

## Comhairle Chontae na Mí

Halla an Chontae, An Uaimh, Contae na Mí

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*Cuirtear Fáilte Roimh Chombhfhreagras í nGaeilge*



## Meath County Council

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County Manager's Office

**Local Government National Partnership Advisory Group**  
35 -39 Ushers Quay  
Dublin 8

11<sup>th</sup> July, 2008

**FAO: Ms Chris Gavigan, Joint Chair**  
**Mr Matt Merrigan, Joint Chair**

**Re: Performance Verification under *Towards 2016***  
**LOCAL AUTHORITY PROGRESS REPORT**  
**(September 2008 Payment)**



Dear Chris and Matt,

I refer to the above and your request that each of:

- Checklist as per template supplied
- Separate narrative report

be completed and returned to you.

Attached please find check list in the form requested.

I can confirm that the checklist was completed following meeting of full Partnership Committee on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2008, a subsequent meeting of a sub-group of the Partnership Committee on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2008, and noted at the most recent meeting of the Partnership Committee on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2008. I can also confirm that the checklist has been signed by the Joint Chairs of the Partnership Committee.

At the outset, I am pleased to concur with the Partnership Committee that 'Verifiable Progress since February 2008' can be identified in all indicators identified by LANPAG and the PVG as the appropriate mechanism for identifying specific incremental progress in complying with the relevant provisions of the *Towards 2016* Social Partnership Agreement.

You will appreciate that, as with any group of indicators, the range of compliance can vary to a significant extent. However it is clear from the attached checklist that there has been significant positive engagement by all sections of the workforce.

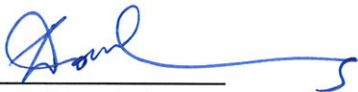
In previous returns to you I outlined the operating environment that Meath experiences, particularly in relation to its location, in close proximity to Dublin, and consequent resultant factors such as rapidly increasing population. The recent Electoral Area Boundary Committee Report 2008 reflects the changes experienced on the ground, with a reduction of one member in each of the Kells and Trim electoral areas, and an addition of one member in each of the Dunshaughlin and Slane electoral areas.

I previously advised that, in the context of both financial resources available to the council, as well as the cap on approved staff numbers as advised by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, the Council to engage, to the extent that we would desire, in fully undertaking some of the indicators as identified in your checklist.

I am satisfied that, in the main, staff are co-operating with various initiatives and with the implementation of the modernisation agreement as set out in the agreement, and that a stable industrial I am pleased to note that the PVG site visit, of 16<sup>th</sup> April 2008, was an opportunity for an independent group to be presented with, and gain an understanding of the operating environment of the Council. I would welcome the opportunity to expand on the items in the attached progress report in further site visits.

Accordingly, I recommend that the pay increase dependant on verification of compliance with the requirements of *Towards 2016* for the February to September 2008, be approved for employees of Meath Local Authorities.

Yours sincerely,



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**Tom Dowling**  
County Manager