



Comhairle Contae **Lú**
Louth County Council

Annual Service Delivery Plan 2025

End of Year Update



Principle Service Objectives Support Services

Functional Area	Performance Goals	Measurement Methodology	Mid Year Review Update	End of Year Review
<p>Financial Governance</p>	<p>1. To ensure we continue to work within a strong Corporate Governance Framework, encompassing stringent audit, financial controls, procurement and risk management.</p> <p>2. Enhance our financial systems to ensure continuing compliance with our ever- increasing obligations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensure that all recommendations from both internal and external audits are implemented 	<p>Internal audit are reviewing the Audit Tracker to see what items are still not implemented. This will then be circulated to relevant directorates for follow up.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A full review has been carried out by Internal Audit and the Updated Audit Tracker has been circulated to Management for update by relevant sections by end of December.
<p>Accounts Receivable</p>	<p>1. To maximise the income collection rates for the local authority over all income departments while working with the citizens and businesses within the county taking account of the overall economy</p> <p>2. To continue with incentive schemes to assist new customers and support existing customers in the county</p> <p>3. Maximise the number the number of ways the customer can interact with us</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Target is to increase our cash collected by 5% ▪ Increase the number of Rate Payers paying their rates in full by July by 5% ▪ Introducing the online payment system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ At the end of June 2025 Rates cash collection increased by 8% on the prior year. ▪ At the end of June 2025 there was an increase of 2.35% on the prior year, of customers with an accrual who has paid in full. ▪ The use of MYCOCO and the new CRM system to facilitate online payments is still under 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ At the end of December 2025 Rates cash collection increased by 10.6% on the prior year. ▪ There was an 11.6% increase on the prior year, of customers with an accrual who had paid in full by the end of July 2025. ▪ The CRM payment link testing is in progress. We will review the MyCoCo solution once we



	through the development of ICT systems.		review.	have implemented the CRM as priority is given to the CRM.
Accounts Payable	1. To continue to streamline the purchase to pay process and ensure that suppliers are paid in a timely manner, guaranteeing them cash flow certainty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Target is to increase the number of invoices paid within 15 days to 95% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to June 2025 the percentage of payments paid within 15 days was 98% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to December 2025 the percentage of payments paid within 15 days was 98%
Procurement	<p>1. To ensure compliance with Public Procurement Guidelines including Green Procurement, Socially Responsible Public Procurement, incorporating the Circular Economy and use of centralized procurement frameworks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure we are in line with all requirements of the Annual NOAC Public Spending Code. Maintain the centralized framework reporting to the OGP Quarterly internal reporting on Procurement Compliance to Senior Management Team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular updates are communicated to sections on all new requirements of procurement. Centralised procurement section is now setup to ensure compliance. Quarterly reports are being sent to the Senior Management team. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly updates to all staff are in place. Centralised procurement Dept. is set up and working with all sections. Quarterly reports are being sent to the Senior Management team.



Information Technology				
<p>Digital Services</p>	<p>1. To provide easy digital access to both Louth County Council's and government services and encourage people to use these services by improving consistency and focusing on people's needs when we design each individual service</p> <p>2. Through the provision of digital tools and skills to staff, enable them to deliver their service in a digital way and improve operational efficiency</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase the number of services available digitally to all our customers and the range of device types that can access the services by 10% in 2025 ▪ Increase the number of back-office systems that integrate with public facing digital services to streamline the service by 5% in 2025. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The procurement exercise for the Digital Services and Customer Relationship Management (CRM) Tool has been completed and Abavus has been awarded the contract. The System is now being configured with service forms for the public being built and tested. 2. Workflow for the forms are currently being worked on so that workflows required to process service requests are available within the CRM System. 	<p>Phase One/Pilot Phase of the new CRM system was launched on 1st October. This initial phase introduced key features designed to streamline engagement for Councillors, via a Councillor specific portal, with an initial focus on: Reporting issues directly to Operations (Roads & Public Spaces) and Submitting Notices of Motions and Questions to the Meetings Administrator. The system underwent significant testing throughout Q4 2025 to refine its functionality and prepare for further rollout throughout the organisation.</p>
<p>Data</p>	<p>1. To enable the council to make data driven decisions through the provision of real time dynamic data dashboards.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop new layers of data dashboards for all major services of the council in 2025 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Starting with a pilot scheme, the first area we are looking at is Finance. 	<p>Internal Dashboards and Mapping Applications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Louth Planning Map



			<p>The Finance Dashboard is based on the work completed by Kildare County Council in the GeoConnect Project. This dashboard, including a map, indicates where there have been changes in business for the Rates team.</p> <p>2. A dashboard for planning will assist Planning Department to complete the assessment of current development plans against the requirement to provide the capacity to develop housing to the extent identified in the NPF Implementation: Housing Growth Requirements Guidelines. Work on the Data Preparation for this dashboard has commenced.</p>	<p>Viewer <i>Developed for the County Development Plan review ahead of 2027; includes retail strategy, protected areas, and flood zones.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dundalk Local Area Plan (LAP) Dashboards <i>Used during the draft Dundalk LAP process.</i> • Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT) Dashboard <i>Supports planners in the annual review and updating of RZLT datasets.</i> • Louth Reverse Waste Register <i>Helps identify properties without waste collection arrangements.</i> • Waste Survey Results Application <i>Captures household waste disposal agreements; includes QR code for survey access.</i>
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				<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finance – Rates Project <i>Utilises information from the GeoDirectory and Valuation Office to identify changes in businesses across the county.</i> <p>Publicly Available Map Viewers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dundalk LAP 2025–2031 Adopted Public Map Viewer <i>Used by Elected Members during the LAP process; builds on earlier Map Viewers.</i>• Integration Team – Information on Supports <i>Provides details on services available within County Louth.</i>• EV Charging Points Dashboard <i>Displays publicly accessible EV charging locations across Louth.</i>
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Systems	1. To enable the council to deliver the best services to the public by maintaining and improving the 109 software packages used across the organisation	▪ Maintain and ensure all upgrades to software packages used in the organisation are done in a timely manner in 2025	New processes for automatically updating software packages have been implemented. LCC is completing the implementation of a new Asset management system providing information on the status of all software packages.	• Installation of ICT Asset Management system complete. Housing and Electoral Register System upgraded to latest versions. Agresso to cloud project has commenced, this will run for two years. Internal form & approval workflow applications have been built for IT equipment and third-party access to internal resources. There is an intention to roll out to other areas in 2026.
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Principle Service Objectives – Organisational Development

Functional Area	Performance Goals	Measurement Methodology	Mid year review Update	
Community				
Community Support and Development	1. Implement the actions from the Local Economic & Community Plan 2024-2029 through the LCDC.	• Number of 2025 assigned actions completed.	LECP Steering Group oversees Implementation Plan. 68 actions commenced. 3 Completed. 9 Not Commenced.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LECP Steering Group continues to oversee LECP 2024-2029 • 72 actions commenced 5 completed 11 Not commenced
	2. Deliver on the Goals of the PPN.	• Number of active groups within the PPN	619	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 657 active groups in PPN
	3. Manage & Deliver Social Inclusion functions of the Council	• Number of 2025 assigned actions within LECP completed	LECP Steering Group oversees Implementation Plan. 68 actions commenced. 3 Completed. 9 Not Commenced.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LECP Steering Group continues to oversee LECP 2024-2029 • 72 actions commenced 5 completed 11 Not commenced
	4. Deliver Rural Development Programme.	• Number of 2025 assigned Targets in Local Development Strategy completed	LECP Steering Group oversees Implementation Plan. 68 actions commenced. 3 Completed. 9 Not Commenced.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LECP Steering Group continues to oversee LECP 2024-2029 • 72 actions commenced 5 completed 11 Not commenced



	5. Maximise and deliver available community funding streams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of Community Projects commenced in 2025 arising from national funding streams 	125 Groups allocated €227,247 under Local Enhancement Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 125 Groups allocated €227,247 under Local Enhancement Programme
	6. Deliver for the youth of Louth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% of Schools to be engaged in Comhairle na nÓg. 	All Schools engaged.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% schools engaged

	7. Co-ordinate Environmental Awareness Campaigns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % Schools in Green Flag Schools Campaign 	35.87% awarded/ renewed Green Flag in last two years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 71.28% in Green Flag Schools Campaign
	8. Develop and Implement County Play & Recreation Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play Policy to be developed and agreed in 2025 • Outdoor Recreation Plan to be developed and agreed in 2025 	Play and Outdoor Recreation Plans currently being developed along with Local Sport Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play and Outdoor Recreation Plans currently being developed and will be finalised in Q1 2026
Integration	Co-ordinate response to Ukraine umanitarian crisis and Migrant tegration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of interventions with clients 	<p>To date the Integration Support Workers have met 489 individual clients at 82 clinics.</p> <p>We hosted the Taste of the Nations event in Ardee in June in partnership with Hands4Unity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2025, we met with 1,102 clients at our clinics. We have 21 accommodation centres in Co.Louth. • The IRPP families have transferred from Respond to LAIT team and will we support them with any issues. • We held a number of events in 2025 including two community information fairs, Intercultural football tournament, Creative Ireland Arts project and Taste of the Nation.



Community Safety	1. Co-ordinate Community Safety Partnership	• Establish Committee and implement a Meeting Structure for 2025	The establishment of the committee and meeting structure is in train following publication of guidance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minister O’Callaghan signed Regulations for the establishment of Local Community Safety Partnerships under the Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024.• They came into operation on 30th June 2025.• The members of Louth Community Safety Partnership have been appointed by the Minister for Justice, Home Affairs and Migration and will be configured as follows:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local Authority Members – 7• Statutory Bodies – 5• Nominating Bodies – 11• Open Call (Expression of Interest) members – 7• The members will give the broadest representation across sectoral interests, demographic and community interests in Co Louth, to achieve the best community safety outcomes.• The induction meeting for Louth Community Safety Partnership took place on 11th December 2025.
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	2. Develop and Implement Local Community Safety Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare a Community Safety Plan 	A community Safety Plan will be prepared following establishment of the committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following the successful establishment of the Community Safety Partnership, a Community Safety Plan for Co Louth will be prepared.
Sports Partnership & Facilities	1. 1. Increase availability, quality, and participation in Sports across the county.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete a Sports Plan • No. of Participants at LSP Projects and Sports Programmes. • Usage of Sports Facilities • €s drawn down in Grants and delivered in 2025 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of Local Sports Plan is in progress, Consultant has been appointed, and consultation process commences in September • LSP and Sports Facilities continue to develop and expand the opportunities for all to participate in Louth • LCC owned Sports Facilities continue to have high levels of usage and a wide variety of programmes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • • To date the LSP has drawn down in excess of €256,000 in Grant funding so far 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports Plan to be delivered in Q1 2026 • New Multi-Use capital project completed in Dundalk • 24,500 participants took part in LSP programmes in 2025 • 5500 Active Inclusive Visits to Sports Facilities • 1400 New Members to Sports Facilities • >100,000+ Active Visits to Louth County Council Operated Sports Facilities • National Award for Active Ageing Project • Louth LSP received a total of €670,034.23 in funding for 2025.
Human Resources				



Human Resources	1. Ensuring that the organisation is adequately resourced and supported to deliver the required level of public services through proactive recruitment and retention activity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of Competitions run in 2025. • Number of Appointments made in 2025 • % of posts filled within two months of known vacancy 	<p>40 competitions in 2025</p> <p>125 appointments made</p> <p>67% of posts filled within two months of vacancy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 54 Competitions in 2025 • 185 Appointments made • 58% of posts filled within 2 months of vacancy
	2. Provision of training to ensure staff are safe and have the required qualifications in undertaking their work. This includes training staff to expand competence and capacity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numbers of staff training days delivered • Number of Training courses delivered 	<p>47 training days delivered</p> <p>36 training courses delivered</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 918 training days delivered • 115 Training courses delivered
	3. Maintaining a stable working environment between management and employee representatives through positive industrial relations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of days lost due to industrial action 	<p>None</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
Health & Safety				
Health & Safety	1. Drive health and safety best practice through staff consultation, communication, and proactive monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % Reduction in Number of reportable accidents • % Reduction in Number of non-reportable accidents • Number of toolbox talks carried out vs target on an annual basis 	<p>The number of reportable and non-reportable accidents remain similar to last year figures.</p> <p>Accreditation Process for ISO 45001 health and safety management system has commenced so as to drive</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in reportable accidents from 2 to 5 • Reduction in number of nonreportable accidents from 30 to 20



			health and safety best practice across the organisation.	
Corporate Services				
Communication	1. Improve visibility and awareness of the Council by proactively promoting our role and our achievements in the delivery of our projects and services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % increase in Social Media interactions & followers • % increase in Number of Press Releases per year 	<p>X/Twitter - 11.1k Followers January 1st-June 30th New Followers: 258 Engagement Rate: 4.6%</p> <p>LinkedIn - 3328 Followers January 1st-June 30th New followers: 855 (5th local authority overall during this period) Total Posts: 85 (8th) Engagement (reactions/comments/shares): 3342 (5th)</p> <p>YouTube - 66 subscribers January 1st-June 30th New Subscribers: 13 Views: 3.4k (73% increase on</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • X/Twitter - 11.1k Followers January 1st – December 31st New Followers: 463 Engagement Rate: 5.9% • LinkedIn – 3,982 Followers January 1st – December 31st New followers: 1,662 (5th local authority overall during this period) Total Posts: 219 (8th) Engagement (reactions/comments/shares): 7,700 (4th) • YouTube – 83 subscribers January 1st – December 31st New Subscribers: 30 Views: 6.1k (159% increase on 2024) Watch Time: 207.9 hours (170% increase on 2024)



			2024) Watch Time: 121.8 hours (100% increase on 2024)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Press Releases January 1st – December 31st Issued: 161
	2. Improve visibility and awareness of the Council by responding in a timely and efficient manner to media queries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of media queries responded to within their timeframe 	<p>Press Releases January 1st-June 30th Issued: 90</p> <p>Media Queries January 1st-June 30th Received: 154 Responses issued: 132 Rate of responses to queries received: 85.7% Interview requests: 20</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Media Queries January 1st- December 31st Received: 381 Responses issued: 313 Rate of responses to queries received: 82.2% Interview requests: 52
	3. Improve visibility and awareness of the Council by developing new and innovative channels of communication, both internally and externally	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of new communication channels established 	<p>Three (3) new digital channels established since January 1st:</p> <p>Instagram: established April 10th - 594 Followers</p> <p>Facebook: established June 5th - 632 Followers</p> <p>WhatsApp Channel (pilot for Elected Members, MT, Seniors): established June 10th - 48 Users</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three (3) new digital channels established between January 1st- December 31st: • Instagram -Est. April 10th 1,170 Followers as of December 31st • Facebook - Est. June 5th 3,793 Followers as of December 31st • WhatsApp Channel (Pilot with Elected Members, MT and Seniors only) - Est. June 10th 57 followers as of December 31st



<p>Customer Services</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of CRM cases that are addressed within our published timeframes • % of CRM cases from elected members addressed within our policy timelines 	<p>86% (From Jan -June 2025 18,453 cases received of which 15,866 responded to within 10 days)</p> <p>71% (From Jan-June 2025 1,884 cases received of which 1,339 responded to within 5 days).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 83% (From Jan -Dec 2025 39,616 cases received of which 32,944 were responded to within 10 days) • 70% (From Jan – Dec 2025 3,661cases of which 2,565 were responded to within 5 days) • An additional 161 CRM cases were logged by Councillors via the new CRM Councillor portal between 1st Oct – 31st December of which 73% were responded to within policy timelines.
<p>Data Protection & Information Compliance (formerly 'Redress')</p>	<p>1. Ensure transparency is upheld and that all areas of Redress within the Council are complied with.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of Redress Matters responded to within policy or required timeframes. 	<p>FOIs: 95% (At end June: 76 FOI requests received of which 72 responded to within statutory timeframes. Amendment: FOIs: 72% (At end June 76 FOI requests received of which 55 were responded to within statutory timeframes, 20 were responded to after the statutory deadline and 1 remained live)</p> <p>DSARs: 100% (At end June 37 DSARs received all of which were responded to within</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FOI: 76% (At end Dec 158 FOI requests received of 112 were responded to within statutory timeframes, 36 were responded to after the statutory deadline and 10 remain live with decision due end January 2026). • DSARs & DP: 100% (At end Dec 59 received all of which were responded



			statutory timeframes).	to within statutory timeframes)
Franchise & Meetings Administration	2. Continue to support a strong auditing system, risk control and corporate governance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of Internal Audits completed. • % of outstanding audit recommendations closed out 	<p>Three audits completed.</p> <p>Internal audit section currently reviewing all outstanding audit recommendations to ensure that they are still relevant and not superseded.</p>	<p>Five audits completed.</p> <p>Internal audited completed their review of all outstanding audit recommendations and updated the report.</p>
	1. Support local democracy and the interests of the community by assisting the role of the elected representative and maintain an accurate and up to date register of electors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of citizens registered on the Rolling Electoral Register • % of voters with PPS Number, Date of Birth and Eircode 	<p>99,967 citizens on the Rolling Register of Electors</p> <p>PPSN: 22.1% DOB: 98.4% Eircode: 99.97%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100,396 citizens on the Rolling Register of Electors <p>PPSN: 24.7% DOB: 98.5% Eircode: 99.97%</p>
Animal Control and Welfare Services				
Control of Animals	1. Management of the Control of Dogs and Horses function.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of FPNs issued for offences under Control of Dogs • % of unclaimed or 	<p>153</p> <p>100%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 212 • 98%



		surrendered dogs re-homed		
Sustainability				
Climate Action	1. Implement Climate Action plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of 2025 Actions delivered 	53% of 2025 actions in the LCC Climate Action plan are completed at this stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 53% of 2025 actions in the LCC Climate Action plan are completed at this stage
	2. Prepare for development of next Climate Action Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of plan complete 	Next Climate action plan is not due until 2030. For 2025 100% of the preparation for the new plan has been completed. This is justified through the commencement and delivery of Phase of the CLIMAAX risk assessment project which will inform the next plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next Climate action plan is not due until 2030. For 2025 100% of the preparation for the new plan has been completed. This is justified through the commencement and delivery of Phase of the CLIMAAX risk assessment project which will inform the next plan.
	3. Implement Dundalk Decarbonizing Zone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of Actions delivered 	The Dundalk Decarbonisation zone has commenced in 2025. As no guidance or additional resources were provided by the Department (DCEE) implementation has only started. We anticipate that we	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Dundalk Decarbonisation zone has commenced in 2025. • 16 actions are outlined with 63% of these actions either underway or completed.



			will have completed actions by the end of Q4 2025 in this work programme.	
Environmental & Waste Regulation	1. Implement best practice based on 'Circular Economy', Implement a Waste Action Plan for Louth County Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve 80% Compliance with RMCEI targets 	On target to achieve a minimum of 80% compliance with RMCEI targets.	a > 80% compliance with RMCEI waste targets achieved.
	2. Improve performance against litter metrics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % increase in the number of Litter FPNs issued • Improve IBAL Performance for Dundalk and Drogheda 	<p>The number of FPNs issued is consistent with previous years.</p> <p>Drogheda has improved from 26th to 24th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed. It has improved from Moderately Littered to Clean to European Norms.</p> <p>Dundalk has remained at Clean to European Norms. Dundalk was placed at 20th out of 40 towns / cities surveyed in Survey 2 2024 and was placed 25th in the Survey 1 of 2025.</p>	<p>The number of FPNs issued is consistent with previous years. 254 issued in 2025 vs 243 issued in 2024.</p> <p>This target has not been achieved. Both Drogheda (29th) and Dundalk (34th) dropped in Survey 2 2025</p>



	<p>3. Ensure a high-quality environment through effective environmental enforcement activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Achieve 80% Compliance with RMCEI targets	<p>RMCEI targets on schedule or being exceeded for</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Operational and surveillance river sampling2. Discharge licence inspections3. Discharge licence monitoring results assessment4. Catchment monitoring and investigative monitoring.5. Septic tank inspections6. Farm inspections7. Decorative paints regulations8. Petroleum vapour regulations9. Planning reports10. Smokey coal regulations-retail premises11. Bathing water regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Achieved 100 percent compliance with RMCEI targets for river sampling, discharge licence inspections, discharge results assessment, catchment monitoring and assessment, septic tank inspections, farm inspections, decorative paints inspections and monitoring of licenced landfills and submission of returns to the EPA
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			<p>12. Investigation of air, water and noise complaints.</p> <p>13. Scheduled monitoring of 3 licenced landfills and compliance with conditions and submission of gas, air, water, noise, dust, slope stability and AER's to EPA</p>	
	<p>4. Ensure the protection of rivers and public waterways and use enforcement legislation where necessary to prevent pollution</p>	<p>• Improvements in Natural Water Body Status</p>	<p>(1) Operational and surveillance river sampling programme on schedule and up to date,</p> <p>(2)Septic tank inspections as required by EPA national plan completed for 2025, advisory notices for septic tank inspections to be closed out by Q4 2024 and Q1 2026.</p> <p>(3) Louth required to carry out 83 farm inspections in 2025, these are on schedule and will be completed by Q4 2025.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (1) All on time and completed =116 • (2) All inspections completed=13, all advisory notices closed out for 2024. 2 notices issued in 2025 to be closed out Q1/Q2 2026. • (3) Farm inspections completed =92 • (4) Inspection of discharge licenced sites and assessment of monitoring results completed. On-going legal referral for 3 sites. 16 on-site inspections and 158 assessment of results



		<p>(4) On-site inspections of discharge licenced sites have been completed, assessment of client submitted results on-going and check monitoring carried out by LCC on-going. On-going legal action against three premises.</p> <p>(5) Work being currently carried out on two sub catchments in the Dee which is a local authority priority area of action for LCC. This includes macroinvertebrate monitoring and water chemistry investigative monitoring.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• (6) Bathing water sampling for 2025 has been completed for the season as of the 8/9/2025. One failure noted for this year. When resampled quality was acceptable. A number of prohibition notices	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• (5) Catchment monitoring and investigative monitoring completed for Dee catchment in 2025. 12 macroinvertebrate sampling, 12 chemistry sampling carried out.• (6) 140 bathing water samples in 2025. All 4 beaches will retain their blue flag or bathing water status• (7) A total of 151 complaints were received in 2025 (compared to 104 received complaints in 2024) with a closure rate of 97%. Note a further 47 complaints (not included in the 151 total) related to odours, sewage and discoloured water at Blackrock beach and a further 6 complaints related to odours, seaweed and water pollution at Clogherhead beach. 45 of the 151 total complaints related to complaints about agriculture predominantly smells from storage of manures, chicken manure and spreading of slurry. 16 of the 141 complaints were direct referrals from the EPA. 53 of the 151 complaints related to general pollution from industrial and commercial sources 29 of the 151 complaints
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			<p>were issued and relate to overflows from Clogherhead WWTP and had no impact on water quality.</p> <p>(7) water pollution complaints-91 general water pollution complaints and queries received. All were investigated with 3 open complaints. A further 43 notification/complaints were received in relation to Blackrock beach and 6 in relation to Clogherhead beach.</p>	<p>related to septic tanks and septic tank queries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on bathing water results and statistic all beaches retain their status • • All complaints logged and investigated in 2025. 3complaints at open stage and may progress to enforcement •
	5. Rural Water: perform roles of advisor, regulator and grant administrator to Group Water schemes and small private supplies.	• Delivery of MARWP targets	MWARP function transferred to Environment Section, works ongoing 60 Well Grants approved to date in 2025 - €142,402.19	• 98 Well Grants approved in 2025 - €267,883.89
Facilities and Energy Management	1. Maximise Energy Efficiency Improvement beyond 50% by 2030	• Install 20 Solar Panel solutions on our buildings in 2025	Tender awarded and Construction-stage commenced Sept 25 – 6 months Programme dependent on applications to ESB for microgeneration	• SPVs completed at 7 buildings and ESB microgeneration licences applied-for (to ESB) for 9 sites.



t	2. Reduce Carbon Output of the organisation by at least 51% by 2030	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace 5 boiler arrangements in our buildings with ground/air heat pumps in 2025 	<p>agreements for 9 of those sites.</p> <p>Dundalk FS installed & commissioned and Dunleer New Library commissioned 2025.</p> <p>Also Carlingford F Stn – fossil fuel boiler decommissioned and Air-Sourced Heat Pump installed & commissioned in Q1 2025.</p> <p>Plans in progress for other 3 buildings for 2025 - Drogheda FS, Dundalk Museum and Dundalk Library – Agreement in place with Mid East Energy Unit who have engaged Codema as Consultants. Codema have put in place a Multi Party Framework of 5 specialist designers & contractors. Competitive dialogue to commence 16th Sept 2025 to have works contracts in place for full suite of energy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 new heat pumps installed to 2 buildings. • Acceptance of Tender recommended for heat pumps for an additional 3 buildings. • 3 no. kerosene oil boilers decommissioned at a further building and replaced by 1 no. high efficiency gas boiler. • At end 2024 LCC had reduced CO2 emissions by 35%. We expect all these measures in 2025 to further reduce LCC CO2 emissions by at least 275t. That should improve the overall reduction in emissions by a further 10% bringing the Council to 45% reduction at end of 2025 & ahead of the glide path to achieve 50% reduction by 2030.
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			<p>measures, including heat pumps for those 3 buildings by early November 2025.</p> <p>Fair St Drogheda works in progress to replace 3 No. Oil boilers with a high efficiency gas boiler to be completed before end 2025.</p>	
	<p>3. 1.9% Absolute energy use reduction year on year</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install 20 Solar Panel solutions on our buildings in 2025 	<p>Tender awarded and Construction-stage commenced Sept 25 for installation of SPV in 22 Council buildings – 6 months Programme which is dependent on applications to ESB for microgeneration agreements for 9 of those sites.</p> <p>LCC has an Agreement in place with OPW for Optimising Power at Work for County Hall and Dundalk Town Hall. That programme typically results in a combined annual reduction of 100,000KWhrs. Public</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPVs completed at 7 buildings and ESB microgeneration licences applied-for (to ESB) for 9 sites. Works in progress to complete SPVs to further 15 buildings. • OPWs Optimising Power at Work with LCC extended to 3 buildings for 2026. • 1.9% reduction requires the reduction of 321,100 KWhrs – that will be exceeded by energy reduction at Fair St Drogheda and Dundalk Fire Station from the new works completed in 2025 and by energy reduction from staff behavioural change (optimising power at work) and from fuel reductions by the Council's fleet.



			Lighting improvements by replacing failed bulbs with low energy bulbs typically generates reductions of 175,000KWhs so those 2 measures alone are likely to achieve most of the 1.9% reduction required. Savings in fuel use from fleet is on target to save more than the remaining requirement so we expect to exceed the 1.9% requirement for 2025. Louth County Council's Total Final Energy 2024 = 16	
Fleet	1. Electrify the small vehicle fleet.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace 20 of our diesel vehicles with electric vehicles in 2025 	22 Vehicles purchased	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 27 EV Vehicles
	2. Move all large vehicles to more sustainable fuel through the lifetime of this plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All remaining diesel vehicles to be moved to HVO in 2025 	13 Vehicles now on HVO, remainder to be on HVO by year end, depending on availability in the market.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 Vehicles using HVO Fuel.



Principle Service Objectives – Social Development

Functional Area	Performance Goals	Measurement Methodology	Mid Year Review Update	End of Year update
Housing				
Housing Supply: Social & Affordable Housing	1. Deliver new Social Housing units across the following programmes: Construction, Turnkey, Acquisition, Part V, Land Acquisition, Affordable Dwelling Purchase Schemes, Public Private Partnerships, Housing Assistance Payment, Rental Accommodation Scheme, Leasing (including Repair and Lease Scheme), and Buy and Renew Scheme.	1. Deliver on DHLGH targets for 2025 i.e. no. of units to be delivered across the various mechanisms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Social – 172 o Affordable – 55 o Leasing – 3 o RAS – 15 o R&L – 2 2. Complete Muirhevnamór	1. Delivery to date: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o On track to achieve social housing target with 86 units delivered to date o 7 affordable units sold to date with further 8 units in sales process. Further schemes in pipeline 	1. Delivery: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Social housing target exceeded with 562 units delivered o 3 affordable housing schemes delivered 2. Boice Court – 13 units complete with tenants allocated. A further 32 units substantially complete at end of 2025. Balance of 27



	<p>2. Support Approved Housing Bodies to deliver social housing units and Cost Rental units across the following programmes: CALF, CAS, SLS and CREL.</p> <p>3. Pursue opportunities for joint venture initiatives.</p>	<p>infill scheme – 11 units</p> <p>3. Complete Phase 2 of Boice Court and Phase 1 of Mount Avenue direct build schemes</p> <p>4. Advance on-site delivery of 4 x ADPs schemes – 271 units</p> <p>5. Commence on-site delivery of Point Road, Dundalk scheme – 44 units)</p>	<p>2. Muirhevnamór infill scheme – complete with tenants allocated</p> <p>3. Boice Court – 13 units complete with tenants allocated with remaining 59 units projected to be completed by end 2025. Phase 1 Mount Avenue now projected for completion in Q4 2025/Q1 2026</p> <p>4. ADP schemes – all projects on-site and advancing as per works schedule</p> <p>5. Point Road, Dundalk – project subject to Judicial Review</p>	<p>units to be complete in Q1 2026. Mount Avenue projected for completion in two phases in Q1 2026 and Q4 2026.</p> <p>3. ADP schemes – all projects on-site and advancing as per works schedule with Greenhills Grange, Drogheda projected to be substantially complete in May 2026</p> <p>4. Point Road, Dundalk – project subject to Judicial Review Anne Street, Dundalk – Design Team appointed</p>
Homeless Services	<p>1. Implement the Homelessness Action Plan</p> <p>2. Continue the roll-out of the HAP Place-finder Service.</p> <p>3. Continue to deliver Housing First in conjunction with our partners.</p> <p>4. Pursue innovative solutions to address homelessness in the county.</p> <p>5. Lead the Northeast Regional Homeless Forum and carry out the reporting responsibilities to the</p>	<p>1. Monitor the no. of entries and exits from homelessness and build on no. of tenancies sustained</p> <p>2. Monitor the no. of Homeless HAP placements secured and sustained</p> <p>3. Maintain no. and further support Housing First tenancies</p>	<p>1. 251 singles and 71 families placed in emergency accommodation with 39 Singles and 68 Families exited from homelessness into either HAP or LA/AHB tenancies.</p> <p>2. 21 singles and 46 family homeless HAP placements.</p> <p>3. 3 new Housing First tenancies.</p> <p>4. Ongoing liaison with regional lead authorities for purposes of learnings and best practice.</p>	<p>1. 287 singles and 153 families placed in emergency accommodation with 8 singles and 20 families exited from homelessness into HAP, 13 singles and 21 families exited into LA/AHB tenancies.</p> <p>2. 24 singles and 95 family homeless HAP placements.</p> <p>3. 39 new Housing First tenancies.</p> <p>4. Ongoing liaison with regional lead authorities for purposes of</p>



	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Review best practice in addressing homelessness in other local authority areas and jurisdictions 5. Hold quarterly interagency Regional Homelessness Forum meetings 	5. Quarterly meetings being held.	learnings and best practice. Quarterly meetings held.
Addressing Vacancy: Refurbishment & Maintenance	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maximise availability and utilisation of existing housing stock through inspection, repair and refurbishment. 2. Continue the delivery of the Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme (EERP). 3. Ensure private rental properties meet the required standards. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deliver no. of units allocated for Voids/Planned Maintenance by DHLGH in 2025 – 54 2. Deliver no. of retrofit units allocated for EERP by DHLGH in 2025 – 140 units 3. Achieve DHLGH target for private rental inspections – 1,881 4. Continue to improve on our response time for necessary reactive maintenance repairs 5. Review methods to raise awareness of tenant obligations regarding maintenance issues 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On track to deliver allocated number of 54 Voids/48 Planned Maintenance units and Stock Condition Surveys 2. On track to deliver allocated number of 140 EERP units 3. On track to deliver private rental inspection targets (1,240 number inspected to date) 4. 5,441 number reactive maintenance repair requests completed in comparison to 2,914 number of same period last year (46% increase) 5. Letters issued to 240 tenants advising them as to their responsibility on 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Delivered 71 Voids/41 Planned Maintenance units and 36 Stock Condition Surveys 2. Delivered 142 EERP units 3. Delivered on private rental inspection targets i.e. 2114 (1,881 inspected in 2024) 4. 12,076 number reactive maintenance repair requests completed in comparison to 8,734 number of same period previous year (a significant 38% increase) 5. Letters issued to 391 tenants advising them as to their



		6. Continue to reduce average re-letting time (34.5 weeks in 2023) and no. of vacant LA owned units (2.9% in 2023)	maintenance issues	responsibility on maintenance issues 6. 2024 Service Indicators
Traveller Accommodation	1. Support members of the Travelling community to access social housing supports.	1. Achieve our targets in relation to no. Traveller specific units to be delivered under the Traveller Accommodation Programme in 2025 i.e. Social Housing: 10 units and Group Housing: 4 units	1. On track to achieve exceed social housing and group housing targets	1. Exceeded standard social housing target provision i.e. 13 Traveller households allocated and delivered 2 (Derryveigh) of the 4 group housing unit targets. The remaining 2 units (Clontygora) will be delivered in January 2026
Provide Suitable, Accessible Housing	1. Provision of housing support to persons with a disability.2. Deliver and adapt appropriate housing for disabled persons and provide grant funding.3. Review housing options to meet the needs of a changing and aging demographic.	1. Process disabled persons grant in line with annual DHLGH funding and continue to reduce processing time 2. Deliver on DHLGH approved adaptations to local authority units 3. Continue to achieve targets as set out in national and local strategies i.e. 10% of new units in schemes of 10 or more for disability	1. On track to commit and recoup annual funding 2. On track to deliver on number of approved adaptations 3. On track to achieve disability targets	1. Committed and recouped annual allocated funding 2. Delivered 35 number of approved disability adaptations 3. Exceeded disability targets with 140 units allocated



<p>Tenancy Engagement & Customer Support</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide eligible persons with access to social housing supports, engage with and support existing tenants. 2. Provide support to, and engage with, new and existing tenants and residents' committees/associations. 3. Support eligible persons to access Local Authority Home Loans. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maximise use of CBL within context of various categories of allocations 2. Bring draft revised Allocation Scheme to SPC and Council for consideration and adoption 3. Undertake the annual Social Housing Needs Assessment in accordance with DHLGH guidelines 4. Consider methods/models to establish and maintain new residents' committees/associations 5. Issue Home Loans as appropriate in line with scheme criteria and within DHLGH allocation for 2025 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 168 units allocated via CBL in 2025 (70 units allocated via CBL in same period in 2024) 2. Draft Allocation Scheme will be brought to SPC and Council in Quarters 3 & 4 3. Social Housing Needs Assessment will be undertaken as per DHLGH requirements 4. Estate Management team actively working with a view to establishing new residents' committees/associations in both new and established estates 5. Home Loans issuing as appropriate - €1,938,522 approved to first half of 2025 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 296 units allocated via CBL in 2025 (201 units allocated via CBL in 2024) 2. Revised Allocation Scheme approved by SPC and adopted by Council 3. Social Housing Needs Assessment completed as per DHLGH requirements 4. Estate Management team actively working with a view to establishing new residents' committees/associations in both new and established estates 5. Home Loans - €2,721,817 approved
<p>CULTURAL SERVICES</p>				
<p>Library Service</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implement the actions in 'The Library is the Place' The National Public Library Strategy 2023 – 2027 - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to increase visitor & membership figures by way of innovative programmes and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broader outreach programme in place. • Increase in opening hours in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A busy Q4 saw an increase in programming including inaugural Lit Lú Festival and



	<p>People; Spaces; Connections including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to ensure that reading and literacy is at the heart of all we do. • Support lifelong learning through continued investment in collections. • Work with LGMA & stakeholders in order continue to develop the 3 national strategic initiatives i.e. Right to Read, Healthy Ireland at your Library, and Skills for Life. • Support Sustainable Development Goals and Climate Action Plan by ensuring library buildings and fleet support local authority climate action plan including energy efficiency and sustainability targets. • Ensure outreach programme has a reach to all sections of our community both young and old. 	<p>outreach & stakeholder collaboration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress capital redevelopment of former Dominican Church into a statement, visionary new library for Drogheda • Progress procurement of a new 'Library in the Community' vehicle • Ensure optimum opening hours across all branches to enhance library offering • Support lifelong learning through continued investment in collections • Continue to build on the annual per capita expenditure on collections 	<p>Dunleer library.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design team appointed for re-development of Dominican Church. • Tender awarded for new 'Library in the Community' mobile library vehicle. • Continue to support 3 national library strategic initiatives, Right-to-Read, Healthy Ireland at your Library and Skills for life. • Continue to pursue all relevant funding streams to progress library services, e.g. HSF Funding secured for repair and conservation of windows in Carlingford Library; Festival funding secured from Research Ireland for Louth Science Festival - November 2025 • Work ongoing in development of local history collections including cataloguing of unique stock and digitisation investment 	<p>Louth Science Festival.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work is continuing on the redevelopment of the former Dominican Church Drogheda. Survey programme currently being undertaken by design team. • Repair and conservation work complete of windows to Carlingford Library with HSF funding. • The new national programme Skills for Life was launched in 2025 with Louth Library Service focusing on Health literacy, digital skills, media literacy, business & employment skills, climate & sustainability. • Louth Library Service branches have increased staffed opening hours from 142 hours per week to a total of 191 hours per week, an increase of 34.5%. • Investment continues in electronic and hardcopy stock with a focus on a new collection of '10 day loans' across all branches.
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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy upgrades to library buildings included the installation of smart meters and solar panels.
Arts Service	<p>1. Continue to develop and enhance the Arts Service which supports a vibrant arts infrastructure in the county and wider region.</p> <p>2. Promote a society which values the arts and recognises their positive contribution to individuals and communities.</p> <p>3. Deliver the Creative Ireland programme in Co. Louth.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete review of Drogheda Arts Festival • Commence review of Ardee Festival • Bring draft New Public Art (Percent for Art) policy to SPC and Council for consideration and adoption • Implement school's programme • Issue grants and bursaries awarded in line with schemes and as per budgetary provisions • Develop new artist studio and workspaces • Implement and manage all funding opportunities under Creative Ireland both within LCC Culture Team and with external stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultations coming up with internal and external stakeholders and elected reps on future direction of Drogheda Arts Festival. • Revised community festival planned for November in Ardee with local community and business buy-in. • Public Art policy being finalised for Autumn implementation. • Tender awarded for Public Art Facilitator on retainer basis. • Regular programming ongoing in collaboration with strategic partners. • Schools programme ongoing • Creative Ireland funding towards community grants and internal culture team projects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hugely successful Ferdia Arts festival took place on Nov 1st supported by Ardee traders. • New public Art policy adopted by council and work progressing on Percent for Art projects. • Claim submitted to Creative Ireland for all funded events and initiatives throughout the year.
Archives Service	<p>1. Manage the identification, preservation and availability of the County's public and private archives.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade archive cataloguing system • Complete project on 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional testing work for the cataloguing system upgrade has recently been completed, and it 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade work on the archival software was completed.



	<p>2. Identify those archives which constitute a unique and valuable source of information.</p> <p>3. Permanently preserve archives under optimum conditions.</p> <p>4. Provide access to collections.</p> <p>5. Continue to prioritise the maintenance of the building.</p>	<p>digitalisation of Drogheda Corporation minute books</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County Archivist to input into review of National Records Retention Policy and Procedures • Maximise no. of collections available • Work with all sections in terms of records retention, transfer and deduction 	<p>is expected that the final migration will take place soon.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An exhibition entitled 'Intervals of Peace' showing the Civil War prison art of Alfred McGloughlin was launched in November and will remain open until February 2026. • A number of energy upgrades to the building was facilitated.
<p>County Museum</p>	<p>1. Development of a Memory Bank for County Louth through the services and work carried out by both the County Archives and County Museum in presenting to future generations the nature of life as experienced by their predecessors.</p> <p>2. The County Museum will continue to collect, conserve and curate items in its possession, whilst also providing an outreach programme to schools and the community.</p> <p>3. Prioritise maintenance of the building and seek funding</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase no., and range of, events, exhibitions and lectures • Ongoing programming of workshops and tours to coincide with specific notable events • Scope out requirements to upgrade gallery area to enhance visitor experience • Identify suitable storage facilities to ensure the integrity of the collection not held on-site 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer programme of events in progress along with weekly walking tours of Dundalk. • Funding opportunities being pursued for upgrade to galleries, including lighting and AV equipment. • Planning for upcoming events including 30th anniversary exhibition in Autumn and launch of updated sports memorabilia exhibit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13,831 visitors to the County Museum in total throughout 2025, including 133 groups (i.e. events, visits, tours etc.). • Autumn/winter programming included talks, Schools visits, quizzes and exhibition launches. • Sporting memorabilia saw investment from local sports stars focusing on the county's sporting achievement on a national and international level.



	opportunities to upgrade gallery and exhibition spaces.			
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Principle Service Objectives Placemaking & Physical Development

Functional Area	Performance Goals	Measurement Methodology	Mid Year Review Update	End of Year Review
Physical Development				
Flood Defence & Coastal Erosion	1. Continue to plan and deliver key flood defence projects, in association with the OPW so as to provide protection measures to communities and business at risk from significant flood events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dundalk Flood Relief Project – Options Phase complete ▪ Drogheda & Baltray Flood Relief Project – Options Phase complete 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Public Consultation Event on identified options to take place Q4 2025 ▪ Public Consultation Event on identified options to take place Q4 2025 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Short list of options finalized and subject to stakeholder workshops by year end. Public Consultation Event Q1 2026 ▪ Short list of options currently being finalised and will be subject to stakeholder workshops.



				Public Consultation Event Q1 2026
	2. Continue to plan and deliver OPW Minor works schemes to provide for new flood defence works and coastal erosion protection to properties at risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ardee Flood Relief Scheme – application made for flood relief minor works ▪ Drummullagh/ Bellurgan/ Ballagan Minor Works Schemes completed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Funding for minor flood relief works has been approved to a value of €385,309 (3 projects – Stoney Lane/John Street & Drogheda Road x 2) ▪ Tender process for works has been completed and successful tenderer designate is currently being appointed. Due to seasonal constraints, works will not take place until March 2026 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Programmed for completion in tandem with 2026 Road Works Programme ▪ Contractor appointed and works to be carried out March 2026 due to seasonal constraints
	1. Continue to plan and deliver key transportation infrastructure that sustains mobility, safety, access and facilitates sustainable growth in County Louth and enhances its position along the M1 Economic Corridor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PANCR Phase 2 commenced ▪ N53 Upgrade Commenced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing engagement with agents on final detailed road design. Enabling works due to commence Q4 2025 ▪ 2025 funding allocated for ongoing survey work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Detailed design has been completed and project tendered by developer. Commencement of works Q1 2026 ▪ Tender process commenced, with tenders received



<p>Road & Greenway Projects</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Boyne Enterprise Link Road Complete ▪ R178 Improvement Scheme – Option Phase complete ▪ Narrow Water Bridge – project milestones reached as per Programme 	<p>and costs associated with land acquisition. TII approval to proceed to tender (construction) received (July 2025). Tender documentation to be prepared and published Q3 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agreement reached with landowner on the acquisition of required site. Tender documents for completion of works being prepared ▪ Phase 1 (Concept & Feasibility) complete. Phase 2 (Options Selection) has commenced ▪ Project progressing well. All 2025 project milestones have been realised to date 	<p>currently subject to assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Land acquisition has been completed. Works for Phase 2 have been tendered ▪ Phase 2 complete and approval with Department to proceed to Phase 3 ▪ All 2025 project milestones have been realised
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	<p>2. Continue to plan and delivery key cycling and walking greenway networks that sustains mobility, safety, access and facilities sustainable growth and tourism in County Louth</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Carlingford to Newry Greenway Complete ▪ Boyne Greenway funding secured ▪ Dundalk to Carlingford Greenway – Preferred Route Corridor Phase complete 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project complete. Celebration event scheduled for 12th September ▪ Application submitted under 2025 ORIS Measure 3 (€500,000), with funding announcements awaited ▪ Public Consultation No. 2 Feedback Report published (February 2025) and findings disseminated. Public Consultation No. 3 on emerging Route Corridor due to be held in Q4 2025 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project complete. Celebration event held on 12th September 2025 ▪ Maximum grant of €500,000 awarded through ORIS Measure 3 (November 2025) ▪ Public Consultation No. 3 commenced 25th November with publication of emerging preferred route corridor
<p>Active Travel & Sustainable Transport</p>	<p>1. In collaboration with key transport stakeholders and agencies, continue to plan and deliver key projects that aim to promote and support the use of sustainable transport alternatives, including walking, cycling and public transport</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Drogheda Area Transportation Assessment complete ▪ Dundalk Pathfinder commenced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ List of Multi Modal Transport Options have been developed and currently being reviewed. Public consultation expected to take place on draft LTP in Q4 2025 ▪ Tender documents drafted and subject to peer review prior to final NTA approval. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Detailed review of Multi Model Transport Options ongoing. Public consultation expected to take place on draft LTP in Q1 2026 ▪ Currently await approval from NTA to proceed and publish Request for Tenders (construction)



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Drogheda Pathfinder tender process complete ▪ Safe Routes to School Round 2 projects complete (Bellurgan National School, Callystown National School, St Mary's National School, Knockbridge) ▪ Safe Routes to School Round 3 – design phase complete (Scoil Chaoimhin Naofa, Philipstown, Dunleer, Scoil Phadraig Naofa, Kilcurry, Mullaghboy National School) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Publication of Request for Tenders due to occur in September ▪ Detailed design currently being completed in order to inform tender documents. Publication of Request for Tenders due to occur in December ▪ Section 38 Process complete. Tender process commenced. Works anticipated to commence in September ▪ Design team expected to be appointed Q4 2025 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gateway approval to proceed to tender to be submitted to NTA Q1 2026 ▪ Contract awarded and project works have commenced ▪ Design teams are currently being procured, with appointment January 2026
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Public Realm				
Town Centre First	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To work with communities to initiate and set up community-based Town Teams 2. Engage with all elements of the community ensuring all groups are included 3. Deliver community driven Town Centre First Plans that assist in creating thriving and resilient town centres 4. Assist towns in applying for funding and delivering capital projects in their rural areas 5. Create a pipeline of community driven projects throughout the County 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Completion of Clogherhead Town Centre First Plan ▪ Completion of town centre Health Checks for Castlebellingham and Collon ▪ Design and Part 8 complete for Dunleer public realm space (adjacent to Library) ▪ Thrive capital funding application submitted (Westgate House, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plan development ongoing with Clogherhead Town Team, with expected completion Q4 2025 ▪ Draft Health Checks complete with final documents due to be published in September 2025 ▪ Funding secured for design phase through RRDF. Tender documents being prepared for publication in Q3 ▪ Thrive Stage 1 complete, inclusive of public consultation and Part 8 Planning process for 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Final consultation event November 2025 with final sign off by Town Team January 2026 ▪ Health Checks complete ▪ Consultant appointed to bring project through detailed design and Part 8 planning ▪ Maximum Thrive grant of €7m awarded to West Gate House project (September 2025).



		Drogheda)	Westgate House. Application for capital funding under Strand 2 submitted with funding announcements expected in September 2025	Consultants to be appointed by year end to bring project through detailed design and construction phase
Vacant Homes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To actively promote and lead the uptake within the local authority area of various initiatives, schemes and funding programmes to address vacancy and bring vacant properties into residential use To collect, monitor and assess vacancy data locally and use that data to encourage activation of properties Co-ordinate and engage with local authority multidisciplinary teams to assist in bringing vacant properties into productive use. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement with circa 125 vacant property owners 25 vacant properties progressed towards productive use High level strategy for key derelict sites in Drogheda & Dundalk complete 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement by Vacant Homes Officer with 102 property owners year to date 67 properties progressing towards productive use year to date. High level Derelict & Vacancy Reports completed for both towns. Cross Directorate group engaging on same 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement by Vacant Homes Officer with over 150 property owners during 2025 URDF Call 3 Properties – Year End Status <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occupied – 31 Refurbishment Works – 18 Progressing – 42 Ongoing Engagement – 14 Awaiting Engagement – 7 CPO - 1 Ongoing review by Cross Directorate team on derelict and vacancy units as captured in completed Reports



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CPO process commenced on 5 vacant/derelict properties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 10 properties now identified with a view to commencing process in Q4 2025 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CPO process formally commenced on 1 property. A further 8 properties identified and progressing towards CPO
Urban Regeneration	1. Develop and deliver projects that facilitate the creation of vibrant, sustainable communities and the rejuvenation of urban town centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Westgate Vision – Planning approval received, successful capital allocation from URDF Call 4 application and detailed design contract awarded ▪ St Nicholas Quarter Phase 1 complete ▪ St Nicholas Quarter Phase 2 (Part 8) ▪ Long Walk Masterplan – Draft design complete 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Planning received Feb. 2025 (10-year period). Await funding call for capital stage. Phasing programme to be identified ▪ On site and completion due September 2025 ▪ Work on Phase 2 plan ongoing, inclusive of public consultation. Part 8 expected to be published in Q4 2025 • Consultants appointed and Masterplan development has commenced, including the hosting of a number of public consultation events— Masterplan document due to be completed in Q4 2025 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Phasing programme identified. Continue to await next URDF capital funding call. Potential of pending Fáilte Ireland capital funding also being explored for certain phase/s • Works complete ▪ Order of Magnitude Costs being prepared on options identified which will inform planning strategy for 2026 ▪ Final consultation event held November 2025 and overall masterplan due to be complete by year end



<p>Rural Regeneration</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop and deliver a range of projects that meet the needs of differentiated rural areas, engaging with communities to maximise opportunities and to create desirable places for people to live, work and play 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carlingford RRDF Project – draft detailed design complete Ardee Castle – Contractor appointed and works commenced RRDF Call 4 – Successful design phase allocations for Dunleer and Louth village projects respectively Ardee 2040 planning application 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultants appointed – completion of detailed design due to be April 2026 Approval to proceed to appoint contractor currently with DRCDG Applications submitted – Dunleer (€608k), Louth village (€448k). Funding announcements awaited TII engagement complete. Review of planning submission currently underway – aim to lodge with ACP in October 2025 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concepts for detailed design have been produced and currently subject to review Additional €1m secured from Department and approval to proceed (September 2025). Contract signing due before year end and works commencing January 2026 Funding secured for Dunleer public realm project. Louth village project to be considered for future T&V funding Planning submission made to ACP
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<p>Play Facilities</p>	<p>1. Create an effective county-wide play infrastructure through collaborative universal design which enhances and responds to needs of children and young people and delivering inclusive opportunities for play for all.</p> <p>2. Increase opportunities for play for older children/ teenagers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Part 8 planning complete for new playground facilities at The Glen and St Dominic’s Park and tender process commenced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Glen - neighborhood consultation process commenced ▪ St Dominic’s Park – initial plans to be revisited in light of proposed active travel project ▪ Collon playground – Building Land Acquisition Measure application submitted re: site location while capital funding for the playground development has been applied for under 2025 T&V application. Part 8 Planning process completed in 2024 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Neighbourhood consultation complete. Environmental screening being revised on foot of outcome of consultation. Part 8 documents to be prepared ▪ Revised refurbishment plans have been developed. Part 8 documents being finalized with publication Q1 2026 ▪ Site now secured for future playground provision in Collon. Town and Village funding also secured for playground construction.
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<p>Rural Capital Delivery Team</p>	<p>1. Delivery of sustainable, accessible and community led projects 2. Increase engagement with local communities through animation and communication 3. Ensure the pursuit of all funding opportunities to revitalise town centres</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No. of successful funding applications for projects under ORIS/T&VR/CRF ▪ No of projects delivered 	<p><u>2025 Applications submitted to date:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ORIS Measure 1 x 3 (total value - €93k) • ORIS Measure 2 x 2 (total value - €100k) • ORIS Measure 3 x 1 (total value - €500k) • BLAM x 2 (total value - €385k) • RRDF Call 4 x 2 (total value - €1,056,000) • CRF Call 3 x 9 (total value - €740k) • CLAR x 15 (total value - €664k) <p>Total applications – 34 (€3,538,000)</p>	<p><u>2025 Applications Approved:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ORIS Measure 1 x 1 (total value - €40k) ▪ ORIS Measure PD x 2 (total value - €100k) ▪ ORIS Measure 3 x 1 (total value - €500k) ▪ BLAM x 2 (total value - €375k) ▪ RRDF Call 4 x 1 (total value - €607,800) ▪ CRF Call 3 x 9 (total value - €740k) ▪ CLAR x 9 (total value - €443,838k) ▪ Town & Village Renewal x 5 (total value - €1,201,180) <p>Total no. Of successful applications – 30 (€4,007,818)</p> <p>Total no. of 2025 Applications submitted – 40 (€4,971,623)</p>
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Roads & Local Services				
Maintenance, Upgrade & Management of a Safe Road Network	1. Deliver a multiannual Road Works Programme for Regional and Local Roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 72km of local and regional road network resurfaced (circa 5% of total local and regional road network) ▪ >90% of Regional & Local Roads subject to Survey Condition Surveys within required time cycle 	<p>80% complete</p> <p>97% complete – target exceeded</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% 72km of R&L road • 88% complete by end dec 2025.
	2. Deliver a national road maintenance and repair plan in conjunction with TII	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 8 km of national road network resurfaced (16% of total national road network) 	To be completed in Q3 & Q4 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tii took this on but incomplete in 2025; deferred until 2026.
	3. Ensure a multiannual programme for bridge rehabilitation works, prioritise on infrastructure that is vulnerable to failure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Works on six bridges complete 	Works have commenced in Q3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works are 60% complete but 30% are works in river course so march ESD



	<p>4. Operate an effective Road Licensing system</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Circa 900 Road Opening Applications processed ▪ Circa 700 inspections conducted on approved Road Opening Licences by means of monitoring and enforcement 	<p>Ongoing project, up to date.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 916No completed in 2025 and inspection rate in q3 and q4 is running at 97%
	<p>5. Develop strategy on EV charging infrastructure and implement EV charging infrastructure in public spaces in the county</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EV Strategy complete and implementation plan drafted 	<p>Draft EV Strategy 80% Complete for Region. To be complete by end of Q4 2025.</p> <p>EV Charging points installed in Fair St, Drogheda and Greenore, North Louth.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EV strategy is 99% complete but no implementation until 2026
	<p>6. Increase productive use of low energy materials, reclaimed, recycled, reused in road and footpath construction eg RAP, warm mixes, recycled aggregates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Percentage of RAP and Warm mixes deployed in Louth's Roads Programme 	<p>RAP project commencing 15th Sept, on target to be completed in Q4 2025.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2km completed in 2025 over 3No roads; 3000t of RAP. • Warm mix in tender docs to be used throughout RWP 2025 • RAP in tender docs up to 30% throughout tender docs 2025.



	7. Upgrade the public lighting network to LED and ongoing maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey and design phase of PLEEP complete Faults within PL network to be within 1% of total PL stock 	<p>Survey 100% complete. Design has just commenced. To be completed at beginning at beginning of Q4.</p> <p>This faults target has been meet in Q2, 2025 with ongoing monthly monitoring.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey is 100% complete. Design is 50% complete. Just over 1% fault at end 2025
Road Safety	1. To translate the ambition of the National Road Safety Strategy (RSA Zero Fifty) to local level with a view to reducing road accidents, fatalities and injuries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Louth Road Safety Action Plan complete 	<p>The National Plan released by Dept in August 2025. Louth Road Safety Working Together Group to meet in Q3, WITH ACTION PLAN to be developed by end of Q4, 2025.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co Louth Road Safety plan 2026-2027 to be ready in Q1 2026.
	2. To implement the recommendations of the National Review of Speed Limits in respect of new default speed limits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special Speed Limit Byelaws reviewed and adopted byelaws as appropriate 	<p>Non-Statutory Consultation Complete. Awaiting further guidance from Dept. Work ongoing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National guidance issued in dec 2025. Complete



	<p>3. Promote road safety implementation with the Council's partners HSE, TII, AGS, DoT and Elected Members</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 'Road Safety Together' (RSWTG) meetings & Collision Prevention meetings (x 4) ▪ No. of actions within Road Safety Strategy implemented 	<p>3 meetings out of 4 complete.</p> <p>51 actions in the Road Safety Plan in 2025</p> <p>-36 Actions Complete</p> <p>-5 Partially Complete</p> <p>-10 Incomplete</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One meeting each of the Collision Prevention Committee and Road Safety Working Together Group took place in 2025. • 51 actions in the Road Safety Plan in 2025 • -36 Actions Complete • -5 Partially Complete • -10 Incomplete • New Road Safety Plan 2026-2027 will be more streamlined with fewer actions
	<p>4. Maximise the number of road safety engineering interventions carried out annually in order to reduce road traffic collisions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 11 Safety Improvement Works schemes completed ▪ 5 Traffic Calming Measures schemes completed 	<p>50% complete.</p> <p>50% complete.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 complete and 1No to finish into 2026 • 10No LCSS and 5No TCM



Severe Weather Response	1. To continue to strengthen our ability to provide an effective response to severe weather events, both in terms of preparedness and recovery, so as to minimise the impact on local communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of Severe Weather Events responded to Annual 'Snow' and 'Severe Weather' briefings to operational staff by means of preparedness 	2 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snow day briefings were complete with all drivers in q4 2025. Briefingx1 complete in jan 2025.
	2. To deliver the annual Winter Maintenance Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 450km of road network treated across 6 routes Circa 80 'call outs' per winter season 	Will be completed Q3 & Q4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% complete 100% callouts responded to.
Parks, Beaches & Public Realm	1. To provide the highest standard in the maintenance of our public parks and beaches and ensure they are excellent amenities for all to enjoy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St Helena's Park, St Dominic's Park, Blackrock Community Park, Ice Hill Park and Aisling Park to retain Green Flag status Clogherhead, Port and Templeton beeches to retain Blue Flag status Seapoint Beech to retain Green Coast Flag status 	To be announced End September 2025. Retained for 2025. Retained in 2025.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5No green flags won in 2025 3No blue flags retained in 2025



	2. To maintain our public realm and streetscapes to a high standard of cleanliness and presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Circa 700 bins serviced on a regular basis▪ Extent of roadside swept per annum▪ IBAL results for Dundalk and Drogheda to achieve 'Clean to European norms' or higher	Yes and ongoing 4500km per annum Improved results on previous years	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bins cleaned• 100% swept.• IBAL failed to 'clean to EU norms' as 'moderately littered' in q3 and q4
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Principle Service Objectives Strategic Economic Development

Functional Area	Performance Goals	Measurement Methodology	Mid-Year Review update	End of Year Review
Local Enterprise Office (LEO)				
<p>Enabling Entrepreneurship</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote and support the establishment of new businesses. 2. Provide accessible information and resources for aspiring entrepreneurs. 3. Offer training programmes to develop entrepreneurial skills 4. Facilitate networking opportunities to connect entrepreneurs with mentors and peers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieving Enterprise Ireland (EI) targets and metrics • Entrepreneurship training participation numbers • Networking Events Feedback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start Your Own Business (SYOB): 120 participants across 7 programmes, with 3 additional programmes planned for the remainder of the year. • One SYOB programme was delivered in Ukrainian language to meet demand. • Accessibility: A dedicated initiative for people with disabilities is available online, offering flexible, self-paced learning and tailored resources. (eLearning modules, LEO contacts, mentoring, government initiatives) • General Training, Networking and Events: In total, 668 participants have engaged in various training programmes and national events. • National events include Local Enterprise Week, National Enterprise Awards, Bloom, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start Your Own Business (SYOB): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 168 participants attended over 10 programmes. Have re-commenced in- person (and hybrid) SYOB events and not just online. - 1 SYOB delivered to Ukrainian nationals to meet demand with very positive feedback (all in person due to translator needed) - Accessibility: A dedicated initiative for people with disabilities is always available online, offering flexible, self-paced learning and tailored resources. (eLearning modules, LEO contacts, mentoring, government initiatives).



			<p>Showcase, Lunch and Learns (in person information sessions across the county for people to gain information on LEO supports)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Networking Events Feedback: <p>Feedback from training and networking events has been consistently positive. This is measured through surveys an QR codes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Additionally, in October 2025, LEO Louth (in conjunction with Meath LEO) offered an MDP for Individuals with disabilities which was a pilot programme with scope to run this in Louth in 2026. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• General Training, Networking, and Events: In total, 956 participants have engaged in various training programmes and national events throughout 2025.• National events involving clients and staff included Local Enterprise Week, National Enterprise Awards, Bloom, Ploughing, Showcase, Lunch and Learns (in person information sessions across the county for people to gain information on LEO supports)• Networking Events Feedback: Feedback from training and networking events has been consistently positive. This is measured through surveys using QR codes.
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<p>Offering Business Advice</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deliver expert guidance to help businesses navigate challenges and seize opportunities 2. Provide one-on-one mentoring sessions tailored to individual business needs 3. Organise workshops and seminars on topics such as financial management, marketing, and innovation 4. Assist businesses in developing strategic plans for growth and sustainability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieving EI targets and metrics • Track pipeline of businesses going from advice or training to financial supports • Track the total number of businesses receiving one-on-one mentoring or advisory services 	<p>270 General Business Advice Clinics were delivered by mid-year, well ahead of EI targets and metrics. Offering tailored guidance to entrepreneurs and small business owners on topics such as business planning, finance, marketing, and accessing supports.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An additional 37 Financial Advice Clinics, supporting clients with financial planning, funding options, and cash flow management. • Coordinated 76 one-to-one mentoring sessions, matching businesses with experienced mentors to address specific challenges and growth opportunities. • Mentors actively assisted businesses in developing strategic plans focused on long-term growth, sustainability, and resilience. • Organised and hosted workshops and seminars on key business topics including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Management • Marketing and Branding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 407 General Business Advice Clinics were delivered in 2025, significantly ahead of EI targets and metrics. Offering tailored guidance on topics such as business planning, finance, marketing, and accessing support. - An additional 38 Financial Advice Clinics, supporting clients with various elements of financial planning. - 152 one-to-one mentoring sessions, matching businesses with experienced mentors to address specific challenges and growth opportunities. - Organised and hosted workshops and seminars on key business topics including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Financial Management o Digibytes (through DDH)



			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Innovation and Digital Transformation <p>Maintained strong engagement with clients, with positive feedback highlighting the practical impact of advice and mentoring support.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Marketing and Branding ○ Innovation and Digital Transformation <p>Maintained strong engagement with clients, with positive feedback highlighting the practical impact of advice and mentoring support.</p>
<p>Providing Enterprise Supports</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Offer financial and non-financial supports to enhance business capabilities 2. Administer grants and funding programs to support business development 3. Facilitate access to microfinance loans for eligible businesses 4. Provide resources for digital transformation and innovation initiatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting EI metrics • Grant Uptake - Track the number and total value of grants disbursed • Digital Transformation - Measure the adoption of digital tools among businesses receiving digitalization supports • Loan Approval Rates - Monitor the number of businesses successfully securing microfinance loans with LEO assistance • Success Stories - Document case studies of businesses that significantly benefitted from LEO financial and non-financial supports 	<p>Numbers of grants disbursed details:</p> <p>Financial approvals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 businesses supported (by mid-year) which include: Priming Grants, Business Expansion Grants, Feasibility Grants, MEG (Market Access), RD&I / IP Start. Additionally, Energy Efficiency Grants (EEG) and GROW Digital Voucher • MFI Applications Submitted: 10 – active engagement with Microfinance Ireland 	<p>Numbers of grants approved in 2025 total:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21 businesses supported in 2025 which included: Priming Grants, Business Expansion Grants, Feasibility Grants, MEG (Market Access), RD&I / IP Start. Additionally, Energy Efficiency Grants (EEG) and GROW Digital Voucher • MFI Applications Submitted: 14 applications submitted in 2025 – the highest number across the LEOs nationally. • Non-Financial Supports & Programmes



			<p>Non-Financial Supports & Programmes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 27 businesses supported (by mid-year) which include: Lean for Business, Green4Business, Digital for Business • Trading Online Voucher (TOV): 61 approved – this grant is no longer available. <p>Success Story: M1 client 'Money Sherpa' who has availed of financial and non-financial supports represented Louth LEO at the National Enterprise Awards 2025 in May and won Innovator of the Year Award.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 49 businesses supported by year end which include: Lean for Business, Green4Business, Digital for Business • Success Story: M1 client 'Money Sherpa' which availed of financial and non-financial supports represented Louth LEO at the National Enterprise Awards 2025 in May and won the Innovator of the Year Award.
<p>Supporting Local Enterprise Development</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contribute to the economic vitality of local communities 2. Collaborate with stakeholders to identify and address economic development opportunities 3. Support sector-specific initiatives that align with regional strengths 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job Creation - Measure the number of new jobs created by LEO-supported businesses • Sector-Specific Initiative Participation - Track attendance and engagement levels in targeted sector initiatives • Collaboration Projects - Count the number of joint projects with stakeholders • Sustainability Metrics - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job Creation: Annual EI employment survey due to be completed in Sept/ Oct 2025. Figures for 2024 are: Job creation = 136 Job loss = 111 Net Job Creation = 25 • Head of Enterprise and SEDO sit on numerous forums and boards to ensure collaboration with stakeholders to identify and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job Creation: Annual EI employment survey completed in Oct 2025. Results for 2025 show: Job Creation = 219 Job Loss = 145 Net Job Creation = 74 (61% increase on 2024). • Head of Enterprise and SEDO sit on numerous forums and boards to ensure collaboration with stakeholders to identify and address economic development



	<p>4. Promote sustainable business practices to ensure long-term economic health</p>	<p>Assess adoption of sustainable practices among supported businesses</p>	<p>address economic development opportunities. Boards and forums include LCDC, LEF, NERSF, Drogheda BIDs, Dundalk BIDs, Creative Spark, The Mill Enterprise Hub, Ardee Business Park/ NEST, M1 Corridor Steering Group, SPC Collaborate and work closely in line with and alongside</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northeast Regional Enterprise Programme • DDH • Broadband Officer <p>Sector Specific Initiatives include: Sector specific Management Development training Programmes tailored to key sectors retail, craft, food, and childcare.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Academy and Food Starter • Food service Management Development Programme • Showcase - Ireland's Creative Expo and one of the country's largest international trade shows. • Boyne Innovate – Management Development Programme for Digital Start Ups • AI for Smarter Business (Industry specific) 	<p>opportunities. Boards and forums include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – LCDC – LEF – NERSF – Drogheda BIDs – Dundalk BIDs – Creative Spark – The Mill Enterprise Hub – Ardee Business Park/ NEST – M1 Corridor Steering Group – SPC Econ.Dev. <p>Support and work alongside:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northeast Regional Programme Manager • Drogheda Digital Hub – Successfully opened Phase 1 of DDH providing remote working desks and training programmes delivered in conjunction with DKIT • Boyne Valley Food Officer (shared with Meath CoCo) Food Officer appointed in post in September 2025 and delivered events and MDP's working through LEO. • Broadband Officer The BBO work programme is
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Planned) Innovate Accelerate – Cross border management development programme for Immersive Industry. <p>Each programme contains 1:1 mentoring with sector-specific experts. Attendance and engagement tracked throughout.</p> <p>The above sector specific initiatives are also collaborated with other LEO's and cross border stakeholders (Meath LEO, NMD, Monaghan LEO, Donegal LEO, National and Regional programmes carried out)</p> <p>Sustainability Metrics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Green for Micro programme expanded in 2024 to include businesses with up to 50 employees, significantly increasing accessibility. • Participating businesses receive tailored sustainability plans and expert guidance, with many adopting energy-efficient technologies and carbon reduction strategies. • The Energy Efficiency 	<p>managed by the LEO. This will include a Digitalisation strategy for County Louth in 2026.</p> <p>Sector Specific Initiatives include: Sector specific Management Development training Programmes tailored to key sectors of retail, craft, food, and childcare.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Academy and Food Starter • Food service MDP • Showcase - Ireland's Creative Expo and one of the country's largest international trade shows. • Boyne Innovate – MDP for Digital Start Ups • AI for Smarter Business (Industry specific) • Innovate Accelerate (for Immersive industry) included overseas visit to German market <p>Each programme contains 1:1 mentoring with sector-specific experts. Attendance and engagement tracked throughout.</p> <p>Sustainability Metrics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Green for Micro continues to be well received. • Participating businesses receive tailored sustainability plans and
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			Grant complements this by funding upgrades such as smart energy controls, lighting improvements, and equipment replacement.	expert guidance, with many adopting energy-efficient technologies and carbon reduction strategies. • The Energy Efficiency Grant complements this by funding upgrades such as smart energy controls, lighting improvements, and equipment replacement.
Economic Development and Tourism				
Economic Development	Generate economic growth and diversification of local and regional economies	Delivery of Council led economic actions as set out in Louth LECP 2024-2029. Detailed on pages 87-108 at the link below: https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/publications/local-economic-community-plan/ Coordinate the Forum to meet on six occasions.	- 3 meetings incl a workshop to review the workplan for the LEF took place - Support nightlife: Meetings currently being held by the Drogheda Night Time Economy Advisor with business groups in Dundalk and Ardee - Links with IDA, EI, FI etc are being maintained by the Economic Delivery Directorate and via LEF meetings	4 meetings and 1 workshop of the Louth Economic Forum held Continued activation of the nighttime economy in Drogheda and successfully retaining the purple flag, an accreditation awarded to towns with a well-managed nighttime economy, a safe and welcoming destination. Collaboration and information sharing continuing with IDA, Enterprise Ireland, Failte Ireland and the Sustainable Energy Authority of



				Ireland through the Louth Economic Forum
Tourism	Collaborate with Fáilte Ireland and other state agencies together with local operators and communities to develop and promote our tourism offering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation and delivery of Louth Tourism strategy 2025-2029; • Delivery of Louth element of Boyne Valley Tourism strategy 2024-2030, detailed at the link: https://www.discoverboynevalley.ie/tourism-strategy • Tourism related actions incorporated in Louth LECP 2024-2029 Detailed on pages 87-108 at the link below: https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/publications/local-economic-community-plan/ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tourism Strategy is currently in draft form, will be presented to Council in Q4 - Working with Meath County Council to enact Louth element of the Boyne Valley Tourism strategy. - Full rebrand of Visit Louth completed in February 2025. Continuous promotion of the brand has resulted in a large increase of visitors to the website. - Increase in number of Festivals supported rose from 24 in 2024 to 64 in 2025. - LEF to meet with Eirgrid to receive update on capacity/supply. 	<p>Consultation, stakeholder engagement and drafts of long and short versions of the County Tourism strategy completed in 2025 with launch to take place in Q1 2026</p> <p>Collaboration with Meath County Council continuing the delivery of the Boyne Valley Tourism Strategy and Boyne Valley Flavours initiative</p> <p>Visit Louth rebranding, new website and social media successfully delivered with an increase of 58% in followers and 52% in information accessed.</p> <p>€146,425 allocated to 65 festivals throughout the County</p> <p>Eirgrid provided a detailed presentation to the Louth Economic Forum at the November meeting outlining their strategy and developments for the national grid developments with specific relevance to Louth</p>



Planning				
Development Management	1. Deliver effective and timely pre-planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve four week turn around on all S247 requests • Mapping of all requests • Records available for all meetings 	159 pre-planning proposals received up to 30 th June 2025. All pre-planning proposals are mapped and records retained. Whilst it remains an objective to respond to all pre-planning proposals within 4 weeks, this is not always feasible due to a range of factors including resources and the complexity of the proposals. The 4 week response turn around does however remain an objective.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 275 pre-planning proposals received up to 31st December 2025. All pre-planning proposals are mapped and records retained. Whilst it remains an objective to respond to all pre-planning proposals within 4 weeks, this is not always feasible due to a range of factors including resources and the complexity of the proposals. The 4-week response turn around does however remain an objective.
	2. Ensure robust decision making on planning applications within statutory time frames	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet statutory timeframes; • Number of appeals upheld (NOAC): • Successfully defend any Judicial Review taken. 	All planning applications are assessed in accordance with legislative requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All planning applications are assessed in accordance with legislative requirements.



Land Activation	1. Implement effective land activation tools to address dereliction, vacancy and planning health and safety in public areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspections • Collection of relevant taxes & levies • Number of properties entered and removed from the Derelict Sites Register. • Number of Compulsory Purchase Order/Acquisitions • Monitoring of vacancy rates within County 	<p>25 Derelict Sites cases opened between 1st January and 30th June 2025. This included 21 section 8 (Intention) Notices and 4 section 8 (Entry) Notices.</p> <p>28 Dangerous Structures Notices were issued between 1st January and 30th June 2025.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 62 Derelict Sites cases opened between 1st January and 31st of December. This included 62 section 8 (Intention) Notices and 30 section 8 (Entry) Notices. • No Derelict Sites Levies collected. • Part of the role of the Compliance and Land Activation unit is determine properties that are derelict under the Act. This allows Placemaking to progress CPO Acquisitions and monitoring of vacancy (other than identifying land subject to RZLT in 2025) • 6 properties were removed from the Derelict Sites Register in 2025 • 45 Dangerous Structures Notices were issued between 1st January and December 2025
	2. Ensure efficient management of all alleged unauthorised development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of cases received • Number of warning and enforcement notices issued 	<p>143 complaints were received between 1st January and 30th June 2025.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 283 complaints were received between 1st January and 31st December 2025.



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Resolution of unauthorised developments 	134 Warning Letters and 6 Enforcement Notices issued between 1 st January and 30 th June 2025.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 134 Warning Letters and 7 Enforcement Notices issued between 1st January and 31st of December 2025
Forward Planning	1. Deliver population and economic growth in line with settlement hierarchy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Achieve core strategy targets •Deliver on policy objectives in CDP 	The Forward Planning Team continues to monitor residential development in the County including permissions granted and units completed. Between 1 st January and 30 th June 2025 there were 439 housing units completed in the County.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Forward Planning Team continues to monitor residential development in the County, including permissions granted and units completed. Between 1st January and 31st December 2025, there were 1,541 housing units completed in the County. • The Dundalk Local Area Plan was adopted in March 2025 and Variation No. 3 to the CDP incorporating amendments agreed as part of the Dundalk LAP into the County Development Plan was adopted in October 2025
	2. Ensure delivery of necessary social and physical infrastructure to support new developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Delivery of key infrastructure as identified in the Louth County Development Plan •Engagement with service and utility providers •Adequate availability of services as required 	The Forward Planning Team has regular engagement with key stakeholders and infrastructure providers with regards to infrastructure availability, constraints, and investment requirements for settlements throughout the County, with a particular focus for the areas identified for growth in national,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The County Development Plan review commenced in September 2025, with the Strategic Issues Paper being published as part of the pre-draft public consultation. • The Forward Planning Team has regular engagement with key stakeholders and infrastructure providers with regards to infrastructure availability, constraints, and



			regional, and county development plans.	investment requirements for settlements throughout the County, with a particular focus for the areas identified for growth in national, regional, and county development plans.
Fire Service and Building Control				
Fire Service Operations	1. Deliver an efficient and effective Fire Fighting Service in Louth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost of the Fire Service (NOAC) • Mobilisation Time (NOAC) • Attendance Time (NOAC) 	€85.89 pp 1min 25 sec (FT) & 5min (RET) (no change) 72% Incidents <10min 22% Incidents <20min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End of Year Figures to be supplied by ERCC - not available as of 06/02/3036



			(no change)	
Fire Prevention	1. Deliver a quality Fire Prevention Service in Louth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Inspections and Advice •Enforcement where required •Public Assembly Licensing 	<p>Ongoing Work as per demand</p> <p>Closure & Fire Safet Notices issued as required</p> <p><20 Public Assembly licencing in 2025</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing Work as per demand • Closure & Fire Safety Notices issued as required. • 5 Closure Notices Issued • 0 Fire Safety Notices • 17 premises were inspected in Sept/Oct 2025. 1 application adjourned and 2 ongoing
	2. Implement Fire Safety Certification for New Developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of Applications received and not withdrawn (NOAC) • Number of Applications decided on within the statutory period (60 days) (NOAC) •Inspections of new developments 	<p>97 year to date applications received</p> <p>60% - staff reductions</p> <p>Undertaken on risk based process and fire safety plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 136 Applications received 2025 • 61 Granted within statutory period and a further 9 to be reviewed within the statutory period. (17th Feb 2026) • FP staff resources reduction during May – Oct 2025 affected KPi
	1. Implement Disabled Access Certification for New Developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of DAC Applications received and not withdrawn 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 115 Applications received in 2025.



Building Control		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Number of DAC Applications decided on within the statutory period (60 days) •Inspections 	<p>75 year to date applications received</p> <p>70%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 81 granted within the statutory period, and a further 9 applications within the statutory period. (17th Feb) • Staffing reduction between April – Oct affected this KPI
	2. Enforce Building Regulations	<p>Number of inspections (Requirement is 12-15% of developments)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •All Commencement Notices checked. •All Certificates of Compliance on Completion checked. •Enforcement where required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40 • Yes • Yes • 0 required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16.4% - (73/444 x100) total new units notified to BCA • Yes • Yes • 0 Required