

## Information about the FOI Body

### INFORMATION ABOUT OFFALY COUNTY COUNCIL

County Councils were established under the Local Government (Ireland) Act 1898. The first meeting of King's (Offaly) County Council was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1899 in the Grand Jury Rooms, Courthouse, Tullamore. Laois and Offaly were grouped together under the City and County Management Act 1940. At the May Monthly Council Meeting in 1981 the members supported a motion that the two counties should cease to be grouped in accordance with the provisions of Section 13 of the City and County Management (Amendment) Act 1955. Since 2001, Offaly County Council has had its headquarters at Áras an Chontae Charleville Road, Tullamore.

### STRUCTURE AND ORGANISATION

Offaly County Council is an organisation of more than 350 staff. Offaly County Council is both a provider of essential services to the citizens of Offaly as well as a representational body for the people of Offaly. Local Government in Ireland operates jointly through directly elected representatives and full time executives headed by the Chief Executive, (formerly County Manager).

Ms. Anna Marie Delaney was appointed Chief Executive to Offaly County Council in February 2016.

The **Chief Executive** (CE) of the Council is responsible for the day to day operations of Offaly County Council. She acts by means of a written Chief Executive's Order. When making decisions the CE must act in a way that is consistent with the policy framework that has been established by the elected members and she must take into account the wishes of the elected members. The CE has delegated her powers, duties and functions in relation to a number of service areas to individual members of the Senior Management Team which is made up of Directors of Service and Head of Finance in a number of different departments within the Council.

### *The following are the principal managerial positions as at February 2019*

The functions carried out by the Chief Executive are called 'executive functions'. These functions include the following:

- the granting or refusal of planning permission
- the renting of local authority homes
- the management of staff

### **Representational Role of Offaly County Council**

The representational role is performed by the directly elected members of Offaly County Council. Offaly County Council is made up of 19 elected members drawn from the three Local Electoral Areas. The councillors are elected by the proportional representation system, for a period of five years. The Council elects a Cathaoirleach (chairperson) at its Annual Meeting in June each year.

Your Councillors

<http://www.offaly.ie/eng/Services/Your-Councils/Your-Councillors/>

Corporate plans, strategies and Annual Report

<http://www.offaly.ie/eng/Services/Corporate-Services/Reports-and-Publications/>

### **Contact details for all offices:**

A list of details for the various departments and offices in Offaly County Council can be found here:

<http://www.offaly.ie/eng/Services/>