



Comhairle Contae **Lú**
Louth County Council

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

**Dated 7th July 2023
7^ú Iúil 2023**

Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report – 30th June 2023
Tuairisc Bainistíochta ag an bPríomhfheidhmeannach – 30 Meitheamh 2023

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Support Services Seirbhís Tacaíochta

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, Water Services and Information & Communication Technology

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, Seirbhísí Uisce, agus Techneolaíocht Faisnéise agus Chumarsáide

Bernie Woods
Director / Stiúrthóir



Financial Report

Expenditure to 30th of June 2023 / Caiteachas go dtí 30 Meitheamh 2023

Section/Rannóg	Actual Expenditure to/Caiteachas lárthír go dtí 30/06/2023	Budget Expenditure/ Caiteachas Buiséadaithe 2023	% Spent to/ % Caite go 30/06/2023
Housing/Tithíocht	€20,028,962	€57,155,409	35%
Road Transportation & Safety/Iompar Bóthair agus Sábháilteacht	€10,784,659	€27,351,782	39%
Water Services/Seirbhísí Uisce	€4,020,760	€8,619,589	47%
Development Management/Bainistíocht Forbartha	€9,316,700	€23,666,110	39%
Environmental Services/Seirbhísí Timpeallachta	€9,046,592	€20,837,206	43%
Recreation and Amenity/Áineas agus Conláiste	€4,480,168	€10,361,634	43%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare/Talmhaíocht, Oideachas, Sláinte agus Leas	€728,433	€1,468,858	50%
Miscellaneous/Ilgheanaitheach	€8,012,663	€9,018,942	89%
	€66,418,937	€158,479,531	42%

Income to 30th of June 2023 / Ioncam go 30 Meitheamh 2023

Section/Rannóg	Actual Income to/Ioncam lárthír go dtí 30/06/23	Budget Income/Ioncam Buiséadaithe 2023	% Invoiced to/ % Sonraisc Curtha do dtí 30/06/23
Housing/Tithíocht	€19,411,855	€58,718,513	33%
Road Transportation & Safety/Iompar Bóthair agus Sábháilteacht	€3,049,522	€16,635,478	18%
Water Services/Seirbhísí Uisce	€3,300,083	€8,303,355	40%
Development Management/Bainistíocht Forbartha	€4,136,989	€14,403,330	29%
Environmental Services/Seirbhísí Timpeallachta	€816,705	€2,295,719	36%
Recreation and Amenity/Áineas agus Conláiste	€492,289	€1,208,037	41%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare Talmhaíocht, Oideachas, Sláinte agus Leas	€199,266	€543,472	37%
Miscellaneous/Ilgheanaitheach	€5,690,000	€11,296,768	50%
Rates/Rátaí	€34,469,827	€34,708,660	99%
General Purpose Grant (LPT)/Deontas Ilfheidhmeach	€4,933,099	€9,866,198	50%
Provision for Debit Balance/Soláthar faoi larmhéid Dochair	€0	€500,000	0%
	€76,499,635	€158,479,531	48%

The above is the current position as of the 30th of June 2023. 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 2023 is included in the above figure.

Collection rates as of 30th of June 2023 are as follows:

Debtors as of 30th of June 2023/Féichiúnaithe mar atá 30 Meitheamh 2023

	Opening Balance /larmhéid Tosaigh	Invoices/ Sonraisc	Receipts/ Fáltais	Write Offs/ Díscríobhanna	Closing Balance/ larmhéid Deiridh
Government Debtors/Féichiúnaithe Rialtais	€7,546,239	€39,120,840	(€36,020,641)	€50	€10,646,488
Other Authorities/Uadaráis Áitiúla Eile	€56,584	€433,500	(€405,417)	(€6,577)	€78,090
Rates/Rataí	€7,561,465	€34,469,827	(€20,205,962)	(€1,199,629)	€20,625,701
Rents/Cíosanna	€2,621,885	€7,323,393	(€7,202,538)	€968	€2,743,708
Loans/Iasachtal	€295,384	€990,513	(€996,460)	(€0)	€289,437
Development Levies/Tobhaigh Forbartha	€10,943,505	€4,173,384	(€1,290,007)	(€1,016,464)	€12,810,418
Fire Charges/Táilí Seirbhíse Dóiteáin	€717,575	€252,565	(€200,452)	(€37,508)	€732,180
Miscellaneous/Ilgheithreach	€1,804,894	€6,166,009	(€4,847,712)	(€23,451)	€3,099,740
Total Debtors / Féichiúnaithe Iomlána	€31,547,531	€92,930,031	(€71,169,189)	(€2,282,611)	€51,025,762

Above are the debtor balances as of 30th of June 2023. 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.

Budget 2024 - Local Property Tax (LPT) Public Consultation

The budget process for 2024 will begin shortly with the advertising of the Local Property Tax Public Consultation in July. The deadline for submissions from the public is Friday 25th of August 2023.

The report will go to you, the members, at the September meeting where you can decide whether to vary the basic rate of LPT by up to 15%. If the

rate is varied upwards 100% of the additional income will be available for the authority's own use. Similarly, if the rate is varied downwards the loss of income will be reflected in reduced LPT funding to the authority.

For every 1% of variation implemented it will result in +/- €92,763 for the authority.

Budget Workshop

We are going to hold a budget workshop for the members in September. Confirmation of the dates will be issued shortly.

Water Services

Uisce Éireann

Elected members are reminded to contact Uisce Éireann directly on 0818 178 178 or email localrepsupport@water.ie to log a query or any issue with water supply or quality or wastewater issues. Customers should contact the Uisce Éireann customer care helpline, which is open 24/7, on 1800 278 278 or 1890 378 378 (For hearing impaired customers with minicom equipment) or via Twitter @IWCare or @IrishWater or go to www.water.ie.

Water Quality / Cáilíocht Uisce

Intensive monitoring of water supplies in the County is conducted continually by the EPA on behalf of Louth County Council.

Water Conservation / Caomhnú Uisce

Water conservation is ongoing throughout the County.

Climate Change Adaptation Strategy /An Straitéis um Oiriúnú don Athrú Aeráide

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

Capital Programmes/Cláir Chaipitiúla

Uisce Éireann 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 / Cuíchóiriú Bhaile an Tallúnaigh

Detailed Design is being progressed by Ryan Hanley Consulting Engineers. LCC are liaising with Uisce Éireann and their consultants to progress the project. The project will include works at Mullacrew Reservoir with proposed new Pumping Stations at Allardstown and Bannons Cross. Planning

permissions have been granted for both Bannons Cross PS and Allardstown PS.

Omeath WWTW / Córas Cóireála Fuíolluisce Ó Méith

The Construction Phase at both the Pumping Station and Wastewater Treatment plant is currently progressing. The associated rising main is substantially complete. The Project is progressing and programmed for completion in October 2023.

Shared Waters Enhancement and Loughs Legacy (SWELL)

Phase 1 of SWELL Project is complete. Uisce Éireann are to consider further surface water separation.

Regional Sewer Network Rehabilitation / Athshlánú an Líonra Séaraigh Aitiúil

The 2023 Programme has now commenced with works currently underway in the Drogheda Agglomeration.

Dundalk Drainage Area Plan (DAP)/Plean Limistéar Draenála Dhún Dealgan

LCC continue to liaise with Uisce Éireann and their consultants on the Dundalk Drainage Area Plan (DAP). The Project Consultants are progressing the Hydraulic Model for the agglomeration.

Dundalk East Strategy - In advance of completion of Dundalk DAP/ Straitéis Dhún Dealgan Thoir

UÉ Consultants are progressing the design with Uisce Éireann, in consultation with Louth County Council. The project is currently at Detailed Design stage.

Coe's Road Pumping Station / Staisiún Ceadéalacháin Bhóthair Uí Chofaigh

Operational modifications to the Pumping Station were undertaken by EPS. Options for cleaning of existing large diameter sewer are being progressed within UÉ.

Dundalk LNRP / Clár um Atreisiúchan Líonra Áitiúil Dhún Dealgan

A Strategic Review is underway for Dundalk Wastewater Treatment Plant and Blackrock Wastewater Treatment Plant. LCC staff are assisting Uisce Éireann with this assessment. The Local Network Reinforcement Project (LNRP) will progress following the completion of the Blackrock/Dundalk Strategic Drainage Study.

North Drogheda Wastewater Network Strategy/Straitéis Líonra Fuíolluisce Dhroichead Átha Thuaidh

Atkins Consulting Engineers are progressing the detailed design of the North Drogheda Strategic Wastewater Network. The planning and procurement process is being progressed, including extensive engagement with developers and landowners' representatives. The Planning Submission for the proposed Pumping Station is being progressed with procurement to follow.

Quay St. / St. Helena Rising Main, Dundalk/Príomhphíobán Aníos Shráid na Cé/Naomh Helena, Dún Dealgan

Construction works are substantially completed along the Inner Relief Road and Quay Street. Mains testing is currently progressing with permanent reinstatement to be undertaken upon completion.

Greenmount WTW Upgrade/Uasghrádú Ionad Cóireála Uisce Dhroim Chatha

Uisce Éireann are progressing the design of proposed Upgrade Works at Greenmount Water Treatment Works. LCC continue to engage with the design team on relevant data gathering and site visits. Planning application is programmed for Q2 2023 with procurement to follow in late 2023.

Drogheda WWTP/Córas Cóireála Fuíolluisce Dhroichead Átha

Uisce Éireann are continuing to carry out works at Drogheda Wastewater Treatment Plant and is committed to resolving any potential odour issues arising from the wastewater plant or the network. Uisce Éireann continues to work closely with EPS Ltd who operate the plant on behalf of Uisce Éireann. Works have been undertaken within the

Wastewater Treatment Plant and at both the East Meath Pumping Station and the Bryanstown Pumping Station. The next phase of the Capital Programme involves works to the anaerobic digesters within the plant and works to manhole covers at various locations within the network.

Drogheda Drainage Area Plan (DAP)/Plean Limistéar Draenála Dhroichead Átha

Uisce Éireann have appointed consultants to undertake the Drogheda Drainage Area Plan (DAP). LCC staff are currently liaising with Uisce Éireann and the project consultants in various aspects of the project. The Catchment Planning Meeting and the Stage 1 Data Collection and Scoping Report were completed in Q1 2023. Design works are currently being progressed.

Cockle Hill PS Upgrade / Uasghrádú Stáisiún Ceadéalacháin Chnoic na Ruachan

The Detailed Design Report and Workshop 4 were completed in January 2023. The project commenced on site in mid-April and works are progressing at present.

Greenhills Sewer Replacement Project/Tionscadal an Áthsholáthair Séarachais na nGlaschnoc

UÉ contractors GMC commenced on site in February 2023. The project is programmed for completion within 8 months.

South Drogheda Wastewater Network Upgrade/Uasghrádú ar Líonra Fuíolluisce Dhroichead Átha Theas

The site investigation for the South Drogheda Wastewater Network has been completed and the draft design is progressing. Design Workshop 4 was completed on 7th March 2023.

Water Networks / Líonraí Uisce

Water Networks Programme/Clár Líonraí Uisce

Rehabilitation Programme/Clár Athshlánúcháin

Uisce Éireann undertook No rehabilitation works in June.

Lead replacement / Ionadú Luaidhe Back Yard Services / Seirbhísí Cúlchlóis

Uisce Éireann contractors undertook no find & fix type repairs in June.

First Fix / Chéad Shocrú.

Uisce Éireann contractors undertook 3 first fix type repairs in June.

Water Scouring Programme 2022 / Clar Sciúrtha Uisce 2022

Louth County Council Crew undertook uni-directional network flushing in Blackrock, Drogheda and Ardee in June.

Network Maintenance / Cothabháil Líonra

49 essential water tasks were carried out in June including 35 arising out of our Find and Fix program (7 in Dundalk, 3 in Termonfeckin, 6 in Drogheda, 2 in Collon, 1 in Carlingford, 1 in Tullyallen, 5 in Dunleer, 1 in Dromiskin, 2 in Cooley, 6 in Ardee, 1 in Clogherhead)

Planning & Water Connections / Pleanáil agus Ceangail Uisce

The Networks Section processed 18 new connections, 26 Pre-Connection Enquiries and 18 Planning Applications in June.

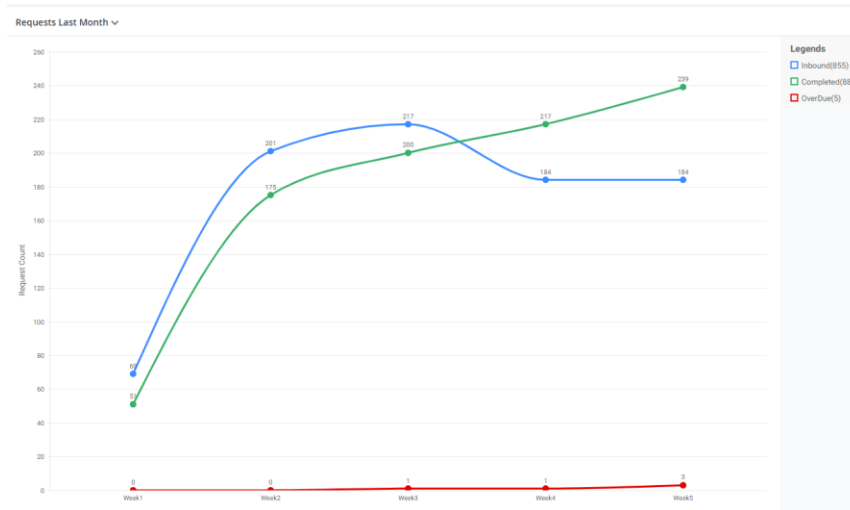
Service Maps / Léarscáileanna Seirbhíse

The Networks Section prepared 34 Service Maps in June.

Information & Communication Technology

Helpdesk

Between 01/06/2023 and the 30/06/2023 there were 855 support calls logged in the IT support system.



Application Software and Security were the two highest category of support requests in June.

	2023		Count
	Jun	Count	
Accessories	10	10	10
Application Software	214	214	214
Desktop/Laptop	13	13	13
General	27	27	27
Licensing	2	2	2
Mobile Devices	17	17	17
Network	54	54	54
Not Assigned	59	59	59
Printers	30	30	30
Security	266	266	266
Services	66	66	66
Telecoms	30	30	30
User Administration	67	67	67
Count	855	855	855

E-Mail Filtering System

Louth County Council continues to be targeted with phishing, and spam e-mail. We use an e-mail filtering system to scan all e-mail being received into the organisation. In June 35% of inbound e-mails were identified as potentially harmful.



Inbound Emails

157,949



Blocked Sender

995



Blocked at gateway

25,035



Blocked by spam /virus

28,347



Blocked by content rules

564



Potentially harmful emails

34.79%

Louth County Council Website

There were 14,206 unique page views of www.louthcoco.ie in June.

The most visited sections of the website were for online planning maps, vacancies, services, dog pound and library services.

Page URL	Pageviews	Unique Pageviews
/en/	3,344	2,631
/en/services/planning/online-planning-and-maps/	1,102	816
/en/louth_county_council/vacancies/	758	574
/en/services/	653	462
/en/home/	549	414
/en/services/dog-pound/	523	385
/en/services/planning/	429	316
/en/services/library/	441	295

ArcGIS Online – Public Planning Register Map Viewer

LCC provide an online Planning Register Map Viewer which can be accessed from the Online Planning Application and Maps section user Services> Planning on the Louth County council website. This application is updated regularly to include all planning applications. There were 1,622 views in June, an average of 56 views a day.



Cyber Security Awareness Training

LCC rolled out a second cyber security awareness training module to all Elected Members in June.

This Directorate has three key areas of responsibility:

Economic Development, including the Local Enterprise Office, and work involving partners and funding outside the state

Emergency Services – including the Fire Service, and Civil Defence, and the planning and implementation of strategies which help to keep our citizens safe.

Planning, the way in which we organise the built environment in our county

Tá trí eochairfhreagracht ag an Stiúrthóireacht seo:

Forbairt Eacnamaíoch, an Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil san áireamh, agus obair le comhpháirtithe agus foinsí maoinithe lasmuigh den Stát

Seirbhísí Éigeandála – Seirbhís Dóiteáin, agus Cosaint Shibhialta, san áireamh, agus ag pleanáil agus ag cur i bhfeidhm straitéisí chun chabhrú le muintir Chontae Lú a bheith slán sábháilte

Is é Pleanáil an slí a eagraímid an timpeallacht thógtha i gContae Lú

**Thomas McEvoy
Director / Stiúrthóir**



Economic Development

Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

- Part of our assessment of projects currently includes their impact on the environment.

- A key 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>.

Louth Economic Forum

The next meeting of the Louth Economic Forum is due to take place on Wednesday 26th July.

Economic input to Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP)

The Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2023 - 2029 process is ongoing.

Streetscape Enhancement Scheme 2022

24 applications were received by Louth County Council under the Streetscape Enhancement Scheme. 22 Letters of Offer have been issued to date and works have commenced on the ground.

All approved works must be completed and all final claims for payment must be submitted to Louth County Council by 5.00pm on Wednesday, 30th August 2023.

Business Improvement District Scheme

Following a period on public display the details of the proposal to extend the Business Improvement District for Dundalk for a further 5 years was noted by the Council at the May monthly meeting.

Following a further statutory period, notice was received from the BIDS Company on the 21st June to request Louth County Council hold a plebiscite of the Ratepayers of Dundalk. This process has now commenced.

Shopfront Improvement Grant Scheme 2023

The scheme opened to applications on Monday 3rd April, the closing date for receipt of applications is Friday, 29th September 2023.

For full details of the scheme please visit: <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/economic-development/business-incentive-schemes-retail-prospectus/>.

Sponsorship of Dundalk Chamber of Commerce Carlingford Lough Cross-Border Business Cruise

Louth County Council were delighted to be the principal sponsor of the Cross-Border Summer Business Cruise which was hosted by Dundalk Chamber together with Newry, Drogheda and Kilkeel Chambers and South Armagh Business Improvement Group. It took place on the 29th June.



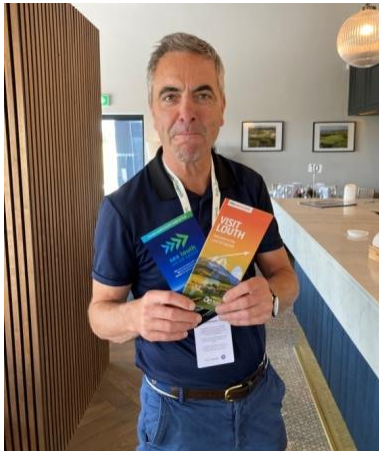
Dundalk Chamber of Commerce Carlingford Lough Cross-Border Business Cruise

Tourism

Seapoint – EU Legends Tour

Louth County Council were delighted to be one of the sponsors of the EU Legends Tour which took place from the 22nd to 25th June at Seapoint Golf links. Some well-known celebrities descended on Co. Louth to play in the celebrity pro-am which featured a host of well-known faces from the worlds of sport and entertainment, including actor James Nesbitt, Shay Given and Daniel O'Donnell. Visit Louth and sea louth had a stand at the tournament to welcome players and visitors to Co. Louth and

provide them with information on all there is to see and do in Co. Louth.



James Nebsitt at the EU Legends Tour, Seapoint



Susan L Murphy, Daniel O'Donnell and Colette Moss at the Visit Louth / sea louth stand at the EU Legends Tour, Seapoint



Shay Given at the EU Legends Tour, Seapoint

Festival Funding 2023

Applications for Festival Funding for small and large festivals closed on 31st March, 2023. 22 applications

were received under the small festivals and 8 under the large festivals initiative. After assessment 19 letters of offer were issued under the small festival funding and 4 letters of offer issued under the large festival funding. Keep an eye on www.visitlouth.ie and our social media channels where we will be promoting the festivals.

Dundalk Agricultural Show 2023

Visit Louth and sea louth had a stand at the Dundalk Agricultural Show to promote all the county has to offer. There was great footfall on the day with over 5,000 in attendance.



Noeleen Quigley, Susan Murphy and Susan L Murphy at the Visit Louth / sea louth stand at the Dundalk Agricultural Show

sea louth

Following on from the Nationwide Special on sea louth, all the tourist offices and many of the stamp collection points have reported a large increase in new passport and stamp collections. The Food Development Officer is working with some new prospective restaurants to become part of the trail. For more information on the scenic seafood trail please visit www.sealouth.ie.

Brigid 1500

Creative Spark have been appointed as the 'Artist in the Community' for Brigid 1500. This followed a request for tender and assessment. It will see 4 artists work with a number of community groups and schools between now and the end of 2023 conducting a variety of workshops to develop a series of art works centered on the theme of St. Brigid. It is anticipated that about 15 pieces of art ranging in various sizes, will be produced and which will then be exhibited at a unique exhibition next

February as part of the Brigid 1500 commemorations. Works are underway to plan a gala concert to close the Brigid 1500 commemorations.

Please check [Brigid 1500](#) for updates on upcoming events.

Táin Trail

Fáilte Ireland has engaged the Paul Hogarth Company to compile a report on the potential reimagining of the Táin Trail. They are engaging with Louth County Council and other Local Authorities along the trail. The report is due to be published later this year.

Destination Towns Capital Investment Programme

Ground works have commenced in Drogheda and the base stones for the Wayfinding signs are now in place. The signs are being manufactured at present. They are expected to be in place by the end of the summer.

Urban Animation - Lú Festival of Light, Drogheda

The 2023 festival will launch on the 27th October running through to the 4th November (no show on the 1st & 2nd November). Plans are underway for an even more spectacular event in 2023. Click [here](#) to see the video highlights of the 2022 festival.

Funding Opportunities

Night-Time Economy Adviser for Drogheda

Following a competitive process involving over 40 towns and cities in Ireland, Louth County Council's application to recruit a new Night-Time Economy Adviser was successful. Interviews were held week-ending 29th June and a panel formed.

Shared Island Funding

A request for tender was published on eTenders for a consultant to carry out a 'Feasibility Study to develop Carlingford Lough'. 2 no. tenders were received and a letter of intent has been issued.

Boyne Valley Flavours

Boyne Valley Flavours had several producers on display in the Louth County Council tent at Seapoint EU Legends Tour and table with a selection of all the produce available from the Boyne Valley Flavours producers.



Emma Gill, Food Development Officer at the Boyne Valley Flavours stand at the EU Legends Tour, Seapoint

Producers markets continue to take place across the Boyne Valley region with many exciting summer events due to take place. Please keep an eye on <https://boynevalleyflavours.ie/> for further information.

Local Enterprise Office

LEO 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'

LEO continues to host a Louth 'shop local' online directory available at: www.louthcoco.ie/ShopLocal. New businesses can be included on the Louth online directory by emailing: lookforlocal@leo.louthcoco.ie.

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 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.

4 no. Louth business were approved YTD.

LEO Louth continues to welcome new applications.

Business Advice Clinics

37 no. business advice appointments were provided by telephone and video conference to entrepreneurs throughout the County during June.

Business Training



During June LEO held 3 no. training courses delivered to 20 no. attendees. They included Branding Your Business, How to Sell Successfully and Search Engine Optimisation.

We have 2 more training courses planned for July. All scheduled training courses are available to view and 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 procured 3 no. consultants who are engaging with our portfolio clients in 2023. 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.

4 no. LEO client businesses are engaging on this programme.

Trading Online Voucher Scheme



LEO continues to offer the Trading Online Voucher Scheme to assist businesses get online or enhance their online presence, under which LEO can provide 50% support up to a maximum grant of €2,500.

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

The next workshop is on 6th July, 2023.

22 no. Trading Online Voucher applications have been received YTD.

North East Regional Development Plan to 2024

The North East Regional Development Plan working groups that have been set up in respect of four of the five strategic objectives continue to work together.

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.



11 no. businesses were appointed Mentors during the month of June.

Microfinance Ireland Business Loan



LEO Louth offers expert assistance to clients to assist the completion of Microfinance Loan Applications, Business Plans and Cashflow Projections. 8 no. applications were received YTD.

LEO mentors are continuing to assist MFI applicants.

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. The fee to participate in this programme has been reduced from €300 to €150 for businesses.

3 no. Louth businesses were approved YTD.

LEO Louth continues to welcome new applications.

National Enterprise Awards



Mr. Donal Geraghty of Seapark Consultancy and Mr. John Magee, Chair of the Local Enterprise Office Network

On 1st June the national final of the Local Enterprise Awards was held in the Mansion House, Dublin. Louth was represented by Donal Geraghty of Seapark Consultancy and the event was attended by the Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Conor Keelan, Niamh Dennehy from the LEO office and Thomas McEvoy, Director of Strategic Economic Development.

Energy Efficiency Grant



The Energy Efficiency Grant supports the investment in technologies and equipment identified in a Green for Micro Report, GreenStart Report or a SEAI Energy Audit with 50% of eligible costs up to a maximum grant of €5,000. The aim of the scheme is to reduce the impact of enterprises on the environment thereby increasing the agility and resilience of these businesses.

Eligible Costs include: Meters (electricity, gas, diesel, oil, water, steam & loggers) and installation costs, Smart energy controls e.g., heating, cooling, lighting, automatic on / off systems, parasitic load controls, upgrade lighting to LED (only as part of a package of eligible cost measures) and more. For more information on this grant please visit: <https://www.localenterprise.ie/Louth/Financial-Supports/Energy%20Efficiency%20Grant/>.

LEO Louth continues to welcome new applications.

Launch of Northeast Business Excellence Awards

On Thursday 1st June, 2023, Director of Services Thomas McEvoy and Gráinne McKeown of LEO Louth represented Louth County Council at the Launch of the Northeast Business Excellence Awards in the Highlanes Gallery, Drogheda. Louth County Council have partnered with Drogheda and District Chamber this year, and are sponsoring the 'Tourism Business of the Year' category and the 'Best Emerging New Business (Start-up)' category, which is supported by Louth Local Enterprise Office. Closing date for applications is 5.00pm on Thursday 31st August, 2023 and the winners will be announced at a Gala Dinner on Saturday 25th November, 2023, which will be hosted at the CityNorth Hotel.



*At the launch of Northeast Business Excellence Awards
Director of Service Thomas McEvoy, Hubert Murphy
President of Drogheda and District Chamber of Commerce
and Business Advisor, Gráinne McKeown, LEO Louth.*

Network Louth Awards

On behalf of Sarah Mallon and the Local Enterprise Office Louth, Gráinne McKeown attended the Network Louth Awards on Friday 26th May, 2023 in the Monasterboice Inn. As LEO Louth was a sponsor to the Louth Women in Business Network Sarah Mallon was Chair of the judging panel and Gráinne McKeown, presented an award on the night.



*Gráinne McKeown LEO Louth, Andrea McQuillan
Coppertops Digital Marketing and Niamh Pentony, Boyne
Ergonomics, President of Network Louth*

Launch of Northeast Creative Conversations Programme

On Friday 23rd June, 2023, Gráinne McKeown represented LEO Louth at the launch of the Northeast Creative Conversations Programme which was held in Creative Spark, Dundalk. This design cluster development programme is funded through the Creative Ireland Creative Communities Economic Action Fund 2023. This programme is a collaboration between the Local Enterprise Offices in the Northeast; Louth, Cavan and Monaghan (Lead Partner) along with the Creative Ireland Teams in each council, Creative Spark and Dundalk Institute of Technology provides a range of new supports to assist design practitioners to network and build capacity by enhancing their innovation and digital skills and to bring their work to new markets locally, nationally, and internationally.



*Gráinne McKeown, LEO Louth, Tara Humphreys, LEO
Cavan, Briege Quinn, LEO Monaghan and Sinéad
McKenna, LEO Monaghan.*

Creative Spark - FabLab Launch

Creative Spark launched their new enterprise FabLab in Dundalk on 8th June, with the aim of training SME's and innovators in digital design.

The new hub provides equipment, support and training in digital design and advanced fabrication, and aims to connect to the FabLab community in 100 different countries.

The Regional Enterprise Development Fund is administered by Enterprise Ireland.



Cathaoirleach Cllr. Conor Keelan, Ruairi Ó'Murchú, TD, Cllr. Seán Kelly, Oscar Diaz, Creative Spark Enterprise FabLab Education and Operations Manager and Frank Watters, Chair of Creative Spark Board



Aidan McKenna, Regional Manager, Enterprise Ireland, Oscar Diaz, Creative Spark Enterprise FabLab Education and Operations Manager, Joan Martin, Chief Executive, Louth County Council, Cathaoirleach Cllr. Conor Keelan, Mary Jo Hoyne, Head of Craft and Education, DCCI, Paul Quinn, Inspire 3D and Frank Watters, Chair of Creative Spark Board.

European Relations



Peace IV Programme

Muirhevnamór Community Centre Extension Opening Event & Celebration Event for PEACE IV

A successful opening event was held at Muirhevnamór Community Centre on 1st June. This opening event was attended by Cathaoirleach Cllr. Conor Keelan, Chief Executive Joan Martin and members of the PEACE IV Partnership Committee. Entertainment was provided by the Top Theatre School, Dundalk. Following this, the plaque was unveiled by Cathaoirleach Cllr. Conor Keelan. Light refreshments were provided as part of a gathering in the new extension and shared space.



From the Top Theatre School performing at the Opening of the Muirhevnamór Community Centre Extension

A celebration event for all PEACE IV projects was held on the 14th June at Muirhevnamór Community Centre. This event was to acknowledge the work and outcomes of all 16 projects approved covering the three themes of PEACE IV. Speakers included Cathaoirleach Cllr. Conor Keelan, Chief Executive Joan Martin, a representative from SEUBP and programme managers from some of the projects. There was also a video message from Minister Heather Humphreys TD and the launch of a brochure which catalogued all the projects that were part of the PEACE IV Programme. Musical entertainment was provided by Music Generation Louth with a harp performance while M.A.D. Youth Theatre provided a performance of An Táin. The brochure for the PEACE IV projects is available to view here:

<https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/sustainable-energy-cross-border-european-relations/peace-iv/news-events/lcc-peace-iv-programme-book-final.pdf>.



Councillors and Members of the PEACE IV Partnership gather at the Celebration Event for PEACE IV



M.A.D. Youth Theatre perform as part of the Celebration Event for PEACE IV

PEACEPLUS



Special EU Programmes Body
Comhlacht na gClár Speisialta AE
Special EU Skemes Boadie

The PEACEPLUS concepts continue to be assessed for eligibility and feasibility by the PEACEPLUS Partnership Committee and our consultants Blu Zebra as part of the stage two process in 2023. Please keep an eye on our website, via <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/economic-development/peaceplus/> and on <https://www.seupb.eu/PEACEPLUS>. Contact peaceplus@louthcoco.ie for further information.

Fire & Emergency Services

Fire Service

There was a dispute involving members of the Retained Fire Service during June. This involved industrial action from 6th June to 19th June in Louth and all other counties.

During this period training was suspended but retained members in Louth continued to attend life threatening calls. All emergency incidents in Louth had a fire service attendance.

Industrial action was suspended following a Labour Court intervention on 19th June and a full Labour Court hearing with the parties took place on 26th June. A Labour Court recommendation is expected to issue shortly for consideration by the parties.

There was an initial meeting between Louth County Council and the Design Team for the new fire station in Dunleer on 29th May and a preliminary design of the station and the site layout has been drafted. This is being considered by Louth County Council and a further meeting will be arranged. The purchase of the site is progressing between the Vendors solicitor and Louth County Council's solicitor.

The Fire Prevention Section is continuing its assessment of new accommodation for Ukrainian refugees, with a meeting arranged about a further site in Drogheda.

The attendance by 5 recruits at the fulltime recruits course in Dublin Fire Brigade is continuing until 22nd September.

A debrief took place in relation to an incident which took place at Funshog on 23rd June. A truck overturned and the contents spilled onto the roadway and grass verges, including oil and acid. The Fire Service, Operations and Environment Sections were involved, in addition to other agencies. Arising from this, the Council is developing an enhanced response for similar future incidents.

Major Emergency Management

There was a regional Major Emergency Management meeting on 6th June, chaired by Louth

County Council. This included planning for a major emergency exercise in Quarter 4 of 2023. A review of major emergency rest centres will be undertaken in Louth and other counties in the region.

Climate Adaptation Strategy

Work on the Climate Action Plan is continuing, to include Fire Service and Building Control requirements.

Civil Defence

Civil Defence training continued during June as follows:

- Weekly Training on Thursday nights
- First Aid Responder Training
- Food Safety & You Course

Medical cover was provided at events, as follows:

- Louth Legends Golf, Seapoint, for 7 days from 19th to 25th June

- Slane Concert
- Dundalk Agricultural Show
- National Radiation Monitoring Exercise

Building Control

Louth Building Control Officer took part at the CPD event in Athlone hosted by the National Building Control and Market Surveillance Office on 20th June. The Louth Building Control Officer was one of the key speakers at the event. His presentation was on an overview of the Disability Access Certificate (DAC) process of Part M of the Building Regulations. The event was a success with over 400 attendees in person and on line.

Louth Building Control also attended the Quarter 2 Regional National Building Control and Market Surveillance Office meeting.

Louth County Council will host the next regional meeting in September, 2023.

Planning

Development Management / Bainistíocht Forbartha

The Planning service indicators for Louth County Council for the month of May, 2023 are given below in tabular form. There were 99 planning applications received during the month of May of which 68 were valid. In addition there were 36 responses received during the month to requests for further information and 35 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	4	14	35	0	53
(ii) No. of decisions determined which	3	4	16	0	23

required further information / Lón na gcinntí inar iarradh breis eolais					
(iii) Percentage of applications refused / Céatadán na n-iarratas a diúltaíodh	0.00% (0)	35.71% (5)	8.57% (3)	0.00% (0)	15.09% (8)
(iv) Number of appeals determined / Lón na n-achomharc a cinneadh	1	1	1	0	3
(v) Percentage of decisions overturned on appeal / Céatadán na gcinntí a cuireadh ar ceal ar achomharc	0.00% (0)	0.00% (0)	0.00% (0)	0.00% (0)	0.00% (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	
	May 2023 / Bealtaine 2023	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo	May 2022 / Bealtaine 2022	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated / Lón na nGearán maidir le Forfheidhmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh	25	157	27	132
Number of Planning Enforcement cases received which didn't require follow up / Lón na gcásanna Fhorfheidhmithe Pleanála nuair nár ghá obair bhreise	1	1	0	0
Number of cases closed / resolved through negotiation / Lón na gcásanna dúnta / a réitíodh le hidirbheartaíocht	6	137	33	131
Number of Warning letters issued / Lón na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh	8	103	31	95
Number of Enforcement Notices issued / Lón na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh	2	7	2	5

Number of cases referred for legal proceedings / Líon na cásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí	0	3	1	3
Number of Injunctions / Líon na n-urghairí	0	0	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 April to June, 2023.

Tá na Táscairí Pleanála thíos liostaithe bainteach le Fógraí a eisíodh faoin Acht Rialtais Áitiúil (Seirbhísí Sláintíochta) 1964 sa tréimhse Aibreán go Meitheamh, 2023.

Description / Cur Síos	Enforcement in relation to Dangerous Structures/ Forfheidhmiú maidir le Déanmhais Contúirteacha	
	April - June Aibreán - Meitheamh 2023	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Dangerous Structures files opened / Líon na gcomhad Déanmhais Contúirteach a osclaíodh	11	14
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	21	24
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	1	1
Number of Dangerous Structures entered on the DS Register	11	14
Number of cases referred for legal proceedings / Líon na gcásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí	1	2
Number of Prosecutions / Líon na n-ionchúiseamh	0	0
Number of Dangerous Structures Removed from the DS Register	3	6
Number of cases closed / Líon na gcásanna a dúnadh	6	9

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	
	June 2023 / Meitheamh 2023	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated / Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidhmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh	1	4
Number of Planning Enforcement cases received which didn't require follow up / Líon na gcásanna Fhorfheidhmithe Pleanála nuair nár ghá obair bhreise	0	0
Number of cases closed / resolved through negotiation / Líon na gcásanna dúnta / a réitíodh le hidirbheartaíocht	0	4
Number of cases currently under investigation / Líon na gcásanna atá á n-imscúdú faoi láthair	21	23
Number of Warning letters issued / Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh	0	1
Number of Enforcement Notices issued / Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh	0	6
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

Pre-Draft Issues Paper – Dundalk Local Area Plan

The closing date for submissions / observations in relation to the Pre-Draft Issues Paper for the Dundalk Local Area Plan was Friday 30th June, 2023. The issues raised in the submissions are currently being considered and a report setting out the response to the submissions is being prepared.

Louth County Council Development Contribution Scheme

Submissions / Observations in relation to the Louth County Council Development Contribution Scheme are being accepted until 5.00pm on 14th July. Full details of the scheme are available at <https://consult.louthcoco.ie/>.

Placemaking and Physical Development

Deanamh Áite agus Forbairt Fhisiciúil

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:

- Roads and Local Services and Physical Development

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:

- Seirbhísí Bóithre agus Áitiúla, agus Forbairt Fhisiciúil

Willie Walsh

Acting Director / Stiúirthóir Gníomhach



Roads and Local Services

Municipal District of Dundalk

Dundalk and Cooley Area

Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair	Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí Cooley Isolated locations including Templetown, Gyles Quay, Shilling hill Ecco Rd Castletown Rd Old Newry Rd Riverside Crescent Ramparts Riverside Walk Racecourse Rd By Pass Under bridges at Fr Murray Pk Market Sq ,borders and Planters River Grids Bottle Banks cleared every day and area litter blown
Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí	Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht Bins emptied in the Cooley by outdoor staff, Carlingford , Omeath , Greenore , Templetown, Gyles Quay, bins empty over busy weekends , from May to last week in August

	<u>Dundalk</u> Nightly By Contractor 200 Bins Replaced Black bins. Installed two new bins at Park St and Roden Place Street Furniture and poles cleaned and painted All stickers and graffiti removed from poles around Market Sq, Clanbrassil St to Church St Solar Bins Power washed Tubs Cleaned and preparing for replanting
Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre	Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain <u>Cooley</u> None at this time <u>Dundalk</u> Contract Sweeper as per contract. Concentration on all the approach routes Town cleaned up after the event
Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra	Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain <u>Cooley</u> As per bin maintenance. <u>Dundalk</u> By Contractor Nightly as part of the street bin collections- 200 between dog bins and Litter Bins throughout the town
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrthála	Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain <u>Cooley</u> Carried out by Water Safety Officer in Cooley.

	<u>Dundalk</u> Ring Buoys checked Weekly. Some new lifebuoys buoys replaced. New rope attached to some Lifebuoys thrown into fountain removed and replaced in holders
Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne	Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil <u>Cooley</u> All checked by Area Staff <u>Dundalk</u> All checked by Area Staff

Location / Suíomh		Notes / Nótaí
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	<u>Cooley</u> Preparation works for 2023 surface-dressing, as per roads works program, S.D , R.I, road repair Greenore , road repair bush L,S 7070 Pro Works J.C,B. Ongoing patching of local roads maintenance. <u>Dundalk</u> Tar Patching using the bagged tar at Castletown Rd, Point Rd , Carrick Rd, Waterville, Castle St, New Coes Rd, Ardee Rd, Culvert at Castletown Rd, Coulter Place , Lennon Melia Aghameen Corner of Hoey's lane	Road repairs
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	<u>Cooley</u> Piedmont Lordship L.S 70780 as per surface-dressing preparation <u>Dundalk</u> None at this time	
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	<u>Cooley</u> None this month	

	<u>Dundalk</u> None at this time Grass cutting in all areas	
Footpath Maintenance / Cothabháil Cosán	<u>Cooley</u> None this month <u>Dundalk</u> None at this time	
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráichta	<u>Cooley</u> None this month <u>Dundalk</u> On Going Repairs Bulb Replacement Traffic Lights at Carrick Rd and Ice House Hill repaired	
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	<u>Cooley</u> None this month <u>Dundalk</u> None at this time	
Signage / Comharthaíocht	<u>Cooley</u> None this month <u>Dundalk</u> Yield Signs Replaced, Replaced Bollards on Newry Road, Park Drive Chevron Signs . New Signage in areas replaced and adjusted	
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	<u>Cooley</u> Tyres at flagstaff removed by area crew, <u>Dundalk</u> Ashling Pk Under the bridge at Ecco Rd Creative Spark Lands Hoey's Lane, Mooreland Rd Inner Relief Rd Racecourse RD Ath Leathan estate Mount Ave By Pass at WUXI Roundabout Old Coes Rd	

	Bags of litter picked up from all estates weekly	
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí	Cooley None this month. Dundalk Cleaned Graffiti of Road Signs Graffiti cleaned from Play area at New play park on the Marshes.	



Cleaned and repainted bins at Market Square and Crowe Street



Works at Feede Loop

Blackrock, Faughart and North Mid-Louth Area

Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair	Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí N/A
Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí	Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht • Blackrock – 6 days/week

	• Knockbridge – once a week • Dromiskin – once a week • Tallanstown & Louth Village – once a week
Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre	Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain N/A
Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra	Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain N/A
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrhála	Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain • Blackrock (7No.) checked weekly • Annagassan (11No.) checked weekly
Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne	Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil • Killanny, Louth Village, Castlebellingham – checked weekly • Blackrock – checked weekly

Location / Suíomh		Notes / Nótaí
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	Tar patching carried out in preparation for surface dressing on road number Rds 170 and 178 Louth Village – Readypenny Rd201 Edmundstown and Rd171 Tallanstown – Ardee, Rd144 Loughtate and Rd206 Crowmartin, Ls-7112 Castle Roche hackballscross, R171 knockbridge Road from motorway Bridge to Fane Bridge, L-3168 Gibstown Ardee Road. LP-3122 from Balrobin Kilkerley to County Boundary Monaghan Border, LS-7127 from Balrobin to Kilkerley Chapel, LS-7128 Tankardsrock Kilkerley, LS-7107 Skyhill. R171 Knockbridge from Motorway Bridge to Fane Bridge, L-3168 Gibstown Ardee Road	Road repairs and patching & cleaning up
	N/A	Tree pruning/vegetation maintenance/verge trimming
	N/A	Resurfacing/overlay works (by contract)
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	Rd205 Flowery Cross – Churchtown, Rd190 5 Crossroads – Newrath, Rds 200/199 Reaghstown – Springhill, Rd201 Edmundstown, Rd210 Pepperstown Cross – Ballybaille Cross, Ferns Blackrock, Ard NA Mara Blackrock, R177 Armagh Road kilcurry area, R171 Knockbridge Road, L-3168 Gibstown Ardee Road	Drainage maintenance – cleansing and gully cleaning, opening outlets & storm drains, preparation for surface dressing.
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha		Clearing fallen trees & debris

Footpath Maintenance / Cothabháil Cosán	N/A	Footpath renewal
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Trácht	Xerox junction & Felda	Major repair works completed.
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	Armagh Road Armagh Road	Renewal of junction markings Renewal of existing and provision of additional road markings
Signage / Comharthaíocht	Mills of Louth – Killany	Cleansing/repair/replacement New signage
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	LS-7103 Carn More Kilcurry, LS-7089 Faughart Upper Old Graveyard, LP-3167 Stephenstown Road Knockbridge, LS-7162 Clermont Road Haggardstown Blackrock, Tallanstown	Collection of dumped waste for disposal. Collection & disposal after community clean up
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí	N/A	

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 Dunleer town Collon				37 Daily 20 Tuesday and Thursday 3 Tuesday and Thursday
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
				N/A
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, & exercise equipment at both locations.

Location / Suíomh		Notes / Nótaí
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	R170 at Ardee, Brannigans cross to white river, R166 at Annagassan, LS 6272-0 Mosstown, R132 at Cappoge, Oriel road Collon, LS-5210 Gilbertstown, LP 22555-0 Mullacurry R170 John Street Ardee LS 6220-0 Dunany LS 6223-0 Corstown LS 6222-0 Corstown	
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	LS 6272-0 Mosstown, LS-6269-0 Knockaleva lane R132 at Cappoge LS 6220-0 Dunany LS 6223-0 Corstown LS 6222-0 Corstown	
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	N/A	
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	N/A	
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráichta	N/A	
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	N/A	
Signage / Comharthaíocht	LP-1233-7 Mullanstown Ardee 2 number bins at Dunleer Flower basket pole at R132 Dunleer Town Bollard on the R132 Dunleer	

Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	N/A	
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí	N/A	

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. • Power washing paving at West St – on-going during dry spell. • Placing of planters on North Strand, Fr Connolly Way, Window boxes on bridges and hanging baskets town centre.	
Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí	Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht	
Port Oriel Pier, Clogherhead	7 Daily	
Clogherhead Beach	8 Daily	
Port Beach	6 Daily	
Termonfeckin	6 Daily	
	3 Daily	

**Baltray
Seapoint Carpark**

3 Daily

- Drogheda town centre Litterbins emptied daily circa 60 early mornings.
- 234 litter bin (including 10 no. Solar bins) are emptied weekly in town.
- Dominic's Park & Mell river walk emptied daily.
- South Louth Drogheda Municipal district rural area's public Litter Bins are emptied twice a week or daily when needed especially at beaches/Portoriel/Seapoint/Termonfeckin/Baltray – at least 40 bins per day.
- Approach roads in Drogheda town emptied twice a week.
- Bin upgrade and maintenance ongoing + street furniture.
- Additional order placed for 12 no. Street bins, to up-grade existing at various locations.

**Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain
Bóithre**

- 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., Teromenfeckin, Baltray, Sandpit, Monasterboice, Tullyallen & Tenure.
- Drogheda town Boyne river walkways are swept 3 times per week (Monday, Wednesday & Friday).
- Preparation for Blessing of Graves at St Peters, Calvery and Newtown / Termonfeckin.
- Hedge cutting at St Dominick's Pk and Beamore Rd.

			• New benches at St Dominick's Park, ramparts and Grove Hill. • Removal of graffiti at back lanes off Shop St. • Painting of pedestrian barriers at Magdaline Tower and poles at Dyer St and Fr Connolly Way. • Drogheda Ranked 27th in IBAL, clean to European Norms. • Particular attentions on road sweeping to Dual Carriageway, St Peters Hill, North Rd and Dublin Rd.
Emptying Receptacles / Salachar Madra	Dog / FolmhúAraidí	Waste	Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain Empty about 35 No. once a week, washed and disinfected.
Ring Buoy Checking / Baoithe Tarrthála			Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain • 89 ring buoys checked each week Town area (Thursday) • 9 ring buoys checked each week at Rosehall (Friday)
Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Trealamh Áiteanna agus Corpacmhainne			Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil • Between 4 & 5 daily (4 playgrounds in Drogheda town, Skate park, adult exercise equipment). 3 Playgrounds in Drogheda rural area) + disinfected.

Location / Suíomh		Notes / Nótaí
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	Drainage Works - Gully cleaning at Trinity St & Grove Hill – planned cleaning for Bridge of Peace. LCC's crew Pot hole repairs (Planned) June / July - Flaxmill Lane - St Laurence Pk - Entrance to Shramrock Villas. - Pearse Pk - Ashfield - Windmill rd / Anville Cressent Junction - Ballsgrove at Shops - Westcourt Road Works Program – Resurfacing works at - RWP 2023 – Commence at Crosslanes 5/7/23 and Moneymore Housing Estate 17/7/23. - CIS – Letter of intent to proposed contractor. L-6284-18 Dardisrath L-2275-24 Kellystown R-168-30 Collon to Tullyallen L-2318-17 Ardagh L-6317-0 Sheepgrange LP-2308-24 Cockle Road LP-2308-0 Carstown LP-2304-0 Sheetland road LS-6305-0 Seapoint road LS-6280 Bellcotton LP-2275-24 Harestown	
		Surface Dressing Prep Surface Dressing Prep Surface Dressing Prep Surface Dressing Prep Surface Dressing Prep Golf Masters Golf Masters Golf Masters Golf Masters Kilsaran SLA 2023 RWP Kilsaran SLA 2023 RWP

Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	Annual Drogheda Gully cleaning program ongoing • Tender documents to be advertised on supplygov.ie. • Gully cleaning at Trinity St & Grove Hill – planned cleaning for Bridge of Peace. L-6284-18 Dardisrath L-2275-24 Kellystown R-168-30 Collon to Tullyallen L-2318-17 Ardagh L-6317-0 Sheepgrange	Surface Dressing Prep Surface Dressing Prep Surface Dressing Prep Surface Dressing Prep Surface Dressing Prep
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	• Section 70 Donore Rd / Marley's Lane • Section 70 10 & 11 Forest Edge, Stameen	
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	Footpaths maintenance • Ballsgrove & Grove Hill • Placing of new benches at Rampart Walk.	
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá	• DR03 – R132 James St / Scotch Hall jct (Loose/open red light door) • DR48 - Greenhill ped crossing(Green lamp out) • DR11 – R132 @ North Rd Ped(Green man lamp out) • DR07 – R132 @ Cement Rd / Crosslane (Phase A fail green)	
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	• New DY Lines at Georgian Close, Housing Estate.	Road marking survey in progress.

Signage / Comharthaíocht	Maintenance • General maintenance and washing of signage in Town Centre. • New Directional signage on West St. • Painting and apply reflective bands to pedestrian railing at Watery Hill Steps. • New bus-bay sign at St Laurence St. • New Stop Sign at Weir Hope. • New loading bay sign at Shop St. • New directional signage at St Dominick's St. • Disabled bay signage at Stockwell Lane. • Load bay and Tide warning sign at Fr Connolly Way. • Directional signage and no access at Palace St.	
Weed killing / Marú fialí	Parks Section has commenced weed control in Drogheda Town.	
Litterbin cleaning disinfecting / Díghalrú glantacháin boscaí bruscair	None at this time in Drogheda town	

Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	Rathmullen Park	Examinations carried out
	Various location of dumping	Inter departmental effort to address issues through services of TLO and anti social officer plus through waste management and warden service.
	Abandoned Vehicle	At various locations. Report issued to waste management for follow up.
	Mell car park	This area has become a hot spot and various issues are being looked in order to identify culprits.
	Bryanstown cross route	Complaints from MOP regarding house waste been disposed off.
	King street	Dumping no evidence
	St Laurence Street	Waste management and warden service working to identify apartment mgt companies.
	Marley's Lane	Dumping no evidence
	Various locations	Shopping trolleys dumped. FPN issued.
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí	No new reports of same	



Kilsaran Works on the LP LS-6280 Bellcotton and LP-2275-24 Harestown Roads



Works on the Boyne Business Park Link Road

Physical Development

Roads Projects

Narrow Water Bridge

The Suitability Assessment Documentation submissions, to prequalify a panel of Contractors capable of constructing the project, was completed and a restricted panel established. Tender Documents have been released to this restricted panel on with a return date of 6th Oct. 2023.

Engagement with DFI Infrastructure, Loughs Agency, NPW, etc. is ongoing to discharge the Conditions of Planning. Land Valuation Services have been procured. Tenders have been received for a Category 3 Bridge checker to be appointed pending completion of a tender assessment.

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

The Oral Hearing was held by An Bord Pleanála regarding the CPO process on the 10th of January. LCC now awaits the outcome of this hearing. The inspector's report is completed and is currently awaiting the Board decision. The design team continues to

engage with the landowners, their agents and other stakeholders. Technical acceptance report has received initial approval for structures. Archaeological test trenching package is currently being prepared for field work and testing. A tender is currently being issued for geotechnical advice for some soft soils areas. Louth County Council has written to An Bord Pleanála regarding a progression of the Board decision.

N2 Ardee to Castleblayney Road Scheme

A request for additional funding of €600,000 to complete the Phase 3 design work was submitted to TII on the 8th of March 2023. A response has not yet been received.

A request was issued to Minister Eamon Ryan on the 9th March 2023 requesting an urgent meeting with Monaghan County Council. No response has been received.

Due to ongoing changes in Government policy and design standards, additional design works are required, and the Project Team has indicated that more funding will be required to close out and complete the current Phase 3 design process. Monaghan County Council has requested clarification from TII as to whether additional funding will be provided in this regard if required.

The latest update to the Design has been completed and was published on the Project Website Monday 27th February. The updated design follows on from feedback provided from the public, safety issues identified as part of the Road Safety Audit and input provided by the environmental assessment team. An Elected Representative briefing on the design updates took place. The N2 Project Team can be contacted by landowners and members of the public via the N2 Project Phonenumber 087 340 3786, or email: ArdeeCastleblayney@N2MonaghanLouth.ie.

N52 Ardee Bypass

A local environmental group were granted leave in the High Court for a Judicial Review against An Bord Pleanála (ABP) and the Boards directions to Louth County Council concerning the preparations of an EIAR and NIS. The matter came before the High Court on the 20th June for mention and was adjourned to the next available Tuesday 18th July 2023 on the basis that the State Respondents are to have filed their opposition papers by then. The Scheme is currently at a standstill until the resolutions to these proceedings are overcome.

N2 Collon Safety Scheme

Works on the pedestrian crossing are now completed. Additional road markings are scheduled to commence. TII has now made funding available.

Port Access Northern Cross Route

A Notice to enter was issued by Louth Co. Council to the landowners affected by this phase of the project. Clonmel Enterprises are working on the section of road R132 to the Ballymakenny Road including upgrades to the Ballymakenny Rd and Twenties Lane.

Stream works are now complete, and earthworks are now substantially complete with import of suitable material from adjacent

housing schemes. Works are ongoing on the installation of a 450mm diameter watermain along the route for Irish Water and ducting for ESB and telecom. Binder and base layers have been laid on the new route between Twenties Lane and Ballymakenny Road.

Realignment of the Twenties Lane is well advanced in partnership with CFS Homes. The first phase of realignment is open to traffic. The remainder of the road is being realigned by Clonmel Enterprises.



Ballymakenny roundabout construction

Boyne Enterprise Link Road

The contractor has commenced work on the LCC owned lands section on 24th April 2023 with a proposed programme of 16 No. weeks to complete. Currently site clearance, service installation and road make up is in progress. Ongoing consultations are taking place with stakeholders / landowners, a valuation process has started. Other mechanisms on acquiring the lands are also been explored.



Road/Footpath Installation

R178 Cavan to Dundalk Strategic Route Improvement Scheme

Strategic Assessment Report (SAR) for DTTAs progress on two of the schemes, namely D7 & D6 towards feasibility stage. Letter of acceptance has been issued and the Consultants have begun preparation of SAR report. Draft Report has been submitted to LCC. LCC have proof read and Consultants have been instructed to update any amendments with the aim to submit to Department by late June/early July.

Greenways

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

Tender for the works contract for Section 1 Carlingford to Carlingford Marina and Section 2 Omeath to the Border has closed. Tender assessment is ongoing and contractor appointment in July.

The CPO was confirmed by An Bord Pleanála, with modifications on the 8th December 2022, and published by LCC on the 18th of Jan. Landowner engagement has commenced on

the acquisition of the land parcel. LCC have appointed a land valuer for the land acquisition in Section 2. Notice to treat was issued by LCC to the Landowners in the CPO.

A revised major planning application was submitted in Feb 2023 and granted in March. The minor planning application for the route change will be submitted in April 2023 and it is anticipated that Planning Permission in N.I. will be decided upon in Q3 2023 and works commencing in Q4 2023.

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

TII Funded Greenways

Dundalk Bay to Carlingford Greenway

This is an amalgamation of the Carlingford – Templetown Greenway with the Dundalk to Templetown Greenway projects. Draft Strategic Assessment Report (SAR) approved by TII.

The 2023 Grant Allocations to Local Authorities for National Roads, Active Travel and Greenways has allocated €700,000 to the scheme. The allocation allows for the procurement of consultants for environmental studies on the scheme. All background information and public consultation data gathered to date under the Carlingford Templetown will be utilised. It's envisaged that a Public Consultation event on the overall study area will be held towards the end of Q2 beginning of Q3. The delivery of this scheme going forward will be under the TII Project Management Guidelines.

Tender Returns closed on 7th June 2023 for design and environmental consultant. The Tender Assessment Period (which includes 2 week Alcatel Period) is approx. 6 weeks with award and commencement near the end of July 2023.

The Total Performance Period for the Contract is 40 months (Phase 1 – 6mths, Phase 2 – 8 mths, Phase 3 – 20 mths, Phase 4 – 6 mths).

ORIS Scheme

The Beach Accessibility Project relates to better accessibility to the beach areas at Templetown, Clogherhead and Port beaches. The Preliminary designs are now complete. Consultant has made the final amendments to the screening reports – all three schemes have screened out and are now proceeding with the detailed design. A draft preliminary design is now complete and is currently being reviewed.

LIHAF Projects

LIHAF Access Road at Newtown, Drogheda

Following discussion with the developer and the Department of Housing this scheme is being progressed by the developer assisted by offset of development levies under agreement with LCC. Works have commenced earthworks and drainage works are currently taking place on the off line section.



Earthworks in progress



Pipework in progress Newtown

LIHAF Mount Avenue Improvement

Gibson Bros Ireland have completed hedge clearance works and tree removal following ecological surveys and potential bat roost locations. A scheme archaeologist has monitored the soil stripping works. A project supervisor design phase (PSDP) has been appointed. A sod turning event took place on Monday 24th April.

A road closure is in place from Monday the 17th April. Drainage works, gas mains, watermain are ongoing along with boundary wall construction, earthworks and site services.



Boundary Wall construction

Specific Bridge Improvement Grants

Obelisk Bridge

Tender documents have been issued to the Market and were received on the 21st April 2023.

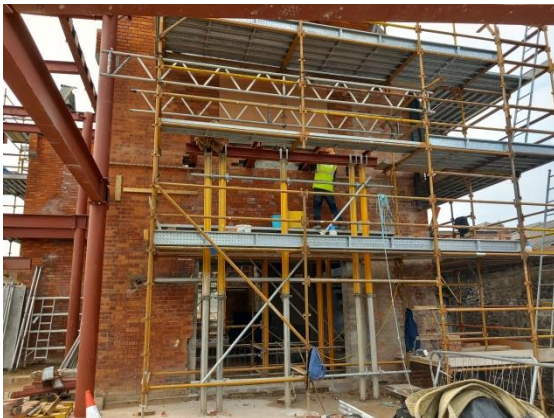
Tender Report is near at finalisation and approval stage. The Department of Transport are to be notified to seek their approval to proceed to the construction stage. A Road Closure with traffic diversion will be required in order to carry out the works.

Corporate Projects

Redevelopment Fair Street Offices, Drogheda

Block B: Council Chamber Building

Brick Arch infill North Elevation completed. Roof works ongoing. Conservation strengthening works to Eastern external wall commenced.



Block N New Link Building

Steel Portal Frame erected and hollowcore slabs installed. Floor Screed shutters and reinforcement commenced. Internal wall blockwork construction commenced. ESB roof slab poured Drainage pipework completed.

Block C Community Services Building

Lift Shaft Wall pour lift 2 completed and roof steel installed. Building up of external wall construction continued. Conservation works are ongoing. Raking out Brickwork for repointing and various structural remedial strengthening works ongoing. Roof “mock up” completed.



Block N New Link Building- Stairs and hollowcore slabs



Block n New Link Building- Hollowcore Slabs



Block C Community Services Building- Lift Roof Slab Construction

Dunleer Fire Station

A preliminary meeting with Design Team has taken place. Initial proposed drawings have been submitted for LCC comments. The final purchase of the lands process is on-going.

Louth Flood Defence and Coastal Erosion Projects

Dundalk and Ardee Flood Relief Projects

Consultant Engineers Binnies/ Nicholas O'Dwyer Joint Venture continue working on Stage 1 of the Project. The draft Hydraulic modelling Report is now complete and being reviewed by LCC/OPW. Preliminary Options Assessment for an extensive range of possible Flood Relief Measures has commenced and will continue throughout the next few months.

The Draft Options Report has been delivered for Ardee and is being finalised.

Monthly project briefing notes are being issued to the current relevant stakeholders. The Project website being hosted by OPW can be reached at: www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/dundalk/home .

Drogheda and Baltray Flood Relief Project

The Consultant Engineers RPS are continuing work on Stage 1 of the Project. The Draft Hydrological Report is now completed and is

being reviewed by OPW/LCC. Options assessments have begun and will continue over the next few months.

Ground Investigation works have started and will continue throughout the Summer at numerous locations.



Ground Investigation works Drogheda Flood Relief Scheme

The EIA Scoping consultation has been completed with a report due shortly. The Project website being hosted by OPW is now complete and can be reached at: www.droghedabaltrayfrs.ie

Carlingford and Greenore Flood Relief Project

OPW have commenced a data review of the Carlingford and 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. Two temporary rain gauges are now operational, installed at Carlingford Fire Station and at the rear of Carlingford Library for rainfall data collection, providing additional data to inform project design and development

Marine Projects

Coastal Protection Works

Applications for the 2021 OPW Minor Works funding were submitted for Coastal Protection

Projects in 3 separate locations, Omeath, Bellurgan and Ballagan.

OPW have confirmed Funding Approval of €62k for Omeath. The Ecologist works have been procured and are underway.

In February the OPW approved €135k funding for proposed works at Bellurgan. Environmental studies have been procured and are underway.

The OPW has confirmed Funding Approval for Ballagan Coastal Protection Works of €100,472, the works will involve replacement and repair of sections of the existing sea defences.

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.

A contractor has been appointed and work is due to commence on the 10th July.

Coláiste Chú Chulainn and 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 items to be completed also.

Faster Project

Electrical Vehicles Charging Points



Louth County Council and other associate partners have completed preliminary assessments of sites to generate an approved site list of 25 EV Rapid Chargers across the border counties, which has now been released. The full list and maps across all regions can be view on the project website by clicking on the below link:

<https://www.fasterevcharge.com/provisional-locations-for-faster-project-charging-stations-revealed/> .

Louth County Council have advertised the Pre-Qualification Questionnaire and Assessment invitation to Participate in Dialogue for the project's Design Build Operate contract, which was advertised on ETenders and OJEU until 17th April. Competitive dialogue has taken place on the week ending 30th June 2023.

Information is available at the following outlets:

Channel	URL
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/FasterEVCharge
Twitter	https://twitter.com/FasterEVCharge
Instagram	https://www.instagram.com/fasterevcharge/
LinkedIn	https://www.linkedin.com/company/faster-project
TikTok	https://www.tiktok.com/@fasterevcharge
YouTube	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0FqxddlpA7WXJr9ShzUaxQ



Louth County Council is currently assessing sites for installation of 20 EV charging points, as funded through SEAI. The goal of this funding stream is to support people who cannot easily provide their own EV charger at

home, such as terraced housing or apartments. <https://www.seai.ie/grants/home-energy-grants/>

PHASE 6: Construction and Implementation
PHASE 7: Close-out and Review

Active Travel Investment Program

2023 Budget Allocation

On the 1st February 2023 The National Transport Authority (NTA) awarded Louth County Council a budget allocation of €5.3 million. This budget is to proceed with the design, planning and detailed design of twenty four (24) number Active Travel Projects.

The Active Travel Projects funded are for promoting Walking and Cycling Infrastructure and development of transport studies for Drogheda and Dundalk.

The current status of the ongoing Active Travel projects are as outlined in the table below. For ease of referencing, the National Transport Authority (NTA) allocate projects into particular Cost Bands depending on the total estimated project cost including, fees, land acquisitions and constructions as follows;

Band 1 €0 - €0.5M;
Band 2 €0.5 - €10M;
Band 3 > €10M;

They also divide the involvement of a Capital Investment project into a seven-phase process, i.e. (Phase 1 to Phase 7 inclusive) with seven Gateways Reports i.e. hold points, where local authorities are to prepare and submit Gateway Reports for sign-off before obtaining approval to advance to the next phase.

The seven different phases are as outlined below...

PHASE 1: Scope and Purpose
PHASE 2: Concept Development and Option Selection
PHASE 3: Preliminary Design
PHASE 4: Statutory Processes
PHASE 5: Detailed Design and Procurement

Active Travel Projects

Project Name	Allocation 2023	Project Band	Current Phase	April 2023- Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions, subject to NTA approval of Gateways
Drogheda: St. Dominick's Bridge.	€111,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 7 - Close Out and Review	Works are 100% completed. The Bridge is open to pedestrian and cycle traffic. LCC have requested attendee / invite list for an official opening i.e. Minister of Transport and/or NTA personnel.	Substantially completed in November 2022
Drogheda: R132, Bridge of Peace to Train Station (incorporating Marsh Road)	€415,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	Revised Gateway 2 Report submitted to the NTA in Feb 2023. Junction modelling is currently on-going. It is anticipated to have an on-line briefing on the proposed scheme to Drogheda Municipal District Councillors in early August in advance of early public consultations.	Proposed Part 8 display Q3 2023
Drogheda: R166 Termonfeckin Rd, design.	€100,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	RPS has commenced design and are currently developing options. 1. GPS surveys have all been completed. 2. Traffic surveys, junction modelling & Archaeologist assessment have all been completed. It is anticipated to have an on-line briefing on the proposed scheme to Drogheda Municipal District Councillors in early August in advance of public consultations.	Proposed Part 8 display Q3 2023
Drogheda: R168 Collon rd, Hill of Rath RAB and Rosehall RAB.	€100,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	RPS have commenced design and are currently developing options. 1. GPS surveys have all been completed. 2. Traffic surveys, junction modelling & Archaeologist assessment have all been completed.	Proposed Part 8 display Q3 2023
Drogheda: Rathmullan Road including Marley's (Pathfinder Project)	€400,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	RPS have commenced design and are currently developing options. 1. GPS surveys have all been completed 2. Traffic surveys, junction modelling & Archaeologist assessment have all been completed in Nov 2022. Further GPS surveys, Traffic surveys & junction modelling of Marley's Lane / Donore Road Junction undertaken in February / March 2023. On-line briefing held on Monday 19 th June 2023 on the proposed scheme to Drogheda Municipal District Councillors	This received Pathfinder status approval on the 14 th Oct 2022. Proposed Part 8 display early Q3 2023
Drogheda Dublin and North roads, design.	€200,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	RPS has commenced design and are currently developing options. On-line briefing held on Monday 19 th June 2023 on the proposed scheme to Drogheda Municipal District Councillors	Proposed Part 8 display Q3 2023
Drogheda: Boyne Business Park Link Road.	€250,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 6 - Construction	Please refer to relevant update in this report.	Part 8 Completed

Project Name	Allocation 2023	Project Band	Current Phase	April 2023- Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions, subject to NTA approval of Gateways
Dundalk: R132 Inner Relief Rd. (Pathfinder Project)	€550,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 2 / 3 Concept and Options / Preliminary Design	Revised Gateway 2 Report approved by NTA Mid-May. Junction modelling is currently on-going. It is anticipated to have an on-line briefing on the proposed scheme to Dundalk Municipal District Councillors in Mid-July in advance of early public consultations.	Proposed Part 8 display early Q3 2023
Dundalk: Dublin Rd Xerox Junction to Ladywell Bridge	€464,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 2 / 3 Concept and Options / Preliminary Design	LCC have received approval by NTA Monday 19 th June 2023 Meetings held with SMT, Councillors and Public Bodies on the relevant scheme. Progression to Gateway 3 underway.	Proposed Part 8 display Q3 2023
Dundalk: Ard Easmuinn Rd to Train Station / Friary School Dundalk & Dundalk Bus Station to Rail Station.	€400,000	Band 3 >10mil	Phase 3 /4 Preliminary Design / Statutory Process	Received Phase 2 Gateway status approval from the NTA in early August 2022. Phase 3 Preliminary Design is now completed, and On-Line Briefing session given to Dundalk MD Councillors on Tuesday 28 th March. Positive and good commentary received which will be incorporated into revised scheme drawings. Active Travel Team met key stakeholders in person during week commencing Monday 3 rd April 2023. All comments will be used to inform the design process Gateway 3 approval received on 27 th June 2023. Permission to proceed to Gateway 4 " Statutory Process"	Proposed Part 8 late Q3 2023
Transport / Mobility Plans: Including Dundalk, Drogheda, Ardee, Clogherhead, Dunleer, Termonfeckin & Castlebellingham	€250,000	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	Drogheda Online survey completed and synthesised. ATOS completed and GIS specialist has prepared new drawing and superimposed "Proposed Active Travel Links" as a layer to each of the ATOS Results maps. Tender for Dundalk Transport Study closed on 6 th April 2023. Tender assessment ongoing. This mobility Plan will form part of the Dundalk LAP. Letter of Intent issued to winning consultant	N/A
Hoey's Lane, Dundalk	€150,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 1 - Scope and Purpose	Procurement competition for design consultants for Dundalk Active Travel Projects completed. Approval received from the NTA on the 1 st February to appoint the Preferred tender. Pre Start meeting to be held WSP Consultants in early July	2024

Project Name	Allocation 2023	Project Band	Current Phase	April 2023- Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions, subject to NTA approval of Gateways
Mill Street, Dundalk	€250,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 1 - Scope and Purpose	Procurement competition for design consultants for Dundalk Active Travel Projects completed. Approval received from the NTA on the 1 st February to appoint the Preferred tender. Pre-Start meeting to be held WSP Consultants in early July	2024
Hill Street Bridge to Train Station, Dundalk	€150,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 1 - Scope and Purpose	Procurement competition for design consultants for Dundalk Active Travel Projects completed. Approval received from the NTA on the 1 st February to appoint the Preferred tender. Pre-Start meeting to be held WSP Consultants in early July	2024
R132 Dublin Road, (Rank Xerox Junction to Greengates)	€100,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 1 - Scope and Purpose	Procurement competition for design consultants for Dundalk Active Travel Projects completed. Approval received from the NTA on the 1 st February to appoint the Preferred tender. Pre-Start meeting to be held WSP Consultants in early July	2024
Moneymore, Active Travel elements	€200,000	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 2 – Concept Proposals	Consultants prepare options and preliminary design proposals. Design Drafts currently received. Issued Tender to a	N/A
Drogheda improvement of accessibility	€60,000	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 3 – Preliminary Design	Various locations in the town of Drogheda	N/A
Dundalk improvement of accessibility	€60,000	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 3 – Preliminary Design	Various locations in the town of Dundalk	N/A
Ardee improvement of accessibility	€40,000	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 3 – Preliminary Design	Various locations in the town of Ardee	N/A
Termonfeckin Active Travel elements	€165,000	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 5 - Detailed Design and Procurement	Project was issued to tender in March 2023. Tenders returned and preferred contractor undergoing Pre-Appointment checks	N/A
Safe Routes to Schools 1. St Louis Secondary School Dundalk	€600,000	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 3 – Preliminary Design	All four projects reviewed. St Louis, Dundalk - Meeting held with An Taisce and Principal. Action plan now agreed and signed off. Rehab, Mill Rd, Dundalk to be incorporated into LHCC/22/0003 above Drogheda x 2 - Preliminary Design / Concepts developed.	No part 8's but possible Section 38's

Project Name	Allocation 2023	Project Band	Current Phase	April 2023- Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions, subject to NTA approval of Gateways
2. Rehab Care Mill Street Dundalk 3. Saint Brigid's and Saint Patrick's School, Drogheda 4. Scoil Aonghusa, Drogheda				Following a procurement competition, Barry Transportation were appointed Design Consultants on 3 rd April 2023. Preliminary design commenced. Traffic Survey & Topographical Surveys to commence at the end of July 2023. Drone Surveys to be conducted in September in line with new school year.	

Place Making

Urban Regeneration and Development Fund Projects (URDF)

West Gate Vision (Drogheda)

Westgate Planning Pack has been received by LCC. A full review of EIAR, AA Stage 2 Reports, Planning documents and drawings has been completed by LCC with comments returned to Turley Planning for completion of the submission package prior to the consent process to An Bord Pleanála.
<https://www.westgatevision.ie/>

St. Nicholas Quarter and Backlands Regeneration (Dundalk)

BDP Ltd have been appointed as the Urban Design Team for the first phase of the St. Nicholas Quarter project. Phase 1 of the project involves the enhancement of the public realm along Bridge Street, Linenhall Street and Peace Park. Topographical, GPR and traffic surveys have all been completed to allow for the detailed design to progress. Phase 2 of the project involves the re-development of the Backlands area of the St. Nicholas Quarter. The consultancy services tender has now closed and the tender assessment has commenced.

Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF)

Ardee Castle

The Ministerial Consent application pack was submitted to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage on the 5th May. It is intended to proceed to tender following further assessment of the proposals by the department.

Omeath Public Realm

The construction works tender for this placemaking project closed on the 19th May

and is currently being assessed. Proposed works are anticipated to commence in Q3 this year on a phased basis with completion due Q2 2024.

Ardee 2040

A full review of Ardee 2040 Planning pack (drawings, EIAR and Planning docs) has been completed by LCC and comments returned to Turley Planning for completion of the submission package for the consent process to ABP www.ardee2040.ie.

Living in Carlingford Visiting Carlingford



This project was on public display in County Hall, Dundalk and Carlingford Library as part of the Part 8 planning procedure. It is also available to view on the Louth County Council Consultation Portal. It closed for submissions on the 30th May 2023. The Part 8 report will be presented at the July Dundalk Municipal District meeting.

Weatherproofing and Outdoor Dining (Failte Ireland) - The Green, Carlingford

The new outdoor dining facility has now reached substantial completion, with initial snags complete onsite and re-seeding completed to affected boundary. New picnic tables and benches have been procured and will be installed in the coming months.



St Laurence's Gate Plaza, Drogheda

Pre-planning consultation will commence in the coming weeks. AA Screening determination has been received and conservation reports are in progress for the proposed Part 8 process for St Laurence's Gate plaza.



Cross Departmental Projects

Play Spaces

Further to the tender assessment process, the finalising of the appointment of contractors is ongoing.

Part 8 planning are being prepared for all 3 sites including AA Screening Stage 1 and relevant environmental reports. Site analysis in Termonfeckin is underway examining services and existing infrastructure. It is anticipated that Part 8's will be published in Q3 for all 3 sites.

Town Centre First Projects

Town Centre First Plan - Dunleer

Preparation of the Town Centre First Plan is progressing. It is intended that the draft plan will be going on public display in August to obtain the views of the local community regarding the proposals.

Clogherhead Regeneration Plan

The process to appoint urban design consultants is underway. The tender responses are currently being assessed.

Organisational Development

Forbairt Na hEagraíochta

The Organisational Development Directorate includes the central services required to maintain and administer this Local Authority. This includes Corporate and Human Resources. It also includes the Community and Climate functions and all aspects of Waste Management Services and Veterinary Services.

This Directorate has five key areas of responsibility

- Corporate Services
- Community Support & Sports
- Waste Management, Environment & Climate Action
- Veterinary Services
- Human Resources

Áiríonn an Stiúrthóireacht um Fhorbairt na hEagraíochta na seirbhísí lárnacha a theastaíonn chun an tÚdarás Áitiúil seo a chothabháil agus a riaradh. Áirítear leis seo Acmhainní Corparáideacha agus Daonna. Áiríonn sé freisin na feidhmeanna Pobail agus Aeráide agus gach gné de Sheirbhísí Bainistíochta Dramhaíola agus Sheirbhísí Tréidliachta.

Tá cuig eochairfhreagrachta ag an Stiúrthóireacht seo:

- Seirbhísí Corparáideacha
- Tacaíocht Pobail agus Spóirt
- Bainistíocht Dramháil, Gníomh Comhshaoil & Aeráide
- Seirbhísí Tréidliachta
- Acmhainní Duine

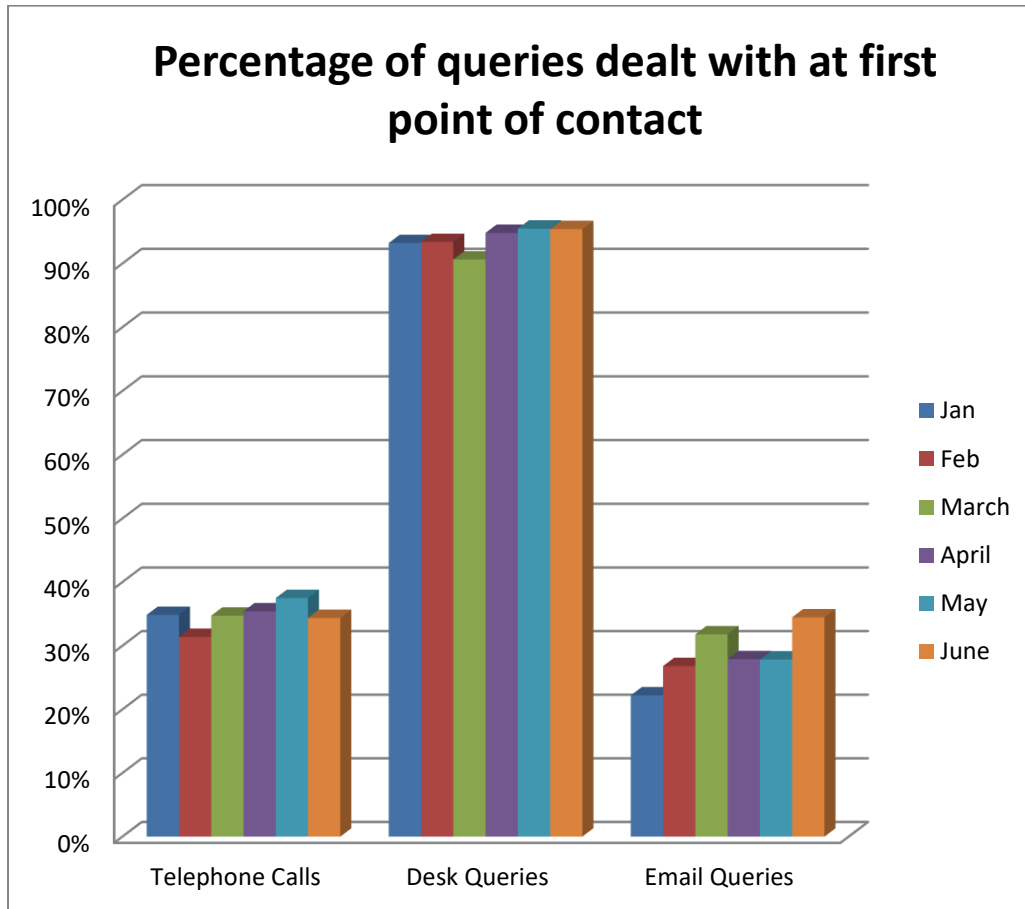


Joe McGuinness
Director / Stiúrthóir

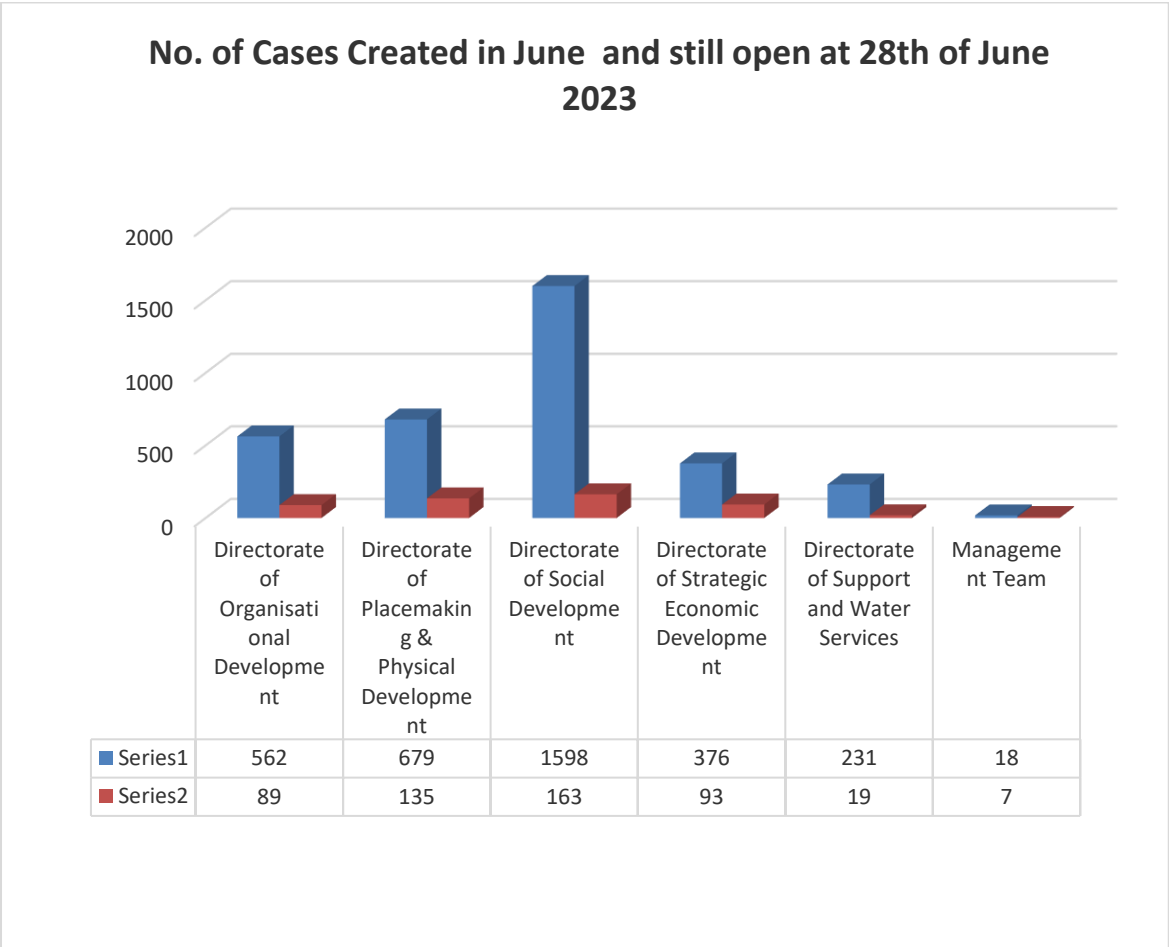
Corporate Services

Customer Services Report

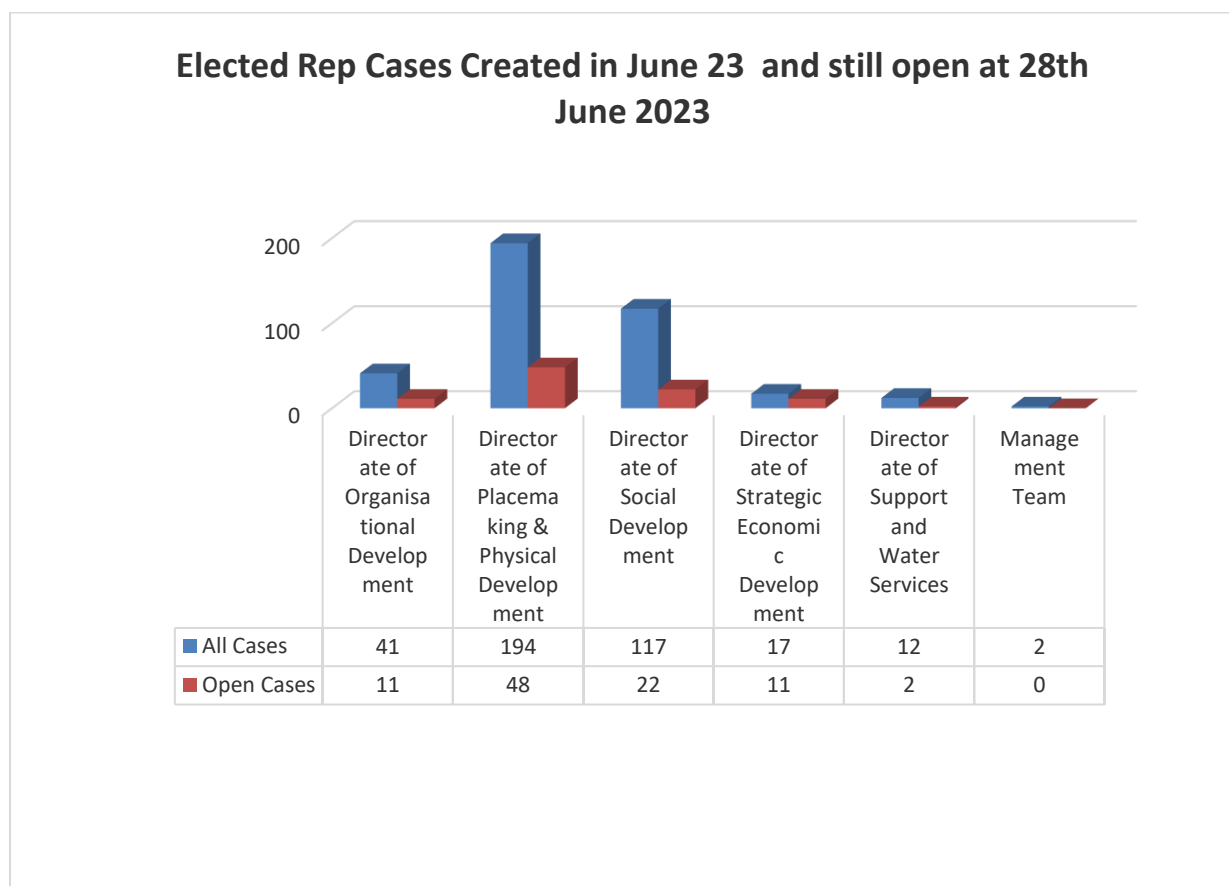
During the month of June 2023 Customer Services dealt with 14,051 queries 7,002 calls, 1,126 e-mails and 5,650 counter queries.



There were 3464 valid Sugar CRM cases recorded during June of which 506 (15%) remain unresolved, broken down by directorate as follows:



During June 2023, 383 elected reps. cases were recorded on Sugar of which 94 (25%) remain unresolved broken down by Directorate as follows:



The table below illustrates activity in the redress area.

Requests Received	Same period 2022 (JAN-JUNE 2022)	2023 Total (JAN-JUNE)	APR 2023 (Month of JUNE only)
Freedom of Information	58	61	10
Data Protection Request	1	4	3
Data Subject Access Request	1	6	1
Access to Information on Environment	6	9	2
Ombudsman Complaints	5	8	2
LCC Complaints Policy	19	19	2

Electoral Register

Field Officers have been appointed and are currently visiting various Polling Districts throughout the County, taking to electors and distributing flyers.

A National Campaign on www.checktheregister.ie commenced on 21st June aiming to encourage everyone, including those already registered to vote, to go to [checktheregister.ie](http://www.checktheregister.ie) and either confirm or update their details. This campaign will be rolled out through broadcast, outdoor and digital channels.

At the launch of the National Campaign Minister Noonan stated that

“Local authorities around the country are gearing up for a substantial body of work over the summer months to update the electoral register and further improve its accuracy but they can’t do it on their own. Even if we’re already on the register, we all have a part to play and we can do this by checking and either confirming or updating our information. Adding details including date of birth and PPSN allows local authorities to cross-check and confirm the information provided by each person, adding to the integrity of the process. We can also let local authorities know about other changes needed, for example in relation to family members who are deceased and still on the register, I think we all know that it can be upsetting for a loved one to receive a polling card for someone no longer with us”.

products which aims to progress key recommendations from the “Period Poverty in Ireland” report, and ensure feminine products are available to all who need them.

Free products are now available in the following public facilities across Louth:

- County Hall
- Dundalk Town Hall
- Dundalk Library
- Drogheda Library
- Dundalk Sports Centre
- Lourdes Stadium



Dundalk Port

The transfer of Dundalk Port from Dublin Port Company as provided for in Section 35 of the Harbour’s Act, 2015 is progressing and is currently being considered by both Ministers of Housing and Transportation, as required by law.



Period Poverty

Louth County Council has received funding from the Department of Health for the provision of free period

Community Support

Louth Meath Joint Migrant Integration Strategy/Forum

The Louth Meath Joint Migrant Integration Strategy Forum held an on-line meeting on 29th June 2023. The Forum reviewed their progress to date for 2023 on several key goals and actions contained within the Strategy.

- Goal 5 Promoting Civic & Civil engagement and political participation.

Action 5.3 Work with the Irish Equality & Human Rights Commission to ensure the delivery of training programmes to elected members on racism discrimination and rights and engage with them to explore how to continue to give leadership around diversity and interculturalism and give priority to political, economic, social inclusion in decision making.

This included provision of diversity and inclusion training for elected members. Training took place on 26th June 2023 online and was provided by the Immigrant Council of Ireland. Elected Members from both Louth & Meath attended the training.

Action 5.4 Increase awareness among migrants of their entitlements to vote and continue to encourage migrant communities to register to vote. Ensure information on elections is available in multiple languages and encourage political parties to do the same.

Work is ongoing in both local authorities through schools, colleges, community groups & migrant groups to provide information on the registration/voting process and encourage migrants and people from new communities to register to vote.

Forum members also agreed to hold a joint event in October 2023 to celebrate integration diversity and inclusion in Louth & Meath.

Age Friendly Programme

Age Friendly Louth supports outreach activities in rural areas of Co Louth and address issues regarding social exclusion for older people as part of our Age Friendly Strategy.

To support delivery of the strategy Age Friendly Louth arranged for Mary Bell Ryan from Forever Flowers to host a flower arranging demonstration for 20 members of the Togher & District Active Retirement group in Dillonstown Community Centre on 22nd June.

Mary created 2 floral demonstrations using flowers and greenery from her garden and shop. She showed the members how to create a floral display in a basket and how to create a floral centre piece for a table.

After the demonstration members then undertook to recreate the pieces.



Members of Togher & District Active Retirement Group taking part in recent flower arranging demonstration.

Age Friendly Alliance

The Louth Age Friendly Alliance met on 28th June 2023. Chairperson Rod Bond welcomed several new members to the Alliance including representatives from the HSE.

The EU Shafe Co-Ordinator presented the results of an ageism survey to the members and recommended that an action is included in the new LECP to address ageism.

Members discussed local and regional developments in relation to Age Friendly and discussed nominations for the Age Friendly Awards.

The members also discussed and agreed their submission to the Local Economic & Community Plan 2023-2029 on behalf of the OPC & Louth Age Friendly Alliance.

Older People's Council

The Louth Older People's Council met on 14th June in the Louth County Council Offices in Drogheda. A representative from Drogheda & District Support for Older People gave a presentation to the members on their Care & Repair Scheme which is a service to help older people with small maintenance jobs in their home and garden. The OPC are looking to establish a similar type of scheme in the Mid Louth/Ardee area.

Members also discussed nominations for the Age Friendly Awards and agreed to invite additional members to join the OPC to ensure a wide variety of groups representing older people are included on the OPC.

The next meeting is scheduled for 19th July and will take place in the Ardee Civic Offices.

Preparation of New Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP) 2023-2029

The primary aim of the LECP is to set out the objectives and actions needed to support the economic and community development of the county for the next 6-year period.

On 6th March the LCDC and the Economic SPC met and agreed the draft High-Level Goals for the New Local Economic & Community Plan 2023-2029 and this was followed by a significant public consultation campaign on the draft High Level Goals.

The advertising and promotion campaign included:

- Communication to the public about the LECP, Public Consultation Options & LECP Surveys
- Promoted through Louth PPN Friday Communiqué (500+ community & Voluntary groups)
- Promoted on local Radio: Dundalk FM & LMFM Community Diary
- Advertised in local Newspapers.

- Shared with Elected Members and Oireachtas Members
- Promoted on LCC website under Latest news, Community & Economic Development Tabs
- Promoted through Louth Age Friendly Alliance and Louth Older People's Council
- Promoted on LCC Social Media Platforms
- Promoted in Healthy Ireland Newsletter
- Promoted through Louth Library Service

Public Consultation took many formats.

- In person focus groups and workshops
- On line focus groups and workshops
- One to one meeting with organizations and groups
- Open public consultations in Drogheda, Dundalk, Ardee & Carlingford
- Outreach pop up information stands staffed by community team in Scotch Hall Drogheda & The Marshes Dundalk
- Hard Copy of Business Survey distributed to all shops/business in Scotch Hall, Drogheda & The Marshes Dundalk

Following a review of groups/organisations attending the public consultations it was noted that there was under representation from members of the travelling community, and this was remedied through:

- Traveller Outreach
- Leaflet drop at Woodland Park Halting Site, Inner Relief Road , Dundalk
- St Anthony's Park Drogheda Traveller Specific Accommodation Door to door survey carried out with residents.
- Naughton Close Dundalk Traveller Specific Accommodation Door to door survey carried out with residents
- Naughton Close Residents Association – community team provided assistance with preparation of LECP submission.

To date the following survey responses have been received.

Table 1.0 LECP Surveys Completed

LECP Survey	No. of Responses
LECP Community Survey	421
LECP Business Survey	66
Total No. of Surveys	487

Table 1.1 Groups and Individuals attending LECP Public Consultations

No. of groups/organisations represented	68
No of individuals attending consultations	230

Table 1.2 Public Consultation Events

No. of focus groups and workshops	25
No. of Leaflet Drops	03
No of Door-to-Door Surveys carried out in estates*	02 *Naughton Close & St Anthony's Park
No of Pop-up Events	02
No of online focus groups and workshops	06
Total No. of consultation events	38

Consultants are now collating all of the information and feedback from the public consultations, and this will help inform the revised High Level Goals and revised Socio Economic Statement. Consultants are also working on preparation of draft LECP. There will be further opportunity for the public to comment on the draft LECP in due course.

*Attendees at the LECP public consultations in Carlingford*

Louth In Bloom 2023 competition

Louth County Council launched its annual environmental competition "Louth in Bloom 2023" on 29th May. Entries and nominations are now being sought in the following categories- Best Garden, Best Estate, Best Business/Hospitality Premise, Best Biodiversity Project & Best Sustainable Innovative initiative/project.

Entries/nominations can be submitted on-line at www.louthcoco.ie/louthinbloom where the nomination forms will also be available to download. Entries can also be submitted by post or by dropping same, into any of the Louth County Council customer services desks at any of our offices in Ardee, Drogheda and Dundalk.

Full details of this year's competition are available on our website or by emailing community@louthcoco.ie for further information. The closing date is Monday 10th July 2023.



Cathaoirleach Conor Keelan and Chief Executive Joan Martin along with pupils from the Green schools Committee of Scoil Mhuire na nGael, Bay Estate and Busy Bee at the Launch of Louth County Council's Louth In Bloom annual environment competition.

Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme 2023

In June, the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) was announced; it provides funding for the development of new outdoor recreational infrastructure. It also provides support for the necessary repair, maintenance, enhancement, or promotion of existing outdoor recreational infrastructure in rural areas across Ireland.

The scheme supports outdoor recreation activities such as walking, trekking, cycling, kayaking and hiking. It helps to make use of the resources of the countryside that contribute to healthy active lifestyles. It supports the economic and tourism potential of the area for both local communities and tourist visitors alike.

The Community Section of Louth County Council is now seeking Expressions of Interest for projects under all measures for further information visit our website or click on the link <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/communities/funding/outdoor-recreation-infrastructure-scheme/oris-2023/>

Blue Flag Beach activities

During the month of June, our community support team has been actively involved in organising beach activities at our three Blue Flag Beaches. At Templetown Beach, Rathcor National School's

pupils and teachers, along with Brendan McSherry, Louth County Council's Heritage Officer, joined us. Brendan provided valuable information about the local flora and fauna, followed by a litter pick where participating pupils had a chance to win prizes.

At Port Beach, we had the pleasure of hosting pupils and teachers from Walshestown National School. Aidan Gray from An Taisce's Environment Education Unit delivered an excellent presentation, which was followed by a litter pick session.

Similarly, at Clogherhead Beach, we welcomed pupils from Callystown National School and their teacher, Ms. Deery. Fiona Lennon, Louth County Council's Community Climate Action Officer, gave an informative presentation on climate action, which was followed by a beach litter pick activity.



Pupils from Walshestown National School with Aidan Gray An Taisce after carrying out their beach cleanup.

Pride of Place 2023

Summaries and photographs of both Louth County Council's nominees, "Outcomers" and "Drogheda District Support4 older people" were submitted to the Pride of Place team, on the 9th June.

The judging date has been confirmed and will take place on Thursday the 7th September, when Louth County Council will welcome the Judges and spend the day with both nominees learning about their many activities, achievements and plans for the future.

We wish both nominees the best of luck in this All Ireland competition.

Street Feast 2023

On Sunday, June 25th, "Street Feast" was held, serving as a national day dedicated to street parties and community celebrations. In Louth, this summer, it offered an opportunity for neighbours to come together, share food, engage in conversations, and foster a sense of camaraderie.

This year, the Community Support team took part for the first time in supporting and promoting "Street Feast" across the county. In collaboration with the Neighbourhood Network, an Irish non-profit organisation committed to fostering social inclusion, combating loneliness, and establishing supportive and resilient communities through street events. The community support team worked hand in hand and as a result, over 40 groups registered to host a street feast event on June 25th across all the Municipal Districts in Louth.

For further information check out www.streetfeast.ie

PPN

Secretariat Meeting

Louth PPN held its sixth Secretariat Meeting of 2023 on June 12th in Ardee.

Thematic Projects

Community Peer-to-Peer Mentoring

The aim of this project is to train several of our PPN members from across the County in the essential skills and techniques required to work effectively as a mentor for other community groups within Louth PPN's membership.

The training of our community mentors took place on Tuesday 20th June in Creative Spark in Dundalk. Louth PPN are currently collating a database of skills, expertise, and experiences of our mentors to enable a tailored approach to the mentoring process. Mentoring will be made available to all PPN members later this Summer.

Intercultural Sports

This project aims to help integrate members of County Louth's new communities through the medium of sport. Two dates have been provisionally booked for family sporting days as follows:

- St. Oliver's Community College, Drogheda (August 12th)
- Dundalk Sports Centre, Dundalk (July 29th).

Members from all cultures and backgrounds shall be invited to participate. Louth PPN has received support from Louth County Council's Sports Team and Louth Local Sports Partnership in structuring the activities for both days and in recruiting coaches and trainers from local sporting clubs to assist on these days.

Youth

Louth PPN's Youth Project will involve the training up of young people to sit on various boards and committees confidently and comfortably – it is hoped that this training will help build capacity of community groups to have their voices heard at decision and policy making structures in the County both now and in the future. It is anticipated that this training will take place from early September.

Environment

Louth PPN's environment project will involve multiple aspects including:

- Re-introduction of the red squirrel at Rathescar Lake, Dunleer
- A community-based planting of native trees such as the Hazel tree which will offer food and shelter to wildlife.
- Construction of bee-hotels
- Planting of wild-flower meadows to encourage pollinating insects.

The site has been surveyed and the planting areas for trees and wild flowering have been identified.

Contact has been made with Bee Keeping Ireland to set up bee hives on the islands in the lake. An assessment of tools required to complete the works is ongoing (e.g. a rotavator to prep the ground will

be required). A further meeting in Philipstown community centre will be arranged and a whatsapp group established to keep the local community up-to-date on developments

Louth PPN Annual Report 2022

This document was issued to the Department of Rural and Community Development on May 29th 2023.

Louth PPN Community & Voluntary Awards 2023-06-22

The inaugural meeting of the Awards sub-committee met on June 12th and planning of this year's awards event has begun. It is anticipated that this year's awards night will take place in early / mid-November. The tender for the promotional videos associated with the awards has been issued and Louth PPN are currently.

Healthy Ireland Fund

Healthy Louth Newsletter

The Healthy Louth Coordinator has received lots of positive feedback on the Healthy Louth Monthly Newsletter.

The Healthy Louth Newsletter is a resource that signposts to various health and wellbeing information / programmes and events happening across County Louth each month. The content of the newsletter incorporates Healthy Ireland themes including:

- Mental Health
- Nutrition
- Physical Activity
- Sexual Health
- Spaces & Places for Health and Wellbeing
- Tobacco & Alcohol
- Older People
- Workplace Wellbeing

Check out the most recent edition by clicking the link below:

[Healthy Louth Newsletter 4th Edition July/Aug 2023](#)

If you have anything you would like included in the next edition of the Healthy Louth newsletter, please send it on to the Healthy Ireland Coordinator for Louth; Paula Keenan at healthylouth@louthcoco.ie

Louth LCDC Health & Wellbeing Sub-committee

The newly formed Louth LCDC Health & Wellbeing Sub-committee had their first official meeting on Tuesday 20th June which took place at County Hall, Dundalk.

The purpose of the group is to oversee the coordination and monitor the implementation of the Healthy Ireland programme in County Louth. It also provides a platform to inform and expand to include other future health related funding under the remit of Louth LCDC.

The Subgroup will:

- Inform and support the implementation of the Healthy Ireland programme within county Louth.
- Support the HI Coordinator responsible for leading out on programmes in their roles.
- Promote Healthy Ireland Programmes within county Louth, through stakeholder engagement.
- Support the development and identification of further HI programmes and other programmes where appropriate.
- Report on progress and challenges to the LCDC, CYPSC and HSE.
- Prioritise Health and Wellbeing within their own and other organisations within county Louth.
- To make recommendations to the LCDC, CYPSC and HSE with regards to Health and Wellbeing.

The committee members got straight to business and agreed the Healthy Ireland Fund Year 1 Implementation Plan for Louth.

Healthy Ireland Fund 2023-2025

Turas - Sailing into Wellness 2023 brought to you by 'The Healthy Ireland Fund supported by the Department of Health'.

Sailing into Wellness is a sailing programme that is specifically developed for people in recovery from addiction.

Participants will not only learn a new skill, but they will also learn more about themselves and the roots of their addiction. Participants will be encouraged to leave what no longer served them behind in the Irish Sea and progress into the future lighter with a clearer view of their hopes and dreams and a plan and renewed inner strength to help them to achieve them.

Participants will spend one day a week for 4 weeks on the water in Carlingford learning how to sail, work together as a team, spend time outdoors, and have opportunities to reflect on their learning, gain confidence and enjoy physical activity.

The participants will then go to Howth and sail a larger ship from Howth to Carlingford over 3 nights. This will be more of an endurance challenge with everyone remaining on board for three days.



Paula Keenan, Healthy Ireland Co-Ordinator, Louth County Council and Nicki Jordan, Turas



Sailing into Wellness Programme ran by Turas with support from Healthy Louth

The Red Door Project – Boxing Clever brought to you by ‘The Healthy Ireland Fund supported by the Department of Health’.

Boxing Clever is a twenty-week integrated educational, substance use recovery and fitness programme that aims to support participants to develop more resilient identities, while encouraging educational achievement, physical wellness and reduction in harmful or risky behaviours.

Based in The Red Door Project, the programme is run in partnership with BYAP and LMETB.

Educational study for two QQI (Further Education and Training) minor awards in Health-Related Fitness (Level 3) and Community Addiction Studies (Level 5) is coupled with physical training; boxing skills and tailored fitness training.

The boxing skill training is being delivered in the Red Door Project Gym by a specialised boxing coach.

The boxing skills element of the programme covers all boxing drills and has been designed to fit with the participant's personal level of fitness. This fitness training element of the programme was developed with the aim of providing participants with:

- 1) High quality fitness and education instruction from qualified tutor.
- 2) An opportunity to engage in a range of fitness training techniques that also assist participants in meeting some of the requirements of the QQI Further Education and Training Level 3 Health Related Fitness Award.

The design and delivery of the programme is underpinned by community development values that include empowerment, participation, adult education, and equality. Boxing Clever emphasises adult education, sports education and addiction education.

Furthermore, successful completion of the course will provide participants with significant educational qualifications that are advantageous to people who want to pursue further study or seek employment in the addiction/mental health/community field.



Participants in Boxing Fit at the Reddoor Project Drogheda



Participants in Boxing Fit at the Reddoor Project

LEADER

Recently, Louth County Council paid out funding to beneficiaries under the LEADER 2014-2020 and LEADER Transitional Programmes-

LEADER Programme 2023-2027

Public consultation is now complete and drafting of the County Louth Local Development Strategy (LDS), 2023-2027 is underway. The draft LDS will be brought before a special meeting of the LCDC on 10th July, for approval. This must be submitted to the DRCD by Friday 14th July.

Promoter	Amount
Marketing for Me Ltd. ZOMA Business Development & Expansion Ref: 117668	€14,138.51
Drogheda & District Chamber CLG Tele-Conference & Training Support Ref: 116154	€1,026.39

Lannleire Pavilion Ltd Main Hall Upgrade Ref: 117629	€32,432.62
Mark Keenan t/a MK Tyres New Equipment for Garage Expansion Ref: 117208	€20,925.00
Total	€68,522.52

Social Integration and Community Activation Programme 2024-2028 (SICAP):

The Louth LCDC has submitted their agreed Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and Local Priority Target Groups (LPTG's) for the delivery of SICAP 2024-2028 which have been submitted to Pobal. The tender process is anticipated to commence in July 2023 with awards made by the LCDCs by the end of 2023

Sport

Dundalk Sports Centre

Multi Sports Summer Camps

Every year these camps are extremely popular in the sports centre. The camps consist of a variety of team-based games such as dodge ball and capture the flag. No day is the same! Camps are Monday to Friday from 10am – 2pm, with the first camp starting on Monday the 3rd of July. To book your child into any camp, phone reception on (042) 9392987.



Junior Basketball

The junior basketball camp will be held from 1 to 5pm, July 10th to the 14th. The camp is suitable for children aged 6 to 12 and basketball experience is not required. Participants will have the opportunity to learn the basic skills of basketball from some of the best coaches around.

Senior Development Basketball

The senior development camp is perfect for teenagers who want to develop their basketball skills. It is ideal for those who want to get started in basketball or simply sharpen up their skills over the summer months. Camp will be held from the 17th to the 21st of July from 1 to 5 pm.



Inclusive Camps

Dundalk Sports Centre and Louth Local Sports Partnership will be running two inclusive camps for adults with intellectual disabilities. The first camp was held in June. The second camp will be held on the 28th and 29th of August from 10 to 12 am. Spaces are limited!

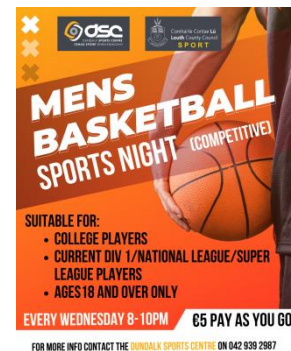
Recreational Men's Basketball Sports Night

This is Dundalk Sports Centre's newest programme. This Programme is a non-competitive version of our very popular Men's Basketball Sports Night. It is currently coach lead by our coach who is currently playing basketball for the Irish basketball team. This programme is on every Thursday evening 8-10pm and is €5 pay as you go.



Men's Basketball Sports Night (Competitive)

This Sports night is designed for Men who want to play competitive basketball. The programme is very popular amongst men who have played basketball at a competitive level. This programme is on every Wednesday night 8-10pm and is €5 pay as you go.



Women's Basketball Sports Nights

This coach led social basketball program is perfect for women who want to try out basketball or ex-players who just want to socialise and have some fun. The women have played friendly games with other social teams and have had in house games with our girls from the development basketball programme. This programme is on every Monday night 8-10pm, €5 pay as you go.



Active Aging

This is one of Dundalk Sports Centre's four older adult programmes. It is a variety of activities including chair-based exercises, Boccia, target games and many more. This programme has proved to be very successful with over 20 older adults participating each week. The Programme runs every Tuesday 10.30am-11.30am (€3 pay as you go) followed by tea/coffee and biscuits.



Walk in activities

Dundalk Sports Centre offers walk-in activities for the community such as: Table Tennis, Badminton, Basketball, Pickleball and Tennis. To check availability call Dundalk Sports centre on [\(042\) 939 2987](tel:0429392887)



Lourdes Stadium

Bootcamp

Lourdes Stadium third Outdoor Bootcamp for 2023 finished on Thursday 15th June. The bootcamp, which reached full capacity, took place every Tuesday and Thursday evening over 6 weeks and was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Sessions consisted of strength and cardio exercises tailored to suit all fitness levels with plenty of fun through team

challenges. The bootcamp enabled participants to meet new people and get fitter and stronger ahead of the summer months.

The next Bootcamp will commence in July. Keep an eye on Lourdes Stadium Instagram and Facebook pages for further updates.



Bootcamp at Lourdes Stadium

Nordic Walking

Boyne Nordic Walking continues the track every Tuesday. Follow Boyne Nordic Walks on social media for updates. Nordic Walking strengthens muscles and bones (due to added resistance from poles), uses 90% of your muscles, has 25% increased calorie burn compared to normal walk and is therapeutic for mental health due to taking place outdoors.



Walk & Talk Group

HSCL carried out a weekly 'Walk & Talk' parent group at the Lourdes Stadium during May and June. The group consisted of parents from St. Brigid's & St. Patrick's, St. Josephs CBS, St. Olivers and Presentation Primary schools who chatted it out while getting in their exercise and completing several laps of the track.



Members of the Walk & Talk Group in Lourdes Stadium

Bowls Open Fun Tournament

The first outdoor bowls mixed open fun tournament of the year took place at the Lourdes Stadium all-weather outdoor bowling green on Wednesday 31st May. With 24 participants, there were 6 teams of 4 bowlers drawn with everyone getting plenty of game time, through a round robin system, and the opportunity to compete against and socialise with most other teams. All in all, it was a fantastic day made even better by tea, scones, chats and glorious weather. Attendees consisted of bowlers predominantly from the Drogheda Region who are frequent casual users to the Lourdes with others from local Greenhills and Collon Bowling clubs and even as far afield as Dundalk and Balbriggan.

Well done to Team 2 for being overall winners on the day. The team consisted of John Sheridan, Davy Curran, Michael Fitzsimons and Benny Devlin. Also, a huge congrats to Team 3 on coming runners up with the team consisting of Thomas Hanratty, Tony Winters, Jack Howell and Jim Harmon.

All attendees expressed their positive experience of the event and eagerly anticipate the next which is planned to take place in early July. Keep updated via Lourdes Stadium Facebook and/or Instagram pages.



Louth Local Sports Partnership

Coach & Volunteer Education Programmes 2023

Louth Local Sports Partnership will be facilitating the following Volunteer & Coach Education workshops in the coming months for volunteers and sports coaches in Louth.

Safeguarding

Activity	Date & Time	Venue
Safeguarding Level 1	July 6 th 2023 6:30pm	Online
Safeguarding Level 1	July 27 th 2023 6:30pm	Online
Safeguarding Level 1	Aug 10 th 2023 6:30pm	Online
Safeguarding Level 1	Aug 24 th 2023 6:30pm	Online

Disability Inclusion

Activity	Date & Time	Venue
Autism in Sport	October 18 th 2023 6:30pm	Online

First Aid

Activity	Date & Time	Venue
First Aid Online	September 19 th 2023 6:30pm	Online

Volunteer Support Workshops

Activity	Date & Time	Venue
Involving & Managing volunteers with additional support needs	October 19 th , 2023 6:30pm	Online
Social Media for Community Groups	November 23 rd , 2023 6:30pm	Online

For further information on volunteer and coach education workshops please email louthlsp@louthcoco.ie or telephone Louth Local Sports Partnership 042-9324318.

Safeguarding 1 – Training opportunity for members of the Ukrainian Community

Louth Local Sports partnership is delighted to be able to offer an opportunity for members of the Ukrainian community in Louth to obtain their Safeguarding 1 Child Protection qualification. The workshop will take place online on July 5th 6pm – 9pm. The workshop will be delivered by a Sport Ireland Safeguarding Tutor and it will be translated by a Ukrainian interpreter.

This opportunity will be offered free of charge to all participants.

For further information on this workshop please email louthlsp@louthcoco.ie or telephone Louth Local Sports Partnership 042-9324318.



National Play Day – July 8th Drogheda

Louth LSP in partnership with St Nicolas GFC in Drogheda will host an event on Saturday July 8th to celebrate National Play Day. The aim of National Play Day is to promote play opportunities for children and young people all across the country.

This year's theme is Wonder and Discovery. This theme was chosen to represent the wonder and discovery that unfolds when children play outside. Ensuring children have access to outdoor play means they will have many opportunities for developing their imagination and physical abilities. Playing in nature also presents opportunities for exploration and adventure.

The focus of Play Day 2023 is children experiencing the natural world by playing outside.

For further information on this event please email louthlsp@louthcoco.ie or telephone Louth Local Sports Partnership 042-9324318.



Disability Inclusion Training for GAA All-Stars Clubs in Lordship

Louth LSP was delighted to facilitate Disability Inclusion Training for volunteers from the 10 GAA for All clubs in Louth who provide activities for children and teenagers with disabilities to participate in Gaelic Games.

The training took place on Saturday June 24th in St Patrick's GFC Lordship and was delivered by tutors from Active Disability Ireland.

The workshop is designed to provide participants with knowledge, skills and ideas on how to adapt

and modify their sport, physical activity or physical education sessions to make them more accessible and inclusive for people with disabilities.

On completion of the workshop all participants received an Active Disability Ireland Certificate of Attendance endorsed by Sport Ireland, a resource manual and a games booklet full of fun inclusive activities.

For further information on volunteer and coach education workshops please email louthlsp@louthcoco.ie or telephone Louth Local Sports Partnership 042-9324318.



Louth LSP supports 'Let's Get Visible Campaign'

Louth LSP was delighted to support Sport Ireland's and Sporting Pride's #letsgetvisible campaign again for 2023. The campaign aims to recognise and acknowledge the importance of visibility and representation amongst the LGBTQI+ community, specifically in the sport sector.

The campaign ran from Monday 19th June to Sunday 25th June and aimed to recognise and give the sport sector the opportunity to show support for the LGBTQI+ community and to promote sport as a welcoming and inclusive space.



Inclusive Summer Camps for Adults in Dundalk & Drogheda

Two Summer Camps for adults with a disability will take place in Dundalk Sports Centre this summer.

Camp 1 took place in June while camp 2 will take place on August 28th & 29th. The cost to attend is €10 per person, per camp.

Pre-booking is essential for a place on this programme. Please contact Dundalk Sports Centre for more information on 042-9392987.

Another Inclusive Summer camp will also take place in Lourdes Stadium Drogheda on August 14th & 15th. The cost to attend is €10 per person.

Pre-booking is essential for a place on this programme. Please contact Louth Local Sports Partnership 042-9324318



HER Outdoors launched for 2023

Sport Ireland and Louth Local Sports Partnership have launched HER Outdoors week for 2023!

HER Outdoors week aims to celebrate and encourage more females to get out and enjoy the benefits of being in the outdoors while bringing visibility to the opportunities for females to get involved in outdoor physical activity.

This week is all about providing more opportunities for all females to escape to the outdoors and try something new. For such a tiny island, there are so many incredible outdoor activities on offer and this should be celebrated to the fullest!

HER Outdoors Week will be back in 2023 from **August 14th - 20th** with a number of events happening in Louth on water and on the land. Stay tuned to find out more about how you can get involved over the next few months!



Summer Level 1 Sport Leaders Awards

Louth Local Sports Partnership is delighted to announce two upcoming Level 1 Sport Leader Award programmes this summer in Drogheda & Dundalk

- Drogheda Course: July 10th – 13th in DIFE (SOLD OUT)
- Dundalk Course: August 8th – 10th in Dundalk Sports Centre

The programme is designed to develop the leadership skills and confidence of teenagers aged 13-17 years within communities in Louth who will be future leaders and coaches within their sports clubs and groups within the county.

The teenagers upon completion of the programme will receive a Sport Ireland recognised Level 1 Qualification in Sports Leadership.

For further information please email louthlsp@louthcoco.ie or telephone Louth Local Sports Partnership 042-9324318



Waste Management, Environment & Climate Action

Summary of Complaints

A total of 35 complaints were received and investigated by the Environmental Compliance team in June 2023, some of which remain open pending further investigations.

A total number of 189 complaints have been received in 2023 to date and these are further detailed as follows:

Complaint Type	Received in June 2023	Total Received in 2023
Air & Noise	8	55
Farm	0	5
Waste/C&D	21	88
Water Quality	6	41

Waste Management

A total of 21 complaints were received in June 2023 relating to Waste. One complaint received regarding Construction & Demolition (C&D) Waste. All complaints relating to waste were investigated and followed up with appropriate actions.

Anti-Dumping Initiative (ADI)

The Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications announced that funding is available through the WERLA's to support Local Authorities in 2023 Anti-Dumping Initiative (ADI). The 2023 ADI aims to reduce incidents of illegal dumping by identifying and delivering projects aimed

at tackling illegal dumping ‘black spots’ throughout the County and adhere to key measures of prevention, abatement, education & awareness and enforcement. The Department continues to strongly encourage innovative projects, which recognise waste as a resource that can be repurposed for use in a Circular Economy.

A total of 8 project applications were submitted for approval under ADI 2023 totaling €157,741.68.

The Department approved funding of €82,300 for the completion of 5 projects as follows:

- Mattress and Sofa Amnesty Event – V&W Dundalk Recycling Centre
- Mattress and Sofa Amnesty Event – V&W Drogheda Recycling Centre
- Mattress and Sofa Amnesty Collection Point – Ardee (location to be confirmed)
- Castletown River Clean-up
- Muirhevnamor Alley-way Clean-up

The Mattress and Sofa Amnesty Events are scheduled to take place in September 2023. Dates are yet to be confirmed.

Clean-up projects are on-going.

IBAL Reports

The Council noted the reports published in late June which saw Dundalk feature last in the league table whilst Drogheda improved somewhat. Representatives of Council staff from Corporate, Community and Waste met with the Dundalk Tidy Towns Group on June 29th and will arrange a similar meeting with the Drogheda Tidy Towns Group for early July. The purpose of these meetings is to collaborate on matters of concern.

Commercial Food Waste

The Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications, has signed new legislation to introduce incentivised charging for waste collection in the commercial sector which will require waste collection companies to provide a residual, mixed dry recyclable, and bio-waste bin to all their commercial customers.

This change will bring the commercial sector in line with the residential sector, for whom incentivised pricing has been in place since 2017.

The Waste Management (Collection Permit) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2023 will come into effect on 1 July 2023.

Farm Plastics

The IFFPG (Irish Farm Film Producers Group Ltd) is Irelands only approved farm plastics recycling compliance scheme and will be running farm plastic collections at the following locations in late September.

Ardee, Drummonds Ltd	Late Sept
Knockbridge, Drummonds Ltd	Late Sept
Townrath, Drummonds Ltd	Late Sept

Article 27 By-Products

Article 27 of the European Communities (Waste Directive) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 126 of 2011) makes a distinction between the regulatory regime for substances or objects that are defined as “waste” and those that are instead to be viewed as a “by-product” and certain criteria must be met for it to be considered a by-product and not a waste.

By-product notifications are made to the EPA through an online portal. Louth County Council Waste Enforcement Section has a role to carry out site inspections at site of origin and/or site of destination to check material meets criteria of notification.

In June 2023, a total of 2 notifications were received by Louth County Council Waste Enforcement Section for investigation.

Waste Facility Permits & Certificate of Registration

Currently there are 26 Waste Facility Permits and there are 4 Certificates of Registration (COR) in operation in Co. Louth.

Annual Return Validations

All Waste Facility Permit (WFP) and Certificate of Registration (CoR) holders are required to submit Annual Returns (AR) where they collected / processed waste in any given year. Waste Enforcement Officers have commenced validations for 2023 for permitted waste facilities operating within Co. Louth. This is a significant body of work that takes a number of months to complete.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) identifies a list of waste facilities which must be prioritised for validation by Local Authorities. Validation plays an important role in tracking different waste streams and volumes within the sector and helps to improve traceability for all key waste materials which are reported through the EPA to the EU on an annual basis.

Checkpoints

Three road checkpoints have been completed by the waste enforcement team so far in 2023, in conjunction with An Garda Síochána and the Road Safety Authority. As a result, warning letters for non-compliances have been issued with the potential for future enforcement if required.

Litter Enforcement & Investigations

All litter wardens continue to engage with members of the public daily on litter matters in the county.

A total of 16 litter Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) were issued in the month of June. Of these FPNs, 10 were issued in Drogheda, 4 were issued in Dundalk Town and 2 in the remaining County wide area.

There were no FPNs issued for dog fouling in June.

There have been 606 litter investigations completed to date in 2023 with 77 carried out in the month of June. There have been 130 Litter FPNs issued in the year to date.

Following a request from one of our Elected Members, Louth County Council Litter wardens carried out a foot patrol during the month of June at Templetown beach and Gyles Quay with the main

emphasis being on dog fouling. Additional dog fouling signs were erected where possible and dog fouling stencils were refreshed.





Litter Foot Patrol

A foot patrol was conducted by all Litter Wardens in Dundalk on 21st June. All areas of the town were covered to ensure a strong visual presence. Free dog bag holders were given out to members of the public.



Diesel Laundering Waste

There were 43 Integrated Bulk Container's (IBCs) dumped in June 2023 at a cost of €53,667.01 approx. This included a significant deposit of 36 IBCs at Major's Hollow on the weekend of June 23rd last.

So far in 2023 there have been 66 IBCs dumped within Co. Louth with an associated removal cost of approximately €82,374.54.



Prohibition of Waste Disposal by Burning

The Waste Management Act (Prohibition of Waste Disposal by Burning) Regulations 2009 allows farmers as a last resort, to dispose of green waste by burning i.e. untreated/uncontaminated wood, trees, tree trimmings, leaves and brush or other similar waste generated by agricultural practices.

On 27th January 2023, regulations were signed to provide for an extension to the exemption which expired on 1 January 2023, until 28th February 2023. The exemption will then be reopened for a final three-month period from 1st September 2023 to 30th November 2023 to allow the agricultural sector deal with untreated/uncontaminated waste accumulated in the interim.

Air / Water / Noise Pollution

There were 6 water quality complaints received in June which were investigated and followed up with appropriate actions.

There were 6 Air Pollution complaints and 2 Noise Pollution complaints received and investigated during June 2023.

Bathing Water

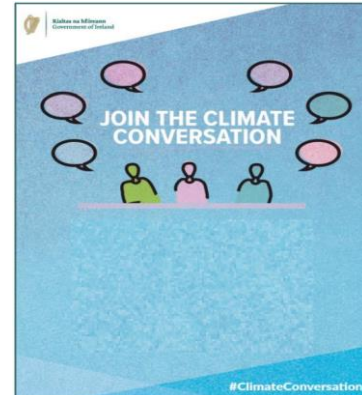
The out of season annual monitoring of the four designated beaches in Co Louth has commenced in May 2023. The four beaches identified as designated bathing waters in Co. Louth are Templetown, Port, Clogherhead and Seapoint. The readings for the samples taken on 23rd May 2023 show excellent results. Results for all the beaches are available on www.beaches.ie

The public participation for the identification of new bathing waters has begun. Local authorities must identify official bathing areas in their area every year so that they can be monitored for safety, water quality and their level of use. To help with this process, Louth County Council are asking people who swim at beaches, lakes and rivers to inform them if they think they should maintain existing designated bathing waters designations or give a new official bathing area designation to areas that are commonly used for swimming, but not identified at the moment. The closing date for submissions of proposed new bathing waters is **28th September 2023** to environmentalcompliance@louthcoco.ie

Further information on beaches and water quality can be found on the EPA hosted website – www.beaches.ie



Climate Action



Preparation of a Baseline Emissions Inventory for County Louth has been ongoing. The Climate Action Team has been collecting information on how much CO₂ is emitted by all business, buildings, houses, industry, transport / travel and agriculture in the county.

This information will form the base for decision making when the preparation of the Local Authority Climate Action Plan for Louth commences later this year.

The Climate Action Co-Ordinator recently delivered a presentation to the Management Team on the Climate Action Plan's progress.

As a requirement of the National Climate Action Plan, 2021, all Local Authorities are required to produce a County-level Climate Action plan. Louth County Council has begun preparation for this process which formally started in Q1 of 2023.

Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024

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.

A review of the current goals and objectives of the CCAS has commenced and this will form the basis for the development of a comprehensive Climate Action Plan for Louth, to be developed over the next 18 months (timelines not yet fixed nationally).

Draft Guidance documents were issued to help Local Authorities prepare for the development of Climate Action Plans which will incorporate all the relevant National Climate Action targets at a local level.

The climate action team also hosted a number of workshops with various sections within Louth County Council which looked at the overall targets associated with the Climate Action Plan and delivered a presentation on Louth's Baseline Emissions Inventory.



Climate Action workshop, Cooley Room, County Hall.

Climate Action Plan Process 2024 – 2029

Under the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 all Local Authorities are required to produce a Climate Action plan to cover a five-year period.

The Climate Action Team has completed a Tier 2 emissions baseline for the entire county. This evidence base will be used to develop actions to allow the county to decarbonise in accordance with the 2030 national target of a 51% reduction in CO₂ and to achieve net zero by 2050.

On the 24th of February, the Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications, Eamon Ryan called for all Local Authorities to commence drafting a climate action plan for their area. Each Local Authority will have 12 months to deliver on this requirement. Additional preparation for this process continued during this period.

Louth County Council have signed up as signatories to the EU Mission on Adaptation, this was announced on the 29th September at the R&I Research Days online webinar.

The Climate Action Team also remotely attended the annual forum of, the EU Mission, Adaptation to Climate Change in Sweden.



Climate Adapt 2022

Community Climate Action

The Community Climate Action fund was launched by Minister Ryan. Training around state aid and administering this fund was attended by the Climate Coordinator and Community Climate Action Officer.

The Community Climate Action fund will be available to non-profit community groups across Louth. The Climate Action Team will launch this funding at a later date.



Framework for the Community Climate Action Programme

Strand 1: Action: Building Low Carbon Communities

Strand 1a: Shared Island Community Climate Action

November 2022

The Community Climate Action Officer also hosted a week-long series of online webinars for community members in Louth. Each workshop focused on a theme within the Community Climate Action Fund.

The Community Climate Action Officer also recently delivered a Climate Action information session on

Clogherhead Beach with the Communities Section in LCC as part of the Blue Flag Beach initiative.



Pupils from Callystown N.S and the Community Climate Action Officer for Louth County Council.

V&W Circular Economy Project

V&W operate the Civic Amenity Site on behalf of Louth County Council. Part of their contract stipulates that they must carry out initiatives to foster the Circular Economy.

After the success of the “African Bicycle Appeal”, V & W officially launched the “**Ukraine Appeal**”. V&W have joined forces with a local bike repair business which fix and donate used bicycles for refugees from Ukraine, around the Dundalk area. V&W have allocated an area at the recycling centre to accept suitable bicycles from the public. They grade, sort, and organise delivery of these bikes to the local bike repair business. Repaired bicycles are then distributed to Ukraine refugees in the area.



Ukraine Appeal, V&W Centre Dundalk

V & W also continue to supply the men’s sheds with organic compost and garden tools for their work projects.

Education and Awareness Initiatives

V & W continue with onsite School visits, linking in with their green school projects. They explain the process involved in Recycling and what becomes of the different materials. Each group is presented with a Certificate of Attendance.

V & W have expanded their ‘Biodiversity Area’ at Drogheda Recycling Centre. They incorporate this area into their education programme for all students attending their on-site school tours.



V & W’s Education Officers continue to work with Tidy Towns groups and Community groups promoting both Recycling Centres and the benefits of recycling.

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

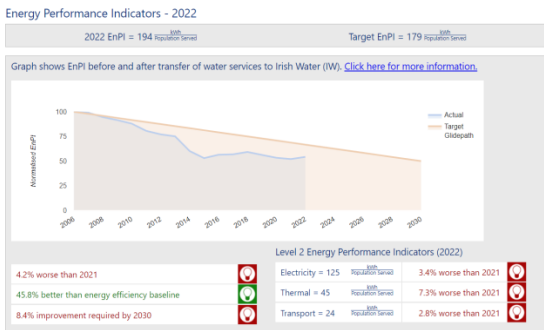
Energy Efficiency Performance

Louth County Council’s energy efficiency at the end of 2022 was 45.78% compared to the baseline year of 2009, according to SEAI’s Annual Report for Public Sector Bodies for 2022.

That is down slightly on previous years. The slight decrease is largely attributable to the depletion of renewable landfill gas at Whiteriver Landfill Site (gas to electricity project whereby electricity was exported to the national grid). However, the Council’s work to improve its energy efficiency has almost entirely off-

set that and the Council remains firmly on target to achieve the 2030 efficiency target.

Irish Public Bodies have a target of improving energy efficiency by 50% and reducing energy-related greenhouse gas emissions by 51% by 2030.



Gap-To-Target Plan to 2030

Louth County Council’s Energy Emissions Baseline, (average energy emissions in the period 2016 - 2028) is 4,907t CO₂. As mentioned, Irish Public Bodies have a target to reduce energy-related greenhouse gas emissions by 51% (compared to the baseline) by 2030.

At the end of 2022 – Louth County Council was responsible for emitting 4,542t CO₂ according to SEAI’s Annual Report. That equates to a reduction in CO₂ of 365t.

Louth County Council Energy Emissions decreased from the baseline to 2022.

To achieve the emissions target, we have developed a Gap to Target Plan to achieve those reductions.

SEAI has advised that, to comply with the 2030 emissions target, Louth County Council must achieve carbon emissions savings of 1,000t.

Improving our energy efficiency causes a consequent (action) reduction of energy emissions.

We do this by undertaking behavior change (e.g. our participation in OPW’s Optimising Power at Work Programme and by improving work vehicle fuel efficiency) combined with more efficient

maintenance works (e.g. replacing high energy public light bulbs with low energy bulbs as they fail) and by undertaking new works.



Varcities H2020 Funded Project Update

This project is in its third year and halfway through its co-implementation phase.

The Council is in the process of procuring sensors for installation at the project suite. These will be used to measure microclimate parameters (temperature and humidity, VOCs, Barometric pressure, CO₂, Oxygen, Particulate Matter) in the vicinity, as well as noise levels, ‘number of people’ counters. The sensors will be deployed as part of the Council’s Visionary Solutions, which will see the greening and regeneration at the pilot site and will be used to populate data in the upcoming Health and Well-Being Platform, currently under development.

Tender documents have been put on the E-Tenders website for procurement of a contractor to undertake the works, with the exception of the Learning Pod. It is planned to procure that separately and procurement documents are at an advanced stage also.

Tholsel Building, Drogheda

A serious issue was detected recently on the roof of the Tholsel building in Drogheda. Urgent repairs works have been undertaken to remove the risk of falling debris. However, more extensive expert specialist investigation is required to fully determine the extent of works necessary to restore the roof. Meanwhile, measures are being put in place to enable the building to be re-occupied and for resumption of the use of the building while work on the roof is continued.



It is likely that the roof restoration works may not be completed for some time. Therefore, the temporary works to enable access to the roof will remain in place but every effort is being made to minimise disruption at street-level and for entry to the building. The heritage value and importance of this very old building is very high and so it is necessary to ensure this is properly completed before the temporary works can be removed.

Veterinary Services

Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI)

As of the 30th June 2023, Louth County Council Veterinary Section, under a Service Level Agreement with the FSAI, enforces food safety standards on one abattoir and thirteen meat processing plants under its supervision in the County. Louth County Council has carried out sixty-three inspections in the year to date.

Control of Dogs

Control of Dogs Act 1986

Dogs impounded June 2023	
Total dogs impounded	18
Seized under Section 16	0
Strays	10
Surrendered by owners	8
No dogs reclaimed by owners	4
No of dogs rehomed direct	3
No of dogs rehomed to welfare groups	1
No of dogs on hand in Pound at 30/06/2023	8

Dog Licences June 2023	
No of Licences sold	502
Licence Checks:	
House calls	293
Section 16 Notices issued (request to produce licence within 10 days)	179
Fixed Penalty Notices	13

Control of Horses

Control of Horses Act 1996

Control of Horses Bye-Laws 2003

Horses impounded. June 2023

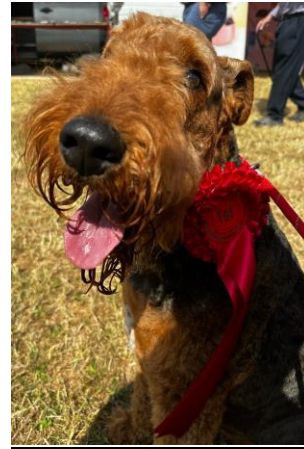
Horses seized, and reason for seizure:	0
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Horses reclaimed by owner	0
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Horses rehomed	0
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Horses disposed of	0
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No of horses on hand in Pound on 30/06/2023	0
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A little love goes a long way... rescue dog Seamas got that in spades after he was taken to Louth County Council Dog Pound. He has since been re-homed by a loving family and is pictured receiving first prize in the Rescue Dog category at the Dundalk Show.

Dog Breeding Establishments

Dog Breeding Establishments Act 2010

Dog Breeding Establishments DBEs June 2023

Total no of registered DBE's in Louth (as at 30/06/2023)	6
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Hunt	1
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Boarding Kennels	2
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Training Kennels	1
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Welfare	2
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Social Development Forbairt Shóisialta

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

Cultural Services, a wide range of initiatives and programmes designed to make living in Louth a stimulating, safe and rewarding experience, including the arts, 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

Seirbhísí Cultúrtha, réimse leathan tionscnaimh agus cláir atá deartha chun saol spreagúil, sásúil, sábháilte a chur ar fail i gContae Lú, na healaíona, agus ár leabharlanna san áireamh

John Lawrence
Acting Director / Stiúrthóir Gníomhach



Housing

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 2021-2024. The following work done within County Louth in the period 20th May – 19th June 2023 can be summarised as follows:

Table 1: Actions by Homeless Services

20th May – 19th June 2023	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda MD	Total
Offered advice, support (including fast tracking H.A. for Rent Supplement eligibility)	8	114	69	191
Placed in Temporary Emergency Accommodation	4	22	20	46
Refused Offer of Temporary Emergency Accommodation	0	3	1	4
Not eligible from outside county or non HRC	0	0	0	0
Total number of Person who presented as Homeless	12	139	90	241

Tables 2 - 4 below reflect details of the adults who were in emergency accommodation in County Louth on 19th June 2023. Also included in Table 5 is the breakdown of families in emergency accommodation at that date.

Table 2: Gender

Gender	Total
Male	80
Female	62
Total	142

Table 3: Age Groups

Age Group	Total
18-24	23
25-44	69
45-64	43
65+	7
Total	142

Table 4: Accommodation Type

Accommodation Type	Total
Private Emergency Accommodation (PEA)	72
Supported Temporary Accommodation (STA)	70
Total unique individuals	142

Table 5 - Families with dependent children

	No. of families with dependent children	No. of Individual Adults	No. of Dependents
Individuals with dependent children in Louth	13	13	22
Total	13	13	22
Couples with dependent children in Louth	16	34	37
Total	16	34	37

Table 6 - Housing First

	County Louth
Number of tenancies established.	37
Number of individuals currently in tenancy	30

Housing Allocations up to 27th June, 2023

District	LA	LA Refusal	AHB	AHB Refusal
Ardee	22	6	1	0
Drogheda	45	12	12	9
Dundalk	59	6	28	8
Total	126	24	41	17

Transfers

District	Number
Ardee	3
Dundalk	11
Drogheda	2
Total	16

Housing List at 27th June, 2023

June 2023	Ardee	Drogheda	Dundalk	Total
Housing List	411	649	978	2038
HAP Transfer List	301	1166	1645	3112
Total Housing List	712	1815	2623	5150

There are **283** applications on the transfer list (Non HAP) within Social Housing including **41** applications from the Approved Housing Bodies.

Housing Assistance Payment

The total number of applications in HAP is 3,112

Ardee Municipal District	Drogheda Borough District	Dundalk Municipal District	Total
301	1166	1645	3112

Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022 -2027

The implementation plan for National Housing Strategy for disabled people is imminent, therefore, the review of the Local Housing Strategy for Disabled People will commence once published.

Rent Management

The total number currently paying rent by Household Budget is **945**.

Current Rents Arrears as at 27th June 2023	No of Accounts	Value
Rents between 4-6 weeks old	182	€70,879.00
Rents between 7-12 weeks old	159	€121,337.00
Rents greater than 12 weeks old	840	€2,854,741.00
TOTAL	1,181	€3,046,957.00

Vacant Properties

Vacant Properties on 27th June 2023	Total
Ardee Municipal District	8
Dundalk Municipal District	12
Drogheda Municipal Borough District	31
Subtotal (re-lets) Vacant Properties	51
Vacant Properties (CPO units not yet ready for occupation) (All County)	3
Total Number of Properties (Relets & CPO)	54

Note: Currently **10** number social units are being used as temporary accommodation for homeless or emergency, and are not included in the above figures.

Maintenance Calls

Maintenance	1st-27th June 2023	Total (YTD)
No. of Maintenance Requests Received	483	3,480
No. of Maintenance Requests Completed	363	2,696
No. of Maintenance Requests in Progress	98	N/A
No. of Maintenance Requests Refused	22	192

Private Rental Inspections

	1st - 27th June 2023	Year to Date
Properties inspected monthly	11	149
Advisory Letters issued	1	97
Improvement Notices issued	8	32
Private Inspections	2	4
HAP Inspections	2	102
RAS Inspections	0	0
AHB Inspections	0	8
Private Re-Inspections	0	0
HAP Re-Inspections	7	30
RAS Re-Inspections	0	0
AHB Re-Inspections	0	0
Inspections from Complaints	2	4
Virtual Re-Inspections	0	0
Properties made Compliant	7	35

Tenancy Engagement

1 st June 2023 to 27 th June, 2023	Drogheda	Ardee	Dundalk	Monthly Total	Yearly Total
No. Tenants who attended Pre-tenancy training	3	0	8	11	129
Post-tenancy inspections	0	0	22	22	155
Tenancy Investigation Visits	8	6	35	49	262
Tenancy Investigations Remote	0	0	10	10	36

Anti-Social Behaviour

1 st June 2023 to 27 th June, 2023	Drogheda	Ardee	Dundalk	Monthly	Yearly
ASB Cases received	14	4	6	24	90
ASB cases Ongoing	8	4	15	27	89
ASB cases complete	15	0	1	17	63

Notifications Issued for Tenancy Breaches

1 st June 2023 to 27 th June, 2023	Drogheda	Ardee	Dundalk	Monthly	Yearly
Verbal Warnings	2	0	0	2	22
Written Warnings	0	0	0	0	2
Tenancy Notifications	0	0	0	0	6
Tenancy Warnings under Housing Act, 2014	0	0	4	4	4

Home Loans

2023 Budget Allocation	€8,030,000
LAHL Approvals at 27/06/2023	€2,840,128

Breakdown of LAHL applications processed at 26th June, 2023.	
Total number of Applications at 27/06/2023	46
LAHL carried over from 2022	5
Invalid/Returned	9
Approved	16
Declined	20
For review	4
Outstanding – waiting on further information	2

Grant Assistance to the Elderly and Disabled

Due to the high volume of applications received, grant applicants cannot be accepted at present.

The Council received an allocation of €2,499,125 in 2023 for Private House Grants. €499,825 of this will be funded by the local authority's own resources.

Status	HAG	MAG	HOP	Monthly 01/06/2023 – 28/06/2023	YTD Total
Applications completed 2022	42	17	175	-	234
Applications on hand 24/05/2023	268	23	296	-	587
No. Grants Approved 2023	18	1	0	19	137



New Windows and Door completed in June with the assistance of a grant under the Housing Aid for Older People

Climate Action

The newly revised **Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme** is now in the third year of a ten year programme which is expected to grow to meet the Programme for Government retrofit commitment. The new programme sees a significant up scaling (from 'shallow' to 'deep retrofit') on what has been completed by local authorities to date.

The Council has received official notification, from DHLGH, of its 2023 allocation for the Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme, which for 105 units.

Affordable Housing

Louth County Council has been received approval from the Department of Housing for an Affordable Housing scheme in Drogheda. Louth County Council in partnership with Lagan Homes will bring several properties to the market at Newtown Wood, Drogheda. Details of the scheme will be circulated in local media in the coming weeks.

Vacant Homes

The survey of vacant homes continues in Co. Louth. At the start of May, staff in the Housing section began the survey and logged the results on the app. To date 1,236 properties have been surveyed

throughout the county. This information will be used to engage with property owners where the property is vacant or derelict to bring the property back into use.

Acquisitions

Louth County Council has the delegated sanction to purchase properties for specific categories of housing need. This includes properties where a landlord is selling and has issued a notice to quit to a tenant in receipt of HAP. The Council is actively working with tenants and landlords in relation to the tenant in situ scheme. In June Louth County Council acquired two such properties in Dundalk.



A recently acquired property in Dundalk.

Long Term Lease Delivery

Repair and Lease

Units	Address	Beds	Notes
1	30A Castletown Road, Dundalk	2	Under construction
1	30B Castletown Road, Dundalk	2	Under construction
1	23 St Bridget's Tce	2	Under negotiation for works
6	Kearneys Building, Castlebellingham	2	Pre planning
9 units to date			

**Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant
– Croi Conaithe**

Applications Submitted	62
Principle private Residents Applications	59
Rental Property	3
Approved	17
Approved in principle	4
Rejected	1
Applications withdrawn	1
Funding issued	14

Capital Housing Delivery

Boice Court Phase 2.

In May 2023 Louth County Council signed contracts for the delivery of the new housing Scheme at Boice Court, Mell, Drogheda. There are 72 new housing units in Boice Court Phase 2 that comprise a mix of houses, apartments and duplex units. The Contractor commenced works on site in June 2023 and is due to be substantially completed in early 2025.



Boice Court Phase 2 – 72 unit housing Scheme commenced construction.



Boice Court Phase 2 – 72 unit housing Scheme commenced construction.

SHIP Delivery

Project Name	Project Phase	Total Number of Social Units Expected	Project Status	Projected Substantial Completion Date	Unit Type
Muirhevnamore, Dundalk Phase 1	1/1	11	Stage 4 Approved	01/09/2024	3no. * 2 bed & 8no. * 3 bed
Boice Court (Phase 2)	1/1	72	On Site	19/02/2025	27no. * 3 bed, 4no. * 4 bed, 8no. * 1 bed Apt, 25no. * 2 bed Apt & 8no. * 3 bed Apt
Mount Avenue, Dundalk	1/1	93	Stage 4 Approved	31/03/2025	29no. * 2 bed, 23no. * 3 bed, 9no. * 4 bed, 10no. * 1 bed Apt, 6no. * 2 bed Apt, 16no. * 3 bed Apt
Rathmullen Park, Drogheda Infill	1/1	6	Stage 1 Approved	05/12/2025	2no. * 2 bed Apt, 2no. * 2 bed, 2no. * 3 bed
Ballymakenny Road - East Site, Drogheda	1/1	80	PPP Bundle 5 Funding Approved	30/06/2026	To be confirmed
Moneymore, Drogheda - Infill	1/1	1	Funding Approved Single Stage	19/06/2024	1no. * 3 bed
Gort Uaine, Clogherhead - Infill	1/1	1	On-site	29/09/2023	1no. * 4 bed
School Lane, Dunleer - Infill	1/1	1	On-site	29/09/2023	1no. * 3 bed
Doire Beag, Collon, Co. Louth - Infill	1/1	6	On-site	24/11/2023	6no. * 3 bed
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	2/6	10	On-site	30/09/2023	10no. * 2 bed
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	3/6	6	On-site	30/09/2023	3no. * 2 bed Apt, 3no. * 3 bed Apt.

Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	4/6	6	On-site	30/09/2023	3no. * 2 bed Apt, 3no. * 3 bed Apt.
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	5/6	6	On-site	30/09/2023	3no. * 2 bed Apt, 3no. * 3 bed Apt.
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	6/6	7	On-site	30/09/2023	3no. * 2 bed Apt, 3no. * 3 bed Apt., 1no. * 2bed
Newtown Wood, Drogheda	2/5	1	Completed	31/03/2023	1no. * 2 bed
Newtown Wood, Drogheda	3/5	1	On-site	30/09/2023	1no. * 3 bed
Newtown Wood, Drogheda	4/5	9	Funding Approved	30/06/2024	4no. * 3 bed, 5no. * 2 bed
Newtown Wood, Drogheda	5/5	8	Funding Approved	31/12/2024	6no. * 3 bed, 2no. * 1 bed
Point Road, Dundalk	1/1	49	SHIP Accl Delivery, MMC - Proposal	31/12/2026	To be confirmed
Dunleer (Ravel Grange)	1/1	72	SHIP Accelerated Delivery, MMC - Proposal	31/12/2026	To be confirmed
Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda - West	1/1	105	SHIP Accelerated Delivery, MMC - Proposal	31/12/2026	To be confirmed
Mullavalley, Louth Village	1/1	43	SHIP Accelerated Delivery, MMC - Proposal	31/12/2026	To be confirmed
Greenhills, Drogheda	1/1	20	SHIP Accelerated Delivery, MMC - Proposal	31/12/2026	To be confirmed

CAS Delivery

Project Name	AHB	Total Number of Social Units Expected	Project Status	Projected Substantial Completion Date	Unit Type
Coulter Park, Dundalk,	Tuath	10	Stage 3 Approved	03/09/2024	5no.* 2 Bed house, 1no.* 2 Bed ambulant unit, 1no.* 4 Bed Communal unit
10-16 The Alleys, St Peters Place, Drogheda	P McVerry	14	Stage 2 Approved	30/07/2024	14no.*Studio apartments
Barrack Street, Dundalk, Co Louth	Dublin Simon	30	Stage 2 Approved	15/01/2025	19no.*1 Bed apartments 3no. *accessible units 8no. *Studio apartments
St John's Home, Peters Street, Drogheda	North & East	4	Stage 3 Approved	30/09/2024	4no. *1 Bed units
Kincora House, 1-2 Seatown	P McVerry	8	Stage 1 approved	30/07/2024	8no.* 1 Bed apartments
Highfield, Newry Road, Dundalk, Co Louth	Womens Aid Dundalk	12	Stage 1 approved	02/03/2025	5no.* 1 bed apartments 7no.* 2 bed apartments
3 Paradise Place	P McVerry	4	Stage 1 approved	01/03/2024	4no.*1 Bed apartments

CALF DELIVERY

Project Name	Project Phase	Total Number of Social Units Expected	Non Part V/ Part V	Project Status	Projected Substantial Completion Date	Unit Type
Tierney Street, Ardee Circle Housing	1/2	5		On site	01/09/2023	2no. *2 bed Bungalow, 1no. * 3 bed Bungalow, 2no. *3 bed semi detached
Tierney Street, Ardee Circle Housing	2/2	6		On site	01/09/2023	2no. *3 bed Bungalow, 1no. *3 bed semi detached & 3no. *2 bed terraced houses
Newfoundwell Road, Drogheda Cluid Housing	2/2	39		On site	30/06/2023 DELIVERED 15/06/2023	12no.*1 bed apt & 27no.*2 bed apt
Newtown View, Marsh Road, Drogheda Respond Housing	1/3	40	36/4	On site	30/09/2023	1no.*3 bed detached, 10no.*2 bed terraced, 14no.*3 bed semi detached & 15no.*3 bed terraced
Newtown View, Marsh Road, Drogheda Respond Housing	2/3	46	43/3	On site	30/9/2023	13no.*2 bed terraced, 18no.*3 bed semi detached & 15no.*3 bed terraced
Newtown View, Marsh Road, Drogheda Respond Housing	3/3	47	41/6	On site	30/03/2024	2no.*4 bed detached, 11no.*2 bed terraced, 1no.*3 bed detached, 22no.*3 bed semi detached & 11 no.*3 bed terraced
Tullybrook, Drogheda Cluid Housing	1/1	85	69/16	On site	01/10/2023	8no.*2 bed apt, 7no.*2 bed duplex, 24no.*3 bed duplex, 22no.*3 bed terraced, 22no.*2 bed terraced & 2no*4 bed terraced
Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk Tuath	4/4	12		ON Site	01/03/2024	12no.*3 bed house

Dublin Road, Dundalk Respond Housing	1/2	49	43/6	On site	30/10/2023	18no.*1 bed apt, 7no.*3 bed duplex, 5no.*3 bed terraced, 5no.*2 bed apt & 14.no*2 bed duplex
Duiche Roden, Dundalk Cluid Housing	2/3	14		Delivered	21/04/2023 DELIVERED 15/06/2023	6no.*1 bed apt, 8no.*2 bed apt, 6no.*2 bed terraced & 4no.*3 bed terraced
Donore Road Drogheda Cluid Housing	1/1	66	59/7	On site	30/09/2023	4 no.*1 bed apt, 54no.*2 bed apt & 8 no.*3 bed apt
Duiche Roden, Dundalk Cluid Housing	3/3	69		On site	01/10/2023	30no.*1 bed apt, 11no.*2 bed apt & 18no.*3 bed duplex 6no.*2 bed terraced & 4no.*3 bed terraced
Drybridge, Drogheda North & East Housing	1/1	16		On site	30/07/2023	2no.*3 bed apt, 10no.*2 bed apt & 4 no.*1 bed apt
Dublin Road, Dundalk Respond Housing	2/2	16		On site	31/03/2024	9no.*1 bed apt, 2no.*3 bed apt, 1no.*2 bed duplex & 4no.1*bed semi
Connollys Field Dundalk Fold Housing	1/2	30	19/11	On site	29/03/2024	20no*1 bed apt 10no*2 bed apt
Connollys Field Dundalk Fold Housing	2/2	40		On Site	17/05/2024	31no*1 bed apt 9 no*2 bed apt
An Caislean, Flaxmill Lane, Yellowbatter Drogheda North &East	1/1	17	14/3	On site	15/12/2023	7no*1 bed apt 7 no*2 bed apt 3no*3 bed apt

Cultural Services

Archives



Archives Entrance Gate Sign

National Retention Policy Records Management Working Group

The Co Archivist is assisting with the draft revisions for Community, Library, and Legal Services which are currently in progress and is working with staff in relation to same.

The IT draft NRP is nearing completion. To date, Health & Safety, Planning & Development, Housing, Procurement, Finance, HR, Water, Transport and Infrastructure, Corporate, Environment and Enterprise & Economic Development have been completed, approved and issued 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 and the Co Archives. Work is continuing to take place in reviewing and appraising records for retention as archives or for destruction with work on the Waste section being done this past month.

Mother and Baby Institutions Payment Scheme

This Scheme is operated by the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth and is part of the Government's Action Plan for survivors and former residents. The scheme is due to open in June 2023 and central to it is a National

Centre for Research and Remembrance (NCRR) which will form part of the National Archives. It will be a centre with a space for survivors to research. It is expected that there will be an increase in enquiries in relation to this.

Decade of Centenaries

As part of the Louth County Council Decade of Centenaries Programme 2023, Louth County Archives is creating an online exhibition relating to the period which will feature noteworthy archives and explanatory text. It will be produced in collaboration with the County Louth Archaeological and Historical Society. The Decade of Centenaries Programme is funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.

Research Enquiries

The service continues to receive a steady volume of enquiries on archives. Research enquiries include those from private individuals, academics, professionals and state agencies. The Archivist also receives many internal enquiries from staff in various sections.

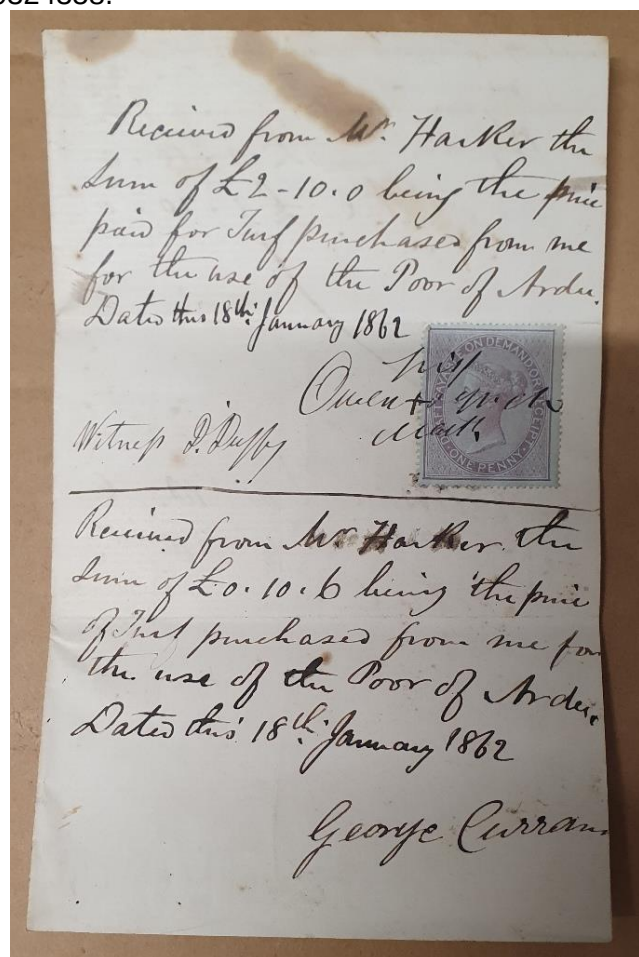
Catalogue Upgrade

The service's cataloguing software is due to be upgraded at the end of this year as the current system is now at the end of life. It will be upgraded to a modern system with enhanced features and improved speed. It will be hosted on the Cloud. Preparation work for the upgrade is ongoing.

Donating Archives

The Service welcomes donations of archives and records from the public that relate to all aspects of the development of County Louth including material from community groups, clubs and societies, national schools, individuals, local organizations and local 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.



Receipt for turf purchased for use of the poor, Ardee, 1862, PP00461/

Climate Action

The Co Archives supports corporate Climate Action Goals. Environmental conditions in the Co Archives building are being monitored and reviewed by Facilities staff.

A new BMS (Building Management System) for the heating plant is due to be installed in July. This will greatly assist in controlling environmental conditions and streamlining energy use in the building. It is receiving funding support from the SEAI scheme.

Libraries

Promoting EU Environmental Legislation to Primary Schools

Louth Library Service and Rory Sheehan, the Climate Action Officer, secured funding of €4,000 from the Dept. of Foreign Affairs under the Communicating Europe Initiative for a project promoting EU environmental legislation, specifically the water framework directive, to primary school children. The project was facilitated by Field Studies Ireland and a representative from LAWPRO.

The project took place during the week of the 12th June in Dundalk, Drogheda, Ardee and Carlingford libraries. Pupils from 4th/5th classes visited their local library for a short talk on how the EU Waste Water Directive has impacted positively on the environment. This was followed by a site visit to a local water body to learn about kick sampling and identify as many species as they could in the water. They will go on to create place-based posters on what they have learned which will be printed and displayed in their local library.



Pupils from Dun Dealgan NS with Mark O'Connor from Field Studies Ireland



Pupils from Mell NS Drogheda enjoying some outdoor education with Mark O'Connor from Field Studies Ireland and Ben Wallace from LAWPRO

Creative Ireland



Louth Library Service and Fighting Words are delighted to premiere 2 videos, 'Taking Over and 'Wanting More', produced by youth groups who participated in the Fighting Words project in Drogheda Library, funded by Creative Ireland. The videos will be screened on the 29th June at 6pm in Droichead Arts Centre. This was a collaboration between Louth Library Service, Boomerang Youth Centre, Southside Community Youth Project, Boyne Garda Youth Diversion Project, Garda Anita O'Shea (Juvenile Liaison Officer, Drogheda), and Droichead Arts and is the culmination of a lot of work by library staff, Fighting Words facilitators and the wonderful young people who took part in the project.

eServices



The wide range of services include:

- Borrow Box for free eBooks & eAudiobooks, Press Reader for newspapers & Libby for magazines.
- Transparent Language Online with over 100 languages to choose from.
- Universal Class for various courses.

eServices information sessions are held every month in:

Dundalk Library on the last Friday of every month from 11am - 12pm

Drogheda Library on the last Thursday of every month from 2.30pm-3.30pm

Ardee Library on the last Friday of every month 10.30am-11.30am

For more information on the above please email Libraryhelpdesk@louthcoco.ie or the library website <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/library/online-services/>

Irish Newspaper Archives



Louth researchers can now access historical Irish newspapers from 1738 to the present day on public PCs in library branches through the Irish-based Irish Newspaper Archives gateway. The archives consist of over 6 million pages of newspaper content from titles across the island of Ireland including local papers such as The Dundalk Democrat, The Drogheda Independent as well as other national and

provincial papers. Through the newspaper obituaries Irish genealogists can search, retrieve and view births, deaths and marriage records from 285 year's worth of Irish newsprint.

LOTE Online 4 Kids

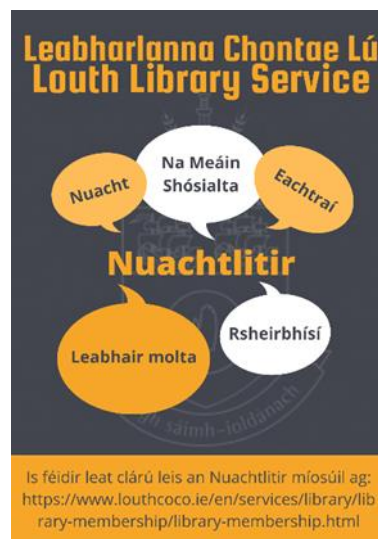


LOTE Online 4 Kids is a database of digital books in World Languages, created for children to enjoy books and learn language through storytelling. The platform provides over 2250+ digital books in 60+ languages together with English translations. New books and languages are released each month, so stay tuned.



For all events and bookings please follow us on Facebook & Instagram by searching Louth Library Service. You will also find our events on Twitter under Louth County Council.

Library Newsletter



Sign up here to receive our monthly newsletter:
<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/>

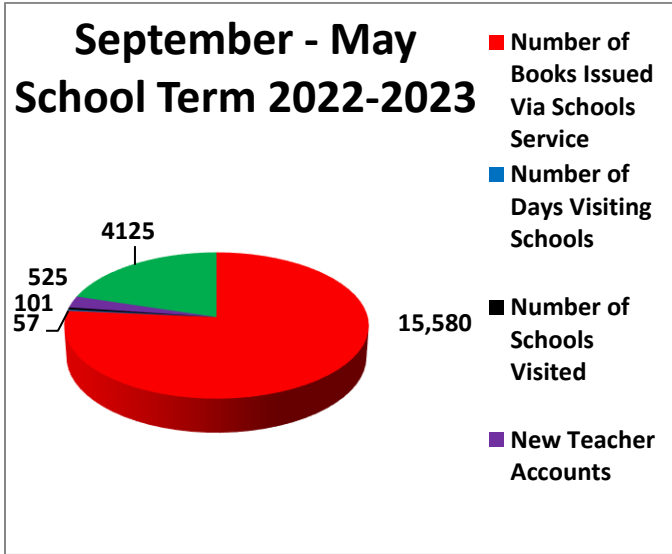
Louth Library Primary Schools Service

The School Library Service finished up for the summer at the end of June. This school year we have visited 74 schools with some schools receiving at least 2 visits. We have recently been in touch with all schools to arrange collections of borrowed books. It's been a very busy year with over 15,500 books loaned to Louth schools. There was a rise in memberships with 525 new membership cards issued to teachers and Educators in County Louth for the 2022/2023 term.

The Schools Service have also included several visits to the Early Learning Centres in the past few months as we also focus on building links with our youngest members. It's a busy time for staff as we sort through the returned items and think about preparing the van for next year's school term. Through the summer months we will continue our Housebound Service and will also schedule visits to ELCs and crèches.

The van will also go in for service and be evaluated, cleaned, and restocked, ready for the 2023/2024 school term.

Number of books issued via Schools Service	Number of Days Visiting Schools	Number of Schools Visited	New Teacher Accounts	Visitor Numbers
15,580	57	101	525	4125



Deis Camps

Deis Schools Summer Camps will take place in Dundalk and Drogheda Libraries during July and August. Attendees will take part in activities and tours of the library.

Sensory Library Service

Magic Table

Available in Ardee, Dundalk and Drogheda Libraries this facility is ideal for those with sensory difficulties, on the Autism Spectrum, and for people with Dementia. Family/Group bookings to use the Magic Table can be made by emailing libraryhelpdesk@louthcoco.ie or contacting your local branch.



Quiet time in Drogheda and Dundalk Libraries
Monday 6pm – 7pm, Ardee Library Saturday 10am – 11am



Sensory area with dimmed lights



Healthy Ireland
at your Library

Mindful Colouring Group for Adults

This Colouring group continues every Wednesday at 3pm in Dundalk Library. Colouring is a simple activity that has a myriad of benefits – relaxation, clarity, focus etc. No booking required.

Right to Read at your Library

Summer Stars



Summer Stars is back for 2023 and Louth Library Service is looking forward to providing an exciting programme throughout the summer. Summer Stars is a free national reading programme for children taking place in all public libraries, which encourages children to read for enjoyment during their summer holidays.

Louth Library Service is providing Summer Stars bags and activity packs highlighting the summer national reading programme and tying it in with the Right to Read Programme.

Summer Stars was launched on Saturday 17th June when all five library branches celebrated "Sign up Saturday". We are encouraging parents to bring along their children to join the library, if not already members, and sign up for Summer Stars.

Artist John Carpenter recently visited Drogheda Library as part of Summer Stars. 2nd class pupils from St. Josephs CBS learned about Lowry the street painter and got to create their own Lowry Street scene.

A programme of events, including Drumming Workshops, Art & Crafts and Children's Storytime, will run throughout July and August in all our library branches. Keep an eye on social media at Louth Library Service on Facebook and Instagram. All

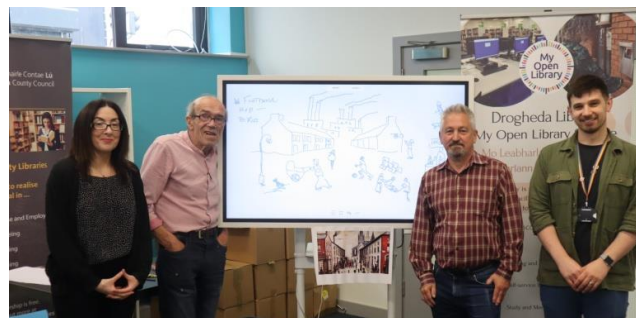
children joining must have parental consent and membership is free.

Louth Library Service will also run a Summer Stars competition to win a day entry family pass for Dublin Zoo, just be sure to return your Summer Stars reading card to your local library branch to be in with a chance of winning this great prize.

Local Branches can be contacted at the following:

Dundalk: 042-9353190
Drogheda: 041-9876162
Ardee: 041-6859023
Dunleer: 041-6859016
Carlingford: 042-932411

Social Media: Facebook & Instagram
@LouthLibraryService & Twitter @Louthcoco



Artist John Carpenter with staff from Drogheda Library



Enjoying Teddy Bear Picnic in Drogheda Library



Sign Up Saturday Storytime in Drogheda Library

World Cup Activity Book

Get a free World Cup Activity Book at Louth Library Service. With the FIFA Women's World Cup this summer it's the perfect way to get kids reading and learning all about sport!



Bellurgan Utd girls under 10 team were delighted to receive their activity books

Free 'My Little Library Book Bag' for all children starting primary school in 2023



To help children navigate starting primary school, Libraries Ireland has put together a free bag of books just for them that can be collected at any library branch in County Louth. The 'My Little Library Book Bag' initiative is a collaboration between libraries, the Department of Rural and Community Development, and the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth as part of the First 5 Strategy. Louth Library Service is looking forward to welcoming all the 4- and 5-year-old children in to collect their book bags and begin their library membership journey. Book bags are available in both Irish and English and contain:

- Three books on starting school, making friends and being comfortable to be yourself.
- A story card on going to the library.
- A postcard the child can write or draw on and send to their teacher or bring to give to the teacher on their first day at school.
- Their very own library card and special 'My Little Library' cardholder

We hope that once you visit the library to pick up the book bag, our new library members will come back regularly to keep their bag filled up with borrowed books and to take part in storytimes and fun activities which are all **free**. The book bags can be collected at your local library branch.

Email: Libraryhelpdesk@louthcoco.ie



This little reader was delighted to collect her book bag in Drogheda Library recently

Louth County Council Decade of Centenaries Programme 2023



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

Louth in 1923: from executions to elections Friday 07th July at 3pm Dundalk Library

From Executions to Elections: Louth in 1923
with Dr. Thomas Tormey,
Historian in Residence.

Friday, July 7th 3PM

DUNDALK LIBRARY

Join Louth County Council's historian in residence for the Decade of Centenaries, Dr. Thomas Tormey, as he discusses the tumultuous events of 100 years ago. This year we will mark the state executions and house burnings that characterised the bitter closing stages of the Civil War.

No booking required.
Event will also be livestreamed here:

Join Dr. Thomas Tormey, Louth's Historian in Residence, as he conducts an informative lecture on 'Louth in 1923: from executions to elections' in Dundalk Library. This will be followed by a Q&A session. All welcome and no booking required.

Children's Events

Dundalk Library

- Let's Drum with the Mobile Music School Drumming Workshop for Children age 8-12yrs
Friday 07th July at 12.30pm
Booking via timify:
<https://bit.ly/3NHBRKk>
- Children's Storytime, Saturday 22nd July at 3pm.
- Harry Potter Day Friday 28th July

Calling all muggles, witches & wizards! Join us for Harry Potter day on Friday 28th July at Dundalk library.

Test your Harry Potter knowledge.
Quiz at 3.30pm suitable for ages 6-12.
Magical Crafts at 3.30pm suitable for ages 6-9.
Harry Potter Fan Fic writing workshops at 3.30pm suitable for ages 9-12

Booking essential. Contact Dundalk library on 042 9353190 to book your place.

Drogheda Library

- Summer Art & Crafts for Children, Saturday 01st July at 11.30am. Contact Drogheda Library on 041 976162 to book your place.
- Let's Drum with the Mobile Music School Drumming Workshop for Children age 8-12yrs
Friday 07th July at 3pm
Booking via timify:
<https://bit.ly/3NHBRKk>

Brigid Cloak Exhibition

The Brigid Cloak Exhibition will run from 23rd June to 12th July. As part of the exhibition, there will be children's art workshops for ages 6-10yrs on the following dates:

- Tuesday 04th July at 11am
- Tuesday 11th July at 11am
- Saturday 15th July at 11am

There will also be adult art workshops on the following dates:

- Wednesday 12th July at 6.15pm
- Saturday 15th July at 2.30pm

Places are limited and booking is essential. Contact Drogheda Library on 041 9876162.

Ardee Library

- Let's Drum with the Mobile Music School
Friday 07th July at 10.30am
Booking via timify
<https://bit.ly/3NHBRKk>
- Ardee Library Storytime and Colouring Club
Ardee Library Picture Book Storytime and Colouring Club will continue to meet throughout the month of July on Friday 14th and Friday 28th July at 2.30pm. All welcome to attend, places limited, booking is essential. Contact Ardee library on 041 6859023.
- Junior Film Screenings
Ardee Library will screen two children's films in the month of July:
 - Friday 07th June at 2.30pm
Dora and the Lost City of Gold (2019)
 - Friday 28th June at 2.30pm
Trolls World Tour (2020) 2.30pm

Children must be accompanied by a parent/guardian for the full duration of the screening. Booking not necessary.

Dunleer Library

- Children's Crafts Workshop Saturday 15th July at 11am.

Carlingford Library

- Children's Storytime Saturday 01st July at 11am.

Parent & Toddler Mornings

- Every Thursday 10am-12pm in Dundalk and Drogheda Libraries
- Every Wednesday 10.30am-12.30pm in Ardee Library

Baby Book Club

Explore the benefits of reading to your baby from an early age during Baby Book Club,

- the first Wednesday of each month in Dundalk Library
- the first Tuesday of each month in Drogheda Library.

Adult Events

Ciorcal Cómhra / Irish Conversation first Tuesday of every month at 4pm in Dundalk and every Wednesday at 1pm in Drogheda Library

Ar mhaith leat do chuid Gaeilge a úsáid nó a chleachtadh? Tá an Ciorcal Cómhra i leabharlann Dhún Dealgan ar ais! Beidh sé ar siúl ar an gcéad Máirt chuile mhí ag 4 sa leabharlann. Tá sé dírithe ar dhaoine fásta ar mhaith leo an Ghaeilge a fhoghlaim nó a úsáid.

Would you like to use or practice your Irish skills? The group is aimed at adults who would like to learn or practice Irish. For more information, contact Dundalk Library on 042 9353190 and Drogheda Library on 041 9876162

Dundalk Library 042 9353190

Heroes of the Gaelic World in the Digital Age: The Fionn Folklore Database

Thursday 06th July at 6.30pm

The Fionn Folklore database brings together some 3,500 tales and songs about the Gaelic world's greatest heroes, and also offers a wealth of resources, including character lists, glossaries, an interactive digital map, and much more! In this talk, project researcher Dr. Pádraig Fhia Ó Mathúna will provide insight into the site's background and resources, conveying how everyone from researchers to teachers, artists, writers, and the public can benefit from this innovative digital humanities initiative.

All welcome, no booking required.

Poetry Reading Group

Do you have an interest in reading, listening to, or discussing poetry? Come along to our new poetry reading group and meet some fellow poetry enthusiasts. The next meeting will be on Friday 07th July at 11am. All welcome.

The Language of Trees: an evening with Katie Holten.

Tuesday 25th July at 6pm

Katie Holten, artist and environmental activist, will discuss her new book *The Language of Trees* in Dundalk Library on Tuesday 25th July at 6pm.

All welcome, no booking required.

Drogheda Library 041 9876162

Drogheda Women's Refuge Information Stand

Drogheda Women's Refuge Outreach Service will have an information stand in Drogheda Library on Wednesday 05th July from 10.30am-1pm. The service offers practical and emotional support and options to those experiencing domestic violence.

Ardee Library 041 6859023

Ardee Library Conversational Irish

Conversational Irish for Beginners will be held every Thursday morning from 10.30am- 12.30pm.

Suitable for those with a cúpla focal. All welcome – children must be accompanied by an adult. Peer led learning- all you need is a desire to speak as gaeilge!

Ardee Library Language Conversation Exchange

Meeting every Tuesday evening at 6pm. Always wanted to learn a new language or practice what spoken languages you already know? Ardee Library Conversation Exchange is the perfect place to do this. Peer led language learning through conversation - all languages welcome!

Film Screenings at Ardee Library

Ardee Library continues to screen films every Tuesday afternoon at 2.15pm. The line-up for the month of July is as follows:

- 04th July Mrs Henderson (2005)
- 11th July Midnight in Paris (2011)
- 18th July Portrait of Jennie (1948)
- 25th July Dial M for Murder (1955)

Ardee Library Board Games Club

Fancy honing your Chess skills? Maybe Draughts is more your thing? Why not give Scrabble a go? The Ardee Library Board Game Club meets every Saturday afternoon at 2.15pm. Bring a friend or meet new people for a chat while playing your favourite board game.

Ardee Library Audiobook Club

The Ardee Library Audiobook Club continues to meet on the third Thursday of every month. The next meeting will take place on Thursday 20th July at 6pm. New members welcome.

The Vere Foster Writers Group

The Vere Foster Writers Group meets every Friday morning at 10.30 am. This is a group for adults to share their writings with others and build confidence in their writing. New members welcome. Contact Ardee Library for further details.

Pride



A programme of events will run throughout the month of July in Dundalk and Drogheda libraries as part of the Pride celebrations.

Dundalk Library

- Pride Across the World Thursday 13th July at 6pm

In conjunction with Outcomers, join us for a human library experience as we invite people to chat about their experience being LGBTQ+ in a country where it is illegal, surrounded by the flags of these countries. Outcomers Youth Group have been hard at work the last few months to create the flag backdrop which will be on display on the night. All welcome and no booking required.

- Pride at the Library Friday 14th July at 3pm
- Join us for an afternoon of fun for all the family to gear us up for Pride at the Square the following day. There will be an inclusive story time at 3pm, rainbow crafts at 3.30pm and coffee & chats throughout the afternoon where you can get book recommendations from our friendly librarians. Suitable for all ages and no booking required.

Drogheda Library

- Pride Storytime for Children Wednesday 19th July at 3pm. All welcome
- Rainbow Reads Wednesday 19th July at 4pm.

Every month, our team of friendly library staff put together a display of LGBTQ+ titles and offer recommendations over a cup of tea or coffee. This event is open to all and no booking is required.

- Pride Storytime and Rainbow Reads Saturday 22nd July at 11am.

Drogheda Pride Parade will be taking place at 12noon so why not pop in before the parade for storytime and browse through our display of LGBTQ+ titles. All are welcome.



Rainbow Reads Book Display in Drogheda Library



Pride Art & Crafts in Drogheda Library recently

Outreach

Dundalk Show

Louth Library Service had an information stand at the Dundalk Show recently. Library staff provided information on library services and signed up new borrowers while promoting the wide range of digital services, online resources, and My Open Library facilities available in Drogheda and Ardee Libraries.



Library Assistants Ray Gainford and Ebhlín Crawley at Dundalk Show

World Refugee Day

Louth Library Service attended the Meath Refugee Resettlement Programme – End of Programme Event on World Refugee Day on Tuesday 20th June. This event was hosted by Respond who provide access to education, childcare, community development programmes and housing to some of the most vulnerable groups in society. 19 families have been resettled through the programme with many located in Drogheda.

Library staff spoke to the families who will be living in Drogheda about the many services available to them in the library.



Library Assistant Ray Gainford at the event

Arts

Creative Ireland Louth

Cruinniú Na nÓg

Cruinniú Na nÓg, the annual day of free creativity for children and young people took place on Saturday 10th June. We had a huge turnout at our Cruinniú@the Square event with the live music stage and Creative Spark providing the workshops.



The Gaelscoil youth band performing on the live stage at Market Square

In Drogheda there was a vast range of outreach projects which Meath and Louth County Councils collaborated on and a lot of exhibitions on the day itself of the work created. Their outreach work ran from Mornington to Moneymore and all in between.



Samba Drumming Workshop in Drogheda

Louth Libraries also went to the Circus with Broken Theatre and their circus workshops where kids, parents and staff alike had great fun on the day! There were Spinning Plates, Juggling, Hula Hooping and general tomfoolery!



Broken Theatre Circus Performers at the Dundalk library

Additional Funding

Louth County Council received €15k in additional funding under the **Creativity in Older Age Scheme** from Creative Ireland. The application was in partnership with Music & Health Ireland and will have musicians working in 3 nursing homes over the

coming months. The musicians will work with, and train, staff and carers on the benefits of music and how to use the most basic of instruments to enhance the wellbeing and care of their residents.

Louth partnered with Monaghan on its' application for funding under the **Creative Economies Scheme** back in March, which has been successful. The 'North East Creative Conversations Programme' will see the LEO offices of Louth and Monaghan, along with the 3rd partner, Cavan work with Creative Spark to deliver a range of networking and mentoring programmes aimed at creatives in the design and digital industries. The first event was held in Creative Spark on Friday 23rd June and was well received by the participants. For more details see our LEO website [here](#)

Shared Island Funding

Shared Island Funding opened for application with the department in June. Louth submitted 1 application in collaboration with Monaghan and Cavan, along with libraries NI on a literary project. We also partnered with Monaghan on their application with Belfast City County on an outreach arts project centered on displacement and immigration. The outcome of applications will be known in September.

Brigid1500

Artist in the Community

Creative Spark was the successful tenderer for the Artist in the Community programme which we advertised earlier in the year. They will work with 4 artists on delivering a range of workshops with several community groups and schools from now until January 2024. Each group will create at least 1 piece of art for display at a special exhibition that will take place in the run up to the 2024 commemorations to mark the 1500th anniversary of Brigid's' death. Sarah Daly in Creative Spark has said "the Creative Spark team is delighted to be part of the Brigid 1500 celebrations. It will be exciting to see the artworks develop throughout the year. The opportunity to work with a wide range of community groups and schools will be a rewarding and

enriching experience for our artists and participants”. The Artist in the Community project is one of the many initiatives commissioned by the council as part of the Brigid1500 programme and is co-funded by the Creative Ireland programme in Louth.

Brigid’s Cloak

The Brigid1500 cloak moved to Ardee at the start of June for 3 weeks and is now located in our Drogheda library. The cloak, created by artist Shauna Swords and the students of St Brigid’s School, has been receiving much attention as it has made its way across the county.



St Brigid and her cloak in Drogheda Library.

An initiative of the Creative Ireland Louth programme and Louth County Council Arts office, the cloak started its journey in Dundalk on May 11th with a launch attended by the students themselves. It then moved to Ardee and will now remain in Drogheda Library until July 13th. During its residency in Drogheda a range of Brigid themed workshops are being delivered by artist Susan Farrelly. For full details of the cloak tour and the workshops see [here](#) or contact Drogheda library on 041 9876162

SEEK Festival

The 2023 Seek Festival kicked off on Friday 30th June with presentations and talks from the artists

taking part this year, including Aero, Mack Signs & Roberto Ciredz. Murals will include a celebration of Dundalk Railway Heritage and one to mark the visit of President Biden earlier this year. As always there will be a range of workshops and walking tours for people to take part in. For full details of all murals, artists and events see [here](#)

Louth Contemporary Music Society

The LCMS FOLKS’ Festival was held on the 16th & 17th June. Opening with a fantastic choral exhibition with the Chamber Choir of Ireland, there was music from composer Caroline Shaw, the Explore Ensemble were in the Oriel Centre, while the Sigma Project, Spanish sax player, took over the St. Vincent’s Chapel.



The trad session to end all trad sessions! Zoë Conway, Donal Lunney & co performing Terry Rileys “In C” at the closing event of the 2023 LCMS FOLKS Festival.

The weekend finished off with an incredible session of trad musicians including Donal Lunney and Zoë Conway who performed the renowned Terry Riley’s classic “In C”. The venues were full be it in St Nicholas’ Church of Ireland, The Spirit Store or the Oriel Centre and the festival has received 4 & 5 star reviews across the board from the Irish Times, Irish Music Journal and Folk Music Journal to name but a few.

Other Funding Streams:

Music For All

Music for All’s funding round 2 is now open. The funding stream offers financial rewards and

donations of instruments to community projects and individuals. Deadline is 28th July. For details see [here](#)

PEACEPLUS

The PEACEPLUS funding calls are now open. There are multiple streams and deadlines including funding for Re-Imagining Communities and for Youth Programming. For all details see [here](#)

Arts Council

The following funding streams are now open for application with the Arts Council of Ireland –

- Late Night events (Pilot programme)
- New Dance Company (call for proposals)
- Theatre projects Award
- Touring of Work Scheme (opens mid July)
- Creative Production Supports (opens mid July)

For details on all funding streams please see [here](#)

Museum

The Museum is currently hosting a display of the Classroom Based Assessment projects compiled by students in Coláiste Rís. The projects cover a variety of historical topics including:

- The Wildgoose Lodge
- The Significance of Michael Collins
- Stephenstown House



Display of Coláiste Rís CBA projects

The display will run to the middle of summer.

In addition to this the Museum has hosted several school tours of both the permanent exhibition and Dundalk town centre.



RTÉ's Laura Hogan broadcasting live from the Museum's Archaeological Gallery

The Museum featured on a 6.1 news report on June 12th on the appropriate use of metal detectors. The item was designed to highlight the legislation around the use of such devices following a court case in Dundalk at the end of May. The piece was broadcast live from the Museum's archaeological gallery and featured interviews with both Museum Curator Brian Walsh and Maeve Sikora from the National Museum of Ireland. The item may be viewed on https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/louth_county_council/recent_press_releases/vid-20230612-wa0000.mp4

Ministerial Meeting



Minister Malcolm Noonan with members of LAMN at the Customs' House.

The County Museum, Dundalk is a member of the Local Authorities Museums' Network (LAMN). Earlier this month the group met Minister for Heritage and Electoral Reform, Malcolm Noonan T.D., to highlight the work of the group including a discussion on its plans for the next year including sustainability, climate change and the importance of local heritage.

Following an invitation to address the Togher and District Active Retirement Group, Brian Walsh gave a talk to members about the work of the Museum; the nature of its collection and the work that we do. The talk highlighted the industrial and archaeological character of the items collected to date.

Recent Acquisitions

The number of acquisitions made by the Museum continues to rise. Over the past month a number of significant additions to the collection have been made including:

- A collection of hurls signed by competitors in An Poc Fada.
- Boxer Deirdre Gogarty's kit from her final bout
- A 'Children of Lir' carving by John Haugh
- A photograph of the attendees at the Louth Ball in New York in 1950.



Selection of hurls signed by competitors in An Poc Fada



Boxer Deirdre Gogarty presents the kit from her last professional bout to the County Museum, Dundalk



Photograph of attendees at Louth Ball in New York 1950



John Haugh carving of the Children of Lir

Ukrainian Humanitarian Response Freagairt Dhaonnúil na hÚcráine

This Directorate is a temporary creation to lead on the response to the Ukrainian Humanitarian Response and is led by the undersigned.

Is cruthú sealadach í an Stiúrtóireacht seo chun ceannaireacht a thabhairt ar an bhfreagairt ar Fhreagra Dhaonnúil na hÚcráine agus tá sí faoi stiúir ag an té atá sínithe thíos.

Yvonne O'Brien
Acting Director / Stiúrtóir Gníomhach



Ukrainian Humanitarian Response

Offer A Home Programme

Figures as at 28/06/2023

Property offers recorded	40
Owners successfully contacted	40
Properties allocated	23
Beneficiaries assigned	67
Assessments	32
Assessments currently underway	2
Properties assessed as suitable	23
Properties with minor works required	3
Properties withdrawn	6
Properties not viable	7



Trip to Dublin Zoo

The Offer A Home Programme

The Offer A Home Programme is targeted towards vacant residential properties – apartments, houses or holiday homes – for use by displaced Ukrainians living in Louth. 23 properties are currently licensed for use in Louth.

Louth County Council's Ukrainian Speaking Matching and Relationship Officer provides ongoing support to Ukrainian families in this programme and assists the owner of the offered property with any issues that may arise once the property is allocated. To find out more see www.offerahome.ie

Integration Support

Funded by the Healthy Ireland for Ukrainian Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection Health and Wellbeing Support, the Ukraine support team organized a second trip to Dublin Zoo for Ukrainian beneficiaries of temporary protection in Louth.