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The projected capital expenditure on major infrastructural projects, as part of 'Project Ireland 2040', over the next decade will underpin the National Planning Framework, according to John Martin from the Public Policy Advisors Network.

### 24 Climate Change

The new National Adaptation Framework, launched in response to Ireland's changing climate in terms of sea level rise, increases in average temperature and weather extremes, also includes €10m in funding to set up four Local Authority Regional Climate Action Offices.

### 33 AILG President

Fair deals, training seminars and improved support services for councillors are high on the agenda for Cllr Damien Geoghegan, President of the Association of Irish Local Government (AlLG), who also plans to deepen the channels of communication with the Customs House, now that a Minister of State has been appointed with a specific local government mandate.

### 40 Green Public Procurement

Local government spending is a key focus of a new European green public procurement project that has been designed to improve environmental outcomes, climate action targets, drive innovation and job creation.

### 47-57 Regional Assemblies

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### 59 LAMA Awards 2018

Mayo County Council scored a treble at LAMA's 12th All Ireland Community & Council Awards for 2018, including the coveted 'Council of the Year' title.

#### 67 LGIU Ireland

LGIU Ireland, which has provided not-for-profit information services for local authorities and regional assemblies during its first year in operation, plans to recruit more experts from around the country, according to director Dr Andy Johnston.

### 71 Local Authority Forum

Companies will need to be ready for the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which becomes law on 25 May, delegates attending the recent Local Authority Forum in Athlone were told.

### 111 Offaly County Council

Offaly County Council seven-year Public Realm Plan to revitalise the historic Offaly town of Birr was recognised by Chambers Ireland with an Excellence in Local Government Award in the 'Enhancing the Urban Environment' category.

### 117 DCC Flood Protection

A review of the capacity of the existing coastal flood defences to provide protection for urban areas was carried out by Dublin City Council as part of a study called the Dublin Coastal Flood Protection Project.

### 120 Communications Strategy

Keeping up with the 24-7-365 live news cycle is becoming ever-more challenging for local authorities without full-time on-call press officers. Neasa Kane-Fine, Director of Project Communications at RPS, offers social media tips on the best communications strategy.



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### COUNCIL REVIEW

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### 123 Energy Agency

Agencies in Carlow, Kilkenny and Wexford have joined forces to create a low carbon, energy-efficient ecosystem to be "a unique magnet" for internationally-trading companies looking for a near zero emissions, a European base and access to a major talent pool.

### 125 Road Safety

Dublin's emergency services have joined forces with South Dublin County Council and the Road Safety Authority in a combined road safety campaign, to outline the causes, the consequences and injuries of road collisions.

### 127 IPB Social Enterprise

A new €1.6m fund, launched by Social Innovation Fund Ireland (SIFI) in partnership with local authorities, is being supported by the Department of Community and Rural Development and IPB Insurance, writes Deirdre Mortell, SIFI's Chief Executive Officer.

### 128 Longford County Council

With the Center Parcs resort 'Longford Forest' due to open in summer 2019, according to Longford County Council's Chief Executive Paddy Mahon, the benefits of the project are already being experienced in this Midlands County.

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