



Comhairle Contae **Lú**
Louth County Council

Annual Service Delivery Plan 2025 – Mid Year Progress
Update



Principle Service Objectives Support Services

Functional Area	Performance Goals	Measurement Methodology	Mid Year Review Update
<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>
<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 through the development of ICT systems.</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 review.



<p>Accounts Payable</p>	<p>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</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Target is to increase the number of invoices paid with 15 days to 95% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to June 2025 the percentage of payments paid within 15 days was 98%
<p>Procurement</p>	<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.



Information Technology			
Digital Services	<ol style="list-style-type: none">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 service2. Through the provision of digital tools and skills to staff, enable them to deliver their service in a digital way and improve operational efficiency	<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.
Data	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To enable the council to make data driven decisions through the provision of real time dynamic data dashboards.	<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. 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.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.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 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.



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.
	2. Deliver on the Goals of the PPN.	• Number of active groups within the PPN	619
	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.
	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.
	5. Maximise and deliver available community funding streams	• Number of Community Projects commenced in 2025 arising from national funding streams	125 Groups allocated €227,247 under Local Enhancement Programme
	6. Deliver for the youth of Louth	• 100% of Schools to be engaged in Comhairle na nÓg.	All 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.
	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.
Integration	1. Co-ordinate response to Ukraine Humanitarian crisis and Migrant Integration	<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>
Community Safety	1. Co-ordinate Community Safety Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish Committee and implement a Meeting Structure for 2025 	The establishment of the committee and meeting structure is in train following publication of guidance.
	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
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



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>
	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>
	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>
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 health and safety best practice across the organisation.</p>



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 2024) Watch Time: 121.8 hours (100% increase on 2024)</p> <p>Press Releases January 1st-June 30th Issued: 90</p>
	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>Media Queries January 1st-June 30th Received: 154 Responses issued: 132 Rate of responses to queries received: 85.7%</p>



			Interview requests: 20
	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 	3 to include: Instagram: established April 10th - 594 Followers Facebook: established June 5th - 632 Followers WhatsApp Channel (pilot for Elected Members, MT, Seniors): established June 10th - 48 Users
Customer Services		<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 	86% (From Jan -June 2025 18,453 cases received of which 15,866 responded to within 10 days) 71% (From Jan-June 2025 1,884 cases received of which 1,339 responded to within 5 days).
Data Protection & Information Compliance (formerly 'Redress')	1. Ensure transparency is upheld and that all areas of Redress within the Council are complied with.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of Redress Matters responded to within policy or required timeframes. 	FOIs: 95% (At end June: 76 FOI requests received of which 72 responded to within statutory timeframes). DSARs: 100% (At end June 37 DSARs received all of which were responded 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 	Three audits completed. Internal audit section currently reviewing all outstanding audit recommendations to ensure that they are still relevant and not superseded.
	1. Support local democracy and the interests of the community by assisting the role of the elected representative and maintain an	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of citizens registered on the Rolling Electoral Register • % of voters with PPS Number, Date 	99,967 citizens on the Rolling Register of Electors PPSN: 22.1%



	accurate and up to date register of electors	of Birth and Eircode	DOB: 98.4% Eircode: 99.97%
Animal Control and Welfare Services			
Control of Animals	1. Management of the Control of Dogs and Horses function.	• Number of FPNs issued for offences under Control of Dogs	153
		• % of unclaimed or surrendered dogs re-homed	100%
Sustainability			
Climate Action	1. Implement Climate Action plan	• % of 2025 Actions delivered	53% of 2025 actions in the LCC Climate Action plan are completed at this stage
	2. Prepare for development of next Climate Action Plan	• % 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.
	3. Implement Dundalk Decarbonizing Zone	• % 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 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.
	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. 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>
	3. Ensure a high-quality environment through effective environmental enforcement activities.	<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 sampling 2. Discharge licence inspections 3. Discharge licence monitoring results assessment 4. Catchment monitoring and investigative monitoring. 5. Septic tank inspections 6. Farm inspections 7. Decorative paints regulations 8. Petroleum vapour regulations 9. Planning reports 10. Smokey coal regulations-retail premises 11. Bathing water regulation



			<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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvements in Natural Water Body Status 	<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> <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> <p>(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</p>



			<p>was acceptable. A number of prohibition notices 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>
	5. Rural Water: perform roles of advisor, regulator and grant administrator to Group Water schemes and small private supplies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of MARWP targets 	<p>MWARP function transferred to Environment Section, works ongoing</p> <p>60 Well Grants approved to date in 2025 - €142,402.19</p>
Facilities and Energy Management	1. Maximise Energy Efficiency Improvement beyond 50% by 2030	<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 – 6 months Programme dependent on applications to ESB for microgeneration agreements for 9 of those sites.</p>
	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>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</p>



			<p>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 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>
	3. 1.9% Absolute energy use reduction year on year	<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. 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 Lighting improvements by replacing failed bulbs with low energy bulbs typically generates reductions of 175,000KWhrs 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.</p> <p>Louth County Council's Total Final Energy 2024 = 16</p>



Fleet	1. Electrify the small vehicle fleet.	• Replace 20 of our diesel vehicles with electric vehicles in 2025	22 Vehicles purchased
	2. Move all large vehicles to more sustainable fuel through the lifetime of this plan	• 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.

Principle Service Objectives – Social Development

Functional Area	Performance Goals	Measurement Methodology	Mid Year Review Update
Housing			
Housing Supply: Social & Affordable Housing	<p>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.</p> <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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver on DHLGH targets for 2025 i.e. no. of units to be delivered across the various mechanisms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Social – 172 ○ Affordable – 55 ○ Leasing – 3 ○ RAS – 15 ○ R&L – 2 • Complete Muirhevnamór infill scheme – 11 units • Complete Phase 2 of Boice Court and Phase 1 of Mount Avenue direct build schemes • Advance on-site delivery of 4 x ADPs schemes – 271 units 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery to date: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ On track to achieve social housing target with 86 units delivered to date ○ 7 affordable units sold to date with further 8 units in sales process. Further schemes in pipeline • Muirhevnamór infill scheme – complete with tenants allocated • 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 • ADP schemes – all projects on-site and advancing as per works schedule



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commence on-site delivery of Point Road, Dundalk scheme – 44 units) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Point Road, Dundalk – project subject to Judicial Review
Homeless Services	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the Homelessness Action Plan Continue the roll-out of the HAP Place-finder Service. Continue to deliver Housing First in conjunction with our partners. Pursue innovative solutions to address homelessness in the county. Lead the Northeast Regional Homeless Forum and carry out the reporting responsibilities to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor the no. of entries and exits from homelessness and build on no. of tenancies sustained Monitor the no. of Homeless HAP placements secured and sustained Maintain no. and further support Housing First tenancies Review best practice in addressing homelessness in other local authority areas and jurisdictions Hold quarterly interagency Regional Homelessness Forum meetings 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 21 singles and 46 family homeless HAP placements. 3 new Housing First tenancies. Ongoing liaison with regional lead authorities for purposes of learnings and best practice. Quarterly meetings being held.
Addressing Vacancy: Refurbishment & Maintenance	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Maximise availability and utilisation of existing housing stock through inspection, repair and refurbishment. Continue the delivery of the Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme (EERP). Ensure private rental properties meet the required standards. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver no. of units allocated for Voids/Planned Maintenance by DHLGH in 2025 – 54 Deliver no. of retrofit units allocated for EERP by DHLGH in 2025 – 140 units Achieve DHLGH target for private rental inspections – 1,881 Continue to improve on our response time for necessary reactive maintenance repairs Review methods to raise awareness of tenant obligations regarding maintenance issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On track to deliver allocated number of 54 Voids/48 Planned Maintenance units and Stock Condition Surveys On track to deliver allocated number of 140 EERP units On track to deliver private rental inspection targets (1,240 number inspected to date) 5,441 number reactive maintenance repair requests completed in comparison to 2,914 number of same period last year (46% increase) Letters issued to 240 tenants advising them as to their responsibility on maintenance issues



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to reduce average re-letting time (34.5 weeks in 2023) and no. of vacant LA owned units (2.9% in 2023) 	
Traveller Accommodation	1. Support members of the Travelling community to access social housing supports.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	On track to achieve exceed social housing and group housing targets
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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Process disabled persons grant in line with annual DHLGH funding and continue to reduce processing time Deliver on DHLGH approved adaptations to local authority units 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 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> On track to commit and recoup annual funding On track to deliver on number of approved adaptations On track to achieve disability targets
Tenancy Engagement & Customer Support	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Provide eligible persons with access to social housing supports, engage with and support existing tenants. Provide support to, and engage with, new and existing tenants and residents' committees/associations. Support eligible persons to access Local Authority Home Loans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximise use of CBL within context of various categories of allocations Bring draft revised Allocation Scheme to SPC and Council for consideration and adoption Undertake the annual Social Housing Needs Assessment in accordance with DHLGH guidelines Consider methods/models to establish and maintain new residents' committees/associations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 168 units allocated via CBL in 2025 (70 units allocated via CBL in same period in 2024) Draft Allocation Scheme will be brought to SPC and Council in Quarters 3 & 4 Social Housing Needs Assessment will be undertaken as per DHLGH requirements Estate Management team actively working with a view to establishing new residents' committees/associations in both new and established estates



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issue Home Loans as appropriate in line with scheme criteria and within DHLGH allocation for 2025 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Home Loans issuing as appropriate - €1,938,522 approved to first half of 2025
CULTURAL SERVICES			
Library Service	<p>1. Implement the actions in 'The Library is the Place' The National Public Library Strategy 2023 – 2027 - 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to increase visitor & membership figures by way of innovative programmes and outreach & stakeholder collaboration 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broader outreach programme in place. Increase in opening hours in Dunleer library. 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>Arts Service</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue to develop and enhance the Arts Service which supports a vibrant arts infrastructure in the county and wider region. 2. Promote a society which values the arts and recognises their positive contribution to individuals and communities. 3. Deliver the Creative Ireland programme in Co. Louth. 	<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.
<p>Archives Service</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Manage the identification, preservation and availability of the County's public and private archives. 2. Identify those archives which constitute a unique and valuable source of information. 3. Permanently preserve archives under optimum conditions. 4. Provide access to collections. 5. Continue to prioritise the maintenance of the building. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade archive cataloguing system • Complete project on digitalisation of Drogheda Corporation minute books • 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional testing work for the cataloguing system upgrade has recently been completed, and it is expected that the final migration will take place soon. • 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.



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

Functional Area	Performance Goals	Measurement Methodology	Mid Year Review Update
Physical Development			
<p>Flood Defence & Coastal Erosion</p>	<p>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</p>	<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



	<p>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</p>	<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
<p>Road & Greenway Projects</p>	<p>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</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PANCR Phase 2 commenced ▪ N53 Upgrade Commenced ▪ Boyne Enterprise Link Road Complete ▪ R178 Improvement Scheme – Option Phase complete 	<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 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 ▪ 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



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Narrow Water Bridge – project milestones reached as per Programme 	
	<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 Phase c 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
<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 Drogheda Pathfinder 	<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. Publication of Request for Tenders due to occur in September Detailed design currently being completed in order to inform tender documents. Publication of



		<p>tender process complete</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 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)	<p>Request for Tenders due to occur in December</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Section 38 Process complete. Tender process commenced. Works anticipated to commence in September• Design team expected to be appointed Q4 2025



Public Realm			
Town Centre First	<p>To work with communities to initiate and set up community-based Town Teams Engage with all elements of the community ensuring all groups are included</p> <p>Deliver community driven Town Centre First Plans that assist in creating thriving and resilient town centres</p> <p>Assist towns in applying for funding and delivering capital projects in their rural areas</p> <p>Create a pipeline of community driven projects throughout the County</p>	<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, Drogheda) 	<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 Westgate House. Application for capital funding under Strand 2 submitted with funding announcements expected in September 2025
Vacant Homes	<p>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</p> <p>To collect, monitor and assess vacancy data locally and use that data to encourage activation of properties</p>	<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 	<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



	Co-ordinate and engage with local authority multidisciplinary teams to assist in bringing vacant properties into productive use.	<p>sites in Drogheda & Dundalk complete</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CPO process commenced on 5 vacant/derelict properties 	<p>on same</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 properties now identified with a view to commencing process in Q4 2025
Play Facilities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. Increase opportunities for play for older children/teenagers 	<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
Rural Capital Delivery Team	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Delivery of sustainable, accessible and community led projects Increase engagement with local communities through animation and communication Ensure the pursuit of all funding opportunities to revitalise town centres 	<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>



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>
	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
	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.
	4. Operate an effective Road Licensing system	<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 	Ongoing project, up to date.
	5. Develop strategy on EV charging infrastructure and implement EV charging infrastructure in public spaces in the county	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EV Strategy complete and implementation plan drafted 	Draft EV Strategy 80% Complete for Region. To be complete by end of Q4 2025.



			EV Charging points installed in Fair St, Drogheda and Greenore, North Louth.
	6. Increase productive use of low energy materials, reclaimed, recycled, reused in road and footpath construction eg RAP, warm mixes, recycled aggregates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of RAP and Warm mixes deployed in Louth's Roads Programme 	RAP project commencing 15 th Sept, on target to be completed in Q4 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>
	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 	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.



Road Safety	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	Non-Statutory Consultation Complete. Awaiting further guidance from Dept. Work ongoing.
	3. Promote road safety implementation with the Council's partners HSE, TII, AGS, DoT and Elected Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none">'Road Safety Together' (RSWTG) meetings & Collision Prevention meetings (x 4)No. of actions within Road Safety Strategy implemented	3 meetings out of 4 complete. 51 actions in the Road Safety Plan in 2025 -36 Actions Complete -5 Partially Complete -10 Incomplete
	4. Maximise the number of road safety engineering interventions carried out annually in order to reduce road traffic collisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">11 Safety Improvement Works schemes completed5 Traffic Calming Measures schemes completed	50% complete. 50% complete.



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
	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
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.
	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



Principle Service Objectives Strategic Economic Development

Functional Area	Performance Goals	Measurement Methodology	Mid Year Review update
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 Ukraine 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, Showcase, Lunch and Learns (in person information sessions across the county for people to gain information on LEO supports) • Networking Events Feedback:



			<p>Feedback from training and networking events has been consistently positive. This is measured through surveys an QR codes.</p>
<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 Advise 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 • 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>	<p>1. Offer financial and non-financial supports to enhance business capabilities</p> <p>2. Administer grants and funding programs to support business development</p> <p>3. Facilitate access to microfinance loans for eligible businesses</p> <p>4. Provide resources for digital transformation and innovation initiatives</p>	<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>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>
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<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 4. Promote sustainable business practices to ensure long-term economic health 	<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 - Assess adoption of sustainable practices among supported businesses 	<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 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northeast Regional Enterprise Programme • DDIH • Broadband Officer • Sector Specific Initiatives include: Sector specific Management Development training Programmes tailored to key sectors retail, craft, food, and childcare. <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.
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Boyne Innovate – Management Development Programme for Digital Start Ups• AI for Smarter Business (Industry specific)• (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 Grant complements this by funding upgrades such as smart energy controls, lighting improvements, and equipment replacement.
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Economic Development and Tourism			
<p>Economic Development</p>	<p>Generate economic growth and diversification of local and regional economies</p>	<p>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/</p> <p>Coordinate the Forum to meet on six occasions.</p>	<p>- 3 meetings incl a workshop to review the workplan for the LEF took place</p> <p>- Support nightlife: Meetings currently being held by the Drogheda Night Time Economy Advisor with business groups in Dundalk and Ardee</p> <p>- Links with IDA, EI, FI etc are being maintained by the Economic Delivery Directorate and via LEF meetings</p>
<p>Tourism</p>	<p>Collaborate with Failte Ireland and other state agencies together with local operators and communities to develop and promote our tourism offering</p>	<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/ 	<p>- Tourism Strategy is currently in draft form, will be presented to Council in Q4</p> <p>- Working with Meath County Council to enact Louth element of the Boyne Valley Tourism strategy.</p> <p>- 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.</p> <p>- Increase in number of Festivals supported rose from 24 in 2024 to 64 in 2025.</p>



			- LEF to meet with Eirgrid to receive update on capacity/supply.
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.
	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.
	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>



Land Activation	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 •Resolution of unauthorised developments 	<p>143 complaints were received between 1st January and 30th June 2025.</p> <p>134 Warning Letters and 6 Enforcement Notices issued between 1st January and 30th June 2025.</p>
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.
	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, 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) 	<p>€85.89 pp</p> <p>1min 25 sec (FT) & 5min (RET) (no change)</p> <p>72% Incidents <10min 22% Incidents <20min</p>



			(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>
	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>
	1. Implement Disabled Access Certification for New Developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of DAC Applications received and not withdrawn •Number of DAC Applications decided on within the statutory period 	75 year to date applications received



Building Control		(60 days) •Inspections	70%
	2. Enforce Building Regulations	Number of inspections (Requirement is 12-15% of developments) •All Commencement Notices checked. •All Certificates of Compliance on Completion checked. •Enforcement where required	40 Yes Yes 0 required