



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT

July 2025

Tuairisc Bhainistíochta Mhíosúil an Príomhfheidhmeannach – 31ú Iúil 2025

Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report – 31st July 2025

A Chara,

I am including the above-named report for your statutory consideration. This report has also been prepared under Sections 136 & 138 of the Local Government Act, 2001, advising you of the performance of executive functions in the past month and planned works. Below are some of the key highlights from July's activities.

1. Finance and System Support

- **Expenditure:** €94.4M spent out of a €183.9M budget (51%).
- **Income:** €100.5M received out of a €183.9M budget (46%).
- **Debtors:** Closing balance of €48M across various categories.

2. Economic Delivery

- **Economic:** IDA Ireland hosted a delegation from their Asia Pacific global team on a familiarisation trip to County Louth on Wednesday, 2nd July
- **Tourism:** Festival Supports for 2025 continues with Initiatives like the Táin Trail re-imagined, Boyne Valley Flavours brand refresh, and upcoming Tracks and Trails RTÉ feature, Fleadh Cheoil Laighean Leinster Fleadh Drogheda
- **Heritage Week:** will run from Saturday 16th August until Sunday 24th August.
- **Local Enterprise Office:** Business advice clinics, training programs, and grant approvals for entrepreneurs.
- **Drogheda Night-Time Economy:** Successful events like Deadly Craic Comedy Club and Night Moves Late-Night Cafés have taken place.
- **Planning:** for the month of June 2025, 109 planning applications were received of which 93 were valid.

3. Operations & Environment

- **Roads & Maintenance:** Extensive Road repairs, drainage works, and litter-picking activities across the county.
- **Waste Management:** 16 complaints investigated in July, €68K spent on diesel laundering waste cleanup.
- **Climate Action:** Community Climate Action Fund projects underway; biodiversity initiatives like the Louth Swift Project and Woodland Bat Monitoring Survey.
- **Energy:** since 2016, total energy consumption is down by 33%, Carbon emissions have dropped by 32%

4. Housing & Culture

- **Housing:** 236 homeless presentations, 50 Housing First tenancies established, and 5054 applicants on the housing list.
- **Maintenance:** 804 maintenance requests received in July; 701 completed.
- **Cultural Services:** Library programs like Summer Stars and Pride Storytime; museum updates include new sporting memorabilia and acquisitions.
- **Archives:** The digitisation of the historical minute books of Drogheda Corporation, dating from 1649–1925, has been completed and public access copies of the minute books were placed online in June.
- **Arts:** arts office commissioned a series of 8 postcards commemorating events in Louth during the revolutionary period of 1912 to 1923

5. Major Capital Projects

- **Placemaking:** Progress on urban regeneration projects in Drogheda, Dundalk, and Carlingford.
- **Roads:** Updates on Narrow Water Bridge, N53 Dundalk-Castleblayney Road, and Ardee Bypass.
- **Greenways:** Completion of sections of Carlingford Lough Greenway and Dundalk Bay to Carlingford Greenway planning.
- **Active Travel Projects:** €6.3M allocated for 28 projects, including walking and cycling infrastructure and Safe Routes to Schools initiatives.

6. Community & Corporate Services

- **Community Support:** Initiatives like Age Friendly Louth, Pride of Place nominations, and dog fouling awareness campaigns.
- **Integration:** Weekly clinics for residents, LGBTQ+ training, and Ukraine humanitarian response programs.
- **CRM:** in July Customer Services dealt with 14,829 queries inclusive of 6,687 calls, 1,174 e-mails and 6,968 counter queries. 9,149 (62%) of queries received were dealt with at first point of contact.
- **FOI:** 84 requests have been review to date and 7 for July 2025.

7. Key Events

- Minister Dara Calleary opened three community projects in Omeath, Dundalk, and Termonfeckin.
- Public consultations for projects like Ardee 2040 and St. Nicholas Quarter Phase 2.

The above highlights an overview of the key activities and achievements in Louth County Council for July 2025.

I would like to especially thank all the executive and staff of LCC for their work and commitment, which is outlined in more detail in the attached report.

Is mise le meas.



David Conway
Chief Executive

Louth County Council - Chief Executive Report - July 2025

Tuairisc Bhainistíochta Mhíosúil an Príomhfheidhmeannach –31ú Iúil 2025 Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report – 31st July 2025

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An Stúirthóireacht Airgeadais agus Tacaíochta Córais Finance and System Support Directorate

Tá an stiúrthóireacht seo freagrach as bainistíocht airgeadais na heagraíochta, lena n-áirítear cuntais iníoctha agus infhaighte, le rialú agus seachadadh gach córais dhigitigh TFC, lena n-áirítear seirbhísí teileachumarsáide, soláthar, iniúchadh & bainistíocht riosca agus sócmhainní.

This directorate is responsible for the financial management of the organisation, including accounts payable and receivable, with control and delivery of all ICT digital systems, including telecommunications services, procurement, audit & risk and asset management.

Bernadette Woods
Stiúrthóir / Director



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Tuairiscí Airgeadais / Financial Reports

Caiteachas go dtí 30ú Iúil 2025 / Expenditure to 30th July 2025

Rannóg / Section	Actual Expenditure to 30/07/2025 / Caiteachas Iarbhír go dtí 30/07/2025	Caiteachas Buiséadaithe 2025 / Budget Expenditure 2025	% Caite go 30/07/2025 / % Spent to 30/07/2025
Tithíocht / Housing	€40,604,267	€73,683,142	55%
Iompar Bóthair agus Sábháilteacht / Road Transportation & Safety	€14,301,495	€28,591,697	50%
Seirbhísí Uisce / Water Services	€3,602,345	€7,538,273	48%
Bainistíocht Forbartha / Development Management	€10,691,115	€25,940,360	41%
Seirbhísí Timpeallachta / Environmental Services	€12,820,785	€24,948,899	51%
Áineas agus Conláiste / Recreation and Amenity	€6,056,850	€12,548,436	48%
Talmhaíocht, Oideachas, Sláinte agus Leas / Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	€559,086	€1,431,271	39%
Ilghnéitheach / Miscellaneous	€5,749,140	€9,312,306	62%
	€94,385,083	€183,994,384	51%

Ioncam go 30ú Iúil 2025 / Income to 30th of July 2025

Rannóg / Section	Ioncam Iarbhír go dtí 30/07/2025 / Actual Income to 30/07/2025	Ioncam Buiséadaithe 2025 / Budget Income 2025	% Sonraisc Curtha do dtí 30/07/2025 / % Invoiced to 30/07/2025
Tithíocht / Housing	€35,659,483	€73,685,224	48%
Iompar Bóthair agus Sábháilteacht / Road Transportation & Safety	€3,574,995	€16,613,589	22%
Seirbhísí Uisce / Water Services	€2,548,964	€6,557,586	39%
Bainistíocht Forbartha / Development Management	€5,737,618	€15,522,127	37%
Seirbhísí Timpeallachta / Environmental Services	€1,322,730	€4,474,236	30%
Áineas agus Conláiste / Recreation and Amenity	€1,014,666	€1,947,561	52%
Talmhaíocht, Oideachas, Sláinte agus Leas / Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	€198,975	€469,209	42%
Ilghnéitheach / Miscellaneous	€7,196,220	€17,760,538	41%
Rátaí / Rates	€37,611,242	€35,598,115	106%
Deontas Ilfheidhmeach / General Purpose Grant (LPT)	€5,683,099	€11,366,198	50%
	€100,547,992	€183,994,383	46%

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The above is the current position as of the 30th of July 2025. 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 2025 is included in the above figure.

Collection rates as of 30th of July 2025 are as follows:

Féichiúnaithe mar atá 30ú Iúil 2025 / Debtors as of 30th of July 2025

	Iarmhéid Tosaigh / Opening Balance	Sonraisc / Invoices	Fáltais / Receipts	Díscríobhanna / Write Offs	Iarmhéid Deiridh / Closing Balance
Féichiúnaithe Rialtais / Government Debtors	€26,232,975	€131,889,552	(€142,655,350)	(€Nil)	€15,467,177
Uadaráis Áitiúla Eile / Other Local Authorities	€106,006	€820,737	(€704,644)	(€Nil)	€222,099
Rataí / Rates	€5,466,111	€37,611,935	(€27,498,305)	(€1,091,137)	€14,488,604
Cíosanna / Rent	€3,098,524	€10,379,644	(€9,961,920)	(€13,356)	€3,502,892
Iasachtal / Loans	€300,764	€1,305,402	(€1,311,333)	(€Nil)	€294,833
Tobhaigh Forbartha / Development Levies	€10,912,245	€3,434,245	(€4,169,303)	(€601,708)	€9,575,479
Táilí Seirbhíse Dóiteáin / Fire Charges	€851,125	€452,347	(€339,633)	(€10,129)	€953,710
Ilghnéitheach / Miscellaneous	€2,746,807	€5,866,661	(€5,056,212)	(€5,360)	€3,551,896
Féichiúnaithe Iomlána / Total Debtors	€49,714,557	€191,760,523	(€191,696,700)	(€1,721,690)	€48,056,690

Above are the debtor balances as of 30th of July 2025. The Miscellaneous debtor figure includes the Irish Water SLA recoupments, Corporate, Community & Enterprise, LEO, Planning, Enforcement, Environment, Sports, Arts, Roads, Library, Museum and Finance miscellaneous billings.

Budget 2026 - Local Property Tax (LPT) Public Consultation

As this year is a Revaluation year for LPT the decision regarding whether or not to change the base rate by +/- 15% has to be decided and notified to the Revenue by the 31st of August 2025

The report went to you, the members, at the July meeting where it was decided to defer the decision to a Special meeting of the council on Tuesday 26th

of August 2025 at 5pm. You can decide whether to vary the basic rate of LPT by up to +/-15%. If the rate is varied upwards 100% of the additional income will be available for the authority's own use. Similarly, if the rate is varied downwards the loss of income will be reflected in reduced LPT funding to the authority.

If the members do decide on an increase / decrease on the LPT basic rate they can also decide on the number of years this change is to apply to.

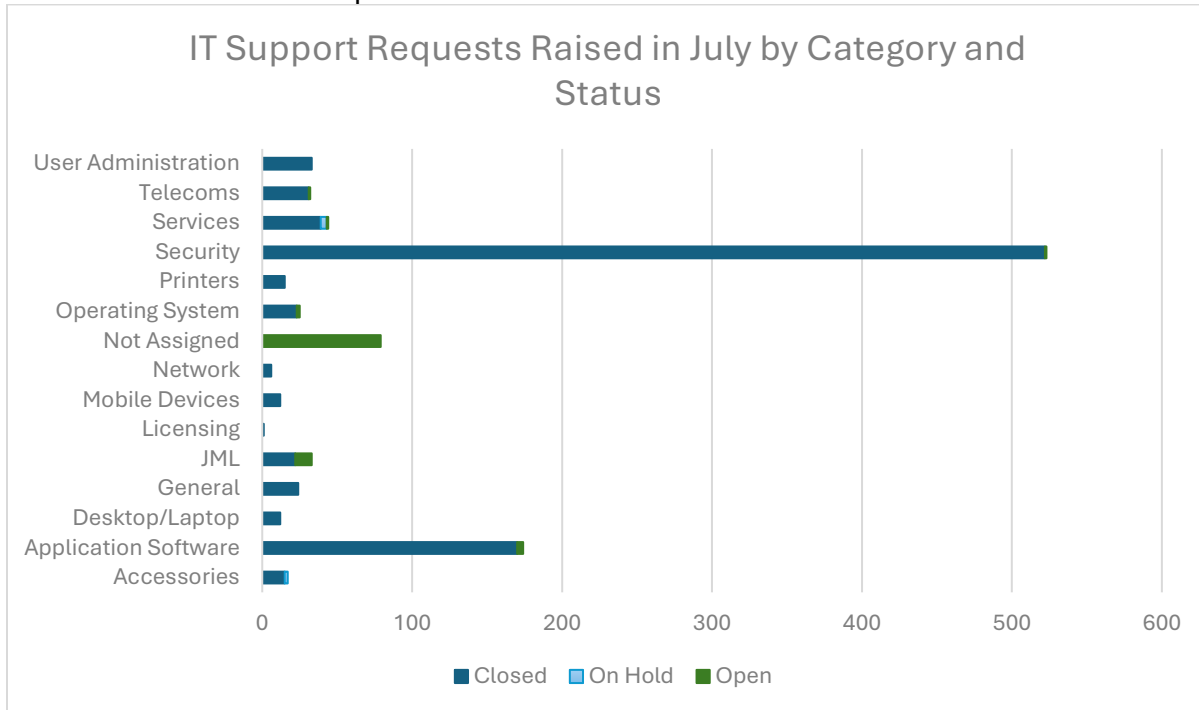
Budget Workshop

It was agreed at the July council meeting that we would hold a budget workshop for the members on Tuesday 26th of August following on from the LPT Special meeting.

Techneolaíocht Faisnéise agus Cumarsáide / Information & Communication Technology

Deasc Chabhrach / Helpdesk

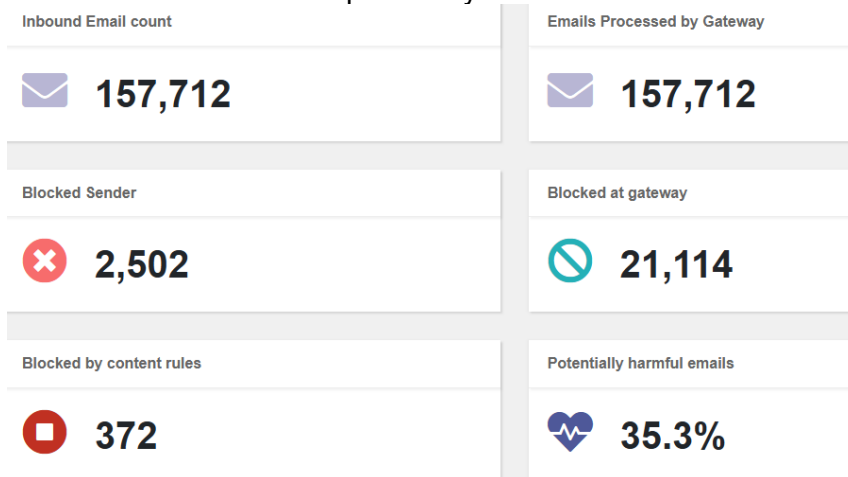
Between 01/07/2025 and the 30/07/2025 there were 1030 support calls logged in the IT support system. 90% of these calls have been completed.



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

Córas Idirscartha Ríomhphoist / E-Mail Filtering System

Louth County Council continues to be targeted with phishing, and spam e-mail. We utilise an e-mail filtering system to scan all e-mail being received into the organisation. From 01/07/2025 – 30/07/2025 35% of inbound e-mails were identified as potentially harmful.



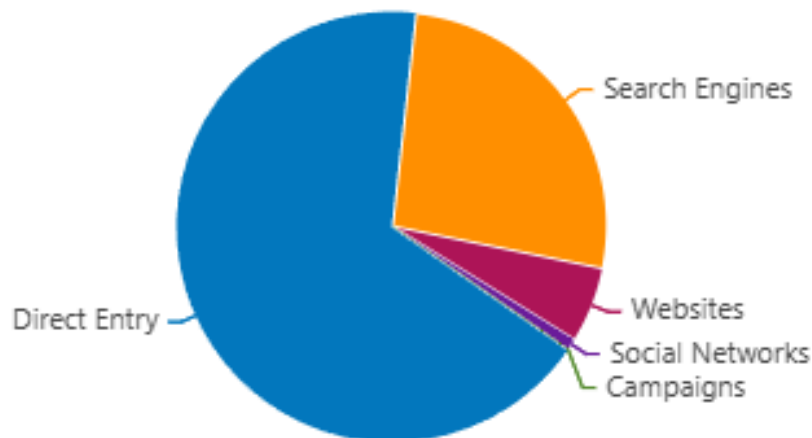
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Suíomh Gréasáin Comhairle Chontae Lú / Louth County Council Website

There were 19,481 unique page views of www.louthcoco.ie between 1st and 30th July 2025. The below table shows the pages which received the highest number of page views in July.

PAGE URL	PAGEVIEWS	UNIQUE PAGEVIEWS
/en/	22.2% 4,319	3,378
/en/services/planning/online-planning...	5% 972	793
/en/home/	3.5% 686	507
/en/services/planning/	3.3% 637	505
/en/services/	3% 587	469
/en/services/dog-pound/	3% 577	397
/en/services/library/	2.5% 489	352
/en/services/planning/online-planning...	1.7% 335	280
/en/contact/louth-county-council/	1.5% 301	266
/en/services/housing/	1.5% 283	219
/en/publications/development-plans/	1.5% 300	216

The chart below presents the Channels that visitors visited www.louthcoco.ie through during the month of July. Direct Entry and Search Engines were the two most used channels in July.



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 6,101 views between 01/07/2025 and 30/07/2025, an average of 210 views a day in July

Item views
6,101

Average item views per day
210.38

Usage time series between 01/07/2025 and 30/07/2025



Cyber Security

The ICT Department provide regular cyber security training to all staff within the organisation. The theme of the training in July emphasised the importance of protecting personal information and how cyber criminals utilise personal information shared on social media platforms to compromise accounts. Staff were presented with a training video and a quiz

An Stiúrthóireacht um Sheachadadh Eacnamaíoch Economic Delivery Directorate

Tá an stiúrthóireacht seo freagrach as clár oibre eacnamaíoch na heagraíochta a sheachadadh, lena n-áirítear turasóireacht, Fiontair Áitiúla agus Pleanáil, lena n-áirítear oidhreacht thógtha.

This directorate is responsible for the delivery of the organisation's economic agenda, including Tourism, Local Enterprise and Planning, including Built Heritage.

Thomas McEvoy
Stiúrthóir / Director



An Stiúirthóireacht um Sheachadadh Eacnamaíoch / Directorate of Economic Delivery

Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

Details at www.localenterprise.ie/green and www.localenterprise.ie/louth.

Forbairt Gheilleagrach / Economic Development

IDA Ireland Familiarisation Visit to Louth

IDA Ireland hosted a delegation from their Asia Pacific global team on a familiarisation trip to County Louth on Wednesday, 2nd July. The delegation included representatives from all IDA Ireland's Asia Pacific offices, alongside their Ireland-based colleagues.

Visit Louth was happy to assist IDA Ireland in showcasing Louth as a destination to live and work. A tour of Carlingford was organised for the delegation and Visit Louth gift bags with the Visit Louth maps, and sea louth information were provided.



Visit Louth Welcome Bags

Shopfront Improvement Grant Scheme 2025

The Shopfront Improvement Grant Scheme is open to applications, from non-domestic commercial properties in County Louth, with a scheme closing date of Friday, 26th September, 2025.

Eighteen applications have been received year-to-date.

Turasóireacht / Tourism

Visit Louth



If anyone wishes to submit an event or attraction to be listed on the Visit Louth website, they can do so via this [link](#). In particular, the [what's on](#) section aims to inform and attract tourists to the county.

Festivals Supported 2025

All information on festivals and events happening across the county are available at: <https://www.visitlouth.ie/whats-on/>.

Tracks and Trails

Louth is to feature on the RTÉ Tracks and Trails series in 2026. A site visit was held this month, and a trail route has been confirmed.

Táin Trail Re-imagined

The Service Level Agreement, and Terms of Reference have been sent out to be signed by each of the local authorities. A meeting of the local authorities and Fáilte Ireland is scheduled to take place at the beginning of August.

The Centre of Food Culture, Boyne Valley

The Centre of Food Culture rolled out its first events beyond the Boyne Valley, partnering with producers in Wicklow, Leitrim, and Dublin as part of the Meet the Cheesemaker and Cultivating Connections: Farm Walks Series. “Meet the Cheesemaker: Coolattin Cheddar” was held on the 7th July in County Wicklow, “Meet the Cheesemaker: Leitrim Hill” was held on 13th July in County Leitrim, and “Cultivating Connections: McNally’s Family Farm Walk” was held on 27th July in County Dublin.

The Centre of Food Culture also partnered with Carlingford Oysters to host our first coastal farm walk at the oyster farm, in partnership with Bord Iascaigh Mhara who joined with their remote classroom.

Boyne Valley Flavours - Brand Refresh Completed

The brand refresh project is now complete. This involved:

- Redeveloping the brand guidelines and tone of voice
- Creating a unique identity for our Boyne Valley Bites initiative
- Developing a tailored brand style for Boyne Valley Flavours member communications.

These updates will ensure a more cohesive, recognisable, and impactful brand across all platforms and campaigns.

Website Progress

The new website is nearing completion. It has been designed to improve user experience and better highlight our members, events, and initiatives. Rollout is expected by the end of August.

Geilleagar Oíche Dhoichead Átha / Drogheda Night-Time Economy

Deadly Craic Comedy Club Launches at McHugh's



Drogheda's local comedy scene made a triumphant return with the launch of Deadly Craic Comedy Club at The Watchtower, McHugh's, on 27th June. Formerly known as Crescent Comedy Club in the Trinity Quarter's Purple Room, the rebranded night is curated and hosted by local comedian and musician Ellen O'Reilly and will run on the last Friday of each month. The new venue and refreshed identity have injected energy into the local comedy offering, with both the June and July shows completely sold out – an incredible achievement for a new event and vast increase in footfall from the previous venue and brand.

Supported through the Louth County Council's Night-Time Economy Adviser's kickstart fund for emerging event organisers, the initiative aims to help new nights gain a foothold and become financially sustainable over time. The sold-out launch featuring headline act Enya Martin marked a major step forward, with July's follow-up confirming strong local demand for live comedy in Drogheda.

The club is part of a wave of incubation activity at McHugh's, which continues to play a vital role in shaping Drogheda's emerging night-time economy by hosting innovative, grassroots events. Plans are already forming for festival tie-ins and future music programming, alongside a continued focus on quality headline comedy and support for rising regional talent.

Night Moves Late-Night Cafés

On 4th July, three local cafés – The Coffee Box, Il Forno and The Bare Food Café – opened late as part of Night Moves, an innovative cultural programme led by Droichead Arts Centre, curated by SJ McArdle, and funded by Louth County Council's Night-Time Economy Adviser for Drogheda. Each café hosted a free evening of incredible live music, poetry, and spoken word in welcoming, relaxed settings – showcasing what a more diverse and balanced night-time economy could look like. The opera event at Il Forno was packed out, with many new faces exploring Drogheda's late-night offer. This was the third Night Moves event and the second of 2025. It follows strong feedback for late-night cafés in the Drogheda by Night 2025 consultation and is part of an ongoing pilot to prove the viability of alternative venues and later opening hours. The venues provide the space and staffing; programming and artist fees are covered by Night-Time Economy and Arts Council funding as part of a trial to kickstart a new audience and provide cafes with a sustainable model to continue by themselves.



Night Moves Late-Night Café Event

LMFM interviewed Droichead Arts Centre's Director Collette Farrell and the Night-Time Economy Adviser on 22nd July to promote the initiative. Feedback from audiences, artists and venues has been extremely positive, with The Coffee Box continuing to host music events independently. Night Moves Late Cafes demonstrates a practical, scalable model of local business partnership that can be replicated elsewhere. More sessions are planned for August and September, with further cafés encouraged to participate.

Céilí Picnic – Leinster Fleadh Fringe Event

From 11th – 13th July, Céilí Picnic returned to Drogheda as part of the Leinster Fleadh, delivering three nights of music, dance, and family-friendly entertainment at Duke Street Car Park. Funded by the LCC, through the Night-Time Economy Adviser for Drogheda, and the Festival Grant Initiative, the event aimed to activate the West Stret area of the town centre and complement the core Fleadh programme, much of which was concentrated south of the river. The weekend was a major success, with the town centre heaving with activity. The Céilí Picnic brought a warm, informal energy to the Duke Street space – echoing the spirit of the original 2019 event during Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann. Highlights included live performances by local and emerging traditional musicians, community céilí dancing, family activities, and a silent disco running into the evening.



Céilí Picnic Event

Oifig Fiontar Áitiúil / Local Enterprise Office

LEO Business Supports

Updated information on the range of business supports available can be found at the following website: [Local Enterprise Office - Louth](https://www.localenterprise.ie/Louth). Businesses seeking support from LEO Louth should email: info@leo.louthcoco.ie or they can call to our office at Town Hall, Dundalk.

Business Advice Clinics

Business Advice Clinics - 48 appointments were provided to entrepreneurs throughout the county in July, alongside 2 Financial Business Advice Clinics

Business Training



The Schedule for training for 2025 is available to view and book online: <https://www.localenterprise.ie/Louth/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/>.

Training Courses - two courses were held in July, Social Media for Small Business and Instagram for Business (Advanced). A total of 38 clients attended.

LEO Louth Mentor Programme



Mentors were appointed to 19 businesses in July to provide practical and strategic one-to-one advice and guidance.

Louth Evaluation and Approvals Committee Meeting: 30th July

LEO Louth had three applications for grant supports for approval at the Evaluations and Approvals Committee Meeting (EVAC) on Wednesday 30th July. These were:

- One Priming Grant
- Two Feasibility Grants

Oidhreacht / Heritage

The condition of the Magdalene Tower in Drogheda (the belfry of the Dominican priory) was inspected. The Heritage Officer met local residents and other interested parties to hear their issues with the area under and around the tower.



Vegetation growing on the Magdalene Tower, Drogheda

The tourist information panel in the car park at the Hill of Faughart was replaced.



Replacement panel in the car park at the Hill of Faughart

Work will begin soon on the three conservation projects funded by The Community Monuments Fund 2025. These are Bellew's Castle (Castletown, Dundalk), Glaspistol (Clogherhead, Drogheda) and Taaffe's castle (Carlingford).

Heritage Week 2025

Heritage Week will run from Saturday 16th August until Sunday 24th August. Preparations continue for public events to take place during the week. This year's theme is "Exploring Our Foundations". Ideas for other Heritage Week events are very welcome, please contact the Heritage Officer directly with your proposals.

Walled Towns Day events planning

In addition to and related to Heritage Week, the Irish Walled Towns Network (the IWTN), a programme of the Heritage Council, has approved funding for public celebratory events, 'Walled Towns Festivals', to take place in early to mid-September, in both Carlingford and Drogheda. More information will be provided closer to the time of the events.

The Irish Walled Towns Network has also funded a detailed study of the section of Drogheda's town wall between Laurence Street and Bachelors Lane (along Featherbed Lane, south of Laurence's Gate). A team led by a Conservation Architect has now been appointed to carry out this assessment and to produce creative proposals for the regeneration of the area, including future interpretation of and access to this stretch of the town wall.

Pleanáil / Planning

Bainistíocht Forbartha / Development Management

The Planning service indicators for the Council for the month of June 2025 are given below in tabular form. There were 109 planning applications received during the month of June of which 93 were valid. In addition, there were 35 responses received during the month to requests for further information and 22 Pre-Planning Requests 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) Cur Síos / Description	(B) Forbairtí Tithíochta / Housing Developme nts	(C) Tithe Aonair / Individual Houses	(D) Iarratais Eile – ní gá MTT / Other application s-not requiring EIA	(E) Iarratais Eile - MTT de dhíth / Other applications - requiring EIA	(F) Iomlán na bhforbairtí sa chontae / Total for all categories of development in County Area
(i) Líon na n-iarratas a cinneadh / Number of applications determined	5	16	37	1	59
(ii) Líon na gcinntí inar iarradh breis eolais / No. of decisions determined which required further information	5	8	17	1	31
(iii) Céatadán na n-iarratas a diúltaíodh / Percentage of applications refused	20.00% (1)	25.00% (4)	10.81% (4)	0.00% (0)	15.25% (9)
(iv) Líon na n-achomharc a cinneadh / Number of appeals determined	1	1	0	0	2
(v) Céatadán na gcinntí a cuireadh ar ceal ar achomharc / Percentage of decisions overturned on appeal	100% (1)	100% (1)	0% (0)	0% (0)	100% (2)

Forfheidhmiú Pleanála – Forbairt Neamhúdaraithe / Planning Enforcement – Unauthorised Development

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

Cur Síos / Description	Forfheidhmiú maidir le forbairt nár údaraíodh / Enforcement in relation to unauthorised development		Forfheidhmiú maidir le forbairt nár údaraíodh / Enforcement in relation to unauthorised development	
	Meitheamh 2025 / June 2025	Bliain go dtí seo / Year to Date	Meitheamh 2024 / June 2024	Bliain go dtí seo / Year to Date
Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidhmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh / Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated	21	144	22	137
Líon na gcásanna Fhorfheidhmithe Pleanála nuair nár ghá obair bhreise / Number of Planning Enforcement cases received which did not require follow up	0	0	0	0
Líon na gcásanna dúnta / a réitíodh le hidirbheartaíocht / Number of cases closed / resolved through negotiation	15	133	20	131
Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh / Number of Warning letters issued	17	134	17	131
Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh / Number of Enforcement Notices issued	1	6	2	7
Líon na cásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí / Number of cases referred for legal proceedings	2	6	1	3
Líon na n-urghairí / Number of Injunctions	0	0	0	0
Líon na n-ionchúiseamh / Number of Prosecutions	1	1	0	0

Pleanáil Chun Cinn / Forward Planning

Planning & Support Infrastructure Strategic Policy Committee (SPC)

A meeting of the Planning and Support Infrastructure SPC took place on 1st July 2025. The primary focus of the meeting was on vacancy and dereliction in town centres and the measures/actions that can be taken to revitalise and improve town and village centres in the County. In recognition of the way in which shopfronts, and in particular signage, can have on the streetscape, a review of the current Shopfront Policy is to be undertaken by the SPC.

Stiúrtóireacht na nOibríochtaí & Seachadadh Comhshaoil

Operations & Environmental Delivery Directorate

Tá an stiúrtóireacht seo freagrach as gníomhaíocht oibríochtúil, lena n-áirítear cothabháil na heagraíochta ar gach maoin chorparáideach, bóithre, spásanna poiblí, soilsiú poiblí agus cur chun feidhme ár bplean gníomhaíochta ar son na haeráide, bainistiú flíteanna, bainistiú dramhaíola agus seirbhísí dóiteáin, lena n-áirítear rialú foirgneamh.

This Directorate is responsible for operational activity, including the organisation's maintenance of all corporate property, roads, public spaces, public lighting and implementation of our climate action plan, fleet management, waste management and fire services, including building control.

David Hanratty
Stiúrtóir gníomhach / Acting Director



Operations & Environmental Delivery
Monthly Report for July 2025

Seirbhísí Bóithre agus Áitiúla / Roads and Local Services

Ceantar Bardasach Dhún Dealgan / Municipal District of Dundalk

Ceantar Dhún Dealgan agus Cuailgne / Dundalk and Cooley Area

Piocadh Bruscair / Litter Picking:

River Walk to Tain Bridge
 Inner Relief Rd to Racecourse Rd
 Old Newry Rd, Lennonmelia, Riverside
 Crescent, Fairgreen Rd
 By Pass at St helenas, Quay St, Point Rd,
 Old Coes Rd.
 Barrack St.
 Centenery Rd
 Ramparts
 York St.
 Patrick St.
 John St.
 Phillip St.
 Castletown Rd
 Castleross
 Seatown Place
 St. Brigids Terrace
 Castle Rd
 Fairgreen Rd
 Avenue Rd
 Tom Bellew Avenue
 Mary St. South
 Williamsons Place
 Mooreland Rd

Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí /
Location and metres per month /

All works carried out in preparation for the blessing of the graves on the 20/07/26 at St. Patricks Cemetery.
 All works carried out in preparation for Event at St. Olivers shrine on the 13/07/26.
 All works carried out during Amber weather warning for heavy rainfall on 21/07/25. Putting out Temp. Signage for roads flooded and supplying Sandbags to flooded areas.

Folmhú Araidí Poiblí / Emptying of Public Bins

Líon agus minicíocht / Numbers and frequency

Carried out by contractor Declan McArdle

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

All Locations on Declan McArdles Route

Sweeping carried out on approach road to St. Patricks Cemetery.

Sweeping carried out on approach road to St. Olivers Shrine.

Sweeping carried out in Bay estate and Cluan Enda after flooding.

Seiceál Baoithe Tarrthála / Ring Buoy Checking **Líon Seiceáilte gach tseachtain / Number checked weekly**

Locations: Toberona x 4
 Maxwells Row x 2
 Newry Rd Bridge x 2
 Fairgreen Row x 1
 St. Helenas Park x 4
 Tain Bridge x 2
 Navy Bank x 5
 Riverside Walk x 2
 Ice House Hill x 3
 Ramparts River/Road x 2

	<i>Suíomh / Location</i>	<i>Nótaí / Notes</i>
Deisiú Bóithre / Road Repairs	<u>Cooley</u> Ravensdale, Glenmore, R173 Cornamucklagh, Rathcor.	Surface Dressing preparation.
	<u>Dundalk</u> St. Patricks Cemetery	Potholes filled.
	Priorland Rd	Holes around Manhole fixed.
	Jocelyn St, Roden Place	Potholes Filled.
	Defenders Row	Potholes Filled.
	Lis na Dara	Potholes Filled.
	Barrack St.	Potholes Filled.
Feabhasúchán Draenála / Drainage Remediation	<u>Cooley</u> Glenmore	Cleaning open drain. Eco Drain cleaned

	<p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <p>Market Square</p> <p>Nicholas St.</p> <p>Seatown Place</p> <p>Maxwells Row</p> <p>Bay Estate</p> <p>Barrack St.</p>	<p>Gullys cleaned</p> <p>Gullys cleaned</p> <p>Gullys cleaned</p> <p>All flooded areas cleared & cleanup carried out after Amber Flood Warning 21/07/25</p> <p>Gullys cleaned</p>
Cothabháil Cosán / Footpath Maintenance	<p><u>Cooley</u></p> <p>Lordship</p> <p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <p>Newry Rd</p> <p>Racecourse Rd</p> <p>Jocelyn St.</p>	<p>Scraping and cleaning of public footpaths and road sweeping.</p> <p>Branches and Hedging cut along footpath.</p> <p>Branches and Hedging cut along footpath.</p> <p>Temp. Repair.</p>
Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá / Traffic Light Repairs	<p><u>Cooley</u></p> <p>None</p> <p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <p>The Quay Dundalk</p> <p>Gateway Hotel</p> <p>Earl St. / Market Square</p> <p>Inner relief rd / Avenue rd</p> <p>Vincent Av / Dublin St.</p>	<p>Pedestrian crossing (on – going)</p> <p>Lights repaired</p> <p>Pedestrian crossing (on – going)</p> <p>Pedestrian Crossing repaired</p> <p>Lights repaired</p>
Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach / Illegal Dumping	<p><u>Cooley</u></p> <p>None</p> <p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <p>Williamsons Place</p>	<p>Fly tipping.</p> <p>Fly tipping.</p>

	N/A	Resurfacing/overlay works (by contract)
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	Arthurstown Cross,	Drainage maintenance – cleansing and gully cleaning, opening outlets & storm drains, preparation for surface dressing.
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha		Clearing fallen trees & debris.
Footpath Maintenance / Cothabháil Cosán		Footpath renewal
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá	Xerox junction, Haynestown, Kilkcurry, Faughart	Major repair works completed
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	N/A	Renewal of junction markings Renewal of existing and provision of additional road markings
Signage / Comharthaíocht		Cleansing/repair/replacement New signage
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	N53, Dundalk Castleblayney Road, Rices bridge R178, LS-7103 Carn More Kilkcurry.	Collection of dumped waste for disposal. Collection & disposal after community clean up

Ardee Municipal District ***South Louth Operations (Rural Area)***

Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair All routes in Ardee Town (5.2km per day)	Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí
Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ardee Town • Dunleer town • Collon • New Bin at Riverside Walk • New Bin at Link Road 	Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 37 Daily • 20 Tuesday and Thursday • 3 Tuesday and Thursday

Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All routes in Ardee Town (5.2km per day) 	Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrthála <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ardee Town - River Dee Salterstown Port Beach 	Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain
Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance and cleaning of park and playground complete with daily checks of the playground, & exercise equipment at the Fairgreen, Ardee Maintenance and cleaning of park and playground complete with daily checks of the playground, & exercise equipment at Dunleer 	Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil

	<i>Location / Suíomh</i>	<i>Notes / Nótaí</i>
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	N52 Road Improvement Works Surface Dressing completed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cockle Road Sandpit Termonfeckin Melefont Philipstown Mansfieldtown Dromin 	
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	Fieldstown	
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	Boyne Hall	
Signage / Comharthaíocht	Townrath Road General Maintenance	
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	Ongoing	

Borough District of Drogheda

Drogheda Town Area

July 2025

Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair / Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí

- Steps and lane ways weekly 22 steps when recourses allow and green areas.
- Hotspots on Monday – decided by Supervisor following inspection.
- Bring Banks in Drogheda urban are checked and cleared Daily during working week. Also, all Bring Banks in Drogheda urban are checked and cleared Saturday p.m.
- Drogheda Rural Bring banks are cleared daily during working week.
- Remove dumping at Bessexwell Lane & Bachelors Lane on a daily basis, Dummies Lane, Barrack Lane, Moneymore, St Laurence’s Pk, Ballsgrove.
- Removal of bags of litter at Baltray, Termonfeckin, Slane Rd, Togher, Newfoundwell Rd, Aston Village, The Dale, 101 Steps, Forest Grange, Glenmore Drive, Yellowbatter, Maple Drive, Greenhills, Cord Rd, Termonfeckin Rd, Ballymackenna Rd, Dublin Rd, Priory Lodge Termonfeckin & Flaxmill Lane.
- Litter picking at St Dominics Pk, St Dominics Bridge, Lourdes Square, Market Square, Fr Connolly Way, Abbey Carpark, Patrickswell Lane, Kings St, Mell, Francis St, Millmount, Mount St Oliver, Old Hill & Fair Green.
- Graffiti removed at St Dominics Pk (Bins & Signage), Town centre & approach roads.

Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí /

Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht

- 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.

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).
- Particular attention to road sweeping / Graffiti Removal for Leinster Fleadh Cheoil, North Quay , South Quay, Ballymackenna Rd and Town Centre, including additional road sweeping and litter bin collections.
- Road sweeping approach roads North & South of Drogheda on alternative days.
- Road sweeping town centre on daily basis.
- Multi-Hog 1, Pedestrian Road sweeper at town centre, St Dominics Pk / Ramparts, Mell Carpark, Donore Rd, Kings St, Bolton Square, Meatmarket Lane, Bachelors Lane, Mayoralty St, Ballsgrove Hill, Windmill Rd, Boyle O Reilly, Newtown Cemetery, Fair Green, O Reillys Carpark, Abbey Carpark & North Rd.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedestrian Green machine on town centre streets each day. • Power washing and Disinfectant of steps from Dublin Rd to South Quay, High Lane Steps, Rosemary Steps, St Peters Church West St, West St LHS. • Bottle banks cleaned and park bins daily. • Purchase of 6 no. street bins, to up-grade on approach roads to town centre. • Cleaning of water grids located at streams at Flaxmill Court & The Glen Yellowbatter. • Preparation for Boyne Swim, Leinster Fleadh Cheoil and St Olivers Procession.
Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra	<p>Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empty about 35 No. once a week, washed and disinfected.
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrthála	<p>Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 89 ring buoys checked each week Town area (Thursday) • 9 ring buoys checked each week at Rosehall (Friday)
Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne	<p>Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between 4 & 5 daily (4 playgrounds in Drogheda town, Skate Park, adult exercise equipment). 3 Playgrounds in Drogheda rural area) + disinfected.

July 2025	Location / Suíomh	Notes / Nótaí
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	<p>Drainage Works</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gully Cleaning Contract phase 2 has now commenced on minor roads and housing estates, to date we have now completed cleaning of 	

	<p>675 day rate and 1135 night rate gullies – contract is due of completion by end of August.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">2. Road gully repairs at Patrick’s St, Meadowview & Dublin Rd. <p>LCC’s crew</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">3. Pothole repairs at Stameen, Riverview, Donore Rd, route for St Oliver procession, Five Oaks, Oaklawns, Elmwood, Hardman Gardens, Riverview & Cottage Hospital.4. Monitoring of Traffic / Pedestrian management at dangerous structures at Bolton St, William St & under Bridge of Peace.5. Preparation for Leinster Fleadh Cheoil, additional road sweeping and Litter Bin Collections.6. Preparation of St Olivers Procession from Ballsgrove to St Peters Church, attend to potholes, signage & road sweeping.7. Remove public light on Dublin Rd & Trinity St, after road traffic accidents.8. Erect staggered barriers at Lourdes	
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	<p>Sq, to prevent speeding.</p> <p>9. New Bollards Installed outside St Peters Graveyard.</p> <p>10. Reinstatement of gate at Willow Grove – entrance to River Walk.</p> <p>11. Paint pedestrian bollards outside St Peters Church.</p> <p>Road Works Program – Resurfacing works 2025</p> <p>Tenders have now been accessed, and Letter of Acceptance has been issued to Contractor.</p> <p>Works have now commenced with a section of Bothar Brugha resurfacing completed.</p> <p>Road schedule to commence in Drogheda Town 18th August and planned for completion, end of September.</p> <p>CIS Lanes 2025</p> <p>Resurfacing at Carstown is now complete.</p> <p>Tenders have now been received for Greenmount and Mount Rath, Mid Louth, tender assessment and report in progress.</p>	
<p>Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála</p>	<p>Annual Drogheda Gully cleaning program ongoing</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gully Cleaning Contract phase 2 has now commenced on minor roads and housing estates, to date we have now completed cleaning of 675 day rate and 1135 night rate gullies – contract is due of completion by end of August. Road gully repairs at Patrick’s St, Meadowview & Dublin Rd. 	
<p>Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan to crown lift trees at College Rise Estate on the Termonfeckin Road, to facilitate road resurfacing. 	
<p>Footpath Maintenance / Cothabháil Cosán</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dropped kerbs & tactile installation at 20 locations throughout town, agreed with IWA – consultant has now been appointed to prepare contractor documents. <p>Footpath Reinstatements Internal Crew</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> St Peters Cemetery Meadow View Thomas St Boyne Hall 	
<p>Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Trác</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DR02, R132 @ Railway Station Jct (R132), Ireland – sequence check DR36 Termonfeckin Bridge T-Junction, Ireland –Lights out 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DR08, Donore Rd - Marleys Lane (R132 I), Ireland –FLF 3 Corr fault/ Lights out • DR06 R132 @ Westgate - Fair St Jct (R132E), Ireland – lamp fault I/Red • DR28 R132/Patricks St., Ireland –Green man fault • DR06 R132 @ Westgate - Fair St Jct (R132E), Ireland – Detector Fault • DR21 Hardman Gardens Ped, Ireland –Lights out 	
<p>Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extent Double Yellow Lines at Skelly's Lane, Moneymore. • Reinstate road marking after road surfacing at Bothar Brugha. 	
<p>Signage / Comharthaíocht</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleaning of carpark signage, pay & display • Cleaning of road signage on Donore Rd, Wellington Quay, Haymarket Bridge & West St. • Up-grade chevron sign on Dublin Rd. • Reinstate flexi bollards on R132. • New speed and children at play signage at Forest Pk. • Replace bollards on Shop St, after road traffic accident. • Bollards reinstated at Bothar Brugha. 	
<p>Litterbin disinfecting</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">cleaning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-going on weekly basis. 	

Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graffiti	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removal of graffiti on Street furniture on locations for Leinster Fleadh Cheoil and St Olivers Procession. 	
Illegal Dumping / Environmental issues Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dummies Lane – rubble removed Barrack Lane – rubble removed Clean up at green areas at Moneymore & St Laurence Pk. Clean up at Ballsgrove Green. Cleaning of the grids at Flaxmill Court and the Glen and removal of all rubbish. 	

Bainistíocht Dramháil, Gníomh Comhshaoil 7 Aeráide / Waste Management, Environment & Climate Action

Waste Enforcement

Summary of Complaints

A total of 16 complaints were received and investigated by the Waste Enforcement team in July 2025, some of which remain open pending further investigations.

Complaint Type	Received in July 2025	Total Received in 2025
Waste/ C&D	16	160

Diesel Laundering Waste

There were 6 X 1000L IBC's removed by the Council to date in July 2025. The total cost for clean-up, removal and disposal of diesel laundering waste to date in 2025 is approximately €68,140.60.

Waste Enforcement

Waste Enforcement Officers continue to carry out their enforcement role under a myriad of waste legislation. Below is a list of some of the inspections completed to the end of July 2025 and the enforcement actions taken. In July there was a focus on Waste Data Validation.

Inspection Type	No.
Non-Construction & Demolition Waste Complaints Investigated	113
Number relating to Household Waste/ waste presentation inspections arising from complaints	44
Construction and Demolition Waste Complaints Investigated	32
Inspections of Waste Permitted Facilities	7
Hazardous waste sectoral inspections	2
Inspections in relation to Construction & Demolition waste at construction/ development sites	7
Inspections of sites notified under Article 27	14
Inspections under the Packaging Regulations – Suspected Major Producers	9

Inspections under the Plastic Bag Levy	1
Inspections under ELVs Regulations	1
Desktop Annual Return Validations Completed	15
Inspection of Planning Permissions	6
Enforcement Action	
Waste Warning Letters	125
Section 55 Notice under Waste Management Act	2
Section 14 Directions under the Waste Management Act	3
Fixed Payment notice under the Waste Collection Permit Regulations	4
Presentation of Waste Byelaws Fixed Payment notices	2



Photos: Dumping cases investigated in July 2025

Dog Fouling Awareness

Two 5-hour foot patrols were undertaken by the Litter Wardens on 2nd July in the North Louth Coastal area. The areas covered were Gyles Quay, Templetown/ Shillen Hill, Whitestown, Ballagan, Greenore, Carlingford, Omeath and Greenway.

The main emphasis was on awareness of dog fouling and cleaning up after your dog.

Litter Enforcement & Investigations

Litter wardens continue to deal with all litter matters within the county daily, responding to complaints from members of the public, councillors and engaging with tidy towns groups and communities.

In July, litter wardens completed 140 investigations in response to dumping reported by members of the public. 14 Fixed Penalty Notices were issued in July where evidence was found under the Litter Pollution Act 1997.

Louth County Council secured a conviction for illegal dumping with a fine imposed on the defendant by the courts of €300 and €550 expenses.



Photo: Omeath/ Greenway



Photos: Greenore

Environmental Regulation

Water Quality and Complaints

20 water pollution complaints were received in July 2025. Investigations and site visits were carried out in all cases.

One agricultural complaint in relation to spraying of weedkiller was referred to DAFM. All complaints are either resolved or in progress.

Air & Noise Pollution Complaints

2 air pollution complaints were received this month. Both complaints were investigated - one related to agricultural odour and the other related to a foul odour complaint from a WWTP which was referred to Uisce Eireann.

5 noise pollution cases received. One of these related to noise from a commercial business in a business park. The Council have engaged with the business to see what mitigation measures can be implemented. All complaints are either resolved or still under investigation.

Farm Survey Inspections

So far during the month of July, Louth County Council carried out 5 planned farm survey inspections and 1 re-inspection under the Good Agricultural Practice Regulations 2022 (GAP).

River Water Sampling and Water Framework Directive

Routine surveillance and operational monitoring of all the catchments in Louth for the water framework directive is in progress and on schedule. The next date for sampling of all WFD rivers in Louth is in August.

Discharge Licences

Assessment inspections were carried out on 12 monitoring results received by Louth County Council in July for Section 4 Discharge Licences. 3 site inspections have taken place so far in July. Follow up corrective actions are required at some of the sites.

Licensed landfills

Monthly monitoring of groundwater, surface water and leachate was carried out in July at Dundalk landfill.

Monthly monitoring of perimeter gas monitoring points was completed at Dundalk, Drogheda and Whiteriver landfills. Monthly gas balancing was carried out at Whiteriver landfill.

One incident was uploaded to EPA EDEN system. This related to flare downtime at Drogheda landfill.

Corrective action has been carried out and incident closed off.

Balancing of gas field was carried out at Drogheda landfill. Servicing of portable gas monitors carried out in July also.

Septic Tanks

5 queries received from members of the public regarding eligibility for grants in July.

Septic tank inspections commenced in June as per requirements of the EPA National Inspection plan 2022-2026.

Advisory notices have been issued to homeowners where corrective action is required. The Council will continue to engage with all homeowners who have received advisory notices if an effort to close them out in a timely manner is made.

Planning

27 planning reports were completed for July 2025. These reports related to agricultural, commercial and one-off dwelling planning permissions where assessment of site suitability based on the underlying soil/ subsoil, geology and hydrogeology takes place.



Bathing Water Regulations

Sampling of bathing waters continued weekly at Templetown, Port, Clogherhead and Seapoint during July. This is in accordance with the Bathing Water Quality Regulations 2008.

Uisce Eireann reported an overflow incident at Clogherhead WWTP, due to heavy rain, to the Council on the 23rd of July 2025. The Council is required to report this as an incident to the EPA, erect notices and sample accordingly. Swimming is temporarily prohibited at Clogherhead Beach. As a precaution, water samples were taken and sent for laboratory analysis. Results should be available 24th of July and will determine if the incident can be closed and notices removed.

Animal Control and Welfare

There were seventy-five valid Sugar CRM cases assigned to Animal Control and Welfare during July 2025, with four still in progress.

Control of Dogs

Control of Dogs Act 1986

<i>Dogs through the pound July 2025</i>	
Total dogs through the pound	28
Seized under Section 16	1
Strays	19
Surrendered by owners	8
No dogs reclaimed by owners	12
No of dogs rehomed direct	5
No of dogs rehomed to welfare groups	7
No of dogs on hand in Pound at 31/07/2025	2

<i>Dog Licences July 2025</i>	
No of Licences sold	451
Licence Checks:	
House calls	449
Section 16 Notices issued (request to produce licence within 10 days)	206
Fixed Penalty Notices	38

Control of Horses

Control of Horses Act 1996

Control of Horses Bye-Laws 2003

<i>Horses through the pound July 2025</i>	
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 31/07/2025	0

Dog Breeding Establishments

Dog Breeding Establishments Act 2010

<i>Dog Breeding Establishments July 2025</i>	
Total no of registered DBEs in Louth (as at 31/07/2025)	6
Hunt	1
Boarding Kennels	2
Training Kennels	1
Welfare	2



Some of the dogs who entered the Dog Pound during July 2025

Climate Action

EU Mission, Adaptation to Climate Change

Members of the Climate Action Team are taking part in a series of training organised by the EU Climate Adaptation Mission. This is designed to build capacity for stakeholder engagement specifically around climate adaptation.

Funding

The Climate Action Coordinator recently attended training workshop on risk exploration as part of the CLIMAAX funding for climate risk assessments.

The workshop looked at:

- Climate related risks for Louth (including underlying hazards, exposures and vulnerabilities).
- Identification of the key risk workflows, the relevant vulnerable groups, and exposed areas.
- Discussion on the most relevant scenario assumptions for Louth, and which timeframes should be considered.



Community Climate Action Fund

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

The Community Climate Action Officer has contacted 22 successful groups who have been approved for funding under the Community Climate Action Fund to discuss their projects.

The 22 successful groups continue to work with the Community Climate Action Officer as they enter the delivery phase of their projects.

The Community Climate Action Officer has been busy assisting each active project with queries and technical input. The administration of the funding paperwork requirements to meet the fund's rules as set out by DECC is a key role of the Community Climate Action Officer. There is almost daily contact between LCC and DECC to clarify questions about this fund. This is to provide the best service to the community groups to ensure that they can complete their projects in the easiest and most successful manner.

The second round of the Community Climate Action Fund is expected to open for applications in Autumn. The Community Climate Action Officer hosted a number of drop-in clinics to discuss the upcoming Community Climate Action Fund and answer queries.



The Community Climate Action Officer would like to acknowledge the work of all community groups who are currently working on projects as part of the Community Climate Action Fund. A full list of all approved projects can be found on Louth County Council's website at <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/environment/climate-action/community-climate-action-funding-strand/>

If you would like to know further information on the Community Climate Action Fund please email climateaction@louthcoco.ie

Biodiversity Action

The Louth Swift Project

Work is progressing positively with the Louth Swift Project. Funded by Louth County Council and the National Parks and Wildlife Service, the collaborative project between the Louth Swift Group and BirdWatch Ireland has seen lots of activity with the project being rewarded with the return of these wonderful birds to breed this summer in Louth.

To date scores of boxes have been put up across the county. Led by Gerard Murray and other volunteers from the Louth Swift Group, more than 200 nest cavities are now in place for this bird species of high conservation concern.

With the support of Tidy Towns and Residents Groups, local businesses, schools and churches, boxes have been installed on many public and private buildings in the towns and villages in Louth. Indeed, Louth Library Service were delighted to have boxes installed recently at the new Dunleer Library under the project.



Photo: Swift Bricks, similar to these have been included in this new tower block in Drogheda.



Photo: Swift Boxes and caller (lure) in place in Drogheda

Swifts depend on small gaps and crevices to nest in. In Ireland they typically nest in gaps around the eaves of tall buildings in urban areas. Providing Swift bricks in new buildings at the design and construction stage can help in supporting Swifts or Swift boxes can be installed retrospectively to existing buildings. Swifts are site faithful returning to the same nesting location year after year. Home improvements and unsympathetic building design can have significant impacts on Swift populations pushing them out of their nests.

Swifts are incredibly efficient aerial insectivores. Swifts are one of the fastest birds in our skies, they consume a huge number of flying insects each day, meaning they depend upon habitats that are biodiverse and unimpacted by pesticides. Estimates suggest that a single swift can catch and eat up to 10,000 insects per day during the breeding season when they are feeding chicks.



Photo: Participants at the Louth Swift Walk in Drogheda

A Swift Walk was held in Drogheda on 21st July. Participants toured the town, visiting new and established nest sites and boxes and were treated to views of a great numbers of birds calling and soaring in the evening skies.

Louth Bat Group & New Woodland Bat Monitoring Survey



Photo: Louth Bat Group volunteers at a training session

The Louth Bat Group are continuing to go from strength to strength. Led by Anna Collins, a volunteer with Bat Conservation Ireland, the group is becoming more established has been learning new bat identification, monitoring and survey skills. They held a public Bat Walk event hosted by Dromiskin Tidy Towns during Biodiversity Week, and there more events and training sessions planned for later in the year.



Photo: Preparations for Woodland Bat Monitoring Survey underway

Funded by the National Parks and Wildlife Service and Louth County Council, and with the support of Bat Conservation Ireland, a new Woodland Bat Monitoring Survey is being carried out by the Louth Bat Group volunteers in Townley Hall Woods. Native broadleaf woodland like that at Townley Hall is known to be ideal habitat for woodland bat species like the Natterer's Bat and Whiskered Bat, the survey will help to establish bat activity in the area.



Photo: Woodland Bat Monitoring Survey marker

National Heritage Week 2025: Exploring Our Foundations



National Heritage Week is Ireland's celebration of our natural, built and cultural heritage, takes place from Saturday 16th – Sunday 24th August.

The National Heritage Week website at www.heritageweek.ie is now open for event and project submissions from all interested in exploring our natural, built and cultural heritage.

2025 sees the Heritage Council celebrating 20 years of supporting event organisers in creating National Heritage Week events. Since 2005, National Heritage Week has become one of Ireland's largest festivals giving everyone an opportunity to explore heritage in their community and across the country.

Thinking of running an event for National Heritage Week?

Getting involved is easy, for event inspirations, ideas and tips please see: www.heritageweek.ie/get-involved/training-for-organisers

The resources section of National Heritage Week website houses all you need to help you design, develop and promote your National Heritage Week event or project: www.heritageweek.ie/get-involved/resources

Event organisers can register an event here: www.heritageweek.ie/portal/portal-login

If you would like a hard copy of the Handbook for Event Organisers handbook, please email heritage@louthcoco.ie

To find out what's on in Louth the National Heritage Week please visit: <https://www.heritageweek.ie/event-listings>

Sustainability

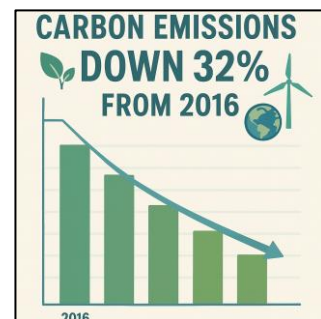
ENERGY

Optimising Power @ Work Programme Energy Consumption and Carbon Emissions continues to fall in County Hall

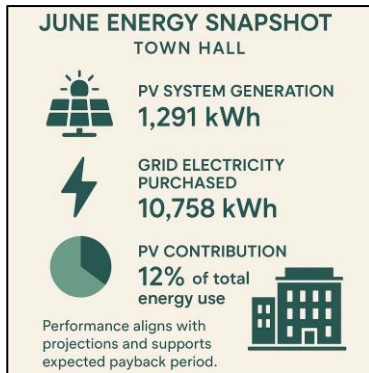
Louth County Council participates in OPW's Optimising Power at Work Programme with 2 buildings - County Hall and Dundalk Town Hall. Since joining the Optimising Power @ Work campaign in 2016, County Hall has achieved impressive energy and carbon savings:

- Total energy consumption is down by **33%**
- Carbon emissions have dropped by **32%**

These achievements are the result of targeted energy efficiency upgrades, the installation of photovoltaic (PV) systems, expanded use of heat pump technology, and smarter use of the Building Management System. Crucially, sustained behavioural change by staff has also played a key role in driving these reductions.



Graphic: Downward trend for energy emissions at County Hall



Graphic: Solar PV Generated at Dundalk Town Hall Energy for June 2025

Energy Newsletter

Issue 7 of the Council’s Energy Newsletter was communicated to all staff in June. The quarterly newsletter provides information on the energy projects Louth County Council has implemented, as well as giving ideas on energy savings both in the workplace and at home as we all face huge, rising energy costs during the summer months.

If you missed our newsletter please have a read on [Energy Newsletter Summer 2025 Issue 7](#)



Energy Awareness Communications – June Highlights

Throughout June, the **Energy** email account was actively used to encourage staff to power down unused equipment during the holiday period. Reminders were shared across multiple channels, including direct staff emails, the internal communications app, and eye-catching posters displayed in Significant Energy User buildings.



Graphic: Promoting Power-Off of appliances for Energy Efficiency

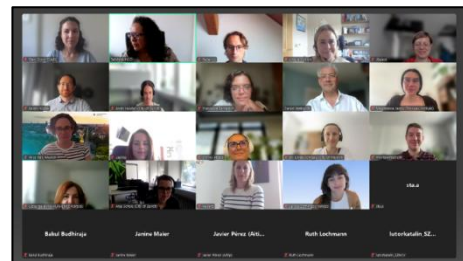
H2020 VARCITIES Project

Louth City Council’s representative for our Varcities Pilot City for Dundalk, took part in an [Online Multilateral City Exchange Workshop](#) organised by the project JUSTNature.

The event brought together city representatives, urban practitioners, and sustainability experts from across Europe in a collaborative effort to share experiences about the adoption of Nature-based Solutions.

These workshop exchanges addressed common challenges in stakeholder engagement, governance, IT integration, and inclusivity.

To see Louth County Council’s recent collaboration across European cities, please visit <https://varcities.eu/dundalk-joins-a-city-to-city-exchange-webinar-organised-by-the-project-justnature/>



Screenshot: Participants at the Varcities Online Multilateral City Exchange Workshop

E-Government Awards and the Varcities Project

Louth County Council has been nominated for award in the prestigious Smart Cities E-Government Award in the Smart Cities category. The Council is one a short list of nominees for award.

This nomination celebrates our pioneering work on the Digital Twin Platform and the engaging GoNature Game — both developed through the innovative use of sensor technology at our VARCITIES pilot site. As part of the EU-funded collaborative VARCITIES project, this achievement highlights LCC’s leadership in harnessing digital innovation to enhance urban sustainability and citizen engagement.

Winners will be announced on the 18th of September.

Mid-East Energy Unit and Louth County Council – Feasibility Study for District Heating Network in Dundalk

This study explores the potential for a new district heating network that would harness waste heat from local processing plants, heavy industry operations, and wastewater treatment facilities transforming industrial byproducts into a renewable resource for the heating and hot water demands of public and possibly private enterprises in the town.



Photo: Mid East Energy Unit and their Consultants presented to Council staff to initiate a Feasibility Study for District Heating In Dundalk,

This project is led by the Mid-East Energy Unit and its consultant CODEMA, the City of Dublin’s Energy Management Agency, made a presentation to Council staff recently to mark the beginning of a collaborative effort to assess and implement innovative energy solutions.

Council senior staff are key representatives from Louth County Council in the study from across various sections and directorates in the Council. The strong turnout and active participation reflect the Council’s commitment to climate action and sustainable development.

The photograph above not only documents the start of a technical study—it captures a moment of shared vision and leadership, where local government and energy experts come together to shape a cleaner, more resilient future for the region.

Mid-Eastern Energy Unit Collaboration – Visit to Irish Cement, Platin, Co. Meath.

Louth County Council, with Meath County Council, as part of the Service Level Agreement known as the ‘Mid-Eastern Energy Unit’ attended the Operational Base for one of Ireland’s leading cement production plants in Platin, County Meath on Friday 4th July last. Members of the Climate Action, Energy and Sustainability Teams met with the Communications and Plant Operations

Manager at their headquarters, in Platin, County Meath.



Photos: Irish Cement Plant at Platin Co. Meath

The purpose of the visit was for Irish Cement to demonstrate the process of the cement production and to show Louth and Meath County Councils, how ‘waste heat’ at the site is being currently harnessed as part of the production and their renewable and sustainable processes at the site.

Irish Cement have been earmarked by CODEMA, who are engaged as part of the Feasibility Study for a new District Heating Network in Drogheda, as one of the leading anchor heat production loads in the area, with Indaver, beside them, also bolstering this.

The plan would be for the waste heat to be harnessed within plate heat exchangers and thermal storage, and a fully insulated flow and return pipework network commissioned, to carry hot water to both public and private enterprises South, and possibly North of the River Boyne, to Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital and the large users of heat energy such as AURA Leisure and St Olivers Community College.



Photo: Staff from Louth & Meath County Council at the Platin Facility recently.

There will be monthly meetings with CODEMA, LCC and MCC to establish the viability of this project.

FACILITIES

Dundalk Fire Station Upgrades

Energy upgrade works for new heat pump at Dundalk Fire Station (to replace the existing gas boiler) are nearing completion. There will be a project completion 'walkthrough' briefing for staff at the Fire Station following completion of gas boiler decommission and integration of new all electric means of fulfilling heating and hot water demands at site. These improvement works include a newly installed 32kW Viessman Vitocal Air Source Heat Pump and all other associated ancillary plant and equipment. This walkthrough is to familiarise staff with what has changed on site.

The new system is fully automated and should not require station staff intervention. The new controls will be set to mirror legacy heating and hot water schedules, and it includes weather compensation, so it does not require any manual switching.

Once the new system is 'live', it will be monitored for seasonal efficiency (i.e. in the Autumn and Winter periods the system will be monitored, to ensure we are achieving optimal efficiency).



Photo: Enabling Works to Sub Distribution Board at Dundalk Fire Station for Energy Upgrade



Photo: New Pipework at Dundalk Fire Station's Plantroom

Drogheda Machinery Yard Security Upgrade

Works are continuing to progress on the security upgrade. The following has been completed thus far:

- Installation of additional CCTV Cameras
- Installation of electrical supply for automatic gate system
- Removal of old barrier equipment
- C.A.T and Genny Scans
- Installation of Safety Sensors and Gate Access
- Cutting of tracks for ducting
- Removal of existing gates
- Installation of temporary fencing

A demonstration walkthrough will be completed at the end of the works to familiarise yard staff with the new automatic gate system and other security equipment.



Photo: New Electrical Supply for Automatic Gates



Photos: Removal of Old Barrier Equipment; New Safety Sensor and Access Control for Gate and Cutting of Tracks for Ducting



Photo: Drogheda Machinery Yard - Gates Temporarily Removed for Upgrade

Solar PV Project for 22 County Council Facilities

OHK of Castleblayney County Monaghan has offered the most economically advantageous tender for construction of new Solar Photo Voltaic Units at 22 Council sites.

The works are expected to commence in August. The proposed installations are expected to deliver a combined generation capacity of 600–700 kWp, with an estimated offset of over 450,000 kWh of imported grid electricity annually.

Cornmarket Building, Fair Street, Drogheda Refurbishment Works

Building Works to renovate and improve the Council's existing Cornmarket Building at Fair Street Drogheda (existing building at Fair St also known as the Francis Johnson Building) commenced on site on Monday 30th June 2025 and the works are expected to be completed before end 2025. The works are being undertaken by Precise Contracts Ltd. of Derryleckagh Road, Newry, Northern Ireland.

Council staff have temporarily relocated from the older part of the building to the recently improved part for the duration of the works. The public car park at Bolton Street remains public but Council staff also now park there temporarily. Therefore, the availability of car park spaces for public use of that car park is limited for the duration of the works.

Construction works have commenced onsite. Demolition and 'opening-up' works are currently ongoing, with first fix Electrical and Mechanical works planned for August.





Photos: Demolition and 'Opening-up' Works at the Cornmarket Building at Fair Street, Drogheda

North Louth Operation Depot Upgrade

The Council has engaged the services of Van Dijk Architects to manage the upgrade of the North Louth Operations base located at Ballaverty, Bush, Riverstown, Co. Louth. This first part of that work includes Initial surveys (Ground Penetrating Radar Survey (GPRS), Topographical Survey, Archaeologist survey and Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening) and these are ongoing at present.

Anticipated timelines for the project are as follows:

- Q4 2025 Part VIII planning application.
- Q1 2025 Tender & Contractor appointment
- Q3 2025 Works completed
-

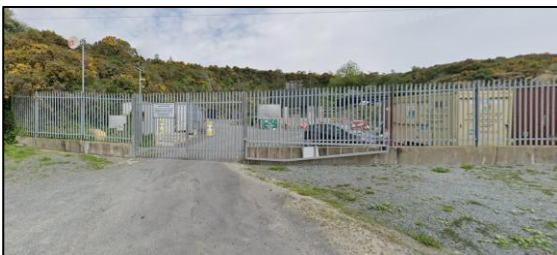


Photo: The Bush Yard at Ballaverty Carlingford

Millmount Wall Repair

McGuigan Builders of Clontibret, Co. Monaghan, has been engaged to undertake repair works to walls at Millmount.

The works involve repairs to damaged and collapsed sections of walls adjacent to the public road and at the access pathway leading to the tower.

Works have commenced on site and are expected to take 6 – 8 weeks to complete.



Photo: Wall Repairs at Millmount Drogheda

County Hall

A new Air Conditioning unit was provided recently in the stationary room at County Hall. This is necessary for cooling the hybrid meeting room and to properly maintain the chamber communication systems.



Photo: New Air Conditioning unit at County Hall (the stationary room).

EMERGENCY SERVICES AND BUILDING CONTROL

Fire Service

Louth Fire Service took delivery of new battery-powered road traffic accident tools. Familiarisation training has been finalised and are due to go on the run shortly.

Fire Service Training

- One new Recruit passed a recent Recruit Course in Sligo and will shortly start in Dunleer Fire Station.
- An initial weeklong Emergency First Responder course took place in Dundalk Fire Station where 8 more fire personnel qualified as CFS and EFRs.

Major Emergency Management

An Status Orange rainfall weather warning was issued for the Monday 20th July. The SWAT met on

Sunday evening 19th July to discuss the conditions and LA response for staff and public messaging. Warnings were issued about road and flood conditions during the period. The weather event passed off what any major disruptions.

Climate Adaptation Strategy

The Dundalk Training Centre extension project will include a range of features to limit carbon emissions. The Climate Action Plan includes Fire Service and Building Control requirements.

Civil Defence

The following training was provided during July:

- Manual Handling
- Emergency First Responder Recertification (EFR)
- Cardiac First Responder (CFR-C)
- Major Incident Medical Management Systems (MIMMS)
- Designated Liaison Person (DLP)

The following duties were attended and medical cover provided:

- Intercultural Soccer Match, Dundalk
- Mountain Biking, Bellurgan

- Country Music Festival, Monaghan (Assistance to Monaghan Civil Defence)
- Aurfest, Bellurgan

Emergency Responses

- Community First Responder call outs x 10

Other

- One volunteer commenced training as a medical instructor.
- Civil Defence delivered CFR-C training to Louth County Council employees.
- Civil Defence volunteers also attended a walking tour of Aiken barracks with Sgt. Ricardo Luchessi

Building Control

The main workload of the Building Control Section is processing Disabled Access Certificate applications and Certificates of Compliance on Completion and the backlog of these resulting from the significant increase in applications during 2024 and 2025.

Incident Type Statistics for Q2 2025 are outlined below.

Type	Ardee	Carlingford	Dunleer	Drogheda	Dundalk	Meath	Other Areas	Total
Fire/Aircraft								0
Fire/Alarm Activation	1	1	1	19	18	5		45
Fire/Bus/Coach								0
Fire/Car	1		1	8	8	1		19
Fire/Caravan								0
Fire/Chimney		1		2				3
Fire/Controlled Burning								0
Fire/Domestic	1	2		6	4	2		15
Fire/Persons Reported				3	2			5
Fire/Fire (General)		2		2	3	1		8
Fire/Forest					1			1
Fire/Gorse		3		1	3			7
Fire/Grass		1	1	3	3			8
Fire/Hay/Barn			2	1				3
Fire/Industrial				2		1		3
Fire/Institutional					1			1
Fire/Motorcycle								0
Fire/Oil/Petrol								0
Fire/Small/Bin/Skip	3	3	3	39	37	9	1	95
Fire/Smoke Issuing								0
Fire/Truck	1				1			2
Fire/Vegetation								0
SS/Alarm/Carbon Monoxide	2			1				3
SS/Ambulance Assist	2		1	8	10	4		25
SS/Animal Rescue								0
SS/Electrical				2	1			3

Louth County Council - Chief Executive Report - July 2025

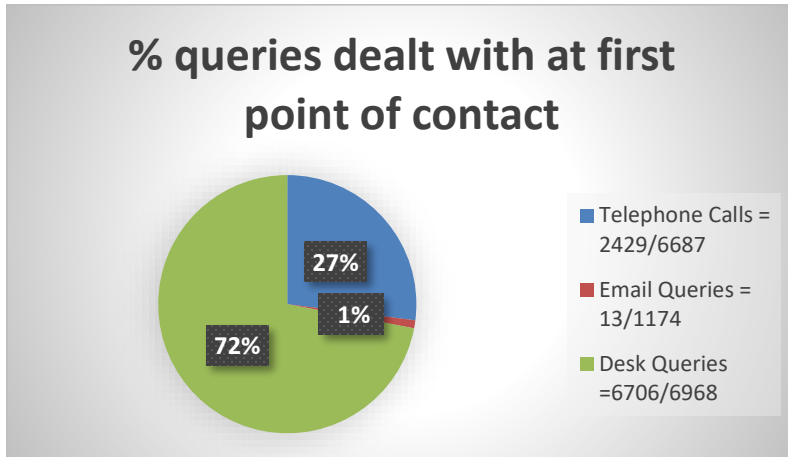
SS/Entrapment					1			1
SS/Explosion					1			1
SS/Flooding								0
SS/Garda Assist	1	1		4	4			10
SS/Gas Leak								0
SS/Hazardous Material	1							1
SS/Lift Persons Trapped								0
SS/Lockout				2	3	2		7
SS/Make Scene Safe		1			3			4
SS/Marine Emergency					1			1
SS/Oil Spillage						1		1
SS/Other			1	1	2	1		5
SS/River Rescue				1	2			3
SS/RTA	5	3	6	17	21	14	2	68
SS/Smell of Gas								0
SS/Trees Down								0
SS/Water Leak								0
Total no. of Incidents:	18	18	16	122	130	41	3	348

The recruitment plan for new Retained Firefighters continued in its implementation during July. Applicants for recruit firefighter posts completed station tests and were interviewed. 10 potential recruits are undertaking medicals and vetting in August. A national recruitment course run by LCCFRS in Dundalk Fire Station is due to start on 22nd September 2025.

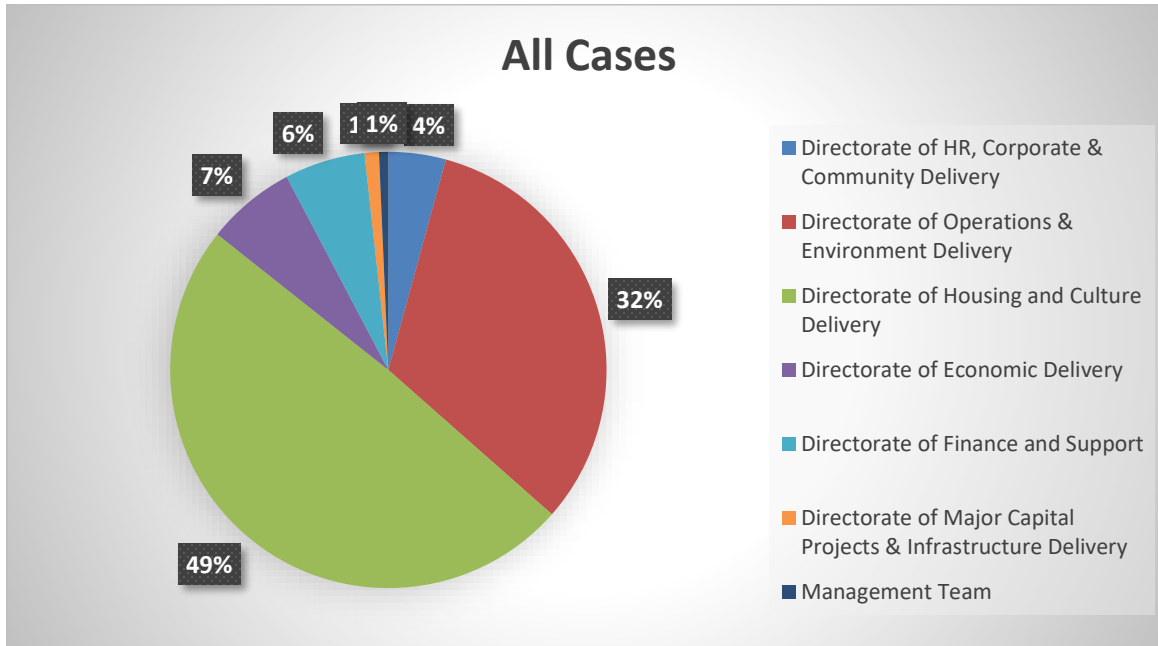
Seirbhísí Corporáideacha / Corporate Services

Tuairisc ar Sheirbhísí Custaiméirí / Customer Services Report

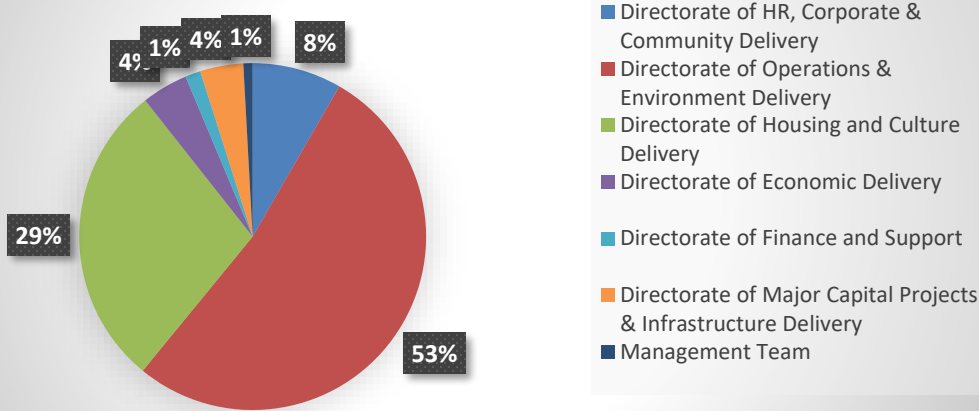
During the month of July 2025 Customer Services dealt with 14,829 queries inclusive of 6,687 calls, 1,174 e-mails and 6,968 counter queries. 9,149 (62%) of queries received were dealt with at first point of contact broken down as follows:



There were 2,917 valid Sugar CRM cases recorded during July 2025 of which 311 were received from elected members. A total of 348 (12%) remain unresolved by end of July, broken down by directorate as follows:

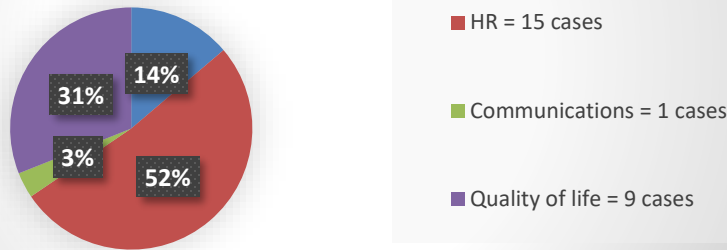


Open Cases



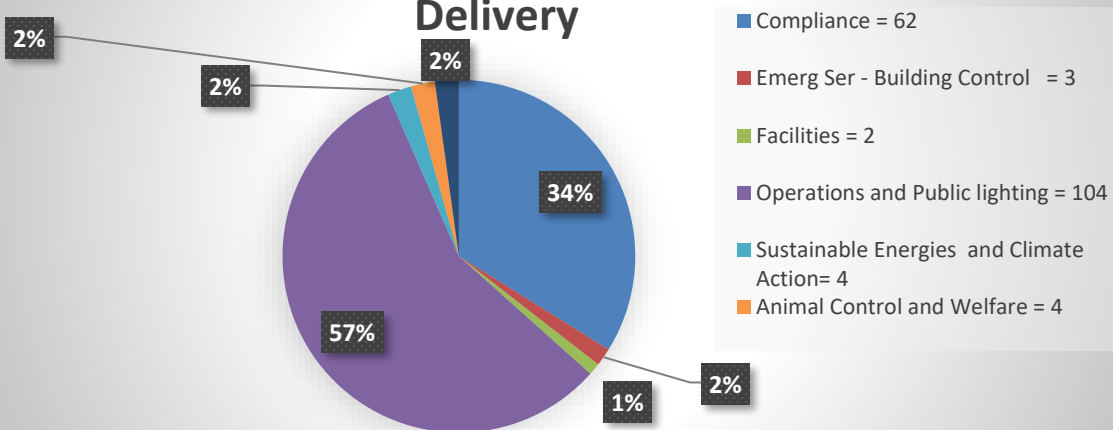
Directorate of HR, Corporate & Community Delivery

Directorate of HR, Corporate & Community Delivery

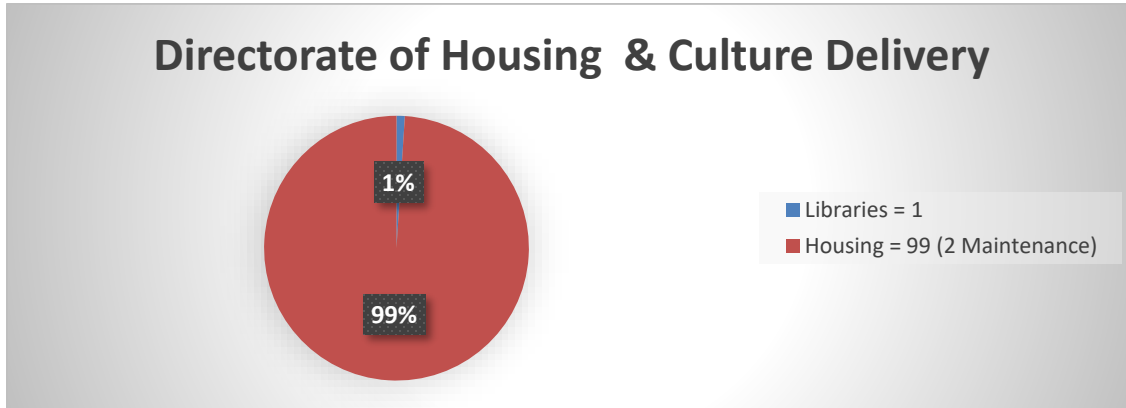


Directorate of Operations & Environmental Delivery

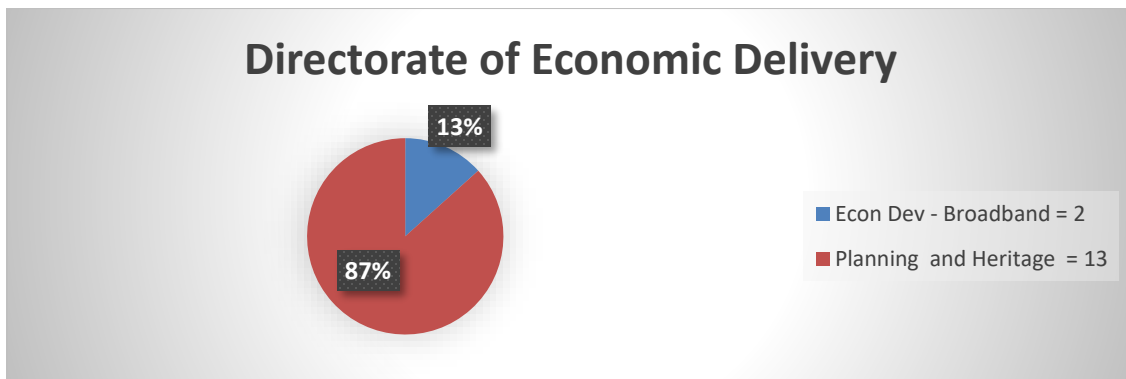
Directorate of Operations & Environment Delivery



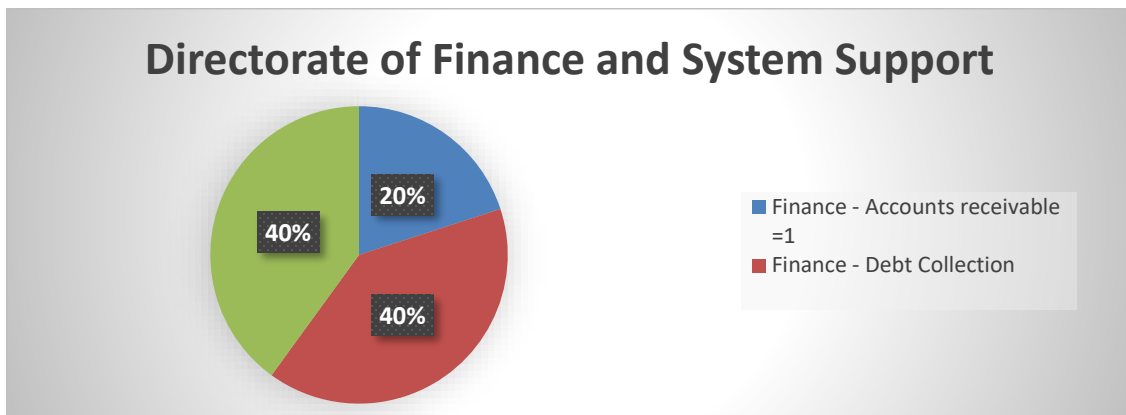
Directorate of Housing & Culture Delivery



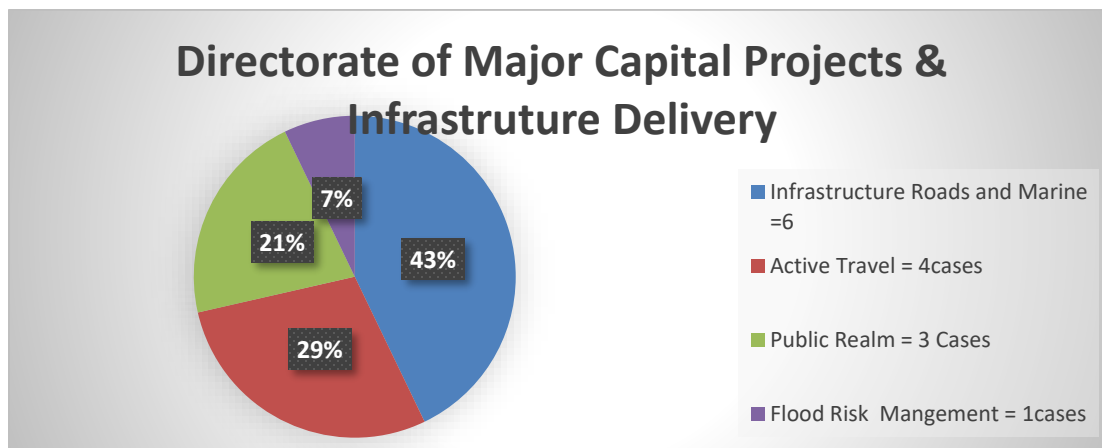
Directorate of Economic Delivery



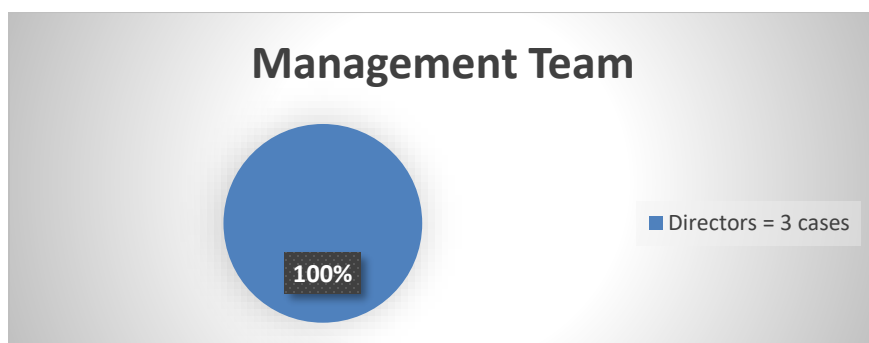
Directorate of Finance and System Support



Directorate of Major Capital Projects & Infrastructure Delivery



Management Team



The table below illustrates activity in the redress area.

Request Received	2024 Total Jan- July	2025 Total Jan – July	2025 July only
FOI REQUEST	84	83	7
DSAR	10	16	3
DATA PROTECTION REQUEST	9	25	1
(AIE) INFORMATION	8	7	0
OMBUDSMAN REQUEST	10	19	3
COMPLAINTS	31	12	3

Clár Toghthóirí / Electoral Register

Field Officers continue to work and make enquiries throughout the County, areas specifically covered in July were Ardee, Dundalk and South Drogheda.

Phase one of the data cleansing project on the Electoral Register is complete and phase two has now commenced. The Franchise Team are working on removing a large number of national duplications with a lot of co-operation from our colleagues in other counties. Great progress is being made and the response from electors has been very positive.

Considering the large body of work taking place on the Electoral Register, constituents should be advised to check that their details are up to date and accurate by visiting www.checktheregister.ie



**YOUR VOICE MATTERS AND
YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT**

[checktheregister.ie](http://www.checktheregister.ie)

Check that your details on the
Electoral Register are current and correct

Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Tacaíocht Pobail / Community Support

Age Friendly Louth



Ardee Garden Care & Repair

We are delighted to share that Ardee Garden Care & Repair has been nominated for the 2025 National Age Friendly Recognition and Achievement Awards, set to take place this October in The Galmont Hotel, Galway. This wonderful initiative driven by Ardee Tidy Towns, Dee Hub, An Garda Síochána and Age Friendly Louth has earned its place in the Age Friendly Environment category for its exceptional work supporting older residents in our community.

By offering free gardening services such as grass cutting, weeding and hedge trimming, the project empowers older adults in maintaining their independence and to enjoy safe, welcoming outdoor spaces. This nomination is a testament to the power of community collaboration and the positive impact of caring for one another.



Local Enhancement Programme 2025

Successful applicants are continuing to submit requested documentation. The deadline for receipt of this information is 12th September 2025.

To date, 54 of the 59 groups have received their Current funding in the amount of €31,249.25 and 2 groups have received their Capital funding in the amount of €3,189.

Louth Comhairle na nÓg



Louth Comhairle na nÓg have completed their summer training programme which was held in venues all over the county. The programme was designed to provide team building, leadership skills and to encourage more networking between local groups.

On the 9th July the group met in Dundalk Youth Centre and took part in a workshop on Fake News and media misrepresentation. Calvin Magee from MAD Youth Theatre facilitated the session which raised a lot of discussion among the members.

On the 16th July the members met in the Coach House in Dunleer, hosted by the Mid Louth Comhairle. The session identified current issues for young people in each area of the county and will be important in the development of the new editions of ILLUminate- the ezine for young people.

On the 23rd July the group met in Boomerang in Drogheda and participated in workshops on Global Education and voter inequality. They also took part in Team Building games at the venue.

In addition, the group is working on the latest edition of ILLUminate which is the Ezine for young people developed by Louth Comhairle na nÓg and this will be launched in early August.



Participants at Fake News Workshop, Dundalk Youth Centre



Summer Training Session at the Coach House, Dunleer

Public Participation Network (PPN) Secretariat Meeting

Louth PPN held its 6th Secretariat meeting in Ardee on Wednesday 23rd July. At this meeting, plans for upcoming events were discussed and agreed upon. These events include:

- Community Expo in Muirhevnamore Community Centre
- Municipal District Meetings in Ardee, Drogheda and Dundalk
- Plenary Meeting in Dundalk
- Community & Voluntary Awards 2025 in Monasterboice

Healthy Louth

New Sign-Up to the 'We're Breastfeeding Friendly Louth' Campaign

We are delighted to announce that Aura Drogheda has joined the 'We're Breastfeeding Friendly Louth' Programme. We're Breastfeeding Friendly aims to help improve the health and wellbeing of breastfeeding mothers, babies and their families through the development and promotion of breastfeeding friendly businesses, organisations and communities. Aura Drogheda is leading the way in the community as the 1st leisure centre to join the 'We're Breastfeeding Friendly Louth' initiative and strengthen our effort to create more welcoming and inclusive spaces for breastfeeding families.

As part of the campaign, we've developed an interactive GIS map that highlights all participating venues across Louth, making it easier than ever for parents to locate supportive spaces in their community.

<https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/community/programmes/healthy-louth/breast-feeding-friendly-locations/>



Ms. Aobheann Campbell, Community Section with staff from Aura Drogheda

LEADER

Development led by local communities

LEADER Project Funding Approved

At its July meeting, the Local Action Group (LAG) approved €257,679.96 in funding for seven projects under the theme Rural Infrastructure & Social Inclusion, with a focus on Accessible Services and Optimising Digital Connectivity.

To date, total funding allocated to LEADER projects in Louth—including the most recent approvals—amounts to €853,149.16.



Social Integration and Community Activation Programme 2024-2028 (SICAP) – 2025 Mid-Year Review

The Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) is responsible for conducting the SICAP Mid-Year Review. This review provides an opportunity to assess the progress made by Louth Local Development in delivering the SICAP Programme, against what was set out in the SICAP 2025 Annual Plan and budget.

Following the completion of this review, undertaken in parallel with a high-level analysis conducted by Pobal, the LCDC, at its July meeting, approved the SICAP 2025 Mid-Year Review along with the Financial and Monitoring Report. The Mid-Year Review process is now complete.

Pride of Place

The Pride of Place judges were warmly welcomed by the Council to meet the nominees for this year's competition, on Wednesday 9th of July. The events were held in Drogheda and Dromiskin, where nominees showcased the exceptional efforts and initiatives of their communities within the county.

This year the two outstanding community initiatives chosen to represent the county were the Boyne Valley Camino in the Community Tourism Initiative category and Dromiskin, Dundalk in the Population 1000–2000 category.

The highly anticipated results of the competition will be revealed at a gala event on the 7th of November at the Limerick Strand Hotel. The Council extends its heartfelt wishes for success to both of its nominees.



Pride of Place judges Ms. Katrina Murphy (front left) and Mr. Tom Dowling (2nd from right) with Mayor of Drogheda Cllr. Michelle Hall and members of the Boyne Valley Camino, Ms. Aine Walsh, Mr. Pat Coffey, Mr. Dusty Flanagan, Ms. Caoimhe Mulroy, Mr. Terry Collins, held in Droichead Arts Centre, Drogheda



Pride of Place judges Ms. Katrina Murphy (3rd from right) and Mr. Tom Dowling (4th from right) with Director of Services Ms. Joanna Kelly and members of the Dromiskin Tidy Towns committee, Ms. Mary Murtagh, Mr. Liam Reilly, Mr. Henry Murtagh, Mr. Pat Mulligan, Mr. Seamus Mc Ardle and Mr. Kevin Halpenny held in Dromiskin, Dundalk

Dog Fouling Awareness campaign

As part of a broader dog fouling awareness campaign, the Community Support Team held a successful "Bag It Bin It" Awareness Day at St. Helena's Park on the 13th of July 2025.

The event aimed to raise awareness about the environmental and health impacts of dog fouling, while promoting responsible pet ownership in a fun, family-friendly setting. The afternoon included a dog show competition, live music by the Dundalk Brass Band and Dundalk Ukulele Strummers and dog-themed face painting for children and families. Doggie giveaways including dog coats and bone-shaped bag dispensers, were given out to those who pledged to Bag It-Bin It.



Dundalk Tidy Towns Members & Cathaoirleach Cllr. Sean Kelly with the Community Support Mascots for the Bag It, Bin It Roadshow at St. Helenas Park, Dundalk



Ms. May Rafferty and her winning dog Saylor at the Bag It, Bin It Roadshow at St. Helenas Park, Dundalk

Tidy Town Project Scheme 2025

The Tidy Towns Project Scheme closed for approved projects payments on 31st July 2025. This year 18 projects were awarded funding under the scheme.



Work Undertaken by Castlebellingham Tidy Towns

PEACEPLUS



PEACEPLUS Action Plan

A request for tender for PEACEPLUS Action Plan Project 'Animating Shared Spaces Through Art' was advertised on the e-Tenders website on the 18th July. Tenders were received for the following projects:

- Young People's Outdoor Pursuits Sports Leadership Programme
- Youth Leadership and Mentoring Programme
- Youth Community Safety, Engagement Wellbeing and Signposting Project.

PEACEPLUS Partnership

The 13th meeting of the PEACEPLUS Partnership was held on 15th July 2025 in St Nicholas Church of Ireland, Dundalk. The meeting was followed by a tour of the Church which highlighted the works to be undertaken as part of this PEACEPLUS capital works project.

The Partnership approved the recommendation of the contract award for the Shared Narratives, Storytelling Project and the Sports Engagement, Leadership, Cross Border Programme. Recommendations for award of contract for both projects were subsequently approved at the LCDC meeting on the 21st of July.



Inspection of St. Nicholas Church of Ireland at PEACEPLUS Partnership Meeting

Ukraine Humanitarian Response

Offer A Home Programme

Property Figures as at 31/07/2025:

Properties offered in July	0
Families moved into properties in July	1
Expressions of interest in being accommodated received from families in July	9
Property offers recorded to date	85
Owners successfully contacted to date	84

Properties currently occupied	38
Beneficiaries currently assigned	128
Assessments carried out to date	60
Assessments currently underway	0
Properties assessed as suitable to date	45
Properties with minor works required	0
Properties withdrawn to date	16
Properties not viable to date	21

Local Authority Integration Team

AIF Cup 2025

The AIF Cup 2025 took place on July 19th in Dundalk. The event brought together football teams and passionate supporters from across Dublin, Laois, Louth, Westmeath and Monaghan, creating an atmosphere of sportsmanship, community and celebration.

From thrilling matchups to vibrant team spirit, the day was a testament to the growing talent and dedication within our regional sports community. Participants gave their all on the field, and the energy was matched by enthusiastic crowds and seamless coordination throughout the day.



Participants at the AIF Cup 2025

LGBTQ+ Training

On July 11th, the LAIT team attended the LGBT Ireland Refugee Awareness Training hosted by Outcomers in Dundalk. The session proved to be both impactful and highly informative, offering valuable insights into the unique challenges faced by LGBTQ+ refugees and asylum seekers. Through engaging discussions and real-life case studies, the training deepened participants' understanding and highlighted the importance of inclusive, trauma-informed support services. Attendees left the session with a renewed commitment to fostering safe, welcoming environments for all members of the community.

Weekly Clinics

The Integration Support Workers continue to hold their weekly clinics with residents located in the centres throughout the county. During the month of July, they met with 49 clients dealing with various issues including accommodation, education and health.

Community Safety

The Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration Jim O'Callaghan, signed Regulations for the establishment of Local Community Safety Partnerships under the Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024. These regulations came into operation on 30th June 2025. Each Joint Policing Committee shall, upon the commencement of these Regulations, be deemed dissolved.

The National Office for Community Safety is preparing a comprehensive guidance document regarding Local Community Safety Partnerships. This document, in tandem with the Regulations, provides a framework for the establishment and operation of Local Community Safety Partnerships.

Sport

Dundalk Sports Centre Multi-Sport Camp

This month we had our first multi-sport camp of the summer. The focus of our multi-sport camp is around fun running games. The games are not sport specific but involve mainly running and catching games. These games encourage quieter children who do not play a specific sport to keep active and make friends. The camp takes place Monday to Friday from 1-5pm and at the end of every week 'camper of the week' is awarded to children who have not only behaved well all week but have grown and come out of their shell as the week goes on.



Multi-Sport Camp at Dundalk Sports Centre

Junior Basketball Camp

Our Basketball Camp was held on 14th to 18th July and led by a highly rated Ravens coach. The camp was specific to basketball and open to all children whether they are new or experienced in the sport. Camp involved fun drills around the 3 main principles of basketball - passing, shooting and dribbling. It was a fun filled week and a great opportunity to learn about basketball.



Age Well Carlingford Trip

Our annual Carlingford trip with our Older Adults took place on the 16th of July. We had a choice of 2 walks, one along the greenway which was 5 kilometres, and a shorter 3 kilometre walk along the coast. We had a great turn out of over 60 participants and the walks were followed by tea and scones in the Four Seasons Hotel. It was wonderful to see everyone socializing and reaping the rewards of their hard work by completing a 5K walk.



Age Well Trip to Carlingford

Lourdes Stadium

Athletics Louth Championships

On July 17th, Athletics Louth held their annual Junior, Senior and Masters Championships at the Lourdes Stadium, drawing an impressive turnout from clubs across the county. The evening was marked by strong competition, with several field records being broken, highlighting the exceptional talent and dedication of the athletes involved.



Athletics Louth Championships at Lourdes Stadium

Athletics Ireland Summer Camp

Dunleer AC hosted their Athletics Ireland Summer Camp at the Lourdes Stadium from 21st to 25th July. The event was sold out with juveniles participating in activities including sprinting, javelin throwing, hurdles, shot putt, long jump and relays, along with lots of fun games which allow children to develop the fundamental movement skills of agility, balance, and co-ordination. There is the added benefit that these skills also form an ideal base for all other sporting activity.



Bootcamp

The latest bootcamp began on 1st July and participants are now halfway through their fitness journey. The programme blends high-energy cardio with strength training to build endurance, improve overall fitness, and keep sessions dynamic and engaging.



Louth Local Sports Partnership Coach & Volunteer Education Programmes 2025

Louth Local Sports Partnership facilitated the following coach and volunteer education programmes in July 2025.

Activity	Date	Venue
Safeguarding Level 1	10 th July	Online
Safeguarding Level 1	24 th July	Online

National Play Day

In line with the 2025 theme “Power of Play”, Louth Local Sports Partnership proudly hosted a Family Fun Play Day on Sunday 6th July in collaboration with the local GAA Club in Dillonstown, Mid Louth—a cherished hub of community connection.

The event embraced children of all ages, toddlers to teens, including children with additional needs and their families. Physical activity took centre stage, with inclusive and engaging stations designed to promote physical literacy and movement skills, empowering children to explore, learn, and grow through play.

The local GAA Club provided the perfect backdrop for a vibrant and welcoming experience. We teamed up with the Integration Committee in the Council, who thoughtfully organised transport to ensure Ukrainian families from Drumcar could take part, strengthening community bonds and cultural inclusion.

The success of this day highlights the importance of outdoor play in building resilience, creativity, and joy with parents and families all joining in.



National Play Day at Dillonstown GAA Club

Football 4 All Camp

Louth Local Sports Partnership collaborated with the FAI to run a football camp this July. It was held on the astro pitch at the Sports Centre and spearheaded by ex-professional footballer Mr. Paul Smith, now Development Officer at the FAI. This two-day event introduced fundamental football skills, exciting games, and thrilling shooting competitions. The enthusiasm and sportsmanship on display made it a highlight for all involved.



Participants at the Football 4 All Camp at Dundalk Sports Centre

New Active Community Walking Group in Ardee

Louth Local Sports Partnership were delighted to support the Dee Hub Ardee in launching their new Active Community Walking Group on 9th July.

The group met for registration at the Dee Hub before heading off to the local park. After a gentle warm-up, participants enjoyed a lively walk around the park, taking in the fresh air and friendly atmosphere. The outing was followed by a relaxing return to the centre, where everyone was treated to tea and sandwiches.



Community Walking Group in Ardee

An Stiúrthóireacht um Thithíocht agus Seachadadh Cultúir Housing & Culture Delivery Directorate

Tá an stiúrthóireacht seo freagrach as eagrú agus seachadadh Cóiríochta & Soláthair Tithíochta mar aon leis an ngné chultúrtha de Sheirbhísí Leabharlanna, Ealaíon, Músaem agus Cartlainne.

This directorate is responsible for the organisational and delivery of Housing Accommodation & Supply along with the cultural aspect of Libraries, Arts, Museum and Archive Services.

Ger Murphy
Stiúrthóir / Director



Titíocht / Housing

Ag Déileáil le hEaspa Dídine / Addressing Homelessness

As the Responsible Housing Authority for the Northeast Region, Louth County Council continues to manage this area and achieve the goals set out in the Northeast Homelessness Strategy 2024-2026. The following work done within County Louth in the period June 18 – July 17, 2025, can be summarised as follows:

Tábla 1: Gníomhartha atá déanta ag Seirbhísí do Dhaoine gan Dídean / Table 1: Actions by Homeless Services

June 18 to July 17, 2025	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda MD	Total
Offered advice, support (including fast tracking H.A. for Rent Supplement eligibility)	5	144	58	207
Placed in Temporary Emergency Accommodation	0	17	10	27
Refused Offer of Temporary Emergency Accommodation	0	1	1	2
Not eligible from outside county or non HRC	0	0	0	0
Total number of Person who presented as Homeless	5	162	69	236

Tables 2 - 4 below reflect details of the adults who were in emergency accommodation in County Louth on July 17, 2025. Also included at Table 5

is the breakdown of families in emergency accommodation at that date.

Tábla 2: Inscne / Table 2: Gender

Gender	Total
Male	99
Female	73
Total	172

Tábla 3: Aoisghrúpaí / Table 3: Age Groups

Age Group	Total
18-24	30
25-44	95
45-64	40
65+	7
Total	172

Tábla 4: Saghas Loistín / Table 4: Accommodation Type

Accommodation Type	Total
Private Emergency Accommodation (PEA)	78
Supported Temporary Accommodation (STA)	94
Total unique individuals	172

Tábla 5: Teaghlaigh le paistí cleithiúnaí / Table 5 - Families with dependent children

	No. of families with dependent children	No. of Individual Adults	No. of Dependents
Individuals with dependent children	29	37	59
Couples with dependent children	7	16	22
Total	36	53	81

Tábla 6: Tithíocht ar dtús / Table 6 - Housing First

Number of tenancies established	50
Number of individuals currently in tenancy	34

Leithdháileadh Tithíochta o’ 20th Meitheamh, go dtí 19th Lúil, 2025
Housing Allocations from June 20 to July 19, 2025

District	LA	LA Refusal	AHB	AHB Refusal
Ardee	8	0	0	0
Drogheda	0	1	31	1
Dundalk	5	0	16	1
Total	13	1	47	2

Aistrithe / Transfers June 20 –July 19, 2025

District	Number
Ardee	2
Drogheda	1
Dundalk	2
Total	5

Liosta Tithe / Housing List

July 19, 2025	Ardee	Drogheda	Dundalk	Total
Housing List	357	689	1174	2220
HAP Transfer List	301	917	1616	2834
Total Housing List	658	1606	2790	5054

There are **334** applications on the transfer list (Non HAP) within Social Housing including **67** applications from the Approved Housing Bodies.

Bainisteoireacht Chíosá / Rent Management

Current Rents Arrears at July 23, 2025	No of Accounts	Value
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Rents between 4-6 weeks old	199	€85,899
Rents between 7-12 weeks old	179	€144,988
Rents greater than 12 weeks old	1026	€3,766,035
TOTAL	1404	€3,996,922

Rent arrears are monitored on an ongoing basis and letters are issued to customers within two weeks of their falling into arrears. Failure to address these arrears will result in a second letter being issued and if necessary, a third and final reminder. Failure to respond at that point will result in an escalation to tenancy warning. The following correspondence was issued in July 2025.

Letter Type	Month/Year	Number Issued
1 st Reminder	July 2025	66
2 nd Reminder	July 2025	16
Final Reminder	July 2025	7
Total issued		89

The total rental income received in 2025, to date, is **€9,605,891**. This is a 5% increase when compared to the equivalent period in 2024 (€9,132,131) and a 15% increase on 2023 (€8,363,090).

The total number of rents currently paying by Household Budget is **949**.

Customers that fall into arrears may enter into a payment plan for full repayment over an agreed period of time. **60** new payment plans commenced in July 2025 (up to and including July 23, 2025).

Airíonna Athlígéan & Neamhní / Relet and Void Properties

Relet / Void Properties on 23 rd June 2025	Total
Ardee Municipal District	3
Dundalk Municipal District	15
Drogheda Municipal Borough District	25
Subtotal (re-lets) Vacant Properties	43
CPO units not yet ready for occupation (All County)	3
Total Number of Properties (Relets & CPO)	46

accounted for under the 2024 figures so the total for 2025 shall be shown as 138.

Municipal District	Number of Commenced/ Completed Units
Ardee MD: St Olivers Park Kilsaran Feran Drive, Louth Village Chestnut Grove, Tallanstown	26
Dundalk MD: Ladywell Dundalk Aisling Park Dundalk Doolargy Ave, Dundalk Barton Park, Dundalk Woodview Park Jocelyn Court	41
Drogheda BD: St Finians Marian Park Boyle O'Reilly Terrace Ascal a Haon	41

Note: Social units being used as short-term accommodation for homeless or emergency are not included in the above figures.

Cuairteanna Chothabhála / Maintenance Calls

Maintenance	June 23- July 23, 2025	Total (YTD)
No. of Maintenance Requests Received	804	6855
No. of Maintenance Requests Completed	701	5441
No. of Maintenance Requests in Progress	68	1040
No. of Maintenance Requests Refused	35	374

Cigireachtaí ar Tithe Príobháideacha atá ar fáil ar cíos / Private Rental Inspections

For June 23 –July 22, '25	July	YTD
Properties inspected monthly	149	1240
Advisory letters issued	177	1270
Improvement notices issued	6	32
Prohibition notices issued	0	1
Private Inspections	0	0
HAP First Inspections	27	522
RAS First Inspections	1	2
AHB First Inspections	74	389

Ríomhchlár Aisfheistithe Éifeachtúlachta Fuinnimh / Energy Efficiency Retrofit Program (EERP)

The 2025 EERP allocation for Louth, has been confirmed by the DHLGH as 140. Two units submitted over our allocation in 2024 will be taken out of this total. Two Units in Hillview are

Private Re-inspections	0	3
HAP Re-inspections	29	217
RAS Re-inspections	0	0
AHB Re-inspections	15	100
Inspections from Complaints	3	7
Properties Made Compliant	21	117

participate in a first of its kind initiative incorporating the three estates Wadman Park, Greengates and Dundoogan.

The initiative called 'Growing vegetables, Families and Communities encourages families to take on the challenge of growing their own vegetables with the help and assistance of Louth gardeners and Growers Collective. We will follow the participants along their journey, which will culminate in a harvest of delicious vegetables to enjoy!

The weather on the day did not dampen spirits, a great event was enjoyed by all who enjoyed lots of hot chocolate and ice cream, face painting and balloons.



Members of the Haggardstown Interagency Group and Louth Gardeners and Growers Collection at the summer planting event held in Haggardstown July 14, 2025

Páirtíocht /Engagement Tionóntachta /Tenancy

June 19 to July 18, 2025	Drogheda	Ardee	Dundalk	Monthly Total	Yearly Total
No. Tenants who attended Pre-tenancy training	3	2	10	15	124
Post-tenancy inspections	0	0	19	19	97
Tenancy Investigation Visits	10	5	22	37	236

Haggardstown interagency group - Event Summer planting event in Haggardstown

Following on from the successful plant and learn event in May the Haggardstown interagency group which comprises of members of the estate management team along with Tuath Housing and Louth Local Development organised a follow-up summer fun day planting event which was held on 14th July 2025 in the green space between two estates Greengates and Dundoogan.

The aim of the event was for families to enjoy learning to plant in a family friendly fun environment and give adults an opportunity to

Iompraíocht Fhrithshóisialta / Anti-Social Behaviour

June 19 to July 18, 2025	Drogheda	Ardee	Dundalk	Monthly	Yearly
ASB Cases* Received	11	0	13	24	143
ASB cases Ongoing	16	3	14	33	-
ASB cases complete	4	2	8	14	93

Case = a unique incident of anti-social behaviour, not the number of complaint forms received

Fógraí a D'eisigh le haghaidh Sáru Tionóntachta / Notifications Issued for Tenancy Breaches

June 19 to July 18, 2025	Drogheda	Ardee	Dundalk	Monthly	Yearly
Verbal Warnings	3	1	3	7	31
Written Tenancy Notifications	3	1	2	6	11
Tenancy Warnings Housing Act, 2014	0	0	0	0	0

Tithíocht Inacmhainne/ Affordable Housing

The next upcoming affordable scheme is expected to be for Quarry Court, John Street, Ardee. The application is currently with the DHLGH for approval of funding.

Morgáiste go Cíos (MGC) / Mortgage to Rent (MTR)

Mortgage to Rent July 2025 Report

Active MTR Applications Total	30
AHB MTR Applications Active	12
AHB MTR completed 2025	05
Private MTR Applications Active	18
Private MTR completed 2025	3
MTR Application Awaiting Purchaser	1

Under MTR, a borrower gets to stay in their home and agrees to give ownership of the home to the MTR provider. This means the borrower becomes a social housing tenant of their local authority or Approved Housing Body (AHB). This arrangement is entered into voluntarily and agreed between the borrower, their lender and the MTR provider. After five years have passed,

the borrower might be given the option to buy the home back if they are in a position to do so.

Deontas Athchóirithe D'áras Folamh / Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant

Applications Submitted	309
Approved	219
Rejected	30
Withdrawn	38
Other (FI Requests, First Site Inspections)	22
Funding Issued to Applicant	84
Principal Private Residence	227
Rental Applications	82

Déisiú agus Léas/ Repair and Lease

Units	Address	Beds	Notes
1	Dundalk	3	Finished & inspected. Awaiting final documents to be submitted.

Iasacht Tí Údaráis Áitiúil / Local Authority Home Loans

2025 Budget Allocation	€6,610,000
LAHL Approvals at 23/07/2025	€2,469,617
Breakdown of LAHL applications processed at July 23, 2025	
Total Number of Applications at 23/07/2025	28
LAHL carried over from 2024	9
Invalid/Returned	12
Approved	16
Declined	3
For Review	0
Outstanding – waiting on further information	6

Cúnamh Deontais do Sheandaoine agus do Dhaoine faoi Mhíchumas / Grant Assistance to the Elderly and Disabled

The Council was notified in May of the 2025 Allocation of €3,174,338 including a contribution of €476,151 by the Council. Since this time the council has been informed that we have been awarded an additional €176,470, giving a revised combined allocation of €3,350,808.

The focus of spend for the additional allocation will be on existing HOP applications.

The acceptance of grant applications is currently paused while the Grants Section continues to prioritise existing applications received. Currently, the only new applications that can be considered are where a 'priority 1' medical need exists.

It is important that applicants who have already received grant approval ensure that the work is completed within the stated timeframe and submit their completion certificate to the Grants Section as soon as possible.

Status	HAG	MAG	HOP	Month	YTD
Applications on Hand 21/07/2025	79	7	261		347
Grants Approved 24/06//2025 – 21/07/2025	33	1	6	40	167

Oiriúnuithe ar Thithíocht Chomhairle do Dhaoine faoi Mhíchumas. / Adaptations to Council Housing for Persons with a Disability

The Council carries out adaptations to Council properties to make them more suitable for tenants with a disability. The 2025 budget allocation has now been confirmed, totally €789,908. This includes €710,917 (90%) in funding from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and a €78,991 (10%) Louth County Council contribution.

Application Status	Monthly	YTD
Applications received 24/06/2025 - 21/07/2025	8	40
Works Appointed	32 minor adaptations	
Of the Works onsite/ completed	19 minor adaptations	

Seachadadh Caipitil Tithíochta / Capital Housing Delivery

Social Housing delivery Ballymakenny Area, Drogheda

Louth County Council recently completed the acquisition of up to 18 new high quality social housing units within several separate residential developments in the Ballymakenny area of Drogheda. The housing units comprise a mix of 2 bed apartments, 2 bed duplex units and 3 & 4 bed houses. A number of the ground floor apartments have level access shower units incorporated into their layout. All 18 A-Rated energy efficient homes were delivered by Louth County Councils Housing Section through the Part V process which is funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.



Part V Housing in a residential development, Ballymakenny Area, Drogheda



Part V Housing in a residential development, Ballymakenny Area, Drogheda



Part V Housing in a residential development, Ballymakenny Area, Drogheda

Seachadadh Nua Tóg / New Build Delivery

Current Approved Social Housing Delivery Units	
SHIP	715
CALF	485
CAS	33
TOTAL	1,233

Housing for All Social Housing Build Delivery				
Year	Target	Actual	Projected	Total
2022	660	227	-	227
2023	156	365	-	365
2024	160	438	-	438
2025	172	83	370	453
2026	175	0	460	460
Total	1,323	1,113	830	1,943

Seachadadh SHIP / SHIP Delivery

Project Name	Project Phase	Total Number of Social Units Expected	Project Status	Projected Substantial Completion Date	Unit Type
Boice Court, Mell, Drogheda (Phase 2)	2/2	59	On Site	30/11/2025	21 * 3 bed, 2 * 4 bed, 8 * 1 bed Apt, 20 * 2 bed Apt & 8 * 3 bed Apt
Mount Avenue, Dundalk	1/2	45	On Site	30/11/2025	14 * 2 bed, 16 * 3 bed, 3 * 4 bed, 2 * 1 bed Apt, 4 * 2 bed Apt, 6 * 3 bed Apt
Mount Avenue, Dundalk	2/2	48	On Site	31/06/2026	9 * 2 bed, 13 * 3 bed, 6 * 4 bed, 10 * 1 bed Apt, 10 * 3 bed Apt
Rathmullen Park, Drogheda Infill	1/1	4	Stage 3 Approved	25/12/2026	2 * 2 bed, 1 * 3 bed, 1 * 4 bed
Blackwater Meadow, Point Road, Dundalk	1/1	44	Stage 2 Approved	31/08/2027 - TBC	31 * 2 bed, 10 * 3 bed, 3 * 4 bed

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Ravel Drive, Ravel, Dunleer	1/1	70	On-Site	31/12/2026	45 * 2 bed, 20 * 3 bed, 5 * 4 bed
Bakery View, Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	1/1	97	On-Site	31/03/2027	52 * 2 bed, 32 * 3 bed, 13 * 4 bed
An Mullach, Mullavalley, Louth Village	1/1	58	On-Site	31/12/2026	28 * 2 bed, 24 * 3 bed, 5 * 4 bed, 1 * 5 bed
Greenhills Grange, Newtown Link Road, Drogheda	1/1	46	On-Site	30/06/2026	42 * 2 bed, 3 * 3 bed, 1 * 5 bed
Anne St. Dundalk	1/1	16	Stage 1 Approved	31/08/2027	8 * 2 bed Apt, 8 * 3 bed Apt.
Ballymakenny Road - East Site, Drogheda	1/1	130	PPP Bundle 5 Funding Approved	30/06/2028	52 * 2 bed, 47 * 3 bed, 4 * 4 bed, 1 * 5 bed, 26 * 1 bed Apt
Mullagh Close, Clogherhead	3/3	4	On-site	30/11/2025	4 * 3 bed
Knockshee, Old Golf Links Road, Blackrock, Dundalk	1/1	12	On-site	30/11/2025	12 * 2 bed Apt.
Derryveigh House, Hoeyes Lane, Dundalk	1/1	2	On-site	30/09/2025	1 * 3 bed, 1 * 4 bed
Clontygora, Dundalk	1/1	2	On-site	30/11/2025	2 * 4 bed
Norhalton, Raynoldstown Village, Dundalk	1/1	2	On-site	30/10/25	2 * 4 bed
Potters Field, Cappocks Green, Ardee, Co. Louth	2/3	1	On-site	31/10/2025	1 * 2 bed
Potters Field, Cappocks Green, Ardee, Co. Louth	2/3	5	On-site	30/11/2026	5 * 3 bed
Seven Winds, North Road, Drogheda	1/5	4	On-site	30/09/2025	4 * 1 bed Apt

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Seven Winds, North Road, Drogheda	2/5	4	On-site	30/09/2025	4 * 1 bed Apt
Seven Winds, North Road, Drogheda	3/5	4	On-site	31/03/2026	4 * 1 bed Apt
Seven Winds, North Road, Drogheda	4/5	12	On-site	31/03/2026	6 * 2 bed Apt, 6 * 3 bed Duplex
Seven Winds, North Road, Drogheda	5/5	12	On-site	30/06/2026	6 * 2 bed Apt, 6 * 3 bed Duplex
Ballymakenny Park, Drogheda Phase 2	1/2	12	Completed	20/06/2025	12 * 2 bed Apt
Ballymakenny Park, Drogheda Phase 2	2/2	6	On-site	30/09/2025	4 * 1 bed Apt, 2 * 2 bed Apt
Ballymakenny Park, Drogheda Phase 3	2/2	2	On-site	30/09/2025	2 * 2 bed Apt
Ballymakenny Park, Drogheda Phase 3	1/1	3	On-site	31/08/2025	3 * 3 bed
Ellwood Park, Ballymakenny, Drogheda	1/1	3	Completed	20/06/2025	3 * 3 bed
Listoke Pines, Ballymakenny, Drogheda	1/3	1	Completed	13/06/2025	1 * 3 bed
Listoke Pines, Ballymakenny, Drogheda	2/3	3	Completed	01/07/2025	2 * 3 bed, 1 * 4 bed
Listoke Pines, Ballymakenny, Drogheda	3/3	4	Funding Approved	30/06/2026	2 * 2 bed Apt, 2 * 3 bed Duplex

Seachadadh CAS / CAS Delivery

Project Name	AHB	Total Number of Social Units Expected	Project Status	Projected Substantial Completion Date	Unit Type
Barrack Street, Dundalk, Co Louth	Dublin Simon	21	Stage 2 Approved	15/03/2027	Twenty-one * 1 Bed apartments

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Highfield, Newry Road, Dundalk, Co Louth	Women's Aid Dundalk	12	Stage 2 approved	02/03/2027	Five * 1 bed apartments Seven * 2 bed apartments
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Seachadadh CALF/ CALF Delivery

Project Name	1/2	Total Number of Social Units Expected	Non-Part V/ Part V	Project Status	Projected Substantial Completion Date	Unit Type
Crushrod Avenue Drogheda Co. Louth Cluid Housing	1/2	20	15/5	Complete	11/07/2025	20 * Two Bed apt/ Duplex
Racecourse Meadows with Circle	1/3	18		On Site	31/08/2025	18 * Three bed Houses
Racecourse Meadows with Circle	2/3	8		On Site	31/08/2025	8 * Three Bed Houses
Racecourse Meadows with Circle	3/3	19	12/7	On Site	31/10/2025	10 * Three Bed Houses 9 * Two Bed Houses
Connollys Field Dundalk Fold Housing	1/1	70	59/11	On- Site	31/08/2025	51 * One bed apt 19 * Two bed apt
Crushrod Avenue Drogheda Co. Louth Cluid Housing	2/2	33		On Site	31/08/2025	8 * One Bed Apt 16 * Two Bed Apt 2 * Two Bed House 7 * Three Bed House
Bayview Gardens, Drogheda, Co Louth	1/1	58	52/6	On Site	31/08/2025	23 * One Bed Apt/Duplex 32 * Two Bed Apt/Duplex 3 * Three Bed Apt/Duplex

Gernon Place, Castlebellingham, Co Louth	1/2	10	9/1	Onsite	31/07/2025	2 * Two Bed House 1 * One Bed Apt/Duplex 4 * Two Bed Apt/Duplex 3 * Three Bed Apt/Duplex
Gernon Place, Castlebellingham Co. Louth	2/2	10	9/1	Onsite	31/03/2026	2 * Three bed Houses 4 * Two Bed Apts 4 * Three Bed Duplex
Gullion Park Finnabair Dundalk Co- Operative Housing	1/1	142	128/14	On Site	31/03/2026	48 * One bed Apt 70 * Two bed Apt 24 * Three Bed Apt
Avourwen Meadows, Drogheda, Co. Louth Oaklee	1/1	50	45/5	On Site	31/03/2026	18 * One Bed Apt 32 * Two Bed Apt
Clos Emer, Castletown Dundalk HAIL	1/1	5		On Site	31/07/2025	1 * Two Bed House 2 * Two Bed Apt 2 * Three Bed Apt
Hearthfield, Mount Avenue Dundalk Tuath	1/1	42		Proposal	31/03/2026	18 * One Bed Apt 12 * Two Bed Apt 6 * Two Bed House 6 * Three Bed House

Seirbhísí Cultúrtha / Cultural Services

An Chartlann / Archives



Archives Entrance Gate Sign

National Retention Policy Records Management Working Group

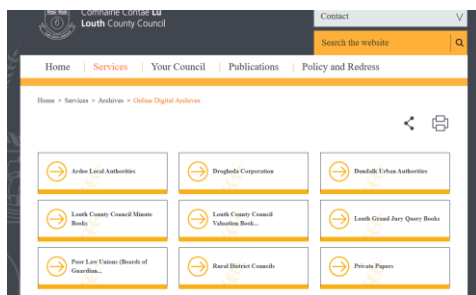
The County Archivist is assisting the LGMA-led Working Group on revising the record retention schedules of the National Retention Policy. The schedule for Fire Services is undergoing revision. The County Archivist regularly assists staff with queries on the management of records and advises on the preparation of records both for destruction and

for transfer to the Records Centre and the County Archives. Work continues to take place in reviewing and appraising records for retention as archives or for destruction with work on Operations, Enforcement and on Planning records in progress.

Digitisation Project

The digitisation of the historical minute books of Drogheda Corporation has been completed and public access copies of the minute books were placed online in June. Minutes dating from 1649–1925 for Drogheda Corporation are available on the County Archives' Online Digital Archives web-page: www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/archives/online-digital-archives/. The project is kindly being funded by the County Louth Archaeological and Historical Society.

The provision of free online public access to original archival sources will improve the democratisation of access to records and will assist local history research.



Screen-grab of the online digital archives page on Louth County Archives' web-pages

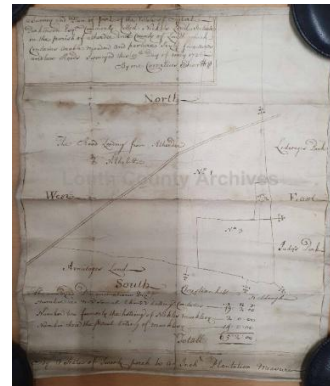
Catalogue Upgrade

The service's cataloguing software is due to be upgraded as the current system is now end of life. It will be upgraded to a modern system with enhanced features and improved speed. It will be hosted on the Cloud. Additional testing work for the new upgrade has recently been completed and it is expected that the final migration will take place soon.

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

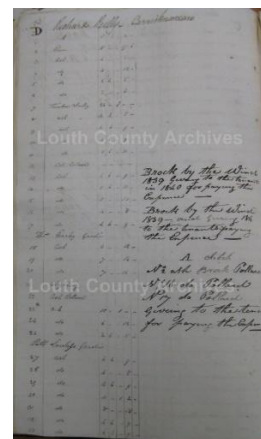
Louth's heritage. If you have a collection that you would be willing to donate, or know of someone who would, please contact the County Archivist by email at archive@louthcoco.ie or by telephone at 042-9324358.



Survey of part of the estate of Robert Parkinson, called Nickols Land, located in the parish of Ardee, 1736, (PP450/Survey Maps of Land), that was donated to the County Archives

Research Enquiries

The preservation of archives is a vital need for our society and the service receives a steady volume of enquiries on archives. Research enquiries include those from private individuals, academics (historians, archaeologists, social scientists, etc), professionals (solicitors, engineers, planning consultants, etc), family historians, students and state agencies. The Archivist also supports staff in various sections with many business-related enquiries.



Extract from the Timber book, 1824-1833, recording tenants planting on the Collon estate (Emerson papers), recently used for research

Leabharlanna / Libraries

Magic Table

One of Louth Library Service's innovative facilities is The Magic Table (Tavertafel'), an award-winning games system, designed to create a more caring and inclusive world for people with cognitive challenges through purposeful play.



Magic Table in Dundalk Library

The tables are available in our branches in Ardee, Drogheda, Dundalk, and Dunleer and are for use by anyone visiting the library. They are often booked by groups supporting people living with dementia and children and adults with special needs.

Magic Table statistics, January to mid-July 2025:

- 4: Magic Tables
- 437: Individual sessions on tables
- 1,921: Total people attending sessions

Summer Stars



The Summer Stars reading programme continued across all Louth library branches throughout July,

encouraging children to read for enjoyment during the summer break.

Each participating child receives a complimentary Summer Stars pack, which includes:

- A **reading card** to log their reading progress
- An **activity book** featuring literacy-friendly games and exercises
- A **seeded bookmark** made from eco-friendly paper
- A **Summer Stars bag** for carrying their books

Children are invited to return their completed reading cards by the end of August to be entered into a draw for a family pass to Sky Park, Carlingford.

Library staff facilitated storytime and summer craft sessions for children during the month of July. Among the events were a special Gruffalo & Friends storytime, an origami workshop, a pokémon card swap and a Harry Potter family day.



Enjoying the crafts in Drogheda library



Enjoying Gruffalo & Friends storytime in Drogheda library



Summer Stars Storytelling in Dundalk Library

Pride Storytime

Dundalk and Drogheda libraries held storytime events to celebrate Pride.



Drogheda library staff at the storytime event



Dundalk Pride storytime in the library



Promoting Summer Stars and My Little Library Bag in Mosney Village with Suzie O'Connell

Louth Library Primary Schools Service

The Schools Library Service facilitated several storytime sessions with Tullyallen National School in Drogheda in July as part of their summer programme while promoting the Summer Stars reading programme.



Storytime in Tullyallen National School, Drogheda with Louth Library Staff

Summer Camps

Many local primary schools visited library branches during the month of July as part of their Summer Programme and July Provision. Staff facilitated library tours, storytime, 3D Printer and magic table demonstrations.

An Chúirt Chruitireachta Harp Festival 2025

Drogheda library was delighted to collaborate again this year with Cairde Na Cruite as part of An Chúirt Chruitireachta Harp Festival 2025. Harpist Alannah Thornburgh facilitated two workshops for babies and toddlers which were very much enjoyed by all who attended.



Enjoying the music at the event with Alannah Thornburgh

Fleadh Cheoil Laighean Leinster Fleadh Drogheda

Drogheda library welcomed storyteller Dónal O'Maoláin for a bilingual storytelling event for families on July 10. This was followed by a "Try an Instrument" afternoon on July 11. In this drop-in session attendees interested in learning a new instrument got a chance to chat to the facilitator about the instrument and try one out for themselves.



Storyteller Dónal O'Maoláin in Drogheda library



Enjoying the storytelling event in Drogheda library

Community Climate Action Fund Drop-In Clinic

Louth County Council's Community Climate Action Officer Fiona Lennon hosted a series of drop-in clinics with the first one in Drogheda library on Monday July 21. Members of the public were invited to come along and get further information on the upcoming Community Climate Action Fund.



Louth County Council Climate Action Officer Fiona Lennon in Drogheda library

Swift Boxes in Dunleer Library

Dunleer Library is delighted to be part of the Louth Swift Project, a collaborative project between Birdwatch Ireland and The Louth Swift Group. Swift boxes were installed at Dunleer Library by Gerard Murray and his amazing team from The Louth Swift Group.



Swift boxes fitted below the eaves of Dunleer Library

Na hEalaíona / Arts

Commemorative Postcards

In 2024 the arts office commissioned a series of 8 postcards commemorating events in Louth during the revolutionary period of 1912 to 1923. Funded by the Commemorations Unit at the Dept Tourism, Culture, Arts Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, the set of eight postcards are available free to the public through our library service or through the arts office. The 8 postcards were illustrated by artist Alan Dunne, with historical information on each event provided by Dr Donal Hall. The events depicted include the prison break at Dundalk Gaol, the Shelling of Millmount Tower, and the establishment of the border control.



The Border Patrol Station postcard

Anyone looking for copies of the postcard's sets can contact arts@louthcoco.ie or call into your local library. For more information on the project see <https://createlouth.ie/commemorative-postcards-of-louth/>

Highlanes Gallery

Exhibition: Dysphoric Euphoria presents polarising extremes of queer existence. Within this exhibition Peter Bradley and Stephen Doyle explore the joys and the hardships of Queer experiences through painting taking on themes of societal exclusion, religious power, and identity in a contemporary Irish Society. For details on this exhibition and any other events at Highlanes Gallery please see <https://highlanes.ie/>

Droichead Arts Centre

Droichead @ 35 – on July 26 Droichead Arts Centre celebrated thirty-five years since its' incorporation as a company. The celebration evening featured appearances from celebrated artists such as Michael Holohan, Dagogo Harte, Roisin Ward Morrow, Grainne Rafferty & Juliette Crosbie to name a few. For the past thirty-five years the arts centre has grown from strength to strength and now provides an extensive range of arts activities from music and theatre performances in its 160-seater venue to visual art exhibitions in its gallery space, to outreach work with local schools in the Drogheda and East Meath area.

Creative Ireland

Portraits in Bloom – is a creative project through our Creative Ireland Community Grants programme. Artist Shauna Swords has been collaborating with members of the Active Retirement group in Dundalk on exploring the beauty and symbolism of native flowers through drawing and painting. The project focuses on not only artistic growth but also on

fostering confidence, curiosity, and a renewed sense of purpose.

The ladies will take a short recess for a few weeks now and will reconvene in September for the final phase as they create their collection of images for a special exhibition in October.



One of the participants at the Portrait in Bloom workshops

Fish You Were Here! - Well, our fantastic Fish from Cruinniú na nÓg 2025 could well be swimming its way to Electric Picnic! Artist Shauna Swords and her giant fish has been shortlisted to bring the sparkling aquatic delight to Electric Picnic's Artist Trail. As we went to print Shauna was in the interview stage of the process and hoping to bring our fabulous shiny fish to EP for more interactive fun with audiences alike. So, if you are lucky enough to be at Stradbally Hall at the end of August then you might see them there!



Artist Shauna Swords working on the 'Big Fish' at Market Square during Cruinniú na nÓg back in June

An Iarsmalann / Museum

Museum news



Summer camp visits to the Museum

As the summer season progresses the Museum continues to offer and provide an engaged and diverse array of services to the public. Amongst these activities was the annual CPD event with National School teachers promoting both the services and resources available to educational institutions. In addition, the Museum continues to offer guided tours of the town as well as hosting a variety of visiting summer camps.



Training on the job, National School teachers on a CPD (Continuous Professional Development) module at the Museum

Recent additions to the permanent exhibition

The Museum has added a display of sporting memorabilia which adds significantly as part of its permanent exhibition. The exhibition bears testimony to the critical nature of sport in our day-to-day lives as well as highlighting the many trailblazers that Louth has produced including a wide variety of sports clothing from some of Louth's greatest sports stars including:

- Stephen Staunton (football)
- Rob Kearney (rugby)

- Maeve Kyle (athletics)
- Israel Olatunde (athletics)
- Deirdre Gogarty (boxing)
- Charlie Tizzard (football)
- Dundalk FC. (football)

It is planned that we will add to this presentation over the coming months.



Jerseys belonging to Steve Staunton and Rob Kearney



(L to R) Running bib and Olympic uniform - Maeve Kyle; running bib and sprint shoes - Israel Olatunde; boxing kit and top - Deirdre Gogarty



(L to R) Goalkeeper's jersey - Charlie Tizzard and Dundalk FC jersey highlighting the club's original GNR heritage

Recent acquisitions

As ever the Museum continues to add to its collection. Recently the Museum acquired a number of dinky toys including a beautiful model of a Heinkel motorcar; a Lotus Formula 1 racing car and a Matchbox No. 1 Mod Rod. The Museum also added

an almost complete male Irish dancing costume replete with brooch and competition medals from the Boyne, Muirtheimhne and Monaghan feiseanna.



A Heinkel dinky and a Matchbox No.1 Mod Rod



Brooch from Irish dancing costume and Medals from the Boyne, Muirtheimhne and Monaghan feiseanna



Lotus Formula 1 car c 1960.

Stiúrthóireacht na Mórthionscadal Caipitil agus Seachadadh Bonneagair Major Capital Projects & Infrastructure Delivery Directorate

Tá an stiúrthóireacht seo freagrach as mórthionscadail chaipitil lena n-áirítear foirgnimh nua comhairle, bóithre, réimse poiblí, glasbhealaí, Taisteal Gníomhach, scéimeanna cosanta tuilte agus idirchaidreamh a dhéanamh le soláthraithe fóntais náisiúnta. A luaithe a bheidh mórthionscadal beagnach curtha i gcrích, glacfaidh an Stiúrthóireacht um Chothabháil Caipitil agus Seachadadh Comhshaoil freagracht as an tsócmhainn.

This directorate is responsible for major capital projects including new council buildings, roads, public realm, greenways, Active Travel, flood defence schemes and liaising with national utility providers. Once a major project has achieved practical completion, the Directorate of Operations & Environment Delivery will assume responsibility for the asset (except snagging & management defects liability period).

David Jones
Stiúrthóir / Director



Comhfhorbairt Áite / Placemaking

Athghiniúint Uirbeach agus Forbairt Tionscadail Cistí / Urban Regeneration and Development Fund Projects (URDF)

West Gate Vision (Drogheda)

The approved Westgate planning documents, including the suite of drawings, the EIAR and the AA Stage 2 reports, represent a large volume of material. Full details of the planning submission and An Bord Pleanála Inspectors Report, Direction and Order are available here:

<https://www.pleanala.ie/en-ie/case/318758>



Artist impressions of Westgate project

St. Nicholas Quarter and Backlands Regeneration (Dundalk)

Phase 1

Glas Civil Engineering Ltd. are currently on-site, works are being completed on a phased basis to minimise impact on residents and businesses. Phases A, B, C and D have been largely completed.

Phases E1, E2 and F are ongoing with works to the Peace Park and Linen Hall Street progressing. Stakeholder meetings continue bi-weekly and have been largely positive to date.

In relation to the surfacing works to Linen Hall Street, the contractor will be progressing the resurfacing of the road through night works in the first two weeks of

August. This is being communicated to all stakeholders in advance of the works commencing.

Archaeological Monitoring is ongoing with no significant finds to date. Anything that has been discovered have been hand dug around, recorded appropriately and covered in situ.



Looking North with Bride Works Complete



Utility works ongoing to Linenhall St.

Pedestrian access will be maintained and deliveries to and from all businesses will be accommodated to minimise the impact as much as possible.

Glas have appointed a dedicated Liaison Officer for any queries, John Caffrey jcaffrey@glascel.ie

Phase 2 – Backlands Area of St Nicholas Quarter BDP Ltd are the appointed consultant design team for Phase 2 of the St. Nicholas Quarter project and are working with the Council and stakeholders on feasibility, analysis and a design concept for the re-development of the Backlands area. The accepted concept will be developed to Part 8 planning with full public consultation.

Property owner and stakeholder engagement has commenced. A Public Consultation Event is planned for Thursday the 31st of July in the Town Hall.



Artist impressions of St. Nicholas Quarter Phase 2

The Longwalk Urban Framework Plan (Dundalk)

Louth County Council has launched The Long Walk Urban Framework Plan project. This project aims to create a framework plan for regeneration of the Longwalk area, that supports town centre growth, and meets the needs of the town's residents, visitors and businesses.

LUC is the appointed Integrated Urban Design Team lead. As part of the initial stages of the Urban Framework plan, a public consultation event took place at The Longwalk in April in addition to an online survey. A second public engagement event took place at The Longwalk on July 1st 2025. The in-person and online engagement has been positively supported by the community, and input arising from the engagements will support the understanding of current uses and issues and the future possibilities and opportunities for The Long Walk area.

For project updates visit the Longwalk Urban regeneration Facebook page here

<https://www.facebook.com/people/The-Long-Walk-Urban-Regeneration-Project/61574154397623/>

Or email

longwalkregeneration@tbla.eu

AUCF Éileamh a Trí, Leithdháileadh Maoinithe / URDF Call Three Funding Allocation.

Targeted engagement continues in Drogheda and Dundalk, with multiple property sales, or reaching early development stage, as a result of engagement. Efforts in Drogheda have resulted in a number of new owners of properties approaching the council with a view to discussing options to revitalise their properties.

Meetings have taken place with new owners of properties in Drogheda and Dundalk in recent weeks which have resulted in the preparation of full planning

applications by owners with a view to returning properties to productive use.

Living in Carlingford Visiting Carlingford



Artist impressions of Carlingford

The tender for the procurement of consultants for a heritage led detailed design has been completed. Louth County Council are progressing the appointment of the Design Team which will be completed in the coming weeks.

An initial site visit to Carlingford by the consultants is planned for the 28th July.

Ardee 2040

Louth County Council have concluded engagement with TII in relation to pre-planning approval for the main street in Ardee. Turley Planning, the Design Team lead, are in the process of completing the planning pack for submission to An Bord Pleanála.

Tionscadail Breise / Additional Projects

St Laurence's Gate Plaza, Drogheda

Engagement with the National Monuments has commenced as part of the consultation for the Part 8 process.



Play Spaces

St Dominic's Park & The Glen

AA Screening Stage 1 report has been completed for the Glen and Part 8 documents are being prepared. Engagement with park users and the community has commenced and will continue over the coming months.

AA Screening Stage 1 report for proposed works in St. Dominic's Park playground is currently being prepared in addition to Part 8 documents.

Capital Delivery Team

Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2025

The Town and Village Renewal Scheme (TVRS) is designed to support the revitalisation of rural Ireland and to build greater resilience into our town and village centres through regeneration projects. The 2025 TVRS is now closed for applications, with shortlisted expressions of interest currently being appraised by the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht (DRCDG).

CLÁR 2025

CLÁR (Ceantair Laga Árd-Riachtanais) is a targeted investment programme for rural areas that aims to provide funding for small infrastructural projects in areas that experience disadvantage. The 2025 CLÁR Programme, which was announced in April, is closed for applications, with shortlisted expressions of interest currently being appraised by the DRCDG.

Minister Dara Calleary Opens Three Projects Across the County

Louth County Council was delighted to welcome Minister for Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, Dara Calleary TD, to Louth on Tuesday, 22nd July, where he officially opened three transformative community projects.

The projects, located in Omeath, Dundalk, and Termonfeckin, were delivered by Louth County Council with funding from the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, under various national programmes.

Minister Calleary began his visit in Omeath, where he officially opened the Omeath Placemaking Scheme,

a €3.18 million project funded by the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF) with matched funding from Louth County Council.



The Minister then travelled to Dundalk, where he officially opened the refurbished St Helena's Playground and Bandstand, funded through the Community Recognition Fund.



The final stop was in Termonfeckin, where Minister Calleary opened the community playground. The €250,000 project was funded under the Town & Village Renewal Scheme, with additional support from Creative Ireland, which provided €10,000 for community-designed artwork along the playground fencing.



Tionscadail Tosaíochta do Lár an Bhaile / Town Centre First Projects

Town Centre First Plan – Clogherhead



A draft Town Centre First Plan for Clogherhead has been received from the Consultants. The document will now be reviewed with the Clogherhead Town Team and a public display and consultation will be take place before the final adoption of the plan. Details of the public consultation will be widely shared before the event.

THRIVE – Town Centre First Heritage Revival Scheme



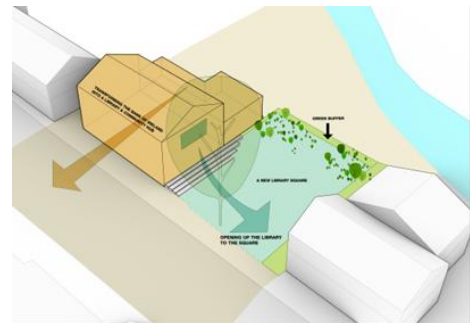
Following the grant of Part 8 Planning Permission for the renovation and extension of Westgate House and the former Drogheda Youth Development building in June, Louth County Council is awaiting the outcome of its application for funding of up to €7 million towards this project. The application for funding is a competitive process and is being administered through the Thrive programme which is managed by the Southern Regional Assembly. The outcome is expected in late summer 2025. This project which is one of several schemes in the area that seeks to contribute towards the restoration and revitalisation of the historic core of Drogheda.

Town Team Support Fund



Town Centre Health Checks have been completed for Castlebellingham and Collon. The Health Checks were carried out by Craft Studio Architects and were funded by The Town and Village Renewal Scheme. The Health Checks included detailed land use surveys and included themes on movement and accessibility and provides detail considerations and opportunities for both towns.

Town Centre First Plan – Project Development Measure - Dunleer



A design brief has been prepared for the design of a public square in Dunleer. The process to appoint a consultant is underway. This project aims to create a high-quality public space in the centre of the town.

Vacant Homes Officer

Engagement with property owners remains a key focus, with ongoing support provided to those exploring options to bring vacant homes back into use.

We would implore those who have a vacant home to engage with the Vacant Homes Officer to discuss potential funding available to return to use and would also ask those who have noted a vacant home in their

areas to log it on vacantheses.ie for inspection and investigation.

The Vacant Homes Officer will be visiting the Castlebellingham/Kilsaran, Dunleer & Collon areas in the coming weeks. Notices will be placed accordingly where no owners can be identified.

Forbairt Fhisiciúil / Physical Development

Tionscadail Bóithre / Roads Projects **Narrow Water Bridge**

- Control building construction ongoing, external render and internal plastering has been completed.
- Southern abutment – the majority of the structural walls have been poured. Central decking now complete.
- Northern Works: New filter lane work are ongoing including utilities.
- Bascule abutment base has been poured and works have begun on tying reinforcement bars for the first wall lift.

Works continue on the manufacturing of the steel bridge in Ghent, Belgium and going forward the majority of the works on the project will be in the fabrication yards.



Southern Abutment with Greenway Underpass



Base Poured within Northern Bascule Abutment



Offsite Fabrication of top section of the navigation beacon tower





Fabrication of Fixed Span Box Sections, outlined in green, Bridge Component

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

TII have accepted the target cost and given the approval to proceed to tender.

The National Roads Design Office have commenced updating the tender documents with a view that these will be issued to the market in September.

The design team, valuers, LCC and WMNRO continue to engage with the landowners, their agents, and other stakeholders on accommodation works, access and compensation.

N52 Ardee Bypass

The scheme is currently in the Supreme Court with the Court adjourning the matter generally pending the outcome of the CJEU reference in *Power v An Bord Pleanála* once a judgment in *Power* is given, then this case will be re-entered before the Supreme Court.

Boyne Enterprise Link Road

Preparation of tender documents for the completion of the works is ongoing. Survey of remaining area to be constructed has been carried out.

R178 Cavan to Dundalk Strategic Route Improvement Scheme

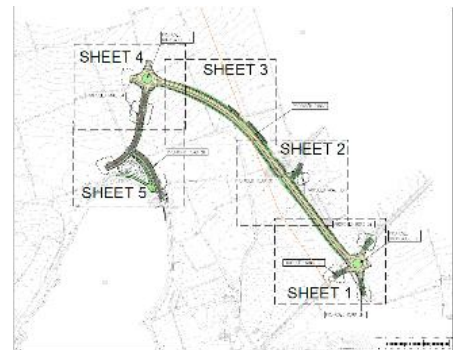
RPS Consultants have now delivered Stage 1 of TII Phase 1 requirements.

- Project Execution Plan
- Constraints and Opportunities Report
- Feasibility Report
- Climate Report

Port Access Northern Cross Route (PANCR) Phase 2.

Phase 2 of the PANCR is to be delivered by developers. Detailed design to be submitted to the Council in March for review and approval prior to road construction commencing. A notice to enter was issued to a number of landowners on the expected extent of the work, and the Council Team will be engaging with these affected landowners.

Subject to the developer's submission to and approval of final detailed design / road safety audit stage 2 by the Council and approval by the OPW of a Section 50 application, it is intended by the developer that works will commence works toward the end of August / early September.



PANCR Phase 2 Extent of Works

Glasbhealaí / Greenways

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

Section 1, & Section 2: Works are substantially complete from Carlingford to the border at Cornamucklagh. Road Safety Audits 3 & 4 were carried out on 20th Jan 2025 and items raised are being addressed.

Landowner engagement is ongoing on the acquisition of the CPO land parcels. The Councils valuer for the land acquisition continues to negotiate with Landowners agents.

Section 3 – Northern Ireland: the section of greenway and boardwalk opened to the public in mid-July, given a continuous greenway from Omeath to Newry.



Border to Rough Island section of boardwalk



Border to Rough Island section of boardwalk

Construction of both Templetown and Port are now complete.

Tionscadail Corparáideach / Corporate Projects

Dundalk Fire Station Training Centre

A meeting was held onsite with Chief Fire Officer and National Fire Directorate for their approval to proceed to Stage 2 (Planning and Design) with new proposal of standalone training centre now the preferred option by the Directorate to the Southern end of existing Operational Site.

Tionscadail Cosaint ar Thulite Chontae Lú agus Creimeadh Cósta / Louth Flood Defence and Coastal Erosion Projects

Dundalk Flood Relief Projects

The Consultant Engineers continue to work on Stage 1 of the Dundalk Flood Relief Project.

The Preliminary fluvial and coastal flood relief measures are continuing to be reviewed by the Steering Group to refine to the shortlisted options. The next steps include incorporating these options into the development report and preparing for a Public Participation Day (PPD) in August / September, (subject to OPW approval). It is envisaged, due to the scale of the project, that 2 PPD days will be required based on topographical location.

Site Investigation works on ongoing with approx.. 40% complete. A Public Liaison Officer from the Consultant Engineers is working on the scheme and is in communication with landowners/private property owners. The Public Liaison Officer will carry proof of identification.

The Project website being hosted by OPW can be reached at:

www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/dundalk/home.ie

Ardee Minor Works

An application for funding for minor works is has been approved by the OPW. These minor works will provide and element of protection for properties along existing water courses within the town and are proposed to be carried out along with the annual road works programme works. Works on the detailed design and landowner engagement will now commence.

Glasbhealaí Cistithe ag B.I.E / TII Funded Greenways:

Dundalk Bay to Carlingford Greenway

The design team are now concentrating on determining an emerged preferred route corridor, which will be subject to the next public consultation phase. Further details on the project can be found on the dedicated website

www.dundalkcarlingfordgreenway.ie including contact details for the Project Liaison Officer and the independent appointed agronomist.

Traffic and parking surveys took place in July, (coinciding with the good weather), The data collected from these surveys will assist the design team in assessing existing parking usage, its effect on the road network, and identify existing issues. This information will inform decisions on where new parking facilities or trailheads may be needed for the greenway project.

Scéim Bonneagair Áineasa Aeraíochta / Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme, beach accessibility.

Drogheda and Baltray Flood Relief Project

The Consultant Engineers continue to work on Stage 1 of the Flood Relief Project.

RPS are continuing to undertake hydraulic model simulations of potential options to ensure that the proposed scheme provides the required standard of protection to properties. Work continues on development of the Scheme Analysis and Development report.

Underwater archaeology and geophysical survey works are currently on site, with further dive surveys are to be scheduled in August.

The Project website being hosted by OPW is now complete and can be reached at: www.droghedabaltrayfrs.ie

Carlingford and Greenore Flood Relief Project

The Local Authority and OPW are continuing to scope the brief tailored to the study area and recent flood event mechanisms to issue to the market for appointment of a project consultant engineer.

In the interim the Local Authority are compiling a final list of minor works which could improve the conveyance characteristics of Carlingford drainage system and are currently preparing a funding business case.

Emergency works on a collapsed culvert and poor rock revetment at the harbour area shall commence in August, (working with a limited time period due to tidal times).

Tionscadail Muiri / Marine Projects

Coastal Protection Works – Drummullagh (Omeath), Bellurgan and Ballynamoney / Ballagan.

Procurement via eTenders of a civil engineering contractor to carry out the works resulted in 11 tenders being received. These tenders have been assessed, and the successful contractor has been appointed. Works on marine archaeology and updated structural surveys will commence.

Tionscadail Cláir Scoileanna / Schools Programme Projects

Ardee Educate Together National School.

Works on site continue to progress, Progress update since previous monthly report:

Summary of progress below.

- Kerbing - 25%
- Level up for tarmac – 20%
- Stone wall – 100%
- Lightning conductor – 100%
- Timber cladding – 98%
- Plasterboard Ceilings – 100%
- Grid ceiling – 70%
- Plumbing Pipework – 100%
- Pipe lagging – 98%
- Radiators and radiant panels to GP – 100%
- Boiler house – 90%
- Tank room – 95%
- 2nd fix plumbing – 40%
- 2nd fix electrical – 98%
- Ventilation – 100%
- Fireproofing – 100%
- Downpipes – 95%
- Cladding - 90%
- IPS panels – 100%
- Self levelling screed – 100%
- Vinyl flooring – 60%
- Skirting – 85%
- Tiling – 30%

Proposed Works Forecast

- Ground works to continue
- Complete electrical second fix
- Continue plumbing second fix
- External paint
- Complete boiler room
- Continue stone wall building - capping
- Grid ceilings
- Kerbing
- Complete downpipes
- Radiators
- Continue with vinyl fit out
- IPS and sanitaryware
- Fitted furniture



Commencement of internal Painting



Exterior works

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 & 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

Active Travel Investment Program

2025 Budget Allocation

The National Transport Authority (NTA) awarded Louth County Council a budget allocation of €6.3 million to advance twenty eight (28) Nr Active Travel Projects in January 2025.

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 projects are as outlined 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.

Band 1	€0 - €5M
Band 2	€5 - €20M
Band 3	> €20M

They also divide the evolvement 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 - local authorities prepare and

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Tionscadail Tasitil Gníomhaigh / Active Travel Projects

Project Name	Allocation 2025	Project Band	Current Phase	August 2025 - Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions, subject to NTA approval of Gateways
Drogheda: R132, Bridge of Peace to Train Station (incorporating Marsh Road)	€270,000	Band 2 €5 - €20M	PHASE 4: Statutory Processes	The National Transport Authority have recently approved GW 3 Gateway Report and we envisage that this project will be brought forward for Part 8 public display in August 2025. In advance of Part 8 public display a briefing will be given to Drogheda MD Councillors.	Proposed Part 8 display August 2025
Drogheda: R166 Termonfeckin Rd, design.	€50,000	Band 2 €5 - €20M	Phase 3 – Preliminary Design	Consultants RPS Group have completed draft Gateway 3 Report. It is anticipated to have an on-line briefing on the proposed scheme to Drogheda Municipal District Councillors in advance of a non-statutory public consultation.	Proposed Part 8 display Q3 2025
Drogheda: R168 Collon Rd, Hill of Hill of Rath Roundabout (RAB) and Rosehall RAB.	€100,000	Band 2 €5 - €20M	Phase 3 – Preliminary Design	The Design Team are currently progressing with preliminary design following non-statutory public consultation with this design expected to be completed by August 2025. Thereafter, the Active Travel Team will proceed to Part 8 public display	Proposed Part 8 Q3 2025
Drogheda: Rathmullan Road including Marley's (Pathfinder Project)	€120,000	Band 2 €5 - €20M	Phase 5 – Detailed Design and Procurement	Part 8 approval received on 10 th February, 2025 by Drogheda Municipal District. GW4 deliverables all presented and approved by the NTA in April 2025. Detailed design has commenced and in parallel the procurement documents for the selection of suitable contractor.	Part 8 approved on 10 th February, 2025.
Drogheda Dublin and North roads, design.	€400,000	Band 2 €5 - €20M	Phase 2 - Concept and Options Phase 4 – Statutory Process	The Active Travel Team are having on-going discussions with Irish Rail regarding Dublin Road Bridge and interaction with the Dart North Coastal Project. A inter agency meeting was held to examine proposals on Active Travel measures under the Dublin Rd, railway bridge. Further meetings are planned. Consultants AECOM via the NTA are currently developing options for the section relating to the under-bridge of the Navan Railway Line (MacBride Train Entrance to McGraths Lane). North Road - Gateway 3 (Preliminary Design Report) approval received from the NTA in February 2025. The design team are currently preparing pre-planning i.e. Part 8 documentation and discussing land requirements with 3 number landowners, plus some residents on the North Rd	Dublin Rd, Drogheda - Proposed Part 8 display depending on dialogue with NTA / Irish Rail. North Rd, Drogheda - Proposed Part 8 display Q3 2025

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Project Name	Allocation 2025	Project Band	Current Phase	August 2025 - Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions, subject to NTA approval of Gateways
Dundalk: R132 Inner Relief Rd. (Pathfinder Project)	€2,625,000	Band 2 €5 - €20M	Phase 5 Detailed Design	Tender Document to establish a restricted panel of competent contractors was advertised on etenders and Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU). A select panel of eight contractors is formed and detailed tender documents will be issued to this panel in Q3 2025.	Completed – Part 8 Approval on the 10 th September 2024 Procurement of Contractors on-going
Dundalk: Dublin Rd Xerox Junction to Ladywell Bridge	€25,000	Band 2 €5 - €20M	Phase 5 Detailed Design	Part 8 proposals were brought to Dundalk MD Meeting on the 10 th December 2024.	Part 8 Approved in December 2024.
Dundalk: Ard Easmuinn Rd to Train Station / Friary School Dundalk & Dundalk Bus Station to Rail Station.	€100,000	Band 2	Phase 3 /4 Preliminary Design / Statutory Process	Workshop held with the NTA in October and we intend to accelerate parts of the scheme, namely, McEntee Avenue, Mulholland Avenue & Pearse Park to deliver key elements associated with pedestrian provision and Safe Routes to School infrastructure. Gateway 3 (Preliminary Design Report) approval received from the NTA in June 2025. The Active Travel Team have met associated schools. It's planned to have a non-statutory consultation event in Sept 2025.	Proposed Part 8 Q4 2025
R132 Inner Relief Road Tain Bridge	€50,000	Band 1 €0 - €5M	Phase 3 - Preliminary Design	Phase 2 approved by the NTA in December 2024. Phase 3 preliminary design has commenced.	No part 8's but possible Section 38
Hoey's Lane, Dundalk	€60,000	Band 1 €0 - €5M	Phase 3 – Preliminary Design	GW3 Reports approved by the NTA in Dec 2024. Public consultation held on 20 th March, 2025. Event was very well attended. Submissions from a number of groups / residents / business owners received and the Design Team are now amending the design to reflect these submissions.	Proposed Part 8 Q3 2025
Mill Street, Dundalk	€75,000	Band 1 €0 - €5M	Phase 2 - Preliminary Design	GW3 comments received from NTA and a workshop held with NTA & LCC. Resulting from this workshop, the drawings will be updated and a non-statutory public consultation will be held in Q3 2025. The Active Travel Team have conducted meetings with key stakeholders such as schools and Bus Eireann.	2025
Hill Street Bridge to Train Station, Dundalk	€50,000	Band 1 €0 - €5M	Phase 2 - Preliminary Design	GW3 comments received from NTA and a workshop held with NTA, LCC and consultants on 20 th November 2024. Resulting from this workshop the drawings will be updated and a non-statutory public consultation will be held in Q3 2025.	2025

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Project Name	Allocation 2025	Project Band	Current Phase	August 2025 - Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions, subject to NTA approval of Gateways
College Heights to Tom Bellew Avenue, Dundalk	€150,000	Band 2 €5 - €20M	Phase 3 - Preliminary Design	GW2 report approved by the NTA in Dec 2024.	2025
R132 Dublin Road, (Rank Xerox Junction to Greengates)	€135,000	Band 1 €0 - €5M	Phase 4 – Statutory Processes	Second public consultation day along with stakeholder engagement meeting held on the 28 th November 2024. Louth Consult portal for submissions closed on 12 th December 2024. Design Team have reviewed all submissions and are currently updating preliminary design drawings to reflect these submissions.	Proposed Part 8 Q3 2025
Moneymore, Active Travel elements	€200,000	Band 1 €0 - €5M	Phase 4 – Statutory Processes	CPO public consultation ended 11 th February, 2025. 9 submissions received. Awaiting decision from An Bord Pleanala.	N/A
Safe Routes to Schools (Round 1) 1. St Louis Secondary School Dundalk 2. Rehab Care Mill Street Dundalk 3. Saint Brigid's and Saint Patrick's School, Drogheda 4. Scoil Aonghusa, Drogheda	€40,000	Band 1 €0 - €5M	Phase 6 – Construction	Works completed at Schools 1 & 4 in Dundalk & Drogheda. Concrete surface replacement outside Saint Brigid's and Saint Patrick's School, Bothar Brugha Drogheda, commenced in April 2025 & finished in May 2025, with line marking applied in July. Bothar Brugha road will be surfaced during the summer and line markings applied thereafter. Works relating to Rehab Care on Mill Street, will be incorporated as part of Mill Street, Active Travel Project.	N/A
Safe Routes to Schools (Round 2) 1. Bellurgan National School 2. Callystown National School	€950,000	Band 1 €0 - €5M	Phase 4 – Statutory Processes	For schools 1 – 3, Section 38 Process of the Roads Act concluded. The proposals were advertised and placed on public display on 22nd April 2025 with a deadline for submissions of 6th May 2025 School 4 will be delivered via the Dundalk: Ard Easmuinn Rd to Train Station / Friary School Dundalk & Dundalk Bus Station to Rail Station project.	No part 8's but Section 38's

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Project Name	Allocation 2025	Project Band	Current Phase	August 2025 - Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions, subject to NTA approval of Gateways
3. St Mary's NS, Knockbridge 4. St. Malachy's GNS, Dundalk					
Safe Routes to Schools (Round 3) 1.SN Chaoimhin Naofa, Philipstown, Dunleer 2. Scoil Phadraig Naofa , Kilcurry 3.Mullaghboy NS.	€50,000	Band 1 €0 - €5M	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	Louth County Council were informed in Q4 2024 of three new schools to be included as part of Safe Routes to School Round 3. Funding was received 13 th Jan 2025. Tender Documents to be prepared seeking Design Consultants for the Design of Proposed works.	No part 8's but possible Section 38's
Bus Enhancement Programme	€500,000			Funding to allow for the upgrade of bus stops in various locations across the county including the installation of bus poles and hard standing areas plus bus shelters in agreed locations.	N/A
Mobility Hubs	N/A	N/A	N/A	The Government Climate Action Plan (CAP 23/24) has identified shared mobility as a key mechanism for reducing car dependency and car ownership. Dundalk Town along with Cork City, Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown, Carlow Town, and Sligo Town has been selected as a location for the delivery of a pilot project to test the effectiveness of mobility hubs. The hubs will provide short-term access to a variety of modes of travel including e-bikes, e-scooters and Electric Vehicles (EVs). This pilot project is being led by the National Transport Authority in conjunction with the Department of Transport with funding being provided by the Climate Action Fund. A Detailed Business Case is currently being prepared by the DOT and is due to be submitted to the Department of Environment Climate and Communications who manage the Climate Action Fund. It is anticipated that the tendering process will commence for this project later this year.	N/A