

Infographic Text

Councils and Councillors

Ireland has 31 councils -
26 county councils, 3 city councils,
& 2 city and county councils.
There are 949 councillors in the country.

Services provided by councils

- Housing
- Road, Transport & Safety
- Recreation Amenity
- Planning
- Library services
- Water
- Environmental Protection
- Economic Development
- Fire Services
- Register of Electors

Who makes decisions

Elected Council

Policy decisions are made by the elected councillors during council meetings. These decisions may be made at 2 levels:

- Full council (plenary level)
- Municipal/metropolitan/borough district level/area committee level

The Chief Executive

The chief executive, assisted by a senior management team, manages a local authority on a day-to-day basis. It is the duty of the chief executive to advise and assist the elected council.

Both councillors and the chief executive have a common interest in serving the community.

Decisions made by councillors at full council:

- Approving an annual budget
- Housing policy decisions
- Variation in Local Property Tax Rate
- Local economic & community plans
- Commercial rates
- County/City Development Plans

Decisions made by councillors at district level:

- Adopting economic statements for full council to consider
- Annual schedule of propped works
- Funds for community initiatives
- Litter prevention & control
- Charges for council amenities, facilities & services
- School wardens' arrangements

Decisions made by councillors at full or local level:

- Civic Honours
- Protected Structures
- Local Area Plans
- Flood Risk Management
- Housing Services Plans

More information, visit:

- [Department's website - Local Government Structures and Functions](#)
- [LGMA website](#)