



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 June 2023
7^ú Meitheamh 2023

Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report – 31st May2023
Tuairisc Bainistíochta ag an bPríomhfheidhmeannach – 31 Bealtaine 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 31st May 2023 / Caiteachas go dtí 31 Bealtaine 2023

Section/Rannóg	Actual Expenditure to/Caiteachas larbhír go dtí 31/05/2023	Budget Expenditure/ Caiteachas Buiséadaithe 2023	% Spent to/ % Caite go 31/05/2023
Housing/Tithíocht	€15,900,727	€57,155,409	28%
Road Transportation & Safety/Iompar Bóthair agus Sábháilteacht	€9,437,629	€27,351,782	35%
Water Services/Seirbhísí Uisce	€3,263,229	€8,619,589	38%
Development Management/Bainistíocht Forbartha	€7,176,390	€23,666,110	30%
Environmental Services/Seirbhísí Timpeallachta	€7,238,799	€20,837,206	35%
Recreation and Amenity/Áineas agus Conláiste	€3,512,379	€10,361,634	34%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare/Talmhaíocht, Oideachas, Sláinte agus Leas	€604,124	€1,468,858	41%
Miscellaneous/Ilgheanaitheach	€7,451,891	€9,018,942	83%
	€54,585,168	€158,479,531	34%

Income to 31st May 2023 / Ioncam go 31 Bealtaine 2023

Section/Rannóg	Actual Income to/Ioncam larbhír go dtí 31/05/23	Budget Income/Ioncam Buiséadaithe 2023	% Invoiced to/ % Sonraisc Curtha do dtí 31/05/23
Housing/Tithíocht	€16,271,694	€58,718,513	28%
Road Transportation & Safety/Iompar Bóthair agus Sábháilteacht	€2,279,787	€16,635,478	14%
Water Services/Seirbhísí Uisce	€2,718,327	€8,303,355	33%
Development Management/Bainistíocht Forbartha	€3,449,642	€14,403,330	24%
Environmental Services/Seirbhísí Timpeallachta	€689,227	€2,295,719	30%
Recreation and Amenity/Áineas agus Conláiste	€307,628	€1,208,037	25%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare Talmhaíocht, Oideachas, Sláinte agus Leas	€164,188	€543,472	30%
Miscellaneous/Ilgheanaitheach	€5,633,214	€11,296,768	50%
Rates/Rátaí	€34,488,336	€34,708,660	99%
General Purpose Grant (LPT)/Deontas Ilfheidhmeach	€3,288,733	€9,866,198	33%
Provision for Debit Balance/Soláthar faoi larmhéid Dochair	€0	€500,000	0%
	€69,290,776	€158,479,531	44%

The above is the current position as of the 31st of May 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 31st May 2023 are as follows:

Debtors as of 31st of May 2023/Féichiúnaithe mar atá 31 Bealtaine 2023

	Opening Balance /Iarmhéid Tosaigh	Invoices/ Sonraisc	Receipts/ Fáltais	Write Offs/ Díscríobhanna	Closing Balance/ Iarmhéid Deiridh
Government Debtors/Féichiúnaithe Rialtais	€7,546,239	€24,424,840	(€25,007,554)	€50	€6,963,575
Other Authorities/Uadaráis Local Áitiúla Eile	€56,584	€427,896	(€270,021)	(€0)	€214,459
Rates/Rataí	€7,561,465	€34,488,336	(€15,259,287)	(€1,021,489)	€25,769,025
Rents/Cíosanna	€2,621,885	€5,841,979	(€5,886,839)	€968	€2,577,993
Loans/Iasachtal	€295,384	€821,327	(€821,000)	(€0)	€295,711
Development Levies/Tobhaigh Forbartha	€10,943,505	€953,329	(€828,249)	(€925,300)	€10,143,286
Fire Charges/Táilí Seirbhíse Dóiteáin	€717,575	€210,636	(€168,089)	(€28,725)	€731,397
Miscellaneous/Ilgheáitheach	€1,804,894	€5,010,653	(€3,807,634)	(€19,436)	€2,988,477
Total Debtors / Féichiúnaithe Iomlána	€31,547,531	€72,178,996	(€52,048,673)	(€1,993,932)	€49,683,923

Above are the debtor balances as of 31st of May 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

Water Services

Uisce Éireann

Elected members/customers are reminded to contact Uisce Éireann directly 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.

Cavan Hill Water Treatment Plant / Gléasra Cóireála Uisce Cavan Hill

Uisce Éireann & LCC Water Services Operational Staff facilitated a visit of elected members to Cavan Hill Water Treatment Plant on Friday 19th May 2023.

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 permission has been granted for 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 programmed for completion in October 2023.

Shared Waters Enhancement and Loughs Legacy (SWELL)

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

Regional Sewer Network Rehabilitation / Athshlánú an Líonra Séaraigh Aitiúil

The 2023 Programme has now commenced with works currently underway in the Drogheda, Dundalk and Blackrock Agglomerations.

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 currently progressing the Hydraulic Model for the agglomeration. The Stage 4 Workshop is planned for 8th June 2023.

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 / Stáisiún 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 continues to progress, including extensive engagement with developers and landowners' representatives. The Planning Submission for the proposed Pumping Station is currently 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 Stage 1 Data Collection and Scoping Report completed in March 2023.

Cockle Hill PS Upgrade / Uasghrádú Stáisiún Ceadéalacháin Chnoic na Ruachan

This project is currently at construction stage having commenced on site in April 2023.

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 May.

Lead replacement / Ionadú Luaidhe Back Yard Services / Seirbhísí Cúlchlóis

Uisce Éireann contractors undertook 2 backyard first fix repairs in May.

First Fix / Chéad Shocrú.

Uisce Éireann contractors undertook 5 first fix type repairs in May.

Water Scouring Programme 2022 / Clár Sciúrtha Uisce 2022

Louth County Council Crew undertook uni-directional network flushing in Blackrock, Dundalk town centre and Drogheda in May.

Network Maintenance / Cothabháil Líonra

40 essential water tasks were carried out in May including **30** arising out of our Find and Fix program (3 in Ardee, 8 in Dundalk, 3 in Dunleer, 5 in Drogheda, 1 in Tullyallen, 1 in Annagassan, 1 in Cooley, 3 in Courtbane, 1 in Kilkenny, 1 in Collon, 3 in Blackrock)

Planning & Water Connections / Pleanáil agus Ceangail Uisce

The Networks Section processed 32 new connections, 40 Pre-Connection Enquiries and 20 Planning Applications in May.

Service Maps / Léarscáileanna Seirbhíse

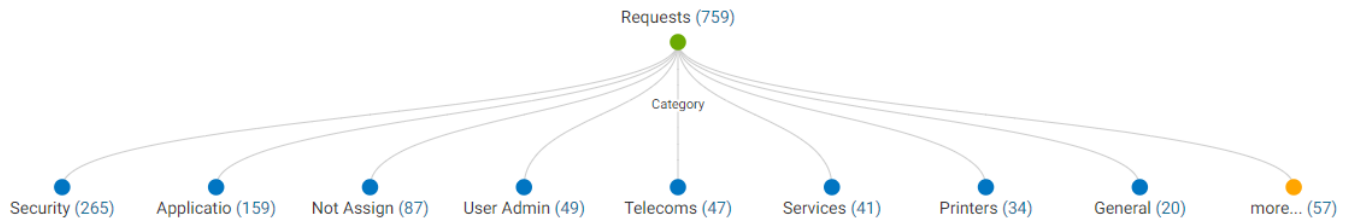
The Networks Section prepared 105 Service Maps in May.

Information & Communication Technology

Helpdesk

Between 01/05/2023 and the 31/05/2023 there were 759 support calls logged in the IT support system, 94% of these calls have been completed.

Security and application support were the two highest category of support requests in May.



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 May 35.22% of inbound e-mails were identified as potentially harmful.



Inbound Emails

162,244



Blocked Sender

899



Blocked at gateway

27,114



Blocked by spam /virus

28,638



Blocked by content rules

483



Potentially harmful emails

35.22%

Louth County Council Website

There were 15,220 unique page views of www.louthcoco.ie in May.

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/	3,662	2,928
/en/services/planning/online-planning-and-maps/	1,028	812
/en/louth_county_council/vacancies/	765	513
/en/services/	623	471
/en/home/	607	456
/en/services/dog-pound/	606	455
/en/services/library/	472	357
/en/services/library/online-services/	423	332

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 1,586 views in May, an average of 53 views a day.



Cyber Security Awareness Training

LCC rolled out cyber security awareness training to all Elected Members in May.

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 Louth Economic Forum took place on the 24th May, 2023. Dr. Diarmuid O'Callaghan, President of DkIT, gave a presentation on the status and future prospects of the Institute.

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.

Sponsorship of Drogheda Sail Training Bursary

Louth County Council are delighted to again be a main sponsor for the Drogheda Sail Training Bursary which celebrates its 10th year in 2023. To date the scheme has supported over 150 young people in Louth and Meath. The Irish Sail Training Vessel will return to Drogheda on 5th June for the first of the two 2023 voyages. The Drogheda Bursary Scheme caters for young adults between the ages of 14 to 30 years and further information can be obtained from Nessa Lally (nessalally@droghedaport.ie) in Drogheda Port Company.



Launch of Drogheda Sail Training Bursary 2023

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

Louth County Council are delighted to be the principal sponsor of the Cross-Border Summer Business Cruise which is being hosted by Dundalk Chamber together with Newry, Drogheda and Kilkeel Chambers and South Armagh Business Improvement Group. It is taking place on the 29th June and businesses can purchase tickets via this link: [tickets](#) or by contacting Dundalk Chamber.



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

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.

The 2023 scheme was extended to areas not covered by the existing scheme via an Expression of Interest. The closing date for receipt of the Expressions of Interest was Friday, 5th May, 2023. 14 Expressions of Interest were received and all applicants have been notified that they are eligible to apply for funding under the main scheme.

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

Tourism

Fáilte Ireland 'Local Experts' Event

Fáilte Ireland held a 'Local Experts' event for anyone involved in the tourism industry in Louth and Meath on the 17th May in the Ballymascanlon Hotel. The morning and afternoon sessions were fully booked. It was facilitated by Fáilte Ireland and involved a lot of round table discussion. A second event will take place on the 4th October in the Knightsbrook Hotel in Trim.

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.

sea louth

The RTÉ1 television series Nationwide broadcast a full programme dedicated to sea louth, County Louth's Scenic Seafood Trail on Wednesday, 31st May at 7pm. It showcased highlights of all there is to see, eat and admire about County Louth, featuring a mix of our seafood producers, restaurants and stamp collections points. For more information on the scenic seafood trail please visit www.sealouth.ie. If you missed the broadcast click here to watch it on the RTE player [Sea Louth Nationwide special 31.5.2023](#)



Filming of Nationwide

Brigid 1500

A newly designed St. Brigid's Cloak was launched in Dundalk Library on Thursday 11th May. The cloak was designed and facilitated by artist Shauna Swords while working with St. Brigid's Special School. The work involved meticulously creating individual impressions on hundreds of specially cut copper foil circles. Each circle was hand stenciled and then the circles were stitched and glued together creating strands of vibrant and detailed work which all come together to make the life sized cloak. It will tour the libraries and a number of workshops are planned to coincide with same.



St. Brigid's Cloak on display in Dundalk Library

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 several 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.

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.

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. The recruitment process commenced and short listing to invite applicants for interview is currently taking place.

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 are being assessed at present.

Boyne Valley Flavours

Food Development Officer

Emma Gill commenced as the Food Development Officer on the 2nd May.

Events

3 events were held in May, with Oldbridge being the largest. Boyne Valley Flavours also co-hosted events, such as Sheridan's Cheese and Wine Evening and the monthly Cottage Market in Drogheda. 4 events are due to take place in June.

Summer Symposium and Meet the Makers Showcase

The Summer Symposium and Meet the Makers Showcase was a huge success. There was up to 50 attendees on the day, with buyers, food producers and food service providers, alongside guest

speakers. There was great feedback from all who attended.

LEO Louth

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.

3 no. Louth business were approved YTD.

LEO Louth continues to welcome new applications.

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.

Business Training



During May, LEO held 6 no. training courses delivered to 61 no. attendees. They included Twitter for Business, Advanced Facebook, Trading Online Seminar, Email Marketing Using Mailchimp, Google Adwords and Social Media for Small Business.

We have 3 more training courses planned for June. All scheduled training courses are available to view and book online: <https://www.localenterprise.ie/Louth/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/>.

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 8th June, 2023.

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

Business Advice Clinics

31 no. business advice appointments were provided by telephone and video conference to entrepreneurs throughout the county during May.

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.

13 no. businesses were appointed Mentors during the month of May.

Microfinance Ireland Business Loan



LEO Louth offers expert assistance to clients to assist the completion of Microfinance Loan Applications, Business Plans and Cashflow Projections. 7 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.

2 no. Louth business was approved YTD.

Food Academy

1 no. application was received for this year's Food Academy Programme run by SuperValu, Bord Bia and the LEO Network. Unfortunately, this food business was not selected.

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.

North East Regional Skills Forum

On Wednesday 17th May, Gráinne McKeown represented LEO Louth at the North East Regional Skills Forum meeting held in Cavan Institute of Technology.

New Frontiers

On Tuesday 16th May, Niamh Dennehy represented LEO Louth at the Launch of the 2023 New Frontiers Phase 2 Programme at the Regional Development Centre, DkIT.

Student Enterprise Programme

The National Student Enterprise Programme final was held on the 5th May in Croke Park with 4 entries submitted from Louth.

Senior Category – Just Tap – St. Mary's, Dundalk
Intermediate Category – Like Your Locker – Drogheda Grammar School

Junior Category – Straw-Some – Dundalk Grammar School

My Entrepreneurial Journey Intermediate – Vita Dearbhla McArdle – St. Vincent's, Dundalk

Louth had no winners on the day.

Employment Incentives in Cross Border Region

Dundalk Chamber of Commerce in association with Cross Border Partnership Employment Services held a free Business Seminar on Employment Incentives and Supports available for SMEs in the Cross Border Region on Wednesday 10th May in the Fairways Hotel. Niamh Dennehy, Business Advisor, presented the supports and assistance that LEO Louth could provide to SMEs.

Speed Networking

Sarah Mallon represented LEO Louth at this event organised by the Drogheda Chamber of Commerce held on 9th May in The Mill, Drogheda.



Hubert Murphy, President of Drogheda Chamber of Commerce and Sarah Mallon, Programme Manager, LEO Louth attending the Speed Networking event

European Relations

Peace IV Programme



St. Peter's Hill, Drogheda and the Extension to the Muirhevnamór Community Centre.

Final works are taking place at both sites. A successful opening event was held at St. Peter's Hill, Drogheda on 8th May and an opening event for

the extension to the Muirhevnámór Community Centre will be held on the 1st June with a closing event for all Peace IV projects to be held on 14th June. Please keep an eye on the Louth County Council website for updates.

The opening event at St. Peter's Hill was attended by the Cathaoirleach Cllr. Conor Keelan, Mayor of Drogheda, Cllr. Michelle Hall, Chief Executive, Joan Martin, representative of SEUPB, members of the Peace IV Partnership Committee and local Protestant and Catholic clergy. Following a speech, the plaque was unveiled by Cathaoirleach Cllr. Conor Keelan. This was followed by performances from the living life choir and local dance troupe Kidkast. The opening event was followed by light refreshments in the nearby St. Peter's Church of Ireland Parish Hall.



The Opening Event at St. Peter's Hill, Drogheda



Kidkast at the St Peter's Hill Opening Event

PEACEPLUS



The 7th PEACEPLUS partnership meeting took place on 25th May, 2023.

Public Consultation

Arising from the public consultations on PEACEPLUS in late 2022 and early 2023 hundreds of concepts have been received from members of the public. These are being assessed for eligibility and feasibility by PEACEPLUS Partnership Committee and our consultants Blu Zebra as part of the stage two consultation process.

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

During the first quarter of 2023 the following trends in emergency incident occurrence were noted:

- Increase number of callouts in the first quarter from 231 in 2022 to 280 in 2023.
- The most common incident type was road traffic accidents, 55 compared to 40 in 2022.
- Increase in ambulance assist calls from 13 in 2022 to 22 in 2023.
- Increase in house fires from 19 to 28.

Average fulltime response times to fires were 1 min 22s in Drogheda and 1 min 18s in Dundalk. This is similar to 2022.

Fire Service and Civil Defence personnel attended the annual 'Songs of Praise and Thanksgiving for Emergency Services' on Tuesday 16th May at St. Nicholas' Church of Ireland, Dundalk. The main emergency services and members of the public were in attendance.



Emergency Services Personnel at the St. Nicholas Church Event

Louth County Council has agreed the details of the site for the new fire station in Dunleer with the vendor and a site meeting has been arranged with the Design Team.

The Fire Prevention Section is continuing its assessment of new accommodation for Ukrainian refugees, with further sites in Dundalk and Drogheda.

The delivery of Louth Fire Service's training plan continued during May. This included the following:

- Attendance by 5 recruits on fulltime recruits course in Dublin Fire Brigade from 29th May to 22nd September.
- Critical Incident Stress Management courses.

Major Emergency Management

There was a regional Major Emergency Management working group meeting and in Meath on 9th May and a Steering Group meeting in Monaghan on 10th May, chaired by Louth County Council. This included planning for a major emergency exercise in Quarter 4 of 2023.

Three Council and Fire Service personnel are attending a 'Train the Trainer' course on information management.

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 May as follows:

- First Aid Responder Training
- Three-day Search Instructor training course
- Two-day First Aid Responder Instructor training course
- Critical Incident Stress Management External Presentation
- Missing Person Search Exercise
- Severe Weather and Off Road Driving Course
- Emergency Medical Technician Continued Professional Competence training day

Medical cover was provided at Community Duties, as follows:

- Two-day Apple Blossom Festival
- Cross Cooley Challenge
- Rás Táihteann Cycle Race

Building Control

The Building Control Officer has continued to inspect new developments in compliance with national requirements.

The Building Control Section has continued with building control inspections on sites where a valid Commencement Notice was submitted and a number of these projects had not started within the statutory 28-day period.

The Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage signed the European Union (Construction Products) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 on 4th May, 2023. These Regulations increase the Council's role in monitoring construction products and taking enforcement action.

Planning

Development Management / Bainistíocht Forbartha

The Planning service indicators for Louth County Council for the month of April, 2023 are given below in tabular form. There were 84 planning applications received during the month of April of which 54 were valid. In addition there were 15 responses received during the month to requests for further information and 18 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	7	7	31	0	45
(ii) No. of decisions determined which required further information / Líon na gcinntí inar iarradh breis eolais	5	4	6	0	15
(iii) Percentage of applications refused / Céatadán na n-iarratas a diúltaíodh	14.29% (1)	42.86% (3)	16.13% (5)	0.00% (0)	20.00% (9)
(iv) Number of appeals determined / Líon na n-achomharc a cinneadh	2	0	0	0	2
(v) Percentage of decisions overturned on appeal / Céatadán na gcinntí a cuireadh ar ceal ar achomharc	100% (2)	0.00% (0)	0.00% (0)	0.00% (0)	100% (2)

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	
	April 2023 / Aibreán 2023	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo	April 2022 / Aibreán 2022	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated / Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidhmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh	15	61	33	105
Number of Planning Enforcement cases received which didn't require follow up / Líon na gcásanna Fhorfheidhmithe Pleanála nuair nár ghá obair bhreise	0	0	0	0
Number of cases closed / resolved through negotiation / Líon na gcásanna dúnta / a réitíodh le hidirbheartaíocht	15	42	26	98
Number of Warning letters issued / Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh	16	60	18	64
Number of Enforcement Notices issued / Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh	0	2	1	3
Number of cases referred for legal proceedings / Líon na cásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí	0	4	1	2
Number of Injunctions / Líon na n-urghairí	0	0	0	0
Number of Prosecutions / Líon na n-ionchúiseamh	0	0	0	0

Planning Enforcement – Short Term Lettings Enforcement

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

Description / Cur Síos	Enforcement in relation to Short Term Lettings	
	May 2023 / Bealtaine 2023	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated / Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidhmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh	1	3
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	1	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

Draft Development Contribution Scheme 2023

The Planning Authority is proposing to make a Development Contribution Scheme under Section 48 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) to apply to development which is in the functional area of Louth County Council, with the exception of the area covered by the North Drogheda - R132 to Dublin - Belfast Railway Line Development Contribution Scheme (Map Reference No. DDSC1).

The consultation commenced on Wednesday 31st May, for a 6-week period, up to Friday 14th July (inclusive). Details at:

<https://consult.louthcoco.ie/en/consultation/louth-county-council-development-contribution-scheme>.

Local Area Plan for Dundalk

Louth County Council plan to enter consultation prior to preparing a Local Area Plan for Dundalk. To encourage participation in this process we have prepared a Pre-Draft Issues Paper, which is available for inspection / download at: <https://consult.louthcoco.ie/en/consultation/dundalk-local-area-plan>.

Submissions to the Pre-Draft Issues Paper can be made from Thursday 1st June, until 4.30pm on Friday 30th June, 2023 (inclusive)

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

Catherine Duff
Director / Stiúrthóir



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 Carrickcarnan, Templetown, Rockmarshall, Gyles Quay, Shilling hill and Whites town.
	Ecco Rd
	Castletown Rd
	Old Newry Rd
	Riverside Crescent
	Laurels
	Ramparts
	Armagh Rd ,
	Mooreland /Lennonmelia Crescent
	Inner Relief Rd at Bothar Na Feirme
	Riverside Walk
	Racecourse Rd
	Dundalk By Pass
	Centenery Rd
	Dublin Rd
	Mourne View Walkway
	Ardee Rd
	Carrick Rd
	Under bridges at Fr Murray Park
	Market Sq ,borders and Planters
	Mount Ave

	Castleross hedgerow Ashling Park Estate 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 Nightly By Contractor 200 Bins Bins removed from Market Sq and Clanbrassil St for Spray Painting and will be reinstalled as soon as painted Replaced Black bins. Installed two new ones at Park St and Roden Place Street Furniture and poles cleaned down 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 Cooley- none at this time 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
By Contractor Nightly as part of the street bin collections	As per bin maintenance. 200 between dog bins and Litter Bins throughout the town
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrthála	Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tSeachtain
	Carried out by Water Safety Officer in Cooley. Ring Buoys checked weekly. Report sent to Water Safety Officer For Dundalk. Some new lifebuoys buoys installed. 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
Daily/Weekly Check lists carried out by Parks caretaker	Cooley Area Staff Some Play equipment damaged in St Helenas, and Muirhevnamor , sent to contractor for repair

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 LS 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, Lennonmelia, Aghameen corner of Hoeys lane	
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	<u>Cooley</u> None at this time <u>Dundalk</u> None at this time	
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	<u>Cooley</u> None at this time <u>Dundalk</u> None This Month in Dundalk Grass cutting all areas	
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	<u>Cooley</u> None at this time <u>Dundalk</u> None at this time	
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráichta	<u>Cooley</u> None at this time <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 at this time <u>Dundalk</u> None at this time	
Signage / Comharthaíocht	<u>Cooley</u> None at this time <u>Dundalk</u> Yield Signs Replaced Replaced Bollards on Newry road, Park Drive Chevron Signs. New Signage in areas replaced and adjusted	
Illegal Dumping /	<u>Cooley</u>	

Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	Tyres at flagstaff removed by area crew, <u>Dundalk</u> Ashling Park Under the bridge at Ecco Rd Creative Spark Lands Hoeys Lane, Mooreland Rd Inner Relief Rd Racecourse Rd Athleathan Mount Ave By Pass at WuXi Roundabout St Old Coes Rd Bags of litter picked up from all estates weekly	
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí	<u>Cooley</u> None this month. <u>Dundalk</u> Cleaned graffiti off Road Signs . Graffiti cleaned from Play area at New play park on the Marshes	



Lifeguard hut at Templetown beach

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 Tarrthála	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 LS-7162, Clermont Road Haggardstown, LS-7164 Mullagharlin Haggardstown, LS-7112 Castle Roche Hackballscross. Rd197 Knockabbey – Springhill. N2 – Reaghstown road. Tar patching, pothole repairs works carried in preparation for RAS Tailteann on road number R172, from Green gates to Junction Rock road, LP-3161 Rock Road , LS-7158 Old Golfinks Road, LP-7160 Sandy Lane Blackrock.Station Rd and the Castlebellingham – Dundalk N/A N/A	Road repairs and patching & cleaning up. Tree pruning/vegetation maintenance/verge trimming Resurfacing/overlay works (by contract)
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	Rd203 N2 – Reaghstown and Rd150 Tullyraine. Rd 138 Ballyoran, Rd179 Darver and Rd168 Allardstown- Killincoole. Rd189 Lynns – Seabank and Rd170 Louth Village – Redmonds.	Drainage maintenance – cleansing and gully cleaning, opening outlets & storm drains, preparation for surface dressing.

	LS-7162 Clermont Road Blackrock, LS-7164 Mullagharlin Road Haggardstown, LS-7112 Castle Roche Hackballscross.	
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	N/A	Clearing fallen trees & debris.
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	Sections of a footpath in Clermont Rd	Footpath renewal
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá	N/A	Major repair work completed.
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	N/A N/A	Renewal of junction markings Renewal of existing and provision of additional road markings
Signage / Comharthaíocht	Louth Village and in Annagassan	Cleansing/repair/replacement New signage
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	LS-7162 Clermont Road Blackrock, LS-7114 Killin Bridge A Crinn Kilcurry, LS-7098 Faughart Graveyard Blackrock, Tallanstown	Collection of dumped waste for disposal. Collection & disposal after community clean up
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí	N/A	



Footpath renewal at Clermont road



Safety barriers installed on N53

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		37 Daily		
Dunleer town		20 Tuesday and Thursday		
Collon		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	Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain
Araidí Salachar Madra	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	LS 5288-0 Stormanstown	
	LT 62742-0 Byrne lane	
	LS 5232-0 Bog Road	
	LP 1260-0 Shanlis cross to Ardee	
	LS 6270-17 Kirwans cross	
	R169 Whiteriver	Surface Dressing Prep
	LP 2239-0 Mountaintown road	Surface Dressing Prep
	Dunleer SD	
	LS 5234-0 Bog road Ardee	
	LS 6237-0 Cappoge to Dunleer	Surface Dressing Prep
	LS 5257-0 Roestown	
	LS 5234-0 Silverhill boy	
	LS 5207-0 Stormmanstown	
	LS 5256-0 Millockstown	
	LS 5208-0 Stormmanstown	
	LP 1297-0 Collon - Kells road	

	LP 1296-0 Leabby cross to Smarmore LS 6224-0 Castlelane Annagassan LS 5267-0 Funshog LP 2223-29 Verdonstown LS-2254-2 Dromin Cleaned algae from pier at Salterstown. N2 Cleanup from RTA on the 23 rd May	
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	Verges at Richardstown Verges at White Mountain Verge works on the R170 Opening outlets at R170 Dunleer Opening outlets at Brannigans cross to Drogheda boundary Drainage works on LS 6272-0 Mosstown	Surface Dressing Prep Surface Dressing Prep Surface Dressing Prep
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	N/A	
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	Footpaths Ardee main street repairing trip hazards	
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá	N/A	
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	N/A	
Signage / Comharthaíocht	LP-1233-7 Junction ahead sign for Glack Cross Base for new sign at N2 junction of R169	

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



N2 Accident on 23rd May 2023



N2 Accident on 23rd May 2023



**Sea weed build-up cleaned
at Salterstown Pier**

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. Bring Banks in Drogheda urban are checked and cleared Saturday p.m. – High level of dumping at Mell Carpark – been monitored by operations crew and community wardens. • Drogheda Rural Bring banks are cleared daily during working week. • Power washing paving at West St – allocate crew due to dry weather week 29/05/23 and week 5/05/23. • Power washing litter bins on- going throughout town centre. • Weed control on-going throughout town and approach roads. • Placing of planters on North Strand on-going.
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 Baltray Seapoint Carpark	6 Daily 3 Daily 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. • Litter bin door repairs on-going to parks and Town centre.
Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre	Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain	• 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 Darkness into Light, road sweep route and repair potholes. • Fire on Steps Cord Rd / North Stand – clean up remains, power wash and erect pedestrian barriers.
Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / FolmhúAraidí Salachar Madra	• Empty about 35 No. once a week, washed and disinfected.
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrhála	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 / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha 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	R166 Termonfeckin to Drogheda LS6317 Sheepgrange LP-2299 New Line patching works R170 Walshestown LP2318 Ardagh to County boundary Concrete Base Seapoint for life guard hut. Drainage Works • Storm water blockage in mains at North Strand – survey complete. • Storm water / sewerage blockage at Clintons Lane / Patrickswell Lane – survey complete. LCC's crew Pot hole repairs at • Patricks St / Bolton St Junction. • Georges St / Patricks St Junction • Crosslanes • Church St • Crosslanes / R132 Junction • Town Centre Road Works Program – Resurfacing works at • RWP 2023 – Commence 19/5/2023 – Meeting with Contractor 31/05/2023 • CIS – Commence Analysis of Tenders	Surface Dressing Prep Surface Dressing Prep Surface Dressing Prep

Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	R166 Termonfeckin to Drogheda opening outlets LS6317 Sheepgrage opening outlets LP-2299 New Line opening outlets R170 Walshestown opening outlets LP2318 Ardagh opening outlets Cliff Brook Rd Sandpit Road Flooded and Cleared (Concrete Slab over Pipe which was damaged to be replaced by Heavy Duty Gully cover and Frame) LS-6252-0 Trean Rd Dunleer (Road flooding Gullies were Jetted and not obvious where they are going always Floods Here (suggest we get them Surveyed to see where they are going? LS-6305-0 Strand Road Seapoint all Gullies cleaned from the Golf club to the end of the path following River bursting its banks recently. Annual Drogheda Gully cleaning program ongoing Tender documents to be advertised on supplygov.ie.	Surface Dressing Prep Surface Dressing Prep Surface Dressing Prep
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	• Section 70 issued for Donore Rd / Marley's Lane • Section 70 issued for no. 10 & no. 11 Forest Edge, Stameen, Drogheda	
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	Footpaths maintenance • Broadmeadows • Beaubeu Grovehill Pavement.	

Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá	• DR10 – R132 @ Dual Carriageway ped (lamps out) • DR29 – Platin Rd / Beamore Rd (R018M) (Pedestrian lamp fail, phase E Amber) • DR06 – R132 @ Westgate / Fair St Junction (Vehicle Phase lamp fail, Phase H Red) • DR04 – R132 @ Bull Ring / North (Vehicle Phase green fault) • Termonfeckin Bridge (lamps out) Irish water works	
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	Road marking survey in progress.	Road marking survey in progress.
Signage / Comharthaíocht	Stop Sign coast road Togher. Hedge cutting at junction of Newtown to R166 to restore junction visibility, Hedge cutting at Murray's Cross to restore junction visibility. Maintenance • General maintenance and washing of signage in Drogheda Town Centre.	
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 South Louth	
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	Overflowing bins in the back lanes. Dust and Debris from trucks using the Bothar Brugha Area. Bags dumped at the top of Chord Road, Old Hill steps Bag dumped at litterbin outside swimming Pool on Marley's lane, regular dumping Londis Crushrod Avenue Spar Donore Road- . Chord Road/Old Hill- Marley's Lane- bag of household A number of reports of abandoned vehicles.	Waste team to issue correspondence to the businesses in this area requesting details of their waste collection? Warden service is following up with MGG companies. Ongoing monitoring Area cleaned and bins emptied before arrival. Spoke with staff that claims birds were responsible. Hand delivered letter to him in regard to their roles and responsibilities of litter in the vicinity of their premises. No evidence found. No evidence found. Area cleaned Investigated no evidence Warden service visited locations and prepared report for follow up action in attempting trace ownerships.

Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí	None at this time in South Louth	
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Powerwashing of Watery Hill Steps



Cleaning & Powerwashing at Patrickwell lane



Footpath works at Ballymakenny Road



Hedge cutting - Watery Hill Steps

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. A North South Ministerial Infrastructure Sub Group meeting was held on the 28th March, with a further one to be held on the 4th of May

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 Rassan

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. A technical acceptance report has been prepared for structures. GI tender and archaeological test trenching package is currently being prepared for field work and testing. A tender will be issued in the coming weeks in relation to geotechnical services for soft soils. 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 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. The updated design follows from feedback provided from the public, safety issues identified as part of the Road Safety Audit and input provided by the environmental assessment team.

The N2 Project Team can be contacted by landowners and members of the public via the N2 Project Phoneline 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 9th of May for mention and was adjourned to the next available date of 20th June to allow the state to file opposition papers. 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. The consortium has appointed a contractor and works has commenced for 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 ongoing. 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.



Ushers Stream looking towards R132 Roundabout

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 are in progress. Ongoing consultations are taking place with stakeholders / landowners, a valuation process has started. Other mechanisms for acquiring the landshave also beenn explored.



Surface Water Installation

R178 Cavan to Dundalk Strategic Route Improvement Scheme

Strategic Assessment Report (SAR) for DTTAs progress 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 to proof read and update any amendments with aim be submitted to Department by early June.

Greenways

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

The consultant is progressing with detailed design for the project for the southern section. Tender documents for the main contract are being finalised for issue to the market at the start of May.

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 are in the process of appointing a land Valuer. 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. Tender documents have been drafted for publication on etenders which will take place at the start of May.

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.

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 reviewed.*

LIHAF Projects

LIHAF Access Road at Newtown, Drogheda

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 has been appointed and has completed hedge clearance works and tree removal following ecological surveys and potential bat roost locations. A scheme archaeologist has monitored the soil stripping works. Appointment of a consultant to supervise the works is progressing, tender assessment is now complete, and a letter of acceptance has been issued. A sod turning event took place on Monday 24th April.

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



Rock Crushing and processing

Specific Bridge Improvement Grants

Obelisk Bridge

Tender documents have been issued to the Market and were received on the 21st April 2023. These tenders will now undergo the assessment process to determine the winning Tenderer. Tender Report is near at finalization 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 to carry out the works. It's envisaged that this will be advertised in June.

Corporate Projects

Redevelopment Fair Street Offices, Drogheda

Block B: Council Chamber Building

Roof Trusses and Purlins installed. Temporary Works on New Opening North Elevation completed.

Block N New Link Building:

Steel Portal Frame erection commenced. ESB substation void floors formed for ESB services. Roof slab construction commenced. Drainage pipelines commenced.

Block C Community Services Building

Lift Shaft Wall pour lift 1 completed and building up of external wall construction commenced. Various conservation works are ongoing. Raking out Brickwork for repointing and various structural remedial works ongoing.

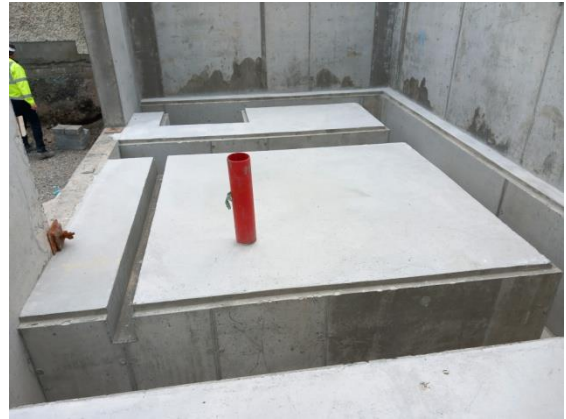
Block E Annex building

Subfloor construction is ongoing and internal plaster coat completed.





Block B – Oak Trusses and Purlins



Block N New Link Building- Sub Station Floor Void construction



Block N New Link Building Steel Frame erection



Block B Council Chamber Building- North Elevation Opening formed and Structural Steel and build up completed.



Block C Community Services Building- Lift Walls Construction



Block N New Link Building IW LCC Watermain laid.

Dunleer Fire Station

A re-tender Document for design consultants was received on the 28th of Nov. with 3 tenders been received. These tender submissions have been assessed for SAQ. LCC have progressed with the assessment of the quality and cost criteria of the submissions. LCC have issued a letter of Acceptance to Preferred Consultant and a kick-off meeting will be organised in first week of June. 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. 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. Options assessments has begun and will continue over the next few months.

Site Investigation works are due to start in the next few weeks, with licensing being finalized. The EIA Scoping consultation has been completed and submissions are being compiled, with a report due shortly.

Appropriate Assessment and Archaeological Impact Assessment have been completed.

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.

OPW have requested further comments from LCC on the Ballagan applications, LCC has issued a response to these queries and is awaiting.

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 tender assessment has been completed and a recommendation to award has been issued to the Dept of Education. A supplementary tender report on including the extension for the SEN units has been approved by the Dept. of Education.

A letter of acceptance has been issued and discussions are ongoing with the contractor regarding a commencement date. A contract signing will take place on the 31st of May

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 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. The project team is currently assessing the submissions received.

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 20no. 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/>

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

The current status of the ongoing Active Travel projects are as outlined in the table below.

National Awareness Campaigns

National Bike Week 2023

National Bike Week took place on the week of 13th May – 21st May 2023. The Active Travel Team were proactive in promoting National

Bike Week at the four schools which will have new Cycling Infrastructure delivered as part of the “Safer Routes to School” Infrastructure Programme, namely, Rehab Care Mill Street Dundalk, St Louis Secondary School, Dundalk, St Brigid's and St Patrick's School, Bothar Bruga, Drogheda and Scoil Aonghusa, Sundays Gate, Drogheda.

Over the course of the week the Active Travel Team visited each School and assisted with a Cycle / Walk to School on a selected day. The events were very well attended by teachers and students with a total of 500 pupils cycling during the week.



Students & Teaching Staff of St. Louis Secondary School Dundalk who cycled around Dundalk on Wednesday 17th May 2023.



Students & Teaching Staff from Rehab Care, Mill Street, Dundalk along with local Garda & Fire Services.



Students from St. Patrick's & St. Brigid's National Schools Bothar Bruga, Drogheda along with Local Garda on their bicycles



Students from Scoil Aonghusa Sundays Gate Drogheda along with Local Garda on their bicycles

Study Tour – Safe Routes to School

On Thursday the 25th May 2023, a delegation of five Councillors and four officials visited Fingal County Council for a Study Tour of “Safe Routes to School Projects” which have been implemented in Fingal County Council Area. The visit began with a short presentation in Fingal County Council Offices in Blanchardstown from Ms. Sinead Murphy (Senior Engineer) about the constraints and challenges associated with implementing Active Travel Schemes. Thereafter the visiting group were treated with a physical cycle tour of the cycle infrastructure implemented along the Mountview Road Blanchardstown which leads to a Safe Routes to School Scheme at St Philip the Apostle National School. Later that afternoon the group were taken on a whistle stop tour of Malahide to see the new School Street that is closed to vehicular traffic for short periods in the mornings / afternoons at school opening and closing times only.

Later that evening the group visited other Active Travel sites in Swords and Lusk to finish off the tour.



Elected Members of Fingal & Louth County Councils who met to discuss Active Travel Infrastructure at Safe Routes to Schools



Elected Members visit Grove Rd, Malahide to witness a new School Street that's closed to vehicular traffic during school opening / closing times only.



Officials & Elected Members on a visit to Blanchardstown, Malahide, Swords & Lusk.

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 June 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 June 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. It is anticipated to have an on-line briefing on the proposed scheme to Drogheda Municipal District Councillors in early June in advance of public consultations.	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. As above	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 - Concept and Options	Revised Gateway 2 Report submitted to the NTA in Feb 2023. Junction modelling is currently on-going. LCC received Gateway 2 approval in Mid-May 2023. It is anticipated to have an on-line briefing on the proposed scheme to Dundalk Municipal District Councillors in Mid-June 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 - Concept and Options	LCC have received comments on draft Phase 2 Report from the NTA. Final Gateway 2 Report submitted to the NTA on 3 rd April 2023. It is anticipated to have an on-line briefing on the proposed scheme to Dundalk Municipal District Councillors in early June in advance of early public consultations.	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 - Preliminary Design	Received Phase 2 Gateway status approval from the NTA in early August 2022. Phase 3 Preliminary Design is now completed, and Gateway 3 Report submitted to the NTA. 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. The 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	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 synopsized. 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.	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.	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.	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.	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.	2024
Moneymore, Active Travel elements	€200,000	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 2 – Concept Proposals	Consultants are preparing options and preliminary design proposals.	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.	

Place Making

Urban Regeneration and Development Fund Projects (URDF)

West Gate Vision (Drogheda)

Westgate Planning drawings have been received from Turley Planning and pre planning internal reviews have commenced. A full review of EIAR and AA Stage 2 Reports and Planning documents are due for LCC review 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 and work has commenced by the design team. Phase 2 of the project, involves the re-development of the Backlands area of the St. Nicholas Quarter, the consultancy services tender documents have been advertised and will close on the 26th June.

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 detailed design and tender for the project closed on the 19th May and is currently being assessed. Proposed works are anticipated to commence in Q3 this year.

OMEATH PLACEMAKING SCHEME

Station Road, Cluain Na Mara and minor sections of the Main Street
(at the junction of both Station Road Cluain Na Mara)
Improvement of Public Realm



Currently out for Tender

Response Deadline: 19th May 12:00 noon

Tender advertised on eTenders: <https://www.etenders.gov.ie/>

System ID: 239004

Tender Reference: 23-046

Contracting authority: Louth County Council, County Hall, Millennium Centre
Dundalk, Co. Louth



An Roinn Eorpachais
Taiscille agus Tuairisc
Department of Rural and
Community Development



An Clár na n-Adhlúnaithe
agus Faiscille Tuairisc
Rural Regeneration and
Development Fund



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

BDP.

Ardee 2040

Full review by LCC sections of Ardee 2040 Planning pack (drawings, EIAR and Planning docs) has been completed and comments returned to Turley Planning for completion of the submission package for 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 to 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 have been procured for the proposed Part 8 process for St Laurence's Gate plaza.



Cross Departmental Projects

Play Spaces

Tender documents for three play space sites in the villages of Collon, Termonfeckin and upgrade of the playground in St Dominic's Park, Drogheda were published on eTenders/OJEU in February 2023. Tender responses were returned for Collon and St.

Dominic's Park in March 2023, and for Termonfeckin in April 2023. Quality and price assessments were undertaken in May 2023. Tender reports are currently being finalised. It is anticipated that contracts will be awarded before the end of Q2. Procurement of site clearance is currently being prepared.

Town Centre First Projects

Town Centre First - Dunleer Town Masterplan

The draft masterplan's framework and key themes/interventions are now being finalised following a presentation to the senior management team. The draft masterplan will now be presented to the Dunleer town team for their review prior to it going on display for public consultation in July.

Clogherhead Regeneration Masterplan

The process to appoint urban design consultants is ongoing with the tender submission period now closed. The submissions received 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

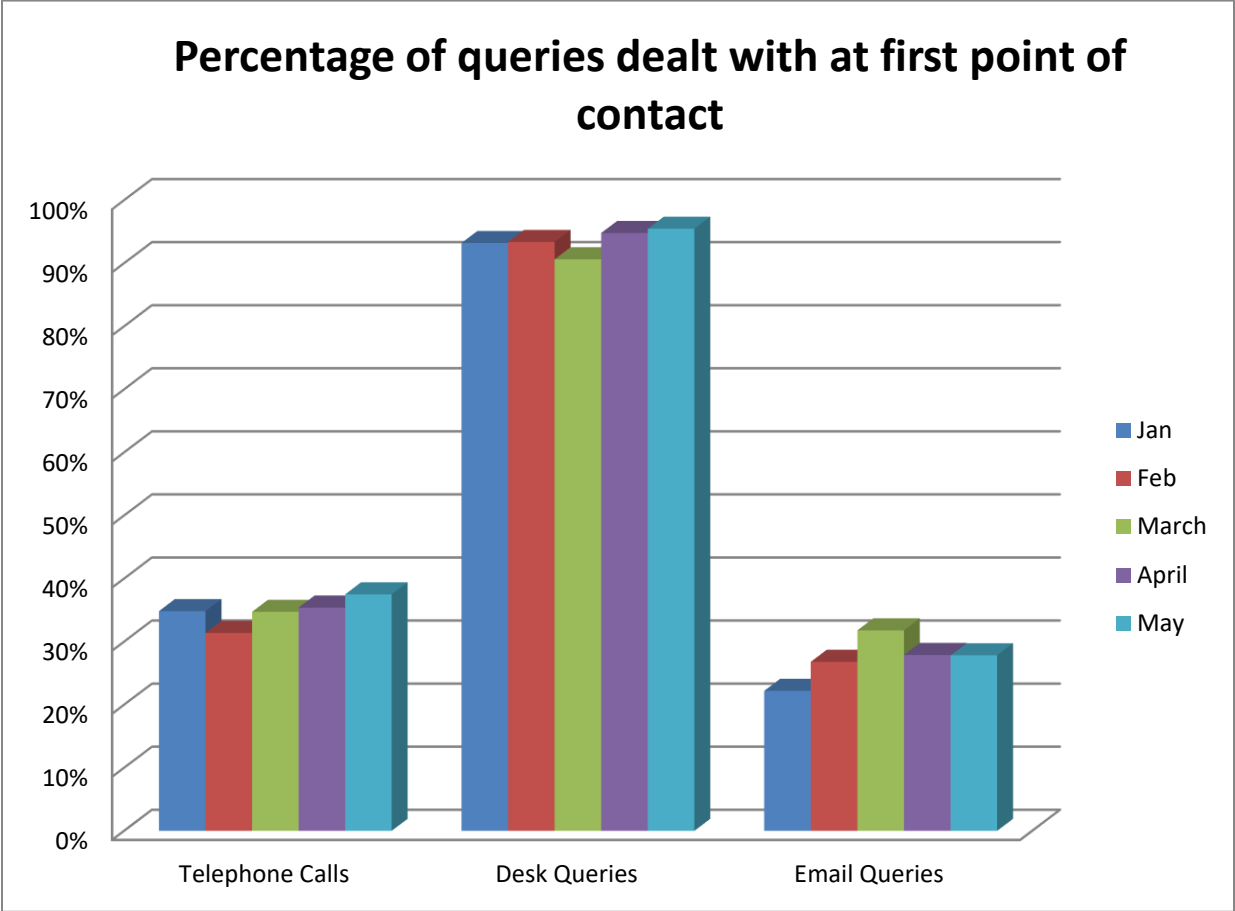


Joe McGuinness
Director / Stiúrthóir

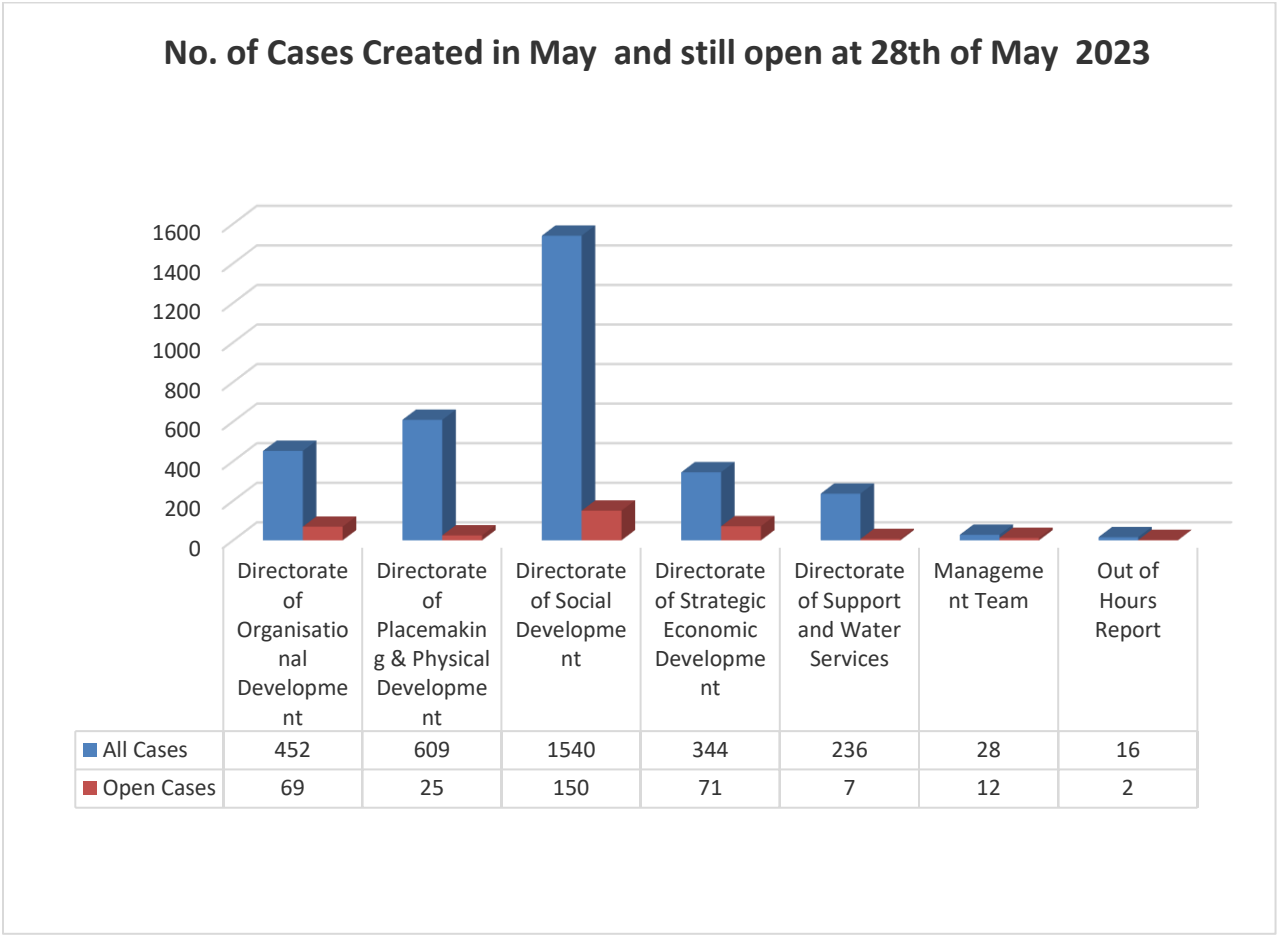
Corporate Services

Customer Services Report

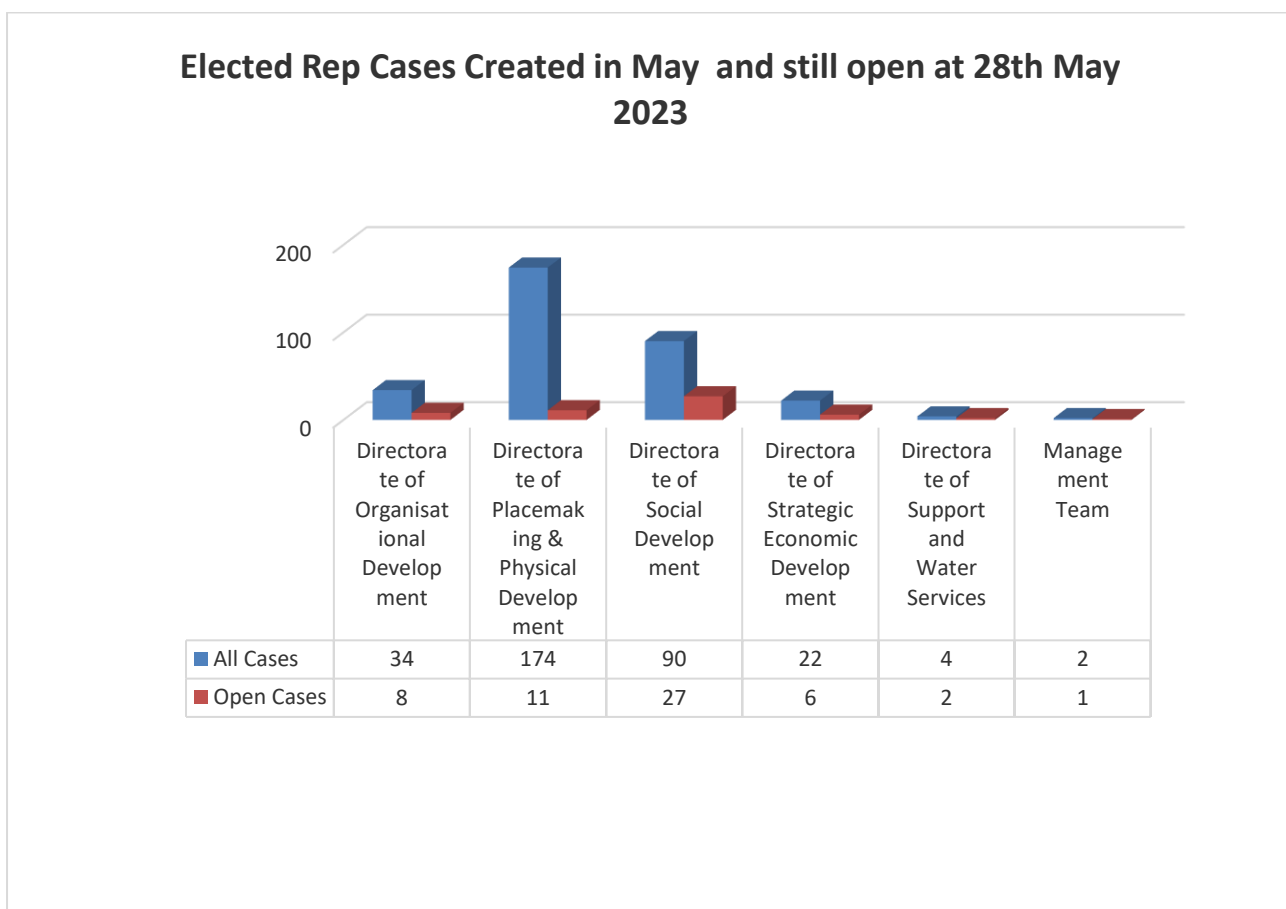
During the month of May 2023 Customer Services dealt with 13,521 queries 7,537 calls, 1,419 e-mails and 4,565 counter queries.



There were 3225 valid Sugar CRM cases recorded during May of which 336 (10%) remain unresolved, broken down by directorate as follows:



During May 2023, 326 elected reps. cases were recorded on Sugar of which 55 (17%) remain unresolved broken down by Directorate as follows:



The table below illustrates activity in the redress area.

Requests Received	Same period 2022 (JAN-MAY 2022)	2023 Total (JAN-MAY)	APR 2023 (Month of MAY only)
Freedom of Information	46	50	12
Data Protection Request	1	1	0
Data Subject Access Request	1	5	0
Access to Information on Environment	4	8	2
Ombudsman Complaints	3	7	2
LCC Complaints Policy	18	17	2



Community Support

LEADER

Recently, Louth County Council paid out funding to beneficiaries under the LEADER 2014-2022 Programme:-

Promoter	Amount
Dundalk Enterprise Development Co. Upgrade of Lighting & Heating controls Ref: 117872	€5,925.00
St. Mary's GFC Community Astroturf upgrade Ref: 117153	€40,342.67
Louth Local Development Designing our future training Ref: 110690	€21,197.37
Total	€67,465.04

LEADER Programme 2023-2027

KPMG have been appointed to undertake research, consultation and drafting of the County Louth Local Development Strategy (LDS), 2023-2027. They began a series of in person public consultation sessions in four locations throughout the county. The sessions in Carlingford, Dundalk, Dunleer and Drogheda were very well attended by a varied cross section of members from the community, sports and business sectors. Two more on-line consultations for the members of the LCDC/IEC and SPC's also took place.

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

A Prior Indicative Notice (PIN) regarding procurement for the next iteration of SICAP is now live on eTenders. The DRCD have also issued guidance and supporting information on the process to be undertaken by the LCDCs on agreeing targets for the delivery of SICAP 2024-2028. The tender process is anticipated to commence in July 2023 with awards made by the LCDCs by the end of 2023

Louth Meath Joint Migrant Integration Strategy/Forum

The next Louth Meath Joint Migrant Integration Strategy Forum meeting is scheduled for 29th June in Co Meath.

Prior to the meeting Diversity & Inclusion Training will be rolled out to elected members from Louth & Meath, the training will take place online on 27th June and all elected members are invited to attend.



Older People's Council

The Older People's Council National Conference took place from 10th -12th in Tralee, Co Kerry. Joe Grogan Chair of the Louth (OPC) Older People's Council and Harry Mc Carthy member of the Louth Older People's Executive Committee represented Co Louth and attended the Older Peoples Council Conference in Tralee, Co Kerry with members of the Louth Age Friendly team.

The theme of the conference was **Reconnection : Fáilte ar Ais** and it was an opportunity for the Older People's Council's across the country to reconnect with each other.

An Garda Síochána launched their Community Engagement Plan for Older People at the Conference and there were lots of workshops to promote reconnection through technology, arts and sports and an interesting panel discussion and key speakers.



Harry McCarthy & Joe Grogan Louth OPC Executive Committee and members of the Louth Age Friendly Team at OPC Conference, Tralee, Co Kerry



Ita Healy Meath OPC Chairperson and Joe Grogan Louth OPC Chairperson at OPC Conference Tralee, Co Kerry

The next Older People's Council (OPC) meeting is scheduled to take place on 14th June 2023.

Bealtaine Festival

Age Friendly Louth have been busy supporting events across Co Louth for the Bealtaine Festival. Members of the Older People's Council (OPC)

attended the Healthy Ageing events in Ardee Library and The Bealtaine Quiz in Dundalk Library.

Age Friendly Louth also supported events for the Bealtaine Festival in conjunction with Drogheda & District Support for Older People and Connect Family Resource Centre in Drogheda who held a coffee morning in Sluagh Hall, Drogheda with over 40 older people attending.

Age Friendly Alliance

The next Louth Age Friendly Alliance meeting is scheduled for June 2023. Members will be approving a submission for the LECP on behalf of the Louth Age Friendly Alliance.

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. The LECP is an important way to set out how Government, local authorities and other stakeholders can work together to ensure that their initiatives, programmes, and projects support an improved quality of life for people living and working in Co Louth.

On 6th March the LCDC and the Economic SPC met and agreed the draft High level Goals for the New Local Economic & Community Public Consultation took many formats:

- In person focus groups and workshops
- On line focus groups and workshops
- One to one meetings 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

All surveys, observations and comments from the public consultations will be collated and will inform the revised LECP High Level Goals and Socio Economic Statement. In addition all data gathered will inform the objectives and actions contained in the new LECP.



Participants who took part in the public consultations in Drogheda in relation to the new LECP

Pride of Place 2023

This year is the 21st Anniversary of the IPB Pride of Place competition. Entry forms for Louth County Council's nominees, "Outcomers" and "Drogheda District Support4 older people" were submitted on the 12th May.

Summaries of both projects are to be submitted along photographs by 9th June 2023.

The judging season will take place over the summer months, with adjudicators visiting each nominee in person this year. This will give groups an opportunity to meet and greet the judges in and make a presentation on their activities, achievements, and future plans.

Anti Graffiti Competition in partnership with DKIT

A presentation took place at a special ceremony in County Hall on 12th May, where Cathaoirleach Connor Keelan, had the privilege of presenting the winner of the anti Graffiti app competition winner, DKIT student, Ajay Verma with his award and unveiling this game-changing technology. Ajay Verma's prototype Anti-Graffiti App showcases a range of exceptional features that empower individuals and communities to combat graffiti vandalism effectively. Congratulations Ajay.



Cathaoirleach Connor Keelan & DOS Joe Mc Guinness presenting Ajay Verma DKIT student with his prize

Green Schools flag awards ceremony 2022-2023

Along with schools from Cavan and Kildare, fourteen schools from across the county of Louth that are involved in the Green schools programme received their flag at a ceremony held on the 24th May in the City North Hotel. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Green Schools programme. Green Schools, known internationally as Eco Schools, is Ireland's leading environmental management and education programme for schools, operated and coordinated by the Environmental

Education Unit of An Taisce. Congratulations to all the schools and their Green Schools Committees for their hard work.



Members of Tullyallen National School receiving their Green Flag

Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme

The final stage of the Boyne Valley Camino project, funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme and Louth County Council, was completed earlier this month. This stage of the project included an extension of the trail, provision of signage, provision of message boards to aid walkers, installation of benches along the route and development of online and paper maps. The Boyne Valley Camino now boasts a 25 km self guided looped walk with 71 way markers, comprising trailheads, wall plaques, bollards, finger posts and benches. The walk starts and finishes in Drogheda and comprises Mellifont Abbey, the Battle of the Boyne site at Oldbridge, Coillte's Townley Hall mixed broadleaf woodland, the village of Tullyallen, the Obelisk Bridge and then follows the canal and river along the existing Boyneside Trail. It forms part of the Celtic Camino series which is 25km on the Boyne Valley Camino and 75km from La Coruna to Santiago de Compostela in Spain. Boyne Valley Walking Group have made links with the Economic and Tourism Development officials in La Coruna who are very keen to pursue the promotion of the Celtic Camino in Spain and Ireland. Congratulations to all involved in making this project happen.



A Route Marker along the Boyne Valley Camino

CLÁR 2023 Programme

CLÁR (Ceantair Laga Árd-Riachtanais) is a targeted investment programme for rural areas that aims to provide funding for small infrastructural projects in rural areas that have experienced significant levels of de-population. The programme is open to schools, community and voluntary groups and local development companies in the CLÁR area of Co Louth (which is essentially the area comprising the Cooley Peninsula).

The 2023 programme opened for Expressions of Interest submissions in early April. A total of 11 valid Expressions of Interest were received (2 were invalid as the groups are located outside of the CLÁR region in the county). The valid Expressions of Interest are currently being shortlisted by the Senior Management Team in Louth County Council for onward submission to the Department of Rural and Community Development before 6th June 2023. The Department will then consider the applications and it is expected that decisions will be issued with regard to funding in September.

International Blue Flag Awards and National Green Coast Awards 2023

On Friday, 19th May 2023 An Taisce announced the recipients of the International Blue Flag and the National Green Coast Awards for 2023. Louth has received four awards for the 2023 season – Blue Flag Awards for the beaches of Clogherhead, Port and Templetown and a Green Coast Award for Seapoint. These awards were presented by the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Mr. Darragh O'Brien, TD, at an awards ceremony held in the Shoreline Hotel, overlooking Donabate's Balcarrick Blue Flag beach in Co. Dublin.

2023 marks the 36th year of the International Blue Flag programme. A world renowned award trusted by millions around the globe, the Blue Flag programme is operated in Ireland by An Taisce – the National Trust for Ireland on behalf of the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE). Beaches and marinas that achieve this accolade must comply with a specific set of criteria relating to water quality, information provision, environmental education, safety and beach management. This year also marks the 20th anniversary of the National Green Coast programme. This award is for beaches which have excellent water quality and are also prized for their natural, unspoilt environment.

Well done to all involved in helping us to achieve these awards.



Minister Darragh O'Brien, TD and Oliver Winters, Community Section at International Blue Flag and the National Green Coast Awards for 2023

PPN

Secretariat Meeting

Louth PPN held its fifth Secretariat Meeting of 2023 on May 15th in Drogheda.

Training

Charities Governance Compliance Training – May 10th, May 24th, June 7th

Thematic Projects

Peer Mentoring

The aim of this project is to train up to 20 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. As such, the benefits of this project will be 2-fold:

- it will benefit those trained to be a mentor by teaching them valuable skills they may use in their own community group
- it will benefit community groups who receive mentoring to develop their organisation and build capacity

The training for our community mentors will take place on Tuesday 20th June in Creative Spark in Dundalk. Mentoring will be available for all PPN member groups to avail of from July 2023.

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 both at the Lourdes Stadium in Drogheda (August 12th) and the Sports Centre in Dundalk (July 29th). Members from all cultures and backgrounds shall be invited to participate. Representatives from local sporting clubs shall also be in attendance.

Youth

Louth PPN's Youth Project will involve the training up of young people to confidently and comfortably

sit on various boards and committees – 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.

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

Ground works are on-going to prepare the soil for planting. Louth PPN are in discussion with Bee-Keepers Louth and investigations are under-way for the optimum location of our bee-hotels. It is anticipated that the wildflower meadow and bee-hotels will be established over the course of the Summer and that the planting of the native trees will be carried out in late September / early October.

Louth PPN Annual Report 2022

This document will be issued to the Department of Rural and Community Development before June 6th 2023.

Memorandum of Understanding

This document sets out the relationship between Louth PPN and Louth County Council. The MoU from 2022 was reviewed in early 2023 and a revised MoU was signed and became effective as of May 4th 2023.

Healthy Ireland Fund

The Minister for Public Health, Wellbeing and the National Drugs Strategy, Hildegard Naughton, recently announced the allocation of funding of €75,000 to each of the 31 Local Authorities for 2023 under the Healthy Ireland Fund (HIF) Round 4.

Minister Naughton said:

"Healthy Ireland has a long-standing partnership with our Local Authority partners, where we work collaboratively to improve the health and wellbeing of everyone in Ireland. I am delighted to announce the allocation of over €2.3 million in 2023 under the HIF Round 4 for projects that will have a real impact on the health and wellbeing of the communities across the 31 Local Authority areas. Each project is linked to an outcome in the Healthy Ireland Framework and it is particularly heartening to see such a variety of projects, illustrating that the design has been tailored locally to meet the needs of the local areas."

Here in Louth the fund is very much welcomed and following an extensive public consultation to identify the key priority areas and the 'at risk' groups the funds will be allocated to initiatives that support both Positive Mental Health and increase levels of physical activity across the target groups.

The funds will support initiatives targeted at all age groups, with a particularly focus on Adolescents & Young People, Disadvantaged Families including One Parent Families, People affected by homelessness or people at risk of homelessness and People with Mental Health Issues. In addition the Healthy County Coordinator with the support of key partners will deliver a number of health promotion awareness campaigns that will target the wider General Population.

Healthy Louth recognise that locally-led initiatives are key to enhancing wellbeing among the population. Louth LCDC provides an important role for promoting health and wellbeing in the county. Since its establishment in 2014, 19 key stakeholders have worked in partnership to promote and support economic, local and community development through greater integration in the planning and delivery of local and community development services and interventions.

This funding continues a long-standing partnership that Louth County Council have with Healthy Ireland and will enable Louth County Council to continue to build on the great work we are already doing to

support the physical, mental and social wellbeing of everyone in Louth.

Sport

Dundalk Sports Centre

This month's report from Dundalk Sports Centre will focus on the programmes that we have available for adults.



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. Sessions are held every Monday evening from 8-10pm, costing €5.

Pilates

Pilates is held every Tuesday evening from 8:15 – 9:15pm, costing €5 pay as you go! Mats are provided if you don't have your own.

Volleyball Sports Night

Volleyball sports night is a fun, friendly and energetic programme. Participants warm-up, get into teams and play matches. Perfect for beginners as the advanced players are more than happy to help everybody out! Held every Tuesday evening from 8-10pm costing €5.

Men's Basketball Sports Nights (Competitive)

This program is for players who want to compete. Participants warm-up, get into teams and compete to stay on the court. Suitable for college, division 1, and National League and Super League players. It is held every Wednesday from 8-10pm, costing €5.

Men's Recreational Basketball

This is a new program for the Sports Centre. It is for men who want to play basketball for fun! Perfect for complete beginners and ex-players. Sessions include a coach led warm-up, drills and then matches. It is on every Thursday evening from 8-10pm, costing €5.

Zumba

Held every Tuesday and Thursday from 6-7pm. These classes are super energetic and a great way to get active and have fun at the same time. Classes cost €5, pay as you go!

You can also book badminton, tennis, table tennis and pickleball. Prices range from €8-10 per hour. Pre-booking is essential.

Lourdes Stadium

Bootcamp

Lourdes Stadium most recent 6 Week Outdoor Bootcamp started on Tuesday 9th May. With 24 participants, it is sure to be 6 weeks of fun and hardwork giving people the opportunity to make new friends and achieve summer goals. The bootcamp runs every Tuesday and Thursday evening and implements a mix of cardio and strength based sessions suiting all fitness levels and pushing each individual to achieve their goals.



Lourdes Stadium Bootcamp

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	June 8 th 2023 6:30pm	Online
Safeguarding Level 1	June 22 nd 2023 6:30pm	Online
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
Disability Inclusion Training	June 24 th 2023 10:00am	St Patricks GFC
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.

Bike Week 2023 – A huge success in Louth!

Bike Week 2023 which took place from May 13th – 21st was a huge success in Louth with 35 events taking place during the week across the country engaging with over 900 participants in a range of different cycling opportunities and workshops.

Bike Week Louth is an integral part of the overall National Bike Week initiative and is coordinated locally by a multi-agency group comprised of Louth Local Sports Partnership and Louth County Council.

Each year, Bike Week Louth is supported by numerous community groups, organisations, clubs, schools, workplaces and disability services that organise and take part in events throughout the week.

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



Participants in Bike Week 2023

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.



Louth LLSP – Nominated as Local Sports Partnership of the Year

Louth Local Sport Partnership was one of five Local Sports Partnership across the Country who have been nominated as 'Local Sports Partnership of the year' in the Federation of Irish Sport Industry Awards. This award is to celebrate and shine a light on the tremendous work being done by the national network of 29 Local Sports Partnerships. It recognises the Local Sports Partnership that has shown the most initiative in promoting sport and physical activity and/or community engagement.

The winner (Laois Sports Partnership) of this category was announced at the Irish Sport Industry Awards in Dublin on Thursday 25th May.



LLSP was nominated for 'Local Sports Partnership of the year' in the Federation of Irish Sport Industry

Disability Inclusion Training for GAA All-Stars Clubs in Cooley

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 May 20th in Cooley Kickhams GFC and was delivered by tutors from Active Disability Ireland.

The workshop is designed to provide participants with the 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.

Our next Disability Inclusion Training Workshop will take place on Saturday June 24th in St Patricks GFC Lordship.

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



Glenmore AC Athletics Open Day

Louth LSP was delighted to support Glenmore AC and Athletics Ireland to develop an open day in their

club for athletes with Down syndrome. The event was an opportunity for the children to experience athletics within the club and to find out more information on joining the club for regular participation opportunities. Thank you to the volunteers within the club and the families of the children who worked closely together to ensure the day was a huge success.



Participants in Glenmore AC Open day support by LLSP

Inclusive Summer Camps for Adults in Dundalk Sports Centre

Two Summer Camps for adults with a disability will take place in Dundalk Sports Centre in June and August.

Camp 1 will take place on June 26th & 27th 10am – 12pm, while camp two 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.



Fechin Go for life Group launched in Termonfeckin

Congratulations to St Fechins GAA on their newly formed Active Retirement Group "Fechin -Go for Life" on getting up and running in Termonfeckin.

Louth Local Sports Partnership provided training the Physical Activity Leaders within the group in January to help members to develop a series of sustainable physical activity programmes.

So if you are 55 or over, and want to get moving in a fun way at your own pace and meet new people, come and try on Tuesday 23rd May in St Fechins GAA Community Centre and the following 3 weeks, 10am to 11.30am. Cost is €5 per week and if you decide after week one you would like to join, membership of the Active retirement group is €15 which covers you up to end of December 2023.

For more information please contact The Fechin Go for Life A.R.A on 087-8516520.



Launch of Fechin Go for life Group in Termonfeckin



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
- 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 34 complaints were received and investigated by the Environmental Compliance team in May 2023, some of which remain open pending further investigations.

A total number of 154 complaints have been received in 2023 to date and these are further detailed as follows:

Complaint Type	Received in May 2023	Total Received in 2023
Air & Noise	7	47
Farm	0	5
Waste/C&D	17	67
Water Quality	10	35

Waste Management

A total of 17 complaints were received in May 2023 relating to Waste and Construction & Demolition (C&D) Waste. All complaints relating to waste were investigated and followed up with appropriate actions.

Anti-Dumping Initiative

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 the ADI 2023 totalling €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
- Muirhevnamore Alley-way Clean-up

Dates are yet to be confirmed for project completion.

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 have a role to carry out site inspections at site of origin and/or site of destination to check material meets criteria of notification.

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

Litter Enforcement & Investigations

All litter wardens continue to engage with members of the public on a daily basis on litter matters in the county. There have been 531 litter investigations completed to date in 2023 with 77 carried out in the month of May. There have been 114 FPN's issued in the year to date.

An incident of dumping occurred in Drogheda during May, in the stream at the back of St. Laurence's Drive and Lia Bhrega. Our litter team investigated the incident and unfortunately found no evidence in the waste. A cleanup of the area was organised with the Operations Team.



Before



After

Litter Foot Patrol

A scheduled joint 5 hour foot patrol was carried out by our Litter Wardens in Ardee & Collon during the month of May. The main emphasis was to raise awareness of dog fouling with dog bag holders handed out free of charge to members of the public and the litter wardens also completed spraying of stencils on public footpaths etc. The areas covered were: Fairgreen Park, Irish St., Market St., Castle St., Riverside Walk, Railway Walk, John's St., and Hale St.



Diesel Laundering Waste

There were no IBC's dumped in May 2023. (6 IBC's – approximate cost €7,488.92 were dumped in the county at the end of April - not reported in April monthly report). So far in 2023 there have been 23 IBC's dumped within Co. Louth with an associated removal cost of approximately €28,707.53.



IBC's located by Louth County Council

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 10 water quality complaints received in May which were investigated and followed up with appropriate actions.

There were 2 Air Pollution complaints and 5 Noise Pollution complaints received and investigated during May 2023.

Bathing Water

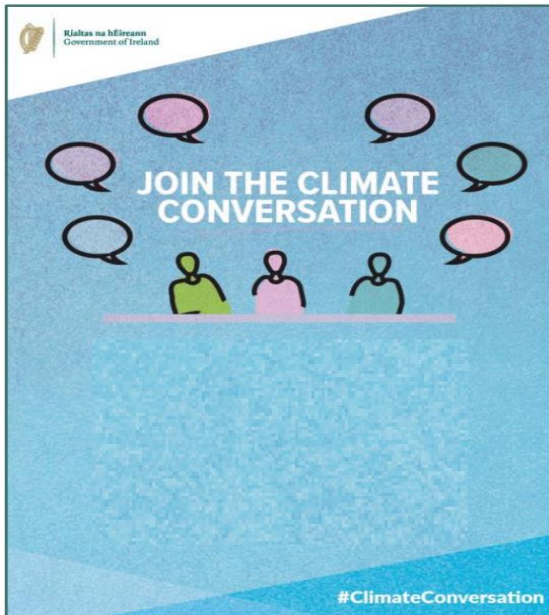
The out of season annual monitoring of the four designated beaches in Co Louth has commenced in May 2023. The four beaches identified as designated bathing waters in Co. Louth are Templetown, Port, Clogherhead and Seapoint. The readings for the samples taken on 23rd May 2023 show excellent results. Results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

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 (CCAS) 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. The climate action team also recently attended an online workshop on the Decarbonisation Zones. The Climate Action Co-Ordinator also recently attended an in person conference in Mullingar on 'Achieving Local

Authority Targets' alongside members of Louth County Council's Energy Team.

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.

Each section of the Council is now required to report as part of the Monthly Chief Executive Report on Climate Action projects and initiatives that are ongoing.

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 have 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.



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.



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

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 recently delivered an online presentation to community groups across Louth to discuss the upcoming Community Climate Action Fund. The online webinar was successful among community groups and the Climate Action Team plan to host further workshops in the coming weeks.

Fiona Lennon has been appointed as 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

As part of National Spring Clean Month (April) we promoted and encouraged members of the public to actively participate and take responsibility for their environment.

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's Education Officers continue to work with Tidy Towns groups and Community groups promoting the benefits of recycling.

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

Public Sector Energy Efficiency Performance

Louth County Council's has submitted all its energy consumption data to the SEAI's Monitoring and Reporting Portal for 2022. This portal is now closed and locked and is with SEAI for analysis.

The public sector has a target of improving its energy efficiency by 50%, and reducing its energy-related greenhouse gas emissions by 51% by 2030. LCC's energy efficiency at the end of 2021 was 47.84% against its baseline year of 2009, according to SEAI's Annual Report for Public Sector Bodies for 2021.



SEAI, CARO Local Authority Climate Action Training

Council Staff attended a Training Workshop in Mullingar on the 11th May to assist LA's in the development of their Local Authority Climate Action Plans (LACAP) – Achieving the LA Targets. The aim was to assist LA's in planning the section of LACAP that deals with inward focused energy efficiency and

carbon emission reduction - to support LAs in planning for 50% energy efficiency and 51% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030; to ensure that these plans are developed into tangible actions; and to develop a template for completing that section of the LACAP.

Gap-To-Target Plan to 2030

The public sector has a target of improving its energy efficiency by 50%, and reducing its energy-related greenhouse gas emissions by 51% by 2030. Energy projects envisaged for 2023 are being procured at present, arising from grant offer late in 2022. An Energy Action Plan for 2023 is being developed at present. We expect to include projects from that in a grant application to SEAI, over the next couple of months. Those projects will be focused on reducing thermal emissions with emphasis on GHGs.



Varcities H2020 Funded Project Update

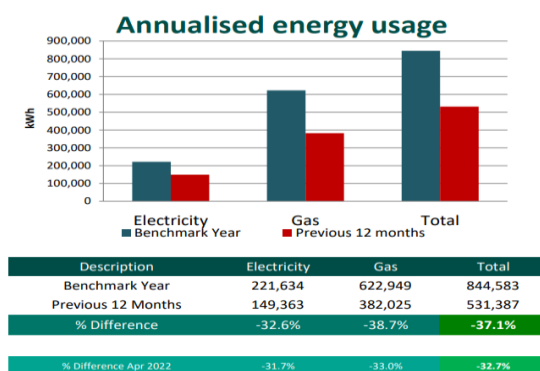
This project is in its third year and halfway through its co-implementation phase. The Council, have placed an order to purchase a number of VARCITIES's sensors which will measure microclimate parameters (temperature and humidity, VOCs, Barometric pressure, CO₂, Oxygen, Particulate Matter) in the vicinity, as well as in town, noise levels, people counters. The sensors will be deployed as part of LCC's Visionary Solutions, which will see the greening and regeneration at the pilot site and will feed into the upcoming Health and Well-Being Platform, currently under development. These sensors are due to arrive to the pilot site within 8 weeks. Tender documents have mainly been finalised and are due to go on E-Tenders within the next two weeks.

Service Level Agreement with OPW – Optimising Power @ Work

Louth County Council is a long-standing participant in OPW's Optimising Power @ Work programme. This campaign focuses on staff behavioural change. Town Hall and County Hall buildings are engaged with this programme respectively from 2014 and 2016.

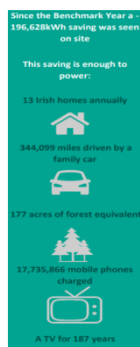
Dundalk Town Hall

Energy consumption in this building has reduced by 37% since joining the Optimising Power @ Work campaign in 2014. The table and figures below give a clear view how our gas and electricity consumption has fallen since the 2014 benchmark year.



County Hall Building

- Energy consumption in this building has reduced by 28% since joining the OP@W campaign in 2016.
- The total annual unit consumption of energy has decreased from 695,894 kWh to 499,266 kWh.
- Electricity consumption on site has reduced by 13%. The number of units of electricity has decreased from 285,450 kWh to 249,186 kWh.
- Gas consumption on site has reduced by 39%. The number of units of Gas has decreased from 410,444 kWh to 250,080 kWh.



Veterinary Services

Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI)

As of the 31st May 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 fifty-seven inspections in the year to date.

Control of Dogs

Control of Dogs Act 1986

Dogs impounded May 2023

Total dogs impounded

Seized under Section 16	1
Strays	10
Surrendered by owners	7
No dogs reclaimed by owners	4
No of dogs rehomed direct	5
No of dogs rehomed to welfare groups	12
No of dogs on hand in Pound at 31/05/2023	1

Dog Licences May 2023

No of Licences sold	520
Licence Checks:	
House calls	257
Section 16 Notices issued (request to produce licence within 10 days)	166
Fixed Penalty Notices	15

Control of Horses

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

Horses impounded May 2023

Horses seized, and reason for seizure:	0
Horses reclaimed by owner	0
Horses rehomed	0
Horses disposed of	0
No of horses on hand in Pound on 31/05/2023	0

Dog Breeding Establishments

Dog Breeding Establishments Act 2010

Dog Breeding Establishments May 2023

Total no of registered DBE's in Louth (as at 31/05/2023)	5
Hunt	1
Boarding Kennels	2
Training Kennels	1
Welfare	1



The biodiversity area at the Animal Compound pond has been full of activity during May; spot a busy bee in a Marsh Marigold.

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

Paddy Donnelly
Director / Stiúrthóir



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 April – 19th May 2023 can be summarised as follows:

Table 1: Actions by Homeless Services

20 March – 19 April 2023	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda MD	Total
Offered advice, support (including fast tracking H.A. for Rent Supplement eligibility)	2	114	105	221
Placed in Temporary Emergency Accommodation	0	29	38	67
Refused Offer of Temporary Emergency Accommodation	0	1	6	7
Not eligible from outside county or non HRC	0	2	0	2
Total number of Person who presented as Homeless	2	146	149	297

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

Table 2: Gender

Gender	Total
Male	80
Female	55
Total	135

Table 3: Age Groups

Age Group	Total
18-24	24
25-44	67
45-64	38
65+	6
Total	135

Table 4: Accommodation Type

Accommodation Type	Total
Private Emergency Accommodation (PEA)	64
Supported Temporary Accommodation (STA)	71
Total unique individuals	135

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	15	17	26
Total	15	17	26
Couples with dependent children in Louth	12	26	29
Total	12	26	29

Table 6 - Housing First

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

Housing Allocations up to 25th May 2023

District	LA	LA Refusal	AHB	AHB Refusal
Ardee	21	6	1	0
Drogheda	42	12	2	5
Dundalk	53	5	27	6
Total	116	23	30	11

Transfers

District	Number
Ardee	3
Dundalk	9
Drogheda	1
Total	11

Housing List at 25th May 2023

May 2023	Ardee	Drogheda	Dundalk	Total
Housing List	413	641	988	2042
HAP Transfer List	300	1168	1633	3101
Total Housing List	713	1809	2621	5143

There are **281** applications on the transfer list (Non HAP) within Social Housing including 40 applications from the Approved Housing Bodies.

Housing Assistance Payment

The total number of applications in HAP is 3,101

Ardee Municipal District	Drogheda Borough District	Dundalk Municipal District	Total
300	1168	1633	3101

Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022 -2027

The implementation plan for National Housing Strategy for disabled people has not yet come out, and therefore the review of the Local Housing Strategy for Disabled People is delayed.

Housing Allocations to Persons with a Disability

The 2023 annual target for social housing allocations to disabled people is 81 units of accommodation. By the end of first Quarter 18 units of accommodation has been provided, which is equivalent to 22% of the annual target. The details of the social housing allocations can be found below;

- Physical disability 9 units, which is 23% of the target for physical disability (40)
- Sensory disability 0 units, which is 0% of the target for sensory disability (6)

- Mental Health disability 6 units, which is 40% of the target for mental health disability (15)
- Intellectual disability 3 units, which is 15% of the target for intellectual disability (20)

19.8% of all social housing allocations (91) in the first Quarter of 2023 were made to disabled people. The provided accommodation consisted of the below type of accommodation;

Single Storey Dwellings:

Standard	1
Wheelchair Accessible	0
Adapted	8
Total	9

Apartments:

Ground Floor Standard	0
Ground Floor Adapted	3
Upper Floor Standard	0
Upper Floor Adapted	0
Total	3

Two Storey Dwellings:

Standard	6
Adapted	0
Total	6

6 disabled applicants refused the offered accommodation in the first quarter of 2023 due to the below reasons.

Refused offer of Accommodation:

Property Unsuitable	1
Location Unsuitable	4
Other reason	1
Total	6

Inter-agency collaboration

Collaboration with the HSE continues and 3 meetings were held in Quarter 1 with the Louth

Meath Mental Health Services and Louth Adult Physical and Sensory Disability Services to facilitate provision of housing and related supports to disabled people.

Mental Health Tenancy Sustainment Officer (TSO) Service

New Tenancy Sustainment Officer Service for new tenant with mental health condition is commencing soon. *HAIL*, a specialist AHB, provides one Tenancy Sustainment Officer (TSO) who will cover the counties Cavan, Monaghan, Meath and Louth. The TSO service will not replace clinical support from HSE, and coordination and co-operation with the HSE mental health services is required. The Local Authority is the main point of contact and all support requests for TSO will go through the LCC for county Louth. The TSO request form must be completed together with the tenant and a consent form must be signed. *HAIL* will provide feedback to the referring agency, but the scope is currently unclear.

Rent Management

The total number currently paying rent by Household Budget is 949.

Current Rents Arrears as at 23rd May 2023	No of Accounts	Value
Rents between 4-6 weeks old	176	€67,071.00
Rents between 7-12 weeks old	132	€94,202.00
Rents greater than 12 weeks old	841	€2,817,170.00
TOTAL	1,149	€2,978,443.00

Vacant Properties

Updated 25/05/2023

Vacant Properties on 25 th May 2023	Total
Ardee Municipal District	7
Dundalk Municipal District	10
Drogheda Municipal Borough District	31
Subtotal (re-lets) Vacant Properties	48
Vacant Properties (CPO units not yet ready for occupation) (All County)	3
Total Number of Properties (Relets & CPO)	51

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	1 st -25 th May 2023	Total (YTD)
No. of Maintenance Requests Received	544	2,997
No. of Maintenance Requests Completed	427	2,333
No. of Maintenance Requests in Progress	92	N/A
No. of Maintenance Requests Refused	25	170



Bungalow under construction in Doire Beag, Collon.

Private Rental Inspections

	1 st - 25 th May 2023	Year to Date
Properties inspected monthly	10	138
Advisory Letters issued	6	96
Improvement Notices issued	9	24
Private Inspections	0	2
HAP Inspections	2	100
RAS Inspections	0	0
AHB Inspections	0	8
Private Re-Inspections	0	0
HAP Re-Inspections	6	23
RAS Re-Inspections	0	0
AHB Re-Inspections	0	0
Inspections from Complaints	2	2
Virtual Re-Inspections	0	0
Properties made Compliant	10	28

Tenancy Engagement

1 st May 2023 to 25 th May 2023	Drogheda	Ardee	Dundalk	Monthly Total	Yearly Total
No. Tenants who attended Pre-tenancy training	0	0	5	5	118
Post-tenancy inspections	0	10	8	18	133
Tenancy Investigation Visits	0	3	25	28	213
Tenancy Investigations Remote	0	1	5	6	26

Anti-Social Behaviour

1 st May 2023 to 25 th May 2023	Drogheda	Ardee	Dundalk	Monthly	Yearly
ASB Cases received.	13	5	8	26	66
ASB cases Ongoing	10	2	11	23	62
ASB cases complete	8	0	14	18	46

Notifications Issued for Tenancy Breaches

1 st May 2023 to 25 th May 2023	Drogheda	Ardee	Dundalk	Monthly	Yearly
Verbal Warnings	2	0	4	6	20
Written Warnings	0	0	1	1	2
Tenancy Notifications	0	0	0	0	6

Home Loans

2023 Budget Allocation	€8,030,000
LAHL Approvals at 26/05/2023	€2,497,648

Breakdown of LAHL applications processed at 26th May, 2023.

Total number of Applications at 26/05/2023	43
LAHL carried over from 2022	5
Invalid/Returned	9
Approved	14
Declined	16
For review	5
Outstanding – waiting on further information	4

Grant Assistance to the Elderly and Disabled

Due to the high volume of applications received, no further grant applications can be accepted.

The Council received an allocation of €2,335,813 in 2023 for Private House Grants. €467,163 of this will be funded by the local authority's own resources.

Status	HAG	MAG	HOP	Monthly 01/05/2023 - 24/05/2023	YTD Total
Applications completed 2022	42	17	175	-	234
Applications on hand 24/05/2023	271	13	296	580	580

No. Grants Approved 2023	21	7	11	39	118
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Louth County Council has acquired 4 properties in May from the second-hand property market for specific categories of housing need such as homeless and disability.

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 not received notification on the 2023 allocation for the Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme.



Recently acquired property in Dundalk

Affordable Housing

Louth County Council has made an application to the Department of Housing for an Affordable Housing Scheme in Drogheda. A decision is expected in early June.

Vacant Homes

An online application to survey vacant homes was developed by the Department of Housing. At the start of May, staff in the Housing section began the survey and logged the results on the app. 980 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

The Council has been notified of approval for acquisitions in 2023 by Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and we examine all expressions of interest received in relation to potential purchases of properties with tenants-in-situ homes where a Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) or Rental Assistance Scheme (RAS) tenant has received a valid Notice of Termination.

Applications for Tenant-in-Situ homes	40
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The tenant in-situ acquisitions scheme does not specify criteria for eligibility relating to under or over occupancy, time on list, time in receipt of housing supports etc. and the Council is applying sufficient flexibility to the assessment process to prevent homelessness wherever possible.



Recently acquired property in Dundalk

Capital Housing Delivery

Louth County Council are progressing with the construction of new housing units at Doire Beag, Collon (6 units), Gort Uaine, Clogherhead (1 infill unit) and School Lane, Dunleer (1 infill unit).



New infill housing unit under construction in Gor Uaine, Clogherhead



New two storey house under construction in Doire Beag, Collon

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 Approved 4	01/09/2024	3no. * 2 bed & 8no. * 3 bed
Boice Court (Phase 2 - 4)	1/1	72	Stage Approved 4	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 Approved 4	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 Approved 1	06/10/2025	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	30/06/2023	11no. * 2 bed
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	3/6	6	On-site	30/06/2023	3no. * 2 bed Apt, 3no. * 3 bed Apt.
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	4/6	6	On-site	30/06/2023	3no. * 2 bed Apt, 3no. * 3 bed Apt.
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	5/6	6	On-site	30/06/2023	3no. * 2 bed Apt, 3no. * 3 bed Apt.
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	6/6	6	On-site	30/06/2023	3no. * 2 bed Apt, 3no. * 3 bed Apt.
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

CALF Delivery

Project Name	Project Phase	Total Number of Social Units Expected	Non Part VI/ Part V	Project Status	Projected Substantial Completion Date	Unit Type
Tierney Street, Ardee Circle Housing	1/2	5		On site	30/07/2023	2no. *2 bed Bungalow, 1no. *3 bed Bungalow, 2no. *3 bed semi detached
Tierney Street, Ardee Circle Housing	2/2	6		On site	31/12/2023	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	12no.*1 bed apt & 27no.*2 bed apt
Newtown View, Marsh Road, Drogheda Respond Housing	1/3	40	36/4	On site	30/08/2023	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	31/8/2023	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		Funding approved	01/03/2024	12no.*3 bed house
Dublin Road, Dundalk Respond Housing	1/2	49	43/6	On site	30/9/2023	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	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	1/8/2023	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	30/05/2023	2no.*3 bed apt, 10no.*2 bed apt & 4 no.*1 bed apt
Dublin Road, Dundalk Respond Housing	2/2	16		On site	30/9/2023	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
Seabrook Dromiskin	1/1	23	21/2	Withdrawn	31/03/2024	3*3 Bed bungalow 20*3 bed semi detached

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	03/03/2024	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	02/06/2024	5no.* 1 bed apartments 7no.* 2 bed apartments
3 Paradise Place	P McVerry	4	Stage 1 approved	01/03/2024	4no.*1 Bed apartments

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.

Mother and Baby Institutions Payment Scheme

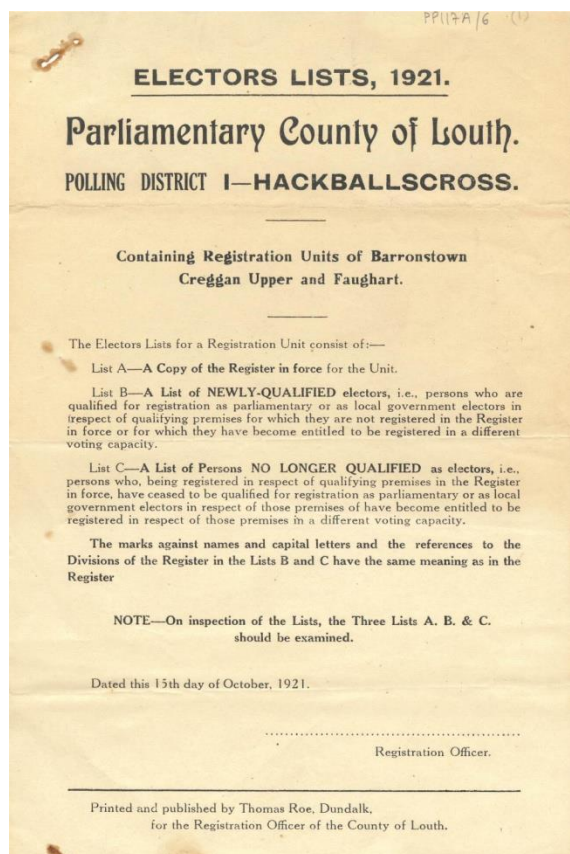
This Scheme is operated by the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth and is part of the Government's Action Plan for survivors and former residents. The scheme is due to open in June 2023 and central to it is a National Centre for Research and Remembrance (NCRR) which will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

Digital Access to Cultural Memory

Under this Libraries Development project, an LGMA Archives audit of collections is currently being completed.

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.



Cover page of Electors List for the polling district of Hackballscross, 1921, PP00117A/006

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.

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.

LIBRARIES

eServices



The wide range of services include:

- Borrow Box for free eBooks & eAudiobooks, Press Reader offers 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

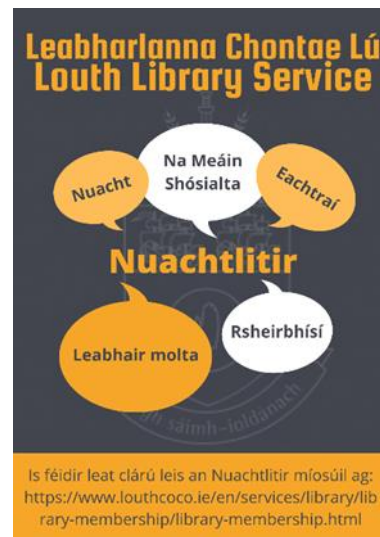


LOTE Online 4 Kids is a database of digital books in World Languages, created for children to enjoy books and learn language through storytelling. The platform provides over 2250+ digital books in 60+ languages together with English translations. New books and languages are released each month, so stay 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 schools mobile is continuing to visit schools. Class sets/novels are available to borrow throughout the school year. Teachers can book a visit to the HQ Store in Dundalk from 3:30pm – 5pm Tuesday – Friday to view our full schools collection. For more information contact Orla on orla.muckian@louthcoco.ie

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 throughout the month of

June. Colouring is a simple activity that has a myriad of benefits – relaxation, clarity, focus etc. No booking required.



Summer Stars



Summer Stars is back for 2023 and Louth Library Service is looking forward to providing an exciting programme.

Summer Stars is a National Right to Read programme, which encourages children to read for enjoyment during their Summer Holidays.

The initiative will be launched mid-June and on Saturday 17th June, all five library branches will celebrate “Sign up Saturday”; where children can pick up a summer stars bag, reading card and activity pack.

Artist John Carpenter will host drawing workshops in Dundalk, Drogheda and Ardee Libraries for invited primary school classes during the month of June. A programme of events, including Drumming Workshops, Art & Crafts and Children’s Storytime, will run throughout the summer months in all our library branches.

Louth Library Service will run a competition for Summer Stars. Each branch will have one family pass to Dublin Zoo to give away at the end of the Summer. Children can return their Summer Stars

cards to their branch to be entered in to the prize draw.

Outreach

Louth Library Service was delighted to attend a number of outreach events in Muirhevna Mór Community Centre on the 4th May & Clan na Gael GAA Club on 11th May. Dundalk Area Coordination Team (ACT) held 'Let's Play!' events to learn more about the benefits of play and how it can promote healthy development and improve positive attachment.



Ruth O'Rourke, Kate O'Brien, Miriam Finnegan, Leona Burgess, Yvonne Duggan, Lara Williams, Annemarie Hennessy & Siobhan McGuinness at recent R2R network partner meeting



Executive Librarian Leona Burgess and Library Assistant Ciara Brodigan

Right to Read Network Partner Meeting

A Right to Read network partner meeting was held in Drogheda Library on the 11th of May. The main aim of the 'Right to Read' Network is to implement the 4 strands of 'Right to Read' initiative. The networks are made up of organisations with an interest in the delivery of the programme. Close working relationships with internal partners, sections within local government, other government agencies, educational and community-based bodies facilitate the delivery of the 'Right to Read' programme on the ground in County Louth.

Mosney eServices roadshow

Louth Library Service visited Mosney for an eServices roadshow on the 25th of May. Louth Library Service is collaborating with Meath Library Service on a joint literacy initiative aimed at those living in Mosney, as one of the actions under the Drogheda Implementation Plan. 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 Library.



Library Staff Officer Annemarie Hennessy and Executive Librarian Leona Burgess in Mosney

Children's Events

Dundalk Library

- Teddy Bears' Picnic Thursday 22nd June at 3.30pm. All welcome.

Drogheda Library

- Teddy Bears' Picnic Wednesday 14th June at 3.30pm. All welcome.
- Storytime & Songs with Annemarie Saturday 17th June at 11.30am. All welcome.

An Chúirt Chruitireachta Harp Festival



Drogheda Library is delighted to collaborate with Cairde na Cruite as part of the Harp Festival 2023. Jean Kelly and Aisling Ennis will facilitate two interactive workshops entitled "Goltraí & Geantraí". for parents and babies/toddlers. Places are limited and booking is essential. To book your place contact Drogheda Library on 041 9876162.

Ardee Library

- Paper Mates, what adventure awaits us? Children will create a paper mate and tell their story by writing and illustrating their own storybook. Saturday 17th June at 11.30am.

Booking essential Contact Ardee Library 041 6859023 to reserve a space.

- Storytime and Colouring Club

Ardee Library Picture Book Storytime and Colouring Club continues throughout the month of June on Friday afternoons from 3.30pm to 4.30pm. All welcome to attend, places limited, booking is essential.

Dunleer Library

- Children's Storytime Saturday 24th June at 11am.

Carlingford Library

- Children's Storytime Saturday 24th June 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.



Baby Book Club 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

Age Action Computer Classes

A new five-week course will begin in Dundalk & Drogheda Libraries on Friday 09th June. The course offers free one-to-one tuition for people over the age of 55 who have little or no computer experience To book email gettingstarted@ageaction.ie

Dundalk Library 042 9353190

Talk with Consultant Brian Cavanagh “Governing with Purpose, How to lead a brilliant board - a guide for charity trustees”

Consultant Brian Cavanagh will give a talk based on his book “Governing with Purpose, How to lead a brilliant board - a guide for charity trustees” in Dundalk Library on Wednesday 28th June at 6:30pm. Brian is a successful consultant with significant experience of leading and championing change at a national level in Scotland and Ireland. Amongst his many attributes, he helps businesses and leaders to strengthen key leadership relationships, set challenging but achievable goals and create an inclusive, high-performance culture. All welcome, contact Dundalk Library on 042 9353190 for further information.

Drogheda Library 041 9876162

Rainbow Reads

The monthly Rainbow Reads event will take place on Wednesday 21st June at 6pm. 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.

Creative Writing Group

Would you like to be part of a Creative Writing group? Come along to our Creative Writers Group to meet fellow writers on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month from 2.30pm-4pm. New members welcome.

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. Peer led learning- all you need is a desire to speak as gaeilge!

Ardee Library Language Conversation Exchange

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! The group meets every Tuesday at 6pm.

Film Screenings at Ardee Library

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

06th June An Cailín Ciúin, The Quiet Girl (2022)

13th June As Good As It Gets (1997)

20th June Philomena (2013)

27th June To Kill A Mocking Bird (1962)

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 the third Thursday of every month. The next meeting will be on Thursday 15th June at 6pm. For further information contact Ardee Library. 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.

Bloomsday 2023



To celebrate Bloomsday Nuala O'Connor, a novelist, short story writer and poet, joined Let's Get Louth: The Louth Library Service Podcast. Nuala's book 'Nora', a story about Nora Barnacle and James Joyce, 'was chosen for the 'One Dublin One Book' initiative 2022.

Bloomsday celebrates Thursday the 16th of June 1904, the day immortalized in James Joyce's 1922 novel Ulysses. Bloomsday festival runs from 12-18 June 2023 and you can find out more online at www.bloomsdayfestival.ie

Arts

Creative Ireland Louth

Cruinniú Na nÓg

Cruinniú Na nÓg, the annual day of free creativity for children and young people, takes place on Saturday 10th June. This year is set to see a busy programme of workshops and activities on offer. The Cruinniú Na nÓg programme is designed to encourage children to embrace their creativity and get involved in Arts and culture.



Along with live music and workshops at Market Square in Dundalk, we have circus workshops in Dundalk, Drogheda and Ardee Libraries. In Drogheda there is an extensive range of outreach projects which Meath and Louth County Councils are collaborating on. Cruinniú is led by the Creative Ireland programme and supported by the local authority culture teams. For full details of our Louth events see [here](#)

Community Grants

Lots of our community grant recipients started work on their projects in May. Many of them will run for

several weeks and we can't wait to see what they produce. Here are some of the highlights:

Developing Independent Drawing and Painting Skills

Starting in May this project will see professional visual artists working with service users of RehabCare in Dundalk to provide professional painting and drawing skills to them to enhance wellbeing. The artists will also work with members of the RehabCare staff to ensure the discipline can be continued after the project completes in the summer. For more details see [here](#)

Choir of our mind

Visual artist Els Borghart has begun a 10 week creative programme with a local Ukrainian group in Drogheda. The aim of the programme is to collect and record stories from the participants which will then inspire the artist to make portraits of each participant. See [here](#) for details.

An Táin Arts Centre and Glas Quartet present 'Little Notes for Little Dotes'

'Little Notes for Little Dotes' provides a relaxed and fun morning of music for little ones. Classical music can soothe children and stimulate brain development. There will be 8 workshops across the Mid Louth area in preschool settings and 2 sessions in An Táin Arts Centre. For more details see [here](#)

Through My Eyes

Author, playwright, filmmaker, and creative writing tutor, Laurence McKeown, will conduct a series of workshops with young people at Dee Hub in Ardee to produce a body of work consisting of film footage from the participants. For more details on this see [here](#)

Brigid1500

A newly designed St Brigid's Cloak launched in Dundalk library on 11th May. Made by the students of St Brigid's School, Ard Easmuinn with artist Shauna Swords, the cloak is made up of hundreds

of individual copper foil circles which have been hand stenciled by the students.



The newly created St. Brigid Cloak on display in Dundalk library on launch day, 11th May.

An initiative of the Creative Ireland Louth programme and Louth County Council Arts office, the cloak will remain in Dundalk library until 31st May after which it will move to Ardee library where it will be on display from 2nd June until 21st June. Then finally it will move to Drogheda library from 23rd June until mid July. During its exhibition 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 your local library.

Youth Theatre events

MAD Little Drama Festival

M.A.D Youth Theatre took to the stage at the end of May to perform a series of one act monologues and duologues along with new work created and performed by new members of M.A.D Youth Theatre. Supported by Creative Ireland Louth, An Táin Arts Centre, Youth Theatre Ireland and CreateLouth, the festival was an opportunity for

the students to showcase all they have learned and worked on over the past few months.

Bealtaine

Louth County Council once again partnered with Music and Health Ireland to provide a series of concerts in nursing homes throughout Louth as part of our Bealtaine celebrations in May. Musicians called 6 nursing homes in Drogheda, Ardee, Termonfeckin, Dundalk & Blackrock and performed a 1 hour concert in each.



The Grannies' during their performance at Moorehall Lodge in Ardee

Alongside the concerts we also had 'The Grannies' come along to delight the residents and staff! A hilarious acrobatic performance by Bill and Fred Productions, 'The Grannies' perform incredible feats and stunts with their walking sticks and acrobatic skills.

Droichead Arts Centre

Photography exhibition 'Pride and Picturesque' has been in the gallery space of Droichead Arts Centre throughout May and will close on 3rd June. In partnership with Youth Work Ireland Louth Southside CYP and Foróige Cable Project, the exhibition is a series of photographs taken by young people aged 11-18 years from Drogheda.



Images from the Pride and Picturesque exhibition

Facilitator Karen Smyth worked with 40 young people from the area on the project covering themes of identity and pride in their area. Funded by the Creative Ireland Louth programme and curated by Droichead Arts Centre this project is one of several initiatives in response to the Drogheda Implementation Action Plan.

Carlingford Heritage Centre

This year's spring series came to a close on 28th May in Carlingford Heritage Centre following 4 weeks of incredible performances from some of the best musicians. Supported by the CreateLouth arts office, it was an impressive line up from David Brophy to Donal Lunny and Catriona McKay, to name just some of the performers. The programming team will be back with their autumn series in October, so watch this space.

CreateLouth Arts Grants

A total of eighty one applications were received this year for a range of bursaries for emerging and established artists, as well as arts grants for creative projects, Tyrone Guthrie bursary, and Drama League of Ireland Summer School Bursary. Thirty six applications were successful in being awarded support. We wish all recipients success in their endeavours and look forward to seeing their work.

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:

- Bellingham Castle,
- The Great Northern Railway

- Life Kilmainham Gaol
- Trim Castle
- The escape from Dundalk Gaol
- Dublin Castle
- The history of Dromiskin
- Bloody Sunday (Croke Park)
- Carrickmacross Workhouse
- The history of Cúchulainn Castle
- 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.

Continuing on the educational theme the Museum, in conjunction with the Old Dundalk Society hosted a lecture on the history of the Great Northern Railway. The talk was given by students of Coláiste Cúchulainn. This is the second year of the initiative which sees the ODS link up with TY students researching and talking about a local history topic.

Events



The Táin International Hillwalking Festival

The Museum is hosting several events organised with the Táin International Hillwalking Festival. The Museum will host a tour of the galleries on Saturday at 11 a.m. as well as performance 'I, Kavanagh' by Noel Magee followed by a lecture on Louth's flora and fauna of the Cooley Mountains. .

Recent Acquisitions

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



A Crilly Doll

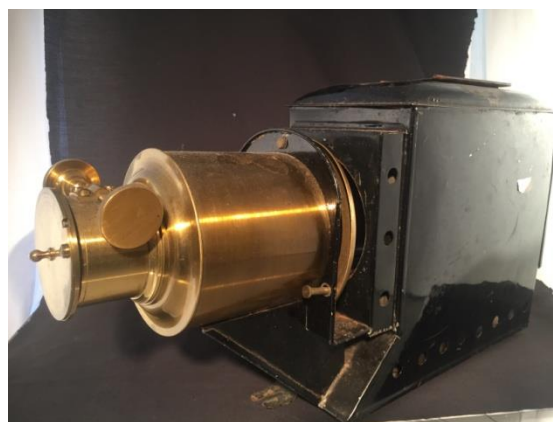
- A Crilly doll
- A handmade, wooden child's walker
- A doll's pram
- A 'magic' lantern
- A Louth Senior Football Men's jersey



Handmade Child's walker



Doll's pram



A 'Magic' Lantern



Louth Senior Men's Football jersey

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 Stiúirtheacht 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
Director / Stiúrthóir



Ukrainian Humanitarian Response

Offer A Home Programme

Property Figures as at 26/05/2023

Property offers recorded	35
Owners successfully contacted	35
Properties allocated	21
Beneficiaries assigned	61
Assessments	29
Assessments currently underway	0
Properties assessed as suitable	22
Properties with minor works required	1
Properties withdrawn	4
Properties not viable	8

Our Ukrainian speaking Matching and Relationship Officer helps the Ukrainian families with setting up their utility bills when moving into their new home and provides information and advice re local clubs and facilities in the area. When a match takes place she visits the property with the owner and the family and translates anything that the family needs to know such as how to work the boiler. She offers ongoing support to the families and owner with any issues that may arise once they move in.

Refurbishment Programme

Local Authorities are facilitating and acting as agent for the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage refurbishment programme. Currently 14 properties are being assessed for their suitability to provide accommodation for Ukrainian Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection.

Integration Support

The Ukrainian team organised yoga classes in Dundalk and art classes in Blackrock with funding awarded from Healthy Ireland for Ukrainian Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection Health and Wellbeing Support.

