



Comhairle Contae **Lú**
Louth County Council

**Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report in
relation to functions performed in the preceding
month / Tuairisc Bainistíochta Míosúala ag an
bPríomhfheidhmeannach maidir le feidhmeanna
déanta I rith an mhí seo caite**

**Dated 7 October 2021
7 Deireadh Fómhair 2021**

Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report - 30 September 2021
Tuairisc Bainistíochta ag an bPríomhfheidhmeannach - 30 Meán Fómhair 2021

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Finance and Water Services

Airgeadas agus Seirbhísí Uisce

This Directorate ensures that the financial management of the Council is carried out in an efficient and timely manner, compliant with all relevant legislation, and that all of the activities and programmes of the Council represent good value for money for all the citizens of Louth.

Other responsibilities include Motor Tax and Water Services.

Cintíonn an Stiúrthóireacht seo go bhfuil bainistíocht airgeadas an Chomhairle déanta ar bhealach éifeachtach agus tráthúil, comhlíontach leis an dlí ábhartha, agus go bhfuil luach ar airgead bainte as gach gníomhaíocht agus clár ag an gComhairle, thar ceann shaoránaigh Lú.

Ina chuid den freagrachtaí eile ná Mótarcháin agus Seirbhísí Uisce.

Bernie Woods
Director / Stiúrthóir



Finance

Expenditure to 30th September 2021

Section	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE TO 30/09/21	BUDGET EXPENDITURE 2021	% SPENT TO 30/09/21
Housing	23,326,256	39,706,362	59%
Road Transportation & Safety	14,194,968	26,232,178	54%
Water Services	5,097,278	7,854,289	65%
Development Management	11,301,999	17,057,986	66%
Environmental Services	11,962,490	18,475,519	65%
Recreation and Amenity	5,889,229	9,425,077	62%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	741,019	1,180,833	63%
Miscellaneous	14,333,606	10,604,375	135%
	86,846,845	130,536,619	67%

Income to 30th September 2021

Section	ACTUAL INCOME TO 30/09/21	BUDGET INCOME 2021	% INVOICED TO 30/09/21
Housing	23,332,551	40,590,850	57%
Road Transportation & Safety	3,881,321	16,802,175	23%
Water Services	4,347,720	7,598,460	57%
Development Management	6,275,708	10,177,060	62%
Environmental Services	1,326,595	2,150,427	62%
Recreation and Amenity	406,875	962,409	42%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	271,595	455,146	60%
Miscellaneous	3,765,266	6,496,645	58%
Rates	35,387,113	35,437,249	100%
General Purpose Grant (LPT)	8,221,830	9,866,198	83%
	87,216,574	130,536,619	67%

The above is the current position as at the 30th September 2021. 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 2021 is included in the above figure.

Collection rates as at 30th September 2021 are as follows:

Debtors as at 30th September 2021

	Opening Balance	Invoices	Receipts	Write Offs	Closing Balance
Government Debtors	9,101,755	61,074,168	(62,240,376)	(152)	7,935,395
Other Local Authorities	111,441	607,448	(705,165)	0	13,724
Rates	11,030,292	35,387,113	(20,507,282)	(9,358,168)	16,551,955
Rents	2,968,564	9,556,884	(9,851,776)	(55,198)	2,618,474
Loans	283,360	1,301,370	(1,341,002)	0	243,728
Development Levies	10,622,066	2,502,388	(2,350,388)	0	10,774,066
Fire Charges	750,804	333,339	(238,794)	(48,504)	776,845
Miscellaneous	1,847,991	6,416,127	(6,149,193)	(27,233)	2,087,692
TOTAL DEBTORS	36,716,273	117,178,837	(103,383,976)	(9,509,255)	41,001,879

Above is the debtor balances as at the 30th September 2021. 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.

Local Authority Members' Remuneration & Expenses

We are still waiting on the Department circular in relation to the new regulations in relation to changes to the members' expenses. As soon as we receive the relevant circular the changes will be implemented and we will forward the details to the members.

Budget 2022 Meeting

The Department circular Fin 16/2021 sets out the Prescribed Periods for the 2022 Budget as follows:

- **All Local Authorities 1st November 2021 to 30th November 2021**

And it also sets out the Prescribed Periods for the Municipal/Borough Districts to consider the Draft Budgetary Plan as follows:

- **14th October 2021 to 15th November 2021**

As set out in the Local Government (Financial and Audit Procedures) (Amendment) Regulations 2015 the meeting with a Municipal/Borough Districts must conclude no later than 10 days prior to the local authority budget meeting.

As the dates for the Municipal/Borough Districts Draft Budgetary Plan dates fall after the October meetings it was agreed by the members that the Municipal / Borough Budgetary Plan meetings will be held in County Hall on Monday 18th of October before the council meeting.

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.

Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

Water Services continue to engage with Irish Water and LCC Environment Section on the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy.

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, preparation of contract documents, planning approval and procurement,
- Gate 3 - Construction stage,
- Gate 4 - Snagging and project sign off.

Tallanstown Rationalisation

Ryan Hanley Consultants are currently progressing the Project Design. Land Acquisition for Pumping Station sites is also currently being progressed. Project Workshop 2 was completed on 5th July. Consultant currently working on detailed design. Consultant preparing to lodge planning application. Engagement with LCC Roads ongoing.

Cavanhill WTW Upgrade

LCC and IW are currently negotiating the phased transition from the DBO contract to Operations control. LCC are currently recruiting additional staff to be trained by the DBO Contractor/IW in order to manage and operate Cavan Hill WTP once the facility is taken back in charge by the LA under the Service Level Agreement.

Staleen WTW Upgrade

LCC and IW are currently negotiating the phased transition from the DBO contract to Operations control. LCC are currently recruiting additional staff to be trained by the DBO Contractor/IW in order to manage and operate Staleen WTP once the facility is taken back in charge by the LA under the Service Level Agreement.

Omeath WWTW

Site mobilisation Q4. Detailed Design approved by IW. Workshop 7 due to take place Nov 2021. Revised programme to be issued Wk. 2 of Oct.

Shared Waters Enhancement and Loughs Legacy (SWELL)

The programme for this work, which includes surface water separation in Omeath, will be co-ordinated with the Omeath WWTP Project.

Regional Sewer Network Rehabilitation

Irish Water undertook survey works on Drogheda Sewer network which were completed in early July. Further network upgrade to be considered by Irish Water.

Dundalk Drainage Area Plan (DAP)

DAP Workshop 2 with Irish Water, Louth County Council and Arups Consulting Engineers completed in February 2021 to review the progress on the survey and modelling project. LCC Operations staff continues to liaise with IW and Consultants with network verifications. Stage 3 Workshop complete. Key risks identified from stage 3 to be taken forward to stage 4 and options identified to address risks.

Dundalk East Strategy - In advance of completion of Dundalk DAP

- Route Selection completed
- Consultants progressing design with IW in consultation with Louth County Council.
- Site Investigation was completed in Q3 and contract programmed to commence in Q4 2021.

Coe's Road Pumping Station

- Operational modifications to Pumping Station undertaken by EPS
- Options for cleaning of existing large diameter sewer currently under review with IW

Dundalk LNRP

Strategic Review underway for Dundalk WWTP and Blackrock WWTP to facilitate advancing Local Network Reinforcement Programme.

Drogheda LNRP

Works at SWO including the provision of Non-Return Valves on the 3 no outfalls and an Event Duration Monitor being progressed.

North Drogheda Wastewater Network Strategy

Consultants have been appointed and Study being progressed by IW in consultation with Louth County Council. Workshop 3 was completed April 2021. Site Investigation works are currently being progressed.

Quay St/St.Helena Rising Main, Dundalk

Workshop 2 was completed in early June 2021. IW are progressing the Detailed Design through Q4 2021 followed by Workshop 4

Baltray Rising Main

Pipe assessment delayed due to Covid-19 restrictions as contractor is UK based. Date of commencement dependent on status of restrictions.

Greenmount WTW Upgrade

IW and LCC are currently developing a Water Needs Brief to initiate a project to upgrade the Greenmount Water Treatment Works.

Water Networks

Water Networks Programme

Rehabilitation Programme

Rehabilitation the 150mm dia cast iron watermain in Ard Easmuin Road Dundalk commenced under this program in September 2021

Lead replacement / Back Yard Services

Irish Water's Contractors carried out 7 BYS in Louth in September.

First Fix

There was no first fix type repairs were undertaken by Irish Water contractors in September

Find & Fix

Louth County Council crews continue their Find and Fix program in Cooley in September; however their activities were restricted because of resources being redeployed to the water scouring program.

Water Scouring Programme 2021

LCC Water services crews continued with the unidirectional flushing of the network served from the Cavan Hill Water Treatment Plant in September, completing sections on the Edenagrena, Drumcah, Killaconner Tullagee, Ash Little, Carrickmullan, Killycrouney, Toprass, Carrickrobin, Mullabohy, Knockcor, Carnroe, Dunbin Big, Thomastown, Kilcurly, Donaghmore, Littlemill Ballybarrack, Carreagh, Dunbin Big, Tates & Carrans Park, Newtown, Longwalk, Oliver Plunkett Park, Mac Swiney Street, O'Hanlon Park, Father Murray Park, Church Street, Phillip Street, Legion Avenue, Culhane Street, Newry Road, Armagh Road, Liosdubh, Coulter Estate, Lisdoon, Dowdallshill, Doylesfort Road, Racecourse Road, Ath Lethan, Faughart, Carnmore, Annies, Balrigan, Carnbeg, Carrickedmond, Stranacarry, Chapel Street, Broughton Street, Castle Road, St. Patrick Terrace, St. Brigid's Terrace, New Street, Seatown, Mary Street North, Bachelors Walk, St. Marys Road, Yorke Street, Nicholas Street, Market Street, Wolfe Tone Terrace, Fairgreen Row.

Network Maintenance

44 essential water tasks were carried out in September including 14 under the Find and Fix program (5 in Carlingford, 4 in Dundalk, 1 in Dunbin, 3 in Collon and 1 in Clogherhead).

Planning & Water Connections

The Networks Section processed 17 new connections, 18 Pre Connection Enquiries and 47 Planning Applications in September

Service Maps

The Networks Section prepared 17 Service Maps in September.

Planning, Infrastructure, and Economic Development Pleanáil, Bonneagar agus Forbairt Eacnamaíoch

This Directorate has three key areas of responsibility:

- Planning, the way in which we organise the built environment in our county
- Infrastructure, including our roads, bridges, and ports
- Economic Development, including the Local Enterprise Office, and work involving partners and funding outside the state

Tá trí eochairfhreagracht ag an Stiúrthóireacht seo:

- Is é Pleanáil an slí a eagraímid an timpeallacht thógtha i gContae Lú
- Bonneagar, ár mbóithre, ár ndroichid, agus ár gcalaphoirt san áireamh
- Forbairt Eacnamaíoch, an Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil san áireamh, agus obair le comhpháirtithe agus foinsí maoinithe lasmuigh den Stát

Frank Pentony
Director / Stiúrthóir



Planning, Infrastructure & Economic Development

Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

- Part of our assessment of projects currently includes their impact on the environment.
- A new support for micro and small businesses in Louth to assist them develop their green and sustainable agenda was launched in 2021. Further details are available at <https://www.localenterprise.ie/green>.

Economic Development

Louth Economic Forum

A meeting of the forum took place on Wednesday 29th September, 2021.

An update on the North East Regional Enterprise Plan which was approved by the Department was presented by Caroline Brady.

Updates on Tourism and Heritage, Indigenous sector and Education and Skills were also given by the various Chairs with their priorities for the remainder of 2021 and for 2022.

Shopfront Improvement Grant Scheme 2021

The 2021 Shop Front Improvement Grant Scheme opened to applications on Monday 17th May, 2021 and the closing date for receipt of applications is 5.00pm on Friday 29th October, 2021. Details of the scheme are available at <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/economic-development/business-incentive-schemes-retail-prospectus/> or you can request the design guidelines, application form or make enquires by emailing shopfrontgrant@louthcoco.ie.

To date, 26 Shopfront Improvement Grant Scheme applications have been received, 12 from Drogheda, 11 from Dundalk and 3 from Ardee.

Tourism

A national radio advertising campaign on Today FM and 98 FM commenced on Monday 4th October, highlighting how much County Louth has to offer for a getaway break, by way of the fantastic range of tourism activities and the new sea louth seafood

trail. The campaign will run to Friday 15th October, with ad slots across all the stations' prime time shows. Website homepage takeovers for todayfm.com and newstalk.com will run on Friday 8th and Saturday 9th October. There will also be an online competition on todayfm.com, going live on Thursday 7th October, which will be promoted via their Facebook page and Twitter feed.

'sea louth' - Scenic Seafood Trail Update



Listen back to Suzanne Campbell's insightful report on Country Wide RTE Radio 1 to hear how the new sea louth seafood trail is doing its bit to boost the local fishing economy <https://www.rte.ie/radio/radio1/clips/22001185/>.

Sea Louth featured in the Irish Daily Stars write up about 'Mid-term Breaks for Kids' on 30th September, 2021. It was included in the Irish Independent's list of the 25 best mid-term breaks on Saturday 2nd October, see the article at the following link: <https://www.independent.ie/life/travel/25-best-mid-term-breaks-from-connemara-to-the-canary-islands-over-the-school-holidays-40879337.html>.

There was also a mid-term mention in the Irish Times at the following link: <https://www.irishtimes.com/life-and-style/travel/from-the-fringes-of-mayo-to-the-skies-of-derry-head-for-the-heights-this-autumn-1.4676845>.

Púca Festival

The Púca festival will take place from the 23rd – 31st October, 2021. As part of the festival Drogheda will host a number of music events with some well known artists e.g. Brian Kennedy and Aoife Scott. Full details as they unfold are available on the following web-site: <https://www.pucafestival.com/>.

Fáilte Ireland Funding

Urban Animation

Louth County Council are thrilled to be awarded €672,000 from Fáilte Ireland under the Urban Animation Capital Investment Scheme.

As one of only seven applicants to receive this funding nationwide, this project will see the transformation of Drogheda with a number of new innovation experiences. These include:

- An urban art trail with an audio story attached,
- A new Augmented Reality Trail – the first of its kind in Ireland, and
- An animated lighting show which will run during festivals and other seasonal events.

These projects will enliven the senses through sight, sound and vision at strategic locations in Drogheda's Town Centre and will capture and portray a sense of place, linking Drogheda with its ancient past through audio and visual experiences that can be enjoyed both in day and evening time.

Destination Towns Capital Investment Programme

Work is ongoing on the project which is due to be completed in the summer of 2022.

The bespoke new signage for visitor information and orientation is part of the Fáilte Ireland Destination Towns programme. The proposed signage will be focused on streets from Magdalene Tower to Millmount and from Westgate to St. Laurence's Gate in Drogheda town centre.

Outdoor Seating & Accessories for Tourism & Hospitality Business' Scheme

A new funding scheme for outdoor seating and accessories for the tourism and hospitality sector was launched on the 31st March, 2021. This funding scheme provides for funding of up to €4,000 for individual tourism and hospitality businesses to develop and increase their own outdoor seating capacity. The scheme was extended to pubs (including non-dining) from the 14th June and is being administered by the Economic Development & Tourism Office. The application form together with a list of 'FAQs and Guidance' is available on the Louth County Council website at <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/economic-development/outdoor-seating-accessories-for-tourism-hospitality-business-scheme/>.

The deadline for receipt of applications has been extended to Friday 8th October, 2021. 134 applications have been received to date.

Boyne Valley Flavours

The Boyne Valley Food Development Officer is currently working with Fáilte Ireland on a food element for the Púca festival. This involves the encouragement of the hospitality sector to host a Boyne Valley Food event in their venue with a Púca dish / drink on their menu incorporating local produce.

The Annual Samhain Festival in Kells on the 5th – 7th November will be a physical event and will involve producers from across Louth and Meath. There will be approximately 30 different events to the festival.

A review of the Food strategy for 2022 is currently in the early planning stage.

LEO Louth

COVID-19 Business Supports



Updated information on the range of business supports available can be found at: www.LocalEnterprise.ie/Response.

Businesses seeking support from LEO Louth should email: info@leo.louthcoco.ie or they can call to our office at Town Hall, Dundalk.

'Look for Local' / 'Shop Local' Campaign

The Louth online shopping directory is available at: www.louthcoco.ie/ShopLouth.

LEO continued to promote #ShopLocal #LookforLocal with a national and local campaign which concluded in September 2021. Businesses

can be included on the Louth online directory by emailing: tradingonline@leo.louthcoco.ie.

Retail Powerhouse Forum



LEO Louth is supporting 12 local retailers on the Retail Powerhouse Forum in 2021. This is a commercial retail forum that focuses on building trade with expert tips specifically for retailers.

Brexit Supports

Notwithstanding the trade agreement negotiated between the EU and UK, Brexit is creating issues for businesses around VAT and Customs paperwork.



Brexit Advisory Clinic:

Brexit Advisory Clinics, involving one to one meetings to help assess the impact of Brexit on Louth businesses, continue to be offered to local businesses. The aim of the clinic is to design a pathway to mitigate Brexit and access additional supports.

Brexit Microfinance Ireland Loan:

Microfinance Ireland is offering a Brexit Business Loan, via LEO, in order to support businesses that

will be directly impacted by Brexit. Loans up to €25,000 are available, and depending on the purpose the term can be between six months and three years.

Brexit Readiness Checklist:

The Brexit Readiness Checklist is available on the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation website: <https://dbei.gov.ie/.../Brexit-Readiness-Checklist.pdf>.

A full range of Brexit supports to help small businesses is offered by LEO Louth, all information can be found at: <https://www.localenterprise.ie/Louth/Brexit/>.

Minister of State at the Department of Enterprise, Trade & Employment, Damien English, TD.



Minister of State for Business, Employment and Retail, Damien English TD visited Co. Louth on 28th September.

The visit to Louth is one of a series of nationwide visits by Minister English who is keen to meet the Local Authorities and Local Enterprise Office teams and engage with some of their client companies.

The day started with a visit to County Hall where Minister English was greeted by Chief Executive, Joan Martin. It was here that the Chief Executive and Thomas McEvoy and Colette Moss gave the Minister a presentation on highlights of 2021, Local Enterprise Office interventions and EI engagements, and wider local authority supports. It focused on digital supports, Green for Micro, Agile Innovation, and Tourism amongst other topics.

Minister English then travelled to Creative Spark, where he met Sarah Daly, Centre Manager and Deirdre Craven, Enterprise Ireland, and got to see construction works on a new FabLab facility at the site.



Some of the LEO supported businesses the Minister met with included Setanta Nutrition Science Ltd. t/a Phytaphix, founded by Dr. Conor Kerley. Conor's business idea went from a healthy jam to food supplements to help diabetes and high blood pressure and then during COVID to developing and marketing an immunity boosting product called Immune Phix and now exports to 25 countries including USA and Australia.



The Minister met with residents in Creative Spark including Architectural Spaces Ltd., founded by Gráinne O'Neill who has a team of five designers working on domestic and overseas projects.



Other residents the Minister met at Creative Spark included Karen Lavelle of Soilse Candles, Alan Hoey of ArchiDraft and Caoimhe O'Hare of Louth English Education Ltd.



The Minister traveled on to the Mill Enterprise Hub, Drogheda where he was greeted by the centre's manager, Ronan Whitty.

The Minister was given a presentation on the work of the Mill and how it continues to work alongside LEO to support client businesses.



After a tour of the facility, Minister English met some of the LEO supported clients that included Limor, founded by former professional rugby player turned tech entrepreneur Shane Monahan. It is a new social audio platform that makes audio and podcast, creation, production, distribution and monetisation easy, instant and interactive.

The Minister also met with a CGT Vector DAC, a cell gene therapy company run by Gary McAuslan. It has assembled a world class team of experts to assist rare disease cancer patients, including in its initial site at St. James' Hospital, Dublin. aCGT Vector DAC are project partners in a consortium with Remedy Biologics Ltd, Trinity College Dublin (TCD) and National University of Ireland, Galway (NUIG) that was awarded €6,773,750 under call 3

of the Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund in April 2021.

In his final meeting, Minister English met with Yvonne Brady of EVB Sports who discussed the progress her business has made in recent years, and the supports received to help her business develop.



Border Stimulus Programmes to assist local businesses address Brexit and Covid challenges



A suite of 5 business support programmes continued to be delivered.

The 5 programmes are:

- Export Development Programme
- Financial Management Programme for owner managers
- Green for Microenterprise
- Innovation Programme for small businesses in Co. Louth.
- Superior Retailing Programme

Export Development Programme

The Export Development Programme commenced in January with 15 Louth businesses. Workshops and mentoring sessions were delivered in September and continue to be delivered over the autumn period.



Financial Management Programme



The Financial Management workshops concluded in August with extra company one to one mentoring taking place during September.

The quality of the action plans developed by the businesses was of a very high standard with the scores ranging between 60% and 85%.

The programme has been very successful with high attendance and extremely positive feedback from participants and mentors.

Green for Micro



The Green for Micro programme is a free programme which aims to help businesses identify cost savings and improve their green credentials. This is achieved by looking at the business from an environmental perspective.

Projects may vary from assessing energy, water and waste costs, guidance with environmental management system, to the greening of the product or business to adapt to the changing market place.

An additional **3** applications were approved in September giving a total of **17** businesses engaging in this programme so far.

LEO Louth continues to seek new applications.

Innovation Programme



The Innovation Programme is designed for SME business leaders who have ambitions to embed innovation in their businesses. The programme which commenced in April is being delivered over a 7 month period.

All participants have completed their penultimate workshop and have completed a minimum of 7 mentoring sessions with some participants availing of up to 20 sessions. Participants are now finalising their Innovations Plans.

The programme is due to complete by mid-November.

Superior Retailing Development Programme



The Superior Retailing Development Programme was aimed at assisting Irish owned retail businesses cope with the challenges of Covid, Brexit and Online. Businesses would be able to plan their growth into the future.

The group workshops finished in July with overall attendance on the programme exceptionally high at 93%. Company one to one mentoring continued in September.

Engagement and participation on the programme has been excellent. The end of programme evaluation showed e-Commerce as the top priority for participants and an additional, final Masterclass was delivered on the specific subject of “Free Google Tools to Improve your Online Presence”.

Additional assistance to participants requiring facilitation, advice and motivation was provided during September under the programme.

Business Training



During September **53** Entrepreneurs and businesses owners took part in a variety of business training including Email Marketing using Mailchimp, Digital Marketing Strategy, Accessing Finance and Filing Income Tax Returns training provided by the Local Enterprise Office, in addition to 3 fully-booked ‘Start Your Own Business’ Training programmes with c.45 participants.

Given the exceptionally high demand for Business Start places, LEO has scheduled an additional two Start Your Own Business programmes, one to commence in October and the other in November.

October will provide businesses the chance to get their finances in order with ‘Book Keeping for Small Business’ training taking place on 6th October.

Brexit continues to cause frustration for many aspects of trading, and local businesses will have the chance to learn more about customs procedures with ‘Prepare your Business for Customs’ training taking place on 19th October.

For those who want to develop their online businesses, our digital training for the month of October includes Basic Search Engine Optimisation, Google Adwords and Advanced Facebook, with courses being specifically tailored to meet the budgets of small and medium sized business.

Further training for the year includes 'Introduction to VAT', 'Instagram for Beginners' and 'Marketing for Small Businesses' amongst others.

All courses are available to book online at: <https://www.localenterprise.ie/Louth/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/>.

LEO Louth Client Portfolio Review / Export Adviser Programme

Under this programme LEO has appointed 3 no. consultants who engaged with our portfolio clients during September.

The programme provides support to LEO portfolio clients to develop their export and growth potential, working with businesses to identify and pursue export opportunities and to ensure maximum uptake of LEO supports.

Trading Online Voucher scheme



The Trading Online Voucher scheme to assist businesses to get online or enhance their online presence, under which LEO can provide 50% support up to a maximum grant of €2,500 is continuing in 2021.

7 applications were received during September.

All Trading Online Vouchers approved under the previous 2020 scheme have now drawn-down their awards, bringing the 2020 scheme to a conclusion at the end of September.

Trading Online Voucher training workshops to assist applicants apply continue to be run on a regional basis with Cavan and Monaghan LEOs.

Business Advice Clinics

32 business advice appointments were provided by telephone and video conference to entrepreneurs throughout the County during September.

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.

14 businesses were appointed Mentors during the month of September.

COVID-19 Microfinance Ireland Business Loan



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

During the month of September, there were 3 applications for support.

LEO mentors are continuing to assist applicants.

Micro-Finance Ireland – New Electric Vehicle Taxi Loan

Microfinance Ireland have launched a new loan whereby Taxi owners who wish to buy an electric vehicle can now apply for loans of up to €25,000 from Microfinance Ireland.

Loans of between €5,000 and €25,000 will be available, with a 1% reduced Annual Percentage Rate if the application is made through the Local Enterprise Office. The loans will be up to 5 years.

LEO Louth is accepting applications.

National Women's Enterprise Day

National Women's Enterprise day is scheduled for 7th October and LEO Louth is engaging with the organisers of the national virtual event in relation to planning and potential themes for this inspirational event. Dundalk based ceramicist Sarah McKenna is representing Louth as the Leading Light for the county.

Student Enterprise Programme



The Student Enterprise Programme for the 2021 - 2022 academic year commenced at the start of September.

LEO Louth is delivering this programme to students in all 19 no. post-primary schools throughout the county.

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.

There was **4** applications received in September and **2** applications were approved.

Co-Innovate Programme



Final clients on the Co-Innovate Programme continue to engage with the programme to assist them embed innovation in their business. In total **73** Louth businesses participated under Co-Innovate.

Due to an extension of the programme into the early part of 2022 a further opportunity has arisen for additional clients to engage in early stages of this programme and the LEO continues to work on identifying suitable companies.

Craft Sector

LEO Louth is working with the national LEO / Design and Craft Council Ireland Committee in the design and roll out of sectoral training and opportunities for the design and craft community.

Louth companies will be able to apply to engage in training programmes, an e-Commerce bootcamp and an export focused programme later in the year.

Showcase 2022

Applications are now open for Showcase 2022, the leading trade show for the craft and gift sector. LEO Louth will take a minimum of three companies to the event to allow them connect with Irish and international buyers.

Regional Enterprise Plan – North East

LEO has inputted to a new Regional Enterprise Plan which is now in draft format and with the Department of Enterprise, Trade & Employment for approval.

European Relations

Peace IV Programme



COVID - 19

Due to the Public Health Crisis in Ireland most Peace IV projects in Louth continue to be delivered online, with some live outdoor activities beginning to take place.

New Project

Louth Peace IV Partnership Committee advertised request for tender for the delivery of a new project, listed below, as part of the implementation of the Local Authority Peace IV Action Plan. Tender assessment and awarding of contracts is expected to take place in October 2021.

1. **Peter's Hill, Drogheda** (Theme: Shared Spaces and Services)

PEACE IV Small Grants Programme

The new publication 'Ardee and The Irish Revolution' was launched by Mairead McGuinness, European Commissioner on Monday 20th September 2021 in Ardee. This project undertaken by Ardee Heritage Committee was supported by the EU's PEACE IV Programme, which is managed by Special EU Programmes Body and delivered via LMETB.



Launch of 'Ardee and The Irish Revolution' publication.

AntiClockwise Project: Exhibition Theme: Children and Young People

The County Museum was the venue for the opening of the AntiClockwise Art Fest exhibition which took place on Culture Night. The project, managed by Dundalk Youth Centre, was a large scale programme which included drama, music, visual arts, movement, costume design and film-making. The programme used creativity to explore the themes of conflict through the various art forms. A training programme was also delivered where the

young people focussed on conflict, racism, discrimination and sectarianism. At the launch event acknowledgment was given to Louth County Council and Special EU Programmes Body for their funding and support.



Dundalk Democrat 28/09/2021

Infrastructure

Roads Projects

Narrow Water Bridge

Following the announcement of an initial sum of up to €3million to the Narrow Water Bridge Project to allow work to recommence and to bring the proposal to tender stage, the council has begun the process of collating the numerous files together in relation to the project to ascertain a programme for the project and the services and approvals required to bring the scheme to construction stage.

A North South Ministerial Infrastructure Sub Group meeting was held on the 30th September in Louth County Council offices.

N53 - Dundalk to Castleblayney Road Phase 4. Hackballscross to Rassan

Part 8 Planning was approved by the members of Dundalk MD at the September meeting. Following recent valuations a total scheme budget is being finalised for presentation to TII along with a request to proceed to CPO for the scheme.



Part 8 Site Location Drawing

N2 Ardee to Castleblayney Road Scheme

Surveys and investigations required to inform the design process are ongoing. Apex Surveys has commenced topographical survey services. The survey work is non-intrusive, and the purpose of the surveys is to capture ground elevations, natural and man-made features to inform the development of the road scheme. Surveys commenced in late July and will run until late September, and are taking place along the existing road network and on private lands. The surveys may require temporary traffic management on national, regional and local roads within the study area for short periods.

Causeway Geotech Ltd. has commenced Ground Investigation Works in mid-August, with their initial works due to be completed in December 2021. Letters were issued to affected landowners. Ground investigation works will also take place along the route of the existing N2 and traffic management will be required.

The N2 Project Team can still be contacted by landowners and members of the public via the N2 Project Phonenumber 087 340 3786, or email: ArdeeCastleblayney@N2MonaghanLouth.ie. News and updates will be posted on the 'Latest News' section of the project website: www.N2MonaghanLouth.ie.

N52 Ardee Bypass

Feedback from the public consultation on the junction review has now been completed and a junction strategy report is now being completed. An EIA screening report and AA screening report have been prepared and the scheme screens out in both. An opinion has been sought from An Bord Pleanála prior to publication of the Part 8. Further information sought by An Bord Pleanála was provided in mid-September. This opinion from ABP and subsequent to their findings will push the Part 8 process to Q4.

Assessment of the previous scheme design has been carried out to determine of the requirement for additional lands is being discussed with affected landowners in relation to:

- Cycle / Pedestrian Facilities;
- Side Slopes to accommodate forgiving roadsides and potential savings in safety barrier provision;
- Drainage (additional attenuation ponds to remove online storage);
- Direct Accesses (to minimise the number of departures and accommodate new junction arrangements);
- Disposal areas.

Further archaeological investigation is planned to take place in these areas.

TII HD 15 Safety Works: King Williams Glen Tullyallen, N51

Works to increase the stagger at the junction are now substantially completed. A Stage 3 Road Safety Audit has been carried out and works identified are to be carried out in due course. The works will proceed subject to TII funding.

Park and Share / Park and Ride Pilot Scheme

ACS Civils commenced works on the 8th March. Works are programmed to finish early October. Installation of public lighting is due to be complete on the week ending the 1st October. The car park will then open and works will commence on lining and hatching of the N53 (Castleblayney Road) to prevent parking at that location.



Aerial View of Park & Share Construction progress

TII HD17 Schemes

Site inspections have been carried out at priority locations on National Roads including the N33 and

the Funshog junction on the N2, in conjunction with TII Safety Section.

Funshog: Feasibility and Options reports are currently being prepared and will be forwarded to the TII for their review and approval in due course.

N33: Road Markings and signage is now completed by Contractors appointed for works.

N2: Public Lighting Remedial Works: A Feasibility and Options Report for Public Lighting Remedial Works has been approved by TII for 3 no. locations on the N2: Contractor on site completing civil works, Mechanical and Electrical now complete at Tierney Street junction, Ardee, Slieve Breagh / N2 junction, Main Street, Collon - R188 / N2 junction. Awaiting on ESB to complete the connections

Safety Barriers – N53 and N52

2 Locations identified on N53 and 3 locations on N52 have been surveyed for safety barrier requirements as per TII guidance to determine needs along both of these routes.

A Feasibility and Options Report has been prepared and approved by TII in relation to Daly's Cross. Further conversations will take place with TII and the timescales.

N33 West Pavement Scheme

Works are well advanced on resurfacing of a 3km section of the N33. Resurfacing works will be complete by late October with renewal of filter drains taking place when resurfacing is complete.



Laying of new road surface

N2 Collon Pavement Scheme

Kerbing and drainage works are ongoing on N2. The scheme is approx 1.6km in length and will involve night time works. Additional works are being planned to address collisions identified by TII. Approval is now awaited from TII to award this element of works.

N2 Short Term Safety Measures

Short term safety measures are to continue in 2021 on the N2 north of Ardee. Signage works have commenced and are due for completion in early October. A further contract will issue for hedge clearance in September.

Port Access Northern Cross Route

Land Acquisition ongoing. Fencing completed at R132. Fill material being stockpiled, for embankment use. Existing ESB 38kv line has been diverted. Footpath and cycle path works to facilitate development on the Ballymakenny Road which is part of the PANCR scheme are ongoing. The purchase of land to facilitate the footpath and cycle path has commenced in line with the CPO procedure. Public lighting columns have been erected. Watermain, foul sewer and telecoms ducting are presently being laid. Kerbing work is substantially complete and footpath work is ongoing.



Footpath & Cycle Lane Construction Progress

Boyne Enterprise Link Road

The project has approval for Part 8 Planning which was presented at the Drogheda M.D. in September. The consultant has now completed detailed design and tender documentation are being finalised to issue to eTenders in early October.

R178 Cavan to Dundalk Strategic Route Improvement Scheme

The project has been reactivated with Cavan County Council being the lead authority. Currently the consultants are reviewing the route using a RibGeom method of assessment.

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

The consultant is progressing with detailed design for the project. Tender documents for the main contract are being drafted.

CPO in ROI was published on 14th September and is on public display until 7th October. Increased engagement with the affected Landowners regarding Land acquisition and potential accommodation works during CPO public display phase.

SEUPB have granted a 12 month extension to the project programme, and have engaged a third party to independently assess the request for additional funding by the three Greenway projects with a decision expected in 2021.

It is anticipated that Planning Permission in N.I. will be decided upon in October after additional topographical surveying is completed to confirm design.

The project partners are continuing to meet on a monthly basis to review and assess the various aspects of the project.

Greenway - Carlingford to Templetown

Consultants have been appointed to the project and have commenced the baseline data collection for the project which will go toward informing the route options for the scheme.

Design meetings are currently ongoing. Consultants with initial draft Route Option assessment and draft Constraints mapping completed. Once completed Stakeholder consultations will commence.

Site walkover as part of route assessment carried out.

Dundalk Municipal Athletics Grass Track

Earthworks, topsoiling, seeding, fencing, public lighting and drainage are substantially complete. Footpaths are due to be completed in early October. A period of time will be needed in order for grass growth to take hold. This will be continually reviewed until such time that it can be opened to sports activities.

LIHAF Projects

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 been overturned in Judicial Review which significantly affects the viability of the project. The developer is preparing a revised housing proposal to be submitted in order to bring the quota of housing up to 200 units.

LIHAF Mount Avenue Improvement

The Oral hearing in to the CPO was held on the 3rd of March, 2020. The CPO has been approved by ABP on the 23rd June, 2020. Accommodation works details and contract documents are drafted. An updated costing, programme for delivery of housing and programme for LIHAF infrastructure has been provided to the Department of Housing for agreement.

Safety Improvement Works

Low Cost Safety Schemes:

- Anne Street, Dundalk: Tenders have been returned and are currently being assessed.
- Tullyallen National School: Tenders have been returned and the preferred Contractors insurances, etc. are currently being assessed.

Ardee Pedestrian Crossing

Feasibility and Options Report for the Refurbishment of the Pedestrian Lights on Castle Street, Ardee has been forwarded to the TII and approval has been received on 25th February, 2021 for funding of €136,258 for these works. TII have instructed Louth County Council retender for a design team to bring the project forward.

Specific Bridge Improvement Grants

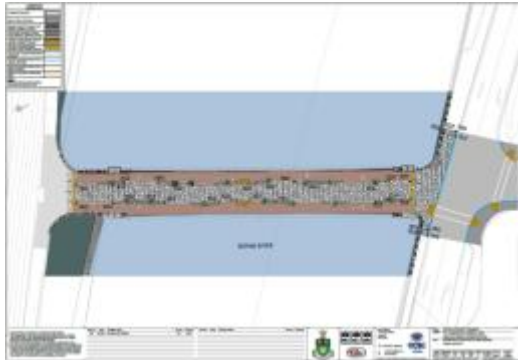
Obelisk Bridge

Louth County Council received approval from ABP for the works under Section 177AE subject to conditions on 6th May, 2021.

Tenders documents are complete and we await approval from DTTAS to release to the Market. It is envisaged, subject to DTTAS approval the tender will be issued in early October.

St. Dominick's Bridge, Drogheda

Only one tender was received for the project, the initial costing been substantially higher than estimated. A Tender report has been completed and approval has been received from NTA (Funding authority) to appoint a contractor. The Contractors insurances are currently been assessed by IPB before appointing them.



St. Dominick's Bridge

Public Transport

NTA Bus Shelter Installation Programme 2021 - 2022

The NTA have been in discussions with Bus Operators, their bus shelter supplier, and Louth County Council have developed a list of 11 schemes detailed below. The NTA, have approved an allocation of funding for 2021 of c.€13k, with a potential further €198k in 2022, for Louth County Council to bring the civil construction elements to site. Please note NTA will supply the actual shelters through their own contractor.

- Drogheda - Donore Road
- Dundalk - Red Barns Road opposite Lennonstown Entrance
- Termonfeckin - Big Street at Credit Union
- Ardee - N2 at Boys School
- Kilsaran - South of Standard Brands
- Drogheda - Rowen Heights, Marley's Lane - Southbound
- Ardee - N2 at Monastery Church
- Clogherhead - John Kirk Park / Chapel Road at Shop

- Clogherhead - Callystown Road
- Drogheda – at Newtown Abbey, Newfoundwell Road (R166)
- Dundalk - Rathmount Estate, Seafield Rd, Blackrock

Town & Village Renewal

Blackrock Footpaths

Additional public lighting bases have been provided at Felda with lighting to follow. Works are now complete on the section of footpath between Elm Park and Sandy Lane. Works to the Sandy Lane / Rock Road junction are now complete in accordance with DMURS. Additional speed humps have been provided adjacent to pedestrian crossing areas. EIR utilities are due to complete removal of infrastructure. Airtricity are due to complete public lighting over the coming weeks. Design works for the 2021 allocation have commenced.

Dromiskin Footpaths

Design works have been completed and Tender issued for construction of works with a tender return date of 2nd September. Tender have been received and are currently being assessed with the view of a contractor being appointed in October. Infrastructure has been working closely with the Elected Representative / Community Group to secure the lands required to construct the footpath.

Stabannon Footpaths

Infrastructure is working closely with the Community Group to open discussions with the adjacent landowners. A contractor has been appointed, with the view of works commencing on site in October.

Corporate Projects

Ardee Castle RRDF

Engagement with key stakeholders is progressing and we are intending to proceed with an Amendment to the existing Part 8 in Q3 2021.



Design impression of proposed works

Redevelopment Fair Street Offices, Drogheda

Value engineering review is now completed by the design team in order to minimise the global increase in cost of materials. The tender documentation has been issued to the restricted panel with a return of tender date of 12th November, 2021.



3D view of proposed works

Rural Regeneration and Development Fund

Carlingford Rural Regeneration

The data produced by the traffic surveys is currently being analysed and the tender documents for the topographical and GPS surveys are almost complete, the tender process will be carried out shortly. Plans are being finalised for the first stage of the public consultation.

Omeath Public Realm

Verification Information required by the Department of Rural and Community Development has been submitted. Consultant's tender documents are nearing completion and will be issue to the market in October.

Ardee 2040

The project team for the regeneration of Ardee are working on the preferred option to bring forward for

public consultation in December 2021. A number of surveys are proceeding at present.

Urban Regeneration and Development Fund Projects

West Gate Vision (Drogheda)

A number of surveys are proceeding at present and the preliminary ddesign is progressing. It is envisaged that we will carry out public engagement on these preliminary designs in December 2021.

Long Walk (Dundalk)

The Council is continuing its engagement with the third party stakeholder with the aim of progressing the recruitment of a design team for the master plan.

St. Nicholas Quarter & Backlands Regeneration

Information required by the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage has been submitted by the Council and a project meeting will be arranged by department officials with the Council.

Active Travel Investment Program

2021 NTA Allocation

Under this current heading allocation there is 14 number projects. These projects range from new footpath, design and construction of new footpath / cycle lanes, transport studies and active travel studies, current status is as follows:

- St. Dominick's Bridge, Drogheda: as reported above
- Drogheda R132, Bridge of Peace to Train Station (incorporating Marsh Road): Tenders returned at the end of August. Assessment process commenced.
- Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda: works ongoing (see PANCR above)
- Drogheda: Twenties Lane & R166 Termonfeckin Road: Tender for consultants to be issued in October.
- R168 Collon Road, Hill of Rath RAB and Rosehall RAB: Tender for consultants to be issued in October.
- Rathmullan Road from Marley's Lane junction, design: Tender for consultants to be issued in October.

- Drogheda: Boyne Business Park Link Road: reported as above.
- Drogheda Dublin and North roads, design: Tender for consultants issued to NTA framework in August, were returned September and are now being assessed.
- Dundalk: R132 Inner Relief Road: Tenders for consultants issued to the NTA Framework in July. Tenders returned by the end August. Assessment process commenced.
- Inner Relief Road to Riverside walk Dublin Road R215: Tenders for consultants issued to the Louth County Council Framework in July. Tender Report complete and forwarded to NTA (funding Body) for approval to appoint Design Team has been appointed.
- Ard Easmuinn Road to Train Station / Friary School Dundalk & Dundalk Bus Station to Rail Station: Tender for consultants issued in August to NTA Framework and were returned in mid September and are now being assessed.
- Transport / Mobility Plans: the 2 larger transport plans for Dundalk and Drogheda will be carried out in conjunction with the LAP's. Meetings have taken place with the NTA and other relevant stakeholder in order to progress these projects further.
- Footpath Extensions / Links Package A: Works ongoing in Termonfeckin Strand Road (See operations Report), remaining Footpath construction packages to be issued in October. R166 Termonfeckin footpath tender docs will be issued in early October.
- Footpath Extensions / Links Package B: See Operations Report on Annagassan. Remaining construction packages will be issued to the market in September. Cheerbrook & Knockbridge footpaths tenders have been received and are currently being assessed.

completed CCTV and Topographical surveys. Further tender documentation for necessary environmental, ecological, noise and landscape assessments has been issued and Contractors will be appointed to carry out these works later in August and into September. Monthly project briefing notes are being issued to the current relevant stakeholders. A briefing session for the Ardee and Dundalk Members was held on 8th September prior to first public consultation. The first Project Consultation Day was held virtually in mid-September but was beset with technical issues and therefore another Project Consultation Day will be held in early October and again will be advertised prior to the event. The Project website being hosted by OPW is now complete and can be reached at www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/dundalk/home.

Drogheda & Baltray Flood Defence Projects

The Contract for the Project has been signed and RPS have been appointed as Consultants. The Project Commencement Meeting will be held on 30th September and RPS will commence works on Stage 1 of the Project, i.e. Options assessment & Scheme Development.

A Section 85 Agreement between Meath County Council and Louth County Council is in place to facilitate any required works in County Meath.



Contract Signing

Carlingford & Greenore Flood Defence Project

OPW have commenced a data review of the Carlingford & Greenore Flood Defence Project to reappraise the Options identified in the Flood Risk Management Plan. The data review will include additional rainfall data collection and modelling. A temporary rain gauge at Carlingford Fire Station for rainfall data collection is now operational, providing additional data to inform project design and development. OPW have now requested installation of a second rain gauge and a suitable

Flooding General **Catchment based Flood Risk Assessment & Management Study (CFRAM)**

Dundalk and Ardee Flood Defence projects

Stage 1 of the Project has now commenced, i.e. Options assessment, Scheme Development. Hydrological and hydraulic modelling method statements have been approved and modelling is now ongoing for both Ardee and Dundalk in tandem with the processing of information from the recently

site has now been identified. Investigations are still underway to identify a suitable site for a river level gauge in Carlingford.

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. Gibson Bros have now been appointed as the Contractor and have commenced works on the Project. The wayleave area has been stripped in preparation for the pipeline and works have commenced on the Inlet Chamber with the Base Slab now poured.



Wayleave Area



Base Slab of Inlet Chamber

Marine Projects

Coastal Protection Works

Applications for the 2021 OPW Minor Works Funding have now been submitted for Coastal Protection Projects in 3 separate locations, Omeath, Bellurgan and Ballagan. Works have now been completed at Seabank and Salterstown.

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. Ita's and St. Mary's

Site acquired. Department of Education to submit a planning application.

Ardee E.T.N.S.

Approval to go to tender has issued by Department of Education. Expressions of interest have now been reviewed and a shortlist of contractors has been finalised. The Department of Education have approved this shortlist. The Department has sought two additional SEN classrooms which will require Part 8 Planning approval. Options have been reviewed with the planner and these are now being presented to the Department for approval.

The advanced works for ESB and Bord Gáis requirements are complete.

Coláiste Chú Chulainn & Park at Marshes Lower, Dundalk

Progress has been made in relation to snagging. As constructed drawings of the completed emergency lighting has been issued by the PSDP. Additional snagging in relation to landscaping and other items to be completed also.

Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project (PLEEP)

A Section 85 Agreement between Kilkenny County Council and Louth County Council has been agreed. Design and preparation of the tender documents for construction works are completed and issued on eTenders on 4th September with a return date of 27th October, 2021. A final Cost estimate for the element of works in Co. Louth will be carried out during the design process. The Members have approved for Louth County Council to seek a loan for the works at the June Council meeting.

Planning

Development Management / Bainistíocht Forbartha

The Planning service indicators for Louth County Council for the month of August, 2021 are given below in tabular form. There were 124 planning applications received during the month of August of which 104 were valid. In addition there were 53 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:

(A) Description / Cur Síos	(B) Housing Developments / Forbairtí Tithíochta	(C) Individual Houses / Tithe Aonair	(D) Other applications -not requiring EIA / Iarratais Eile – ní gá MTT	(E) Other applications-requiring EIA / Iarratais Eile - MTT de dhíth	(F) Total for all categories of development in County Area / Iomlán na bhforbairtí sa chontae
(i) Number of applications determined / Líon na n-iarratas a cinneadh	1	36	49	2	88
(ii) No. of decisions determined which required further information / Líon na gcinntí inar iarradh breis eolais	1	16	16	0	33
(iii) Percentage of applications refused / Céatadán na n-iarratas a diúltaíodh	0% (0)	19.44% (7)	6.12% (3)	0% (0)	11.36% (10)
(iv) Number of appeals determined / Líon na n-achomharc a cinneadh	1	0	4	0	5
(v) Percentage of decisions overturned on appeal / Céatadán na gcinntí a cuireadh ar ceal ar achomharc	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)

Planning Enforcement – Unauthorised Development / Forfheidhmiú Pleanála – Forbairt nár Údaraíodh

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

Description / Cur Síos	Enforcement in relation to unauthorised development / Forfheidhmiú maidir le forbairt nár údaraíodh		Enforcement in relation to unauthorised development / Forfheidhmiú maidir le forbairt nár údaraíodh	
	August 2021 / Lúnasa 2021	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo	August 2020 / Lúnasa 2020	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated / Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidhmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh	26	223	30	167
Number of Planning Enforcement cases received which didn't require follow up / Líon na gcásanna Fhorfheidhmithe Pleanála nuair nár ghá obair bhreise	0	0	0	0
Number of cases closed / resolved through negotiation / Líon na gcásanna dúnta / a réitíodh le hidirbheartaíocht	40	198	6	129
Number of Warning letters issued / Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh	27	164	17	86
Number of Enforcement Notices issued / Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh	1	4	1	12
Number of cases referred for legal proceedings / Líon na cásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí	0	4	0	4
Number of Injunctions / Líon na n-urghairí	1	4	0	0
Number of Prosecutions / Líon na n-ionchúiseamh	0	0	0	0

Planning Enforcement – Dangerous Structures / Forfheidhmiú Pleanála – Déanmhais Chontúirteacha

The Planning Indicators listed below are in relation to Notices issued under the Local Government (Sanitary Services) Act, 1964 for the period July to September, 2021.

Tá na Táscairí Pleanála thíos liostaithe bainteach le Fógraí a eisíodh faoin Acht Rialtais Áitiúil (Seirbhísí Sláintíochta) 1964 sa tréimhse Iúil go Meán Fómhair, 2021

Description / Cur Síos	Enforcement in relation to Dangerous Structures/ Forfheidhmiú maidir le Déanmhais Contúirteacha	
	July to September Iúil go Meán Fómhair 2021	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Dangerous Structures files opened / Líon na gcomhad Déanmhas Contúirteach a osclaíodh	10	29
Number of Section 3 (1)(a) Notices – Directing Owner to carry out work / Líon na bhFógraí Alt 3 (1)(a) – Ag Tabhairt ordú d’úinéir obair a dhéanamh	7	29
Number of Section 3 (2)(b) Notices – LCC carry out works / Líon na bhFógraí Alt 3 (2)(b) – Obair le déanamh ag CCL	0	0
Number of Section 2 Notices – Dangerous Place / Líon na bhFógraí Alt 2 – Áit Chontúirteach	0	1
Number of cases closed / Líon na gcásanna a dúnadh	7	28
Number of cases referred for legal proceedings / Líon na gcásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí	4	5
Number of Prosecutions / Líon na n-ionchúiseamh	0	0

Planning Enforcement – Short Term Lettings Enforcement

The Planning indicators are given below in relation to Short Term Lettings Enforcement received during the month.

Description / Cur Síos	Enforcement in relation to Short Term Lettings	
	September 2021 / Meán Fómhar 2021	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated / Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidhmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh	2	56
Number of Planning Enforcement cases received which didn't require follow up / Líon na gcásanna Fhorfheidhmithe Pleanála nuair nár ghá obair bhreise	0	12
Number of cases closed / resolved through negotiation / Líon na gcásanna dúnta / a réitíodh le hidirbheartaíocht	0	9
Number of cases currently under investigation / Líon na gcásanna atá á n-imscúdú faoi láthair	6	37
Number of Warning letters issued / Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh	0	7
Number of Enforcement Notices issued / Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh	0	0
Number of cases referred for legal proceedings / Líon na cásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí	0	0
Number of Injunctions / Líon na n-urghairí	0	0
Number of Prosecutions / Líon na n-ionchúiseamh	0	0

Forward Planning

Adoption of the Louth County Development Plan 2021 – 2027

In accordance with Section 12 (10) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) the Members, by resolution, made the Louth County Development Plan 2021 – 2027 on Thursday 30th September, 2021.

The Plan will come into effect on Thursday 11th November, 2021.

Strategic Housing Developments (SHDs)

- **Stage 1**
 - 1 x S.247 Tripartite meeting took place during the month of September.

Operations and Waste Management

Oibríochtaí agus Bainistíocht Dramháil

This Directorate provides a range of services which underpin the efficient and smooth running of the economic and social life of our county, working to ensure our environment adheres to legislative standards, and to provide clean and safe parks throughout Louth. Responsibilities include:

- Road Maintenance, Wardens Service, Waste Management, Water Quality, and Climate Action

Cuireann an Stiúthóireacht seo réimse seirbhísí ar fáil mar bhonn agus mar thaca ag an reachtáil éifeachtúil an saol eacnamaíochta agus sóisialta Chontae Lú, ag obair i dtreo comhlíonadh an dlí maidir leis an timpeallacht, agus chun páirceanna phoiblí glan agus sábháilte a chinntiú. Ina chuid den freagrachtaí ná:

- Cothabháil Bóithre, an tSeirbhís Maorachta, Bainistíocht Dramháil, Cáilíocht Uisce, agus Gníomh Aeráide

Catherine Duff
Director / Stiúrthóir



Municipal District of Dundalk

Dundalk and Cooley Area

Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair	Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí
	<p>Litter picks Dundalk town-wide including all approach roads</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dublin Road,• Inner Relief Road,• Ramparts,• Centenary Road,• Avenue Road,• Hoey's Lane,• Tom Bellew Avenue,• Fairgreen Road,• Old Newry Road,• Racecourse Road,• Armagh Road,• Castletown Road, Etc.
	<p>Cooley Isolated locations including:</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carrickcarnan• Templetown• Gyles Quay• Shillinghill• Whitestown
Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí	Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contract works - Dundalk• Cooley• Carlingford• Omeath• Gyles Quay• Templetown• Faughart• Greenore• Lordship
Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre	Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contract works - Dundalk• Cooley - rural village sweep

	programming
Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra	Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract works - Dundalk Cooley - as per bin emptying
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrthála	Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weekly by Park Operative in Dundalk Carried out by Water Safety Officer in Cooley
Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne	Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily by Parks Operative, repairs in house or contractor

Location / Suíomh		Notes / Nótaí
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	<p>Cooley</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> L-3056-0 Knocknagoran L-7055-0 Chapel Hill R173 Omeath. L-7059-0 Rooskey L-3061-27 Willville L-7071-17 Ballug L-7079-0 Gyles Quay <p>Dundalk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> L-21110-123 Hyde Park L-20014-2 Grange Close R215-27 Newry Road L-20049-1 Vincent Ave L-20010-5/52 Aisling Park L-2000-540 Ecco Road 	<p>Surface Dressing works Aftercare works continue</p> <p>Works have started on the 2021 Road Works Programme resurfacing</p>
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	<p>Cooley</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> L3069-0 Mountain Park L-70592-0 Kilwirra L7078-16 Earls Quarter <p>Dundalk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hardy's Lane <p>Ongoing maintenance to Storm sewer network Town Wide</p>	<p>Soak Away Enhancement/Drainage Pipework</p> <p>Drainage Channel Enhancement</p> <p>Open drainage channel clearance</p> <p>Essential maintenance</p>
Fallen or Dangerous Trees /	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None this Month 	<p>Fallen branch removal</p>

Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha		
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	<p><u>Cooley</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None this Month <p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red Barnes Road 	<p>Essential maintenance</p> <p>Essential maintenance</p>
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá	<p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <p>Weekly maintenance of all Traffic Lights replacement bulbs (replacement LEDs), vandalism repairs, Etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carrickmacross Road • Marshes Shopping Centre • Ecco Road 	<p>Ongoing essential maintenance</p> <p>Vandalism repair</p> <p>Essential maintenance</p> <p>Essential maintenance</p>
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	<p><u>Cooley</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whitestown 	<p>Stop line replacement</p>
Signage / Comharthaíocht	<p><u>Cooley</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General repairs and cleaning <p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General repairs and cleaning 	<p>Essential Maintenance</p> <p>Essential Maintenance</p>
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	<p><u>Cooley</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numerous small amounts removed <p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodland Park • Castleross • Hoey's Lane • Rockfeild Manor • Castleross • Salttown • Toberona • Inner Relief Road • Creative Spark • Doolargy, Muirhevnamore • Hardy's Lane • Rampart River • Lady Well • Moorland Road • General Blackspots 	<p>Tyres and Domestic Waste</p> <p>Domestic Waste</p>
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí	<p>None this month</p>	



Night Work on Newry Road - RWP 2021



Vincent Avenue Resurfaced -RWP 2021



Aisling Park RWP 2021



Hyde Park RWP 2021

Blackrock, Faughart and North Mid-Louth Area

Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair	Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí
Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí	Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blackrock - 6 days/week • Knockbridge - once a week • Dromiskin - once a week • Tallanstown and Louth Village - once a week
Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre	Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain
Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra	Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrhála	Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blackrock (7 No.) checked weekly • Annagassan (11 No.) checked weekly
Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne	Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil Checked Weekly <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Killanny • Louth Village • Castlebellingham • Blackrock

Location / Suíomh		Notes / Nótaí
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L5190 Newrath • L5154 Loughtate • L5142 Stonetown Upper • Bolies • R166 Mansfieldtown • L5151 Lannat to County boundary • L5151 Tully • L5154 Muff • L1196 Tallanstown to Mills of Louth 	Road repairs and patching

	M1/N1 flyover to Channonrock.	
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	None this month	
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	None this month	
Traffic Light Repairs/ Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá	None this month	
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	None this month	
Signage / Comharthaíocht	None this month	
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	None this month	
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí	None this month	



New Parklet Installed in Blackrock



Roads Work Programme 2021 Works at Darver

Ardee Municipal District

South Louth Operations (Rural Area)

Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair	Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí
All routes in Ardee Town (5.2km per day)	
Clogherhead Car Park daily cleanup around bins	
Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí	Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht
Ardee Town	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 Daily • 20 Tuesday and Thursday
Dunleer town	

Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre	Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain
All routes in Ardee Town (5.2km per day)	
Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra	Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrthála	Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain
Ardee town - River Dee	
Salterstown	
Port Beach	
Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne	Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil
Maintenance and cleaning of Fairgreen and Dunleer parks and playgrounds complete with daily checks of the playground and exercise equipment at both locations.	

Location / Suíomh	Notes / Nótaí
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LS 5267-0 Funshog • LS 5235-0 Harristown • LS 6216-0 Mansfieldstown • LS6216-0 Bollies section to boundary • LS 6272-0 Mosstown • LP 2254-21 Rathesker • LP 2254-42 Newline • LP 2214-0 Braganstown • LP 2253-0 Philipstown Road • LS 5266-0 Oriel Road Collon • LS 5266-39 Oriel Road Collon • LT 62742-0 Burren Road • LS 5257-0 Millockstown • R165 Purcellstown • LP1228 Stabannon 	Road Work Programme Road Work Programme

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LP1223 Townparks Ardee • L-22538-2 School Lane Dunleer 	<p>Road Work Programme</p> <p>Road Work Programme</p>
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R170 at Dromin • LS 5268-0 Mullaghash • LP1264-12 Smarmore • LP 2255-0 Stifyans Cross to Hoatstown • LS 5266-0 Oriel Road Collon • Drainage works at cappoge LS 6237-0 • Outlets at LP2223-29 Verdonstown • Drainage works at Anaglog • Drainage works at Stoney Lane Ardee 	
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	None this month	
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sliabh Breagh 	
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá		
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre		
Signage / Comharthaíocht	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearing signage from surface dressed roads • Replaced damaged sign at Cooneyborough 	
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach		
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí		



Edge Strengthening on Carstown Road prior to Surface Dressing



School Lane Dunleer



LS 6317 Sheep Grange



New kerbline position in Collon village to prevent cars parking at junctions and blocking sightlines



Collon - Line markings showing kerbline builds outs at central islands to narrow carriageway and slow traffic

Borough District of Drogheda

Drogheda Town Area

Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair

Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí

- Steps and lane ways weekly 22 steps when recourses allow and green areas.
- Hotspots on Monday – decided by Supervisor following inspection.
- Bring Banks in Drogheda urban are checked and cleared Daily during working week. Also all Bring Banks in Drogheda urban are

checked and cleared Saturday p.m.

- Drogheda Rural Bring banks are cleared daily during working week

Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí

Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht

Port Oriel Pier, Clogherhead

- 5 Daily (incl weekends and Bank Hols)

Clogherhead Beach

- 8 Daily (incl weekends and Bank Hols)

Port Beach

- 5 Daily (incl weekends and Bank Hols)

Termonfeckin

- 5 Daily (incl weekends and Bank Hols)

Baltray

- 3 Daily (incl weekends and Bank Hols)

Seapoint Carpark

- 3 Daily (incl weekends and Bank Hols)

- Drogheda town centre Litterbins emptied daily circa 60 early mornings. New bin installed at top of Peter Street. 1 Bin relocated at Laurence's street to facilitate Café beside Fishmonger

- About 250 litter bin are emptied weekly in town.

- Dominic's Park & Mell river walk emptied daily.

- South Louth Drogheda Municipal district rural areas, public Litter Bins are emptied twice a week or daily when needed especially at beaches/Port Oriel/Seapoint/Termonfeckin/Baltray – at least 40 bins per day.

- Approach roads in Drogheda town emptied twice a week.

- Bin upgrade and maintenance ongoing and street furniture

- Bin burnt at Mell river walk

- All litterbins were washed and disinfected in the town centre

Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre	Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town centre daily. Approach roads fortnightly • Public Housing Estates, swept every 2 months. Private Housing estates swept every 3 months. When resources allow. • Hotspots weekly on Monday after weekend – decided daily by supervisor after checking Drogheda urban area. • Villages are swept once per month i.e., Termonfeckin, Baltray, Sandpit, Monasterboice, Tullyallen and Tinure. • Drogheda town Boyne river walkways are swept 3 times per week (Monday, Wednesday and Friday) • Town centre weeds removal • Installed extra Parasols with Picnic Tables along West Street • Strimming at Marian Close and clearing all area to rear completed
Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / FolmhúAraidí Salachar Madra	Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain Empty about 35 No. once a week, washed and disinfected.
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrthála	Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 89 ring buoys checked each week town area (Thursday) • 9 ring buoys checked each week at Rosehall (Friday)
Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne	Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between 4 & 5 daily (4 playgrounds in Drogheda town, Skate Park, Adult Exercise equipment). • 3 Playgrounds in Drogheda rural area disinfected also.

	<p>Lanes</p> <p>5. Donore Road / Marley's Lane – 10/9/21</p> <p>6. Cement Road / Crosslanes</p> <p>7. Crosslanes / Windmill Road – 20/9/21</p> <p>8. R132 / Cement Road – 23/9/21.</p> <p>9. Westgate 23/9/21</p>	<p>Lamps all out.</p> <p>Replaced lamp.</p> <p>Replaced lamp.</p> <p>Replaced lamp.</p> <p>Replaced lamp</p>
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing throughout town 	
Signage / Comharthaíocht	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing throughout district • Repairing Signs on the LP-2275-24 Ballymakenny Road. • Installing Solar Beach signs at Clogherhead 	
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	<p>August / September 2021:</p> <p><u>List sent to wardens</u></p> <p><u>Bring Banks</u>, Bolton Square, King Street, Mell Car Park, Wheaton Hall, Old Hill, Ballsgrove and IDA Road</p> <p><u>Dumping</u> Cement Road at Old Halting site, and St Anthony's Park, Bexwell lane, Batchlor's Lane, Harbours Lane, Highlane Steps, Northstrand 3 sets of steps, Cash For Car signs, Palace Sreet, Williams Street, O Reilly's Car Park, Skellys Lane, Laurances Park including Bonfires, Moneymore, Lourdes Square, Scarlet Crescet, walkway on Domnics Park,</p> <p>Dublin Road, Marsh Road, Rathmullen Park, Finian's Park, Bryanstown Cross route, Marley's Lane, Ballsgrove, Rathmullen Park, Cromwell Lane, Dominic's Park area</p>	<p>This is an ongoing issue where Supervisors and Litter Wardens check on a daily basis; arrange for inspecting illegal waste disposal for evidence and issuing fines and clearance of the area.</p> <p>Public complaints are also checked and followed up as above.</p> <p>Illegal waste tonnage disposed and removed by LCC for September circa 500kg.</p>

	<p>Clearing the rear alley at 49 Marley's court</p> <p>Weed killing was conducted by Shaffrey's on list of Estates, Tourists locations, Laurance's Gate, etc.</p>	
<p>Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí</p>	<p>Litter and dog bin graffiti removed in house works Re: J Moore</p> <p>Removed 11 Lifebuoy boxes from skateboard park to Dominic's Park and replaced with new boxes due to bad soiled graffiti. Some new buoys and ropes were also installed.</p>	<p>Updated survey of Graffiti in town completed. Removal of same on public buildings to be progressed. Graffiti on private properties to be followed up.</p>



***Up-grade of Pedestrian Crossing
at Platin Road***



***Construction of new Pedestrian
Crossing at Kierans Corner***



New Raised crossing at top of King Street, Drogheda. One of five new raised crossings to enable Schoolchildren to cross safely in the vicinity of St. Joseph's National School and promote "Active Travel"



New Speed ramp on approach to St. Joseph's Primary School, Sunday's Gate



Planning out for new road surface at Ushers Corner

Waste Management and Environment Report

Waste Management

Waste Enforcement

Cases continue to proceed through the courts. There has been a delay in getting cases heard due to the ongoing pandemic.

Litter Enforcement

A total of 34 fines were issued in the month of September. Of these fines, 4 were issued in the Dundalk urban area, 21 in Drogheda urban area and 9 in the remaining County wide area.

There were 0 fines issued for dog fouling in September. There have been 1601 investigations in the year to date with 197 carried out in the month of September.

There have been 328 fines issued in the year to date, 3 of which were for Dog Fouling.

Diesel Laundering Waste

A total of 8 IBC's of Diesel Sludge were recovered in September 2021. The approximate cost of clean-up and disposal of the material is €9,986.62. So far in 2021, a total of 102 IBC's at a cost of €127,329.36 approx.

My Waste

163 Reminders letters have been issued to householders in the 3 urban areas of Ardee, Dundalk and Drogheda, Further reminder letters will be sent to householders who did not respond to the initial letters.

Area	Ardee	Dundalk	Drogheda	Total
No of Estates surveyed	8	196	49	253
Total No of Houses	539	5031	4223	9793
No of houses not presenting a bin	108	1866	1432	3406

% of Houses not presenting a bin	20	37	34	35
No of Letters sent out to date	108	921	544	1573
No of reminders letter sent out	65	210	318	593
No. of Replies	38	99	134	271

Air / Water / Noise Pollution

There were four water pollution complaints received in September with none open and four closed. One legal case under the Local Government (Water Pollution) Act 1977 is on-going in the district court. Thirteen Air Pollution complaints and four Noise Pollution complaints were received during September 2021.

Air Monitor for Drogheda

The EPA in cooperation with Louth County Council has installed a permanent air quality monitor in Drogheda. The station became operational in the week starting 25th April and data is available to view at: <https://airquality.ie/station/EPA-84>

Water Framework/River Basin Management Plans

The Local Authority catchment assessments being carried out by the Lawpro inspection teams with the assistance of Louth County Council where required are on-going in the Castletown catchment. Initial desktop studies have commenced in the Glyde catchment.

The DHLGH is due to publish the draft River Basin Management Plan 2022 – 2027 shortly for a six month public consultation. LAWPRO is preparing a virtual consultation room to assist with consultation and town hall type meetings which are likely to commence in October. A consultation programme has been drafted to include both virtual and in person meetings, depending on forthcoming advice on conducting meetings indoors. For further information visit www.lawwaters.ie

Domestic Wastewater

The new Code of Practice for Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems (Population Equivalent ≤ 10) was published on 24th March 2021 and has come into effect since 7th June 2021. Link to code of practice is at - <https://www.epa.ie/pubs/advice/water/wastewater/code%20of%20practice%20for%20single%20house%20s/>

The EPA released the 2020 annual report on Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems inspections on Wednesday 30th June 2021. You can access the press release and the report at the following links: <https://www.epa.ie/news-releases/news-releases-2021/fixing-septic-tanks-that-fail-inspection-is-a-priority-says-epa.php>

RMCEI (Recommended Criteria for Environmental Inspections)

The RMCEI Inspection Plan for County Louth for planned routine inspections and non-routine inspections for the period January to December 2021 and statistical data for inspections carried out for period January to December 2020 has been submitted to the EPA within the required timeframe. Information from this will feed into a national report which will be compiled by the EPA before the end of the year. The Local authority has carried out data verification of the RMCEI returns with the EPA during July 2021.

Closed Landfills

Annual environmental reports, landfill gas surveys and EPR reports for the period January to December 2020 for the three licensed landfills at Dundalk, Drogheda and Whiteriver have been submitted to the EPA. Standard reports on ozone depleting substances and fluorinated gases have also been submitted for the three sites.

Climate Action

Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2014

We continue to work with the Eastern and Midlands Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) to work towards achieving the goals and objectives of the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019 to 2024 Action.

Work continues on the progress report for Louth County Council on the above strategy for the

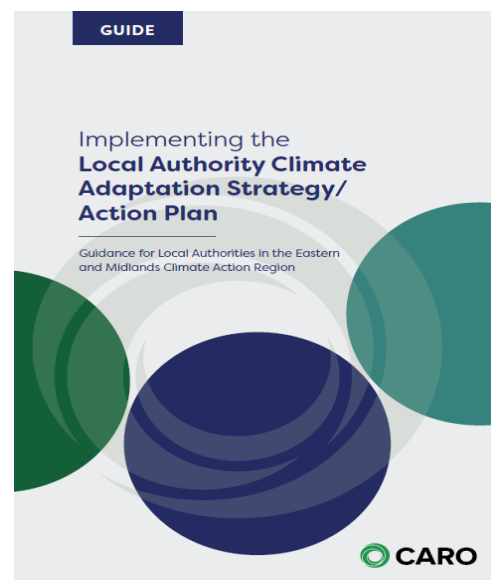
CARO office which is due to be submitted in early October. This will be the second progress report for the strategy.

Electrical Vehicles Charging Points

The Project Lead was appointed to the project and the official Launch of the FASTER project took place on the 9th of September in Armagh City Hotel.

Louth Council will through engagement with other associate Partners have started the preliminary site selection for the 25 EV Rapid Chargers across the border counties.

Decarbonised Zones- Dundalk



Veterinary Services / Seirbhísí Tréidliachta

Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI) / Údarás Sábháilteachta Bia na hÉireann (USBÉ)

As of 30th September 2021, Louth County Council Veterinary Section, under a Service Level Agreement with the FSAI, enforces food safety standards on two abattoirs and fifteen meat processing plants under its supervision in the County, including one new meat processing plant in Dundalk that commenced production September 2021.

Amhail ar an 30ú Meán Fómhair 2021, cuireann Rannóg Tréidliachta Chomhairle Contae Lú caighdeán sábháilteachta bia i bhfeidhm, faoi Chomhaontú Leibhéal Seirbhíse leis an USBÉ, ar dhá sheamlas agus ar cúig cinn déag de mhonarchana próiseála feola atá faoi mhaoriseacht aige sa chontae, n-áirítear gléasra nua próiseála feola i nDún Dealgan a thosaigh táirgeadh Meán Fómhair 2021.

Control of Dogs / Rialú Madraí

Control of Dogs Act 1986 / An tAcht um Rialú Madraí, 1986

Dogs impounded September 2021 / Madraí curtha i bpóna, Meán Fómhair 2021	
Total dogs impounded / Líon madraí curtha i bpóna	9
Strays / Ar seachrán	4
Surrendered by owners / Tugtha suas ag úinéirí	4
No dogs reclaimed by owners / Líon madraí tógtha ar ais ag úinéirí	3
No of dogs rehomed direct / Líon madraí a bhfuarthas úinéirí nua dóibh go díreach	5
No of dogs rehomed to welfare groups / Líon madraí a aistríodh go grúpaí leasa ainmhithe	4
No of dogs on hand in Pound at 31/08/2021 / Líon madraí faoi chúram sa phóna 31/08/2021	1

Dog Licences September 2021 / Ceadúnais Madraí, Meán Fómhair 2021	
No of Licences sold / Líon ceadúnas díolta	590
Licence Checks / Ceadúnais scrúdaithe:	
House calls / Seiceálacha baile	276
Section 16 Notices issued (request to produce licence within 10 days) / Fógraí Alt 16 eisithe (iarratas ar ceadúnas a thaispeáint roimh deich lá)	77
Fixed Penalty Notices / Fógraí Pionós Socraithe	9

Control of Horses / Rialú Capall

Control of Horses Act 1996 / An tAcht um Rialú Capall, 1996

Control of Horses Bye-Laws 2003 / Fodhlíthe um Rialú Capall, 2003

Horses impounded September 2021 / Capaill curtha i bpóna, Meán Fómhair 2021	
Horses seized / Capaill gafa	0
Reason for seizure: / Cúis na gabhála	n/a
Horses reclaimed by owner / Líon capaill tógtha ar ais ag úinéirí	0
Horses rehomed / Líon capaill a bhfuarthas úinéirí nua dóibh	0
Horses disposed of / Capaill curtha de láimh	0
No of horses on hand in Pound on 31/08/2021 / Líon capaill faoi chúram sa phóna, 31/08/21	0

**Dog Breeding Establishments (DBE) /
Bunachais Pórucháin Madraí (BPM)**

*Dog Breeding Establishments Act 2010 / An tAcht
um Bunachais Pórucháin Madraí, 2010*

**Dog Breeding Establishments August
2021 / Bunachais pórucháin madraí,
Lúnasa 2021**

Total no of registered DBE's in Louth, 31/08/2021 / Líon BPM i gContae Lú, 31/08/2021	6
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Hunt / Conchróite Seilge	2
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Boarding Kennels / Conchróite Cinneála	2
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Training Kennels / Conchróite Oiliúna	1
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Welfare / Leas Ainmhithe	1
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**Dogs Impounded during September 2021 Madraí / curtha
i bpóna i mhí Meán Fómhair 2021**

Corporate and Emergency Services

Seirbhísí Corparáideacha agus Éigeandála

This Directorate has two key areas of responsibility:

- **Corporate Services** – the maintenance and development of systems which facilitate the effective running of our Council, including Human Resources, and Information and Communications Technology.
- **Emergency Services** – including the Fire Service, Civil Defence, Water Safety, and the planning and implementation of strategies which help to keep our citizens safe.
- Other responsibilities include Sustainable Energy.

Tá dhá eochairfhreagrachta ag an Stiúrthóireacht seo:

- **Seirbhísí Corparáideacha** – ag cothabháil agus forbairt chórais atá baint leis an reáchtáil éifeachtach na Comhairle, agus Acmhainní Daonna, agus Techneolaíocht Faisnéise agus Chumarsáide san áireamh
- **Seirbhísí Éigeandála** – Seirbhís Dóiteáin, Cosaint Shibhialta, Sábháilteacht Uisce san áireamh, agus ag pleanáil agus ag cur i bhfeidhm straitéisí chun chabhrú le muintir Chontae Lú a bheith slán sábháilte
- Freagracht eile ag an Stiúrthóireacht seo ná Fuinneamh Inbhunaithe.

Joe McGuinness
Director / Stiúrthóir



Corporate and Emergency Services

Climate Change Adaption Strategy

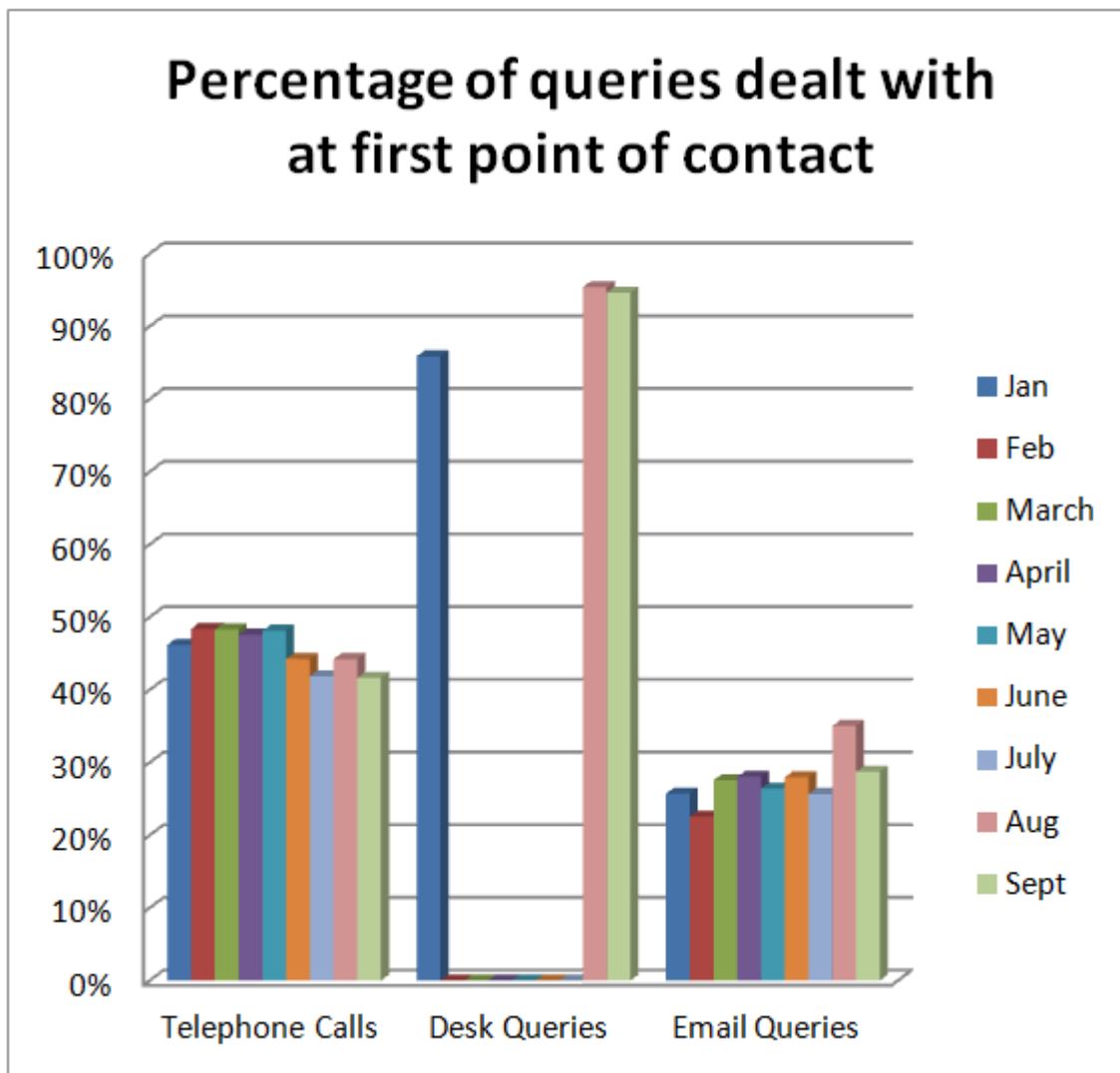
As part of the Council's Climate Change Adaption Strategy 2019-24, the following mitigations were undertaken in the last month in this Directorate

- Climate Action Leadership Training was delivered in September for the elected members, management team and the seniors group

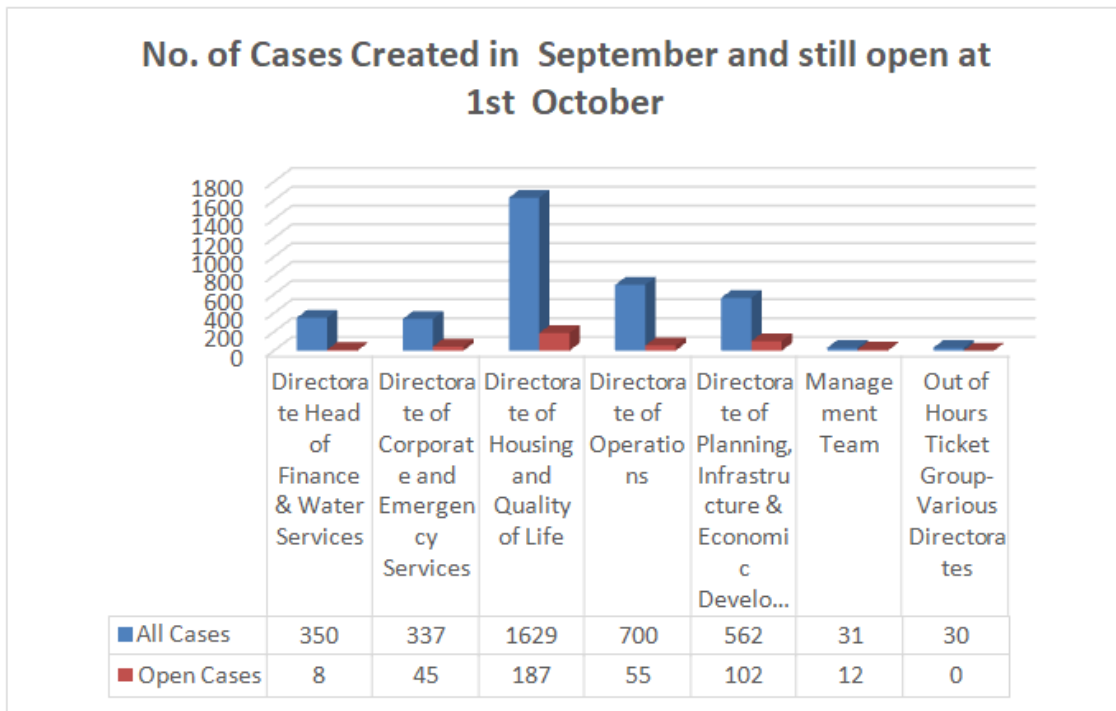
Corporate Services

Customer Services

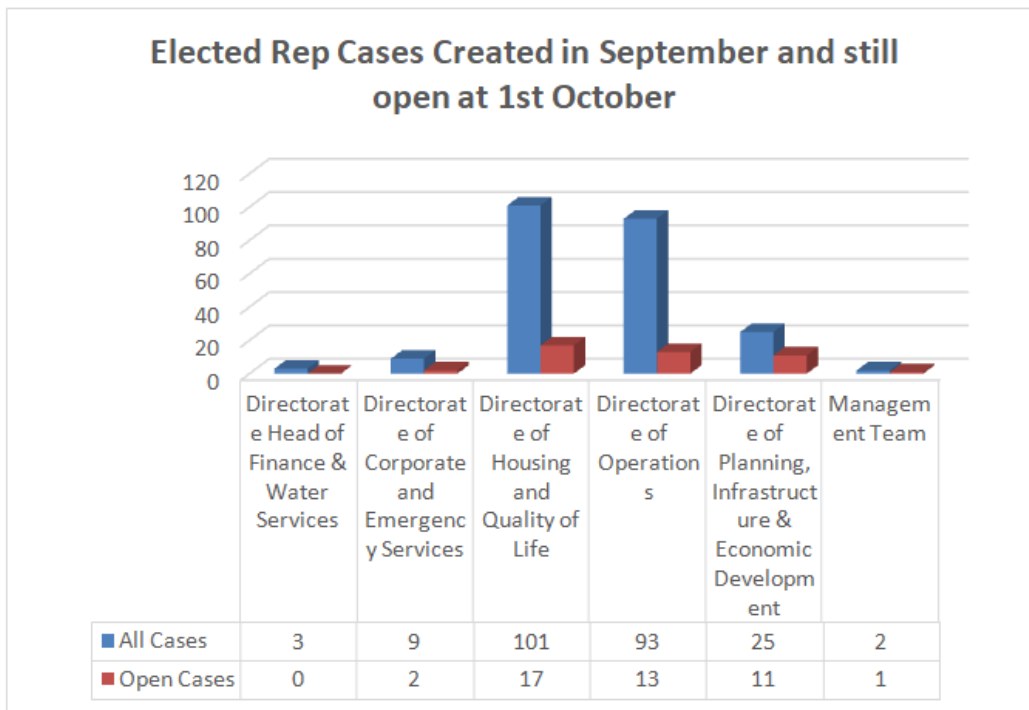
During the month of September Customer Services dealt with 11,888 queries – 6,748 calls, 1,577 e-mails and 3,563 counter queries.



There were 3,639 valid SugarCRM cases recorded during September of which 409 (11%) remain unresolved, broken down by directorate as follows:



During September 233 elected reps. cases were recorded on Sugar of which 44 (19%) remain unresolved broken down by Directorate as follows:



The table below illustrates activity in the redress area.

	Same period 2020	2021 Total	September 2021
Freedom of Information	73	91	19
Data Protection	9	2	0
Access to Information on Environment	4	4	1
Ombudsman	7	9	1
Complaints Policy	15	24	4
DSAR	3	12	2

Electoral Register

Electoral Register Field Officers have now completed their enquires in Louth and received positive feedback generally from electors. Other citizens have submitted their electoral details on the prescribed forms. Information received is now being inputted by Register of Electors staff in anticipation of the publication date of 1st November, 2021. The deadline for addition to the draft register was 5.00 pm, Thursday, 30th September.

Elected Members are again asked to encourage their electorate to check their details on www.checktheregister. Late applications can be made by completion of the online form at <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/electoral-register/online-registration/>. Forms are also available at customer services desks in local Council offices or customers can email register@louthcoco.ie or phone 042 9335457 and request that a form be posted to them.

Late applications to the draft register of electors can be considered by the County Registrar at the Claims Court, which will be held on:-

- Drogheda - 8th December, 2021
- Dundalk – 9th December, 2021

Sustainable Energy

Public Sector Energy Efficiency Performance

The Council's energy efficiency has improved to 47.36% (end of 2020) as reported by SEAI.

Energy Management System

The Council's Energy Management System is registered with ISO 50,001; 2018. A 1 day

Surveillance Audit will be undertaken later in 2021 to confirm ongoing compliance, exact date to be confirmed by the certifying body.

The Council is undertaking new energy works as part of the Energy Action Plan 2021 as follows:

County Hall – We are presently installing a new Air Sourced heat Pump. In addition, new energy loggers to monitor gas and electricity use have already been installed at County Hall.



Works for the New Air Source Heat Pump at County Hall

Dundalk Town Hall and Civil Defence Building Dundalk – we are presently installing new Solar Photo Voltaic Units. In addition, new energy loggers to monitor gas and electricity use have already been installed at Dundalk Town Hall.

Archives Building – We are presently installing a new Air Sourced Heat Pump and undertaking improvements to lighting and interiors to windows to improve energy efficiency.

New energy loggers to monitor gas and electricity use have already been installed at Dundalk and Drogheda Fire Stations.

Better Energy Communities Grant 2021

The Council has partnered with Dunleer Sustainable Energy Community for their grant application for funding for energy projects in 2021.

That application resulted in an offer of funding for Council energy projects of €78,282, for a total maximum expenditure cost of €260,939.

Council staff are working with Dunleer SEC, to complete those energy projects. All works must be completed and paid-for no later than 15th October 2021 to enable the grant offered, to be claimed.

Sustainable Energy Communities

The Council 's energy policy was presented to the recent meeting of the Climate Change and Energy Strategic Policy Committee. It was agreed to amend it slightly for the next meeting.

In addition, the Council is asked to consider a Memorandum of Understanding between the Council, and SEAI to support Sustainable Energy Communities. That MOU was developed by the Mid-West Region and has already been signed by a small number of Local Authorities there. It is planned to bring that also to the attention of the Climate and Energy SPC.

GenComm Interreg Energy Storage Project

Members are encouraged to review the project website for an up-date on progress and in particular for more detail from the project on the potential for hydrogen use as a Sustainable Energy source. The project partners consider how hydrogen offers the opportunity to make energy production a primary driver of the economy rather than responding to the needs of the economy as at present.

The Gencomm Project Team has been invited to present on that project at the December meeting of the Climate Change and Energy SPC.

Varcities H2020 Funded Project

Varcities is a H2020 Research Funding stream and the consortium is made up of 25 Partners, largely academia throughout Europe. The theme of the project is centered around Urban Regeneration; Impacts on Quality of Life + Health and Well Being. Funding has been approved for €10million, with €422,500 allocated to Louth County Council. The project officially commenced on September 1st 2020. The project duration is the 54 months from that starting date.



The second partners progress meeting for this project was held as a combined virtual and physical meeting over 2 days in Chania, Greece, on Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd September. The next stakeholder meeting for the Dundalk pilot will be held in November and elected members will again be invited to attend. The conceptual design for the project is required to be completed by end February 2022.

Fire and Emergency Services

Fire Service

Louth Fire Service is preparing to scale back Covid restrictions pending the general cessation of Covid precautions on 22nd October. These restrictions have ensured that all Louth Brigades have continued to provide a service since the start of the pandemic. It is expected that some limited Covid precautions will continue.

During September, Emergency First Responder refresher courses continued for Louth Fire Service personnel. A driving instruction company has been continuing to provide Class C driving instruction for fire service personnel so as to ensure adequate driver numbers for fire appliances. Four additional fire service members have now received Class C truck licences. An ESDS emergency driving course was run for two of these personnel.

A Quantity Surveyor has completed a summary cost plan and a design brief is also complete for a replacement fire station in Dunleer. These have been submitted to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and it is now hoped that approval will be forthcoming to allow the procurement of a design team.

The development of a fire service health and safety management system to satisfy ISO 45001 requirements is continuing. A benchmark audit of the system by an external Health and Safety Consultant is planned for two dates in October.

The number of fire safety certificate applications received by Fire Prevention Section has increased in recent months and inspections of these are continuing. 19 large places of assembly have been inspected during September in relation to their annual dance licence applications.

Major Emergency Management

A Major Emergency Exercise was held on 22nd September to test the inter-agency emergency plan for Flogas. This was held jointly with AGS, HSE and Drogheda Port. The purpose was to test the availability and ability to respond of all Louth County Council staff that would be mobilised in the event of an emergency in Flogas.

Regional Major Emergency Steering and Working Group meetings in relation to Covid have continued by tele-conference during September.

These meetings have included personnel from the three Principal Response Agencies, i.e. the Councils, HSE and AGS.

Civil Defence

Normal Civil Defence activities are resuming, including training courses with full occupancy and attendance at events to provide medical and other cover.

Activities during September included:

- Rescue Training
- Recruit Induction
- Radio Training
- Emergency Medical Technician Training
- Instructor Meeting
- 1 Community duty

Water Safety

Beach Lifeguard activity ceased from mid-September. All water safety infrastructure continues to be checked on a scheduled basis.

Housing and Quality of Life Tithíocht agus Cáilíocht na Beatha

This Directorate has two key responsibilities:

- Housing, which encompasses all initiatives which aim to match need and available resources in a sustainable way throughout our county
- Quality of Life, a wide range of initiatives and programmes designed to make living in Louth a stimulating, safe and rewarding experience, including the arts, heritage, and our libraries

Tá dhá eochairfhreagracht ag an Stiúrthóireacht seo:

- Tithíocht, a chuimsíonn gach tionscnamh agus de chuspóir acu ná na riachtanais agus na haicmhainní ar fad atá ar fail a chur le chéile go hinbhuanaithe ar fud ár gcontae
- Cáilíocht na Beatha, réimse leathan tionscnaimh agus cláir atá deartha chun saol spreagúil, sásúil, sábháilte a chur ar fail i gContae Lú, na healaíona, an oidhreacht, agus ár leabharlanna san áireamh

Paddy Donnelly
Director / Stiúrthóir



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 Strategy 2018-2020. The preparation for a new three year strategy has commenced. The work done within Louth can be summarised as follows:

Presentations September 2021	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda BD	Total
Number of Person who presented as Homeless	08	201	132	341
Offered advice, support (including fast tracking H.A. for Rent Supplement eligibility)	08	185	124	317
Placed in Temporary Emergency Accommodation	00	11	04	15
Refused Offer of Temporary Emergency Accommodation	00	05	04	09
Not eligible from outside county or non HRC	00	00	00	00

The tables below reflect monthly returns submitted to the Department with regard to Homeless numbers in the NORTH EAST REGION between 20th – 26th September 2021. 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

Gender	Total
Male	59
Female	16
Total	75

Table 2: Age Groups

Age Group	Total
18-24	05
25-44	44
45-64	23
65+	05
Total	75

Table 3: Accommodation Type

Accommodation Type	Total
Private Emergency Accommodation (PEA)	12
Supported Temporary Accommodation (STA)	54
Temporary Emergency Accommodation (low support)(TEA)	09
Unique Total (note, clients may have accessed multiple accommodation types during the week)	00
Minus people accessing multiple accommodation types during the week	00
Total unique individuals	75

Table 4: County

County	Total
County Louth	72
County Monaghan	01
County Cavan	02
Total	75

Table 5 - Families with dependent children

	No. of families with dependent children	No. of Individual Adults	No. of Dependents
Individuals with dependent children	06	05	12
Total	06	05	12
Couples with dependent children	02	04	06
Total	02	04	06

Housing First

	Louth	Monaghan	Cavan	Total
Number of tenancies established	23	02	05	30
Number of individuals currently in tenancy	23	02	05	30

Homeless Services and Covid 19

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 continues to be provided remotely and staff is available on request, in exceptional cases.

Inspections of Private Emergency Accommodation

Since December 2017 the Homeless Office has 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 permissions.

Housing Assistance Payment

The total number of applications in HAP is 3284

Ardee Municipal District	Dundalk Municipal District	Drogheda Borough District	Total
327	1749	1224	3300

Pillar 2: Accelerate Social Housing

Over the period 2018 to 2021, a target has been set for the provision of 1074 units. This target will include delivery of units from Part V provision, Acquisitions, Mortgage to Rents, Long Term Leases, Repair and Lease and Buy & Renew Acquisitions. The 2020 - 2023 pipeline delivery progress report is in tables below.

2021 Housing Allocations up to 30th September 2021

Numbers Allocated	Allocations- Social	Allocations - Voluntary	Refusals - Social	Refusals - Voluntary
Ardee MD	30	27	09	04

Dundalk MD	128	81	21	21
Drogheda BD	75	30	29	07
Total Allocations	233	138	59	32

Social housing transfers facilitated up to 30th September 2021

Year	Ardee	Dundalk	Drogheda
2021	00	12	12

Housing List (excluding HAP Transfers)

Month	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda BD	Total
September	373	678	653	1704

Transfer List from HAP

Month	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda BD	Total
September	327	1749	1224	3300

There are a total of 265 applicants on the approved list for transfer (**Non-HAP**) within Social Housing including **25** applications from the Approved Housing Bodies

Pillar 3: Build More Homes

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

Location	Acres
Mullavalley, Louth Village	8.82

Kilkerley	3.80
Ballymakenny	16.53
Point Road	5.2
Various Individual Sites	0

Rent Management

The number of tenants who pay rent by Household Budget is now **986**

Current Arrears as of 30/09/2021	Rents as of	Number of Account	Value
Rents between 4-6 weeks old	4-6	161	€61,186.00
Rents between 7-12 weeks old	7-12	132	€84,841.00
Rents greater than 12 weeks old	>12	757	€2,645,697.00
TOTAL		1050	€2,791,724

Pillar 4: Improve the Rented Sector

	Sept	Total
No. of properties inspected Sept 2021	86	150
No. of advisory notes issued to Landlord	03	06
No. of improvement notices Issued	01	78
No. of prohibition notices Issued	02	04
No. of Rent Book Notices Issued	00	00
Inspections (HAP)	72	93
Improvement Notices (HAP)	07	78
Virtual Inspections Issued	00	50
Private Inspections Complaints	00	00
HAP Complaints	02	11
RAS Complaints	00	00
Re Inspections HAP	09	40
Re Inspections Hap Compliance	00	20
Re Inspections RAS	00	00
Re Inspections RAS Compliance	00	00
AHB Inspection	02	03
Long Term Leases	00	75

Pillar 5: Utilise Existing Housing

The following table summarises the level of maintenance and works activity to existing stock.

Maintenance	Total (YTD)	This month
No. of Maintenance Requests Received	2806	473
No. of Maintenance Completed	1922	362

Vacant Properties

Currently 25 No. social units have been used as temporary accommodation for isolation or additional homeless need during Covid 19 and are not included in the next table.

Vacant Properties	Total	
Ardee Municipal District	07	
Dundalk Municipal District	20	
Drogheda Borough District	38	
Total Re Lets		65
Vacant Properties CPO Units not yet ready for occupation (all county)		03
Total No. of CPO Properties (Relets & CPO's)		68

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.
- The Department have notified Louth County Council that the allocation for 2021 is €1,889,980, of which €377,996 is to be provided from the authority's own revenue resource.
- Additional funding of €962,500 has been allocated from the Department of which €192,500 is to be provided from the authority's own revenue resource.

Private House Grants

Status	HOP	HAG	MAG	Total
Applications Completed 2020	131	60	36	227
Applications rolling into 2021	101	310	70	481
New Applications	211	105	73	389

Estate Management

	DBD & AMD	DMD	TOTAL
Tenancy Inspections	01	07	08
Pre tenancy Training	19	16	235
Tenancy Investigations Visits	39	30	69
Tenancy Investigations Remote	22	21	43

Anti-Social Behaviour

ASB Cases	DBD	AMD	DMD	TOTAL
ASB Ongoing	09	02	06	17
ASB Completed	06	05	08	19
Total	15	07	14	36

Ardee District	Municipal	20
Dundalk District	Municipal	21
Total		64

	DBD	AMD	DMD	TOTAL
Verbal Warning	01	01	04	06
Written Warning	00	00	00	00
Tenancy Notification	00	00	00	00

Climate Action

The newly revised **2021 Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme** is the first year of a ten year programme which is expected to grow to meet the PFG retrofit commitment. The new programme sees a significant upscaling (from 'shallow' to 'deep retrofit') on what has been completed by local authorities to date and will target **2,400** social homes for upgrade works in 2021.

For 2021 Louth County Council were successful in obtaining an allocation of €1.4 million with a requirement to retrofit a minimum of 52 properties to a B2/Cost Optimal standard. An additional allocation coupled with positive tender prices allows for 12 more units to be done in 2021.

The distribution works on Energy Retrofitting in each district is as follows:

Municipal/Borough District	Number of Retrofitting Houses
Drogheda Borough District	23

Delivery Stream	Rebuilding Ireland Projected Delivery 2018-2021				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total
SHIP CONSTRUCTION	00	00	00	17	17
SHIP CONSTRUCTION RAPID	00	00	00	00	00
REGENERATION	00	00	00	00	00
CAS CONSTRUCTION	01	00	00	01	02
CONSTRUCTION BUT & RENEW SHIP CONSTRUCTION SINGLE STAGE	23	26	07	02	58
SHIP CONSTRUCTION SINGLE STAGE	00	00	00	02	02
SHIP CONSTRUCTION TURNKEY	00	05	131	28	159
SHIP Competitive Dialogue	00	00	00	00	00
CAS CONSTRUCTION TURNKEY & CAS SINGLE STAGE	00	05	00	12	17
PPP	00	00	80	00	80
AHB CALF Construction	10	15	02	00	27
AHB CALF Turnkey	119	188	54	192	553
CALF Part V	14	115	05	9	143
LA Part V	04	00	06	07	17
CAS Part V	00	00	00	00	00
Voids (capped)	02	05	00	00	07

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 process is used to acquire vacant and derelict houses for refurbishment and allocation.

IPS = Incremental Purchase Scheme

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

SHCEP = Social Housing Current Expenditure Programme 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.

SHIP = Social Housing Investment Programme

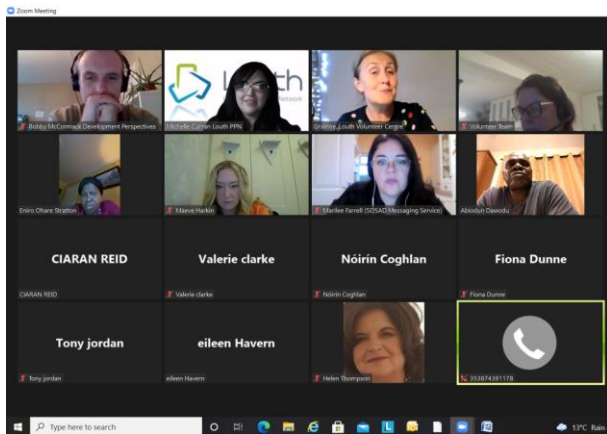
Project Name	Project Phase	Total Units Expected	Approved Housing Body / Louth County Council	Project Status	Date	Breakdown of Units
Tierney Street, Ardee	1/1	7	Oaklee Housing Trust	Stage 3 Approved	31/03/2022	1x 3 bed, and 1x 4 bed house to 7 x 1 bed
CPO All bundles 2020 Delivery Q1	1/4	5	Louth County Council	Onsite	20/05/2020	
St. John's Home, Peter's Hill, Drogheda, Co. Louth	1/1	4	North & East Housing Association Ltd	Stage 3 Approved	30/06/2022	4 x 1 bed
CPO All bundles 2020 Delivery Q2	2/4	5	Louth County Council	Onsite	30/06/2020	
Barrack Street, Dundalk	1/1	21	Simon Community : Dundalk Simon	Revised Stage 2 Site investigation works to commence	01/03/2023	19 x 1bed 2 x 2 bed
5 Slieveroe Crescent, Dundalk	1/1	1	Cluid Housing Association	Stage 4 Approved	31/12/2021	1 x 3 bed
CPO All bundles 2020 Delivery Q3	3/4	1	Louth County Council	Onsite	31/12/2020	
CPO All bundles 2020 Delivery Q4	4/4	9	Louth County Council	Onsite	31/12/2020	
Father Finn Park (Phase 2)	1/1	17	Louth County Council	Completed	08/04/2021	7 x 2 bed & 10 x 3 bed
Harbour View, Coulter Place, Dundalk	1/2	12	Cluid Housing Association	Completed	July 2021	12 x 1 bed and 12 x 2 bed apartments across both phases
Four Winds, Mullacapple, Collon	1/1	1	St. John of God Housing Association Ltd	Stage 2 Approved	31/03/2022	1 unit, 4 beds
Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co. Louth	1/4	45	Clanmil	Funding Approved	31/03/2023	9 x 2 bed apartments, 34 3 bed units and 24 x 4 bed units
Harbour View, Coulter Place, Dundalk	2/2	12	Cluid Housing Association	Completed	July 2021	12 x 1 bed and 12 x 2 bed apartments across both phases
Newtown Marsh Road Drogheda	1/4	17	Respond	Onsite	31/03/2022	2 x 4 bed houses, 97 x 3 bed houses and 34 x 2 bed houses across all

							4 phases
Newtown Marsh Drogheda	View Road	2/4	23	Respond	Onsite	31/07/2022	2 x 4 bed houses, 97 x 3 bed houses and 34 x 2 bed houses across all 4 phases
Hallidays Mill St Dundalk	Quay	1/1	85	Co Operative Housing	Onsite	31/10/2021	15 x 3 bed apartments, 58 x 2 bed apartments and 12 x 1 bed apartments
Clonmore Ardee, Co Louth	Close,	3/4	15	Cluid Housing Association	Onsite	30/11/2021	8 x 3 bed and 7 x 2 bed units in this phase
Racecourse Meadows, Co. Louth	Dundalk,	2/3	16	Túath Housing Association	Onsite	31/01/2022	4 x 4 bed houses, 36 x 3 bed houses and 6 x 2 bed apartments across all phases
Clonmore Ardee, Co Louth	Close,	4/4	13	Cluid Housing Association	Onsite	31/03/2022	10 x 3 bed and 3 x 2 bed units in this phase
Cathedral Dundalk, Co Louth	View,	3/5	16	Túath Housing Association	Onsite	30/09/2021	14 x 2 bed apartments, 9 x 2 bed houses, 14 x 3 bed duplexes, 14 x 3 bed terraced houses and 14 x 4 bed houses across all schemes
Cathedral Dundalk, Co Louth	View,	4/5	11	Túath Housing Association	Onsite	15/02/2022	14 x 2 bed apartments, 9 x 2 bed houses, 14 x 3 bed duplexes, 14 x 3 bed terraced houses and 14 x 4 bed houses across all schemes
Cox's Phase 2B	Demesne	1/1	22	Louth County Council	Onsite	31/03/2022	2 x 2 bed, 4 x 3 bed, 2 x 4 bed , 6x .1 bed Apt & 8 x 2 bed apt
Newfoundwell Drogheda	Road	1/2	55	Cluid Housing Association	Onsite	31/03//2022	17 x 3 bed terraced houses, 1 x 3 bed duplexes, 25 x 2 bed terraced houses, 4 x 2 bed terraced, 4 x 2

							bed duplexes, 28 x 2 bed apartments and 19 x 1 bed apartments across both phases
Cathedral View, Dundalk, Co Louth	5/5	12	Túath Housing Association	Onsite	31/03/2022		14 x 2 bed apartments, 9 x 2 bed houses, 14 x 3 bed duplexes, 14 x 3 bed terraced houses and 14 x 4 bed houses across all schemes
Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co. Louth	3/3	19	Túath Housing Association	Onsite	30/06/2022		4 x 4 bed houses, 36 x 3 bed houses and 6 x 2 bed apartments across all phases
Newtown Marsh View Road Drogheda	3/4	46	Respond	Onsite	30/10/2022		2 x 4 bed houses, 97 x 3 bed houses and 34 x 2 bed houses across all 4 phases
Dúiche Roden (formerly Kitchen Garden), Demesne Road, Dundalk	1/2	87	Cluid Housing Association	Onsite	31/10/2022		2 x 4 bed houses, 18 x 3 be duplexes, 22 x 3 bed terraced houses, 19 x 2 bed apartments, 29 x 2 bed terraced houses, 4 x 2 bed bungalows and 36 x 1 bed apartments across both phases
Dúiche Roden (formerly Kitchen Garden), Demesne Road, Dundalk	2/2	43	Cluid Housing Association	Onsite	30/08/2023		2 x 4 bed houses, 18 x 3 be duplexes, 22 x 3 bed terraced houses, 19 x 2 bed apartments, 29 x 2 bed terraced houses, 4 x 2 bed bungalows and 36 x 1 bed apartments across both phases

Newtown Marsh Drogheda	View Road	4/4	47	Respond	Onsite	31/07/2023	2 x 4 bed houses, 97 x 3 bed houses and 34 x 2 bed houses across all 4 phases
Moneymore, Drogheda - Infill		1/1	1	Louth County Council	Funding Approved Single Stage	23/12/2022	1 x 2 bed
Gort Uaine, Clogherhead - Infill		1/1	1	Louth County Council	Funding Approved Single Stage	23/12/2022	1 x 4 bed
School Lane, Dunleer - Infill		1/1	1	Louth County Council	Funding Approved Single Stage	23/12/2022	1 x 3 bed
Newfoundwell Road		2/2	39	Cluid Housing Association	Onsite	31/03/2023	17 x 3 bed terraced houses, 1 x 3 bed duplexes, 25 x 2 bed terraced houses, 4 x 2 bed terraced, 4 x 2 bed duplexes, 28 x 2 bed apartments and 19 x 1 bed apartments across both phases
Boice Court (Phase 2/4)		1/1	72	Louth County Council	Stage 2 Approved	16/01/2024	27 x 3 bed, 4 x 4 bed, 8 x 1 bed apt , 8 x 2 bed apt , 8 x 3 bed apt
Mount Dundalk	Avenue,	1/1	93	Louth County Council	Stage 2 Approved	06/12/2023	29 x 2 bed, 23 x 3 bed, 9 x 4 bed, 10 x 1 bed apt, 6 x 2 bed apt, 16 x 3 bed apt
Muirhevnamor, Dundalk Phase 1- Infill		1/1	11	Louth County Council	Stage 2 Approved	21/08/2023	3x 2 bed & 8 x 3 bed
Rathmullen Park, Drogheda - Infill		1/1	4	Louth County Council	Funding Approved Single Stage	03/11/2023	2 x 2 bed 2 x 3 bed
Donore Drogheda	Road,	1/1	66	Cluid Housing Association	Funding Approved	30/09/2023	8 x 3 bed apartments, 54 x 2 bed apartments and 4 x 1 be apartments
Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk		1/1	2	Túath Housing Association	Onsite	30/01/2022	2 x 3 bed units

Dublin Dundalk Road,	1/1	65	Respond	Onsite	30/11/2022	5 x 3 bed houses, 7 x 3 bed duplexes, 2 x 3 bed apartments, 16 x 2 bed duplexes, 4 x 2 bed apartments, 4 x 1 bed houses and 27 x 1 bed apartments
Doire Beag, Collon, Co Louth Infill	1/1	06		Funding Approved Single Stage	10/07/2023	6 x 3 bed
Termon River Termonfeckin	2/2	01		On Site	30/09/2021	1 x 4 bed
Highfield Dundalk	1/1	12	Women's Aid	Stage 1 Approved	30/06/2023	5 x 1 bed 7 x 2 bed
10-16 The Alleys Drogheda	1/1	14	Peter McVerry	Stage 1 approved	28/02/2023	14 Studio Apts
Riverwell Close Dundalk	1/1	1		Revised stage 1 to be submitted	31/03/2022	1 x 4bed
Coulter Place	1/1	7		Stage 2 approved Planning Granted	31/12/2022	5 x 2 bed 1 x 4 bed
Linenfield Ballymakenny	1/1	06		On Site	31/12/2021	6 x 2 bed
Ellwood Ballymakenny Rd Drogheda	1/3	17	Funding Approved Turnkey	07/02/2022	TBC	
Ellwood Ballymakenny Rd Drogheda	2/3	15	Funding Approved Turnkey	30/05/2022	TBC	
Ellwood Ballymakenny Rd Drogheda	3/3	13	Funding Approved Turnkey	05/09/2022	TBC	
Oriel Heights	1/1	13	North & East Housing	Funding Approved	31/03/2023	4 x 3 bed units and 9 x 2 bed units
Tullybrook, Slane Rd, Drogheda	1/1	85	Cluid Housing Association	Onsite	31/05/2022	2 x 4 bed houses, 22 x 3 bed terraced, 24 x 3 bed duplexes, 22 x 2 bed terraced, 7 x 2 bed duplexes and 8 x 2 bed apartments



Our Louth PPN Representatives also hosted a virtual reference group meeting for the Community, Quality of Life and Creativity SPC, listening to our groups and giving our Community Voice Representation.

On the 30th September, Louth PPN, Louth Volunteer Centre and Louth LEADER Partnership hosted an event for Social Inclusion Week named “*Breaking down Barriers in Your Community*” which was presented by Bobby McCormack, Founder of Development Perspectives and recipient of the Dochas ‘Global Citizen of the Year’ Awards. This event highlighted the value of having diversity in our local community groups and helped us recognise some of the barriers to inclusion within our community.

Dormant Accounts Fund: Social Enterprise Capital Grants Scheme 2021:

The Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys, TD, announced one million euro in funding for social enterprises nationwide.

The Social Enterprise Capital Grants Scheme 2021 will provide funding for the purchase of equipment or the carrying out of repairs or refurbishments to enable social enterprises to improve their service delivery.

The scheme supports one of the key commitments in the National Social Enterprise Policy for Ireland 2019-2022 – “Growing and Strengthening Social Enterprise”.

The Louth Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) is now inviting social enterprises across the county to apply for funding under the scheme. Louth County Councils total allocation under this fund is €32,631.25.

Healthy Ireland Fund Round 3 Community Mental Health Fund – Small Grants Allocation

The Community Mental Health Fund is an initiative under the Healthy Ireland Fund Strand 1 Round 3. Each Local Authority has been allocated funding for ring-fenced activity under the Healthy Ireland Mental Health theme, with €30,000 specifically allocated for a small Community Mental Health grants scheme.

Grants were available to any not-for-profit community, sporting or voluntary group who are located and operate in County Louth, to assist with the delivery of actions or projects which are in line with the Mental Health theme of Healthy Ireland round 3.

Group	Amount of Grant
Autism Louth and Meath	€4,680.00
Cooley Connect Well	€4,000.00
New Leaf	€5,000.00
Omeath District Development	€4,000.00
Youth Work Ireland-Louth- Craobh Rua	€2,121.00
Roche Emmets All-Star Inclusion Group	€2,326.00
SNAIL- Special Needs Assistants	€2,873.00
Turas	€5,000.00

Super Connectors

Louth County Council Age Friendly County Programme, Healthy Ireland and Louth Leader Partnership worked in collaboration with Ardee Active Retirement to get older people digitally

connected. As part of HI and Age Friendly Funding, Louth County Council purchased tablets to put in the hands of older people with no device and Louth Leader Partnership organized one to one training.

On Tuesday 28th October the 25 participants came together to be presented with a certificate of achievement having completed 6 weeks training.



mPower Project

The aim of the mPower project will enable people to live well, safely and independently in their own homes, supported by a modernised infrastructure for healthy ageing. mPower champions a preventative approach to care, supporting societal change by empowering more people to self-manage their health and care in the community and reduce unnecessary presentation to primary care.

The project will result in improved health and wellbeing for citizens, delivering 7,000 additional episodes of health, community and social care on a cross border basis.

A project supported by the European Union’s INTERREG VA Programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).
Total Fund Allocation - €20,000

Group	Amount of Grant
Siel Bleu	€5000.00
Drogheda & District Support 4 Older People	€5000.00
Connect Family	€5000.00

Resource Centre	
Haggardstown & Blackrock Community Centre	€5000.00

Community Enhancement Programme 2021

The aim of this fund is to provide funding to community groups across County Louth to enhance facilities in disadvantaged areas. Department of Rural and Community Development allocated €145,542 to Louth LCDC. The closing date for the scheme was the 16th July 2021 and the LCDC received 61 applications across the three Municipal Districts with project proposals of €318,060.74 being requested. At the September meeting of the LCDC a total of 47 projects were awarded funding.

Streetscape Enhancement Measures 2021

The Streetscape Enhancement Measures was introduced as part of “Our Rural Future”, the Government’s five year strategy to revitalise rural Ireland. The funding was introduced to support activity such as painting, signage replacement, shopfront improvements, lighting and canopies.

A total of 53 projects are being funded under the scheme and will be carried out by businesses and community groups in Ardee, Blackrock, Carlingford and Dunleer.

Amenity grants 2021

A number of late amenity grant applications were considered by members at the September council meeting and approved. These applications will now be processed for payment. The Council will only accept late applications for exceptional reasons.

Green Schools 2021

During October ten schools in Louth will be awarded their green flags through on-line ceremonies. This is a great achievement, given the difficult year schools faced, as the Covid-19 pandemic disrupted their schedules throughout the year. Congratulations to all the students and

teachers for their hard work and determination. It is envisaged that next year there will be a higher number of Green schools applying, as the schools get back on track for the next academic year.

Pride of Place 2021

Preparations are underway to host the judging of this year's Pride of Place competition on the 12th October in Dundalk sports centre. The two judges are Peter Hynes former Chief Executive of Mayo County Council and Ms. Katrina Murphy, former Head of Finance of Leitrim County Council, who was involved with the National Enterprise Town Awards previously. The two nominees will make a presentation to the judges which will be followed by a question and answer session. The winners will be announced at the awards ceremony in November.

Litter League

The Litter League 2021 is now complete. The competition took place among Tidy Towns groups, who entered into the national Tidy Towns competition.

The final judging results are withheld until the awards night and prizes will be given out at the Louth Tidy Towns Together "Louth Looking Good" Awards night later in the year.

We wish all the participants the Best of Luck and thank them for all the hard work that they do within each of their communities.

Louth in Bloom 2021



The adjudication of the competition is now completed and the winners in the various categories will be announced at an online awards ceremony, planned to take place on the 19th October, in the Council Chamber. Winners will be notified and prizes awarded by the Cathaoirleach of each Municipal district with the overall county prizes awarded by the Cathaoirleach of Louth County Council.

There was a great response to the "Louth In Bloom 2021" competition this year, with a wide spread of entries coming from across the county. Adjudication was carried out by an independent panel, who had a very the difficult job in choosing winners in each category.

Tidy Towns Project Scheme 2021

Tidy Town groups throughout the county are continuing to work on their projects under the Tidy Towns project scheme. It is hoped that these small scale projects will assist groups gaining additional marks in the National Tidy Town competition.



Dromiskin TT project

Supplies to Community Groups

Community groups continue to be facilitated with supplies of litter pickers, gloves and Bio-degradable bags, to assist them in cleaning up their local areas.

A COVID-19 compliance form is signed by all groups when collecting supplies. Groups have been advised to contact the operations section to arrange pick up of any waste collected.

Quality of Life Service

Climate Change Adaption Strategy 2019-2024

Library

Some of our staff will be commencing a Climate Action Building Capacity training course in October. This training will form part of the national climate action training programme for Local Authorities.

Archives

With a combination of SEAI grant and Capital funding, Operations are preparing for energy upgrades to the Archives building. The upgrades will include a Heat Pump, low energy lighting and windows and doors improvements to reduce the energy use.

Louth Library Service

From September 20th Louth Library Service resumed study space services, research and newspaper reading facilities all the while complying strictly to public health rules and relevant SOGs.

Over 100 students have availed of the study space services since September 20th. We are preparing for and looking forward to a full resumption of services from October 22nd.

Housebound Service

The Housebound Delivery Service continues for elderly or vulnerable people who are cocooning or in isolation.

Deliveries are being coordinated from all of our branches serving both urban and rural areas in Louth. During the month of September there were 55 deliveries to borrowers spread throughout the county.

eService



The wide range of eServices that is available to library members, include free eBooks, eAudiobooks through Borrow Box.

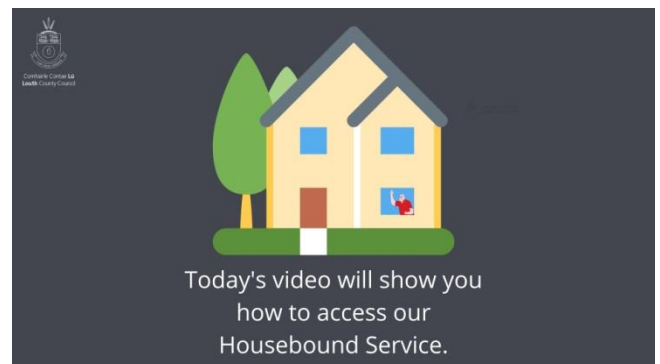


In addition, free newspapers and magazines and Comic Books are available through Press Reader and Libby.

Lastly there is a host of online courses with Universal Class and Transparent Language online.

For more information on these services click [here](#)

Online eServices tutorials



While our libraries have now reopened for browsing and borrowing, studying, research and newspaper reading facilities our online services remain an important part of the service. We continue to promote our eServices using video tutorials, which provide an easy-to-follow, step-by-step guide to the various services and facilities that are available to use at home. To date, we have published videos on the following topics, with almost 500 views on Facebook.

- Episode 1: Joining the library online
- Episode 2: Using the Louth Library Service App
- Episode 3: Signing up for our new newsletter
- Episode 4: Accessing the housebound service

Access the videos here: <https://www.facebook.com/584110738287675/videos/3847322165366733>

Dormant Accounts funding 2021, Library Supports for Marginalised, Socially Excluded and Disadvantaged Communities

The 6 approved projects under the recent DRCD’s Dormant Accounts Funding Initiative have begun.

These include:

- **3 R’s, Right Book, Right Child, Right Time** - Secondary School literacy project. Stock for this project has been selected and a number of the 100 TTRS (Touch Type Read Spell) licenses have been offered to those in direct provision Mosney Accommodation Centre and to the schools involved in the 3Rs project.
- **Strum4Fun Ukulele workshops** for older people and adults with additional needs. Dundalk Library is hosting Ukulele Classes with Grow Music. This five week course, which commenced on Tuesday 21st of September in Dundalk Library’s new outdoor garden, will run throughout October. The curriculum includes rhythm, pitch and simple cords to popular songs.



Attendees at Strum4Fun Class in the Outdoor Garden



Another View of the Outdoor Garden

- **Virtual English Classes** - Commencing October 4th. The focus of this online English course is on rapid learning for communication. Focusing on spoken and written English using the latest modern teaching techniques to provide language practice in speaking, writing, listening and reading to improve pronunciation, grammar and vocabulary. The course is aimed at marginalised communities where English is not their first language. Those interested can register via email libraryheldesk@louthcoco.ie



- **Community Coding** -Work is ongoing on the Community Coding Clubs project, which will see teachers, tutors and leaders across Louth learn how to facilitate and host their own Coding Clubs. To date, sixty pupils and four teachers from St John’s NS, Rathmullen have registered interest. So too have one of Louth’s Youthreach groups. A limited number of library staff will also receive relevant training, which will allow them to provide background support where and when needed.
- **Young Entrepreneur Club**



This project, organised by the Library service, saw Ardee Youthreach group embarking on an exciting new project on September 27th. The project aims to provide students with the skills needed to start and run their own business. Over the course of six two-hour sessions, the students of Ardee Youthreach will work with business expert Serena Bryans to

develop skills in areas such as public speaking, brainstorming, marketing, and sales, among others. The final session will see students encouraged to deliver their very own business pitch, before receiving certificates of completion.

- **The Shona Project**



The Shona project was established to address the challenges faced by young women and men in Ireland today. Topics covered include:

- The people who influence us and shape us as people
- How we treat ourselves and each other
- Respecting and encouraging difference and diversity
- Setting goals and identifying how we can achieve them
- Our place in the world and how we would like to be remembered

Louth Library Service is collaborating with all 6 DEIS schools in the county working specifically with Transition Year coordinators to deliver over 10 workshops through October and November, with a target aim of reaching 800+ students.

Other projects from DAF Funding

Louth Library Service has been working towards creating Autism/Sensory friendly spaces since applying successfully for funding in 2019 and this initiative has continued with 2020 DAF programme funding.

- Sensory equipment and wall mounted toys were purchased for Dundalk Library.
- Following on from an environmental assessment, AsIAm recommended the purchase of more user friendly furniture and padded radiator covers for the front of the radiators.



Dundalk Library's Padded Radiator Covers & Sensory Space

This will further enhance the investment in the creation of a sensory space in Dundalk Library and lead to a more accessible and welcoming environment for families and individuals with sensory needs.

- The purchase of child friendly kinder boxes and accessible shelving will also be beneficial to children with additional physical needs. This is a continuation of Louth Library Service's ongoing commitment to creating a sensory friendly environment.

Creative Ireland

Library led multi- agency project with Fighting Words



Under Creative Ireland's Excellence Grants, funding of €22,000 has been approved for a multi-agency project led by Louth Library Service. We are delighted to have this opportunity to work with **The Fighting Words Project** who will develop creative workshops to include elements of creative writing, illustration, music. Participants will have the opportunity to record in DkIT and visit An Táin and Droichead Arts Centres for workshops with other young artists. A publication of their work will be produced at the end of the project. The initial workshops will target teenagers in the Drogheda area.

Drogheda Library is liaising with the local Youth Diversion Garda Officer on identifying vulnerable teenagers who will benefit from this project. Workshops will commence on November 2nd and run until Spring 2022.

Decade of Centenaries Programme 2021

Cross Border Symposium 'Border 100-Histories and Reflections'

As part of the work of our Historian in Residence, Dr. Thomas Tormey, a cross border virtual symposium will take place from October 27-November 6, working with partners in Libraries NI and Newry, Mourne and Down Council. This will involve a host of talks, lecture and panel discussions looking at local, regional and national issues during this era. The programme will aim to be inclusive and respectful of the traditions of everyone living in the area and will cover economic, political and social history of the era. Further details on the symposium including registration at <https://www.facebook.com/LouthCountyLibraries/> or <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/library/decade-of-centenaries-2016-2023/>

Cross Border Reading Initiative

- "A star called Henry" by Roddy Doyle is the selected book for a Cross Border reading project involving Dundalk, Drogheda and Ardee Libraries and 3 Library branches in Northern Ireland. The books have been circulated North and

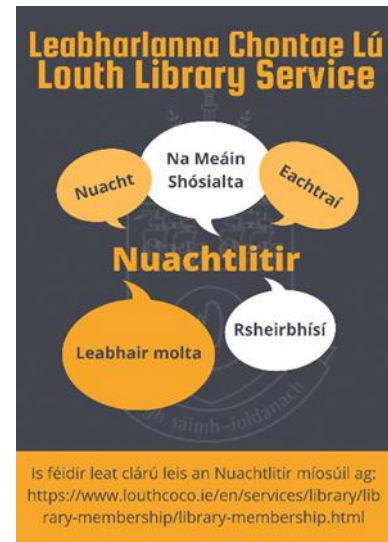
South to the participating library bookclubs. The project will culminate in a Q&A event with Roddy Doyle, in late October, date to be confirmed.



Author Roddy Doyle

- **Sources from the Irish Revolution, a panel discussion October 12th at 4.30PM** Join Louth Library Service as we ask our panel of experts to discuss the various sources that are available for the study of the Irish revolutionary period. Register via: <https://www.crowdcast.io/e/sourcesfortheirishrevolution>
- **The Great Northern Railway, Louth and the Revolution - a lecture by Dr. Peter Rigney October 20th at 19.30** Join Louth Library Service's Historian in Residence Dr Thomas Tormey as he discusses the Great Northern Railway in Louth during the Revolutionary period with Dr Peter Rigney. Register via: <https://www.crowdcast.io/e/gnrlouth>

Library Newsletter



The October edition contains the latest news, events, services, and recommendations from our libraries. In order to increase accessibility and engagement, the newsletter contains hyperlinks to relevant sites and documents, a full list of the month's events, and even a píosa beag Gaeilge. Anyone interested in receiving this monthly newsletter to their inbox can sign up here:

<https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/library/library-membership/louth-library-newsletter-emailing-list-registration.html>

Click here to read this month's newsletter:

<https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/library/blog-and-newsletter/louth-library-newsletter-october-2021.pdf>



Healthy Ireland
at your Library



LCC Cathaoirleach Cllr. Pío Smith, County Manager Joan Martin, DOS Paddy Donnelly, County Librarian Yvonne O' Brien, Senior Executive Librarian Linda Larrigan at the recent launch of the new outdoor garden in Dundalk Library



Outdoor Garden at Dundalk Library

Work Matters



Presentation for adults wishing to upskill, change career or return to work with Stephanie Bourke from LMETB on Wednesday 20th of October at 11am. For further information on this LMETB information event or to book email libraryhelpdesk@louthcoco.ie



Children's Book Festival 2021



The annual Children's Book Festival helps to spread the enjoyment of books and reading among children and families, authors and illustrators, teachers and librarians all over Ireland. It will take place throughout the month of October. Events in Louth Library Service include:

- Fancy Dress and Spooky Stories for 6-10 year olds Ardee library, Friday 29th October at 4pm. All welcome!
- Halloween Art Halloween colouring sheets can be collected from all library branches from October 1st. There will be a variety of creepy colouring pages to choose from and we invite young artists to return their decorated works to their local library for display.

- Halloween Parade – Saturday 30th of October at 3pm Dundalk Library We are inviting all our young members to dress up and celebrate the Spooktacular time of year in a parade in Dundalk Library. Miss it if you dare!
- Ghosts and Ghouls Halloween stories in Drogheda Library –Friday October 29th at 11.00. All are welcome to this special Halloween storytime!
- Scéalta grinn ar line le Aoife – 3PM, Satharn, 23 Deireadh Fómhair. Join Aoife for an online spooky Halloween storytime trí Gaeilge at 3pm.

Let's Get Reading-Books, Facts, Crafts!

LET'S GET READING!
BOOKS, FACTS & CRAFTS

JOIN US THROUGHOUT OCTOBER FOR A SUPER FUN SERIES OF EVENTS ONLINE ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

SATURDAY 2ND OCTOBER AT 11AM
ARTS & CRAFTS WITH AMY
LEARN HOW TO MAKE A COSY HOME FOR YOUR BUGS AND INSECTS

WEDNESDAY 6TH OCTOBER AT 6.30PM
EXPLORING NON FICTION WITH EILISH
TOM CREAN ANTARCTIC EXPLORER - A CHAPTER READ FROM "DARE TO DREAM" BY SARAH WEBB

THURSDAY 14TH OCTOBER AT 10.30AM
BABIES LOVE BOOKS
BABY BOOK CLUB WITH TED & ANNEMARIE

SATURDAY 16TH OCTOBER AT 11AM
ARTS & CRAFTS WITH EILEEN
LEARN HOW TO MAKE A PUMPKIN AND A BAT DECORATION FOR HALLOWEEN

WEDNESDAY 20TH OCTOBER AT 6.30PM
CHAPTER READING WITH LISA
BIG HOUSE, BIG CHANGES AND BIG IDEAS - A CHAPTER READ FROM "LILY AT LISADELL" BY JUDI CURTIN

TUESDAY 26TH OCTOBER AT 6.30PM
CHAPTER READING WITH ANNEMARIE
A SCARY STORY FROM "BOOM CHICK A BOOM" BY LIZ WEIR

Right to Read
at your Library

Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

The Let's Get Reading initiative continues this month for all of our young readers and their parents. Each month different books, facts and crafts are explored. The Baby Book Club is also part of this initiative. The theme for October is Halloween fun.

Adult Literacy

As part of the Right to Read initiative, we are very happy to be welcoming back our adult learners to Louth Library Services. Drogheda and Dundalk Libraries have now appointed a designated 'Adult Learner Liaison', who will act as a point of contact for students, tutors, and other interested parties.

A proposal for future events and supports has also been sent to the LMETB, outlining services and facilities that are available to adult learners within Louth Library Service.

Schools Service

Primary Schools

As schools settle back into the daily routine, the Primary Schools team are working hard to provide additional support to teachers and their students. To date this term, there are 20 class sets on loan, with waiting lists for titles already building up, and renewed interest in this lending facility.

New class sets have been purchased, and are currently being processed. It's expected that they'll start making their way across the county during October. Schools have received an update on Louth Library Service, our events, and facilities, and have been reminded that they can avail of virtual class visits from the Primary Schools team.

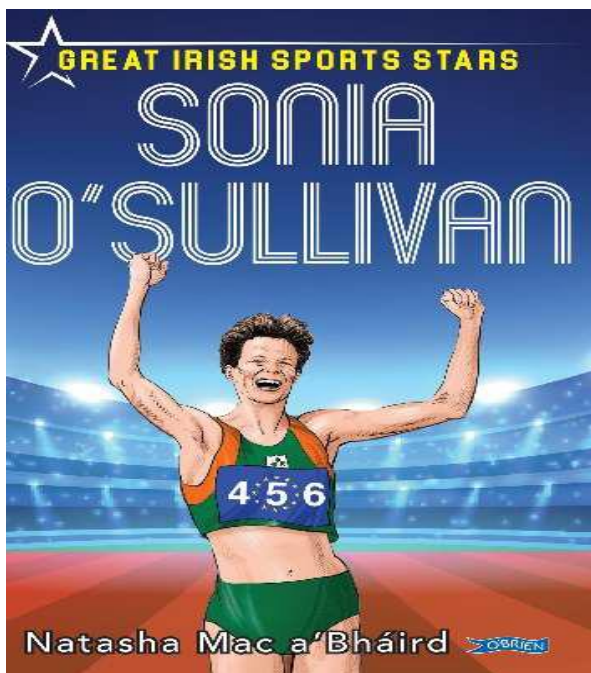
Children's Book Festival & Schools

- Virtual workshops for invited schools with author Jackie Burke Tuesday 5th, Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th of October at 10am. Jackie will talk about reading, writing, inspiration, characters, tips for budding young authors and read from her novel "The Secrets of Grindlewood."



Author Jackie Burke

- Virtual workshop with author Natasha Mac a Bhaird , Wednesday 13th of October at 11am. In this virtual workshop an invited school group will find out all about Irish sporting legend Sonia O'Sullivan. Natasha will explain what inspired her to write a book about her childhood heroine and describe how she researched the book, how writing a story about a real person compares to writing fiction and what it's like to be an author.



- **Frankenstein's Friend Creative Writing Workshop with Maeve Devoy Thursday 21st of October.** Maeve will work with an

invited school group to develop a story for a lonely Frankenstein. Focusing on friendship and the important role support characters play in stories, the workshop will embrace the students' creativity and bravery, while they find a way to introduce Frankenstein to their community.

Secondary Schools

Virtual visits will recommence in October with Our Lady's College, Greenhills, Drogheda and Sacred Heart Secondary School, Drogheda.

Other News

I AM BABA

I AM BABA is a magical adventure comprised of gorgeous live harmony singing and playful objects – jellyfish-like scarves dance and tiny lights fly in this intimate immersive performance. Each show is for just 6 babies – each with their adult guest. Ardee Library, Wednesday 27th October. Bookings via phone to Ardee branch 041 685 9023.



I AM BABA

Louth County Archives



National Retention Policy Records Management Working Group

Work is continuing on the draft revisions both for Community and for Library. The revision for Corporate has been approved and issued out. The draft revisions for Economic Development and for Environment are being finalised for approval and adoption. To date, Health & Safety, Planning & Development, Housing, Procurement, Finance, HR, Water and Corporate have been completed, approved and issued out to local authorities. The Co Archivist assists staff on an ongoing basis with queries on the management of records and advises on the preparation of records both for destruction and for transfer to the Records Centre. Water Services and Operations are being assisted with drawing up a Classification Scheme for their records.

Decade of Centenaries 2021

Two projects are at present receiving the kind assistance of funding from the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media. In one project, Valuation Books from the early 1920s period have received conservation treatment and digitisation is currently being finalised. Quality checking and preparation work for placing online will commence at the end of September.

In another project, work is well advanced on producing a short-film and accompanying booklet on Dundalk Gaol during the Civil War period. This project will produce a definitive account of

the events in the gaol and local area at the time and will be made available online.



An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán
Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

Historic Structures Fund

A contractor for conservation repair works to the south gable wall of the Co Archives has now been appointed.

Research Enquiries

The County Archives has assisted with 143 research enquiries to date in 2021. These range from local history, professionals such as architects or solicitors, third level students and family history.

Donating Archives

Louth County Archives is interested in acquiring archives and records that relate to all aspects of the development of County Louth. Such archives may be from community groups, societies, individuals, local 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.

Louth County Arts Service

Creative Ireland

SEEK Festival

Following on from the 3 new murals created during the annual SEEK Festival in August, the organisers surpassed themselves with the latest mural at the Crowne Plaza in Dundalk. Featuring on the RTE news it is believed to be the tallest mural in Ireland and one of the tallest in Europe. The artistic theme chosen for the seismic wall is 'Lugh' (Lú) one of the most ancient and

prominent Gods in Irish mythology, and is famed as the namesake of County Louth. Painted by the Australian artist SMUG, the SEEK murals are proudly supported by Creative Ireland Louth. This one is a masterpiece and a wonderful welcoming site as you enter Dundalk. It is a true legacy piece for the county.



Mural at Crowne Plaza, Dundalk

Local Live Performance Scheme

Funded by the Department of Tourism, Arts, The Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, and supported by Louth County Council, live Events took place across the county in September. From Listoke Gardens in Drogheda, Ardee Church, Oriel Gaol and Highlanes Gallery to the Carlingford Heritage Centre, Spirit Store and An Tain Arts Centre we covered the length and breadth of the county. We had performances from SJ McArdle, AEMAK, The Mary Wallopers and Just Mustard to name just a few. There was also a classical ensemble night and a collection of poets who performed

some live spoken word. We delivered something for everyone.



Thanks to our event managers who ran both programmes in Dundalk and Drogheda. All the money went to artists, musicians, engineers, technicians and staging companies who are directly involved in the live performance industry and all are local to Louth, either from or living in the area. All events were free of charge for entry. Huge thanks to the department for the vital funding which has helped inject life back into the live performance sector, a much needed boost after the past 18 months.



An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán
Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

Culture Night

This year's Culture Night was on Friday 17th September and was a huge success with all events being booked out across the county on the night. We had walking Culture Trails and Food tasting events in Drogheda, Aerial Artists

and painting workshops in An Táin, exhibitions in the Millmount Craft Quarter and Dundalk Museum, storytelling in Dundalk Library and St Helenas Park was taken over by AAEX for the weekend with their arts festival.



Rounding off the night was the local Comhaltas who came together to perform live in the Oriel Centre and played their hearts out until the wee hours! The theme of this year's Culture Night was "come together again" and this was undoubtedly the case here in Louth. We would like to thank all the organisations who took part and delivered events on the night.

Creative Spark

Creative Spark Artists in Residence will showcase their works in an exhibition in the basement gallery in An Táin Arts Centre from 7th October 2021 until 6th November 2021. The Residency Programme is supported by Create Louth and this year's theme is "Together Again".

Carlingford Heritage Centre

Carlingford Heritage Centre are running their Autumn Series throughout September and October.

These Sunday sessions are hugely popular and highly anticipated events and run until the end of the month. Tickets can be bought online at <https://carlingfordheritagecentre.com/our-events/>

Sundays in Autumn Concert Series 2021
 Celebrating a Miscellany of Music, Song and Traditions

Sun 19th September 4.00pm - 5.00pm
Living Legend - Andy Irvine
 The man who brought eastern rhythms to the west and truly great music worldwide. A welcome return to Carlingford.

Sun 26th September 4.00pm - 5.00pm
Accordion and Guitar Duo - fusion of Ireland, World and Spirit Music. Sweet accordionist, Dermot Byrne and inspirational guitarist Steve Cooney - two towering musicians in creative Ireland today.

Sun 3rd October 4.00pm - 5.00pm
Manning Duo and Joshua Stewart - Celist Julie-Anne from Ravensdale and her first cousin, pianist Deirdre Brenner from Massachusetts, perform a programme of American chamber music with guest tenor Joshua Stewart hailing from Louisiana.

Sun 10th October 4.00pm - 5.00pm
Zoë Conway & John McIntyre - Wonderful to have Zoë and John, our musicians in residence, back playing on their home ground - cause indeed to celebrate!

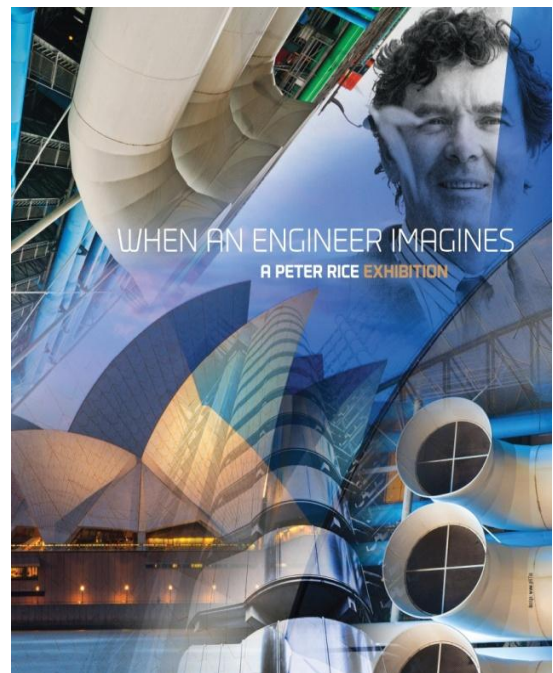
Sun 17th October 4.00pm - 5.00pm
Aris Nadirian, Roisin Toal Bradley & Brian Connor - Baritone Aris, Soprano Róisín and Pianist Brian - three wonderful musicians playing in sublime harmony.

Sun 24th October 4.00pm - 5.00pm
The Sands Family - Anne, Tom, Ben and Colum - the Sands Family - did someone say 'national treasure'? We'd subscribe to that. Expect to be uplifted.

Venue: Carlingford Heritage Centre
Ticket: €15 (€12 concession)
Artistic Directors: Zoë Conway & John McIntyre

Tickets can be bought:
 online: www.carlingfordheritagecentre.com
 e-mail: info@carlingfordheritagecentre.com
 phone: +353 42 9373454

County Museum



The exhibition 'When an Engineer Imagines' is coming to the end of its run at the Museum. It is scheduled to close to the public on Saturday

October 23. (This coincides with the anniversary of Peter Rice's death October 25 1992.)

Standards and Accreditation



In the past reference has been made to the Museum's participation in the Heritage Council's 'Museum Standards Programme for Ireland'. The Museum recently submitted its application for maintenance of its standards. There are 34 in total comprising all aspects of the Museum's operation – this includes policies in relation to collection, loan, education, exhibition, disposal as well as other areas of operation. The Museum recently had its site assessment which was performed online. From the initial feedback the assessor is more than happy with the professional manner in which the Museum continues to adhere to and maintain the standards required under MSPI. There are a number of requirements which need to be submitted but these should not inhibit the Museum successfully retaining its fully accredited status.

Appletree Project Exhibition



To coincide with Culture Night the Museum hosted an exhibition highlighting the work done as part of the Anti-clockwise project. The exhibition showcases the wonderful creativity from young people, as well as the work of the

various youth workers who coordinated the event.



Climate Action

As a member of the Quality of Life team the Museum continues to support corporate Climate Action Goals.'

Heritage Office

A great new video resource explaining the Irish language placenames of the Cooley Peninsula has been created by volunteers of the Carlingford Lough Heritage Trust. The video was launched on 24th September in the Heritage Centre in Carlingford and can be viewed here: <https://youtu.be/fLf6VCWqGtQ>.

This video is the culmination of a summer-long project funded by the Heritage Council looking at the wonderful place-names of the Cooley Peninsula and the real life stories that go with them. This is a film rendition of just a small part of the massive amount of information gathered in

the book “Minor place names of the Cooley Peninsula” by Andrew McGuinness and Eve Campbell, originally funded by the INTERREG IVA Mourne Cooley Gullion Geotourism Project.

Conservation assessments of Cappocksgate in Ardee, Saint Mary’s Abbey (Louth) and Darver graveyard boundary wall are ongoing. So too is the development of a Conservation and Management Plan for the Council’s Millmount Complex in Drogheda. These studies are part-funded by a grant from the Heritage Council, with the remainder of the costs being met by LCC’s Heritage and Facilities sections.

Also in Drogheda, it is hoped that conservation work on a section of the town wall that runs alongside Featherbed Lane, close to Laurence’s Gate, will take place soon. This project has been funded by the Community Monuments Fund (the CMF). The CMF is also funding conservation studies on two privately-owned towerhouses in the county (Taaffe’s Castle in Carlingford and Glaspistol, near Clogherhead), following successful applications on behalf of their owners by the Heritage Office.