Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report in relation to functions performed in the preceding month

Dated 6th August 2020

Prepared under Section 136 (2) of the Local Government Act, 2001, as inserted by Section 51 of the Local Government (Reform) Act, 2014
## Contents

### Finance & Water Services
- Financial Reports
- Water Services

### Economic, Enterprise, Planning & Infrastructure
- Economic Development
- Local Enterprise Office
- European Relations
- Infrastructure
- Planning
  - Development Management
  - Planning Enforcement
  - Forward Planning

### Operations & Waste Management
- Operations
- Waste Management
- Air, Water and Noise Pollution
- Environment
- Veterinary Services

### Corporate and Fire & Emergency Services
- Corporate Services
- Sustainable Energy
- Fire & Emergency Services
- Civil Defence

### Housing, Communities, Quality of Life
- Housing
- Communities
- Quality of Life
  - Libraries
  - Archives
  - Museum
  - Heritage
  - Arts
## FINANCE & WATER SERVICES

### Contents

**Financial Reports**

### Expenditure to 31st July 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Actual Expenditure To 31/07/20</th>
<th>Budget Expenditure 2020</th>
<th>% Spent To 30/07/20</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>17,341,544</td>
<td>31,054,362</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road Transportation &amp; Safety</td>
<td>13,291,763</td>
<td>24,658,931</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Services</td>
<td>3,735,912</td>
<td>6,880,763</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development Management</td>
<td>10,895,467</td>
<td>15,406,198</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Services</td>
<td>9,132,085</td>
<td>17,909,198</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation and Amenity</td>
<td>3,936,731</td>
<td>8,977,175</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, Education, Health &amp; Welfare</td>
<td>549,599</td>
<td>1,155,725</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>3,665,239</td>
<td>11,287,241</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>62,548,340</td>
<td>117,329,593</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Income to 31st July 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Actual Income To 31/07/20</th>
<th>Budget Income 2020</th>
<th>% Invoiced To 31/07/20</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>16,059,196</td>
<td>32,619,264</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road Transportation &amp; Safety</td>
<td>2,630,421</td>
<td>14,839,597</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Services</td>
<td>3,324,288</td>
<td>6,635,582</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development Management</td>
<td>6,592,792</td>
<td>9,398,454</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Services</td>
<td>883,394</td>
<td>1,951,548</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation and Amenity</td>
<td>655,974</td>
<td>949,802</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, Education, Health &amp; Welfare</td>
<td>250,787</td>
<td>448,592</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>2,222,628</td>
<td>5,183,306</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rates</td>
<td>35,437,457</td>
<td>35,437,250</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Purpose Grant (LPT)</td>
<td>6,577,464</td>
<td>9,866,198</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>74,634,401</td>
<td>117,329,593</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above is the current position as at the 31st July 2020. The allocation of the Central Management Charge is estimated in the above figures as the allocation is not completed till mid-month. The full rates demand for 2020 is included in the above figure.
Collection rates as at 31st July 2020 are as follows:

Debtors as at 31st July 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Opening Balance</th>
<th>Invoices</th>
<th>Receipts</th>
<th>Write Offs</th>
<th>Closing Balance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government Debtors</td>
<td>7,433,972</td>
<td>47,913,669</td>
<td>(49,099,235)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6,248,406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Local Authorities</td>
<td>86,132</td>
<td>238,560</td>
<td>(137,251)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>187,441</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rates</td>
<td>8,931,758</td>
<td>35,437,457</td>
<td>(13,616,573)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>30,752,642</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rents</td>
<td>3,120,601</td>
<td>7,283,571</td>
<td>(14,120)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3,076,434</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans</td>
<td>329,693</td>
<td>893,067</td>
<td>(908,203)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>314,557</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development Levies</td>
<td>13,162,422</td>
<td>535,130</td>
<td>(938,217)</td>
<td>(45,381)</td>
<td>12,713,954</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Charges</td>
<td>670,967</td>
<td>290,097</td>
<td>(149,526)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>811,538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>1,861,317</td>
<td>4,481,856</td>
<td>(3,994,822)</td>
<td>(1,171)</td>
<td>2,347,180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL DEBTORS</td>
<td>35,596,862</td>
<td>97,073,407</td>
<td>(76,157,445)</td>
<td>(60,672)</td>
<td>56,452,152</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Above is the debtor balances as at the 31st July 2020. The Miscellaneous debtor figure includes the Irish Water SLA recoupments, Corporate, Community & Enterprise, LEO, Planning, Enforcement, Environment, Sports, Vets, Arts, Roads, Library, Museum and Finance miscellaneous billings.

Covid-19
Currently we are monitoring the effect Covid-19 has had on our income in 2020. We are still awaiting clarification of the funding from central government and will report on it when details are received. While the CCMA have submitted two business cases on the loss of income for the local authorities to the Department they are still under discussion between the Department and DPER. One report covers the effect of the loss of rates and the other deals with the reduction in all other incomes e.g. pay parking. We will continue to review our expenditure on a month to month basis and will report to council as soon as our funding position is clearer.

Covid-19 – Rates Waiver
The Government announced in order to enhance the supports available for Enterprise, and in recognition of the fact that not only have rate payers been forced to close businesses due to public health requirement but many others who remained open have suffered reduction in turnover that the rates Waiver will be extended to a duration of six months to the end of September. They have stated that the exchequer will fully fund this initiative. A 100% waiver will automatically be applied for the six month period with a small number of exceptions. The excluded categories are mainly utilities, banks, large supermarkets and corporates.

We continue to deal with our rate customers on a case by case basis and we urge rate payers that are experiencing difficulties at this time to contact the rates department without delay.

Covid-19 – Business Restart Grant
The Government has announced an enhancement to the restart grant. The grant will be the amount of a business’ rates assessment for 2019 (excluding arrears), with the maximum grant available rising to €25,000 (up from €10,000) and the minimum will be €4,000 (up from €2,000). Firms that accessed the Restart Grant will be eligible to apply for a second top-up payment to a total combined value of the revised minimum and maximum grant levels. The criteria for accessing the scheme will include Enterprises that have:

- 250 employees or less;
- Turnover of less than €100,000 per employee; and
- Reduced turnover by 25% as a result of COVID-19

The updated application form and frequently asked questions will be available on our website in the next couple of days. The Grant is a contribution towards the cost of re-opening or keeping a business operational and reconnecting with employees and customers. The grant can be used
to defray ongoing fixed costs, e.g. utilities, insurance, refurbishment or for measures to ensure employee and customer safety. We have received 1,526 applications to the end of June 2020 and they are currently being processed.

Budget 2021 - Local Property Tax (LPT) Public Consultation
The budget process for 2021 begins with the advertising of the Local Property Tax Public Consultation on Tuesday 7th July 2020. The deadline for submissions is Friday 21st of August 2020 and all submissions will be included in the report to Council in September when the members will decide on the LPT effective rate for 2021.

Budget 2021 - Workshop with Councillors
Councillors will be notified of the date for the budget 2021 workshop.

Water Services

Contents

Water Quality
Water Conservation
Capital Programmes
- Water Major Infrastructure Projects
- Waste Water Infrastructure Projects
- Minor Projects

Water Networks
- Rehabilitation Programme
- Pressure Reducing Valve (PRV)
- Lead Replacement
- First Fix
- Find & Fix
- Metering
- Water Scouring Programme
- Network Maintenance
- Planning & Water Connections

Major Outages

Water Services

Note – It is expected that progress of capital schemes and delivery of some services will experience further delays as result of restrictions due to Covid-19.

Water Quality
Intensive monitoring of water supplies in the County is carried out continually by the EPA on behalf of Louth County Council.

Water Conservation
Water conservation is ongoing throughout the County.

Capital Programmes
Irish Water refers to the different phases of a capital project as Gates 1, 2, 3 or 4.

Gate 1 - Concept Design,
Gate 2 - Detailed design, contract documents, planning and procurement,
Gate 3 - Construction stage,
Gate 4 - Snagging, sign off.

Water Major Infrastructure Projects

Drogheda Water Main Rehabilitation
Project complete and closed Section 1 Feb 2019, Section 2 was expected in March 2020.
- Minor snagging still to be progressed.
- Interim Payment (final) approved by IW.
- Final workshop still outstanding, update requested from IW.

Staleen Drogheda Water Supply Scheme WTP
The 28-day testing period for Staleen finished on the 27/05/2020, marking the start of the 1 year Operations Service Period.

Cavanhill Dundalk Water Supply Scheme WTP
The 28 day testing phase was started on 12th June 2020, however the dates for testing period have not been agreed with the contractor and are subject to ongoing discussions.

Tallanstown Rationalisation Project
Scope for technical design services have been issued to IW’s Consultant and request for quotation to complete concept design and drawings, land and
wayleaves drawings, planning application, chlorine decay modelling.
The price and scope of the works to be agreed with Consultant, for advancing through Gate 1 and planning. Meetings are ongoing with IW, LCC and the project managers, the last meeting was on 8th June 2020 and LCC await next meeting details.

Waste Water Major Infrastructure Projects

Ardee Sewage Scheme Upgrade WWTP
The Official date of Operating Period commenced on 23rd Dec 2019. Operating Period cease 22nd Dec 2020 with handover to LCC to commence 22nd Dec 2020.

Local Network Reinforcing – Dundalk Motts
- Tender prices returned and currently being assessed. No further update available.
- Testing of Rising main completed
- CPO in progress
- Expected contract signing Q2 2021.

Local Network Reinforcing – Drogheda Motts
- Model complete – findings indicate that catchment’s not true representative & model not correlating.
- Conclusion, Project to be reviewed internally in IW for re-issue to market for consultancy. Possibly to include full Drogheda Area Plan and inclusion of North Drogheda.
- Project on hold in current form. Subject to review as outlined above.
- No change

North Drogheda - Atkins
Note this project in advancement of Drogheda LNRP to address the immediate planned development for North of Drogheda.
- Draft Feasibility Review complete.
- Detailed assessment in progress.
- In Progress

Omeath Sewage Scheme WWTP
- PCI cost agreed with Veolia. Currently Veolia are progressing detailed design with FRA.
- Site Investigation recommenced with boreholes complete, slit trenches ongoing.
- Omeath Project to accommodate the revised storm tank sizing associated with SWELL project. Both interlinked.

In Progress

Dundalk East Strategic Network (Atkins)
Note this project is in advancement of DAP and is to review the Coe’s Road RM and PS.
- Workshop 2 complete. DFR (draft Feasibility Report).
- Screening of various options completed with conclusion of upgrade to existing PS and new Rising main (4 route selections).
- Current report to be updated from Workshop inputs.
- All routes and options forwarded to LCC roads for provision of any comments of their roads programme.

Coe’s Road Pumping Station (Arups)
This project is in advancement of the Dundalk East Strategic Network to accommodate the proposed developments.
- Arups have completed the report with options outlined for 2020 / 2021 developments and further developments.
- IW currently reviewing funding for various solutions.
- IW to inform Arups of Atkins reports on Dundalk East Project as interlinked with Coes Rd PS.

St. Helena Project
This project is in advancement of the DAP and is to review the St. Helena PS and network.
- IW currently seeking budgetary approval to carry out various pipe assessment surveys.
- Completion of surveys will feed into Draft SR preliminary screening of options.
- In Progress
Programme has slipped with expected dates
  - Project Delivery Instruction Jan 2021
  - Construction to commence April 2021
  - Project completion May 2022


SWELL
Note interlinked with Omeath WWTP Project. Omeath network linked with Donegal Project.
- Sizing of Storm Storage complete and to be included into Omeath WWTP Project.
- Current Milestones for SWELL
  - Main Procurement, Evaluation and Award Q3/Q4 2020.
  - Commencement of Construction Q1 2021
  - Complete Stage 3 Q4 2021.

No Change

Regional Sewer Network Rehabilitation.
- At survey stage (Contractor USSR), 100% complete but some lines require cleaning & this is ongoing, and small civil work req’d for 2 buried manholes in Drogheda area.
- Approximately 4km of network, Castlebellingham, Dundalk & Drogheda.
- Sewers to be prioritised for consideration for future rehab project.

Capital Programmes – Minor Projects

Tinure WWTP
- Venturi aerator installed Q2, 2020.
- Flap Valves to be completed
- Snagging to be completed
- IW requested date return from contractor – still outstanding

Clogerhead PS and Rising Main
- Project on hold, FI requested, IW to make decision regarding progress.

Blackrock
- 80% complete, remaining 20% dependant on ESB works.
- ESB due to undertake electrical switch over 12th August.
  - In Progress

Water Networks

Water Networks Programme

Rehabilitation Programme
No service connections were undertaken by Irish Water contractors in July.

Lead replacement / Back Yard Services
No lead replaced this month.
No Backyard services replaced in July.

First Fix
No aware of any first fix repairs undertaken by Irish Water contractors in July.

Find & Fix
No find and fix type repairs were undertaken by Irish Water contractors in July.

Metering
Non Domestic reads were carried out in July.
All DMA Meters and Loggers are currently being serviced.

Water Scouring Programme 2020
No Scouring undertaken in July.

Network Maintenance
71 essential water repairs were carried out in July.

Planning & Water Connections
The Networks Section processed 37 new connections, 15 Pre Connection Enquiries and 41 Planning Applications in July.

Service Maps
The Networks Section prepared 51 Service Maps in July.

Major Outages
Planned outages by DBOs are advised by Irish Water. Unplanned outages arising from bursts are dealt with as they arise and continue to be notified to the members.
ECONOMIC, ENTERPRISE, PLANNING & INFRASTRUCTURE

Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Economic Development</th>
<th>Planning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local Enterprise Office</td>
<td>Development Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Relations</td>
<td>Planning Enforcement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure</td>
<td>Forward Planning</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Economic Development

Louth Economic Forum
At the last meeting of the Louth Economic Forum which took place on Wednesday 29th July, 2020 an update was given on The Fintech Corridor by Hilary Moran, the Advanced Manufacturing Training Centre of Excellence by Vivienne Brannigan of the LMETB and on the Local Enterprise Office, Local Authority COVID Enterprise Supports by Thomas McEvoy, along with the usual updates on FDI, Indigenous Industry, Education & Training and Tourism & Heritage.

Shop Front Grants
In 2016 Louth County Council launched the ‘Shopfront Improvement Grant Scheme’ as part of their suite of Business Incentives. Due to the popularity of these grants the scheme is available for 2020 and is open to receive applications.

Details of the Shopfront Improvement Grant Scheme are available on: https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/economic-development/business-incentive-schemes-retail-prospectus/shopfront-improvement-grant-scheme-application-and-guidelines.pdf or you can request the Design Guidelines and Application Form by emailing shopfrontgrant@louthcoco.ie.

Tourism

Visitor Experience
8 tenders have been received following the tendering process for a Feasibility Study to identify and recommend a ‘Visitor Experience’ for Drogheda which closed on Friday 22nd May, 2020.

The final phase of the evaluation process has been completed with result letters issued. The process of appointing the successful tenderer is underway.

Promoting Louth as part of Fáilte Ireland's #makeabreakforit campaign
We are currently liaising with Fáilte Ireland on promoting Louth as part of its #makeabreakforit campaign. The marketing campaign will also be rolling out Digital and Print advertising in the coming weeks with a view to promoting Louth as a destination for Domestic Tourists along Ireland’s Ancient East.

With a view to maximizing exposure in this campaign Louth Tourism Businesses have been contacted and asked to update / register their business listings on the Discover Ireland website, to sign up to the Fáilte Ireland Safety Charter at www.failteireland.ie and to join the social campaign online using the #makeabreakforit tag when sharing their posts, events and offers.

Promotional Video for Louth
The Louth Networking Tourism Committee has commissioned a new video to promote Louth to showcase the things you can see and do, activities, historical sites, etc. to keep the County to the forefront of people’s minds as COVID-19 restrictions ease.

This video will be shared across various social media platforms.
Currently available to view on the Visit Louth website www.visitlouth.ie are videos which were commissioned for Louth County Council in 2018 & 2019 which promotes the County and are currently being shared on the Visit Louth social media platforms.

Boyne Valley Flavours / Boyne Valley Tourism Promotional Campaign - #MakeABreakForIt

Boyne Valley Flavours has partnered up with Boyne Valley Tourism to run a joint promotional campaign for the region which will run for a 6 week period with prizes each week donated by the members involved and include farm tours, hotel stays, dinners, etc.

The aim of the campaign is to highlight the Boyne Valley as a tourism and food destination, showcase each area and the things you can see and do, activities, food events, historical sites, etc., keep the region to the forefront of people’s minds as COVID-19 restrictions ease and to highlight the businesses with ‘Book now’ as a call to action.

The promotion will be done across Boyne Valley Flavours and Boyne Valley Tourism social media platforms, radio advertisement with 2FM and iRadio and posters.

Fáilte Ireland COVID-19 Supports

Fáilte Ireland has set up a COVID-19 Business Support Hub on their corporate website https://covid19.failteireland.ie/ which provides details of a number of financial and liquidity supports available for businesses in the tourism sector along with operating procedures, guidelines and the latest available updates and expert advice for this sector.

LEO Louth

COVID-19 Business Supports

Updated information on the range of business supports available can be found at: www.LocalEnterprise.ie/Response. Businesses applying for support from LEO Louth should email: info@leo.louthcoco.ie.

COVID-19 Business Continuity Voucher

593 applications were received for the Business Continuity Voucher Scheme which closed on the 15th May. These have all been processed, and over 408 vouchers have been approved to date. This helps small business owners to receive professional advice to develop short and long term strategies to respond to the challenges of COVID-19.

Business Training

51 businesses participated in online business training workshops during July. The workshops focused on managing and responding to the challenges of COVID-19, how to trade online, and how to access funding and ‘COVID’ business supports.

Further details are available at: https://www.localenterprise.ie/Louth/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/.

Trading Online Vouchers

An enhanced Trading Online Voucher scheme was launched by Minister Humphreys on the 8th April, under which LEO can provide 90% support
up to a maximum grant of €2,500 to micro-enterprises. 54 applications were received during July, bringing the total number of applications in 2020 to 242.

Business Advice Clinics
42 business advice appointments were provided by telephone and video conference to entrepreneurs throughout the County during July.

LEO Louth Mentor Programme

The Mentor Programme is designed to match up the knowledge, skills, insights and entrepreneurial capability of experienced business practitioners with small business owner/managers who need practical and strategic one-to-one advice and guidance.

64 businesses were appointed Mentors during the month of July.

COVID-19 Microfinance Ireland Business Loan

The COVID-19 Business Loan from Microfinance Ireland (MFI) was fully subscribed in July. LEO Louth received 23 applications under this Fund.

It’s designed for micro-enterprises that are:

a) having difficulty accessing Bank finance and
b) impacted, or may be impacted negatively, by COVID-19 resulting in a reduction of 15% or more in turnover or profit. The Loan is Interest & Repayment Free for the first 6 months.

LEO Louth offers full expert assistance to clients to assist the completion of the Microfinance Loan Application, Business Plan and Cashflow Projections.

eCommerce Cluster

A North East eCommerce Cluster managed by the 4 NE LEOs, funded EI Competitive Funds programme has commenced. 9 Louth companies have been recruited to avail of the enhanced digital consultancy support to help build their online sales.

Food Academy

The current national Food Academy programme commenced in July with 4 Louth businesses participating.

Brexit Supports

A full range of Brexit supports to help small business is offered by LEO Louth, all information can be found at:

https://www.localenterprise.ie/Louth/Brexit/.

LEO Louth Client Portfolio Review

LEO Louth’s client engagement programme commenced in May and will run to the end of 2020.

The programme is aimed at supporting and progressing portfolio clients to develop their growth potential in the market. A key aspect of the project is working with client businesses most
at risk from the economic impacts of COVID and Brexit and to ensure maximum uptake of LEO COVID and Brexit supports.

LEAN for Micro Programme

LEO Louth continues to offer the LEAN Programme to small businesses locally. The programme helps businesses to identify issues and potential improvement areas and provides support to implement these as well as achieve savings and improvements in capability and capacity to deliver. Businesses with an interest in improving competitiveness should contact LEO Louth to discuss how both the LEAN Programme and the LEAN Network can be of assistance.

PLATO

The Louth group of the PLATO Management Development programme continues with 11 local businesses participating.

Co-Innovate Programme

Final clients on the Co-Innovate programme continue to engage with the programme to assist them in embedding innovation in their business.

European Relations

Peace IV Programme

COVID–19 Emergency

Due to the Public Health Crisis in Ireland with the spread of the Coronavirus, most Peace IV projects in Louth quickly moved to online delivery to continue with implementation.

We are pleased to see that so many project staff are determined to find innovative ways to deliver their services, which are so important, particularly during this crisis.

Many funded projects are adopting novel ways of working to ensure the continuation of their services.

Small Grants Programme

LMETB have launched a funding opportunity under Peace IV to support groups and organisations in Louth who are working to further the goals of peace and reconciliation. Funded through the EU Peace IV Programme and managed by Louth County Council in conjunction with the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB), this programme opened for applications on the 24th July, with a closing date of the 28th August, with all detail currently available through LMETB. Speaking at the launch, the CE of LMETB, Mr. Martin G. O’ Brien stated that ‘LMETB are proud to work with Louth County Council, to deliver this very valuable programme to build positive relations and foster the values of peace and reconciliation in our local community. Under this programme, grants of between €4,500 to €70,000 will be provided to community groups based in Co. Louth, to promote sustainable peace building initiatives. LMETB are committed to the development of the local community and this is just one of many successful initiatives which have been developed through the Peace programme, in conjunction with Louth County Council and SEUPB over many years.’ Mr. O’ Brien acknowledged the support of Louth County Council and the Peace IV office in particular in this regard.

The Director of Further Education and Training in LMETB, Sadie Ward McDermott, speaking at the event, indicated that ‘LMETB’s Small Grants Programme proposes to build and extend the capacity of minority groups within Co. Louth.

LMETB aims to combine the learning from the previously funded PEACE projects into the new Small Grants Programme. This funding allows LMETB to continue to work with specific target groups such as children and young people, new communities, minority faith groups such as the Muslim Community and Church of Ireland, ex-political prisoners and disadvantaged young people in Louth. Through the Small Grants Programme, LMETB aims to deepen its engagement with these groups and communities to build positive relations’.

The Small Grants Programme will incorporate a series of actions aimed at enhancing the capacity for peace building among minority groups. Dr. Aisling Sheridan, AEO, said “LMETB are delighted to have been awarded this funding by
the Louth PEACE Partnership. This project builds on the excellent work carried out by LMETB under the PEACE III Programme and provides a unique opportunity to build better relations across the county”.

Applications are to be submitted before noon on the 28th August, 2020 and can be completed or downloaded at www.lmetb.ie.

Infrastructure

Roads Projects

Clanbrassil Street / St Nicholas Quarter
The contractor has completed works on the ground. The onsite stage 3 Road Safety Audit was completed, with minor issues identified, the report has been submitted to the designers for comment.

Narrow Water Bridge CPO
Submissions accepted by Dept of Infrastructure, Planning NI for pre-commencement compliance. Culvert works carried out adjacent to A2 Roundabout, Warrenpoint.

N53 - Dundalk to Castleblayney Road Phase 4. HBX to Rassan
Following on from the Public Consultation on the emerging preferred route options, the results of submission have now being collated and reviewed and the Route Option Report is available online at www.louthcoco.ie.

Tenders for site investigation have been submitted and are being assessed. A contractor has applied for a geophysical archaeological investigation license. Preliminary design is ongoing.

Subject to approval by TII it is envisaged that a Part 8 process will commence by the end of Q3 of 2020.

N2 Ardee to Castleblayney
Collaboration with Monaghan County Council (as Lead Authority) continues to progress the scheme.

The project has moved into the Route Options phase with Six Route Corridor Options identified. The Consultants will carry out an appraisal of the route options for both Schemes before identifying an Emerging Preferred Route Corridor. The Emerging Preferred Route Corridors will then go on display during another period of non-statutory public consultation in August subject to Covid 19 restrictions, and further feedback will be invited and considered before the Preferred Route Corridors are finalised.

On the 20th July 2020 Louth County Council Adopted Variation No 2 of the Development Plan 2015-2021 to facilitate the upgrade of the N2 from north of Ardee (County Louth) to the roundabout at Tullyvin south of Castleblayney (County Monaghan).

N52 Ardee Bypass
A Consultant has now been appointed to carry out this the technical review of the junctions on the scheme as requested by TII.

The first non statutory public consultation took place in Ardee Community Centre on March 5th. All Submissions are now being considered and the consultant is carrying out an appraisal of the options. A 2nd public consultation has been deferred due the postponement of phase 4 of the Covid 19 Roadmap.
TII HD 15 Safety Works: King Williams Glen Tullyallen, N51
Tullyallen - Lands have been acquired for staggered junction at King Williams Glen. A contractor has been appointed. A works programme and road closures has been agreed with works to commence in August.

Park and Share/ Park and Ride Pilot Scheme
Feasibility Report is now completed. Discussions ongoing with the NTA. Engagement with Landowners complete.
The Part 8 for the scheme was approved by Dundalk MD on the 7th July.
Site Investigation is now completed. Archaeology Investigation contract tenders have been received, a letter of intent has issued and a license has been sought for the works. Trenching will commence by agreement with the landowner on removal of crops. Land transfer will now be completed. Contract documents for the main works are being finalised.

TII HD17 Schemes
Feasibility Studies are currently being prepared for priority locations, in conjunction with TII Safety Section.

Feasibility & Options Report for Public Lighting Remedial Works at 3 No. locations on the N2 has been forwarded to the TII for their review and approval.

N2 Collon North Pavement Scheme
Tender documents have been issued for resurfacing a 3km section of the N2 north of Collon. The closing date for tenders is 31st July.

Recreation & Amenity Projects

Greenway - Omeath to Newry
(Joint project with Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and East Border Region).

Greenway - Carlingford to Templetown
On the 29th July the Minister announced €200,000 allocation towards the design and planning of the extension of the greenway from Carlingford to Templetown taking in Greenore. The funding was allocated under the Carbon Tax Fund 2020 and provides support for feasibility, planning and design for Greenways around the country.

Meath Co. Council Boyne Greenway Drogheda to Mornington
Under section 177AE of the Planning and Development Act Meath County Council have advertised this scheme which is currently on public display at Fair Street in Drogheda.

A Part 8 application for Section II (Omeath to the border) is on public display till the 19th August 2020.
The planning application for section III (Border to Victoria Lock) will be submitted in Q2 of 2020 as the Design Consultant finalises the submission documents. A planning decision is expected in Q1 of 2021.
The project partners are continuing to meet on a monthly basis to review and assess the various aspects of the project. An application for additional funding for the Greenway has been made to SEUPB, with a decision due in Q4 of 2020.

Landowner discussions are ongoing and they are being kept updated on the project developments.

Dundalk Municipal Athletics Grass Track
Community Sports Section applied received funding for circa €92k for works.
Infrastructure, using the €92k to carry out works in terms of site investigations, topo survey and
earth works to bring the track to a level grassed surface for use as a grass track. Site Clearance has completed Tender documents have issued for earthworks and creation of a grass track. Tenders are due on the 28th August.

LIHAF Access Road at Newtown, Drogheda
Engaging with Department and Developer. Contract documents are substantially complete and ready for tender, subject to the Departments approval Site investigations are now completed. Tenders for Archaeological excavation contract are being assessed. An Bord Pleanála decision to grant the SHD for 450 housing units has failed in judicial review. A review of project cost is currently being considered.

LIHAF Mount Avenue Improvement
The Oral hearing into the CPO was held on the 3rd of March. The CPO has been approved by ABP on the 23rd June.

Landowner engagement is ongoing. Atkins Consultants are completing the detailed design and preparing contract documents. Topographical Survey now completed. AA screening report has been received. Ground Investigation is now complete. Archaeological test trenching contract is substantially complete. Accommodation works details are being finalised.

Port Access Northern Cross Route
Land Acquisition ongoing. Fencing completed at R132. Application lodged under the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund in round 1 was not successful, appeal lodged against this decision and was unsuccessful. Fill material being stockpiled, for embankment use. Existing ESB 38kv line has been diverted. Further funding sources being sought, an application for URDF funding round 2 has been lodged.

Safety Improvement Works
Low Cost Safety Schemes
Funding for 2020 allocation received by Operations. Detailed design works and costing estimates are progressing and ongoing on three pedestrian crossings.
- Avenue Rd /Tender documents have been prepared and have gone out to tender. Quotations are due back on the 4th August 2020.
- Mary St / Dublin rd Drogheda: The contractor has been appointed and works are due to commence on site in August.
- Blackrock Village: Tender documents have been prepared and have gone out to tender. Quotations are due back on the 4th August 2020.

Ardee Pedestrian Crossing
Feasibility & Options Report for the Refurbishment of the Pedestrian Lights on Castle Street, Ardee has been forwarded to the TII for their review and approval.

Specific Bridge Improvement Grants
Obelisk Bridge
The Consultant is preparing documents to enable the various environmental, archeological, conservation and structural surveys to take place. These Surveys have now been completed after having been on hold due to Covid restrictions. Section 5 exemption reports for proposed works will be issued In August. Preliminary Design ongoing with options report with cost estimates due by end of Q3 2020

St Dominick’s Bridge, Drogheda
The Consultant is preparing documents to enable the various environmental, archeological, conservation and structural surveys to take place. These Surveys have now been completed after having been on hold due to Covid restrictions. Section 5 exemption reports for proposed works will be issued in August. Preliminary Design ongoing with options report with cost estimates due by end of Q3 2020

Town & Village Renewal
Blackrock Footpaths
Tenders have been received and are currently being assessed, a contractor will be appointed within the coming weeks.
Corporate Projects

Ardee Castle
A specialist tourism company has been appointed to complete a scoping study on proposed use of the building. Findings from the scoping study are being assessed and currently a flexible use model is being considered. Initial detailed design works are ongoing. Building investigations into the judge’s chambers have recommenced following lifting of some Covid 19 restrictions. Temporary support structure has been installed in the judge’s chambers building to address health and safety concerns. RRDF funding continues to be drawn down.

Redevelopment Fair Street Offices, Drogheda
Design team appointed and detailed design work has commenced. Specialist surveys are being carried out and some enabling works will take place to establish the condition of the existing Fair St. Office stone wall to establish the works required. Disability Access Certificate and Fire Certification will be submitted in August. Pre-tender estimate will be received in mid September. Tenders to pre qualify Contractors will be issued in August.

Total cost estimate €12m. Depending on Covid 19 implications construction works are programmed to commence Q1/Q2 2021.

Rural Regeneration and Development Fund

Ardee 2040
Approvals from the Dept. have been issued and brief for the appointment of consultants is currently being prepared. Contract documentation is out to Tender (OJEU), Tenders were received on the 29th of July and will now be assessed.

Carlingford Rural Regeneration
Funding has been approved in principle, verification documents concerning the project were submitted at the end of July to the Dept.

Urban Regeneration and Development Fund Projects

Long Walk (Dundalk)
Approvals from the Dept. have been issued, meetings are to be held with third party stakeholders to enable a brief for the appointment of consultants to be prepared. Head of terms of agreement are currently being drafted.

West Gate Vision (Drogheda)
Brief for the appointment of consultants is currently been prepared. Contract documentation is out to Tender (OJEU), Tenders due on the 3rd of July.

Flooding General

Catchment based Flood Risk Assessment & Management Study (CFRAM)

Dundalk and Ardee Flood Defence projects:
Contract signing for the appointment of a Consultant took place on the 30th of July. The Minister, Mr. Patrick O’ Donovan TD, and the OPW were also in attendance.

Drogheda and Baltray Flood Defence Project:
Tender Docs for the appointment of consultants are currently being developed for this scheme, & its envisaged to go to Tender by the end of September, subject to OPW approval.

Carlingford & Greenore Flood Defence Project
Following on from the Drogheda & Baltray project it is envisaged that Tender procedure for the
appointment of consultants will commence in Mid Q3 of 2020.

**Dunleer Flood Risk Management Plan**
Flood Risk Management Plan final Report completed. OPW have now confirmed that they will examine the Project with a view to delivering the proposed Works themselves.

**Marine Projects**

**Coastal Erosion Study**
Funding received for Salterstown and Seabank Coastal Erosion works. Design works. LCC have now received planning consent under Section 177AE of the Planning Regulations from An Bord Pleanala, (APB) subject to compliance with a number of Conditions. Compliance with these Conditions will require provision of Specialist Services and LCC have now applied to OPW for the additional funding required to provide them.

**Balmers Bog Surface Water Pipe**
OPW has approved funding, €668,571, for these works to be undertaken in advance of the Dundalk Flood Relief Scheme. Consultant has been appointed has commenced detailed design & contract documents are near completion and it is proposed to go to Tender subject to the wayleave being agreed.

CIE have now confirmed that the Wayleave Agreement has received Delegated Board Approval and has been passed to their solicitors. The Board of The Grammer School have also confirmed that they have passed the Wayleave Agreement to their solicitors.

**Annagassan Harbour**
Consultation has taken place with National Parks and Wildlife Service and the EPA due to the proximity of Annagassan Harbour to two Natura 2000 sites (Dundalk Bat SAC and Dundalk Bay SPA). Due to the nature of the works involved a full EIA may be required. Estimated cost further investigations up to €135,000 if full EIS is required. No funding available.

**Schools Programme Projects**

**Replacement School for St Itas and St Marys**
Site acquired. Dept of Education to submit a planning application.

**Ardee E.T.N.S.**
Approval to go to tender issued by Department of Education. Expressions of interest have now been received and a shortlist of contractors to whom tenders will be issued is being prepared.

A contract to carry out the advanced works for ESB & Bord Gais, is substantially complete.

**Colaiste Chu Chulainn & Park at Marshes Lower, Dundalk**
Snagging ongoing, leveling, stone gathering and seeding of the grass area has been completed, with a further rolling to be completed subject to weather. Meeting with the Contractor and school management took place on the 30th July.

**Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project (PLEEP)**
A section 85 agreement between Kilkenny Co. Council & Louth Co. Council has been agreed. Design and preparation of the tender documents will commence in Q3 of 2020.

A final Cost estimate for the element of works in Co. Louth will be carried out during the design process, and this will inform the financial loan required by LCC.

Subject to Approval of a loan for the works by the Members and subsequent approval by the Housing Finance Agency it is proposed to go to tender at the end of Q4 of 2020.

**TII Lighting Upgrade Collon / Adree**
Lighting designs are being completed and it’s envisaged that all designs including with prices will be received in August.

Subject to delivery times of lanterns installation commence by the end of September beginning of October.
**Planning Development Management**

The Planning service indicators for Louth County Council for the month of June 2020 are given below in tabular form.

There were 87 planning applications received during the month of June of which 82 were valid.

In addition there were 17 responses received during the month to requests for further information and 24 Pre-Planning Applications received.

The service indicator figures in relation to planning decisions and decisions on appeals made during the month, broken down by category, and with a total figure for all categories (Column F), are given below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(A) Description</th>
<th>(B) Housing Developments</th>
<th>(C) Individual Houses</th>
<th>(D) Other applications not requiring EIA</th>
<th>(E) Other applications requiring EIA</th>
<th>(F) Total for all categories of development in County Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(i) Number of applications determined</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ii) No. of decisions determined which required further information</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(iii) Percentage of applications refused</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>43.48% (10)</td>
<td>9.8% (5)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>19.23% (15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(iv) Number of appeals determined</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(v) Percentage of decisions overturned on appeal</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>100% (1)</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
<td>50% (1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Planning Enforcement – Unauthorised Development

The Planning indicators are given below in relation to Enforcement complaints regarding unauthorised developments received during the month.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Enforcement in relation to unauthorised development</th>
<th>Enforcement in relation to unauthorised development</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>June 2020</td>
<td>Year to Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Planning Enforcement cases received which didn't require follow up</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of cases closed / resolved through negotiation</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Warning letters issued</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Enforcement Notices issued</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of cases referred for legal proceedings</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Injunctions</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Prosecutions</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Forward Planning

1. Review of Louth County Development Plan 2015 - 2021
   - Draft Plan currently being prepared

2. Re-advertisement of proposed Variation No. 2 to the Louth County Development Plan 2015 - 2021
   - CE Report on submissions being prepared

3. Conservation Grants Schemes 2020:
   - Implementation of the Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2020 (BHIS) and Historic Structures Fund (HSF) 2020
   - 9 projects recommended by the Department for funding:
     - BHIS – 7 projects
     - HSF – 2 projects
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>Engagement of Environmental Consultants for the preparation of proposed SEA / AA of the Louth County Development Plan 2015 - 2021</strong></th>
<th>Consultants engaged – SEA / AA being prepared</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td><strong>Engagement of Consultants for the provision of a Housing Strategy as part of Louth County Development Plan 2015 - 2021</strong></td>
<td>Consultants Engaged – Strategy being developed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td><strong>Engagement of Consultants for the provision of a Quantitative Assessment to Inform the Retail Strategy for the Louth County Development Plan 2021 - 2027</strong></td>
<td>Progressing in-house</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 7 | **Strategic Housing Developments (SHD’s):**  
- S.247 Pre-planning meeting (No. 2) held re: SHD application  
  - Ardee c.255 units |                                                                                                                                                  |
Municipal District of Dundalk

Dundalk Area
General maintenance of roads, footpaths, signage, gullies, barriers, drains, verges, etc continues.
Preparations continue for the Road Resurfacing Works in the 2020 Road Works Programme.
Repairs continue on Traffic Lights, Bollards, Barriers, and Signage damaged by vehicular collisions is on-going.
Customer Services queries are replied to as required and subsequent works carried out.
Maintenance continues on the Public Parks, also including Hedge and Tree Pruning in the remaining Public Areas.
Litter picking, emptying bins and street sweeping continues on a daily basis.
Maintenance of the public foul and storm sewerage network continues with blockages and flooding being cleared as required.

Blackrock and Faughart Area
Works carried out in this area this month were mainly connected to preparation for surface dressing works, opening outlets, drainage, tar patching repairing potholes, litter picking, road signage repair/maintenance and replacement at various locations are ongoing.
Tar patching, pothole repairs in preparation for surface dressing with works carried out on LP-3125 - HBX N53 to Shortstone Cross, LP-3113-20 from Shortstone to Skyhill, LP-3113-0 from Skyhill to County Boundary, LS-7129-29 Little Mills.
Flail mowing, cutting grass verges took place on all roads for surface dressing, plus junctions at various locations including LS-7114 Ballybinaby Cross, LS-7115 Cavananore, LP-3125 Maghereagh Cross, LP-3161 Haynestown Cross, N52 Gibstown, R177 Lurgankeel.

Illegally dumped Rubbish/Litter was lifted at various locations including N53 Newtownbalregan, LS-7093 Feed, LS-7114 Killin.
Emptying of litter bins on going with bins emptied in Blackrock/Dromiskin/Knockbridge, on Monday and Fridays.

Attached photos show:
1) Completed LIS Lane in Kilkerley
2) Completed Riverside Walk in Dundalk
3) Surface Dressing near Toberona/Kilcurry, Dundalk
Cooley Area
Surface dressing has been completed on the Greyacre Road, Barley Field Road, Deer Park Road, Bog Road, Ravensdale and Jenkinstown. These works include road edge restoration, pothole patching, drainage ditch clearing and verge clearance.

Drainage works have been completed on the Barleyfeild and Ravensdale Regional Road.

General maintenance of roads, footpaths, car parks, public toilets, signage, gullies, drains, verges, etc continues.

Street cleaning, bin collection in Carlingford, Omeath, Greenore, Templentown Beach, Gyles Quay, play grounds areas continues.

The tractor/flail was cutting around Dromiskin. The drainage crew were opening outlets between Corderry Cross – Readypenny and at Springhill – Tallanstown. They collected the rubbish from the villages in preparation for the long weekend.

The playgrounds and lifebuoys were checked.

Ardee Municipal District

South Louth Operations Area

Roads

Surface Dressing works 2020

Roads made ready for surface dressing as follows:
1. Collon to Tullyallen Road R168
2. Whitemountain Collon
3. Richardstown
4. Churchtown to Stormanstowm
5. Lynchs Cross Tullyallen
6. Baltray Road R167
7. Hacketts Cross to Port
8. Togher to Keenens cross

Works included:
- Patching, cleaning back verge to expose road edge, opening water-cuts, installing new drainage as required, clearing and cleaning roadside ditches, installing and removing temporary signage for the Surface Dressing works
- Surface dressing was completed to the first 4 roads on the 16th & 17th July (photographs below)
Road Repairs to the following roads for July:
LP 2255-27 Philipstown
LS5210-0 Mountrush
LS6269 Knockalavy
LS 5207-0 Stormstown
LS 5208-0 Coolamoney
LS 5210-0 Gilbertown
LP 1209-0 Glack
LS 6223-0 Dunany
R170 at Dunleer
R166 Annagassan

Drainage works to the following roads for July:
12641-0 Smarmore
LP 1212-0 Riverstown to Stabannon
LP 1233-7 Townpark Ardee
LP2214-0 Stabannon
LP 2215-0 Stabannon

General maintenance of road gullies, opening watercuts and weed control was ongoing.

Environment
Cleaning of main streets in Ardee on a daily basis. Collecting the litter bins in Ardee and Dunleer. Maintaining the Bring/Bottle banks to ensure all remain clean. Ring-buoys monitoring and maintenance on weekly basis.

Parks
Maintenance and cleaning of Fairgreen and Dunleer parks and playgrounds complete with daily checks of the playground and exercise equipment at both locations

Borough District of Drogheda

Drogheda Town Area

Roads
Road surface repairs at Priest Lane.

Drainage maintenance is continuing on an ongoing basis at various locations throughout the Town including the cleaning of road gullies, replacing damaged covers. Repair to broken manhole covers – various areas

North Strand/Baltray road at Donore's Green – underground surface water drain pipe blocked with
concrete inside – attempts to clear same in progress.

Footpaths repair commenced along Thomas Street. Repairs to road signage and bollards ongoing

Other road maintenance operations such as maintaining and replacing road signage, traffic light maintenance and barrier replacement was undertaken at various locations throughout the Town.

Road markings to regulate parking and maintain traffic flows are continuing on an ongoing basis throughout the Town. Works are prioritised due to limited resources. Traffic Calming road markings are also being carried out throughout the Town.

Environment
The crew are involved in daily emptying of Town Litter bins, street sweeping, litter picking, removal of illegal waste disposal – circa 750kgs were removed (about 110 illegally dumped bags, plus items such as beds, trolleys, clothes, mattresses, cardboard, tyres, wooden pallets and Sofas – Killeneer, Bessexwell’s lane, Townrath, Twenties Lane, Dummy’s Lane, North Starnd steps are frequent dumping areas).

Offensive Graffiti removed from Tredagh View, Drogheda

Donore Road car park, vegetation overgrowth cleared

Bring Bank maintenance and clearance of illegally disposed waste Illegal waste dumping -- ongoing.

Parks
Checking playground, skate park and exercise equipment – (urban and rural areas)

Hanging baskets & window boxes are being watered and fed around town and along bridges

Flower beds and tubs emptied and planted at Lourdes Square, Sunday’s Gate and John Paul Court

Dominic’s Park – preparation for Green flag inspection carried out.

Strimming around Lifebuoys at Curley Hall

Installing Wildlife diversity Information signs
Pruning trees (Wheaton Hall and College rise)

South Louth District Area
(District of Drogheda – Rural Area)

Preparing roads for Surface Dressing at Togher, Clogherhead, Arden Lane - Tullallen, Baltray Road, Grangebellew, Carstown, Collon/Monasterboice Road, Richardstown Road and Hacket Cross.

Surface dressing at Togher and Baltray
Surface dressing at Togher and Baltray

Maintenance and monitoring toilets i.e. Port Beach (toilet units, Plumbing and drainage system upgraded), Port Oriel (fixed leaking water) and Clogherhead Beach. Installed Covid-19 signs and minor repairs.

Repair work to R166 south of Togher completed and temporary traffic management plan removed early July 2020.

Extra Litter bins recently installed at Car Parks to Port Beach, Clogherhead Beach and Seapoint receiving positive public feedback.

8no. new Lifebuoys, Lifebouy Poles, signs and boxes installed at Ganderstown, Clogherhead Port, Port beach and Seapoint.

Signage was installed at entrance to Seapoint beach.

Lifebuoys at Curly Hole off Slane Road – vegetation overgrowth cleared around same.

Waste Management and Environment Report

Waste Management

Waste Enforcement
There are a number of Waste Management Act related cases going through the District Court, Circuit Court (appeals and DPP case) and the High Court at present.

Litter Enforcement
A total of 18 fines were issued in the month of July. Of these fines, 4 were issued in the Dundalk urban area, 10 in Drogheda urban area and 4 in the remaining County wide area.

There was 1 fine issued for dog fouling in July. There have been 1062 investigations with 324 fines issued to date in 2020.

Diesel Laundering Waste
A total of 14 IBC’s of Diesel Sludge were recovered in July 2020. The approximate cost of clean-up and disposal of the material is €17,480. There were 4 incidences of laundered diesel waste in July, a total of 6 IBC’s at Carnmore, 3 on the 9th July and 3 on the 20th July. 6 on Captains Road and 2 on Kilaclessy Road.

So far in 2020 a total of 89 IBC’s at a cost of €111,128 approx.

Air / Water / Noise Pollution
There were eight water pollution complaints received during June 2020 which were investigated. Five complaints have been closed off and three are open. With regard to legal actions one case under Section 3 of the Local Government (Water pollution) Act 1977 as amended which was scheduled for hearing during June 2020 has been adjourned until October 2020 and relates to a private pumping station in Drogheda. Two Air Pollution cases and two Noise Pollution complaints were received during July 2020.

RMCEI (Recommended Criteria for Environmental Inspections)
The EPA have requested each Local Authority to carry out a mid-year review of the RMCEI plan, revise or amend inspection numbers where appropriate while taking into account national priorities in water, waste air and noise. Revised
statistical data which includes outcomes and metrics have been submitted to the EPA.

**Bathing Waters**
The bathing season officially started on the 1st June 2020. The water quality at each of the bathing waters in Co Louth are of high quality so far this season.

**Water Framework/River Basin Management Plans**
The Local Authority waters catchment assessment is on-going with field work currently being carried out in the Castletown catchment.
The combined draft river catchments (Areas for Action) AFA list will be published in the draft RBMP in December 2020. Public Consultations on the draft RBMP will take place from December 2020 - June 2021.
The Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government has published a document outlining the Significant Water Management Issues for the third River Basin Management Plan for Ireland for public consultation. Due to COVID-19 and the restrictions people faced during the public consultation period, an extension to the public consultation on the Significant Water Management Issues for Ireland. The extended consultation will now run until **Friday, 7th August 2020**.
The consultation page on the Department’s website will be updated in due course but in the meantime the relevant documentation is still available at [https://www.housing.gov.ie/water/water-quality/water-framework-directive/public-consultation-significant-water-management](https://www.housing.gov.ie/water/water-quality/water-framework-directive/public-consultation-significant-water-management). The purpose of this consultation phase is to gather your views on what are considered to be the significant water management issues for Ireland which should be addressed in the planning process for the next RBMP.

**Climate Change**
The Climate Action Team has recently purchased 5 Home Energy Savings kits which will be available for the public to borrow from Drogheda, Dundalk and Ardee libraries.

Energy Savings Kits will help householders better understand their energy use and reduce their bills. The six tools in the kit address key areas of energy use in the home - space heating, hot water and electricity consumption - and can identify common issues such as lack of insulation, poor ventilation and the appliances that might be driving up electricity bills.

**Veterinary Services**

**Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI)**
As of 31st July 2020, Louth County Council Veterinary Section, under a Service Level Agreement with the FSAI, enforces food safety standards on 16 meat plants under its supervision in the County.

**Control of Dogs**
*Control of Dogs Act 1986*

### Dogs impounded July 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total dogs impounded</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strays</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surrendered by owners</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No dogs reclaimed by owners</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No of dogs rehomed direct</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No of dogs rehomed to welfare groups</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No of dogs on hand in Pound at 31/07/2020</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Dog Licences
**July 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No of Licences sold</td>
<td>608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licence Checks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House calls</td>
<td>567</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 16 Notices issued (request to produce licence within 10 days)</td>
<td>285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed Penalty Notices</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Control of Horses
*Control of Horses Act 1996*  
*Control of Horses Bye-Laws 2003*

### Horses impounded
**July 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Horses seized, and reason for seizure:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 (which were being kept on council lands without approval)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 (as straying on public road near Dundalk)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horses reclaimed by owner:</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horses re-homed:</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horses disposed of:</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No of horses on hand in Pound on 31/07/2020:</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Dog Breeding Establishments
**Dog Breeding Establishments Act 2010**

### Dog Breeding Establishments
**July 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total no of registered DBE’s in Louth (as at 31/07/2020)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunt</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boarding Kennels</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training Kennels</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DBE</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welfare</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Corporate Directorate includes the central services required to maintain and administer this Local Authority and includes Corporate, Human Resources and Information Communication Technology. Emergency Services includes all elements of the Fire Service including Major Emergency Management and the provision of Civil Defence Services.

**Corporate**

During the month of July Customer Services dealt with 10,717 queries – 6,387 calls, 3,124 counter queries and 1,206 e-mails.

There were valid 3,260 Sugar CRM cases recorded during July of which 664 (20%) remain unresolved.
The table below illustrates activity in the redress area.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019 Year to Date</th>
<th>2020 Year to Date</th>
<th>July 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Freedom of Information</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Protection</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ombudsman</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complaints Policy</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Work is continuing on the draft Electoral Register. 11,681 letters were issued to citizens in relation to seeking Eircodes and 2,984 had been returned completed (30th July, 2020). Another 1,458 letters will issue. The online portal is now available for qualified persons to make an application for inclusion or amendment to the Draft Register of Electors:- [https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/electoral-register/registeronline2021-22/](https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/electoral-register/registeronline2021-22/).
**Sustainable Energy**

**Better Energy Communities Grant 2018 & 2019**
The Energy section is continuing to pursue the payment of the final grants for 2018 & 2019 and is seeking a meeting with SEAI to try and resolve the situation.

**Interreg EV Infrastructure bid for Sustainable Transport - Electric Vehicles Rapid Chargers**
The result of this application has still not been received yet.

**Varcities H2020 Stage 2 Application**
The “signing-up” process for inclusion in the project has been completed and the development of the detailed plans for the project continues. The first meeting of the project partners has been scheduled for taking place in Chania, Crete. Over the course of the two day meeting each Work Package leader will present a 1-hour presentation for each Work Package. Each Municipality, of which Louth County Council is will prepare and present a 15min. presentation which will include general information about the city, VARCITIES objectives and actions, as well as challenges to be addressed. And finally Technology Partners will prepare a 10min. technology-oriented presentation.

**GenComm Interreg Energy Storage Project**
Council staff attended a Webinar update on progress on this project recently. The project is now progressing to a stage where the pilots are clearly demonstrating the potential for best application of hydrogen as a form of sustainable energy. It is clear from progress to-date in this project, that hydrogen on its own will not provide the solution for 2050 targets on climate change, but that hydrogen can contribute significantly with other forms of energy to enable the changes necessary. In addition to developing pilot projects, the project has also developed a Decision Support Tool for the use of hydrogen (available on the Gencomm Website), and a Community Forum for Hydrogen where experts are available to answer questions on the use of hydrogen as a sustainable energy source. This project was raised at the January meeting of the Climate Action & Energy Strategic Policy Committee and it was agreed to request the project partners to make a presentation to that SPC at a future meeting.

**Fire and Emergency Services**

**Fire Service**
The Covid 19 pandemic restrictions which were implemented in the fire service during March and scaled back during May and June are continuing to operate. The drill programme is now being delivered in full. A small number of staff had to restrict their movements but the fire service response has been unaffected by Covid.

A two-week BA Wearsers course is also planned during August and this will include new measures for keeping students apart.

The number of fires attended by Louth Fire Brigades reduced during July, compared to May and June. The number of road traffic collisions attended has increased over the numbers during the lockdown. The controlled burning scheme is back in operation, following a number of suspensions.

Louth Fire Service has requested a meeting with Coillte, subject to Covid restrictions. The purpose will be to review the fires from 31st May to 9th June and the working arrangements between Louth Fire Service and Coillte and to make any necessary improvements that are necessary.

The Fire and Building Control Section has resumed its fire safety inspection and enforcement activity. The priority for inspections and enforcement are apartments and multiple dwellings where HAP notifications are received. Creches have been inspected and approximately 85% not satisfy fire certification and disabled access certification requirements. The remainder are being followed up. The Section is continuing to deliver all Building Control processes normally. These include Fire Safety Certificate applications, Disabled Access Certificate applications, Commencement Notices and Certificates of Compliance on Completion.

The National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management (NDFEM) arranged a number of WebEx meetings with Louth Fire Service on 24th July 2020 to assess the operational and fire prevention response during the Covid emergency. The NDFEM were happy with measures taken in Louth, including the Covid Special Measures...
document, the procurement of PPE and emergency supplies and the use of social media.

**Major Emergency Management**

Regional Major Emergency Steering and Working Group meetings in relation to Covid have continued by tele-conference. The purpose has been to co-ordinate actions including testing, community response and fatality arrangements. These meetings have included personnel from the three Principal Response Agencies, the County Councils, HSE and An Garda Síochána. The current focus is on regional precautions in the event that the Covid response becomes regionalized.

**Civil Defence**

Further Covid 19 taskings were carried out during July, including transport of test samples from DKIT to Naas and transport of patients to and from hospital appointments.

Drone training was carried out with a small group. A clean-up of Civil Defence training centre and stores was completed. Certified training is planned for August including Cardiac First Responder and Emergency First Responder recertification and people handling. These are small classes with a maximum of 4 allowed and limited to those whose certs are expiring.

The CDO would hope to resume regular training in September.

**Water Safety**

This is the peak of the summer lifeguard season with our three blue flag beaches now having daily cover. There has also been an Increased level of checking of lifebuoys on beaches owing to high level of swimming at these site and at traditional bathing areas such as Salterstown, Gyles Quay, Carlingford harbour.

There have now been 3 reported incidents relating to the sandbank at Blackrock arising from people crossing the river and becoming stranded and additional signage measurements have been put in place.
Housing

Pillar 1 Addressing Homelessness

As the Responsible Housing Authority for the North East Region, Louth County Council continues to manage this area and achieve the goals set out in the North East Homelessness Action Plan, 2013-17. The work done within Louth can be summarised as follows:

The tables below reflect monthly returns submitted to the Department with regard to Homeless numbers in the NORTH EAST REGION between 20th-26th July 2020.

This anonymous and aggregated return of all individuals accessing emergency accommodation is returned to the Department of Housing on a monthly basis.

### Table 1: Gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>129</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 2: Age Groups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18-24</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-44</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-64</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65+</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>129</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 3: Accommodation Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accommodation Type</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private Emergency Accommodation (PEA)</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supported Temporary Accommodation (STA)</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporary Emergency Accommodation (low support)(TEA)</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Unique Total (note, clients may have accessed multiple accommodation types during the week) 0

Minus people accessing multiple accommodation types during the week 0

Total unique individuals 129

Table 4: County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>County Louth</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Monaghan</td>
<td>04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Cavan</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total 129

Table 5 - Families with dependent children breakdown

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>No. of families with dependent children</th>
<th>No. of Individual Adults</th>
<th>No. of Dependents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individuals with</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dependent children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Louth</th>
<th>Monaghan</th>
<th>Cavan</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of tenancies established</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of individuals currently in tenancy</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Housing First

|                                |        |          |       |       |
|                                | Louth  | Monaghan | Cavan | Total |
|                                |        |          |       |       |
|                                |        |          |       |       |

Covid 19 Homeless Services

As a direct response to the risk of communal spread of the Covid-19 virus amongst vulnerable individuals in Homeless Hostels, the Council has opened up a number of void properties and temporarily decanted individuals and families from hostel accommodation into these Units.

This has allowed these persons to live in a more isolated environment thereby decreasing the risk of infection. Contracted service providers have continued to provide meals and high level support to these clients.

The Hostels and family Hub continue to operate with reduced capacity, which reflects government guidelines in respect of social and physical distancing.

Isolation units have been made available for homeless persons with suspected/confirmed cases.
of Covid-19 and protocols have been drawn up to address such cases.

The full range of Homeless Services continue to be provided remotely and the office is available to staff, on request, in exceptional cases.

**Inspections of Private Emergency Accommodation**

Since December 2017 the Homeless Office have carried out random and unannounced inspections on all B&BS, Hotels and Hostels providing Private Emergency Accommodation on behalf of Louth County Council. This will continue on a monthly basis subject to Covid 19 Restrictions.

**Housing Assistance Payment**

The total number of applications in HAP is 3218

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ardee Municipal District</th>
<th>Dundalk Municipal District</th>
<th>Drogheda Borough District</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>339</td>
<td>1710</td>
<td>1169</td>
<td>3218</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Pillar 2 Accelerate Social Housing**

Over the period 2018 to 2021, a target has been set for the provision of 1074 units with an annual target of 520 units in 2019. These targets will include matters such as Part V provision, Acquisitions, Mortgage to Rents, Long Term Leases, Repair and Lease and Buy & Renew Acquisitions. The 2019 - 2020 delivery pipeline progress is detailed at the end of the Housing report.

**Social Housing Schemes Dunleer**

Louth County Council welcomed the completion of 80 new social homes in Dunleer in June 2020. The homes were delivered under the Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan and comprise a mix of 2, 3, & 4 bedroomed A-Rated properties.

The homes were completed during the COVID-19 pandemic as the site was designated an ‘essential site’. Tenants are now in place and the units and the tenants will be managed by Oaklee Developments Ltd.

**Green Gates Manor, Dunlealk**

Under the Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan Louth County Council have acquired 44 new social homes under a Turnkey arrangement at Green Gates Manor, Haynestown, Dundalk.

The homes were completed during the COVID-19 pandemic as the site was designated an ‘essential site’. New tenants have commenced moving into the units.
Housing Allocations as at 31st July 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Numbers Allocated</th>
<th>Allocations - Social</th>
<th>Allocations - Voluntary</th>
<th>Refusals - Social</th>
<th>Refusals - Voluntary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ardee MD</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dundalk MD</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drogheda BD</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Allocations</strong></td>
<td><strong>163</strong></td>
<td><strong>125</strong></td>
<td><strong>9</strong></td>
<td><strong>28</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Transfers Approved within Social Housing at 31st July 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Ardee</th>
<th>Dundalk</th>
<th>Drogheda</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Housing List (excluding HAP Transfers)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Ardee MD</th>
<th>Dundalk MD</th>
<th>Drogheda BD</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>752</td>
<td>712</td>
<td>1829</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Transfer List from HAP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Ardee MD</th>
<th>Dundalk MD</th>
<th>Drogheda BD</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>339</td>
<td>1710</td>
<td>1169</td>
<td>3218</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are a total of 243 applicants on the list for transfer (Non-HAP) within Social Housing including 19 applications from the Approved Housing Bodies.

Rent Management

The number of tenants who pay rent by Household Budget is now 991

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Rents Arrears as at 31st July 2020</th>
<th>Number of Account</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rents between 4-6 weeks old</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>€75,803.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rents between 7-12 weeks old</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>€119,154.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rents greater than 12 weeks old</td>
<td>871</td>
<td>€3,053,303.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>1260</strong></td>
<td><strong>€3,248,259.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pillar 3

Build More Homes

The Council continue to maintain land banks in the following locations, which can be developed if an appropriate project and funding is forthcoming.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mullavally, Louth Village</td>
<td>8.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kilterley</td>
<td>3.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ballymakenny</td>
<td>16.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Point Road</td>
<td>5.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Various Individual Sites</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pillar 4

Improve the Rented Sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Last Month</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. of properties inspected</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 2020</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of advisory notes issued to landlord</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of improvement notices issued</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of prohibition notices issued</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of Rent Book Notices issued</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inspections (HAP)</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improvement Notices (HAP)</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Inspections Compliance</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAP Compliance</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAS Compliance</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Re Inspections HAP</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Re Inspections Hap Compliance</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Re Inspections RAS</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Re Inspections RAS Compliance</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHB Inspection</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pillar 5

Utilise Existing Housing

Vacant Home Initiatives 2019/2020

The maintenance sections within Housing remain fully operational during the public health emergency. The following table summarises the level of maintenance and works activity to existing stock.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maintenance</th>
<th>Total (YTD)</th>
<th>This month</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. of Maintenance Requests Received</td>
<td>2817</td>
<td>364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of Maintenance Completed</td>
<td>1989</td>
<td>248</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Vacant Properties

Currently 30 No. social units have been used as temporary accommodation for isolation or additional homeless need during Covid 19 and are not included in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vacant Properties</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ardee Municipal District</td>
<td>06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dundalk Municipal District</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drogheda Borough District</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Re Lets</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacant Properties CPO Units not yet ready for occupation (all county)</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total No. of CPO Properties (Relets &amp; CPO's)</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grant Assistance to the Elderly and Disabled

The private grant process is continuing with some changes to procedure to reflect social distancing guidelines.

The following grants are available:
- Housing Adaption Grants - Priority 1, which will assist those who need whole time care in the home
- Housing for Older People – Priority 1 to works that will preserve the integrity of the dwelling
- Mobility Aids Grants - Priority 1, which will assist those who need whole time, care in the home. LCC are awaiting notification of 2020 Funding Allocation
- Interim funding of 65% of previous years allocation to allow Local Authority to continue works in this area.

### Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>HOP</th>
<th>HAG</th>
<th>MAG</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Applications Received 2020</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total No. of grant apps.</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>519</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Anti-Social Behaviour

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASB Cases</th>
<th>DBD</th>
<th>AMD</th>
<th>DMD</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASB ONGOING</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASB COMPLETED</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>09</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL ASB</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Estate Management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estate Management</th>
<th>DBD</th>
<th>AMD</th>
<th>DMD</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre Tenancy Training</td>
<td>05</td>
<td>45</td>
<td></td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenancy Investigations (call outs)</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>18</td>
<td></td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenancy Investigations (remotely)</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>37</td>
<td></td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenancy Inspection</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>00</td>
<td></td>
<td>02</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ASB Cases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASB Verbal Warning</th>
<th>DBD</th>
<th>AMD</th>
<th>DMD</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASB Written Warning</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>01</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ASB Completed

13 | 03 | 22 | 38

### ASB Ongoing

10 | 02 | 13 | 25

### ASB Total

13 | 03 | 22 | 38
### Definitions

**AHB =** Approved Housing Body

**CAS =** Capital Assistance Scheme which provides 100% funding to AHBs to build or acquire units for disabled or homeless applicants with a non-repayment mortgage in favour of the Housing Authority to ensure that the Housing Authority has both nomination rights and security over the asset created by public funds.

**CALF =** Capital Advance Loan Fund which provides Department funding for up to 30% funding to AHBs to provide units for general use on the basis that they enter into a Payment and Availability agreement with the Housing Authority who will provide all the tenant nominations.

**CPO =** Compulsory Purchase Scheme allows the local authority to land or property without the consent of the owner by means of a compulsory purchase order (CPO). This is being used to acquire vacant or derelict houses which are being returned to use as social housing units.

**IPS =** Incremental Purchase Scheme

**Voids =** new addition to the report requested by Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government.

**SHCEP =** Social Housing Current Expenditure Programme SHCEP supports the delivery of social housing by providing financial support to local authorities and Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs) for the long term leasing of houses and apartments from private owners and developers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Delivery Stream</th>
<th>Rebuilding Ireland Projected Delivery 2018-2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SHIP CONSTRUCTION</strong></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SHIP CONSTRUCTION RAPID</strong></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>REGENERATION</strong></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CAS CONSTRUCTION</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SHIP CONSTRUCTION SINGLE STAGE</strong></td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SHIP CONSTRUCTION TURNKEY</strong></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SHIP Competitive Dialogue</strong></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CAS CONSTRUCTION TURNKEY &amp; CAS SINGLE STAGE</strong></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PPP</strong></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AHB CALF Construction</strong></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AHB CALF Turnkey</strong></td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Calf Part V</strong></td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LA Part V</strong></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CAS Part V</strong></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Name</td>
<td>Project Phase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 De la Salle Crescent, Ardee A92FV38</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reaghastown, Ardee A92VX36</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ballinard, Kilterley A92V594</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Cul na Raithe, Dundalk A92K8KR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>151 Castleross, Dundalk A91D6C0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>174 Moneymore, Drogheda A92RP8E</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Railway Cottages, Jenkinson A91FX58</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>128 Newfield, Drogheda A92EC52</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Edenhill, The Loakers, Blackrock, A91W3KT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44 Woodbury Gardens, Dundalk</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36 Windmill Road, Drogheda, Co. Louth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 The Park, Riverbank, Drogheda</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Ard Na Tuire, Dromiskin, Co. Louth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96 Cedarfield, Drogheda, Co. Louth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41 Rockfield Manor, Dundalk, Co. Louth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55 Bellingham Green, Castlebellingham A91NR58</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPO All bundles 2019 - Q3 Delivery</td>
<td>3/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPO All bundles 2019 - Q4 Delivery</td>
<td>4/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dowdallshill, Dundalk, Co. Louth</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Phase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harbour Grove, Dundalk, Co. Louth</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oriel Heights, Collon, Co Louth</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tullybrook</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Kitchen Garden, Demesne Road, Dundalk</td>
<td>1/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Kitchen Garden, Demesne Road, Dundalk</td>
<td>2/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Kitchen Garden, Demesne Road, Dundalk</td>
<td>3/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Kitchen Garden, Demesne Road, Dundalk</td>
<td>4/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Kitchen Garden, Demesne Road, Dundalk</td>
<td>5/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-5 Brabazon Hall, Termonfeckin</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tierney Street, Ardee</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36 Strand Hill, Clogherhead</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPO All bundles 2020 Delivery Q1</td>
<td>1/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bishops Court, Dundalk, Co Louth</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knockshee Close, Blackrock, Co Louth</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clonmore Close, Ardee, Co Louth</td>
<td>1/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clonmore Close, Ardee, Co Louth</td>
<td>2/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clonmore Close, Ardee, Co Louth</td>
<td>3/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clonmore Close, Ardee, Co Louth</td>
<td>4/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rathmullen Road, Drogheda, Co. Louth (Tuath)</td>
<td>7/7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ravel Ardee Road, Dunleer</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. John's Home, Peter's Hill, Drogheda, Co. Louth</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPO All bundles 2020</td>
<td>2/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Location</td>
<td>Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lismullen Grove, Dundalk, Co Louth</td>
<td>1/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cathedral View, Dundalk, Co Louth</td>
<td>1/7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cathedral View, Dundalk, Co Louth</td>
<td>2/7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cathedral View, Dundalk, Co Louth</td>
<td>3/7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lismullen Grove, Dundalk, Co Louth</td>
<td>2/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barrack Street, Dundalk</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Slieveroe Crescent, Dundalk</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cathedral View, Dundalk, Co Louth</td>
<td>4/7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Castletown Road Dundalk 6 units</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridgegate Ardee</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPO All bundles 2019 - Q4 Delivery</td>
<td>4/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPO All bundles 2020 Delivery Q3</td>
<td>3/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPO All bundles 2020 Delivery Q4</td>
<td>4/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co Louth</td>
<td>2/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harbour View, Coulter Place, Dundalk</td>
<td>1/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Father Finn Park (Phase 2)</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lismullen Grove, Dundalk, Co Louth</td>
<td>3/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four Winds, Mullacapple, Collon</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gort Bui, Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda</td>
<td>5/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co Louth</td>
<td>3/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Details</td>
<td>Number of Projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co. Louth</td>
<td>4/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co. Louth</td>
<td>1/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harbour View, Coulter Place, Dundalk</td>
<td>2/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cathedral View, Dundalk, Co Louth</td>
<td>5/7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cathedral View, Dundalk, Co Louth</td>
<td>6/7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cathedral View, Dundalk, Co Louth</td>
<td>7/7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cox’s Demesne Phase 2B</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cathedral View, Dundalk, Co Louth</td>
<td>7/7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moneymore, Drogheda - Infill</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gort Uaine, Clogherhead - Infill</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Lane, Dunleer - Infill</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rathmullen Park, Drogheda - Infill</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boice Court (Phase 2 - 4)</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Avenue, Dundalk</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muirhevnamor, Dundalk Phase 1</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wadman Park, Haynestown, Dundalk</td>
<td>03-Mar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greengates</td>
<td>1/1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Communities and Sport

Louth Community Call

Telephone 1800 805 817

The call centre, in line with national requirements, continues to operate on a seven days per week basis and with revised hours of 9AM to 5PM and has dealt with 919 calls for assistance since introduction. Requests for assistance to attend medical appointments continue to be the most common type of call.

LEADER

The Local Action Group (LAG), at its meeting on 20th July, approved funding support in the amount of €453,556 for a total of 12 LEADER projects under various strategic actions. Eight of the approved projects were under a previously advertised Targeted Call for SA16 – Community Facilities, totaling €329,880.00. Locations of the projects approved for funding include, Dundalk, Drogheda, Dromiskin, Carlingford, Cooley, Haggardstown and Hunterstown.

PPN

The Secretariat continue to meet monthly via Zoom to progress the Action Plan for the remainder of 2020 to include capacity building and training for PPN Members, commencement of the PPN Wellbeing Statement, progress preparation for the PPN Community Awards 2020 and other core PPN activities. A survey will issue in the coming weeks to establish what type of training PPN Groups require to enhance their roles in the Community.

On Thursday 25th June, Louth Public Participation Network (PPN) launched Phase 1 of the ‘COVID-19 Support Pack’ initiative outside County Hall.

As part of Phase 2, Expressions of Interest were invited from PPN Members that had not already received packs. Over 40 groups have responded and distribution of Support Packs has commenced. This initiative has assisted 65 PPN Groups to re-open their premises and has been greatly welcomed by PPN Members.

The PPN recently held an election within the Environmental Pillar to fill the vacant position on the Housing SPC. The successfully elected candidate is Ms Niamh Roche. Niamh is a full member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management and currently work as both a self-employed ecological consultant and part time for Bat Conservation Ireland, a national NGO.

EU_SHAFE Project

The second semester of the project closed on 31st July 2020. A claim and project update will be submitted to Interreg in the coming weeks. A survey questionnaire on the Good Practices in Domain 1 (Housing) was completed and submitted on behalf of the Local Action Group members. Members of the project Local Action Group took part in an online webinar hosted by the Campania Region in relation to Domain 1 (Housing). The Project Co-ordinator attended the online Consultation Workshop on Future Priorities for EU Cohesion Funding and a submission will be made on behalf of the project in the next number of weeks.

Ongoing Conference calls with our EU_SHAFE partners across Europe take place once a month providing updates on the project. The most recent call was 23rd July 2020. The Age Friendly County Programme is very active and alive in the COVID-19 period. The programme is being supported by Louth County Council and many of the Alliance partners through the Louth Community Call Forum. There has been contact with the Louth Older People’s Forum since the Community Call Centre was set up. The Age
Friendly Coordinator, who also acted as the Community Call Contact Person, dealt with any issues arising during the crisis.

Pride of Place 2020

Omeath has been chosen as county Louth’s sole entrant in the 2020 IPB All Island Pride of Place Competition. The village will compete in the Islands and Coastal Communities Category and with Covid-19 restrictions in place the competition is being run differently this year.

Competition will be judged by the Pride of Place judging panel using the existing judging criteria. Applicants will be judged on their detailed submission. In addition, a call (e.g. teleconference/zoom) will be arranged between the group and the judges. Each call will facilitate a Q&A session and provide communities with opportunity to elaborate on their submission and also facilitate judges to seek clarification. A special video has been prepared to accompany the Omeath application.

Louth in Bloom 2020

The closing date for receipt of entries to the 2020 competition is 14/08/2020. Prizes will be awarded for each of the three district areas of Ardee, Drogheda and Dundalk, with an overall County winner in each category. Entries can be made online or posted/delivered to any of the Council’s customer services counters. Members are encouraged to advise Community section staff of potential entrants from their area.

Sports activity

Louth Sports Partnership created a 1K a day challenge for all adult disability homes in County Louth. Each group have submitted their updates of their daily walks and it has been a great success.

Town & Village 2020- Accelerated Measure

Minister Heather Humphreys, T.D. has announced the projects that were successful in securing funding under Round 1 of the Town and Village Renewal Scheme Accelerated Measure in Response to Covid-1
Louth Ardee Support for €25,000 businesses, voluntary organisations and sports groups in Ardee to develop an active online presence, including online platform, website development, training, mentoring and promotion.

Louth Carlingford Provision of café €40,000 style outdoor furniture, seating, parasols and traffic segregation in key areas of the town and activation plan for town in order to increase footfall.

Louth Clogherhead Rejuvenation of the €25,000 village business district with shop front improvements such as painting and signage.

**Louth Library Service**

Dundalk, Drogheda and Ardee Libraries are operating regular opening hours whereby users can:
- Browse
- Borrow & return items
- Photocopy &print and
- Avail of public internet and WiFi services. Limited PC use is available and library users are encouraged to book a slot in advance.
- Appointments can also be made to use the reference room and microfilm readers.
- The national online reservation service has resumed whereby library users can browse the national catalogue and reserve items which will be delivered to their local branch.
- The Contact and Collect service continues in the part time branches of Dunleer and Carlingford. This is an appointment based system where members can contact the library by phone or email and arrange to collect lending material from the library at a pre specified time.
- The library service for the housebound also continues to operate.

**New Online Service**

Unlimited Comics is a new service with RB Digital which allows you to choose from hundreds of digital comic books & graphic novels. Click [https://louth.rbdigitalglobal.com/](https://louth.rbdigitalglobal.com/) to access the collection.

**Summer Stars 2020**

Summer Stars is the public library national summer reading programme for children running until the end of August. All children throughout the country are invited to join the adventure and to enjoy the fun and pleasure of reading and writing over the summer. Summer Stars is non-competitive and every child who reads even one book is regarded as having completed the programme – and it’s all completely free!
This year’s programme is a little different than previous years as it will take place largely online. Louth Library Service is continuing to host lots of fun online activities for all of our participants. Children can borrow physical books from their local branch and there is a great range of titles available to borrow via the BorrowBox app. Weekly storytime sessions with library staff are uploaded to our Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/Louthcountylibraries

Further details about registration and updates on all of the online activities can be found at https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/library/summer-stars-2020/

A number of local primary schools have booked tours and storytime workshops in Dundalk and Drogheda Libraries as part of the DEIS literacy summer camp programme. These will run throughout August.

Heritage Week, August 15-23
‘History Brought to Life’ by Miriam Fox, an Exhibition, running from July 30th- August 25th in Dundalk and Ardee Library.. This exhibition sees a collection of 40 prints from Miriam's original ink pen drawings based on archived photographs of historical buildings in Co. Louth. Each print is accompanied by a brief history of the building.
Miriam’s exhibitions have been recorded and uploaded to the Heritage Week website where it will be available to view during Heritage Week.

'Camping and staycation themed displays in Dundalk Library

Arts

Programme delivery continued behind the scenes in our venues, in advance of the re-opening during the last week of July. Protocols on reduced numbers, operational safety and booking systems were put in place to facilitate visitors back into the public spaces. Further details of online events in both Louth and elsewhere are on the ‘What’s On’ section of CreateLouth Facebook page. http://www.createlouth.ie/whatson/.

The Music in Healthcare visits will return to re-imagined outdoor nursing home settings throughout the county in August.

Preparations are underway for Culture Night in Louth which takes place on Friday 18th September, with a reduced number of events, focussing mainly on online and outdoor activities as advised. Details will be on: https://culturenight.ie/events/louth/

Droichead Arts Centre

Droichead Arts Centre is hosting a three strand re-opening programme called ‘Connection’. The project will have three elements, a live evolving gallery exhibition created by six local artists, bespoke posters created by the eleven Borrowed Ground visual artists and an outdoor exhibition in September.

Solo @ Home is a series of podcasts that will be broadcast in August. Curated by SJ McArdle, the
series will include singer/songwriter Farah Elle; composer/performer Una Keane; award-winning composer/producer and guitarist Breifne Holohan; and world-renowned flautist Nuala Kennedy. Further details can be found on https://www.droichead.com/whats-on.html.

An Táin Arts Centre

Viewing area for individual visitors to ‘Connection 1’ live evolving gallery at Droichead Arts Centre.

An Táin Arts Centre

Viewers of An Táin Arts Centre Facebook page recently enjoyed a live tour and talk with the artist, Leanne Mullen’s on her exhibition ‘This Time, These Days’. The outdoor exhibition is a series of new pieces commissioned by An Táin Arts Centre which was part of their off-site programme. The portraits were shown in shop fronts at various locations in Dundalk.

Visual Artist in Residence Etaoin O’Reilly invites you to pay a visit to her open, working pottery studio in the Basement Gallery. Open Tue –

Thursday 10am – 1pm & 1.30pm to 4pm. She also is delivering workshops as part of SEEK Contemporary Urban Arts Festival in August and Culture Night in September.

Upcoming events include a return to live theatre when ‘Beauty and the Beast’ will be performed in Anaverna House from 19th – 23rd August, at 1pm, 3pm and 5pm. Booking essential https://antain.ticketsolve.com/shows/873615013

Highlanes Gallery hosts a series of events in August including an exhibition: A Further Enquiry: Love & Independence features new and recent work from one of Ireland’s most respected painters, Margaret Corcoran. The exhibition received an Arts Council Touring & Dissemination Award and is presented in partnership with Wexford Arts Centre and Custom House Gallery & Studios, Westport, where it will travel to in autumn 2020 and spring 2021, respectively. The exhibition is on view until Saturday 29th August, please note the gallery’s adjusted opening is from Wednesday – Saturday, 11am-4pm, with booking advised on www.highlanes.ie, or by telephone, with walk ups still welcome too.

Upcoming Events at Highlanes:

August 7th 7.30pm: Ceol Le Clapsolas – The Mulligan Family

August 19th, 7:30pm - In the Footsteps of Gabrielle Ricciardelli, by Historian Brendan Matthews. Booking https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/in-the-
footsteps-of-gabrielle-ricciardelli-by-historian-brendan-matthews-tickets-115036992742

Please note - physical tickets are limited due to a reduced capacity following government sanctions regarding spread and containment of Covid-19. These tickets are available only on a first-come basis.

Creative Ireland Programme
The Creative Ireland programme in Louth received a boost in July when it was successful in securing additional funds under their new Positive Ageing and Creative Wellbeing Challenge Fund. €13,800 was allocated to make an intergenerational film in Drogheda with award-winning director Darren Thornton.

Following the announcement of the Jobs Stimulus Package, the Department of Media, Tourism, Arts, Culture, Sports and Gaeltacht through the Creative Ireland Programme have allocated additional funding to support artists/creatives whose work and livelihood has been affected by Covid-19.

Supported by the Creative Ireland programme in Louth the second Annual SEEK Contemporary Urban Arts Festival took place in Dundalk between 1st – 8th August. In addition to the development of 5 new murals at various locations throughout the town, it hosted walking tours and creative workshops for both adults and children.

Wellbeing During Covid-19
This section of Louth County Council website continues to promote wellbeing activities, as part of the national initiative - In This Together. Please help share this important information by re-tweeting or directing people to the website.


Louth County Archives

National Retention Policy Records Management Working Group: Work is continuing with the revision of the retention policy via email and conference phone-calls. The Co Archivist assisted with finalising the first draft revision for Transport & Infrastructure and for Environmental Services from March – June and these retention schedules are now at the validation stage. Water is also at the validation stage. Work has commenced on the draft revisions both for Community and for Corporate. To date, Health & Safety, Planning & Development, Housing, Procurement, Finance and HR have been completed, approved and issued out to local authorities.

Records Management: The Co Archivist has assisted staff with various records management queries and advised on the preparation of records both for destruction and for transfer to the Records Centre.

Heritage Week 2020 takes place from 15th – 23rd August and Louth County Archives has submitted projects that can be viewed online during Heritage Week via the website: https://www.heritageweek.ie/. The theme is ‘Heritage and Education: Learning from our Heritage’. Visitors should search for ‘Louth County Archives’.

The Mulligan Family

Heritage Week 2020
Wellbeing During Covid-19 initiatives: Louth County Archives invited the people of Louth to help record the history of the COVID-19 pandemic by keeping a daily diary of their experiences in a project called ‘Our Louth Diary Project’. These diaries will be held permanently in the County Archives, for future generations to understand what life is like for us during this unprecedented period. Alternatively, people could take a photograph or record a short sound recording of their local area.

Donating Diaries: Diaries can now be placed in an envelope, marked for the attention of the Co Archives, along-with the Donation Form available from the Diary Project web-page (hard-copy forms also available from Customer Services) and deposited in the post-boxes at the entrances to Louth Co Council offices (Co Hall, Dundalk Town Hall, Drogheda and Ardee Civic Offices) or at a Customer Service desk. Further information and instructions for digital material is also available on the Diary Project web-page: https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/archives/our-louth-diary-project/.

Donating Archives: Louth County Archives is interested in acquiring archives and records relating to all aspects of the development of County Louth. Such archives may be from community groups, societies, individuals, organisations, national schools, solicitors or other businesses. These collections make available unique and valuable research sources for the study of Louth’s heritage. If you have a collection that you would be willing to donate, or know of someone who would, please contact the County Archivist by email at archive@louthcoco.ie or by telephone at 042-9324358.

St Patrick’s Cemetery Project: This is a joint project with the Old Dundalk Society and DKIT’s Department of Computing Science and Mathematics to develop a grave locator App and website for the cemetery. With the terrific assistance of volunteers, work on the transcription of the burial records has now reached completion. Quality checking and queries are still being finalised before moving into the final stages of the project and placing the full transcriptions online.

County Museum

The Museum reopened earlier this month and has installed a variety of safeguards to protect both staff and members of the public from the spread of Covid-19 including sneezeguards, new signage and one-way systems.

In the case of the Museum Facebook page we continue to upload short ‘infomercial’ style documentaries on items in the museum collection. Featured items include the SS Dundalk, the Heinkel motorcar, our collection of the trench art as well as the Peter Rice Exhibition.
We have also added a variety of online jigsaws for users of all ages; again these are based on items from the collection.

**Heritage**

The Louth Nature Trust continues to provide wardens to protect the little terns breeding at Baltray, with the assistance of Louth County Council and the National Biodiversity Action Plan fund.

The Heritage Office liaised with Blackrock, Dromiskin and Stabannan Tidy Towns on projects they are pursuing and with colleagues in the Operations Directorate on proposed coastal projects in Annagassan, Dundalk and Greenore.

Work continued on creating new Heritage and Biodiversity Plans for County Louth and on preparation for a conservation project for National Monuments owned by the Council.