



## **Developing a Digital Hub and Remote Working Space**

### **In the old Courthouse in Balla**

The proposal is to develop a Digital Hub and Remote Working Space with all ancillary facilities in the Old Courthouse which is adjoined to Balla Community Resource Centre and is under the control of Balla CRD through a long term lease agreement with Mayo County Council.

We have carried out extensive research on the need for a remote working hub in the area. Our findings show that within a 10 mile radius of Balla, 20% of the workforce will be working from home in the future and many of these people have expressed concerns regarding isolation and their broadband connectivity.

We have also identified a number of local employees of companies that carry out business with companies in China, the USA, Australia and India and work night shifts who have expressed an interest in using these facilities.

Balla CRD has recently upgraded our Broadband connectivity and our proposed remote working hub will initially provide eight socially distanced workstations. These will be available to members of the community in a safe and comfortable environment with all necessary ancillary facilities in compliance with Government and HSE guidelines in the Old Courthouse.

Our proposal to develop a digital hub and remote working space will have the dual benefit of providing an essential service to members of our community and will repurpose the Old Courthouse into a state of the art facility.

The work involves bringing the building up to a very high Energy Rating , installing an Air to Water Heat pump with all energy efficient heating and lighting fittings.

Initial costings indicate a total cost in the region of €40,000