ Seascapes	Bere Island, Co. Cork	20,000	1.1
2. Burrenbeo Trust	Cultural Landscapes and Biodiversity	Kinvara, Co. Galway	25,000	1.4
3. Discovery Programme	Archaeology	Dublin	750,000	40.9
4. Ireland Reaching Out	Genealogy	Loughrea, Co. Galway	30,745	1.7
5. Irish Landmark Trust	Built Heritage and Landscapes/Seascapes	Dublin	220,000	12.0
6. National Biodiversity Data Centre	Biodiversity	Waterford	683,272	37.3
7. Wicklow Uplands Council	Cultural Landscapes	Roundwood, Co. Wicklow	65,000	3.5
8. Woodlands of Ireland	Native Woodland Species	Murrough, Co. Wicklow	40,000	2.2
Total			1,834,017	100

4.6 Supporting Innovative National and Regional Heritage Infrastructure in Ireland

Council continues to support a number of important innovative heritage organisations at a national and regional level that are dedicated to the creative management, promotion and enjoyment of our National Heritage. These organisations contribute to productive employment and job creation in the public, private and voluntary sectors and include:

1. Bere Island - [www.bereisland.net](http://www.bereisland.net)

Bere Island had a busy year in 2014 including ongoing conservation work to open up the historic *Lonehort* Battery to the public. A number of professionals, including welders and a wood conservationist, visited the site to advise on essential safety and restoration work. A draft of 'The Lonehort Story' was written, which will form the blueprint for all tour guides. Working with island B&Bs, and ferry operators, a package deal was set up and four walking weekends were arranged, which brought 100+ visitors to the island. As part of the weekend, guided walks were arranged taking in both the island's military and megalithic history. As part of Heritage Week 2014, a guided nature walk and talks were held on beekeeping and the 70th Anniversary of The Holocaust. A plan was also drawn up to create a Bere Island genealogy database, which is intended to encourage the Irish Diaspora to visit the island and trace their island connections. Liaising with the island's marine businesses a Bere Island Marketing Plan was also put together to promote the island as a centre of excellence for marine salvage and repairs. This Plan will benefit not only the marine businesses but also ancillary services, e.g. ferries, restaurants and B&Bs, who accommodate visiting crews.

During the summer, two performances of the West Cork Fit Up Theatre Festival were held, which reached an audience of 150 people, many travelling from the mainland and availing of a special package arrangement, i.e. the ferry operator and local restaurants collaborated to provide a 'Pre-theatre Dinner Package'. An audit was carried out on island signage and recommendations made for a unified and cohesive design style.

Support for the Bere Island Aquaculture Co-operative (BIAC) continued during 2014 - the group cultivate oysters and members have recently put down seaweed lines. There are currently seven islanders involved in BIAC. A project to plant 5,000 trees on Ardagh Hill, as a living memorial to all the Irish who lost their lives in WWI, also commenced. This project, with Cork County Council and the Department of Defence, will have a positive impact on island tourism.

2. Burrenbeo Trust [www.burrenbeo.com](http://www.burrenbeo.com)

Burrenbeo Trust is a landscape charity that works tirelessly to promote the Burren and its people under the common goal of working towards the future sustainable management of the region. The Trust works inclusively, 'to unlock the potential of the Burren as Ireland's ultimate learning landscape and outdoor classroom'. It relies on membership fees, donations, grants, and on over 90 active conservation volunteers to carry out an extensive programme promoting the unique landscape and place, local traditions, and heritage of the Burren. Key aspects of activities in 2014 included education and information provision, local community and economy, advocacy and research, as set out below.

Local Economy and Networks

Local suppliers and local businesses are promoted by the Trust through its dedicated website and newsletters. In 2014, the Trust spent circa €90,000 in the local economy (75% of total expenditure) and employed one full-time and two part-time staff. The estimated value, i.e. social capital, of total professional input/voluntary hours contributed by volunteers (aside from conservation volunteers) to the work of the Trust in 2014 was €134,000 – an 11% increase from 2013. Burrenbeo Trust's third Learning Landscape Symposium in July 2014, for approx 60 people, was about Reconnecting People with Place. A highly successful community-led Burren Winterage Weekend was organised for the second year in a row during the October bank holiday, which included the first ever Burren Winterage School. This comprised walks and talks, a panel debate e.g. Farming on the Edge, displays and demonstrations of local traditions, food markets and fayres, and stories and song.



Information and Publications

Burrenbeo's information events included monthly heritage walks in the Burren. The 7th and final issue of the high-quality annual magazine *Burren Insight* was published along with a series of Field Guides, on archaeology and biodiversity in the Burren, which required a second print run i.e. 2,000 copies in total. A free monthly e-Newsletter was also distributed to over 4,000 people. The Trust's website is a critical knowledge, information and promotional tool. During 2014, the Trust experienced a huge increase in activity on social media outlets such as Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

Advocacy

Burrenbeo Trust promotes the Burren regionally, nationally and internationally. As lead partner in the Burren Community Charter, the Trust has been instrumental in making representations and preparing submissions to government in collaboration with its partners, on behalf of the Burren community. In addition, the Charter hosted the first Change X Burren Project in Ireland in 2014, which looked at solutions to community needs in the region.

Awareness and Education

As well as delivering orientation sessions and workshops for numerous visiting and touring groups, (in the Trust's Centre and in the Burren), the Burrenbeo Trust runs educational initiatives for children and young adults focusing on local heritage, local traditions and place-making. A summary of the Burrenbeo's educational initiatives in 2014 is provided in Appendix A.

3. Discovery Programme - [www.discoveryprogramme.ie](http://www.discoveryprogramme.ie)

The Discovery Programme (DP) is a centre for Irish archaeological research and innovation funded by a core grant from the Heritage Council, EU Programmes, the Irish Research Council and other sources. DP's mission is to explore Ireland's past and its cultural heritage by conducting dedicated research in Irish archaeology and related disciplines. Following on from the launch of its Strategic Plan 2014-2017 in October 2013, DP is currently undergoing a restructuring process to bring its governance into line with new legislation in Irish company law and regulation of charities. Substantial legal work was completed on this during 2014.

During 2014, Discovery Programme's research programme concentrated on **Monastic Ireland AD 1100-1700: landscape and settlement** and **Late**

**Iron Age and 'Roman' Ireland** projects. **Monastic Ireland** is a digital humanities and dedicated research project which seeks to create a comprehensive baseline database of historical information, images, and practical information of the most important late medieval friaries and monasteries in Ireland. The main aim of the website [www.monastic.ie](http://www.monastic.ie) is to provide visitors with access to educational, practical and entertaining information based on high-quality historical and archaeological information. The website was launched by Ms. Heather Humphreys T.D., Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht in December 2014. A second phase of the Monastic Ireland project started in 2013 when the Irish Research Council funded a three-year project for a team to undertake a detailed study of **Monastic Ireland AD1100-1700: landscape and settlement**. The team is led by Dr Rachel Moss, Dept of History of Art and Architecture, TCD, joined by Dr Edel Bhreathnach, Discovery Programme and Dr Malgorzata Krasnodebska-D'Aughton, School of History, UCC. The research concentrates on three strands (i) the transformation of monasticism in Ireland AD1050-1300 (ii) the urban and rural monastic landscape in medieval Ireland, and (iii) the changes to the medieval monastic landscape following the reformation in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

The **Late Iron Age and Roman Ireland (LIARI)** project was established in the Discovery Programme as a multidisciplinary project in 2011 with the objectives of characterising life and death in Ireland in the Late Iron Age (0-500AD) and of understanding Ireland's place on the frontier of the Roman Empire. The team consists of archaeologists, artefact specialists, historians, scientists and surveyors. The project's final report (Discovery Programme Reports 8) was published in December 2014. It contains studies on the Romans and Roman material in Ireland from a social perspective, an analysis of geophysical investigations at Drumanagh and Loughshinny, Co. Dublin, an environmental study of Lough Lugh, Uisneach, Co. Westmeath, and explorations of mobility and migration and landscape and settlement in late Iron Age Ireland.

As part of the Discovery Programme's strategy to engage the public in their heritage and to provide high quality information on Ireland's archaeology and history, a new guide book to **Dún Aonghasa**, the famous stone fort on the Aran Islands, was launched in Galway in July 2014. This innovative guide book was written by Claire Cotter – who excavated Dún Aonghasa and Dún Eoghannachta on Aran – and designed by Ian McCarthy.



#### 4. Ireland Reaching Out – [www.irelandxo.com](http://www.irelandxo.com)

Ireland Reaching Out (Ireland XO) is a volunteer-based, non-profit initiative which builds vibrant, lasting links between the global Irish Diaspora (estimated at 70 million people) and parishes of origin in Ireland. The programme is funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and also receives support and funding from The Heritage Council – it also has close relationships with many state bodies such as the National Library of Ireland and Tourism Ireland, as well as county councils.

The programme is based on a simple idea - Reverse Genealogy. Instead of waiting for people of Irish descent to trace their roots, Ireland XO volunteers worldwide are networking with people of Irish descent in their local areas, helping to build bridges between the present and the past by connecting people with the home parishes of their ancestors. Of the estimated 70 million people of Irish descent living outside of Ireland today, many are unsure of where in Ireland they originate from, or if there are any living relatives still there. Since 2009, **Ireland Reaching Out (Ireland XO)** has helped people of Irish heritage discover their family history and reconnect with their parish of origin.

In 2014, the programme continued to recruit and develop its networks of national and international volunteers, as well as supporting parishes in setting up local Reaching Out groups and enabling them to engage with their own Diaspora. Four 'Reaching Out Together' Roadshow presentations took place in April and May in the following locations: Kilmallock, Longford, Moylough and Portlaoise. Ireland Reaching Out's Heritage Resource Manager detailed the role of Ireland XO and how the programme supports individual parishes through its volunteer network. Approximately 60 people attended these roadshow presentations and they were considered a great success.

During Heritage Week 2014, Ireland XO also presented two local history talks entitled, 'Beyond Parish' and 'Civil Records: 10 Sources for Local and Parish History'. They were promoted on traditional and social media and it is planned to podcast any future talks in order to meet the huge interest from international volunteers and Facebook followers. In December, Ireland XO celebrated the Volunteer of the Year Award by conferring the 2014 title on Roger McDonnell. Roger, the Castlemore, Co. Roscommon Volunteer, will be presented with his award in Washington DC, USA, in early 2015 by the first female Irish Ambassador to the United States - Ms Anne Anderson. Runners-up Volunteers Elwyn Soutter and Col Cafferky will also be honoured. The website [www.IrelandXO.com](http://www.IrelandXO.com) welcomed its 1,000,000th visitor in

2014 and the number of online registered members continues to grow strongly, with an expected 100,000 Full Members of Ireland Reaching Out (Ireland XO) by mid-2015.

#### 5. Irish Landmark Trust - [www.irishlandmark.com](http://www.irishlandmark.com)

Irish Landmark Trust's main aim is the protection of threatened historic buildings in Ireland. A non-profit organisation, and a registered charity, Irish Landmark promotes, for the public benefit, the enjoyment and celebration of these living buildings. Projects are selected against carefully considered criteria - architectural merit of a building, type of building, its place in the social history of its location, and potential to successfully deliver positive results against Irish Landmark's aims. Irish Landmark uses the best available conservation architects, artisans, builders and craftspeople and offers opportunities to revive and safeguard traditional skills that might otherwise be lost.

Properties range from lighthouses and schoolhouses, to castles and gate lodges. The impact is far-reaching, e.g. job creation, conservation projects enhance morale and civic pride of local communities and the tourist revenue accrued from Irish Landmark guests brings cash injections and new energies to areas in which the historic properties are located.

Key activities in 2014 included:

- **Over €100k re-invested in the current Irish Landmark stock of heritage properties, with the knock on effect of additional work for local trades people**
- **A dynamic online property management system put in place;**
- **Continued development of the 'Irish Landmarker' Programme, to develop a solid funding base for Irish Landmark;**
- **Negotiations completed to take on two new properties (one in Cavan, the other in Clare) that will be ready in early 2015;**
- **Partnership with Commissioners of Irish Lights further developed, with the commitment to take on five new properties – all protected structures – on three sites. These projects will also be delivered in 2015.**

#### 6. National Biodiversity Data Centre (NBDC) - [www.biodiversityireland.ie](http://www.biodiversityireland.ie)

The National Biodiversity Data Centre (NBDC), which was established by the Heritage Council in 2007, is a national organisation that collects and manages data to document Ireland's wildlife resource and to track how it is changing. The National Biodiversity Data Centre is funded by the Heritage Council and Department of Arts, Heritage & the Gaeltacht. NBDC employs seven full-time staff, and has an annual core budget of just over €0.5 million per year.

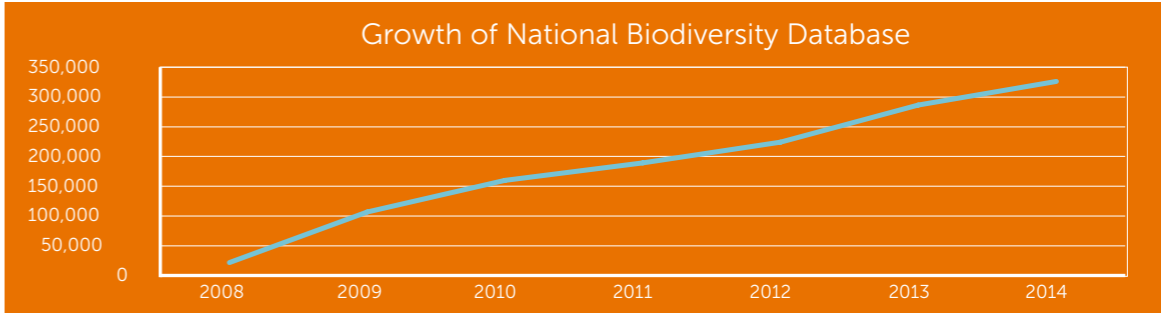
Ireland's biodiversity contributes at least €2.6 billion each year to the Irish economy through services that nature provides, such as soil fertility, nutrient cycling, pollination, water purification, etc. As with any resource, data is needed to document and manage Ireland's biodiversity/natural resource – NBDC provides this national data management service. The centre has established and operates a state-of-the-art data portal **Biodiversity Maps** to provide open access to biodiversity data for both the public and private sectors. As of 2014, this portal provides access to over three million biodiversity records of more than 14,000 species from 105 datasets.

For the first time, detailed electronic maps on all of Ireland's rarest species, i.e. species threatened with extinction, are available on-line to show where these species have been found and how their distribution is changing. This will help with their conservation as 501 species are known to be threatened with extinction in Ireland. For some species groups, such as bees, almost 30% are under threat of extinction, raising long-term concerns for the maintenance of natural pollination services. Detailed information on Ireland's protected species is freely available to help support the implementation of national and European legislation, in particular the **EU Habitats and Birds Directives**, and the **Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000**. This is a vitally important resource for local authorities, public bodies and other land managers to utilise when making decisions about programmes, plans or projects.

**NBDC Biodiversity Maps** is a data management shared-service used by public bodies and other partners for publishing data. The service provides a cost-effective platform for partner organisations to manage and share their own data, and is an effective mechanism for public bodies to comply with their obligations under the EU 2003 Re-use of Public Sector Information Directive, as it relates to biodiversity information. This ensures that biodiversity (like other sectors) is well-positioned to contribute to the evolution of an information and knowledge-based economy and society. Eight public bodies avail of the shared-service provided by the NBDC, as follows:

1. Department of Arts, Heritage & the Gaeltacht,
2. Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine,
3. The Heritage Council,
4. Environment Protection Agency,
5. Inland Fisheries Ireland,
6. National Museum of Ireland – Natural History Division,
7. National Botanic Gardens,
8. Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority.

In addition, the National Biodiversity Data Centre co-ordinates and provides support to a network of over 4,000 Citizen Scientists who collect high-quality biodiversity data in a voluntary capacity. This includes participation in national surveys and monitoring programmes that track change in the countryside and contribute information to feed into policy formulation. Each year, the NBDC runs a Biodiversity Training and Professional Development Programme consisting of 40 workshops to increase capacity across the sector. The NBDC serves as Ireland's national node of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), a global network of 95 partners that collaborate to provide open access to almost 600 million biodiversity observations to assist international biodiversity conservation research and policy formulation.





## 7. Wicklow Uplands Council (WUC) - [www.wicklowuplands.ie](http://www.wicklowuplands.ie)

Wicklow Uplands Council (WUC) is an independent, voluntary organisation representing the shared interests of 50+ member groups and individuals. The Council takes a partnership approach to sustainable development and promotes programmes and projects that bring value to people who live, work, and visit the Wicklow Uplands. WUC's Mission is: *To support the sustainable use of the Wicklow Uplands through consensus and partnership with those who live, work and recreate there.*

Heritage Council funding allows WUC to run the organisation, which currently employs a part-time Co-ordinator (four days a week) and Administrator (11 hours a week). The Uplands Council Office, based at Roundwood Parish Hall, is the venue for Executive and Board meetings. Additional meetings are also held there, e.g. Sub-committee meetings. Heritage Council support also enables substantial leverage of additional funding from the private and public sectors for individual projects and a wide range of activities, including the PURE project (see below). During 2014, WUC focused on initiatives that supported the development of its shared vision, as set out overleaf:



- Three Year Strategic Plan 2014-2016: completion of the new strategic plan enabled the WUC to review and identify local needs and priorities. Priority Themes identified focus on encouraging rural employment and retention of the rural population, development of opportunities for sustainable recreation and promotion of the Wicklow Uplands and encouraging the best management of our natural heritage, habitats and landscape.
- Village Heritage Interpretive Panels: since 2008, WUC has worked with local communities to develop a network of interpretative panels, which promote and raise awareness of the built and natural heritage in towns and villages in County Wicklow. Three more panels were added in 2014 at Baltinglass, Newcastle and Newtownmountkenedy: 13 panels in total. This project received LEADER funding from the County Wicklow Partnership along with contributions from the communities involved and is a key element of county heritage and tourism infrastructure, providing a coherent and well-designed approach to heritage interpretation for locals and visitors. High-levels of public participation are a key indicator of project success.
- Protecting Upland and Rural Environments (PURE<sup>15</sup> established in 2006) - WUC's role is to represent private landowners, administer the project account and employ a Project Manager. PURE, the first project of its kind in Ireland, is a united response to illegal dumping in the Wicklow/Dublin Uplands. It is a partnership between statutory/non-statutory organisations including: Wicklow County Council, Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, South Dublin County Council, Coillte, National Parks & Wildlife Service, and Wicklow Uplands Council, and is funded by the Department of the Environment, Community

and Local Government. Since its inception, PURE has received 7,200+ reports of illegal dumping, collected waste from over 7,000 individual sites, and removed over 2,370 tonnes of rubbish from the landscape.

- Walking Trail Development - the development of the Avonmore Trail continues with support from the WUC Trails Subcommittee. WUC is working in partnership with private landowners; communities in Laragh, Claravale and Rathdrum; Coillte; and the NPWS to develop this off-road walking trail on existing forest roads and trails. Access agreements are being formalised with private/public landowners who all support the establishment of this key strategic connection in the Wicklow Trail Network. Rathdrum is a key access point to the Wicklow Uplands as it services the only inland rail link in the county. The long-term vision for the trail route is an 'Eastern Greenway' with the potential to link to important cultural landscapes and heritage sites in the surrounding region.
- Public Policy Submissions - one of WUC's key roles is to provide a common voice for people living, working and recreating in the area and the organisation is ideally structured to make a well-informed, grassroots contribution to emerging national and local policies and strategies that have the potential to affect the Wicklow Uplands. Submissions made during 2014 include: a submission on the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) for County Wicklow, the Wicklow County Development Plan 2016-2022 (Phase 1), and on the review of section 40 of the Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000, relating to the permitted burning of, and cutting controls, for vegetation. WUC also made a submission on the Draft National Landscape Strategy.



8. Woodlands of Ireland - [www.woodlandsofireland.com](http://www.woodlandsofireland.com)

Woodlands of Ireland (Wol) Steering Committee (SC) identified a number of key strategic projects for delivery in 2014. The key projects and outcomes are set out in the box below:

(a) Promotion and Awareness:

Wol was a joint organiser/sponsor of the conference Natural Capital Values - Ireland's Hidden Wealth held in the National Botanic Gardens on 28th & 29th April 2014, at which the Wol Project Manager (PM) presented a paper entitled: *The Economic Values of Native Woodlands*. Over 120 people attended and a Press Release highlighted natural assets and their value, including native woodlands.

(b) Public Policy Advocacy:

A detailed submission was made to the Forest Service (FS) in April 2014 in relation to the *Rural Development Programme (RDP) Forestry Programme 2014-2020*. During follow-up consultation, the FS requested possible solutions to increasing the target areas for both elements of the Native Woodland Scheme (NWS), i.e. conservation and new native woodlands. As a direct result of the Wol submission and negotiations, the target areas were increased substantially to 1,950ha and 2,700ha for NWS EL1: Conservation, and EL2: New Native Woodlands Establishment, respectively, over the lifetime of the Forestry Programme (December 2014). Wol also initiated a 5-Year Native Woodlands Strategy, which will be finalised for ratification in early 2015, and will include government involvement via NPWS and FS.

(c) Training/Education/Technical Expertise:

A two-day joint Wol and FS NWS training course was held in early December 2014 in Enniskerry, Co. Wicklow, to train and accredit professional foresters working on the NWS. Of the 50 participants, 40 were foresters, many of whom will be working on the NWS for the first time.

(d) Community Networking/Partnerships:

The Project Management Board of the *People's Millennium Forests Project* agreed in November 2014

to draft a Project Charter that all partners would agree and sign up to. The charter would enshrine the initial vision of the project, namely that native woodlands will be held in trust for the people of Ireland and restored as a resource for future generations.

(e) Support Implementation:

following the first meeting of the *National Natural Capital Forum Steering Committee* in November 2014 (Wol PM elected Chair), a secretariat was established for a two-year period with funding from the EPA and NPWS. 2014 also marked the fourth and final year of CROW (Combined Research on Riparian Zones: UCD and Coillte). Manipulation of Aquatic Buffer Zones in forest plantations, using alternative management options was trialed and the final report was submitted to COFORD<sup>16</sup> in late 2014. This research will provide the Forest Service with mitigation guidance on riparian zone management in commercial forestry plantations.

(f) Effective Secretarial & Administrative Support:

A meeting of the Wol Technical Working Group was held in March to develop the 5-Year *Native Woodlands Strategy* (see above). Two Steering Committee meetings were held in 2014 as well as the Wol AGM.

Wol's busy programme in 2014 contributed directly to supporting employment in the native woodland and forestry sectors with extremely positive outcomes e.g. the RDP Forestry Programme 2014-2020, with an investment of €20m+ in native woodlands alone. Jobs will be created through specialised planning and implementation of the 5-Year Native Woodlands Strategy, i.e. ecologists, foresters, nurseries and woodland contractors. Added value will accrue in the Irish wood crafts sector from the supply of raw materials (wood) derived from woodland management and ongoing training of woodland practitioners will ensure sustainable management. In addition, the Irish Heritage Tourism sector will benefit at a landscape-scale from sustainable woodland management and native woodland creation, whilst education and awareness-raising within local communities will be enhanced from co-ordinated woodland walks and trails in native woodlands taking place during National Tree Week and National Heritage Week.

4.7 Heritage Council Support for Professional Institutes in Ireland - North and South

In addition to ongoing support for heritage infrastructure at a national and regional level, the Heritage Council is fully committed to supporting the ongoing programmes and activities of a number of all-island and/or national professional institutes in Ireland. These institutes represent practitioners involved in heritage management, spatial planning, landscape management and archaeology, including (in alphabetical order):

These professional institutes also represent a significant number of Irish expatriates who are currently living and working abroad in the UK, Australia, New Zealand and Canada. On-going support from the Heritage Council includes: board members and staff being involved in National Executive Councils and Sub-committees, organising and presenting papers at national conferences and seminars, organising and taking part in CPD training courses and site visits, and writing heritage and planning-related articles for institute ezines and journals.

In addition, the Heritage Council provides support to the Irish Museums Association, the Institute of Conservator-Restorers in Ireland, and the Archives and Records Association, Ireland.

Professional Institute	No. of Members in 2014	Website
Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland (IAI)	287	<a href="http://www.iai.ie">www.iai.ie</a>
Irish Landscape Institute (ILI)	166	<a href="http://www.irishlandscapeinstitute.com">www.irishlandscapeinstitute.com</a>
Irish Planning Institute (IPI)	680	<a href="http://www.ipi.ie">www.ipi.ie</a>

(Source: Heritage Council.)



16 COFORD - Council for Forest Research and Development - [www.coford.ie](http://www.coford.ie).



## 5 SUPPORTING EDUCATION AND AWARENESS (HC OBJECTIVE NO. 2)

As noted above, effective and innovative on-going management of Ireland's national heritage strengthens and enhances socio-economic, scientific and cultural growth, innovation and development. The Heritage Council continues to deliver a number of innovative national, regional and local education and awareness programmes to encourage people of all ages to explore Ireland's unique national heritage, thereby enabling them to develop a deep appreciation and understanding of heritage values in Ireland, and in order to preserve heritage assets for future generations.



5.1 Heritage in Schools (HIS) Scheme 2014

The Heritage in Schools Scheme has grown exponentially since it was set up by the Heritage Council in 1999. The scheme provides an additional educational resource for teachers and supports the State’s aims and objectives of the Irish Primary Curriculum (1999) with regard to pupils’ interaction and engagement with their local learning environment. The Heritage Council opened the Heritage in Schools scheme to new bookings under its own administration in February 2013 - administration had previously been handled by the Irish National Teachers Organisation (INTO).

In total, 865 schools took part during 2014 and the scheme involved 96,644 pupils and 2,001 school visits by heritage experts – up from 1,331 visits in 2013 – a 50% increase during 2014. The HIS scheme exceeded all expectations in 2014 with the funding running out after seven months and, as a result, bookings from schools had to be suspended from September 2014!

The spatial distribution of visits in 2014 is illustrated in the map and table overleaf:

The schedule of costs to schools involved and the Heritage Council for Heritage Experts visits are set out in the table below:

Duration of HIS Visit	Half-Day - €100 (2.5/3 hrs)	Full Day - €170 (5/5.5 hrs)
Cost to School	€60	€100
Cost to Heritage Council	€40	€70
Total	€100	€170
Cost to Designated Disadvantage School (DEIS)	€40	€60
Cost	€60	€110
Total	€100	€170

In addition, schools are incentivised to organise multiple visits with the same expert, e.g. the fifth visit is free, i.e. the Heritage Council covers the full cost. The success of the HIS scheme over the last few years is shown in the table below, which provides a summary of activity during 2012-2014.

Given increasing demand year on year for the scheme, as with 2014, it is highly likely that the Heritage Council will be unable to meet demand for the scheme in 2015 due to budgetary constraints.

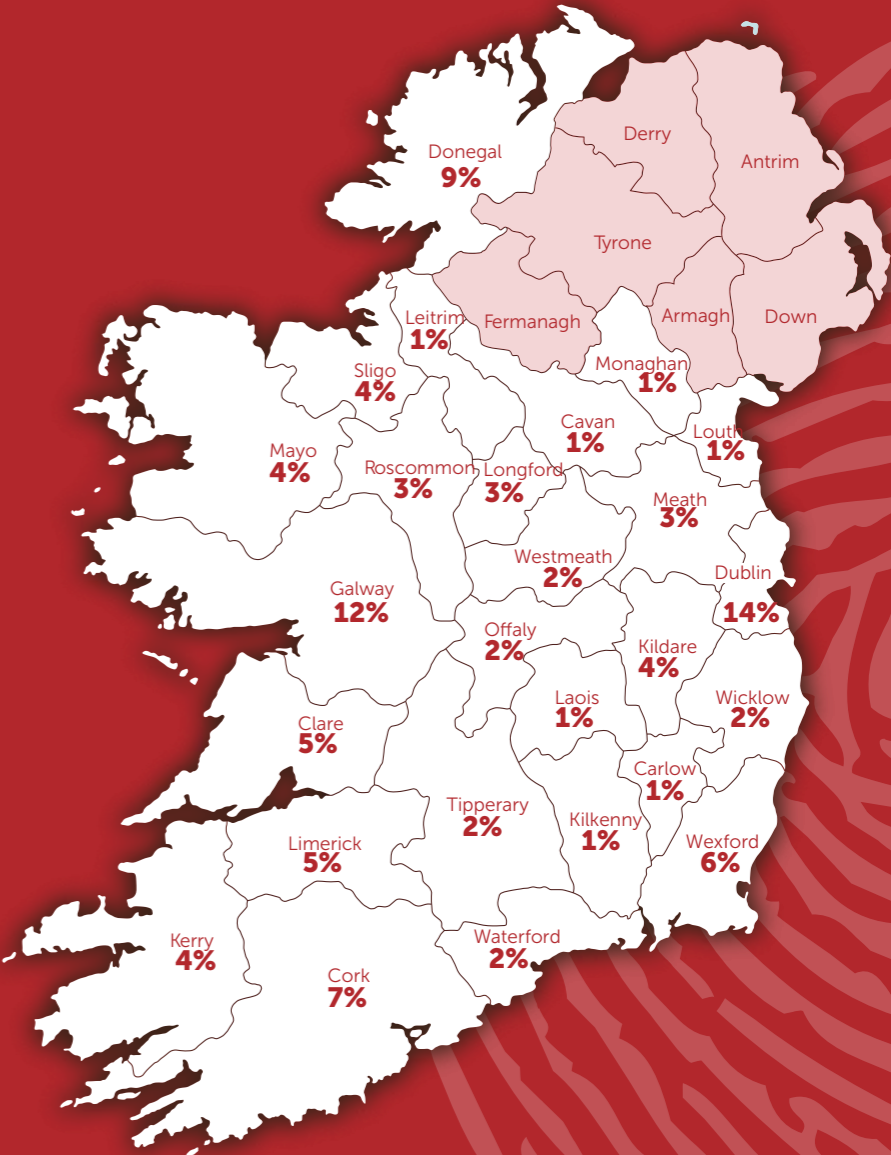
5.2 National Cultural Organisations - Conservation Internship Scheme

The Heritage Council continued to support five internships in the conservation departments of the following cultural organisations during 2014:

1. National Gallery of Ireland;
2. National Library of Ireland;
3. Chester Beatty Library;
4. Old Library, Trinity College; and
5. The National Archives of Ireland in partnership with the National Valuation Office.

Heritage in Schools (HIS) Scheme 2014

	No. of visits
Carlow	26
Cavan	28
Clare	103
Cork	147
Donegal	190
Dublin	289
Galway	247
Kerry	71
Kildare	71
Kilkenny	27
Laois	13
Leitrim	21
Limerick	91
Longford	60
Louth	24
Mayo	71
Meath	59
Monaghan	20
Offaly	35
Roscommon	58
Sligo	75
Tipperary	34
Waterford	39
Westmeath	33
Wexford	119
Wicklow	50
Total	2,001



Year	2012	2013	2014
No. of Visits	1,108	1,331	2,001
No. of children involved in HIS visit	87,770	77,165	96,644
No. of schools who avail of scheme	No data	606	865
No. of bookings from DEIS Schools	No data	260	393
No. of children from DEIS schools involved in HIS scheme	No data	23,716	30,043
No. of schools who availed of more than 1 visit	197	226	352
No. of 5 Series bookings	78	116	145
Timescale for HIS booking	Jan 2012-Dec 2012	Feb 2013-Dec 2013	Jan 2014-Sept 2014

5.3 All-Island Irish Walled Towns Network (IWTN)

The IWTN conducted a series of meetings with various Third-level institutes to encourage IWTN towns as suitable places for research. Research findings would then be passed on to the prime decision-makers in the member town. In 2014, the Geography Department at NUIM finished their study of the tourism industry in Trim and a summary report was published. UCD's Archaeology Dept agreed to use Dublin as a location for a pop-up exhibition. WIT Department of Architecture also commenced a survey to explore potential uses for vacant spaces in New Ross, and DIT's Planning Department used Carrick-on-Suir as a case study on traffic and parking.

In November 2014, the inaugural Student Historic Towns Research Awards Ceremony was held in the Royal Irish Academy in Dublin. The quality of shortlisted projects was excellent. The objectives of the awards scheme are to reward student work, encourage more research, create an arena where decision-makers in the public sector could meet academics and finally, to bring relevant Third-level institute research to the attention of people involved in the management of Irish towns.

The IWTN organised five training events and conferences in 2014, which focused on: how to be a community tour guide; maintenance of town walls for operatives; maintenance of town walls for professionals; solving our own problems workshop; and historic towns research awards ceremony (see above). In total, 176 people attended IWTN-run training events in 2014. Through participating in Fingal County Council's Cultural Tourism Conference, places for IWTN town representatives were provided. The most innovative training event the IWTN ran was the two-day workshop Solving our Own Problems. Its objective was to help the people of Carrick on Suir address and solve the issues in their town. In this, they were aided by five mentors from various disciplines. A report on the event with a template transferable to other towns was published in December and the advisory booklet *Bored of boards: ideas for interpreting heritage sites* was also published in December.



All-Island Irish Walled Towns Network (IWTN)

- 1. Athenry
- 2. Athlone
- 3. Athy
- 4. Bandon
- 5. Buttevant
- 6. Carlingford
- 7. Carrickfergus
- 8. Carrick on Suir
- 9. Cashel
- 10. Castledermot
- 11. Clonmel
- 12. Cork City
- 13. Derry
- 14. Drogheda
- 15. Dublin City
- 16. Fethard
- 17. Galway
- 18. Kildare
- 19. Kilkenny
- 20. Kilmallock
- 21. Limerick City
- 22. Loughrea
- 23. New Ross
- 24. Rindoon
- 25. Trim
- 26. Waterford
- 27. Wexford Town
- 28. Youghal



#### 5.4 Third Level Institutes (north and south)

Collaboration with Third-level Institutes (north and south) continued in 2014 with the Heritage Council working with University College Dublin (UCD), Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT) and NUI Maynooth to progress the design and delivery of heritage-related courses at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. In support of the new National Landscape Strategy (NLS), and building on the Heritage Council's award-winning multi-disciplinary LCA CDP course, which ran twice a year during 2009-2011<sup>17</sup>, it is envisaged that new landscape character-related courses (including CPD courses) will commence in late 2015.

#### 5.5 Irish National Strategic Archaeological Research (INSTAR) Programme

The Heritage Council has consistently advocated for collaborative archaeological research between the consultancy sector ('industry') and the higher education and the state sectors. The Irish National Strategic Archaeological Research (INSTAR) Programme aims to address key archaeological issues, build research capacity, and address the issue of unpublished archaeological excavations.

Due to reduced funding, it has not been possible to expand the programme beyond one rolling three-year project. Following completion of the project in 2013, in 2014 the joint Queens University Belfast – University College Dublin Early Medieval Archaeology Project (EMAP) published a range of monograph publications dealing with this important period in Ireland (www.emap.ie). A new competitive call is envisaged in 2015.

#### 5.6 Community-led Village Design Statements in Ireland (CLVDS) Toolkit – Conference Papers

Council was invited to present conference papers on the award-winning Community-led LVDS Toolkit at the National Tidy Towns Conference in Fermoy, Co. Cork in February and at the Irish Planning Institute's National Planning Conference in Limerick in April 2014. The CLVDS Toolkit is available to download (no charge) from the Heritage Council website and published copies are available to purchase for €10.

#### 5.7 Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science Workshop

In October, Council delivered a paper on Building Conservation Quality Assurance in Ireland at a workshop organised by the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science – Cultural Heritage Agency, entitled International quality assurance for work on historic buildings in the whole building process from design to completion. Council's paper took stock of Ireland's efforts to protect the built heritage through planning legislation, improvements in the availability of information on competent conservation contractors, and the on-going issues of skills training.

#### 5.8 EU Joint Programming Initiative on Cultural Heritage (JPI CH)

Through its continued involvement in the EU Joint Programming Initiative (JPI) on Cultural Heritage during 2014, the Heritage Council funded a research team at University College Dublin (UCD) to collaborate on a trans-national research project entitled *SHUC: A Sustainable Future for the Historic Urban Core*. International partners in the project are Delft University of Technology, the Netherlands and Newcastle University, England. The SHUC project will for the first time provide a comparative perspective on the management of the historic urban core in Europe. The results of the research are due to be formally published in 2015.



## National Planning Conference 2014

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April  
Limerick Strand Hotel, Limerick City

A conference organised by  
**IRISH PLANNING INSTITUTE**  
Partnership for Growth

- Come to hear and debate the latest in planning policy, research and practice
- Reflect on fifty years of planning while looking ahead to the future
- Network with other like minded professionals
- Visit sites of planning action - including city centre projects or housing estates undergoing regeneration

**50 years of planning: time to lead change and plan for growth**

Limerick City & County Council

## FACTSHEET #6 JPIC/JHEP JOINT PILOT CALL FEATURED PROJECTS

### A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR THE HISTORIC URBAN CORE

**SHUC**  
A Sustainable Future for the Historic Urban Core

**Title**  
A Sustainable Future for the Historic Urban Core (SHUC)

**Dates**  
November 2013 - November 2015

**Budget**  
Total project budget : €240,000  
Funding awarded: €150,000

**Project Summary**  
This project proposes to establish a collaborative network of researchers with a common interest in changing practices in urban planning and management of historic cities. It brings together research on planning practices for the historic urban core from three countries to apply a common theoretical framework. It will develop new comparative understandings of evolving practices and their consequences.

**The project asks:**

1. How have varying management approaches influenced patterns of functions in, and the economic role of, the historic urban core? How can these relationships be captured in a common conceptual framework?
2. How are approaches being reformed in each country in response to changing political values, in particular the role of the state, and to what extent do underlying socio-economic and historical factors shape responses to heritage management?
3. To what extent are models and methods of managing the historic urban core transferable between countries, and what scope is there for effective policy transfer?

The method of analysis is primarily to bring existing research and scholarship in the three countries into a common cross-national conceptual framework. The provisional framework is already in place and draws on theories of strategic planning and area life cycle management (Lindgren & Bandhold, 2009; Henry Mintzberg, 1994, 1996; H. Mintzberg, Ahlstrand, & Lampel, 2005) and has been employed in pilot research on managing the historic urban cores of twenty cities in the Netherlands (Toorn Vrijthoff, 2011)

<sup>17</sup> Approximately 200 people from Ireland, the UK and Australia successfully completed the Heritage Council and Partners' Multi-disciplinary LCA CPD Course during 2009-2011.



## 6 SUPPORTING HERITAGE-BASED TOURISM (HC OBJECTIVE NO. 3)

Tourism is one of the fastest growing global economic sectors and the contribution of tourism to economic well-being depends on the quality and revenues of the tourism offer (Source: United Nations World Tourism Organisation/UNWTO). Ireland's national heritage is unique to Ireland and forms part of our comparative advantage over other international tourism destinations. As a result, effective and innovative on-going management of our national heritage strengthens and enhances tourism activity, both from domestic and overseas markets. According to the UNWTO, these dynamics have turned tourism into a key driver for socio-economic progress and growth. The Heritage Council's activities in relation to supporting the Irish heritage-based tourism sector in 2014 are summarised below.



### 6.1 National Heritage Week (NHW) 2014, 'Discover the past. Build the future'...

National Heritage Week 2014 continued its overall upward trend despite unforeseen and unavoidable weather conditions, which caused a number of events to be cancelled or washed out. A total of 1,800 events were organised in 2014 – an increase of 5% from 2013. Interestingly, 16% of people who took part in 2014 were taking part for the first time. Attendance was down slightly in 2014 due to the weather – however, despite this approximately 300,000 people of all ages took part in Heritage Week 2014.

There has been a substantial growth in the use of online information and social media to access information on National Heritage Week 2014, and on the history and heritage of the locations and venues for events. Use of the Heritage Week website – [www.heritageweek.ie](http://www.heritageweek.ie) – grew substantially and it is expected that the trend for non-print media information will continue, significantly reducing print costs in the future (we return to the issue of Social Media in Section 7 below). National TV and radio coverage was also higher in 2014, with greater exposure on TV3, Nationwide, and Morning Ireland. In addition, the majority of participants in National Heritage Week 2014 were aged 24 years plus.

As noted in Section 1, the Heritage Council HQ is a public building which is available for public events, exhibitions, workshops, etc. As such, Heritage Council staff gave guided public tours of the historic Heritage Council HQ building in Kilkenny throughout National Heritage Week 2014.

### 6.2 National Heritage Week (NHW) 2014 Awards

As with previous National Heritage Week events, local heritage groups are central to the delivery of unique and innovative heritage events throughout the State, and indeed the island. The prestigious annual Heritage Council National Heritage Week Awards aim to recognise the role of local communities in the nine-day celebrations of our national heritage and also to recognise the enormous, often years-long commitment, and energy that goes into organising NHW events. The winner of the National Heritage Week 2014 Best Overall Event and Best Event organised by a Community Group was awarded to the Tor Mór Cultural Tourism Committee /Kilclooney Dolmen Centre, Co. Donegal, organisers of the Boat Trip and Guided Tour of Loughadoon and Doon Fort, Co. Donegal – see photograph on following page.

Other National Heritage Week 2014 Award winners included:

- **Best Innovative Event – The Jackie Clarke Collection for their WWI Toy Soldiers Diorama, Crossmolina, Co. Mayo;**
- **Best Children's Event (Under 12s) – Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark, Co. Fermanagh;**
- **Best Event in conjunction with a Local Authority – Freshford Graveyard Recording Group, St Lachtain's Church of Ireland Church and Old Graveyard, Freshford, Co. Kilkenny; and**
- **Best Interactive Event – Nell's Farmhouse for its Traditional Irish Wake Re-enactment, Rathgormack, Carrick-on-Suir, Co. Waterford.**

Further information on all the Heritage Council National Heritage Week Awards for 2014 is provided at Appendix B.

### 6.3 Collaborative Public Realm Plan (CPRP) Programme for Historic Towns

Council continues to promote and support programmes and projects, which facilitate the collaborative and innovative spatial planning, sustainable management and promotion of historic towns and cities in Ireland. One national initiative includes the Heritage Council's Collaborative Public Realm Plan Programme for Historic Towns and Cities, which was set up in 2006, initially through the IWTN, but expanded due to its success to other historic towns in Ireland.

In 2014, CPRP programme activities focused on the implementation of collaborative public realm plans for historic towns that were prepared during 2006-2013 including: *Athenry*<sup>18</sup>, *Balbriggan*, *Birr*, *Cashel*, *Fethard*, *Granard*, *Roscrea*<sup>19</sup> and *Wicklow*.

It should be highlighted that these plans are developed in partnership and collaboration with local communities and local authorities and in many cases have been formally adopted into the relevant statutory development plans, e.g. Fethard PRP and Cashel PRP are key components of relevant statutory Local Area Plans (LAPs) for the towns. It should also be noted that the recent abolition of town councils has caused a slight upheaval to a number of these projects. A summary of CPRP activities in 2014 is provided in Appendix C.

### 6.4 Historic Towns Initiative (HTI)

The Historic Towns Initiative (HTI) continued to evolve and develop throughout 2014. A range of projects were funded by DoAHG under this initiative in the pilot towns of Listowel, Westport and Youghal. In undertaking these pilots Council, along with its partners in Fáilte Ireland and the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht as well as the relevant local authorities, are seeking to combine the conservation and protection of the built and natural heritage of these historic towns, while maximising the socio-economic value of tourism.

HTI Actions in 2014 included: the repair of prominent historic buildings, repair of historic windows, public realm improvements, and the design of animation-type tour events and signage strategies. Market research was also commissioned to examine the attitudes of business owners in each of the three pilot towns.

The HTI pilot is to be reviewed by the DoAHG and a submission is to be made to the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform on its continued development in 2015 and beyond.

## National Heritage Week 2014 – 'Did You Know?'

- Approximately 1,800 events were held in 2014 – up 5% on 2013
- 294,669 people took part around the country – down slightly from 2013
- 16% of people who took part in NHW 2014 were taking part for the first time

- 94% rated their satisfaction as 'Excellent' or 'Very Good', in comparison with 89% in 2013
- 99% of people 'would recommend National Heritage Week events to a friend'
- Participants spent on average €19.51 on food and beverage, down slightly from 2013
- 6.5% of domestic participants book overnight accommodation, spending an average of €110, worth a total of €0.96m. These account for 8,706 tourist bed nights nationwide.



Pictured L-R: Conor Newman, Chairman of the Heritage Council, Malachy Mahon & Patrick McLoone, Tor Mór Cultural Tourism Committee/Kilclooney Dolmen Centre, Paula Harvey, Tor Mór Cultural Tourism Committee, Ann Phelan T.D., Minister of State for Rural Affairs at the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Sarah McLoone, Brenda Mahon & Conor Whyte, Tor Mór Cultural Tourism Committee.

<sup>18</sup> The Athenry PRP is still at draft stage due to the reorganisation of local government.

<sup>19</sup> The Roscrea public realm plan is known as the Roscrea Town Enhancement Plan.

## Location of participants in MSPI, 2014

### 6.5 Museums Standards Programme for Ireland (MSPI)

The MSPI saw two new organisations, The Royal College of Physicians Heritage Centre and The Little Museum of Dublin, join MSPI in January 2014, bringing the total number of participating sites on the island of Ireland to 59. Over half of these (35 sites) have been accredited: 24 have full accreditation (of which five were awarded their status in 2014) and 11 sites are at the interim accreditation stage (with three certificates awarded in 2014). Of the 24 sites with full accreditation, eight have been awarded maintenance certificates, meaning they have held full accreditation for three years or more.

During 2014, five sites applied for full or interim accreditation and three sites applied for maintenance of full accreditation - successful applicants will be announced in 2015. Six training workshops were held in 2014 with over 100 people taking part. MSPI also supported a Blue Shield seminar entitled Prepare to Protect and covered the fee for MSPI participants to attend. MSPI workshops are also open to those considering applying to join the Programme.

At the end of 2014, 24 sites have achieved Full Accreditation:

- Bishop's Palace, Waterford
- Butler Gallery, Kilkenny\*
- Castletown House, OPW
- Cavan County Museum
- Chester Beatty Library, Dublin
- Donegal County Museum
- Drogheda Museum, Millmount
- Farmleigh, OPW
- Foynes Flying Boat Museum
- GAA Museum, Dublin
- Kerry County Museum, Tralee
- Knock Museum\*
- Lewis Glucksman Gallery, UCC
- Monaghan County Museum\*
- Muckross House, Kerry\*
- Muckross Research Library, Kerry\*
- Muckross Traditional Farms, Kerry\*
- National Gallery of Ireland, Dublin\*
- National Print Museum, Dublin\*
- Old Library, Trinity College Dublin
- The Hunt Museum, Limerick
- The Medieval Museum, Waterford
- The Pearse Museum, OPW
- Tipperary County Museum, Clonmel

\*Maintenance of Full Accreditation for three years or more, i.e. eight sites.

At the end of 2014, 11 sites have achieved Interim Accreditation:

- Allihies Copper Mine Museum, Co. Cork
- Athy Heritage Centre Museum
- County Museum, Dundalk
- Donaghmore Famine Workhouse Museum, Co. Laois
- Irish Heritage Trust: Fota House
- Irish Jewish Museum, Dublin
- Limerick City Gallery of Art
- Músaem Chorca Dhuibhne
- Museum of Free Derry
- Rothe House-Kilkenny Archaeological Society
- The Zoological Museum, Trinity College Dublin


After more than a year of consultation with members and stakeholders, the MSPI Standards and Guidelines (known within MSPI as 'The Guide') was published and launched by the Chairman of the Heritage Council in Kilkenny City in May 2014. The contents include: an introduction to MSPI, guidelines and requirements for eligibility and the standards, and revised and new factsheets to support the Programme. 'The Guide' is available to download from the Heritage Council's website<sup>20</sup>.



<sup>20</sup> <http://www.heritagecouncil.ie/museums-archive/heritage-council-initiatives/museums-standards-programme-for-ireland/>



## **7 SUPPORTING MODERN FRAMEWORKS AND MECHANISMS (HC OBJECTIVE NO. 4)**



Creativity, innovation and the modernisation of systems, processes and services are at the core of the Heritage Council's operations and activities. An overview of a wide range of activities undertaken in relation to supporting modern frameworks and mechanisms in 2014 are set out below.

### 7.1 EU Joint Programming Initiative on Cultural Heritage (JPI CH)

The Heritage Council continued to participate in the JPI Cultural Heritage this year, including the publication of its *Strategic Research Agenda* in February, development of an Action Programme (ongoing), funding of 10 pilot research projects in Cultural Heritage and organisation of an international workshop in Dublin Castle in October 2014 to showcase the work of the 10 pilot European projects to date. The Heritage Council also continued to manage the Heritage Portal Website – [www.heritageportal.eu](http://www.heritageportal.eu) – on behalf of the JPICH Consortium. Visitor numbers to the European Heritage Portal website, as well as to its associated social media pages, continued to grow substantially in 2014.

### 7.2 Review of Heritage Council Grants Procedures and Policies

The Heritage Council commissioned Mazars in March 2014 to undertake this review in light of the new situation in which the HC found itself following a government critical review of the organisation, whereby amendments proposed to the Heritage Act 1995 will provide for the grant-giving function of the Council as a *core function of its work*. The scope of the project included a full review of all Heritage Council procedures in respect of grants, and funding support payments to external agencies and individuals, as well as the sampling of grants to review proof of payment and to ascertain full-compliance with the Council's grant conditions attached to these funding awards. The key finding of the review is set out below:

External review recommendations focus on ensuring: greater strategic alignment of grant support, robust evaluation of outcomes, increasing public competition in the medium- to long-term, to ensure Council is making full strategic gain from its investments in grant-funded projects and organisations. An Action Plan based on the recommendations was adopted by Council in late 2014 and will be implemented on an incremental basis, as resources allow.

*"The Heritage Council has managed the significant task of grant administration well within the context of limited resources and decreasing available grant funding. The Council's Oireachtas grant funding has decreased significantly in the last number of years, from €21.6m in 2008 to €6.7m in 2013 (a 69% decrease), and this has impacted greatly on the Council's ability to deliver on its strategic remit. The Council has implemented good procedures around the various stages of grant administration and has invested in an online management system*

### 7.3 Community-led Village Design Statements in Ireland (CLVDS) Toolkit

The Community-led Toolkit (100 pages including eight pull-out Fact Sheets) continues to gather traction at a national, regional and local level. Organisations using the CLVDS Toolkit include Local Authorities, Tidy Town Groups, Third-level Institutes (in their lecturing/teaching programmes), EirGrid and SEAI. The Toolkit has been prepared in accordance with the UNECE Aarhus Convention and the European Landscape Convention (ELC). There has also been interest in the CLVDS Toolkit from abroad but, unfortunately, due to a lack of resources it has not been possible to explore opportunities to 'export' the community-led model in 2014.

### 7.4 Engagement with EirGrid in relation to Public Participation Methods in Spatial Planning

Stakeholder consultation undertaken by EirGrid during late 2014 (arising from their commitment to 'comprehensively address major issues arising such as tourism, agriculture and equine concerns'), provided a timely opportunity for the Heritage Council to engage with this state-owned energy company with responsibility for managing the national electricity grid. In accordance with its role as a statutory prescribed body<sup>21</sup>, Council advocated best practice heritage management and public participation methods and 'tools' in spatial planning in relation to EirGrid's infrastructure programmes and projects.

### 7.5 Heritage Maps – GIS

Heritage Maps acts as a one-stop shop/participative web-based tool as it provides access to heritage data along with contextual data from a wide range of sources. Participating local authorities increased from eight in number in 2011 to 24 in 2014, highlighting the demand for access to accurate heritage data for improved decision-making. New datasets have been added in 2014, which cater to the visitor as well as professional users. These datasets cover museums' collections and archives, the Museums Standards

*to support these activities. The Board, Council management and staff contribute to ensure grant award and management activities are annually undertaken in line with Council strategic priorities, and this now requires further consideration to determine future investment. Council funds a range of beneficiaries from individuals to County level and various organisations, and it needs to determine whether these funding mechanisms remain appropriate to best achieve its strategic objectives."*

Programme of Ireland (MSPI), and Ireland's pilgrim paths, and are also available as open data through the website. Heritage Maps links to other national data portals including [www.Myplan.ie](http://www.Myplan.ie) and is available to all on our website – [www.heritagecouncil.ie](http://www.heritagecouncil.ie).

### 7.6 Landcover and Habitat Mapping

A national working group of public bodies was established in 2012 to progress the development of a national landcover and habitat map. The group includes representatives of the Heritage Council, Environmental Protection Agency, Ordnance Survey of Ireland, National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, and Teagasc. All parties agreed on the merits of working on a joint proposal for the development of a national landcover mapping programme in light of the emerging National Spatial Data Strategy (NSDS). The technical specifications for a national landcover mapping programme have been developed using County Roscommon as a case study.

### 7.7 Rural Development Programme (RDP) 2014-2020

As part of the preparations for the new EU Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food undertook a public consultation on the new Rural Development Programme (RDP). Council recommended that effective elements of previous programmes should be maintained, such as the REPS 4 Traditional Farm Buildings Scheme. The submission also focused on areas for improvement, such as ongoing support for high nature value farming, archaeological heritage and community-led landscape management. Council also recommended that knowledge transfer and innovation on heritage and environmental issues are fostered, for the benefit of agriculture and the rural population and

environment; and that LEADER funding for heritage is used as effectively as possible, in order to make the most of the opportunity presented by the new RDP.

### 7.8 Draft National Landscape Strategy (NLS) for Ireland 2014-2024, July 2014

Council continued its involvement with the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht's emerging National Landscape Strategy (NLS) by attending meetings of the steering group and by commenting on drafts issued during early 2014. The development of the Heritage Maps and other Heritage Council initiatives including the Heritage Council's Proposals for Ireland's Landscapes 2010 and the award-winning Multi-disciplinary LCA CPD Training Course<sup>22</sup>, can also be seen as influencing and informing this emerging national strategy, which was launched by the DoAHG in July 2014 as – A Draft National Landscape Strategy for Ireland 2014-2024.

### 7.9 Joint Programme EU/Council of Europe Support for the Promotion of Cultural Diversity in Kosovo – Study Visit to Ireland, September 2014

The September study visit was organised as part of an ongoing partnership between the Council of Europe (COE) and the Heritage Council, which seeks to achieve mutual heritage, social and economic aims, objectives and outcomes through the transfer of information, experiences and technical knowledge. The schedule for the study visit to Ireland was prepared on the basis of advancing the development of Regional Heritage Plans in Kosovo – given the Heritage Council's geographical location the historic city of Kilkenny was selected as the case study. It is envisaged that participants will be in a stronger position to formulate and implement Regional Heritage Plans in Kosovo as a result of the visit. A detailed Post-Study Visit Report is available to download at [www.heritagecouncil.ie](http://www.heritagecouncil.ie).



Heritage Delegation from Kosovo with Kilkenny County Council Deputy Mayor Joe Malone, Heritage Council staff and members of the Kilkenny Defence Forces who served in Kosovo at a meeting in the Council Chamber, Kilkenny City Hall.

# COMMUNICATING BY SOCIAL MEDIA - FACEBOOK AND TWITTER

The Heritage Council's Facebook page and Twitter accounts were both set up in 2011 and aim to bring interesting daily heritage-related news and anecdotes gathered from around Ireland to the general public in Ireland and further afield. We share news stories from local and national media on our Facebook page and also inform people of nationwide heritage events including: Heritage Week, festivals, training, heritage programmes and projects, jobs, tender opportunities, recent publications/studies, and funding opportunities. We regularly run competitions where people can win books and vouchers!

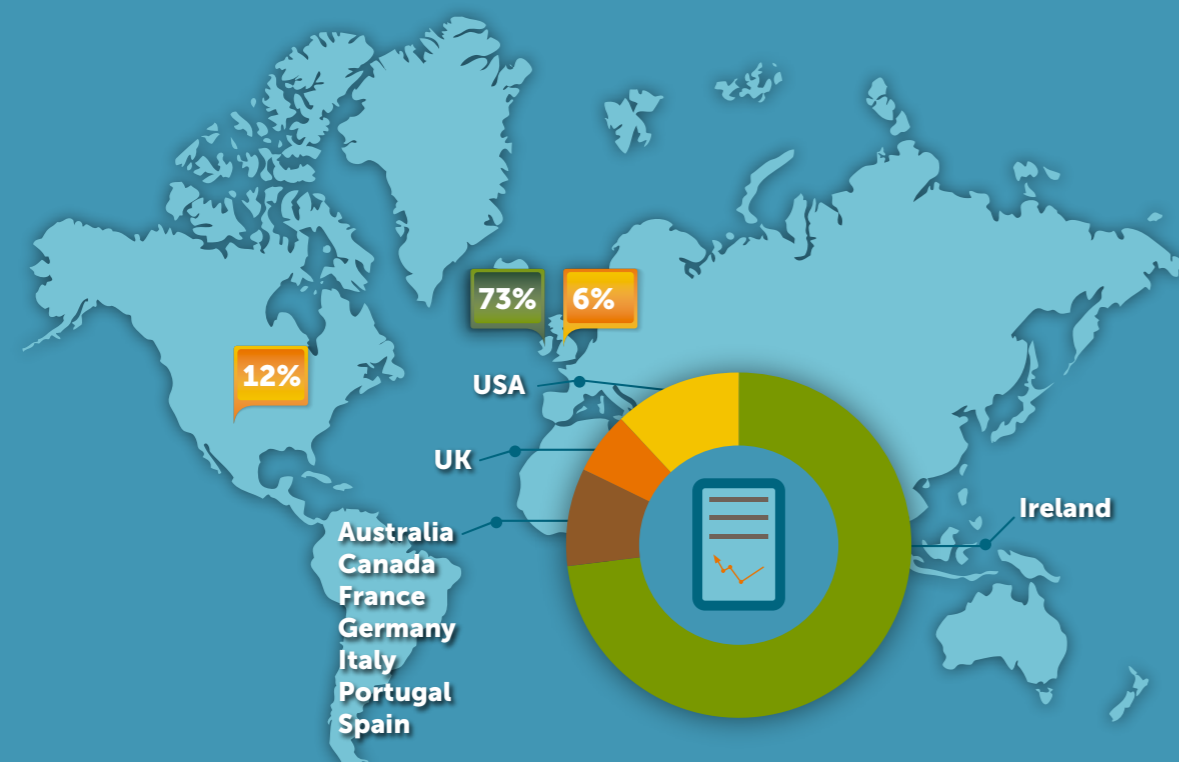
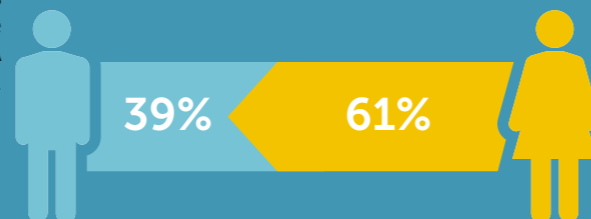
## Facebook

In 2014, the recorded 'likes' on the Heritage Council's Facebook page was approximately 5,000 by the end of the year – **up approximately 25% on 2013 levels (4,029 Likes)**. The majority of our 'Likes' in 2014 were from people resident in Ireland – 73%, with the USA coming in second at 12%, followed by the UK at 6%.

The remaining 9% of 'likes' originated from Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Portugal and Spain. These figures clearly indicate that Ireland's national heritage has a significant global reach, as illustrated below.

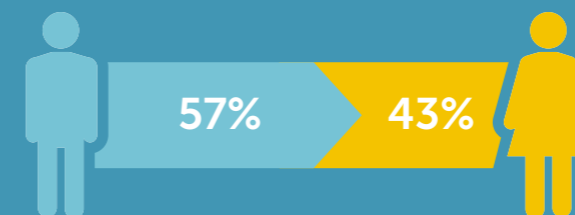
The core age profile of people who 'like' our page is aged between 35-44 years; followed closely by the 25-34 year old age group. Of the people who like our page 61% are women and 39% are men.

The Heritage Council will undertake further work on its Facebook page in 2015-2016 on the development of our global market, in order to ensure that this audience continues to grow and that it is also linked to the Irish heritage tourism sector, particularly in rural areas.



## Twitter

The Heritage Council is also on Twitter@HeritageHubIRE. We had 3,025 followers on our Twitter page by the end of 2014, **up an enormous 57% from 1,921 followers at the start of the year – 57% are men and 43% were women** – roughly a reverse of our gender activity on Facebook, i.e. it would appear that men are more active on the Heritage Council's Twitter account and women are more active on our Facebook page.



The Heritage Council will be further developing our Twitter account in 2015 in collaboration with local heritage groups and schools. In addition, the Heritage Council produces a bi-monthly ezine, which is currently sent out to over 6,000 subscribers nationally and internationally. The ezine contains information on Heritage News, Events, Tenders & Job/Employment opportunities. You can sign up for our ezine on our website – [www.heritagecouncil.ie](http://www.heritagecouncil.ie).

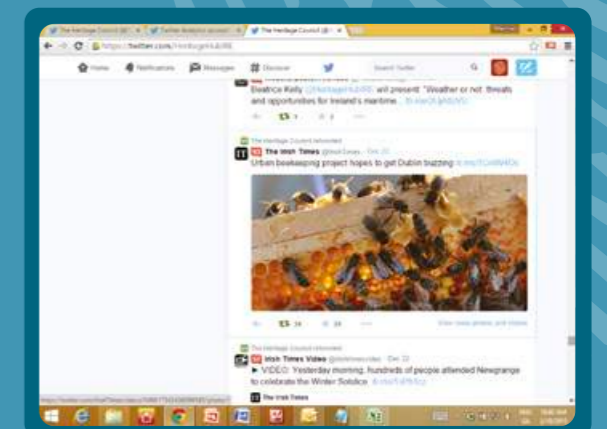
**3,025**  
FOLLOWERS  
**57%** INCREASE  
in 2014



From L to R: The Heritage Council's Social Media Team – Martina Malone and Christena Ryan.



[facebook.com/TheHeritageCouncil](https://facebook.com/TheHeritageCouncil)



[twitter.com/HeritageHubIRE](https://twitter.com/HeritageHubIRE)



# 8 HERITAGE COUNCIL AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Heritage Council's policy is to maintain the highest standards of corporate governance, in line with generally accepted policies and practices. The Council is committed to complying with the relevant provisions of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies published by the Department of Finance in 2009.

The Heritage Council has established a Finance and Audit Committee, which regularly reviews the system of internal control and engages external expertise in the carrying out of its functions, including the internal audit function, as appropriate. The Heritage Council complies with Government guidelines for the appraisal and management of Capital Expenditure in the public sector. Government policy on pay and directors' fees is also complied with. The Heritage Council is fully tax-compliant and does not engage in 'offensive' tax avoidance transactions.

### Prompt Payments in 2014

The Heritage Council is required to comply with the requirements of S.I. No. 580/2012 European Communities (Late Payment in Commercial Transactions) Regulations, 2012 and its predecessor

the Prompt Payment of Accounts Act, 1997 (collectively known as the 'Regulations'). The Council's standard terms of credit taken, unless otherwise specified in contractual arrangements, is 30 days from the receipt of the invoice. Procedures have been implemented which provide reasonable assurance against material non-compliance with the Regulations. While the procedures are designed to ensure compliance with the Regulations, they can only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance against material non-compliance with the 1997 Act and S.I. No. 580/2012.

A review of all payments made during the year ended December 31st 2014 shows 12 payments totalling €17,002.85 giving rise to an interest penalty of €729.74 under the above regulations.

With effect from July 1st 2011, the Heritage Council was required to comply with government Decisions S29296 of May 19th 2009 and March 2nd & 8th 2011, in relation to the 15-day prompt payment rule. The disclosures required in the Memorandum of Government (MoG) supporting the above decisions for the period 1st January 2014 to 31st December 2014 are detailed below:

Details	Number	Value (€)	Percentage (%) of total number of payments made
Number of payments made within 15 days	1765	1,696,900	90.89
Number of payments made within 16 days to 30 days	103	297,707	5.30
Number of payments made in excess of 30 days	74	75,082	3.81
Total payments made in Period	1942	2,069,689	100.00
<sup>1</sup> Disputed Invoices	1	4,000	

<sup>1</sup>Invoices received during the quarter and still under dispute at the end of the quarter.



## 9 HERITAGE COUNCIL PRIORITIES FOR 2015

Despite the severe budgetary cuts of recent years and the knock-on effect on overall staff and programme resources, the Heritage Council is endeavouring to focus on the following key priorities in 2015:

- I. 20th Anniversary Celebrations of the Heritage Council – Saturday 6th June 2015 with President Michael D. Higgins
- II. Progressing the Heritage (Amendment) Bill 2013
- III. National Community-based Heritage Grant Scheme 2015
- IV. National Heritage Week 2015, 'Discover the past. Build the future...'; and
- V. Securing an increase in the capacity of the Irish Heritage Sector.

### I. 20th Anniversary Celebrations of the Heritage Council – Saturday 6th June 2015 with President Michael D. Higgins

The Heritage Council will hold a special public event at its national headquarters in Kilkenny City on Saturday 6th June 2015 to celebrate its 20th Anniversary – '1995-2015'. President Michael D. Higgins, who was the minister responsible for setting up the Heritage Council, under the provisions of the Heritage Act 1995, will be guest speaker along with the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht Ms Heather Humphreys TD.



Council looks forward to celebrating this wonderful occasion with the Irish heritage and tourism sectors, both north and south, along with our key partners in the public, private and voluntary sectors. This occasion is also an exciting opportunity to celebrate the key role that Council and its infrastructure has

played in enhancing Irish society and the country's overall socio-economic, environmental and cultural well-being since its inception, and to explore the role of Council during the planned 100th year celebrations of the 1916 Rising, the Decade of Commemorations, and beyond for the next 20 years up to 2035.

### II. Progressing the Heritage (Amendment) Bill 2013

The heads of bill have been agreed and it is envisaged that the Heritage (Amendment) Bill 2013, which will implement updated administrative and governance arrangements in relation to the Heritage Council, e.g. reduced Board size, will be finalised and published during 2015.

### III. National Community-based Heritage Grant Scheme 2015

The Heritage Council intends to allocate the sum of approximately €600,000 to its Community-based Heritage Grants Scheme in 2015. When combined with core funding from the Heritage Council and with private sector funding it is expected this grant scheme will generate a total investment of around €1 million. Heritage projects that may be considered for funding will aim to raise awareness and appreciation of the value and significance of local heritage for citizens and visitors, for example, conservation reports or plans for buildings, graveyards or wildlife areas; research on local placenames, field names, oral history and oral heritage; and conservation of heritage collections and objects including documents. In particular objects or documents that relate directly to the period 1916-22 will be encouraged.

### IV. National Heritage Week 2015, 'Discover the past. Build the future...'

In August 2015, 23 countries across Europe will celebrate a common theme to help raise the profile and awareness of the value of industrial and design heritage to people and societies across Europe. Our shared industrial past is a story of change, development and creativity and of the men, women and children who were a central part of that story, whether a mill worker, a dock worker or the proud owner of an early motor car. Industrial heritage engages all of us and has left a rich legacy of buildings, records and memories of people across Ireland and beyond.

### V. Securing an increase in the capacity of the Irish Heritage Sector

The heritage sector has clearly demonstrated its undoubted potential to improve and enhance the overall quality of life of every citizen in Ireland and to contribute to the state's socio-economic, environmental and cultural development. Further investment is now required in the community-led approach championed by Council if this wide-ranging potential is to be realised in the short, medium and long-term.



# 10 **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE HERITAGE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2014**

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# REPORT OF COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL

REPORT FOR PRESENTATION TO THE HOUSES OF THE OIREACHTAS

# THE HERITAGE COUNCIL 2014 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COUNCIL

## The Heritage Council

I have audited the financial statements of the Heritage Council for the year ended 31 December 2014 under the Heritage Act 1995. The financial statements, which have been prepared under the accounting policies set out therein, comprise the accounting policies, the income and expenditure account, the statement of total recognised gains and losses, the balance sheet and the related notes. The financial statements have been prepared in the form prescribed under Section 21 of the Act, and in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice in Ireland.

## Responsibilities of the Members of the Council

The Council is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, for ensuring that they give a true and fair view of the state of the Council's affairs and of its income and expenditure, and for ensuring the regularity of transactions.

## Responsibilities of the Comptroller and Auditor General

My responsibility is to audit the financial statements and report on them in accordance with applicable law.

My audit is conducted by reference to the special considerations which attach to State bodies in relation to their management and operation.

My audit is carried out in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) and in compliance with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

## Scope of audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of:

- whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Council's circumstances, and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed
- the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made in the preparation of the financial statements, and
- the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I also seek to obtain evidence about the regularity of financial transactions in the course of audit.

In addition, I read the Heritage Council's annual report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements. If I become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies I consider the implications for my report.

## Opinion on the financial statements

In my opinion, the financial statements, which have been properly prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice in Ireland, give a true and fair view of the state of the Council's affairs at 31 December 2014 and of its income and expenditure for 2014.

In my opinion, proper books of account have been kept by the Council. The financial statements are in agreement with the books of account.

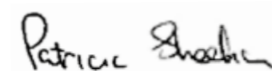
## Matters on which I report by exception

I report by exception if

- I have not received all the information and explanations I required for my audit, or
- my audit noted any material instance where money has not been applied for the purposes intended or where the transactions did not conform to the authorities governing them, or
- the information given in the Heritage Council's annual report is not consistent with the financial statements, or
- the statement on internal financial control does not reflect the Council's compliance with the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies, or
- I find there are other material matters relating to the manner in which public business has been conducted.

## Review of internal financial control

I draw attention to the statement on internal financial control which discloses that the Board did not carry out a review of the effectiveness of the system of internal financial control for the period in the manner required by the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies.



**Patricia Sheehan**  
For and on behalf of  
Comptroller and Auditor General  
29 June 2015

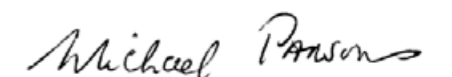
Section 21(1) of the Heritage Act, 1995 requires the Council to prepare financial statements in such form as may be approved by the Minister for Arts, Heritage & Gaeltacht after consultation with the Minister of Finance. In preparing the financial statements, the council is required to:

- ▶ select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- ▶ make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- ▶ prepare financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Heritage Council will continue in operation
- ▶ state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements

The Council is responsible for keeping proper books of account which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Council and which enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with section 21(1) of the Act. The Council is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Heritage Council and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.



**Catherine Heaney**  
Council Member  
18th June, 2015



**Michael Parsons**  
Council Member  
18th June, 2015

# THE HERITAGE COUNCIL 2014 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## STATEMENT ON INTERNAL FINANCIAL CONTROL

On behalf of the members of Council I wish to acknowledge our responsibility for ensuring that an effective system of internal financial control is maintained and operated.


The system can only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions authorised and properly recorded, and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or would be detected within a timely period.

### Key Control Procedures

- i) The council has taken steps to ensure an appropriate control environment is in place by:
- ▶ Agreeing a detailed work programme for each year, monitoring and evaluating progress against the work programme
  - ▶ Implementing financial procedures to control the significant financial elements of The Heritage Council's business
  - ▶ Maintaining a comprehensive schedule of insurances to protect The Heritage Council's interest
  - ▶ Reviewing and approving all Council policies and procedures
  - ▶ Establishing an Audit and Finance Committee to review the effectiveness of the system of internal financial control. The Committee met on 5 occasions in 2014. They reviewed reports from management on Procurement, Prompt Payments, Chair & CEO credit card expenditure, 2013 Financial Statements, budgets and matters raised by the C&AG arising from his audit. All suppliers with turnover in excess of €5,000 per annum with Council were also reviewed in detail.
  - ▶ Production of regular management information, segregation of duties and a system of delegation and accountability
  - ▶ Compliance with Department procedures as regards reporting and draw down of funds
  - ▶ Immediate and positive response to all items drawn to Council's attention in management letters from the Comptroller and Auditor General.
- ii) The system of internal financial controls is based on a framework of regular management information, a system of delegation and accountability, a set of financial procedures, administrative procedures including segregation of duties, and rigorous checks of the finance function. In particular it includes:
- ▶ Restricting authority for authorising disbursement of Council monies to designated officers.
  - ▶ Modern computerised Financial Accounting, Payroll and Fixed Asset Register software systems to underpin the internal financial controls of The Heritage Council.
  - ▶ Detailed procedures for engaging consultants.
- iii) The Council will develop a strategy for internal audit in 2015.
- iv) The Heritage Council is in the process of adopting the 2009 Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies and the adoption of same is tabled at Council meetings from time to time. The Heritage Council is in the process of adopting a Code of Business Conduct for directors and employees in accordance with the requirements of the Code of Practice.

### Annual Review of Controls

The Council did not conduct a review of the effectiveness of the system of internal financial controls in operation in 2014.

  
**Conor Newman**  
18th June, 2015

# THE HERITAGE COUNCIL 2014 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## GENERAL AND ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Heritage Council was established under the Heritage Act, 1995. The general function of the Heritage Council is to propose policies and priorities for the identification, protection, preservation and enhancement of the national heritage and to promote its appreciation.

### ACCOUNTING POLICIES

- 1. Accounting basis**  
The financial statements are prepared under the accruals method of accounting, except as indicated below, and in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles under the historical cost convention. Financial Reporting Standards recommended by the recognised accountancy bodies are adopted, as they become operative.
- 2. Oireachtas Grants**  
Oireachtas Grants are accounted for on a cash receipts basis.
- 3. Other Income**  
Other income is recognised when the right to receive the income has accrued to The Heritage Council.
- 4. Grant Payments**  
The Heritage Council offers grants to various bodies and individuals to carry out works under its heritage grant schemes. When a grantee accepts the terms and conditions of a grant offer from Council, Council enters into a commitment with that grantee. That commitment is recognised as an accrual only when the grantee is seen to have fulfilled the full terms and conditions of the grant offer. Details of grant commitments at 31 December 2014 are given in note 16.
- 5. Tangible Fixed Assets**  
Fixed assets of the Heritage Council are shown at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is calculated in order to write off the cost of tangible assets over their estimated useful lives by equal annual instalments.  
  
The depreciation rates used are:

Buildings	2.50%	Office Furniture	10%/20%
Leasehold	10.00%	Computers	25%
Office Equipment	20%	(Hardware & Software)	
Works of Art	0%	Reference Material and	20%
Motor Vehicles	20%	OSI Licences	
Plant & Equipment	20%/10%		
- 6. Capital Account**  
The capital account comprises income allocated for the purchase of fixed assets. It is amortised in line with the depreciation of the related assets.
- 7. Stock**  
Stock comprising stationery and publications is written off in the year of purchase.
- 8. Leasing**  
Assets acquired under finance leases are capitalised and included in tangible fixed assets and depreciated in accordance with the Council policy.
- 9. Pensions**  
The Council operates a defined benefit pension scheme which is funded annually on a pay as you go basis from monies provided by the Department of Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht and from contributions deducted from staff salaries. Pension costs reflect pension benefits earned by employees in the period and are shown net of staff contributions which are retained by the Council. An amount corresponding to the pension charge is recognised as income to the extent that it is recoverable, and offset by grants received in the year to discharge pension payments. Actuarial gains or losses arising on scheme liabilities are reflected in the Statement of Recognised Gains and Losses and a corresponding adjustment is recognised in the amount recoverable from the Department of Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht. Pension liabilities represent the present value of future pension payments earned by staff to date. Deferred pension funding represents the corresponding asset to be recovered in future periods from the Department of Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht.

# THE HERITAGE COUNCIL 2014 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

	Notes	2014 €	2013 €
<b>Income</b>			
Oireachtas Grant	1	5,978,000	6,096,000
Other Income	2	318,573	260,865
Net deferred funding for pensions	8 c)	415,000	424,000
Transfer from Capital Account	3	223,796	248,542
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>6,935,369</b>	<b>7,029,407</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Grants	4	2,822,922	2,104,156
Policy Development	5(a)	925,472	769,927
Support for Heritage Infrastructure	5(b)	1,401,246	1,528,584
<b>Administration</b>			
Council members' honoraria & expenses	6	51,328	65,785
Committee members' expenses		968	504
Staff costs	7	1,276,001	1,318,922
Establishment expenses	9	249,174	217,290
Office supplies and administration	10	186,424	160,979
Depreciation	11	262,195	267,738
<b>Total Administration</b>		<b>2,026,090</b>	<b>2,031,218</b>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>7,175,730</b>	<b>6,433,885</b>
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		(240,361)	595,522
Balance at 1st January, 2014		1,008,898	413,376
<b>Balance at 31 December 2014</b>		<b>768,537</b>	<b>1,008,898</b>

The results for the year relate to continuing operations.

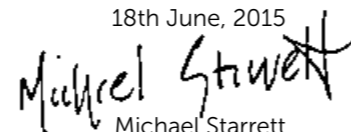
The statement of Accounting Policies, Notes 1 to 20 and Schedule 1 form part of these financial statements.



Catherine Heaney  
Council Member  
18th June, 2015



Michael Parsons  
Council Member  
18th June, 2015



Michael Starrett  
Chief Executive  
18th June, 2015

# THE HERITAGE COUNCIL 2014 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS & LOSSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

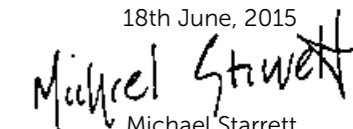
	2014 €	2013 €
Surplus/(deficit) for year	(240,361)	595,522
Experience gains/ (losses) on pension scheme liabilities	94,000	267,000
Changes in assumptions underlying the present value of pension scheme liabilities	(1,896,000)	0
	(2,042,361)	862,522
Adjustments to Deferred Pension Funding	1,802,000	(267,000)
<b>Total Recognised (Loss)/Gain for the year</b>	<b>(240,361)</b>	<b>595,522</b>



Catherine Heaney  
Council Member  
18th June, 2015



Michael Parsons  
Council Member  
18th June, 2015



Michael Starrett  
Chief Executive  
18th June, 2015

# THE HERITAGE COUNCIL 2014 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2014

	Notes	2014 €	2013 €
Tangible fixed assets	11	6,823,712	7,047,507
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors and Prepayments	12	235,179	249,447
Cash at bank and in hand		1,172,993	1,341,929
Total Current Assets		1,408,171	1,591,376
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
General Creditors and Accruals		473,716	525,939
Grants Outstanding		165,920	56,540
Total Current Liabilities	13	639,636	582,479
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		768,536	1,008,898
Total Assets less Current Liabilities Before Pensions		7,592,248	8,056,405
<b>Deferred Pension Funding</b>	8(d)	6,097,000	3,880,000
Pension Liabilities		6,097,000	3,880,000
		0	0
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		7,592,248	8,056,405
<b>Represented by:</b>			
Capital Account	3	6,823,711	7,047,507
Income and Expenditure Account		768,537	1,008,898
		7,592,248	8,056,405

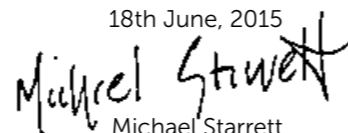
The statement of Accounting Policies, Notes 1 to 20 and Schedule 1 form part of these financial statements.



Catherine Heaney  
Council Member  
18th June, 2015



Michael Parsons  
Council Member  
18th June, 2015



Michael Starrett  
Chief Executive  
18th June, 2015

# THE HERITAGE COUNCIL 2014 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

## Note 1: Oireachtas Grants

The amount of €5,978,000 comprises Grants from the Department of Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht and the Environment Fund managed by the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government as follows:

	2014 €	2013 €
Administration Grants (Department of Arts Heritage & Gaeltacht Vote 33, Subhead B.3.1)	1,468,000	1,395,000
Non-Capital Grants (Department of Arts Heritage & Gaeltacht Vote 33, Subhead B.3.2) (National Lottery funded)	1,337,000	1,270,000
Non Capital Grants (Department of Arts Heritage & Gaeltacht, National Inventory of Architectural Heritage)	25,000	0
Non Capital Grants (Environment Fund: Natural Heritage)	370,000	400,000
Capital Grants (Department of Arts Heritage & Gaeltacht, National Monuments Service)	40,000	50,000
Capital Grants ( Department of Arts Heritage & Gaeltacht Vote 33, Subhead B.3.1) (National Lottery funded)	1,688,000	1,781,000
Capital Grant (Environment Fund : Built Heritage)	1,050,000	1,200,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,978,000</b>	<b>6,096,000</b>

## Note 2: Other Income

	2014 €	2013 €
Dept. of Agriculture Contribution towards Traditional Farm Buildings Scheme (Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine Vote 30, Subhead C.3.1)	75,272	65,753
Faillte Ireland - Grant to Support Heritage Week	30,000	29,000
Irish Walled Towns Membership Fee & Seminar Income	65,807	47,345
Contribution of Local Authorities to Heritage Viewer Project	16,000	27,000
Contribution of Local Authorities to Heritage in Schools Programme	0	2,100
Council of Europe Funding towards Joint Programme for Cultural Heritage - Communications Element	79,183	74,865
Council of Europe Funding towards Promotion of Cultural Diversity in Kosovo - Delegation Visit to Ireland	9,400	0
Council of Europe Funding towards European Heritage Days Website Development	9,500	0
National Parks and Wildlife Service - Refund of Costs incurred in relation to attendance at Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species meetings	0	2,284
Heritage Week Advertising	7,970	7,343
Insurance Settlements	25,325	3,945
Deposit Interest	0	182
Miscellaneous	106	828
Publications	10	220
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>318,573</b>	<b>260,865</b>

## Note 3: Capital Account

	2014 €	2013 €
Balance at 1 January	7,047,507	7,296,049

## Transfer (to)/from Income and Expenditure Account

Amount allocated to fund fixed asset purchases	38,399	19,196
Less: Amortisation in line with depreciation	(262,195)	(267,738)
	(223,796)	(248,542)
<b>Balance at 31 December</b>	<b>6,823,711</b>	<b>7,047,507</b>

# THE HERITAGE COUNCIL 2014 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

## Note 4: Grants

	2014	2013
	€	€
Buildings at Risk	0	5,000
Irish National Strategic Archaeological Research	43,873	0
Irish Walled Towns Network Grants towards Walled Towns Days	97,111	77,145
Irish Walled Towns Network Grants towards Capital Works	145,824	110,000
Research Grants	0	2,000
Education Grants	0	21,145
Management Grants	569,168	61,491
Conservation Led Plan Grants	20,838	84,105
Museum Standards Programme of Ireland Commemoration Conservation Grants	1,248	5,598
Policy & Infrastructure Grants	340,015	351,077
County Heritage Plan Grants	634,845	416,595
Irish Landmark Trust Ltd. Note 14	220,000	220,000
Discovery Programme Ltd. Note 15	750,000	750,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,822,922</b>	<b>2,104,156</b>

Schedule 1 contains details of grants payable during the year

## Note 5(a): Policy Expenditure

	2014	2013
	€	€
Pilgrim Paths Promotion	1,151	0
Articulation of Heritage in National Landscape Policies	45,633	11,825
Evaluate Heritage Publications	1,975	0
Heritage in Schools	243,382	158,531
Heritage Week	272,758	259,953
Communciation of Council activities	71,015	117,393
Research & Studies	64,871	316
Publications	31,969	22,366
Joint Programme for Cultural Heritage - Communications Element	79,183	74,866
Conservation Internships	40,000	50,000
Promotion of Preventative Maintenance	73,535	73,820
Conservation Plans and Centrality of Place	0	857
<b>Total</b>	<b>925,472</b>	<b>769,927</b>

Staff costs in the amount of €57,570 in respect of Traditional Farm Buildings Reps 4 project administration is included in "Promotion of Preventative Maintenance" of €73,535

# THE HERITAGE COUNCIL 2014 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

## Note 5(b): Heritage Infrastructure

	2014	2013
	€	€
National Biodiversity Data Centre	683,272	749,318
Field Monument Advisors database development	2,140	2,140
Museum Standards Programme	114,708	114,288
Heritage Officer Programme	501,810	514,320
Heritage Viewer	10,985	71,095
Promotion of Cultural Diversity in Kosovo - Delegation Costs	9,252	0
Irish Walled Towns Network Administration	79,079	77,423
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,401,246</b>	<b>1,528,584</b>

## Note 6: Council Members Fees & Expenses

	Fee	Expenses Claimed	Accommodation & Meals Provided	Total
	€	€	€	€
Conor Newman	0	5,113	649	5,762
Caro lynne Ferris	5,985	1,461	435	7,881
Gabriel Cooney	0	774	190	964
Mary Keenan	2,394	367	0	2,761
Brendan Dunford	0	0	254	254
Michael Parsons	0	1,548	260	1,808
Catherine Heaney	5,985	212	189	6,386
Fidelma Mullane	5,985	4,131	1,789	11,905
Ted Creedon	5,985	3,619	1,072	10,676
Ciara Breathnach	0	0	0	0
Kieran O'Connor	0	2,357	574	2,931
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,334</b>	<b>19,582</b>	<b>5,412</b>	<b>51,328</b>

Certain civil and public servants are not entitled to fees as Council members of The Heritage Council

## Note 7: Staff Costs

The average number of staff employed by the Heritage Council for the year was 14. This is comprised of The Heritage Council complement of 13 staff together with contract staff employed for specific projects. (2013 -15).

	2014	2013
	€	€
Staff salaries and wages	850,998	894,341
Pension Costs	358,000	364,000
Staff Well Being & Settlements	0	2,750
Travel and Expenses	58,228	53,872
Training	8,775	3,959
	<b>1,276,001</b>	<b>1,318,922</b>

€56,301 was deducted from staff by way of pension levy and was paid over to the Department of Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht

## CEO Remuneration Package

The CEO received salary payments of €109,451 in 2014. No bonus payments were made to the CEO. The CEO received recoupment of travel and subsistence expenses of €7,925. The CEO is a member of an unfunded defined benefit public sector scheme and his pension entitlements do not extend beyond the standard entitlements in the public sector defined benefit superannuation scheme.

# THE HERITAGE COUNCIL 2014 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

### Note 8: Superannuation Scheme

There was a defined contribution scheme with Scottish Provident in operation until 1 February 2003. In accordance with Section 20 of the Heritage Act 1995, the Council sought to establish a superannuation scheme for all permanent staff in line with the public sector model. Accordingly, two defined benefit schemes were approved by the Minister for Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht with effect from 1 February 2003 on an operational basis and apply to staff employed at that date in respect of qualifying past service. The Schemes are the Heritage Council Employee Superannuation Scheme, 2003 and the Heritage Council Spouse's and Children's Contributory Pension Scheme, 2003. These schemes are unfunded.

#### (a) Analysis Of Total Pension Costs Charged To Expenditure

	2014	2013
	€	€
Current Service Cost	255,000	269,000
Interest on Pension Scheme Liabilities	165,000	160,000
Employee Contributions	(62,000)	(65,000)
Total	<u>358,000</u>	<u>364,000</u>

#### (b) Movement in Net Pension Liability during the financial year

	2014	2013
	€	€
Net Pension Liability at 1 January	(3,880,000)	(3,723,000)
Movement in year:		
Current Service Cost	(255,000)	(269,000)
Interest Cost	(165,000)	(160,000)
Actuarial gain/(loss)	(1,802,000)	267,000
Pension Payable	5,000	5,000
Net Pension Liability at 31 December	<u>(6,097,000)</u>	<u>(3,880,000)</u>

#### (c) Deferred Funding Asset For Pensions

The Heritage Council recognises these amounts as an asset corresponding to the unfunded deferred liability for pensions on the basis of the set of assumptions described below and a number of past events. These events include the statutory basis for the establishment of the superannuation scheme, and the policy and practice currently in place in relation to funding of public service pensions including the contributions by employees and the annual estimates process. The Heritage Council has no evidence that this funding policy will not continue to meet such sums in accordance with current practice.

The Net Deferred Funding for Pensions recognised in the Income and Expenditure Account was as follows:

	2014	2013
	€	€
Funding Recoverable in respect of current year	420,000	429,000
Pension Payable	(5,000)	(5,000)
Total	<u>415,000</u>	<u>424,000</u>

The deferred funding asset for pensions at 31 December 2014 amounted to €6,097m (2013: €3,880m)

#### (d) History Of Defined Benefit Obligations

	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000	€000
Defined Benefit Obligations	6097	3880	3723	2996	2291	1924
Experience Gains/ (Losses) on Scheme Liabilities	94	267	1	51	69	253
Percentage of Scheme Liabilities	1.54%	6.88%	0.03%	1.70%	3.01%	13.15%

The cumulative actuarial loss from 1 January 2003 to date recognised in the Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses amounts to €2,027,000

# THE HERITAGE COUNCIL 2014 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

### Note 8: Superannuation Scheme contd.

#### (e) General Description Of The Scheme

The pension scheme is a defined benefit final salary pension arrangement with benefits and contributions defined by reference to current "model" public sector scheme regulations. The scheme provides a pension (one eightieth per year of service), a gratuity or lump sum (three eightieths per year of service) and spouse's and children's pensions. Normal Retirement Age is a member's 65th birthday, and pre 2004 members have an entitlement to retire without actuarial reduction from age 60. Pensions in payment (and deferment) normally increase in line with general public sector salary inflation.

The valuation used for FRS 17 disclosures has been based on an actuarial valuation at 31 December 2014 by a qualified independent actuary to take account of the requirements of FRS17 in order to assess the scheme liabilities at 31 December, 2014

The principal actuarial assumptions were as follows:

Assumptions	31/12/14	31/12/13
Discount Rate	2.30%	4.00%
Salary escalation	1% for one years, 3.3% thereafter	1% for two years, 3.5% thereafter
Increases to state pensions	0% for one year and 1.8% thereafter	0% for two years and 2% thereafter
Increase to Salary Grade	0% for one year and 2.3% thereafter	0% for two years and 2.5% thereafter
Inflation	1.80%	2.00%
<b>Mortality Rates</b>		
Year of attaining age 65	2014	2013
Life Expectancy - Male	88	87
Life Expectancy - Female	90	90

#### Note 9: Establishment expenses

	2014	2013
	€	€
Rent and service charge	30,066	27,907
Power, heat and light	21,706	22,397
Canteen, catering and cleaning	29,207	30,121
Meetings	18,012	15,697
Repairs, maintenance & security	119,998	89,305
Insurance	30,185	31,863
	<u>249,174</u>	<u>217,290</u>

#### Note 10: Office supplies and administration

	2014	2013
	€	€
Telephone and postage	24,829	28,898
Stationery, printing & office equipment repairs	13,824	14,181
Library	260	1,459
Computer supplies and maintenance	67,612	76,482
Professional fees	55,623	9,122
Sundry	2,067	6,071
Legal Fees	531	3,716
Subscriptions	8,152	7,211
Audit fee	9,900	9,900
Interest & Charges	3,086	2,084
Gifts	540	1,855
	<u>186,424</u>	<u>160,979</u>

# THE HERITAGE COUNCIL 2014 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

## Note 11: Tangible Fixed Assets

	Buildings	Leasehold	Office Furniture	Office Equipment	Plant & Equipment	Computers	Reference Material & OSI Licences	Motor Vehicles	Works of Art	Total
	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
<b>COST</b>										
As at 1 January 2014	8,064,752	429,417	222,496	182,309	14,790	770,613	457,204	20,703	203,217	10,365,501
Additions	0	0	2,316	2,032	3,357	30,695	0	0	0	38,400
Disposal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
As 31 December 2014	<u>8,064,752</u>	<u>429,417</u>	<u>224,812</u>	<u>184,341</u>	<u>18,147</u>	<u>801,308</u>	<u>457,204</u>	<u>20,703</u>	<u>203,217</u>	<u>10,403,901</u>

## Accumulated Depreciation

As at 1 January 2014	1,352,133	329,221	216,562	179,327	10,851	751,993	457,204	20,703	0	3,317,994
Charge for year	201,619	42,942	694	2,126	1,556	13,258	0	0	0	262,195
On disposals	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<u>1,553,752</u>	<u>372,163</u>	<u>217,256</u>	<u>181,453</u>	<u>12,407</u>	<u>765,251</u>	<u>457,204</u>	<u>20,703</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,580,189</u>

## NET BOOK AMOUNTS

As at 1 January 2014	<u>6,712,619</u>	<u>100,196</u>	<u>5,934</u>	<u>2,982</u>	<u>3,939</u>	<u>18,620</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>203,217</u>	<u>7,047,507</u>
As at 31 December 2014	<u>6,511,000</u>	<u>57,254</u>	<u>7,556</u>	<u>2,888</u>	<u>5,740</u>	<u>36,057</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>203,217</u>	<u>6,823,712</u>

## Note 12: Debtors and Prepayments

	2014	2013
	€	€
Debtors	11,988	20,642
Prepayments & Other Debtors	223,191	228,805
	<u>235,179</u>	<u>249,447</u>

## Note 13: Creditors and Accruals

	2014	2013
	€	€
Creditors	219,718	262,575
Accruals	253,998	263,364
General Creditors & Accruals	473,716	525,939
Grants Outstanding	165,920	56,540
	<u>639,636</u>	<u>582,479</u>

## Note 14: The Irish Landmark Trust Ltd.

The Irish Landmark Trust Ltd was established in 1992 as a non profit company with the objective of saving historic buildings that were abandoned or at risk. This is achieved by giving them a useful and viable function as short term holiday accommodation, which would secure their long-term future. The level of Council funding each year is determined by reference to Council's Five Year Plan, the Irish Landmark Trust's Corporate Plan, and Council's overall budgetary position.

# THE HERITAGE COUNCIL 2014 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

## Note 15: Discovery Programme Ltd.

The Council funds the Discovery Programme that was established in 1991 and was registered as a company, limited by guarantee on 15 January 1996. The Council is responsible for appointing the chair of the Discovery Programme and three of its directors. The Chief Executive or his nominee is one of Council's representatives on the Board of the Discovery Programme. The level of Council funding each year is determined by reference to Council's Five Year Plan, The Discovery Programme's Corporate Plan, and Council's overall budgetary position. The purpose of the programme is to enhance our understanding of Ireland's past through research and archaeological excavations.

## Note 16: Grant Commitments

At 31 December 2014 the Council had entered into grant commitments in connection with activities due to take place after that date. The amount involved of €291,065 is not reflected in these Financial Statements.

	2014	2013
	€	€
Grants committed at 1 January	253,247	163,072
Approvals in year	3,020,361	2,289,558
Grants decommitted & write offs	(159,621)	(95,227)
Grant expenditure in the year	(2,822,922)	(2,104,156)
Grant Commitments at 31 December	<u>291,065</u>	<u>253,247</u>

## Note 17: Council Members Disclosure of Interest

In the normal course of business the Council may approve financial assistance to undertakings in which the Council members are employed or otherwise have an interest.

The Council adopted procedures in accordance with guidelines issued by the Department of Finance in relation to the disclosure of interests by Council members and these procedures have been adhered to during the year.

The following members disclosed an interest in organisations to which financial assistance was approved in the year:

Professor Gabriel Cooney	€2,803.55 for Heritage Management Grant M03842
Conor Newman	€2,000.00 for Heritage Management Grant M04369 Not paid in 2014 but included in Commitments of €291,065 at Note 16 €2,000.00 for Heritage Management Grant M04370 Not paid in 2014 but included in Commitments of €291,065 at Note 16
Dr. Fidelma Mullane	€5,000.00 for Heritage Management Grant M04049

The members withdrew from the meetings when the projects were being discussed and played no part in the decision to grant funding.

## Note 18: Going Concern

The Council draws funds from the Department of Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht as and when required. It recognises this income on a cash receipts basis but recognises expenditure on an accruals basis. The Council believes that the department will continue to fund its approved activities and on this basis it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

## Note 19: Premises

The Heritage Council operates from a premises at Aras na hOidhreacht, Church Lane, Kilkenny which it occupies and owns.

## Note 20: Approval of Financial Statements

The Financial Statements were approved by Council on 23rd April, 2015.



## **SCHEDULE 1 TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

IRISH NATIONAL STRATEGIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH GRANTS				
Ref. Number	Recipient Name	Project Title	Local Authority Areas	Amount Paid €
AR03743	Queens University Belfast	EMAP 2: The Economy of Early Medieval Ireland Programme 2013	All of Ireland	43,873.04
TOTAL				43,873.04

IRISH WALLED TOWNS NETWORK WALLED TOWNS DAY GRANTS				
Ref. Number	Recipient Name	Project Title	Local Authority Areas	Amount Paid €
WD03715	Athy Heritage Company Ltd	South Kildare Medieval Festival 2013 (Now With Added Vikings!)	Kildare	4,000.00
WD03720	Athy Heritage Company Ltd	"Bones & Stones" Information day examining the methodologies and results of geophysical survey	Kildare	994.00
WD04382	Cork County Council	The Youghal Medieval Festival 2014	Cork - Cork County	7,500.00
WD04387	Galway County Council	Athenry Walled Town Day 2014	Galway - Galway County	6,500.00
WD04389	Cork County Council	Medieval Characters of Youghal - 'Pop-up Museum' at St. Mary's Collegiate Church, Youghal	Cork - Cork County	4,383.75
WD04390	Athy Heritage Company Ltd	Clontarf to Athy, a long, bloody walk (2014 Event)	Kildare	3,500.00
WD04391	Galway County Council	Re-Discover Loughrea's Medieval Heritage	Galway - Galway County	4,000.00
WD04392	Cashel Town Council	Life in the Walled Town	Tipperary - South Tipperary	3,538.56
WD04393	Cashel Town Council	Two Projects: Early Bird Walking Tours and Weaving the Story of Wool	Tipperary - South Tipperary	2,956.91
WD04394	Kildare County Council	The Irish High Cross: Pop Up Exhibition	Kildare	1,444.90
WD04395	Wexford County Council	Guided walking tours of Wexford's Town Wall	Wexford	100.00
WD04397	Wexford County Council	Wexford's Town Wall it's History & Archaeology & an Interactive Childrens Day	Wexford	1,500.00
WD04398	Kilkenny County Council	City Walls Heritage Interpretation Strategy 2014	Kilkenny	4,500.00
WD04405	Louth County Council	Carlingford Mediaeval Sports Day	Louth	4,500.00
WD04409	Thomond Archaeological and Historical Society (TAHS)	Practiced in the Art of War; Limerick sieges 1642 -1691. A conference	Limerick - Limerick City	1,700.00
WD04410	Bandon Walled Town Festival Committee	Bandon Walled Town Festival 2014	Cork - Cork County	6,000.00
WD04411	Meath County Council	Living History Walking Tour	Meath	1,500.00
WD04412	Meath County Council	Pop Up Museum	Meath	4,500.00
WD04415	Athy Heritage Company Ltd	Interpretative Medieval Guided Walking Tours (2014 Event)	Kildare	1,000.00
WD04416	Kilkenny Archaeology	Story of Kilkenny: Archaeological Animation Resource	Kilkenny	4,000.00
WD04418	Limerick County Council	Conference: "The 16th century walled town"	Limerick - Limerick County	1,500.00
WD04422	Tipperary County Council	Clonmel Walled Towns Day 2014	Tipperary - South Tipperary	7,500.00
WD04423	Fethard Historical Society	Fethard Walled Town Medieval Festival	Tipperary - South Tipperary	7,000.00
WD04425	Galway County Council	Athenry and Loughrea: Our Medieval Connections	Galway - Galway County	2,000.00
WD04426	Fethard Historical Society	Medieval Music Night with Nuada in old Holy Trinity Church	Tipperary - South Tipperary	1,000.00
WD04436	Buttevant Heritage Group	Walking Tours of Medieval Buttevant	Cork - Cork County	2,500.00
WD04447	Fethard Historical Society	Hosting Medieval Pop-Up Museum, created by Cashel Heritage Forum, in Fethard	Tipperary - South Tipperary	500.00
WD04448	Holywell Trust Diversecity Programme	Walls400 1614-2014	Ireland - Northern	6,992.67
TOTAL				97,110.79

IRISH WALLED TOWNS NETWORK CAPITAL GRANTS				
Ref. Number	Recipient Name	Project Title	Local Authority Areas	Amount Paid €
W04381	Wexford County Council	Conservation works to the Town Wall at School Street & St Patrick's Church & Cemetery	Wexford	4,230.00
W04386	Galway County Council	Athenry Town Walls Capital Works Project 2014	Galway - Galway County	20,000.00
W04388	Cork County Council	Phase VI of works to secure the structural integrity of Youghal's Town Walls	Cork - Cork County	20,000.00
W04399	Kildare County Council	Creation of Conservation, Management & Inter-petation Plan for Kildare Town	Kildare	9,894.37
W04413	Tipperary County Council	Conservation and Survey of Walls in Ormond Castle Quarter	Tipperary - South Tipperary	30,000.00
W04417	Wexford County Council	Standing Section of New Ross Town Wall: Restoration Work to Zone 2, Section B.	Wexford	18,991.69
W04431	Tipperary County Council	Cashel City Walls Conservation Programme 2014	Tipperary - South Tipperary	4,999.95
W04432	Waterford City & County Council	Waterford City Walls and Towers Conservation and Management Plan	Waterford - Waterford City	2,941.88
W04435	Limerick City & County Council	Kilmallock West Wall 2014	Limerick - Limerick County	30,000.00
W04440	Dublin City Council	Review of Dublin City Walls and Defences Conservation Plan	Dublin - Dublin City	4,766.25
TOTAL				145,824.14

HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PROJECTS				
Ref. Number	Recipient Name	Project Title	Local Authority Areas	Amount Paid €
M03805	Thomas O Connor	Conservation of 19th century beautifully constructed two person outdoor toilet.	Mayo	5,000.00
M03809	Tea Lane Graveyard Committee	The preparation of a conservation management plan for Tea Lane Graveyard Celbridge County Kildare	Kildare	3,000.00
M03815	Sheila Ahern	Archive and preserve Mary Raftery body of work	Dublin - Dublin City	3,000.00
M03816	South and East Cork Area Development Ltd	Graveyard Management Plan Development	Cork - Cork County	7,000.00
M03817	Kilenny Art Gallery Society	Butler Gallery Collection: Conservator Led Condition Report (Part II)	Kilkenny	7,000.00
M03819	Abbeyleix Bog Project Ltd	Abbeyleix Bog Conservation Management Plan	Laois	5,000.00
M03821	Northside Community Enterprises Ltd.	Cork Folklore Project	Cork - Cork City	8,000.00
M03832	Timahoe Round Tower Festival	Conservation Plan for Timahoe early Christian site	Laois	8,000.00
M03838	Galway County Council	Conservation of Poor Law Union Minutes	Galway - Galway County	5,000.00
M03842	UCD School of Archaeology	Hill of Ward and environs management plan	Meath	2,803.55
M03843	Austin Redmond	FOULKES MILL: Drawings and specifications for watermill wheel etc	Wexford	2,500.00
M03847	Fergal Smith	Moy Wood Conservation Management Plan	Clare	3,000.00
M03854	North Cathedral Parish	Conservation of Parish Baptismal Registers	Cork - Cork City	3,000.00
M03857	National Gallery of Ireland	Conservation of the Battle of the Boyne by Jan Wyck (1693) - Phase 1	Dublin - Fingal	10,000.00
M03861	Loop Head Tourism	Loop Head Heritage Audit 2014	Clare	8,000.00
M03867	Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland	Conservation management report, 63 Merrion Square	Dublin - Dublin City	6,000.00
M03871	Nora White	Knockboy Church and Ogham stones - Conservation Report phase 1	Waterford - Waterford County	600.00
M03872	Kerry Library Archives	Boxing of Schools & Valuation Books Collections	Kerry	1,500.00
M03886	Scouting Ireland	Refurbishment of Heritage Barge No: 131B the Fox	Ireland - Republic of	7,000.00

HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PROJECTS CONTINUED				
Ref. Number	Recipient Name	Project Title	Local Authority Areas	Amount Paid €
M03894	Dublin City Council	Conservation of 25 maps from Wide Street Commission Collection	Dublin - Dublin City	3,000.00
M03895	Patrick Roycroft	Conservation of University College Dublin's Mineral Collection	Dublin - South Dublin, Dublin - Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown	6,500.00
M03896	Irish Architectural Archive	Housing T.J Byrne Slide Collection and Iveagh Trust Drawings Collection	Dublin - Dublin City	1,000.00
M03898	Creevy & District Community Development Co-Operative Society Ltd.	Kilbarron Castle Conservation Project	Donegal	4,794.31
M03899	MidlandsAmenity Park Ltd.	Dun na Si Amenity and Heritage Park - Biodiversity Management Plan	Westmeath	2,000.00
M03903	Bernard and Bridget Lynch	Refurbishment of New Park House Moville.	Donegal	2,000.00
M03905	Ardara Men's Shed	Ardara Men's Shed Hand Weaving Loom Restoration Project	Donegal	1,787.68
M03926	Glenfarne Gun Club	Conservation Management Plan for Red Grouse on Boleybrack Mountain	Cavan, Leitrim	6,000.00
M03927	Galway City Council	Storage of Dominican textile collection at Galway City Museum	Galway - Galway City	2,500.00
M03932	The Irish Grey Partridge Conservation Trust	The creation of suitable habitat for breeding lapwings - a red data species of conservation concern	Offaly	7,000.00
M03933	Pairc an Chrocaigh Teo Museum	The conservation, digitisation and rebinding of the Dublin county board minute books, 1912-1928	Dublin - Dublin City	2,500.00
M03935	Kilkenny Archives Ltd	Catalogue Prior-Wandesforde Papers	Kilkenny	5,000.00
M03938	Irish Peatland Conservation Council	Restoration of Girley Bog, Co. Meath	Meath	7,000.00
M03943	Ballydangan Bog Red Grouse Project	Ballydangan Bog Red Grouse Project-based on a five-year management plan (2010-2015).	Roscommon	5,000.00
M03945	Tom O'Dowd	Trinity Abbey & Island Conservation Project	Cavan	6,000.00
M03947	Leslie Moore	Weather proofing works to Porte House, Ruan, Co. Clare	Clare	8,000.00
M03950	Sir Charles Keane	Listing and cataloguing of the papers of Sir John Keane	Waterford - Waterford County	4,500.00
M03956	Moygara Castle Research Project	Moygara Castle Conservation Project 2014	Sligo	3,000.00
M03957	New Inn Parish Council Grange Cemetery	Consolidation of walls of medieval church at Grange cemetery .Recorded Monument GA 086133001	Galway - Galway County	2,500.00
M03962	Dublin Cemeteries Committee	Glasnevin Trust Archive Conservation Upgrade	Dublin - Dublin City	8,000.00
M03968	National Library of Ireland Trust	Pearse Papers Conservation Project	Dublin - Dublin City	7,000.00
M03970	Kerry County Council	Conservation of Private Maurice O'Connell: Framed Portrait	Kerry	794.50
M03972	Portarlinton Community Development Association	Conservation Report for Lea Castle	Laois	7,902.50
M03982	Ballyleague Village Renewal Committee	Ballyleague North & Harbour Conservation Plan	Roscommon	7,000.00
M03983	National Irish Visual Arts Library	Conservation of the Egan Gallery Collection and Irish Exhibition of Living Art Scrapbooks	Dublin - Dublin City	5,640.00
M03984	Meave O Connell	Stabilization and Conservation of the stonework comprising the western, gable, end of St. Nicholas Church, Jerpoint, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny	Kilkenny	10,000.00
M03985	Cork City Council	Conservation/Preservation of City of Cork Steam Packet Co Ltd Records	Cork - Cork City	5,000.00

HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PROJECTS CONTINUED				
Ref. Number	Recipient Name	Project Title	Local Authority Areas	Amount Paid €
M03991	Joan, Raymond & Domini Codd	Clonmines Medieval Site - Archaeological surveying of above ground features under greatest threat.	Wexford	6,500.00
M03992	Abbeyleix Heritage Company	Textile Collection Conservation Plan	Laois	3,000.00
M03996	Oxmantown Settlement Trust	Birr Castle Photographic Archive Conservation	Offaly	4,000.00
M03997	Inland Fisheries Ireland	Facilitation of fish-passage at Tuckmill Bridge where fish passage is impeded.	Wicklow	3,000.00
M04000	Kiltoom Graveyard ( Church of Ireland) Group	Restoration of Kiltoom Church of Ireland graveyard	Roscommon	1,000.00
M04006	BirdWatch Ireland	Management for Corncrakes in Donegal and Mayo	Mayo	7,998.10
M04012	Machaire le Cheile Teo	Templecrone Church Boundary Wall and Graveyard Survey	Donegal	5,000.00
M04016	Burncourt Community Council	Mountain Lodge Conservation Plan	Tipperary - South Tipperary	4,000.00
M04023	Thomastown Community River Trust Ltd	Restoration of sluice gate, log dam and breast gate on Thomastown Weir	Kilkenny	10,000.00
M04026	The Hunt Museum	Conservation of Museum artefact: Statue of Madonna	Limerick - Limerick City	4,000.00
M04033	Mount St Joseph Abbey, Roscrea	Conservation report and survey of Walled Garden	Offaly	3,000.00
M04035	CELT	Biodiversity Survey of Tuamgraney Community Woodland Wildlife Park	Clare	2,000.00
M04040	Patrick Gleeson	Defining the Rock of Cashel: Remote sensing survey of the archaeological complex	Tipperary - South Tipperary	6,000.00
M04041	Fr Padraig O'Baighill	St Mary's Old Church Derrybeg - Conservation Plan	Donegal	4,000.00
M04043	Gallon Graveyard Committee	Conservation and Restoration at Gallon Graveyard	Cavan	3,000.00
M04044	Niall Colfer	Conservation Plan for the Salthouse and associated quay in Slade, Hook Head, Co. Wexford	Wexford	6,000.00
M04046	Harvey Appelbe	Conservation Plan for The Old Woollen Mill, Ballymore Eustace	Kildare	6,000.00
M04049	Computer and Communications Museum of Ireland Ltd. (CCMI)	Catalogue the current collection of objects according to international museum standards	Galway - Galway County, Galway - Galway City	5,000.00
M04057	Scattery Island Heritage and Tourism Forum	Scattery Island - Natural Heritage Conservation Plan	Clare	5,000.00
M04061	Robert & Fiona Wheeldon	Manorhamilton House Sparrow Project	Leitrim	1,230.00
M04065	St Mary's Church, New Ross	Springclean our Organ	Wexford	699.73
M04071	The Irish Jewish Museum	Assessment and Recording of Museum's collection of books.	Dublin - Dublin City	5,000.00
M04077	Royal College of Physicians of Ireland	Conservation of original architectural drawings of No.6 Kildare Street	Dublin - Dublin City	1,500.00
M04078	Chockablock Ltd.	Tyrconnell Tower Conservation & Management Plan	Kildare	2,000.00
M04081	Waterford Treasures at the Granary Ltd.	Conservation of banner of Thomas Francis Meagher Band, c1897	Waterford - Waterford City	3,500.00
M04083	Highlanes Gallery	Conservation of Drogheda Municipal Art Collection	Louth	1,000.00
M04084	Ballysaggart Church Fund	Ballysaggart 15th century Friary Restoration Project (Phase Two)	Donegal	6,834.89
M04087	BirdWatch Ireland	Inishee Island, Predator Proof Fence – maintenance 2014	Galway - Galway County	3,000.00
M04097	Bruach na Carraige	Develop & conserve archival collection documenting the music, song and dance traditions of Slabh Luachra area	Cork	2,796.59

HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PROJECTS CONTINUED				
Ref. Number	Recipient Name	Project Title	Local Authority Areas	Amount Paid €
M04096	Melanie Foot	Conservation plan for White boy Towers	Carlow	4,000.00
M04099	Wexford County Council	Conservation repair of a Valentine Gill map of County Wexford (1811)	Wexford	1,500.00
M04101	JP O' Hara	Dunleckney Maltings Conservation & Management Plan	Carlow	3,000.00
M04104	Elene Negussie	Managing Dublin City as a Historic Urban Landscape in the Prospect of World Heritage Nomination	Dublin - Dublin City	3,000.00
M04118	Slógadh Eachtaí	Audit of heritage of two areas in Slieve Aughtys	Galway - Galway County	3,000.00
M04119	Meath County Council	An audit of derelict and vacant buildings within UNESCO World Heritage Site of Bru na Boinne	Meath	8,000.00
M04135	Lár Chomhairle Paróiste Ghleann Cholm Cille	Conservation of Carrigan Head/ Slieve League Signal Tower	Donegal	3,000.00
M04136	Wicklow Parish Church	Conservation Plan for St Livinius Parish Church Wicklow Town	Wicklow	1,500.00
M04138	Kevin Smyth	Living Heritage - proposal to arrange and submit basis of a Local Area Action Plan for Middle Parish in Cork city	Cork - Cork City	5,000.00
M04139	Kerry County Council	Restoration of access gate to Ardfert Cathedral.	Kerry	1,000.00
M04140	Scotshouse Tidy Towns	Scotshouse Heritage Stone Wall Restoration	Monaghan	4,000.00
M04142	Kerry County Council	Restoration works to structures within Ballyseedy Wood	Kerry	3,768.05
M04152	Limerick City & County Council	Conservation and Display of the Commandant Sean Finn (1898-1921) Uniform	Limerick - Limerick County	4,000.00
M04162	Morgan McMorrough Kavanagh	Completion of cataloguing and archival storage of Borris Archive, Conservation of 3 rare and historic books, Photography of important historic manuscript, Prepare a demesne map in accordance with the Borris House Conservation and Management Plan.	Carlow	8,000.00
M04167	BirdWatch Ireland	Swift Conservation Project	All of Ireland	7,999.79
M04175	Monaghan County Council	Conservation works to Magheross Church	Monaghan	5,000.00
M04177	Waterford City and County Council	Conservation of Waterford County Maps	Waterford - Waterford County	3,000.00
M04183	Waterford City and County Council	Thomas Macdonagh Heritage Centre Conservation Reports	Tipperary - North Tipperary	7,000.00
M04184	Burtonport Heritage Group	The Cooperage, Burtonport: Conservation Report	Donegal	2,952.00
M04192	Gillian Coyle	Conservation Report and Recommendations for an Oyster Bed/Store at Boolard, Streamstown Bay, Clifden	Galway - Galway County	2,000.00
M04193	Granard Butter Market Development Committee	Granard Butter Market gate repair	Longford	500.00
M04195	Louth County Council	Ardee Corporation's historic minute books conservation project	Louth	1,800.00
M04197	Nicholas Tinne	Conservation of Emlaghmore Lodge	Galway - Galway County	7,000.00
M04199	Waterford City and County Council	Conservation Report on Clondagoff Castle, Co Galway	Galway - Galway County	4,000.00
M04203	Royal Irish Academy	Antiquarian Drawings Conservation	Dublin - Dublin City	4,000.00
M04204	Louth Nature Trust	Little Tern Conservation at Baltray County Louth 2014	Louth	10,000.00
M04207	Jo Day	Roman Coin Conservation	Dublin - Dun Laoghaire/ Rathdown	6,872.00
M04209	Limerick City & County Council	Structural and condition survey of Tower House, Ballynoe, Bruree, Co. Limerick	Limerick - Limerick County	5,000.00

HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PROJECTS CONTINUED				
Ref. Number	Recipient Name	Project Title	Local Authority Areas	Amount Paid €
M04210	County Longford Tourism Ltd	Conservation of Market House, Abbeycartron, Longford	Longford	5,000.00
M04214	Fannet Presbyterian Church	Plaster repairs to Fannet Presbyterian Church, Kerrykeel	Donegal	6,000.00
M04216	BirdWatch Ireland	Linking communities with nature through conservation of raptors	Galway - Galway County, Galway - Galway City, Kerry	8,000.00
M04217	Dublin Dock Workers Preservation Society	Dublin Dock Workers Preservation Society Project 2014.	Dublin - Dublin City	3,000.00
M04220	Friends of Merlin Woods	Bat Survey of Merlin Park Woods	Galway - Galway City	1,400.00
M04221	Killybegs History and Heritage Committee	St. Catherine's Church Conservation Project	Donegal	8,000.00
M04229	Darina Tully	Laser scanning for collections management, recording and conservation of boats.	Mayo	8,000.00
M04232	St Marys Church of Ireland Cong	Repairs to Hollymount cast iron spire	Mayo	15,000.00
M04237	Dermot Kelly	Pearce Grotto Conservation & Management Plan	Dublin - Dun Laoghaire/ Rathdown	5,000.00
M04239	Irish Traditional Music Archive	Irish Traditional Music Archive Manuscript Preservation & Access Project	Dublin - Dublin City	5,000.00
M04242	Group St Mullins Amenity and Recreational Tourism Ltd (SMART)	Granite Drystone walls of South Carlow –Conservation and Management Plan	Carlow	5,000.00
M04245	Dublin City Council	Conservation Management Plan and Guidance Document for Decorative Plasterwork in Dublin City	Dublin - Dublin City	4,000.00
M04246	Charleville Estate Company	Charleville Forest Stableyard Conservation & Management Plan	Offaly	6,500.00
M04247	Drogheda Civic Trust	Repair of Cord Road Cemetery Medieval Archway	Louth	2,994.12
M04252	Kevin Purcell	Busherstown House Conservation & Management Plan	Offaly	4,000.00
M04257	Joseph Kinahan	Cratloekeel Castle - Archaeological Surveying of Tower house and adjacent buildings	Clare	4,000.00
M04258	St Carthage's Cathedral	St Carthage's Cathedral Lismore 2014 Building Survey and Tree Management	Waterford - Waterford County	5,000.00
M04265	Williamstown Heritage Society	Restoration Polredmond Drama Backdrop	Galway - Galway County	1,500.00
M04270	George Slater	Bottle Tower Conservation & Management Plan	Dublin - Dun Laoghaire/ Rathdown	3,500.00
M04371	Luisne Spiritual Centre	Preparation of a Conservation Plan	Wicklow	4,000.00
M04377	Ciarán Walsh	Restore the archive of The Irish Ethnographic Survey 1891-1903	Kerry	1,500.00
TOTAL				569,167.81

CONSERVATION LED PLAN GRANTS				
Ref. Number	Recipient Name	Project Title	Local Authority Areas	Amount Paid €
D03751	Sligo County Council	Sligo Gaol Conservation Plan-Putting Policy into Action 2013	Sligo	17,148.16
D03787	Killorglin Archive Society	Feasibility Study for the conservation of Killorglin Mill	Kilkenny	3,690.00
TOTAL				20,838.16

MUSEUM STANDARDS PROGRAMME PROJECTS

Ref. Number	Recipient Name	Project Title	Local Authority Areas	Amount Paid €
MS04483	Kerry County Council	Autograph Books of Kerry - Creating a legacy of conserved objects	Kerry	1,248.50
TOTAL				1,248.50

POLICY & INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS				
Ref. Number	Recipient Name	Project Title	Local Authority Areas	Amount Paid €
D03779	Waterford Museum of Treasures	Publication: archaeological excavations at the 9th century Viking site at Woodstown, Waterford	Waterford - Waterford City	5,000.00
D03789	University College Dublin	Financial Support for Students: Diploma in Biological Recording	All of Ireland	5,000.00
D03790	Compass Informatics Ltd/ NBDC	Financial Support for work on Invasive Species	All of Ireland	30,000.00
D04454	European Forum on Nature Conservation and Pastoralism	High Nature Value Farming Programme 2014	All of Ireland	40,000.00
D04460	Burrenbeo Trust Ltd	Investing in the Burren, Ireland's Learning Landscape	Clare, Galway - Galway County	20,000.00
D04461	Burrenbeo Trust Ltd	Burren Community Charter 2014	Clare, Galway - Galway County	5,000.00
D04463	ICRI/The Institute of Conservator-Restorers in Ireland	CPD & Accreditation bursaries & CPD training workshops for conservator-restorers	All of Ireland	5,415.00
D04471	Irish Uplands Forum	"Who Cares for the Uplands" Conference support	All of Ireland	5,000.00
D04473	An Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreacht & Gaeltachta	Funding towards Aran Life Project	Galway - Galway County	10,000.00
D04484	Irish Whale and Dolphin Group	Reprint of Whales and Dolphins of Ireland book by Wilson and Berrow	Clare	2,000.00
D04485	Ireland Reaching Out	Support Genealogical Services	Galway - Galway County	30,745.29
D04493	Woodlands of Ireland Project	Core Funding	All of Ireland	40,000.00
D04498	Bere Island Projects Group Ltd	Bere Island Conservation Plan 2014	Cork - Cork County	20,000.00
D04511	Irish Museums Association	Irish Museums Association Work Programme 2014	All of Ireland	8,500.00
D04513	Juanita Browne	Publication: My First Book of Irish Animals	All of Ireland	1,600.00
D04520	Dale Treadwell	Publications: Naturally Wild Children's Book Series	All of Ireland	1,600.00
D04521	High Nature Value Services Ltd	Field Monument Advisor (FMA) Scheme 2014	Clare	15,000.00
D04523	Wicklow Uplands Council Limited	Wicklow Uplands Council Core Funding 2014	Wicklow	65,000.00
D04527	University College Dublin	A Sustainable Future for the Historic Urban Core	All of Ireland	12,557.00
D04529	Michael Potterton	Publication: The Early Church in Ireland	All of Ireland	5,000.00
D04531	Irish Architectural Archive	Making the IAA Catalogue available online	All of Ireland	4,000.00
D04533	Beara Tourism Limited	Funding for a feasibility Study on the Beara Breifne Way	Cork - Cork County	4,997.50
D04549	BirdWatch Ireland	Barn Owl information and conservation advice booklet	Ireland - Republic of	1,600.00
D04678	Building Limes Forum	Building Limes Forum HLM Workshop Drimnagh, 25th Nov 2014	Meath	2,000.00
TOTAL				340,014.79

COUNTY HERITAGE PLAN GRANTS				
Ref. Number	Recipient Name	Project Title	Local Authority Areas	Amount Paid €
C03593	Cork City Council	South Main Street Archaeological Monograph	Cork - Cork City	1,157.50
C03643	Kildare County Council	County Kildare Wetland Survey Phase II	Kildare	7,000.00
C03646	Wicklow County Council	Production of 2-3 minute clips of Wicklow's Hidden Heritage	Wicklow	2,250.00
C03631	Donegal County Council	Cultural Migration & Material Culture of Donegal People Abroad (Action 2.7)	Donegal	6,476.25
C03650	Meath County Council	Promoting cultural heritage learning initiatives in County Meath	Meath	10,000.00
C04171	Dublin City Council	20th Century Architecture in Dublin City - Phase 3	Dublin - Dublin City	12,500.00
C04240	Cork County Council	Publication: Heritage Homes of County Cork	Cork - Cork County	10,000.00
C04243	Donegal County Council	'Establishing a Civic Trust' Workshop Series (Action 1.4)	Donegal	4,371.59
C04253	Galway County Council	Raise knowledge and awareness of heritage of Lough Derg	Galway - Galway County	3,975.25
C04276	Laois County Council	Heritage Awareness in Laois 2014	Laois	9,000.00
C04282	Galway County Council	Field Monument Advisor Scheme 2014	Galway - Galway County	15,000.00
C04284	Galway County Council	People and Nature: Galway County Biodiversity Project 2014	Galway - Galway County	25,000.00
C04285	Galway County Council	Ecclesiastical Heritage Project 2014	Galway - Galway County	9,342.00
C04286	Galway County Council	Local Heritage Audit Programme 2014	Galway - Galway County	6,000.00
C04287	Kerry County Council	Heritage Hunters 20:20 project	Kerry	10,950.00
C04288	Clare County Council	Raise knowledge and awareness of heritage of Lough Derg	Clare	3,975.25
C04289	South Tipperary County Council	Raising Awareness 2014	Tipperary - South Tipperary	15,000.00
C04298	Laois County Council	Research and Write Booklet on the Rock of Dunamase	Laois	8,261.64
C04290	Tipperary County Council	Adopt a Monument/ Green Space 2014	Tipperary - South Tipperary	6,250.00
C04291	Cork City Council	Cork Heritage Open Day and Heritage Week	Cork - Cork City	15,000.00
C04292	Cork City Council	Discover Cork, Schools Heritage Project	Cork - Cork City	5,000.00
C04293	Roscommon County Council	2014, Black Pigs Dyke Regional Project	Cavan, Longford, Monaghan	3,642.86
C04294	Mayo County Council	Mayo Heritage Communication & Awareness Programme 2014	Mayo	9,390.00
C04295	Cork City Council	Cork City Natural Heritage School's Pack	Cork - Cork City	3,071.92
C04296	Offaly County Council	Japanese Knotweed Management Programme	Offaly	5,101.83
C04299	Laois County Council	Architectural Research & Photography for the Pevsner Guide to Laois & Offaly	Laois	5,500.00
C04300	Offaly County Council	Architectural Drawings, Maps and Photography for The Buildings of Ireland Laois Offaly volume	Offaly	5,550.00
C04301	Clare County Council	Biodiversity Officer 2014	Clare	13,302.75
C04302	Donegal County Council	Audit of Geological & Geomorphological Sites in North Donegal (Action 1.6)	Donegal	14,625.00
C04303	Dublin City Council	County Dublin Archaeology GIS Project with Fingal Co.Co./ Dún Laoghaire Rathdown C.oCo./ South Dublin Co.Co.	Dublin - Dublin City, Dublin - South Dublin, Dublin - Fingal, Dublin - Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown	12,500.00
C04304	Waterford City & County Council	Research and preparation of study of The Holy Wells of Waterford	Waterford - Waterford County	2,386.74
C04305	Kilkenny County Council	Heritage Awareness & Education Programme 2014	Kilkenny	10,000.00

COUNTY HERITAGE PLAN GRANTS CONTINUED				
Ref. Number	Recipient Name	Project Title	Local Authority Areas	Amount Paid €
C04306	Offaly County Council	Review of Quarries afteruse and biodiversity potential	Offaly	4,887.94
C04308	Longford County Council	Joint Black Pigs Dyke Regional Project - Longford	Longford	3,669.86
C04309	Waterford City & County Council	Publication: Architectural Waterford	Waterford - Waterford County	4,148.92
C04310	Cork County Council	Conservation, Management and Interpretation Plan for the Muscraí Gaeltacht, Co. Cork	Cork - Cork County	10,000.00
C04312	Waterford City & County Council	Heritage and Biodiversity Week events	Waterford - Waterford County	1,310.63
C04313	Waterford City & County Council	River Suir Heritage Audit	Waterford - Waterford County	9,900.00
C04314	Wicklow County Council	Geological Heritage Audit of Wicklow (South Dublin, Dun Laoghaire and Dublin City)	Dublin - Dublin City, Dublin - South Dublin, Dublin - Dun Laoghaire/ Rathdown, Wicklow	18,000.00
C04315	Cavan County Council	Permanent exhibition in Cavan County Museum entitled: Clogh Oughter Castle, Co. Cavan: A Witness to Centuries of Irish History	Cavan	11,536.27
C04318	Kildare County Council	County Kildare Wetland Survey Phase III - Final Phase	Kildare	12,000.00
C04319	Roscommon CoCo	2014, Rindoon Historical Reconstruction Drawings	Roscommon	9,000.00
C04322	South Dublin County Council	Understanding the Archaeological Resource of the Dublin Mountains - South Dublin and DLR Co.Cos	Dublin - South Dublin, Dublin - Dun Laoghaire/ Rathdown	5,625.00
C04323	Louth County Council	Completion of the Louth Wetland Survey	Louth	14,969.96
C04324	Kildare County Council	Report on Habitat Mapping	Kildare	8,000.00
C04325	Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council	County Dublin Archaeology GIS Project	Dublin - Dublin City, Dublin - South Dublin, Dublin - Fingal, Dublin - Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown	10,812.74
C04326	Kilkenny County Council	Kilkenny Fieldname/My Townland Project 2014	Kilkenny	10,000.00
C04327	Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council	Understanding the Archaeological Resource of the Dublin Mountains - South Dublin and DLR Co Cos	Dublin - South Dublin, Dublin - Dun Laoghaire/ Rathdown	5,625.00
C04328	Clare County Council	Heritage Interpretation with the Local Community on the Wild Atlantic Way	Clare	10,000.00
C04330	Clare County Council	Report on Geology of County Clare 2014	Clare	7,000.00
C04332	Sligo County Council	Conservation Works to Tawnagh Church, Co. Sligo - Phase III	Sligo	12,000.00
C04333	Sligo County Council	Heritage Awareness Programme 2014 -Sligo	Sligo	1,915.88
C04334	Wicklow County Council	Programme of free public events on the theme of Wicklow's viking heritage	Wicklow	5,999.25
C04335	South Dublin County Council	County Dublin Archaeology GIS Project	Dublin - Dublin City, Dublin - South Dublin, Dublin - Fingal, Dublin - Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown	10,812.74
C04336	Monaghan County Council	Awareness programme on built heritage branded "DRAWN"	Monaghan	7,533.00
C04337	Cavan County Council	The Black Pigs Dyke Regional Project	Cavan	3,749.73
C04338	South Dublin County Council	Geological Heritage Audit of Wicklow (South Dublin County, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown and Dublin City)	Dublin - Dublin City, Dublin - South Dublin, Dublin - Dun Laoghaire/ Rathdown, Wicklow	1,575.00

COUNTY HERITAGE PLAN GRANTS CONTINUED				
Ref. Number	Recipient Name	Project Title	Local Authority Areas	Amount Paid €
C04339	Monaghan County Council	Understand and promote the Black Pigs Dyke	Monaghan	3,975.00
C04340	Monaghan County Council	Ecological survey of bridges in Monaghan	Monaghan	12,168.15
C04341	Meath County Council	Meath Heritage Awareness Programme 2014	Meath	8,398.00
C04342	Cavan County Council	Cavan Golden Way Competition	Cavan	9,188.00
C04343	Tipperary County Council	Lough Derg Heritage Project 2014	Tipperary - North Tipperary	3,975.25
C04344	Kilkenny County Council	Launch, promote and disseminate material on vernacular wrought iron field gates	Kilkenny	5,000.00
C04345	Waterford City & County Council	Seminar on Care of Historic Graveyards	Waterford - Waterford County	919.87
C04346	Donegal County Council	Vernacular Architecture & Traditional Building Skills Seminar (Action 3.4)	Donegal	5,400.00
C04347	Meath County Council	Additional funding Meath Heritage Awareness Programme 2014	Meath	4,768.82
C04349	Cork County Council	Coordinated Signage for Cork County Council's Heritage Assets	Cork - Cork County	5,000.00
C04350	Longford County Council	Library of flora & fauna illustrations	Longford	5,625.00
C04352	Fingal County Council	Fingal Industrial Heritage Project (Phase 2) 2014	Dublin - Fingal	11,189.93
C04353	Fingal County Council	Field Monuments Advisor 2014	Dublin - Fingal	15,000.00
C04354	Sligo County Council	Audio Guide for Sligo City Heritage Trail	Sligo	3,750.00
C04357	Louth County Council	Louth Hedgerow Survey	Louth	4,500.00
C04358	Longford County Council	Longford & the Great War Commemoration - 2014	Longford	8,322.84
C04359	Mayo County Council	Develop Online Video on the Care and Conservation of Historic Graveyards	Mayo	3,775.00
C04361	Mayo County Council	Mayo Habitat Survey and Mapping	Mayo	11,835.00
C04363	Fingal County Council	County Dublin Archaeology GIS Project	Dublin - Dublin City, Dublin - South Dublin, Dublin - Fingal, Dublin - Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown	10,812.74
C04364	Kildare County Council	Heritage leaflets and app	Kildare	5,000.00
C04366	Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council	Geological Heritage Audit of Wicklow, South Dublin, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown and Dublin City)	Dublin - Dublin City, Dublin - South Dublin, Dublin - Fingal, Dublin - Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown, Wicklow	2,925.00
C04368	South Dublin County Council	Archaeological Assessment of the Hell Fire Club, South Dublin County	Dublin - South Dublin	2,767.50
C04375	Kerry County Council	Heritage Trail App development	Kerry	7,747.03
C04450	Galway City Council	Historic Metalwork Survey and Workshop	Galway - Galway City	2,171.25
C04451	Galway City Council	Fourth Annual Heritage Conference: A Millennium and a half of Irish Literary Heritage	Galway - Galway City	5,657.19
C04452	Galway City Council	Menlo Cemetery Survey	Galway - Galway City	1,596.33
C04453	Galway City Council	Archaeological and Architectural Storm Damage Survey and Mitigation Project	Galway - Galway City	1,725.00
TOTAL				634,845.40

APPENDIX A:

BURRENBEO TRUST EDUCATION PROGRAMMES IN 2014

INITIATIVES IN 2014	TIMESCALE/PARTICIPANTS	OVERVIEW
1. Ecobeo Young Burren Schools Programme (100% free to local schools – started in 2008)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>7 months – until June 2014</li><li>4 Burren schools &amp; 102 pupils from Carron, Northampton, Ennistymon, and Lahinch National Schools.</li><li>Over 100 children involved in Ecobeo since 2008.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>4 schools selected &amp; 10 study modules undertaken (including field trips) with local experts, on geology, biodiversity, cultural heritage, built heritage and conservation. Newsletters, interactive activities and projects are also utilised.</li><li>Each school puts together a family-attended graduation involving student presentations through drama, poetry, posters, puppets and 3D models.</li></ul>
2. Áitbheo – Place Heroes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Feb-June 2014: 38 students from Gort Community School took part in the first 10 week course on making a connection with your place.</li><li>Aims to connect and develop a strong sense of place in the students, which they carry into their adult lives.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Interactive modules on landscape, built heritage, people and places in history, culture, biodiversity, conservation and biomimicry.</li><li>Each student produced a leaflet on their place for display at their transitional year graduation.</li></ul>
3. Burren Wild Child Summer School Tours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Burren-based tours taking up to 500 local children out for a fun-filled day.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Focus on children learning about their surroundings through games and activities.</li></ul>
4. Burren in Bloom 2014 – 9th Festival	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The month-long Festival was held in May 2014.</li><li>900 people attended.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Talks, walks, musical trails, art exhibitions, weekly set dancing and family events.</li></ul>
5. Teacher Training – Every Place is an Educational Tool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>20 teachers from all over Ireland attended this first ever place-based learning training-of- trainers’ event that aims to bring the outdoors into the curriculum.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Five days of workshops, talks and walks with support materials gave the individuals the skillset they needed to utilise this in their own classroom.</li></ul>
6. Learning Landscape Symposium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>65 place-based educators from across Ireland attended two days of training workshops on increasing the knowledge that educators need to impart on local heritage.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Two days of workshops, fieldtrips and lectures from leading place-based educators from Ireland and abroad.</li></ul>

APPENDIX B:

NATIONAL HERITAGE WEEK AWARDS 2014, ‘DISCOVER THE PAST. BUILD THE FUTURE...’

Six National Heritage Week 2014 Awards were presented by the Heritage Council, as follows:

- 1. Best Overall Event;
- 2. Best Event organised by a Community Group, NGO or individual;
- 3. Best Innovative Event;
- 4. Best Children’s Event (Under 12s);
- 5. Best Event in conjunction with a Local Authority; and
- 6. Best Interactive Event.

**1 & 2 National Winners – Best Overall Event and Best Event organised by a Community Group, NGO or individual** – two national awards were presented to the Tor Mór Cultural Tourism Committee/Kilclooney Dolmen Centre, Co. Donegal, organisers of the Boat Trip and Guided Tour of Loughadoon and Doon Fort, Co. Donegal.



Pictured L-R: Conor Newman, Chairman of the Heritage Council, with Malachy Mahon and Patrick McLoone, Tor Mór Cultural Tourism Committee/ Kilclooney Dolmen Centre, Paula Harvey, Tor Mór Cultural Tourism Committee, Ann Phelan T.D., Minister of State for Rural Affairs at the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Sarah McLoone, Brenda Mahon and Conor Whyte, all Tor Mór Cultural Tourism Committee.

**3. National Winner – Best Innovative Event** – awarded to The Jackie Clarke Collection for their WWI Toy Soldiers Diorama, Crossmolina, Co. Mayo.



Pictured L-R: Conor Newman, Chairman of the Heritage Council with Anne Marie Forbes, Mayo County Council and Co-ordinator of the Jackie Clarke Collection, Linda Hegarty, Teacher Facilitator of the Jackie Clarke Collection, Ann Phelan T.D., Minister of State for Rural Affairs at the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, and Siobhan Leonard, Collection Teacher Advisory Group, Jackie Clarke Collection. Missing from photograph: Ms Deirdre Cunningham, Heritage Officer, Mayo County Council.

**4. National Winner – Best Children’s Event (Under 12s)** – awarded to the Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark, Co. Fermanagh.



Pictured L-R: Conor Newman, Chairman of the Heritage Council with Kirstin Lemon, Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark, Ann Phelan T.D., Minister of State for Rural Affairs at the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, and Una Collier, Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark.

**5. National Winner – Best Event in Conjunction with a Local Authority** – awarded to Freshford Graveyard Recording Group for recording, mapping and photographing over 270 headstones in St. Lachtain’s Graveyard in Freshford, Co. Kilkenny.



Pictured L-R: Conor Newman, Chairman of the Heritage Council with Dearbhla Ledwidge, Kilkenny County Council Heritage Officer/Freshford Graveyard Recording Group, Paddy Moriarty, Freshford Graveyard Recording Group, Ann Phelan T.D., Minister of State for Rural Affairs at the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Michael Cormack, Tom Doheny, Eva Holmes, all Freshford Graveyard Recording Group.

**6. National Winner – Best Interactive Event** – awarded to Nell’s Farmhouse for its Traditional Irish Wake Re-enactment, Rathgormack, Carrick-on-Suir, Co. Waterford.



Pictured L-R: Conor Newman, Chairman of the Heritage Council with Mary Flynn, from Nell’s Farmhouse, Rathgormack, Carrick-on-Suir, Co. Waterford, Ann Phelan TD, Minister of State for Rural Affairs at the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, and Gerard Flynn, Nell’s Farmhouse, Co. Waterford.

APPENDIX C:

NATIONAL COLLABORATIVE PUBLIC REALM PLAN PROGRAMME – SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES IN 2014

HISTORIC TOWN(S)	DATE OF PRP LAUNCH	PUBLIC REALM PLAN ACTIVITIES IN 2014
1. Balbriggan	2011	Balbriggan PRP work undertaken in 2014 sought to progress the implementation of key actions identified from the community-led design process Railway Street – A new Beginning. Urban design enhancement took place in Railway Street including: a painting project for historic buildings on the street; and planning permission was sought and granted for information panels to be designed and erected on the street to inform the public about the railway station/rail line and to celebrate Balbriggan's Industrial Heritage. This project will be completed in 2015. There is on-going dialogue with residents and businesses in Railway Street about the design and plans for the upgrade of the street.
2. Birr	2008	Substantial progress was made with the Roscrea Road into Birr with an extensive planting programme of native trees and paving upgrade to create an attractive entrance and arrival point to the town. Major planning and design for upgrading the public realm in historic Emmet Square in the heart of Birr proceeded with capital works planned to commence in 2015. This is part of a large project funded under the Smarter Travel Initiative. A partnership project is continuing with two local artists heading up a Famous People's Trail, which is close to completion. The shop front initiative has continued and enhances the work already undertaken in partnership with Dulux a few years ago.
3. Cashel	2008	Cashel Public Realm Plan (PRP) has been incorporated into the Review of the Cashel and Environs Development Plan by the former Cashel Town Council and South Tipperary County Council. A number of initiatives have taken place to enhance the primary zone identified in the PRP and also to improve connectivity between the town centre and the Rock, i.e. the central axis. Improvements carried out in 2014 included the undergrounding of overhead cables on Friar Street. The area at John Street has been paved and improvement works were carried out on Dominic Street and Chapel Lane. The Local Authority is working with the OPW to improve accessibility between the Rock of Cashel and the historic town centre. In parallel with PRP projects, significant conservation works have been carried out during the past few years on foot of the Conservation and Management Plan for the Town Walls, which was funded by the Heritage Council through the IWTN in 2007 (and prepared in parallel with the PRP, which was also funded by the IWTN in 2007).
4. Fethard	2008	Fethard PRP's flagship project - the refurbishment and conservation of the early 17thC Tholsel building in the centre of the town progressed during 2014 and all 'first phase' building work will be completed by May 2015. Of vital significance is the involvement of Tipperary County Council, who contributed over €100,000 to the project (plus LEADER funding). Even more significantly, the County Council has assigned a Business Development Officer (BDO) to work alongside the Fethard Business and Tourism Group to transform the iconic and much-loved building into a modern 'Gateway Facility' to the medieval walled town of Fethard. It is anticipated that a Business and Tourism Plan will be prepared in 2015 to promote projects delivered through the Fethard PRP, which forms part of the LAP.
5. Granard	2011	PRP projects in Granard included drawing up of a detailed regeneration plan for specific sections of the town highlighted in the PRP, including Redmond's Terrace and Colmcille Terrace. The town's Buttermarket Committee undertook repairs to the wrought-iron gates at the historic Buttermarket on Market Street, funded by the Heritage Council under their Heritage Maintenance Grant Scheme. The Annual 1798 Rebellion commemoration took place in September 2014, in partnership with Ballinamuck – a range of events, culminating in the firing of a replica cannon to commemorate the Battle of Granard in 1798. In addition, the Granard Motte Enterprise Group has purchased two newly-built buildings near the base of the motte-and-bailey castle and is actively pursuing plans to develop it as an interpretation and visitor amenity for the motte and the town as a whole.
6. Roscrea	2013	Upgrade of Maddens Laneway (off Main Street): resurfaced using high-quality paving brick with new lamp standards/wall lighting also having been erected. Painting Scheme introduced in Roscrea was very successful in 2014 and has significantly improved a number of dilapidated buildings in the town. The Roscrea Beo Festival and Taste of Roscrea Event, which were established as part of the Roscrea Enhancement Plan, were both delivered in 2014 for the second year. Roscrea Promotion Strategy Committee worked with Roscrea Chamber of Commerce to produce a map and brochure of visitor attractions in the town.
7. Wicklow	2008	Plans drawn up by Wicklow Town Council for public realm enhancement works at Fitzwilliam Square in May 2014. These include a revised traffic management layout, increased pedestrian areas and greater public access to the existing open space. Public consultation is ongoing. Activities organised by Heritage Office and supported by the Heritage Council as part of Wicklow Arts Festival 24-26th May 2014, included a 'Footsteps in Time' family treasure hunt exploring the historic uses of shops in the town centre.



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An Chomhairle Oidhreachta  
The Heritage Council



**CELEBRATING**  
**20 YEARS 1995-2015**

Working for heritage | Working with communities

# Annual Report 2014



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