

Press Release

Kildare County Council convened a special meeting on Friday 7th September, 2012 to consider the revised Local Government Fund Allocation as advised by the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government.

County Manager Michael Malone outlined details requiring a reduction of €565,000 for quarter three which the Department had already advised and a further possible reduction of €1.7 million approx in quarter four if the level of compliant collection of household charge remained at 55%. He highlighted the difficult financial position facing Kildare County Council referring to the significant efficiencies and cost reductions that had been achieved in previous years. He emphasised that in the absence of the collection of the household charge the council faced no alternative but to reduce its budget in line with the department circular.

The Manager proposed the following

Proposed Expenditure Cutbacks - Quarter 3		
Housing & Cultural Services		
	€	€
Reduction in Housing Department Costs	50,000	
Suspension of Housing Grants	130,000	
Suspension of Parks, Playgrounds & Amenities Works	80,000	
Reductions in Libraries Programme	20,000	
		280,000
Transportation		
Suspension of Weekend Street Cleaning Services - 1 day	60,000	
		60,000
Water & Environmental Services		
Reduction in Water Services Department Costs	130,000	
Reduction of Burial Ground and Tidy Towns Grants	55,000	
		185,000
Central Management		
Reduction of In-House Department Costs	40,000	

	40,000
Total Reductions	<u>565,000</u>

Following a full and robust discussion on the negative impacts of the proposed cuts in services to the community the Members agreed the following reductions to comply with the Department circular.

Agreed Expenditure Cutbacks - Quarter 3		
Housing & Cultural Services		
	€	€
Reduction in Housing Department Costs	50,000	
Suspension of Housing Grants	130,000	
Suspension of Parks, Playgrounds & Amenities Works	80,000	
Reductions in Libraries Programme	20,000	
		280,000
Transportation		
Suspension of Weekend Street Cleaning Services - 1 day	30,000	
		30,000
Water & Environmental Services		
Reduction in Water Services Department Costs	130,000	
Reduction of Burial Ground and Tidy Towns Grants	35,000	
		165,000
Central Management		
Reduction of In-House Department Costs	40,000	
Reduction in Members Conferences	30,000	
Reduction in Staff Training	20,000	
		90,000
Total Reductions		<u>565,000</u>

The Mayor in concluding the meeting acknowledged the 59% who had already paid the household charge and called on those who had not done so to pay the charge as soon as possible. Otherwise the council will face very significant reductions in front line services in quarter four which will impact on all citizens of the county. All the members present supported this call.