



Comhairle Contae **Lú**
Louth County Council

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

**Dated 7 Febraury 2022
7 Feabhra 2022**

Contents / Clár Ábhar

<u>Finance & Water Services / Airgeadas & Seirbhísí Uisce</u>	3
Financial Reports / Tuairiscí Airgeadais	
Water Services / Seirbhísí Uisce	
<u>Planning, Infrastructure and Economic Development / Pleanáil, Bonneagar agus Forbairt Eacnamaíoch</u>	8
Economic Development / Forbairt Eacnamaíoch	
Local Enterprise Office / Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil	
European Relations / Caidreamh Eorpach	
Infrastructure / Bonneagar	
Planning / Pleanáil	
Development Management / Bainistíocht Forbartha	
Planning Enforcement / Forfheidhmiúcháin	
Forward Planning / Pleanáil Chun Cinn	
<u>Operations & Waste Management / Oibríochtaí agus Bainistíocht Dramháil</u>	28
Operations / Oibríochtaí	
Waste Management / Bainistíocht Dramháil	
Air, Water and Noise Pollution / Triuilliú Aeir, Uisce agus ó Thorann	
Environment / Timpeallacht	
Veterinary Services / Seirbhísí Tréidliachta	
<u>Corporate and Emergency Services / Seirbhísí Corparáideacha agus Éigeandála</u>	54
Corporate Services / Seirbhísí Corparáideacha	
Sustainable Energy / Fuinneamh Inbhunaithe	
Fire & Emergency Services / Seirbhísí Dóiteáin agus Éigeandála	
Civil Defence / Cosaint Shibhialta	
<u>Housing and Quality of Life / Tithíocht agus Cáilíocht na Beatha</u>	64
Housing / Tithíocht	
Communities & Sport / Pobail agus Spórt	
Quality of Life / Cáilíocht na Beatha	
Libraries / Leabharlanna	
Archives / An Chartlann	
Museum / An Iarsmalann	
Heritage / Oidhreacht	
Arts / Na hEalaíona	

Finance and Water Services Airgeadas agus Seirbhísí Uisce

This Directorate ensures that the financial management of the Council is carried out in an efficient and timely manner, compliant with all relevant legislation, and that all of the activities and programmes of the Council represent good value for money for all the citizens of Louth.

Other responsibilities include Motor Tax and Water Services.

Cintíonn an Stiúrthóireacht seo go bhfuil bainistíocht airgeadas an Chomhairle déanta ar bhealach éifeachtach agus tráthúil, comhlíontach leis an dlí ábhartha, agus go bhfuil luach ar airgead bainte as gach gníomhaíocht agus clár ag an gComhairle, thar ceann shaoránaigh Lú.

Ina chuid den freagrachtaí eile ná Mótarcháin agus Seirbhísí Uisce.

Bernie Woods
Director / Stiúrthóir



FINANCE

Expenditure to 31st January 2022

Section	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE TO 31/01/22	BUDGET EXPENDITURE 2022	% SPENT TO 31/1/22
Housing	2,821,596	47,728,898	6%
Road Transportation & Safety	1,874,334	26,126,012	7%
Water Services	822,548	8,379,633	10%
Development Management	1,146,183	17,331,075	7%
Environmental Services	1,446,190	19,413,023	7%
Recreation and Amenity	664,089	9,615,255	7%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	79,335	1,203,454	7%
Miscellaneous	471,587	10,474,400	5%
	9,325,860	140,271,750	7%

Income to 31st January 2022

Section	ACTUAL INCOME TO 31/1/22	BUDGET INCOME 2022	% INVOICED TO 31/1/22
Housing	2,777,234	48,920,854	6%
Road Transportation & Safety	277,393	16,718,183	2%
Water Services	154,386	8,110,634	2%
Development Management	371,808	10,250,958	4%
Environmental Services	162,726	2,253,742	7%
Recreation and Amenity	33,402	1,043,293	3%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	15,713	479,424	3%
Miscellaneous	110,537	7,097,818	2%
Rates	34,988,114	35,030,647	100%
General Purpose Grant (LPT)	0	9,866,198	0%
Provision for Debit Balance	0	500,000	0%
	38,891,313	140,271,750	28%

The above is the current position as at the 31st January 2022. The allocation of the Central Management Charge is estimated in the above figures as the allocation is not completed till mid-month. The full rates demand for 2022 is included in the above figure.

Collection rates as at 31st January 2022 are as follows:

Debtors as at 31st January 2022

	Opening Balance	Invoices	Receipts	Write Offs	Closing Balance
Government Debtors	12,516,176	1,371,808	(6,490,361)	0	7,397,623
Other Local Authorities	53,434	22,581	(3,800)	0	72,215
Rates	9,918,872	34,988,114	(1,322,650)	0	43,584,336
Rents	2,517,294	1,016,790	(1,083,967)	0	2,450,117
Loans	241,004	149,812	(161,490)	0	229,326
Fire Charges	733,913	56,964	(21,462)	0	769,415
Miscellaneous	1,231,154	1,885,017	(277,142)	64	2,839,093
TOTAL DEBTORS	27,211,847	39,491,086	(9,360,872)	64	57,342,125

Above is the debtor balances as at the 31st January 2022. The Miscellaneous debtor figure includes the Irish Water SLA recoupments, Corporate, Community & Enterprise, LEO, Planning, Enforcement, Environment, Sports, Vets, Arts, Roads, Library, Museum and Finance miscellaneous billings.

2021 Annual Financial Statement

Work has commenced on the 2021 Annual Financial Statement and the above figures will change when year end accruals and claims are posted. Once completed the Annual Financial Statement will be presented to Council.

Water Services

WATER CONSERVATION

Water conservation is ongoing throughout the County.

Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

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

CAPITAL PROGRAMMES

Irish Water refers to the different phases of a capital project as Gates 1, 2, 3 or 4.

Gate 1 - Concept Design,

Gate 2 - Detailed design, preparation of contract documents, planning approval and procurement,

Gate 3 - Construction stage,

Gate 4 - Snagging and project sign off.

Tallanstown Rationalisation

Detailed Design is being progressed by Ryan Hanley Consulting Engineers. LCC are liaising with IW and Consultants to advance the project. The Stage 4 workshop has been completed. LCC Roads Section continues to engage with IW and the design team to support the project. It is proposed to go to Tender Q1 2022 with anticipated completion by end 2022. Project to include works at Mullacrew Reservoir, new PS at Allardstown and new PS at Bannons Cross.

Cavanhill WTW Upgrade

LCC and IW are currently negotiating the phased transition from the DBO contract to Operations control. LCC are currently recruiting additional staff to be trained by the DBO Contractor/IW in order to manage and operate Cavan Hill WTP once the facility is taken back in charge by the LA under the Service Level Agreement.

Staleen WTW Upgrade

LCC and IW are currently negotiating the phased transition from the DBO contract to Operations control. LCC are currently recruiting additional staff

to be trained by the DBO Contractor/IW in order to manage and operate Staleen WTP once the facility is taken back in charge by the LA under the Service Level Agreement.

Omeath WWTW

Site mobilisation and setup of site compound has been completed. Construction Phase has commenced. Project programmed for completion January 2023.

Shared Waters Enhancement and Loughs Legacy (SWELL)

Re-lining works commenced Dec 2021 and to be completed early 2022. IW to consider further surface water separation.

Regional Sewer Network Rehabilitation

Programme for 2021 completed. Further network surveys to be progressed under 2022 programme for Louth.

Dundalk Drainage Area Plan (DAP)

DAP Workshop Stage 3 with Irish Water, Louth County Council and Arups Consulting Engineers was completed in September 2021 to review the progress on the survey and modelling project. LCC Operations staff continues to liaise with IW and Consultants with network verifications. Key risks identified from stage 3 to be taken forward to stage 4 and options identified to address risks.

Dundalk East Strategy – In advance of completion of Dundalk DAP

Consultants are currently progressing the design with IW in consultation with Louth County Council. The Site Investigation and GPR Survey is now complete. The detailed design will be dependent on data provided by Dundalk DAP

Coe's Road Pumping Station

Operational modifications to the Pumping Station were undertaken by EPS. Options for cleaning of existing large diameter sewer currently under review with IW.

Dundalk LNRP

Strategic Review underway for Dundalk WWTP and Blackrock WWTP to facilitate progressing the Local Network Reinforcement Programme.

Drogheda LNRP

Works including the provision of Non-Return Valves on the 3 no outfalls and an Event Duration Monitor are being progressed.

North Drogheda Wastewater Network Strategy

Atkins Consulting Engineers are progressing the Detailed Design of the North Drogheda Strategic Wastewater Network. Workshop 4 was completed in Dec 2021. Liaison with Local Authority Planning Section is progressing. Planning and procurement process to progress through 2022.

Quay St/ St. Helena Rising Main, Dundalk

Detailed Design is being advanced by the IW Consultants with the next Design Workshop completed in January 2022. Detailed design will be dependent on data provided by Dundalk DAP. Procurement of Contractors is ongoing with commencement on site due in Q1 2022.

Greenmount WTW Upgrade

Irish Water have commenced design of the Upgrade of Greenmount WTW. Initial Design Workshop completed.

Drogheda WWTP

IW is continuing to carry out works at Drogheda wastewater treatment plant and is committed to resolving any potential odour issues arising from the wastewater plant or the network. IW continues to work closely with EPS Limited who operate the Plant on behalf of Irish Water and Louth County Council.

Drogheda Drainage Area Plan (DAP)

IW are currently tendering for Consultant to undertake the Drogheda Drainage Area Plan. It is anticipated that Consultant will be appointed in Q1 and project to progress through 2022.

WATER NETWORKS

Water Networks Programme

Rehabilitation Programme

Work on the four rehabilitation schemes below is being undertaken through this program in January.

- Cast iron network replacement in Pearse Park Drogheda
- Cast iron network replacement in Sliabh Breagh – Ardee
- Cast iron network replacement in Tallanstown
- Design development for the slip lining of the watermain through the Bridge of Peace.

Lead replacement / Back Yard Services

Irish Water's Contractors are carrying out back yard service replacement in Pearse Park (Lourdes) - Drogheda in January.

First Fix

3 first fix type repairs were undertaken by Irish Water contractors in January.

Find & Fix

Louth County Council crews continued their Find and Fix program in Dundalk and Dunleer areas in January.

Water Scouring Programme 2022

Localised flushing only in January.

Network Maintenance

45 essential water tasks were carried out in January including 19 under our Find and Fix program (7 in Dundalk, 8 in Carlingford, 1 in Clogherhead and 3 in Collon).

Planning & Water Connections

The Networks Section processed 22 new connections, 12 Pre Connection Enquiries and 42 Planning Applications in January.

Service Maps

The Networks Section prepared 9 Service Maps in January.

Planning, Infrastructure, and Economic Development Pleanáil, Bonneagar agus Forbairt Eacnamaíoch

This Directorate has three key areas of responsibility:

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

Infrastructure, including our roads, bridges, and ports

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

Tá trí eochairfhreagracht ag an Stiúrthóireacht seo:

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

Bonneagar, ár mbóithre, ár ndroichid, agus ár gcalaphoirt san áireamh

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

Frank Pentony
Director / Stiúrthóir



Planning, Infrastructure & Economic Development

Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

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

- A new support for micro and small businesses in Louth to assist them develop their green and sustainable agenda was launched in 2021. Further details are available at <https://www.localenterprise.ie/green>.

Economic Development

Louth Economic Forum

The most recent meeting of the Louth Economic Forum took place on Wednesday 26th January, 2022. An overview of the process for the review of the LECF was given by C.Moss and the Chief Executive. A decision was also taken that each meeting in 2022 will focus on a particular area e.g. skills, enterprise etc. Relevant updates from the sectors were also given at the meeting.

Shopfront Improvement Grant Scheme 2022

A budget has been allocated for the scheme for 2022. Applications can be made as and from Monday 7th March, 2022.

Tourism

'Sea Louth'



Sea Louth bucket list - 22 things to do on the Sea Louth Scenic Seafood Trail in 2022 was published on the Sea Louth website in January, 2022 under the 'News' section.

The aim of this bucket list is to encourage tourists/ outdoor enthusiasts to start their very own scenic seafood trail adventure and take off on an unforgettable journey along our 70+ km long scenic coast, breathing in fresh sea air and eating the finest, local seafood along the way.

Fáilte Ireland Funding

Urban Animation

Work on the project which involves:

- An urban art trail with an audio story attached,
- A new Augmented Reality Trail – the first of its kind in Ireland and
- An animated lighting show which will run during festivals and other seasonal events.

With tenders due to be advertised early in 2022.

Destination Towns Capital Investment Programme

A request for tenders for the manufacture and installation of the signage was issued in January with tender responses due to be received in February.

Further works are ongoing on the project which is due to be completed in the summer of 2022.

The proposed signage will be focused on streets from Magdalene Tower to Millmount and from Westgate to St. Laurence's Gate in Drogheda town centre.

Boyne Valley Flavours

Boyne Valley Flavours have started the next phase of the Culinary Project by appointing consultant Lorraine O' Rahilly to look at the structure and next steps of the project. Findings of the workshops will be ready to be presented in March 2022.

A review of the Food & Drink Strategy for the Boyne Valley region is currently in the early planning stage.

LEO Louth

COVID-19 Business Supports



Updated information on the range of business supports available can be found at: www.LocalEnterprise.ie/Response.

Businesses seeking support from LEO Louth should email: info@leo.louthcoco.ie or they can call to our office at Town Hall, Dundalk.

'Look for Local' / 'Shop Local'

LEO continues to host a Louth 'shop local' online directory available at: www.louthcoco.ie/ShopLocal.

New businesses can be included on the Louth online directory by emailing: tradingonline@leo.louthcoco.ie.

Brexit Supports



LEO delivered a 'Prepare Your Business for Customs' workshop in January with 8 registered businesses, helping them prepare for the paperwork involved in trading with the UK post-Brexit.

Brexit Advisory Clinic:

Brexit Advisory Clinics, involving one to one meetings to help assess the impact of Brexit on Louth businesses, continue to be offered to local businesses. The aim of the clinic is to design a pathway to mitigate Brexit and access additional supports.

Microfinance Ireland Loan:

Microfinance Ireland is offering a Brexit Business Loan, via LEO, in order to support businesses that will be directly impacted by Brexit.

A full range of Brexit supports to help small businesses is offered by LEO Louth, all information can be found at:

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Louth/Brexit/>.

Border Stimulus Programmes to assist local businesses address Brexit and Covid challenges



During January, most of the business support programmes launched in 2021 concluded:

The 5 programmes were:

- Export Development Programme
- Financial Management Programme for owner managers
- Green for Micro-enterprise
- Innovation Programme for small businesses in Co. Louth.
- Superior Retailing Programme

Export Development Programme



The Export Development Programme concluded in January. The final reports are being prepared.

Financial Management Programme



The final one-to-one mentoring sessions under this programme concluded in January. The programme has been very successful with high attendance and extremely positive feedback from participants and mentors.

Green for Micro



The Green for Micro programme is a free programme which aims to help businesses identify cost savings and improve their green credentials. This is achieved by looking at the business from an environmental perspective.

Projects may vary from assessing energy, water and waste costs, guidance with environmental management system, to the greening of the product or business to adapt to the changing market place.

3 no. Louth businesses were approved in January, with another 1 no. business approved for a 'Phase II Grant' under the programme. The Grant Covers 50% of eligible costs (net of vat) to a max of €2,500.

LEO Louth continues to welcome new applications.

To create further awareness about the 'Green for Micro' programme LEO Louth contributed to a Webinar "Sustainability Made Easy", in conjunction with Dundalk Chamber of Commerce.

Innovation Programme



The Innovation Programme is designed for SME business leaders who have ambitions to embed innovation in their businesses. The programme which commenced in April is being delivered over a 7 month period.

The programme finished in December with the final report in draft and expected soon.

The feedback from the nine Louth participants has been extremely positive. Several of the businesses have exhibited potential and LEO Louth will continue to support them in 2022.

Business Training



During January, **3 no.** Start Your Own Business courses commenced with **45** registered participants. In addition a training course, 'Prepare Your Business for Customs' commenced with **8** registered participants.

In February, some of the business workshops on offer include; Accessing Finance, Food Starter Programme, Start Your Own Business and Bookkeeping for Small Business.

All training courses are available to view and book online:

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Louth/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/>.

LEO Louth Client Portfolio Review / Export Adviser Programme

Under this programme LEO has procured **3 no.** consultants who will engage with our portfolio clients during 2022.

The programme provides support to LEO portfolio clients to develop their export and growth potential, working with businesses to identify and pursue export opportunities and to ensure maximum uptake of LEO supports.

Trading Online Voucher Scheme



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

Trading Online training workshops to assist applicants apply continue to be delivered on a regional basis with Cavan and Monaghan LEOs. There were **7** applications in January.

Business Advice Clinics

36 business advice appointments were provided by telephone and video conference to entrepreneurs throughout the county during January.

LEO Louth Mentor Programme



The Mentor Programme is designed to match up the knowledge, skills, insights and entrepreneurial capability of experienced business practitioners with small business owner / managers who need practical and strategic one-to-one advice and guidance.

18 businesses were appointed Mentors during the month of January.

COVID-19 Microfinance Ireland Business Loan



LEO Louth offers expert assistance to clients to assist the completion of Microfinance Loan Application, Business Plan and Cashflow Projections.

During the month of January, **1 no.** loan was approved, an additional **1 no.** application for support received, and **1 no.** application was submitted to MFI.

LEO mentors are continuing to assist applicants.

Micro-Finance Ireland - New Electric Vehicle Taxi Loan



Microfinance Ireland have launched a new loan whereby Taxi owners who wish to buy an electric vehicle can now apply for loans of up to €25,000 from Microfinance Ireland.

Loans of between €5,000 and €25,000 will be available, with a 1% reduced Annual Percentage Rate if the application is made through the Local Enterprise Office. The loans will be up to 5 years. LEO Louth is accepting applications.

Innovate Accelerate Europe



The Innovate Accelerate Europe programme launched in October 2021, with **7** businesses from Louth participating. The cross-border programme is focused on small businesses as they will be among the most challenged by Brexit and Covid.

It is a 12 - 14 week programme with the primary features:

- Participating businesses get a free promotional video of their business which they can use for export campaigns.
- Each business will get to work with an international mentor and digital consultant to help improve their online enquiries / sales and export potential.
- A network of EU agents will set up meetings for each business with potential partners.
- The opportunity to attend a buyer's event and receive €400 towards the cost of attending or implementing a strategy adopted.

The programme is progressing with client mentoring nearly complete, while client filming is still ongoing. Covid-19 has delayed some of the participants' promotional videos being shot so the intention is that they will be completed by the first week of February.

The business to business meetings will take place at the end of February.

Student Enterprise Programme



The Student Enterprise Programme for the 2021 - 2022 academic year continued during January. Plans are being made for the county final which will

be held on 11th March during Local Enterprise Week.

LEO Louth is delivering this programme to students in all 19 no. post-primary schools throughout the county.

LEAN for Micro Programme



LEO Louth continues to offer the LEAN Programme to small businesses locally.

The programme helps businesses to identify issues and potential improvement areas and provides support to implement these as well as achieve savings and improvements in capability and capacity to deliver.

LEO approved **1 no.** application in January.

Co-Innovate Programme



Final clients on the Co-Innovate Programme continue to engage with the programme to assist them embed innovation in their business. In total **73** Louth businesses participated under Co-innovate.

Due to an extension of the programme into the early part of 2022 a further opportunity has arisen for additional clients to engage in the early stages of this programme and LEO continues to work on identifying suitable companies.

Craft Sector

LEO Louth is working with the national LEO / Design and Craft Council Ireland Committee in the design and roll out of sectoral training and opportunities for the design and craft community.

Louth companies will be able to apply to engage in training programmes, an e-Commerce bootcamp and an export focused programme over the next number of months.

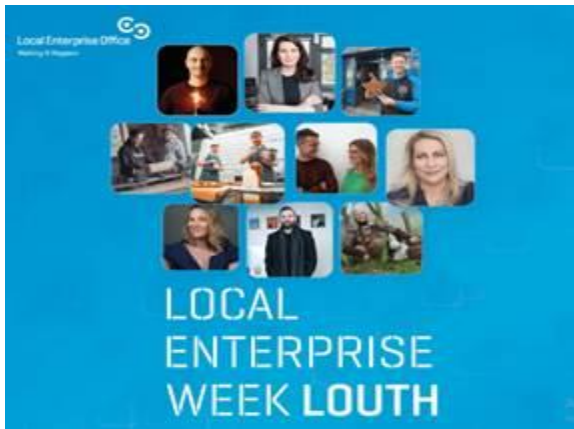
Showcase 2022

Showcase is the leading trade show for the craft and gift sector. LEO Louth will take 5 no. Louth craftmakers to the event to help connect them to Irish and international buyers on 27th February to 2nd March.

Regional Enterprise Plan - North East

Work continues on the implementation of the North East Regional Enterprise Plan to 2024. Four of the five working groups have met to date: Regional Identity, Transition to Digitalisation, SME Eco System – building capacity and capability and Transition to Low Carbon. Each of the working groups are chaired by private sector representation and are putting together work plans around each of the Plan's strategic objectives. A small sub-group has been established under Strategic Objective 5 – 'support remote working in the region' and are exploring opportunities around the creative industry sector. One of the priorities for the working groups is to promote existing Regional Enterprise Development Fund and Border Enterprise Development Fund projects and to support collaboration across these initiatives. Already a number of collaborative initiatives have been identified across the region. It is anticipated that the plan will be launched in late February and the *first meeting of the overall Steering Committee will take place in March.*

Local Enterprise Week Louth 2022



LEO Louth is in the planning stage for Local Enterprise Week which will run from 7th to 11th March with a range of national, regional and Louth based seminars and workshops on key areas of interest to businesses. LEO Louth is hosting one of the National Spotlight Events focusing on the Retail sector and the event will be opened by Minister Damien English- Minister for Business, Employment and Retail. The week will be a celebration of enterprise across the country and will highlight the supports available through the Local Enterprise Office Network.

Australian Ambassador visit to Louth

On 12th January 2022, The Australian Ambassador to Ireland, Mr. Gary Gray visited Co. Louth. Mr. Gray met Dundalk businesses to discuss opportunities with Australia.



Riona McCoy, Louth Local Enterprise Office with the Australian Ambassador the Honourable Gary Gray on 12th January, 2022

Cross Border Conference

The Local Enterprise Office in collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce Dundalk, Intertrade Ireland, Newry Chamber of Commerce, Newry, Mourne & Down District Council are organising a virtual Cross Border Conference to be held on Wednesday 9th March.

The Conference will be opened by the Cathaoirleach Pío Smith and will include an address by a Government Representative.

Two years after the end of the transition period, this Cross-Border Conference will provide businesses with an update on the challenges, opportunities and support available.

Key government representatives, policy officials and business advisors will set out the shape of future cross-border co-operation and trade for businesses.

Brexit and Covid-19 have brought unprecedented change to the global trading environment. What help is available for businesses involved North / South trade?

Case studies will demonstrate how businesses, both North and South have overcome significant challenges, using the supports available to navigate the changes in trade flows and identify opportunities for growth.

Places are free and can be booked at: <https://www.dundalk.ie/>.

Enterprise Ireland Strategy 2022 - 2024

EI's strategy, 'Leading in a changing world', which outlines the strategic priorities for the Local Enterprise Offices was launched in January.

Drogheda Implementation Board

LEO Louth convened the inaugural meeting of the enterprise, employment and business sub-group of the Drogheda Implementation Board in January, at which all the enterprise, tourism and employment public bodies were represented.

Regional Skills Forum

LEO attended the North East Regional Skills Forum which met during the month of January.

European Relations

Peace IV Programme



Project Updates – Shared Spaces and Services

The Dundalk World War 1 Memorial is now under construction with an estimated completion by end of April. As World War 1 memorials are already in place in Drogheda, Collon, Ardee and

Castlebellingham, the motion to have one in Dundalk was first proposed in 2014 when it got full cross party support from all members of Dundalk Town Council. Funding was approved in 2018 by SEUPB as part of the Louth PEACE IV Action Plan (theme: Shared Spaces and Services) following a successful submission by the Dundalk World War 1 Memorial Committee. The memorial will commemorate soldiers from Dundalk and north Louth who lost their lives in the First World War (1914 – 1918). The memorial will be located at The Crescent, Dundalk. An activity programme of history lectures in schools, and a public lecture in County Museum will take place in April, 2022.

Opening Event

The opening event for the 'Community Capacity Building' will take place online on Monday, 7th February, 2022.

The programme participants (100) will include ex-prisoners and their families, displaced people, victims / survivors and those impacted by the conflict. The programme is being managed by Community Restorative Justice.

Ongoing projects

The programme delivery of 'Louth Leading the Way' (Theme: Building Positive Relations) continues with participants from a variety of groups both sides of the border engaging in leadership skills and exchange of experiences. This programme will be completed by the end of March, 2022.

PEACE PLUS (2021 – 2027)

The new funding programme builds on the work of the previous PEACE and INTERREG Programmes. It reflects the importance of peace-building activity, but will also focus on the importance of actions that will contribute positively to the economy, building prosperity and adjusting to the new environment and challenges we face. There are 6 thematic areas and the proposed budget allocation for this programme is €1.1b.

The PEACE PLUS Programme was approved in 2021 by the Irish Government, the NI Executive and the North South Ministerial Council. It is hoped that the programme will be approved by the European Commission in early 2022.

Some preliminary work took place in 2021 with the 13 participating local councils and a consortium of consultants were put in place to assist. A pre-development online workshop took place in December to provide guidance and support for the Area 3.2 Youth Programme. Development work on the setting up of Peace Partnerships and devising PEACE PLUS Local Action Plan (2022 – 2027) for Louth is taking place on various dates in February.

SEUPB continue to upgrade their website and PEACE Programme Learning Platform. This is an online, publicly available archive, detailing over 22,500 Peace projects, visit www.seupb.eu.

Infrastructure

Roads Projects

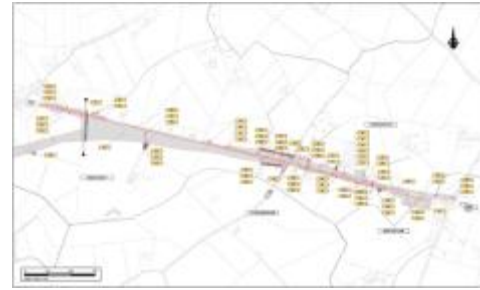
Narrow Water Bridge

The council and designer continue to progress the collating of the numerous files together in relation to the project to ascertain a programme for the project and the services and approvals required to bring the scheme to construction stage.

A North South Ministerial Infrastructure Sub-Group meeting was held on the 26th November, with a further one to be held in February. Engagement with DFI Infrastructure, etc. is ongoing.

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

The CPO was published, www.louthcoco.ie, for the scheme on the 14th December, any objection to the Compulsory Purchase Order or to the extinguishment of the said public rights of way or private rights of way must state in writing, the grounds of objection and be sent to An Bord Pleanála, by 4.00pm on 8th February, 2022. The design team are engaging with the landowners throughout the process.



Draft CPO Drawings

N2 Ardee to Castleblayney Road Scheme

Ground Investigation works have been completed for the scheme, and the outcome of the on-site investigations are being compiled into a detailed report. Monitoring of standpipes will take place for the coming 12 months. Noise surveys at over 15 locations commenced in January. The surveys will be used to calibrate a noise model, which will then allow noise impacts to be assessed at all properties in the study area. The project team would like to thank landowners who have facilitated access for these surveys. Initial designs for the route are expected to be available in Q3 2022. Meaningful discussions with affected landowners to take place from this point, and the format for these discussions will be considered over the coming months. N2 Project Phonenumber 087 340 3786 or email: ArdeeCastleblayney@N2MonaghanLouth.ie website: www.N2MonaghanLouth.ie.

N52 Ardee Bypass

The Part 8 for the scheme was published on the 14th December, with submission or objection by 4.00pm on Friday 4th February, 2022, see www.louthcoco.ie.

However, a local environmental group have issued High Court Proceedings against An Bord Pleanála directions to Louth County Council, therefore Louth County Council is currently seeking legal advice concerning the Part 8 and the High Court Proceedings.

Park and Share / Park and Ride Pilot Scheme

Works are now complete and the facility is open and in use. Works are completed on lining and hatching of the N53 (Castleblayney Road) to prevent parking at that location.

TII HD 15 Safety Works: King Williams Glen Tullyallen, N51

Works to increase the stagger at the junction are now substantially completed. A Stage 3 Road Safety Audit has been carried out and works identified are to be carried out in due course. The works will proceed subject to TII funding.

TII HD17 Schemes

A consultant recently carried out Road Safety Inspections (RSI's) on behalf of the TII on both the N2 and the N33 National Roads in Co. Louth. The consultant's reports are currently in draft form and are being reviewed by the TII. The TII will notify Louth County Council in due course as to the various HD17 schemes they will want Louth County Council to pursue in 2022.

Funshog: A Feasibility & Options report for the upgrade of the N2 / LS5267-0 junction commenced in 2021. The draft report is currently on hold until the TII review the results of the RSI's that were carried out recently on the N2 as outlined above.

Safety Barriers - N53 and N52

A consultant was engaged to carry out onsite surveys on behalf of Louth County Council in late 2021 at 2 no. locations identified on the N53 and at 3 no. locations identified on the N52 as possible locations for the requirement of safety barriers. The surveys will determine the safety barrier requirement as per TII guidelines. The consultant is in the process of determining if / where safety barriers may / may not be required at the 5 no. locations.

N33 West Pavement Scheme

Works are complete on renewal of a 3km section of the N33. Resurfacing works and lining works are complete. Bridge expansion joint replacement is being organised.

N2 Collon Pavement Scheme

Kerbing and drainage works are now complete on the N2. The complete works entailed revised kerblines at junctions, additional footpath areas, drainage, selective reconstruction, surfacing, new traffic islands and tactile pavement. Lining and studs. Additional works are being planned to

address collisions identified by TII. A design report has issued to TII for approval concerning these works.

N2 Short Term Safety Measures

Short term safety measures have continued in 2021 on the N2 north of Ardee. Signage works and hedge clearance are now substantially complete.

Port Access Northern Cross Route

Land Acquisition ongoing. Fencing completed at R132. Fill material being stockpiled, for embankment use. Existing ESB 38kv line has been diverted. Footpath and cycle path works to facilitate development on the Ballymakenny Road which is part of the PANCR scheme are ongoing. The purchase of land to facilitate the footpath and cycle path has commenced in line with the CPO procedure. Public lighting columns have been erected. Watermain, foul sewer and telecoms ducting are substantially complete. Kerbing work and footpath work is substantially complete. . Cycle lane surfacing is due to commence shortly.



Footpath & cycle lane construction progress

Boyne Enterprise Link Road

The project documents are under review prior to advertising for Tender. Ongoing consultations are taking place with stakeholders.

R178 Cavan to Dundalk Strategic Route Improvement Scheme

The project has been reactivated with Cavan County Council being the lead authority. Currently

the consultants are reviewing the route using a RibGeom method of assessment. This type of assessment will identify sections of the route corridor where the greatest collision risk exists and these will form a basis of a phased improvement strategy for the route corridor. Currently the consultants are in the process of completing this process and it's envisaged a Risk Based Safety Improvement Measures Report will be completed early in the New Year which will give informed recommendations of the sections of the route corridor that improvements are warranted.

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

The consultant is progressing with detailed design for the project. Tender documents for the main contract are being drafted.

CPO submissions received and Louth County Council are engaging with affected parties to resolve outstanding issues from submissions. SEUPB have granted a 12 month extension to the project programme and have engaged a third party to independently assess the request for additional funding by the three Greenway projects with a decision expected in 2021.

Updated submission to NI planning department in regards to DFI comments. It is anticipated that Planning Permission in N.I. will be decided upon in 2021 once DFI approval has been given.

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

Greenway - Carlingford to Templetown

Consultants have been appointed to the project and have commenced the baseline data collection for the project which will go toward informing the route options for the scheme. Site walkover as part of route option assessment carried out.

Meetings are currently ongoing with consultants with initial draft Route Option assessment completed in November and being reviewed by Infrastructure and Stakeholder consultations will commence once completed.

Wintering Bird survey ongoing. Scope of Topographical Survey to be confirmed in early

February and tender for survey services to be issued thereafter.

TII Funded Greenway: Templetown to Dundalk

TII have allocated monies towards the feasibility of a new greenway from Templetown to Dundalk. A meeting on progressing this project with TII is to be held in February.

Dundalk Municipal Athletics Grass Track

Earthworks, top soiling, seeding, fencing, public lighting and drainage are complete. Footpaths are complete. A period of time will be needed in order for grass growth to take hold. This will be continually reviewed until such time that it can be opened to sports activities.

LIHAF Projects

LIHAF Access Road at Newtown, Drogheda

Engaging with Department and Developer. Contract documents are substantially complete and ready for tender, subject to the Departments approval.

The developer has submitted a planning application for 67 units in order to bring the quota of housing up to 200 units, currently we are waiting for that process to be completed.

LIHAF Mount Avenue Improvement

An updated costing, programme for delivery of housing and programme for LIHAF infrastructure has been provided to the Department of Housing for agreement. The Department has verbally given the go ahead to tender the project, finalisation of tender documents are currently ongoing. Tender documents are currently being prepared for the engagement of a consultant for the supervision of the works. Tender documents have issued for the engagement of a consultant engineering firm to manage the supervision of the works contract. Tenders are due on the 7th February. Meetings have taken place with ESB regarding diversion of overhead network. ESB are currently developing plans and costings for the diversions. It is envisaged that notice to treat will be issued in the coming weeks for the CPO.

Safety Improvement Works

Retrofit Fencing

A survey was carried out at various locations on the N53 in regards the requirement to carry out / not carry out retrofit fencing works on sections of the existing post and rail fencing. A report has been forwarded to the TII and it is currently under review.

Ardee Pedestrian Crossing

A Feasibility and Options Report for the Refurbishment of the Pedestrian Lights on Castle Street, Ardee was forwarded to the TII and approval was received on in 2021 for funding of €136,258 for these works. Unfortunately, due to increased design and construction costs, the TII have instructed Louth County Council to retender for a design team to bring the project forward. Draft documentation was sent to the TII and it is currently under review for this scheme.

Specific Bridge Improvement Grants

Obelisk Bridge

Tender documents are complete. DTTAS have requested Louth County Council complete a peer review on the tender documents prior to issuing to the Market. This is being progressed at present by appointed independent third party and expected to be completed by early December. Approval from DTTAS to release to the Market will be sought thereafter. It is envisaged, subject to DTTAS approval and funding the tender will be issued in early 2022.

St Dominick's Bridge, Drogheda

The Bridge closure has been in place from 1st November, 2021 for a period of 6 months and the Council regrets any inconvenience that the bridge closure will cause. Scaffolding is being progressed in accordance with conditions as per Section 177AE as issued by ABP. The necessary statutory bodies have been consulted and necessary supervision including environmental and archaeology are now in place.



St. Dominick's Bridge - Contractor setting up on site

Public Transport

NTA Bus Shelter Installation Programme 2021 – 2022

The NTA have, through discussions with Bus Operators, their bus shelter supplier, and Louth County Council, developed a list of 11 schemes detailed below. The NTA, have approved an allocation of funding for 2021 of c€13k, with a potential further €198k in 2022, for Louth County Council to bring the civil construction elements to site. Please note NTA will supply the actual shelters through their own contractor.

- Drogheda - Donore Road
- Dundalk - Red Barns Road opposite Lennonstown Entrance
- Termonfeckin - Big Street at Credit Union
- Ardee - N2 at Boys School
- Kilsaran - South of Standard Brands
- Drogheda - Rowen Heights, Marley's Lane - Southbound
- Ardee - N2 at Monastery Church
- Clogherhead - John Kirk Park / Chapel Road at Shop
- Clogherhead - Callystown Road
- Drogheda – at Newtown Abbey, Newfoundwell Road (R166)
- Dundalk - Rathmount Estate, Seafield Rd, Blackrock

Town & Village Renewal

Blackrock Footpaths

Additional speed humps have been provided adjacent to pedestrian crossing areas. EIR utilities are due to complete removal of infrastructure. Airtricity have now completed public lighting with ESB due to connect. Design works for the 2021 allocation are ongoing.

Dromiskin Footpaths

Design works have been completed and Tender issued for construction of works with a tender return date 2nd September. Tender have been received and assessed. The contractor has been appointed in October. Works expected to commence in February. Infrastructure has been working closely with the Elected Representative / Community Group to secure the lands required to allow construction the footpath proceed

Stabannon Footpaths

The Contractor commenced works in early November on site and all civil works are completed on site. Public lighting is to be provided along the new footpath in the coming weeks.

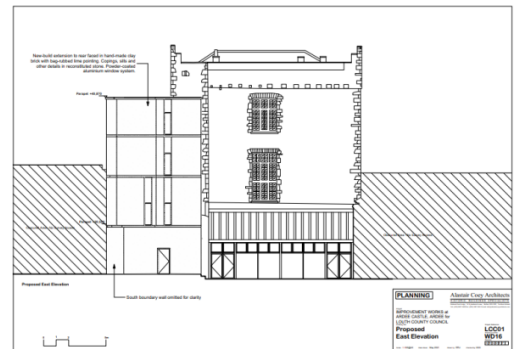


Stabbannon Footpath- Works in Progress

Corporate Projects

Ardee Castle RRDF

A Part 8 application for the refurbishment works to Ardee Castle, this application is an amendment to previously approved Part 8 procedure namely Ardee Castle Refurbishment and Access Improvement Works (Ref: 17/137). Plans and particulars of the proposed development may be inspected or purchased, at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, from Thursday, 27th January, 2022 until Thursday 24th February, 2022 (inclusive) with submissions before 5.00pm on Thursday 10th March, 2022. Plans and particulars are also available to view online at www.louthcoco.ie.



Design impression of proposed works

Redevelopment Fair Street Offices, Drogheda

Tenders were received on the 6th December and are currently being assessed in terms of quality and monies. A Tender Report is being finalised and it's envisaged that a letter of Intent and letters of regrets go out to the Tenderers in February, with a successful Tenderer being appointed by the end of February.

Rural Regeneration and Development Fund

Living in Carlingford Visiting Carlingford

The design team are now working on developing 3 options for the masterplan for the public realm area in Carlingford. The feedback gained from the first phase of the non-statutory public consultation will inform these design options.

Omeath Public Realm

The assessment of the tenders for the appointment of the design team is nearing completion and should be concluded within the next 3 weeks.

Ardee 2040

Ardee 2040 project is progressing with agreed planning strategy for EIAR and AA Screening for Development consent application to ABP based on the emerging option design. A briefing for the Ardee MB was given at the December meeting.

Urban Regeneration and Development Fund Projects

West Gate Vision (Drogheda)

Westgate Vision Project is progressing with agreed planning strategy for EIAR and AA Stage 2 reports for Development consent application to ABP based on the emerging option design. A Briefing for the Drogheda MD Members was given at the December MD meeting.

Long Walk (Dundalk)

Regular meetings are now taking place with the third party stakeholder to develop the key aspects of the masterplan.

St. Nicholas Quarter & Backlands Regeneration

The Council is awaiting feedback from the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage on the documentation submitted. In the meantime work is continuing on the draft tender documents for the appointment of a multi-disciplinary design team.

Dunleer Town Masterplan

Funding of €100,000 for the development of a town centre first masterplan for Dunleer was announced in late 2021. A preliminary meeting has taken place with some key stakeholders while the Council awaits official confirmation of the funding and details of any guidelines from the Department of Rural & Community Development

Active Travel Investment Program

2022 NTA Allocation

Under the 2022 allocation there is an increase in funding from last year to €6.53 million. The fourteen projects commenced in 2021 will continue and an additional nine new projects have been allocated funding for this year.

The projects funded are for Walking & Cycling infrastructure and development of transport studies.

The current statuses of the ongoing projects are as follows:

- St. Dominick's Bridge, Drogheda: as reported above
- Drogheda R132, Bridge of Peace to Train Station (incl. Marsh Road): Consultants, Barry Transportation Ltd. are progressing with the development of concept designs and options for the scheme.
- Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda: works ongoing (see PANCR above)

Drogheda 2021 Active Travel Projects

Tender for Consultants for design and planning the schemes (listed below) was received in December and are currently being assessed.

- Termonfeckin Road, Collon Road, Hill of Rath to Rosehall roundabouts, Rathmullan Road, Dublin Road and North Road
- Drogheda: Boyne Business Park Link Road: reported as above
- Dundalk: R132 Inner Relief Road: Consultants, Barry Transportation Ltd. are progressing with the development of concept designs and options for the scheme.
- Dublin Road, Dundalk: Consultants (OCSC) are progressing with the development of the design. Road Safety Audit and screening for Environmental Assessments to be prepared following acceptance of design.
- Ard Easmuinn Road to Train Station / Friary School Dundalk and Bus Station to Rail Station: Contract for the planning and design of the

scheme has been awarded to Consulting Engineers WSP Ltd. Initial meeting in January with concept development and options assessment to progress over the coming months.

- Transport / Mobility Plans:

- **Drogheda & East Meath Transport Plan.**

Work on the transport plan is ongoing with the NTA and Meath County Council. Traffic counts to be undertaken at key locations in mid-February. Stakeholder engagement and Public consultation (Online survey) planned for February.

- **Walking & cycling strategies for Towns**

Consultant to be engaged to prepare Walking & cycling strategies for Collon, Clogherhead, Ardee and Termonfeckin.

- Footpath Extensions / Links Package A: Works complete on Seapoint Road (See operations Report), R166 Termonfeckin footpath tenders received and recommendation made.
- Footpath Extensions / Links Package B: See Operations Report on Annagassan. Cheerybrook & Knockbridge, tenders have been assessed and a letter of intent issued.

New NTA funded Projects

- R132 Dublin Road, Dundalk (from the Rank Xerox junction to Greengates) - New Cycle paths (2.4km)
- R178 Carrickmacross Road Dundalk- New cycle paths
- Remedial works at Junctions Dundalk for improved accessibility (various locations), refer to Operations for progress.
- New Pedestrian Crossings (two) on R132 Inner relief Rd, at Táin Bridge, Dundalk
- Hoey's Lane (from junction with Dublin Street to junction Naughtons Close) - New Cycle paths
- Mill Street, Dundalk (from Inner Relief Road junction to Castle Road junction (New Cycle path – 440m and upgrade of junctions).
- Hill Street Bridge to Train Station Dundalk- New Cycle paths

- College Heights to Tom Bellew Avenue, Dundalk - New Pedestrian / Cycle path Link
- Moneymore, Drogheda – New Permeability footpaths to link to schools to residential areas

Flooding General

Louth Flood Relief Projects

Dundalk and Ardee Flood Relief Projects

Stage 1 of the Project is continuing, i.e. Options assessment, Scheme Development. Hydrological and Hydraulic modelling method statements have been approved and hydraulic modelling is now ongoing for both Ardee and Dundalk in tandem with the processing of information from the recently completed CCTV & Topographical surveys.

Further tender documentation for necessary environmental, ecological, noise and landscape assessments has been issued and Contractors will be appointed to carry out these works later in December and into January and February 2022.

Monthly project briefing notes are being issued to the current relevant stakeholders. The first Project Briefing Session for the Ardee and Dundalk Members was held in September and the first Project Consultation Day was held virtually in mid-September and again in early October. The Project website being hosted by OPW is now complete and can be reached at www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/dundalk/home.

Drogheda & Baltray Flood Relief Project

RPS have commenced works on Stage 1 of the Project, i.e. Options assessment & Scheme Development. Following a Project Surveys Workshop, the Topographical tender process is complete and a Contractor will be appointed in February. RPS are now progressing preparation of the CCTV Surveys required to assist preparation of the hydraulic models for the Project. Preparation of Tender Documents is also continuing for the necessary environmental and ecological surveys on the Project.

Carlingford & Greenore Flood Relief Project

OPW have commenced a data review of the Carlingford & Greenore Flood Defence Project to reappraise the Options identified in the Flood Risk Management Plan. The data review will include additional rainfall data collection and modelling. A temporary rain gauge at Carlingford Fire Station for rainfall data collection is now operational, providing additional data to inform project design and development. OPW have now completed installation of a second rain gauge at the rear of Carlingford Library and it is now operational also. Investigations are underway to identify a suitable site for a river level gauge in Carlingford.

Balmers Bog Surface Water Pipe

Works on pipe laying are now complete and reinstatement works along the pipeline are now progressing. Landscaping Works will be finalised in spring 2022. Manhole Construction and concrete works on the inlet chamber are also essentially complete. Installation of M&E screens, adjustable weir and Penstock are continuing along with Electrical Control Cabinets and Infrastructure. Final Commissioning of the Works is now intended in February, 2022.



Backfilling of Pipeline



Inlet Screen

Marine Projects

Coastal Protection Works

Applications for the 2021 OPW Minor Works Funding have now been submitted for Coastal Protection Projects in 3 separate locations, Omeath, Bellurgan and Ballagan.

Schools Programme Projects

Replacement School for St. Ita's and St. Mary's

Site acquired. Department of Education to submit a planning application.

Ardee E.T.N.S.

Approval to go to tender has issued by Department of Education. Tenders have been received from shortlisted contractors and are currently being assessed. A tender recommendation will issue to the Department of Education within the coming weeks.

Part 8 for the proposed alterations to the SEN units was published on the 7th December. Submissions to the amendments to be received by Louth County Council before 5.00pm on Tuesday 1st February, 2022.

Coláiste Chú Chulainn and Park at Marshes Lower, Dundalk

Progress has been made in relation to snagging. As constructed drawings of the completed emergency lighting has been issued by the PSDP. Additional snagging in relation to landscaping and other items to be completed also.

Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project (PLEEP)

A section 85 agreement between Kilkenny County Council and Louth County Council has been agreed. Tender for the proposed works have now been received and will be assessed by Kilkenny County Council as lead for the region.

A final Cost estimate for the element of works in Co. Louth will be carried out during the design process.

Planning

Development Management / Bainistíocht Forbartha

The Planning service indicators for Louth County Council for the month of December, 2021 are given below in tabular form. There were 121 planning applications received during the month of December of which 110 were valid. In addition there were 38 responses received during the month to requests for further information and 14 Pre-Planning Applications received.

The service indicator figures in relation to **planning decisions and decisions on appeals made** during the month, broken down by category, and with a total figure for all categories (Column F), are given below:

(A) Description / Cur Síos	(B) Housing Developments / Forbairtí Tithíochta	(C) Individual Houses / Tithe Aonair	(D) Other applications -not requiring EIA / Iarratais Eile – ní gá MTT	(E) Other applications - requiring EIA / Iarratais Eile - MTT de dhíth	(F) Total for all categories of development in County Area / Iomlán na bhforbairtí sa chontae
(i) Number of applications determined / Líon na n-iarratas a cinneadh	6	28	35	0	69
(ii) No. of decisions determined which required further information / Líon na gcinntí inar iarradh breis eolais	5	13	15	0	33
(iii) Percentage of applications refused / Céatadán na n-iarratas a diúltaíodh	0% (0)	53.57% (15)	17.14% (6)	0% (0)	30.4% (21)
(iv) Number of appeals determined / Líon na n-achomharc a cinneadh	1	0	1	0	2
(v) Percentage of decisions overturned on appeal / Céatadán na gcinntí a cuireadh ar ceal ar achomharc	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)

Planning Enforcement – Unauthorised Development / Forfheidhmiú Pleanála – Forbairt nár Údaraíodh

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

Description / Cur Síos	Enforcement in relation to unauthorised development / Forfheidhmiú maidir le forbairt nár údaraíodh		Enforcement in relation to unauthorised development / Forfheidhmiú maidir le forbairt nár údaraíodh	
	December 2021 / Nollaig 2021	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo	December 2020 / Nollaig 2020	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated / Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidhmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh	21	316	12	268
Number of Planning Enforcement cases received which didn't require follow up / Líon na gcásanna Fhorfheidhmithe Pleanála nuair nár ghá obair bhreise	0	0	0	0
Number of cases closed / resolved through negotiation / Líon na gcásanna dúnta / a réitíodh le hidirbheartaíocht	12	326	18	235
Number of Warning letters issued / Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh	5	235	13	165
Number of Enforcement Notices issued / Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh	1	15	1	13
Number of cases referred for legal proceedings / Líon na cásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí	0	5	1	7
Number of Injunctions / Líon na n-urghairí	0	4	1	1
Number of Prosecutions / Líon na n-ionchúiseamh	0	0	0	1

Planning Enforcement – Short Term Lettings Enforcement

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

Description / Cur Síos	Enforcement in relation to Short Term Lettings	
	January 2022 / Eanáir 2022	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated / Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidhmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh	4	4
Number of Planning Enforcement cases received which didn't require follow up / Líon na gcásanna Fhorfheidhmithe Pleanála nuair nár ghá obair bhreise	0	0
Number of cases closed / resolved through negotiation / Líon na gcásanna dúnta / a réitíodh le hidirbheartaíocht	3	3
Number of cases currently under investigation / Líon na gcásanna atá á n-imscúdú faoi láthair	48	48
Number of Warning letters issued / Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh	6	6
Number of Enforcement Notices issued / Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh	0	0
Number of cases referred for legal proceedings / Líon na cásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí	0	0
Number of Injunctions / Líon na n-urghairí	0	0
Number of Prosecutions / Líon na n-ionchúiseamh	0	0

Forward Planning

Conservation Grants Schemes 2021

A total of €93,933.20 has been recouped from the Department in respect of the Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2021, for the following projects:

- Bellew's Castle, Dundalk €14,910.00
- Tudor Lodge, Ardee €6,715.00
- 32 Laurence Street, Drogheda €13,597.00
- Mooremount Thatch, Dunleer €15,000.00
- 13 St. Mary's Terrace, Drogheda €15,000.00
- 3 St. Mary's Cottages, Drogheda €5,431.00
- 1 Albany Terrace, Drogheda €5,958.75

- 2 Ardee Terrace, Dundalk €321.45
- The Blue School, Drogheda €15,000.00

Conservation Grant Schemes 2022

Applications under the Built Heritage Investment Scheme and the Historic Structures Fund 2022 closed at 5.00pm on Friday, 28th January, 2022.

Full details available at:
<https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/planning/conservation/>.

Response(s) issued to submissions received:
Responses issued in relation to the Public Consultation phase of the SEA Draft Guidelines and the Draft NTA Strategy for the GDA.

Operations and Waste Management

Oibríochtaí agus Bainistíocht Dramháil

This Directorate provides a range of services which underpin the efficient and smooth running of the economic and social life of our county, working to ensure our environment adheres to legislative standards, and to provide clean and safe parks throughout Louth. Responsibilities include:

- Road Maintenance, Wardens Service, Waste Management, Water Quality, and Climate Action

Cuireann an Stiúthóireacht seo réimse seirbhísí ar fáil mar bhonn agus mar thaca ag an reachtáil éifeachtúil an saol eacnamaíochta agus sóisialta Chontae Lú, ag obair i dtreo comhlíonadh an dlí maidir leis an timpeallacht, agus chun páirceanna phoiblí glan agus sábháilte a chinntiú. Ina chuid den freagrachtaí ná:

- Cothabháil Bóithre, an tSeirbhís Maorachta, Bainistíocht Dramháil, Cáilíocht Uisce, agus Gníomh Aeráide

Catherine Duff
Director / Stiúrthóir



Municipal District of Dundalk

Dundalk and Cooley Area

Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair	Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí Litter picks Dundalk Town wide including all approach Roads: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dublin Road• Inner Relief Road• Ramparts• Centenary Road• Avenue Road• Hoey's Lane• Tom Bellew Avenue• Fairgreen Road• Old Newry Road• Racecourse Road• Armagh Road• Castletown Road Etc. Cooley isolated locations including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carrickcarnan• Templetown• Rockmarshall• Gyles Quay• Shillinghill• Whitestown
Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí	Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contract works Dundalk Frequency of Bins: There are approximately 200 bins in Dundalk. These bins are checked nightly with approximately 150 emptied nightly, if bins are less than half full they can be left for a second night.

	<p>Cooley</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carlingford • Omeath • Gyles Quay • Templetown • Faughart • Greenore • Lordship
<p>Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre</p>	<p>Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract works: Dundalk Town Centre is swept nightly. Pedestrian centre footpaths including Market Square, Court House Square are swept nightly. Approach Roads are swept every 3 weeks. Estates are swept every 4 weeks • Cooley rural village sweep programming
<p>Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra</p>	<p>Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract works Dundalk • Dog waste goes into normal bins as numbered above • Cooley as per bin emptying above
<p>Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrthála</p>	<p>Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly by Park Operative in Dundalk • Carried out by Water Safety Officer in Cooley

Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne	Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 no. of playgrounds (not including exercise equipment/outdoor gym or multi use games areas) • Daily by Parks Operative, repairs in house or contractor

<i>Location / Suíomh</i>	<i>Notes / Nótaí</i>
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	<p><u>Cooley</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isolated minor repairs carried out as temperatures too low for pothole patcher repairs • Annual Road and Drainage Works Programme Preparation <p>Numerous Locations</p> <p>2022 RWP Road</p> <p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Alphonsus Road • Annual Road and Drainage Works Programme Preparation <p>Road Repairs</p> <p>2022 RWP Road</p>
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	<p><u>Cooley</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R174 Ravensdale Flagstaff • R177 Armagh Road • R178 Carrickmacross Road Castleblaney Road • R132 Carrickcarnan • R174 Greenore • R175 Carlingford • R173 Bellurgan <p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <p>Ongoing maintenance to storm sewer network town wide</p> <p>Drainage Maintenance – Gully Cleaning</p> <p>Essential Maintenance</p>
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	<p>None this month</p>

Footpath Maintenance / Cothabháil Cosán	<u>Cooley</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gyles Quay • R174 Greenore 	Essential maintenance
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá	<u>Dundalk</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly maintenance of all Traffic Lights replacement bulbs (replacement LEDs), vandalism repairs, Etc. • R132 Hill Street Bridge • R177 Lisdoon Junction • R172 Tom Bellew Avenue 	Ongoing essential maintenance Road Traffic Collision Repairs, Controller Upgrade Optimisation Works
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	<u>Dundalk</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mill Street • N53 Castletown Road 	Warning Signage
Signage / Comharthaíocht	<u>Cooley</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Repairs and Cleaning <u>Dundalk</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ravensdale • Traffic Calming Reflective Bollards Replacement • Traffic Island Bollards 	Essential Maintenance Warning Signage As Required Cleaning
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	<u>Cooley</u> <p>Numerous small amounts removed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long Woman's Grave • Mast Road <u>Dundalk</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Castleblayney Road • Hoey's Lane • Rockfield Manor • Castleross • Saltown 	Domestic Waste Large Household Waste

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toberona • Inner Relief Road • Creative Spark • Doolargy • Muirhevnamore • Hardy's Lane • Rampart River • Lady Well • Moorland Road • Coes Road • General Blackspots 	
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí	None this month	

Blackrock, Faughart and North Mid-Louth Area

Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair	Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí
Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí	Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blackrock - 6 days/week • Knockbridge - once a week • Dromiskin - once a week • Tallanstown and Louth Village - once a week
Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre	Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain
Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra	Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain

Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrthála	Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blackrock (7No.) checked weekly • Annagassan (11 No.) checked weekly
Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne	Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Killanny, Louth Village, Castlebellingham - checked weekly • Blackrock - checked weekly

Location / Suíomh	Notes / Nótaí
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	Road repairs and patching
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L5191 Mullagh • L5181 Darver • L6189 Castlebellingham • L5151 Lannat Cross to county boundary • L5203 Calga • L1140 Monavallet • L1201 Thomastown • L5200 Reaghstown / Reaghstown • L5199 Reaghstown-Springhill • L5192 Drumleck. • R132 Dublin Road • L31252 Clonaleenaghan • L3177 Sheelagh • L7184 Green Road • L7112 Tatebane • L7129 Donaghmore • L3122 Maghereagh • L7126 Cortial • L7123 Gorteen • L71282 Rathmore 	Verge maintenance

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L31222 Thornfield 	
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L5195 Tallanstown-Springhill • R166 Duffy's Cross-Mansfieldtown • L1182 Walterstown Cross-Milltown • L5151 Rocktate • L1153 Killanny • L5206 Crowmartin • L5203 Edmonstown • L5177 Kilcronev • L5174 Nicholastown • L5152 Tully • L5154 Muff • L5195 Springhill • L5180 Darver • L7186 Dromiskin • R166 Station Road Castlebellingham • L5173 Mills of Louth-Killanny • L1154 Louth Village – Drumgowna • L5141 Priorstate-Ballykelly • L5174 Aclint-Mills of Louth • L5204 Knockaboys • L1205 Lagan-Churchtown • L7124 Kilaconner • L1140 Channonrock • L7115 Cavananore • L7114 Shortstone West • L7112 Tatebane • L7114 Slieve • L7111 Tateetra • L7112 Roche. 	Drainage maintenance – jetting/cleansing and gully cleaning, opening outlets.

Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha		
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R172 Blackrock (The Square to Dún Ard) • L7601 The Ferns Blackrock 	<p>Footpath renewal (by contract)</p> <p>Footpath repairs</p>
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá		
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R215 (N52) Duffy's Cross to Walterstown • R171-131 & R171-102 Louth Village-Knockbridge 	<p>Renewal of junction markings</p> <p>Renewal of existing and provision of additional road markings</p>
Signage / Comharthaíocht	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R132 Kilsaran, L514 • R166 Station Road Castlebellingham • R171-131 Knockbridge • L7163 Chapel Road Haggardstown 	<p>Cleansing / repair / replacement</p> <p>New Signage</p>
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N2 	<p>Collection of dumped waste for disposal.</p>
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí		



35 Bags of rubbish dumped on the Castlebellingham to Dunleer Road



Flexi Stop Bollard installed at Cromwell Lane



Ramp Signs installed in Termonfeckin

Ardee Municipal District

South Louth Operations (Rural Area)

<p>Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All routes in Ardee Town (5.2km per day) Clogherhead Car Park daily clean-up around bins 	<p>Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí</p>
<p>Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ardee Town Dunleer town 2 New Solar Compactor Bins installed in Ardee New Solar Compactor Bins installed in Dunleer 	<p>Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30 Daily 20 Tuesday and Thursday
<p>Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All routes in Ardee Town (5.2km per day) 	<p>Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain</p>

Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra	Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrthála	Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ardee Town River Dee • Salterstown • Port Beach 	
Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne	Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance and cleaning of Fairgreen and Dunleer parks and playgrounds complete with daily checks of the playground and exercise equipment at both locations. 	

Location / Suíomh		Notes / Nótaí
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R165 at Shanlis • LP 2214-0 Braganstown • LP 1297-27 Kells Road Collon • LS 6219-0 Salterstown • LS 5211-0 Lambtown • LS 5258-0 Roestown • LS 5257-0 Roestown • LS 6237-0 Cappoge • LP 2295-0 Collon • LP 2255-0 Philipstown • LP 1297-0 Collon • R168 Collon Drogheda road • N52 Kells Road patching works during road closure for resurfacing works • N52 Kells Road 800m Resurfacing works 	

Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LS 6219-0 Salterstown • LS 5266-25 Oriel Road ColloN • LP 1264-0 Smarmore • N52 Kells Road during road closure for resurfacing works. 	
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha		
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán		
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráichta		
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre		
Signage / Comharthaíocht	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speed sign installed on the N52 Kells Road. • Signs on main street Ardee • Replaced stop sign on R170 Hoatstown • Replacing damaged Speed sign Hail street Ardee • Replaced damaged Speed sign at Dunleer • Replaced damaged Junction sign at Johnstown • N52 Kells road sign maintenance during road closure for resurfacing works 	
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach		
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí		



N52 Ardee to Kells Road 800m of resurfacing works underway



N52 Ardee to Kells Road 800m of resurfacing works final completion



Solar Bin installed in Port Oriel Car Park



Solar Bin installed in Ardee



New footpath under construction at Port Beach

Borough District of Drogheda

Drogheda Town Area

Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair	Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Steps and lane ways weekly 22 steps when recourses allow and green areas.• Hotspots on Monday – decided by Supervisor following inspection.• Bring Banks in Drogheda urban are checked and cleared Daily during working week. Also all Bring Banks in Drogheda urban are checked and cleared Saturday p.m.• Drogheda Rural Bring banks are cleared daily during working week
Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí	Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Port Oriel Pier, Clogherhead• Clogherhead Beach• Port Beach• Termonfeckin• Baltray• Seapoint Carpark • 2 New Solar Compactor Bins installed at Port Oriel	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5 Daily• 8 Daily• 5 Daily• 5 Daily• 3 Daily• 3 Daily • Drogheda town centre Litterbins emptied daily circa 60 early mornings.• Installed 6 Number solar powered Compactor Bins around town; 2 West Street, 1 Laurence’s street, 1 Mell river walk, 1 Ramparts walk Meath end, 1 at river walk at Dominic’s Park near bridge of Peace end

- New bins installed at Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital exit and the Twenties lane along footpath abutting football pitch
- About 250 litter bin are emptied weekly in town.
- Dominic’s Park and Mell river walk emptied daily.
- South Louth Drogheda Borough district rural areas, public Litter bins are emptied twice a week or daily when needed especially at beaches/Port Oriel/ Seapoint/Termonfeekin/Baltray – at least 40 bins per day.
- Approach roads in Drogheda town emptied twice a week.
- Bin upgrade and maintenance ongoing and street furniture.

Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre

Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain

- Town centre daily. Approach roads fortnightly.
- Public Housing Estates, swept every 2 months. Private Housing estates swept every 3 months. When resources allow.
- Hotspots weekly on Monday after weekend – decided daily by supervisor after checking Drogheda urban area.
- Villages are swept once per month i.e., Termonfeekin, Baltray, Sandpit, Monasterboice, Tullyallen and Tinure.
- Drogheda town Boyne river walkways are swept 3 times per week (Monday, Wednesday and Friday)
- Town centre weeds removal. Contractor completed weed killing list for town main roads, some Housing estates and tourist’s locations including steps.

Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / FolmhúAraidí Salachar Madra	Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empty about 35 No. once a week, washed and disinfected.
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrhála	Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 89 ring buoys checked each week Town area (Thursday) • 9 ring buoys checked each week at Rosehall (Friday)
Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne	Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil <p>Between 4 and 5 daily (4 playgrounds in Drogheda town, Skate Park, Adult Exercise equipment). 3 Playgrounds in Drogheda rural area)</p>

Location / Suíomh		Notes / Nótaí
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	Drainage Works <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sarah Gibney's Lane - Surface water drainage and road surfacing completed. Community Involvement Scheme CIS (All County) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All done LCC's crew <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pot holes repairs around Drogheda. • Rosehall roundabout • Rathmullen Road • College Rise Housing estate • Laurence's Park • Slip road to Rathmullen road off the Bridge of Peace <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparing for expected high beginning of February 	

Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Drogheda Gully cleaning program ongoing 	
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha		
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing 	
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 04/01/2022 – Old N1 at the Bull Ring Junction. 04/01/2022 - Platin Road / Beamore Road. 04/01/2022 - Dublin Road at Scotch Hall and Marys St. 04/01/2022 - Dublin Road at Railway Station. 04/01/2022 - Rathmullen Road / Marleys Lane. 04/01/2022 - Bottle Lane. 04/01/2022 – Donore Road / Haymarket. 14/01/2022 – Termonfeckin Bridge. 14/01/2022 – Rathmullen Road / Marleys Lane. 14/01/2022 – Cement Road / Crosslanes. 14/01/2022 – Dublin Road at Scotch Hall. 18/01/2022 – Zebra Crossings Ardee. 26/01/2022 – Cement Road / Crosslanes. 26/01/2022 – Donore Road / Haymarket. 26/01/2022 – Crosslanes / Windmill Road 26/01/2022 – Cement Road / Crosslanes. 07/01/2022 – R132 / Patricks St. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Vehicle phase lamp fail, RED. Vehicle phase fail detector. Vehicle phase lamp fail, RED. Vehicle phase lamp fail, Amber. Vehicle phase lamp fail, Amber. Failed to schedule event. Light Out. Vehicle presence fail detector. Pedestrian phase lamp fail, Green. Vehicle phase lamp fail, green. Vehicle phase lamp fail, Red. Lights Out. Vehicle phase lamp fail, green. Check all pedestrian PBUs. Realign pedestrian signal head. Check pedestrian PBU. Reinstate 5 aspect signal head after RTA.
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	Ongoing throughout town. Approach roads yellow boxes done	

<p>Signage / Comharthaíocht</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installed Ramp signs along Termonfeckin road beside Beaulie View Housing estate. • Water Hill's name sign reinstalled • Flexibollards installed at Wellington Quay beside Parklet. • Cromwell's Lane Stop sign replaced • Removal of signs to advertise reduction Pay parking fees and Shop Local for festive season along Drogheda town's approach roads • Replacing faulty barriers around town • Ongoing throughout district 	
<p>Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach</p>	<p>January 2022: <u>List sent to wardens</u></p> <p><u>Bring Banks</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bolton Square • King Street • Mell Car Park • Wheaton Hall • Old Hill • Ballsgrove • IDA Road <p><u>Dumping</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cement Road at Old Halting site • Bessexwell Lane • Laurence's Street • O'Reilly's car park • North Strand • King Street and the Dale - removed trollies • Walkway on Dominics Park • Dublin Road • Marsh Road • Rathmullen Park • Finians Park • Scotch Hall 	<p>This is an ongoing issue where Supervisors and Litter Wardens check on daily basis; arrange for inspecting illegal waste disposal for evidence and issuing fines and clearance of area. St. Laurence's street litter in basements abutting public footpaths are being followed up with property owners.</p> <p>Public complaints are also checked and followed up as above.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200kg --Illegal waste tonnage disposed and removed by LCC • 25 Shopping Trolleys • 10 Pallets

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marleys Lane • Ballsgrove • Rathmullen Park at Centra • Domnics Park area • Dominos Pizza Mary Street • Scarlet Crescent • Centra at Mell • Beechwood Drive • Cleaning of Dominic’s Park, ramparts walk and Mell river walk. Town centre Steps to north and south sides of river. • Litter picking at Trinity street, Mell, link road, North road • Leaves removal throughout town and main approach road 	
<p>Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeking prices to remove from public spaces 	<p>Updated survey of Graffiti in town completed. Removal of same on public buildings to be progressed. Graffiti on private properties to be followed up – ongoing</p>



**Clogherhead Junction with Callstown (R166 with the LS-6283-0)
Photos show Resurfacing Works underway and completed works**



Footpath construction and completion at Termonfeckin Village



Termonfeckin R166 Resurfacing Works. Works in progress and completed works.



Drainage works at Sarah Gibney Lane



Completed works at Sarah Gibney Lane

Waste Management, Environment and Climate Action Report

Waste Management

Waste Enforcement

Cases continue to proceed through the courts. There has been a delay in getting cases heard due to the ongoing pandemic. A total of 11 multi-agency checkpoints were conducted in 2021.

Litter Enforcement

A total of 45 fines were issued in the month of January. Of these fines, 5 were issued in the Dundalk urban area, 22 in Drogheda urban area and 18 in the remaining County wide area. There were 1 fines issued for dog fouling in January.

There have been 177 investigations in the year to date with 177 carried out in the month of January. There have been 45 fines issued in the year to date, 1 of which were for Dog Fouling.

Diesel Laundering Waste

A total of 24 IBC's of Diesel Sludge were recovered in January 2022 so far (at this time). The approximate cost of clean-up and disposal of the material is €29,959.80.



MyWaste



A total of 778 reminder letters issued to householders in the 3 urban areas of Ardee, Dundalk and Drogheda to date. A total of 401

replies have been received to date from the reminder letters.

Area	Ardee	Dundalk	Drogheda	Total
Estates surveyed	8	196	49	253
Houses	539	5031	4223	9793
houses not presenting a bin	108	1866	1432	3406
Houses not presenting a bin %	20	37	34	91
Letters sent out to date	108	921	544	1573
Reminders letter sent out	92	289	397	778
No. of Replies	56	159	186	401

Under current Covid conditions it was proving difficult to progress this project to enforcement action, as we need to know the name of the home occupier in order to issue a fine for non-compliance with the Waste Segregation and Presentation by-laws. The primary way of doing this would involve calling to homes and asking for the required information. Given the recent easing of restrictions, we are now reviewing this.

Air / Water / Noise Pollution

There were four water pollution complaints received in January with two open and two closed. One legal case under the Local Government (Water Pollution) Act 1977 is on-going in the district court. Seven Air Pollution complaints and three Noise Pollution complaints were received during January 2022.

Bathing Water

The dates for water sampling in the bathing season have been provisionally fixed at:

1	Monday 23 rd May 2022
2	Wednesday 1 st June 2022
3	Monday 6 th June 2022

4	Monday 13 th June 2022
5	Monday 20 th June 2022
6	Monday 27 th June 2022
7	Monday 4 th July 2022
8	Monday 11 th July 2022
9	Monday 18 th July 2022
10	Monday 25 th July 2022
11	Tuesday 2 nd August 2022
12	Monday 8 th August 2022
13	Tuesday 9 th August 2022
14	Monday 15 th August 2022
15	Tuesday 16 th August 2022
16	Monday 22 nd August 2022
17	Tuesday 23 rd August 2022
18	Monday 29 th August 2022
19	Tuesday 30 th August 2022
20	Monday 5 th September 2022

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



Air Monitor for Drogheda

The EPA in cooperation with Louth County Council has installed a permanent air quality monitor in Drogheda. The data is available to view at: <https://www.airquality.ie/station/EPA-84>

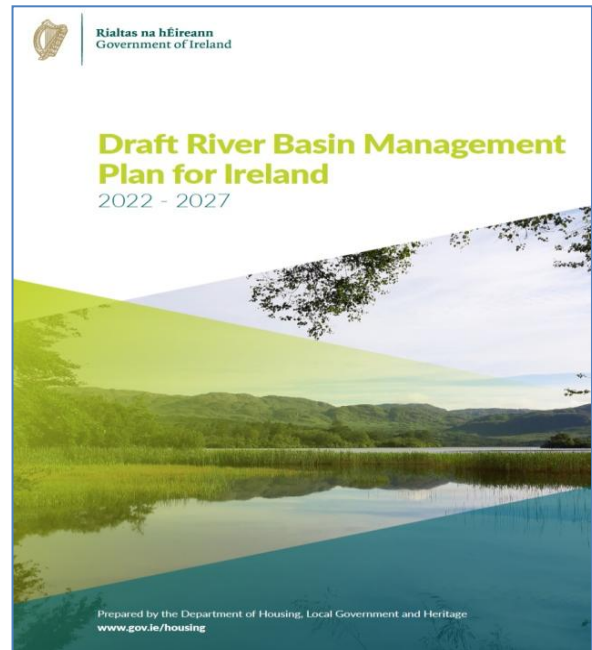


Water Framework/River Basin Management Plans

The Local Authority catchment assessments being carried out by the LAWPRO inspection teams with the assistance of Louth County Council where required are on-going in the Castletown catchment.

Initial desktop studies have commenced in the Glyde catchment.

The Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Darragh O'Brien, TD, has published the draft River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2022-2027 for public consultation. The Minister now invites submissions, observations and comments on the proposed plan.



A key commitment in the Programme for Government, launching a new strengthened River Basin Management Plan will help Ireland protect, improve and sustainably manage our water environment to 2027. Achieving good water quality in our rivers, lakes, estuaries and seas is essential for protecting Ireland's drinking water sources, environment and people's quality of life. The plan is produced in implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD).

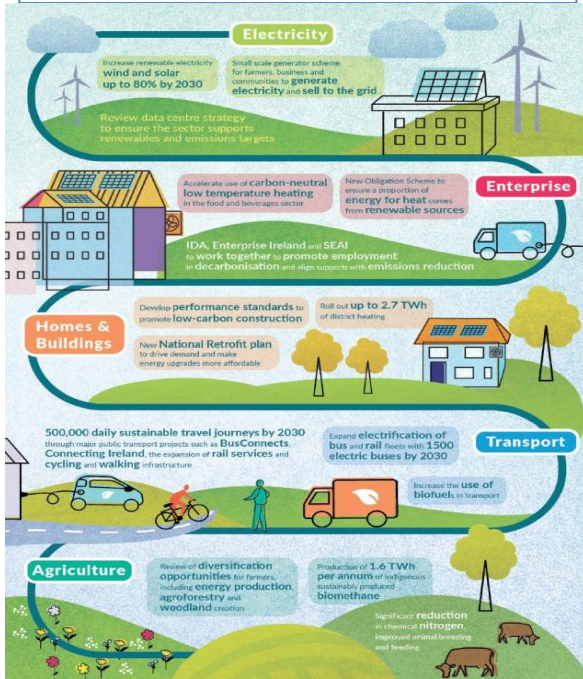
All relevant documentation is available from the gov.ie website. The public consultation period will conclude on 31st March 2022.

RMCEI Inspection Plan

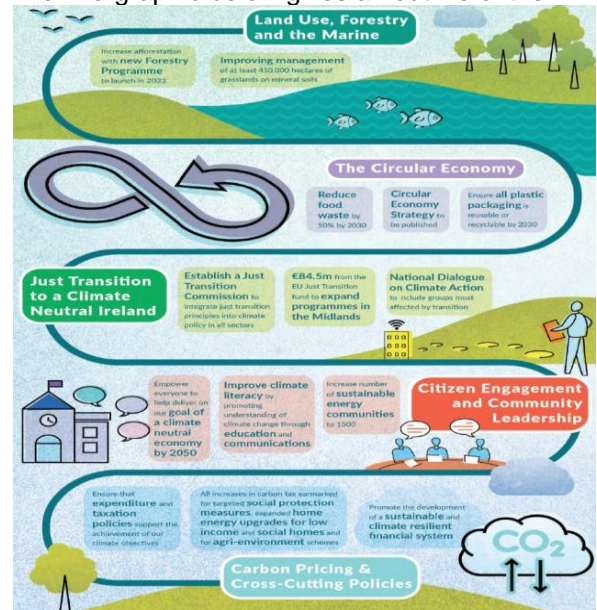
The RMCEI Inspection plan 2022 for Louth is currently being drafted for submission to the EPA by mid-February 2022. The statistical returns for environmental inspections are also being compiled for submission by mid-February 2022 to the EPA.

Climate Action

The Climate Action Plan 2021 was published in November 2021 and a subsequent annex of actions was published on 17th December. This provides a detailed plan, with 493 actions for achieving a 51% reduction in overall greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and setting us on a path to reach net-zero emissions by no later than 2050, as set out in the Climate Act 2021.



The info-graphic below gives an outline of the



The info-graphic gives an outline of the main actions and objectives of the plan.

Climate Change Team

A 25 strong team of staff from across all sections of Louth County Council have been nominated and trained to participate on the Climate Action Team. This ensures that the climate action message spreads throughout the organisation and is considered in all the work we do.

A recruitment campaign will take place early in 2022 for the position of Climate Action Co-ordinator, which will be a 5 year post at Senior Executive level. It is expected that this position will accelerate our activity in this area and further improve our work towards targets. This person will become the main point of contact for public representatives on the topic of climate action.

The internal Climate Action Team of this section are now having regular meetings to progress and discuss all Climate Action matters within the section.

Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019 -2021 & Climate Action Plan

We continue to work with the Eastern and Midlands Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) to work towards achieving the goals and objectives of the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019 to 2024 Action.

Work continues on the progress report for Louth County Council on the above strategy for the CARO office which was submitted in early October. This was the second progress report for the strategy.

This plan will form the basis for the development of a comprehensive Climate Action Plan for Louth, to be developed over the next 18 months (timelines not yet fixed nationally).

Draft guidance documents were issued in January, outlining the process to be followed in developing our Climate Action Plan.

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

Electrical Vehicles Charging Points



Louth County Council and other associate partners are carrying out preliminary assessments of sites to short list for final selection for the 25 EV Rapid Chargers across the border counties.

Information is available at the following outlets:

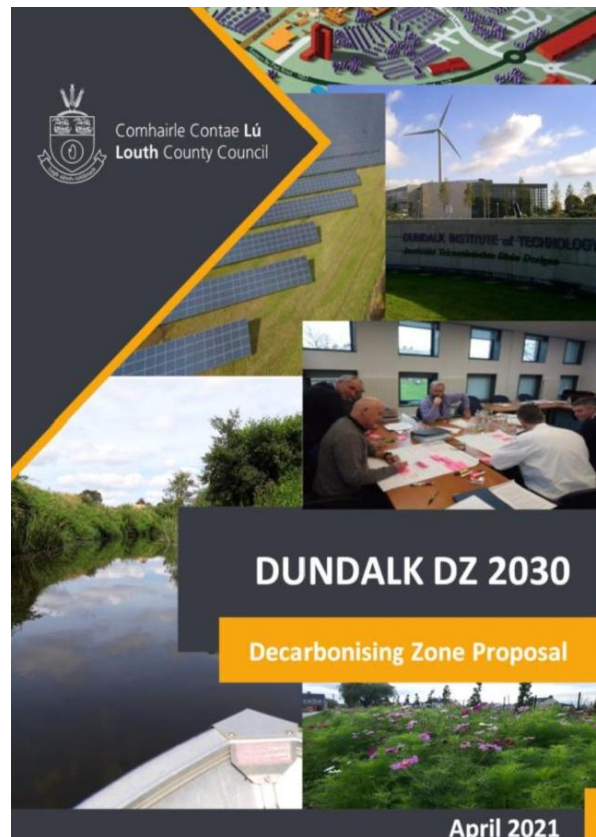
Channel	URL
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/FasterEVCharge
Twitter	https://twitter.com/FasterEVCharge
Instagram	https://www.instagram.com/fasterEVcharge/
Linkedin	https://www.linkedin.com/company/faster-project
TikTok	https://www.tiktok.com/@fasterEVcharge

YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0FqxddlpA7WXJr9ShzUaxQ>



Louth County Council are currently assessing sites for installation of 20no. EV charging points, as funded through SEAI. The goal of this funding stream is to support people who cannot easily provide their own EV charger at home, such as terraced housing or apartments.

Dundalk Decarbonising Zone



The Dundalk Decarbonising Zone project, in common with all such projects around the country, awaits guidance from CARO (Climate Action Regional Office) in order to progress.

This is to ensure a common approach with comparable outcomes across the country.

Preparatory work is ongoing, in anticipation of guidance this year.

Veterinary Services / Seirbhísí Tréidliachta

Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI) / Údarás Sábháilteachta Bia na hÉireann (USBÉ)

As of 31st January 2022, Louth County Council Veterinary Section, under a Service Level Agreement with the FSAI, enforces food safety standards on two abattoirs and fourteen meat processing plants under its supervision in the County.

Amhail ar an 31ú Eanáir 2022, cuireann Rannóg Tréidliachta Chomhairle Contae Lú caighdeán sábháilteachta bia i bhfeidhm, faoi Chomhaontú Leibhéal Seirbhíse leis an USBÉ, ar dhá sheamlas agus ar ceithre cinn déag de mhonarchana próiseála feola atá faoi mhaoirseacht aige sa chontae,

Control of Dogs / Rialú Madraí

Control of Dogs Act 1986 / An tAcht um Rialú Madraí, 1986

Dogs impounded January 2022 / Madraí curtha i bpóna, Eanáir 2022	
Total dogs impounded / Líon madraí curtha i bpóna	15
Strays / Ar seachrán	9
Surrendered by owners / Tugtha suas ag úinéirí	7
No dogs reclaimed by owners / Líon madraí tógtha ar ais ag úinéirí	4
No of dogs rehomed direct / Líon madraí a bhfuarthas úinéirí nua dóibh go díreach	6
No of dogs rehomed to welfare groups / Líon madraí a aistríodh go grúpaí leasa ainmhithe	5
No of dogs on hand in Pound at 31/01/2022 / Líon madraí faoi chúram sa phóna 31/01/2022	1

Dog Licences January 2022 / Ceadúnais Madraí, Eanáir 2022	
No of Licences sold / Líon ceadúnas díolta	539
Licence Checks / Ceadúnais scrúdaithe:	
House calls / Seiceálacha baile	260 (postal)
Section 16 Notices issued (request to produce licence within 10 days) / Fógraí Alt 16 eisithe (iarratas ar ceadúnas a thaispeáint roimh deich lá)	65
Fixed Penalty Notices / Fógraí Pionós Socraithe	18

Control of Horses / Rialú Capall

Control of Horses Act 1996 / An tAcht um Rialú Capall, 1996

Control of Horses Bye-Laws 2003 / Fodhlíthe um Rialú Capall, 2003

Horses impounded January 2022 / Capaill curtha i bpóna, Eanáir 2022	
Horses seized / Capaill gafa	0
Reason for seizure: / Cúis na gabhála	0
Horses reclaimed by owner / Líon capaill tógtha ar ais ag úinéirí	0
Horses rehomed / Líon capaill a bhfuarthas úinéirí nua dóibh	0
Horses disposed of / Capaill curtha de láimh	0
No of horses on hand in Pound on 31/10/2021 / Líon capaill faoi chúram sa phóna, 31/12/21	0

Dog Breeding Establishments (DBE) / Bunachais Pórucháin Madraí (BPM)

Dog Breeding Establishments Act 2010 / An tAcht um Bunachais Pórucháin Madraí, 2010

Dog Breeding Establishments January 2022 / Bunachais pórucháin madraí, Eanáir 2022

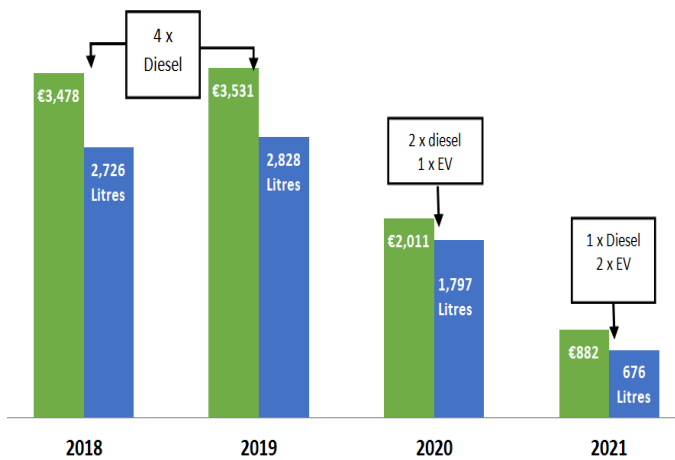
Total no of registered DBE's in Louth, 30/11/2021 / Líon BPM i gContae Lú, 31/01/2022	6
Hunt / Conchróite Seilge	2
Boarding Kennels / Conchróite Cinneála	2
Training Kennels / Conchróite Oilíúna	1
Welfare / Leas Ainmhithe	1

2018 – 4 Diesel vehicles
 2019 – 4 Diesel vehicles
 2020 – 1 diesel vehicle Removed, first EV introduced to the fleet
 2021 – Another diesel vehicle Removed, another EV added to the fleet
 For day to day operations, the wardens use the EV vehicles.
 Please note remaining diesel is a jeep, necessary for the towing of larger animals.



*Dogs impounded during January 2022 (above)
 Madraí curtha i bpóna i mí Eanáir 2022 (thuas)*

**Vets vehicles fuel spend
 € spent and Litres**



Corporate and Emergency Services Seirbhísí Corparáideacha agus Éigeandála

This Directorate has two key areas of responsibility:

Corporate Services – the maintenance and development of systems which facilitate the effective running of our Council, including Human Resources, and Information and Communications Technology.

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

Other responsibilities include Sustainable Energy.

Tá dhá eochairfhreagrachta ag an Stiúrthóireacht seo:

Seirbhísí Corparáideacha – ag cothabháil agus forbairt chórais atá baint leis an reachtáil éifeachtach na Comhairle, agus Acmhainní Daonna, agus Techneolaíocht Faisnéise agus Chumarsáide san áireamh

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

Freagracht eile ag an Stiúrthóireacht seo ná Fuinneamh Inbhunaithe.

Joe McGuinness
Director / Stiúrthóir

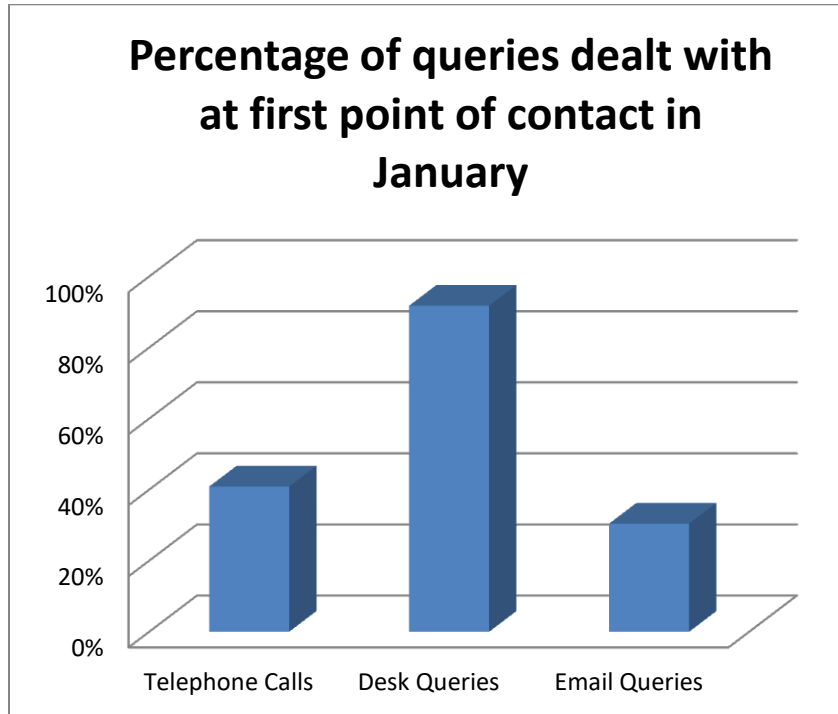


Corporate and Emergency Services

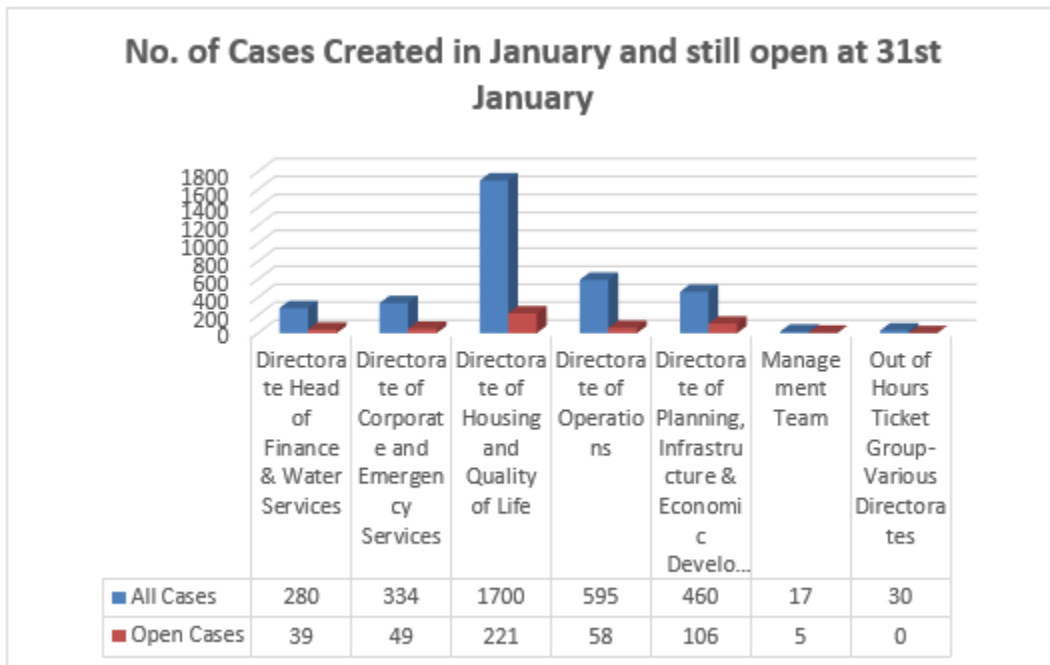
Customer Services Report

January 2022

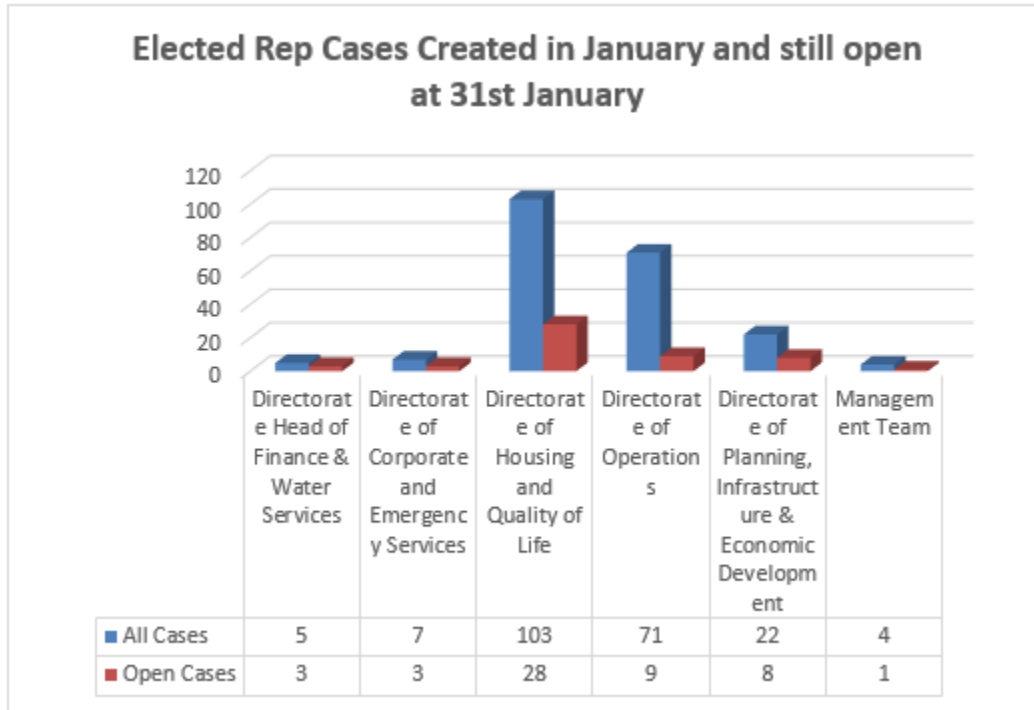
During the month of January Customer Services dealt with 10,443 queries - 5,885 calls, 1,550 e-mails and 3,008 counter queries.



There were 3,416 valid SugarCRM cases recorded during January of which 478 (14%) remain unresolved, broken down by directorate as follows:



During January 212 elected reps. cases were recorded on Sugar of which 52 (25%) remain unresolved broken down by Directorate as follows:



The table below illustrates activity in the redress area.

	Same period 2021	2022 Total	January 2022
Freedom of Information	4	9	9
Data Protection to include DSAR	0	2	2
Access to Information on Environment	0	1	1
Ombudsman	0	2	2
Complaints Policy	3	3	3

Electoral Register

The Register of Electors 2022-2023 was published on 1st February, 2022 and electors can view their voting details at www.checktheregister.ie from that date. The Register comes into force on the 15th February of each year and, after this date, the online form for inclusion on the Register of Electors will be available again on the Council's website at www.louthcoco.ie or forms can be submitted by

post. As a result of the work by the Franchise Section on the Eircode project, combined with the deletion of duplicate electors, the total no. of electors has reduced by 2,598 since 2020.

Louth Electoral Totals

2022	2021	2020
94,889	96,102	97,487

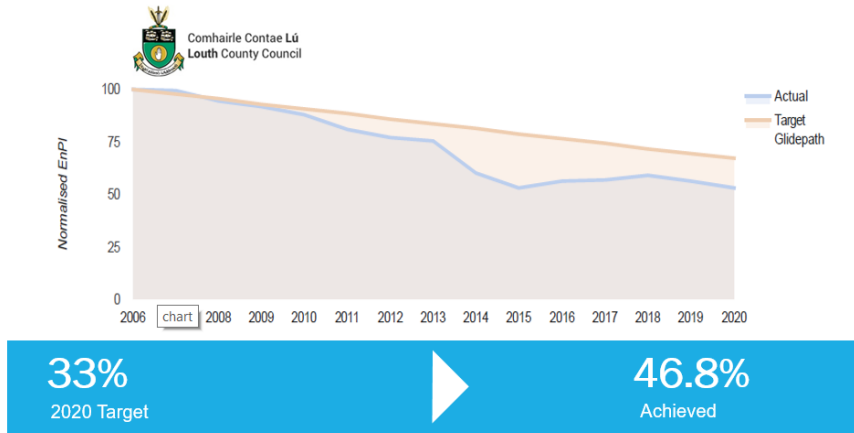
Sustainable Energy

Public Sector Energy Efficiency Performance

The Council’s energy efficiency stands at 47.36% (i.e. the Council’s energy use at the end of 2020 has reduced by 47.36%) compared to the baseline, (as reported by Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland).

Energy Efficiency Improvement (2009-2020)

Progress from Baseline to 2020 Target



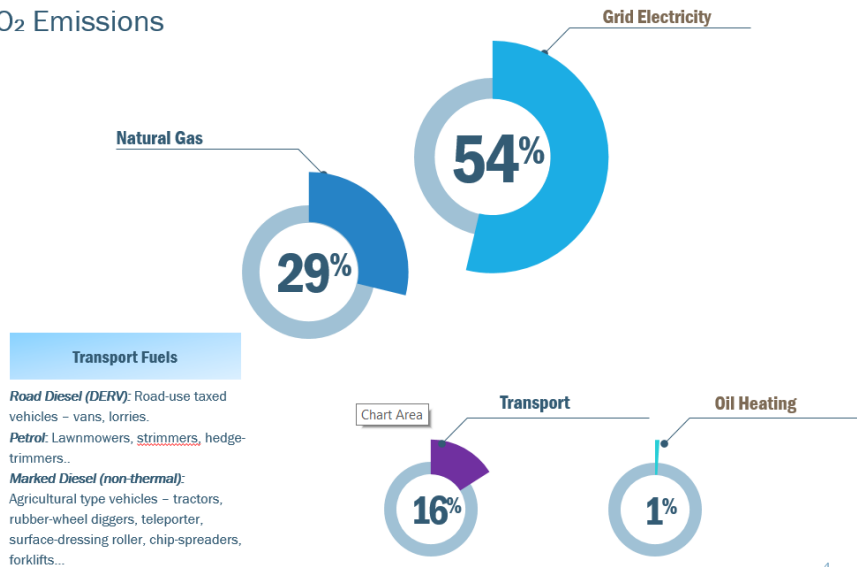
Energy Management System

The Council’s Energy Management System remains registered as compliant with ISO 50,001; 2018.

Council staff are now considering new energy works as part of the Energy Action Plan 2022. As part of that, staff are developing a **Gap to Target Plan to 2030** to identify suitable and sufficient annual energy efficiency works that will achieve a 51% reduction in Carbon emissions by 2030.

Louth County Council share of emissions 2020

CO₂ Emissions



Better Energy Communities Grant 2021

All energy works for the 2021 grant project are now completed and grant claims submitted. We expect to receive grant monies from SEAI for the approved projects shortly.

Better Energy Communities Grant 2022

Louth County Council is expected to partner with Dunleer Sustainable Energy Community again in 2022 for participation in their grant application for funding for energy projects in 2022. The closing date for such applications this year is somewhat later than previous years and applications for funding have more pre-application work to undertake – commercial participants are required to undertake energy audits of participating buildings by approved auditors using an approved audit format and software. The list of Council projects to be included in the application for funding will be finalised once the Gap to Target Plan 2030 is completed.

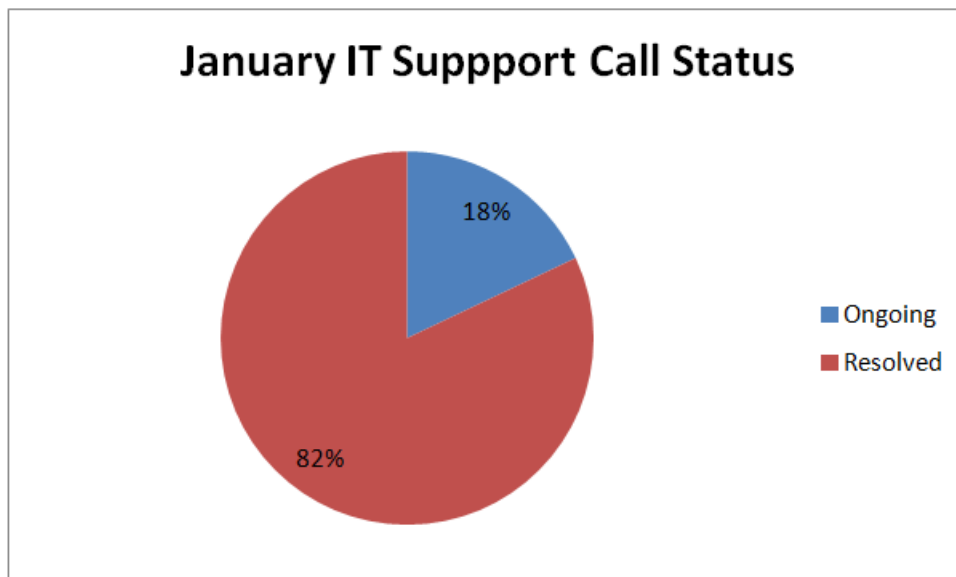
GenComm Interreg Energy Storage Project

Members are encouraged to review the project website for an up-date on progress and in particular for more detail from the project on the potential for

Information Technology Section

Helpdesk

During the month of January there were 496 support calls logged in the IT support system. 82% of these have been resolved and 18% of these are ongoing.



hydrogen use as a Sustainable Energy source. The project partners consider how hydrogen offers the opportunity to make energy production a primary driver of the economy rather than responding to the needs of the economy as at present.

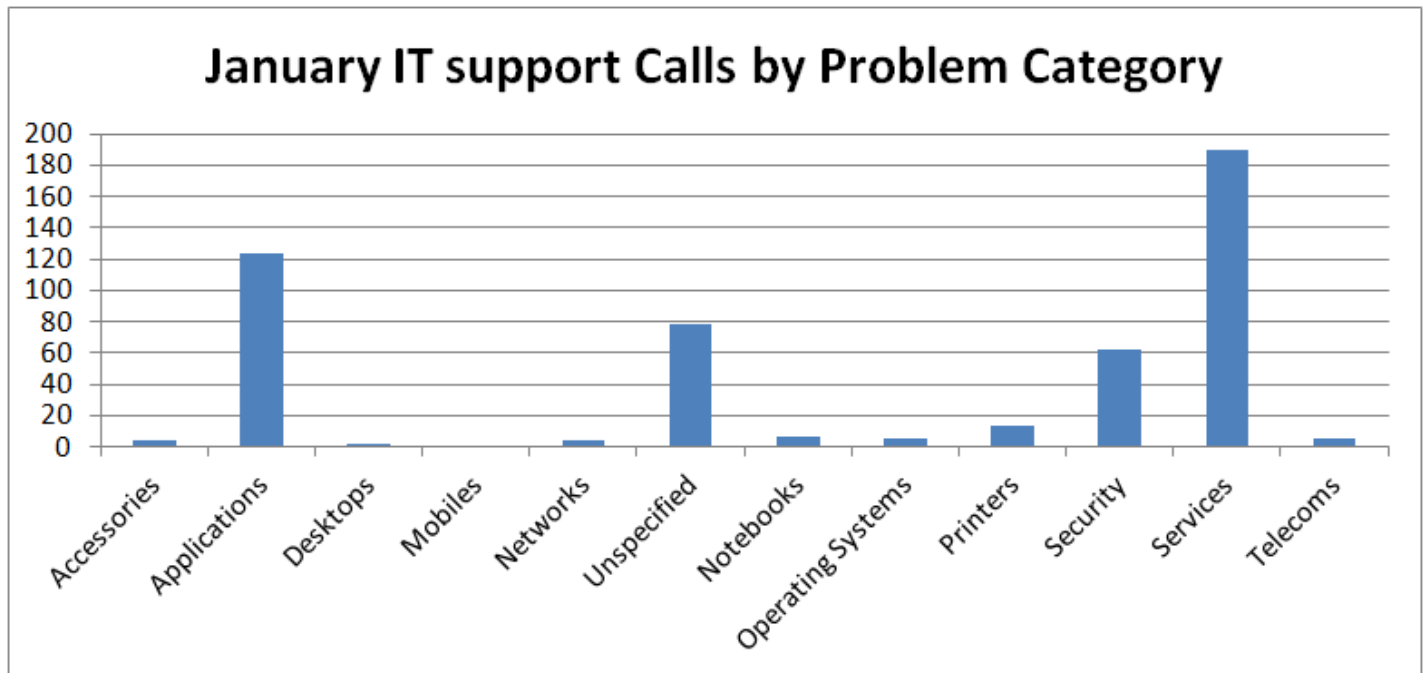
The Gencomm Project Team presented on that project at the December meeting of the Climate Change and Energy SPC.

Varcities H2020 Funded Project

Varcities is a H2020 Research Funding stream and the consortium is made up of 25 Partners, largely academia throughout Europe. The theme of the project is centered around Urban Regeneration; Impacts on Quality of Life + Health and Well Being. Funding has been approved for €10million, with €422,500 allocated to Louth County Council. The project officially commenced on September 1st 2020 and is of a 54 months duration from the start date.

The second stakeholder meeting for the project was held virtually on Thursday 25th November and was well attended. Very positive feedback was received on the progress presented for the Visionary Solutions proposed for the project. The conceptual design for the project will be completed by end February 2022.

The below chart indicates the breakdown of calls by Problem Category:



Rollout of Sophos Intercept X

IT have been working on the rollout of Sophos to all computers and servers on our network. This is an antivirus system. It scans the Louth County Council Network to detect potential threats, indicating devices which need attention. The figure below indicates that there are 613 computers and 45 servers protected by Sophos. 2974 threats were blocked in the last 30 days.

Highlights

 2,974

Total threats blocked

 613

Total assets protected

 0

Websites blocked and warned

Users and Devices

 546

Users protected

 568

Computers protected

 45

Servers protected

TopSec E-Mail Filtering System

Louth Co Co continues to be targeted with phishing, and spam e-mail. We utilised TopSec to filter and block e-mail being received into the organisation in order to protect our network.



Inbound Emails

97,912



Blocked Sender

868



Blocked at gateway

26,216



Blocked by spam /virus

14,871



Blocked by content rules

147

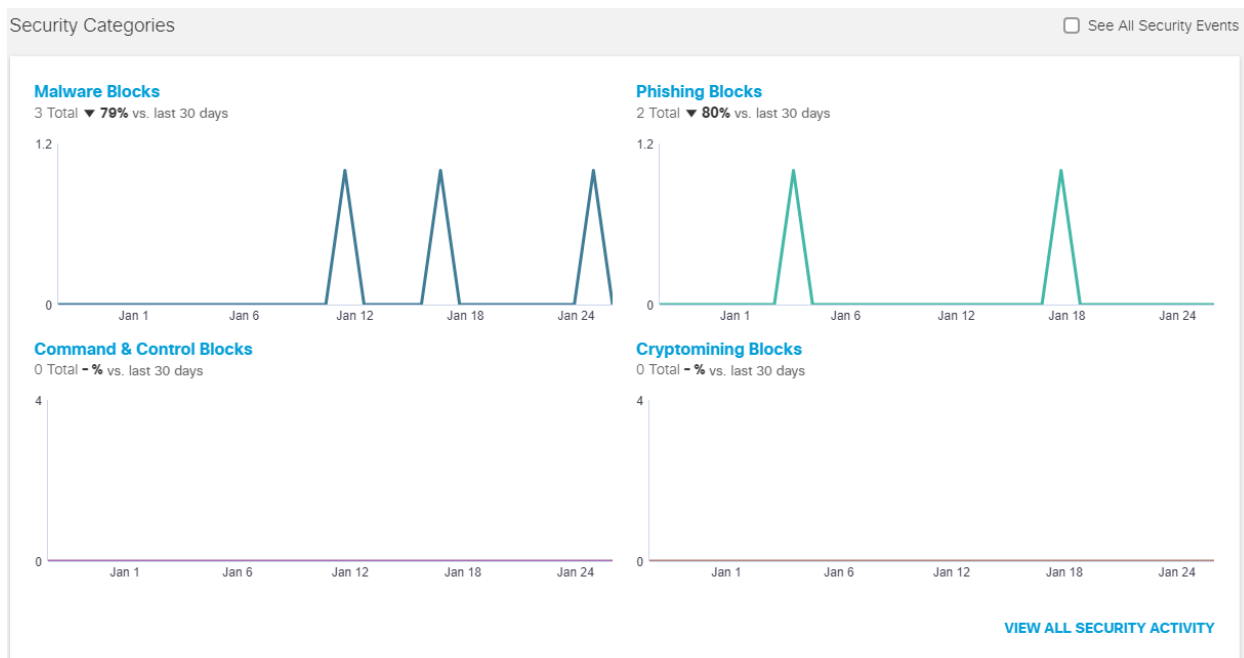


Potentially harmful emails

43.00%

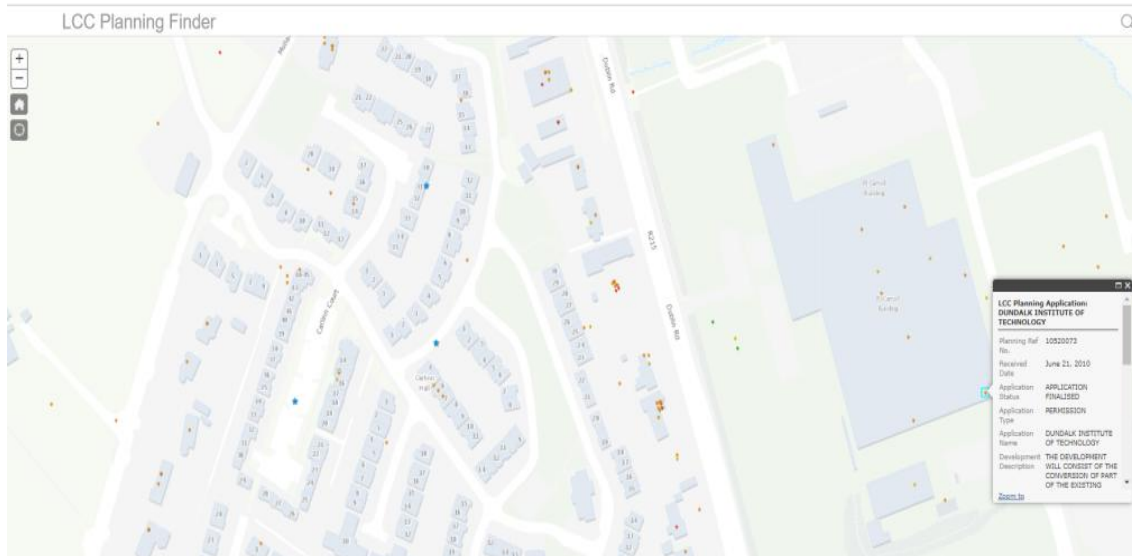
Cisco Umbrella

Cisco Umbrella was implemented in 2021 to protect staff and devices accessing website that may be unsafe. The graphic below show malware and phishing blocks which occurred in January.



ArcGIS Online - Public Planning Register Map Viewer

LCC provide an online Planning Register Map Viewer which can be accessed from the Online Planning Application and Maps section user Services> Planning on the Louth County council website. This application is updated regularly to include all planning applications.



The Map Viewer receives an average > 165 views a day, and over 60,000 views in 2021.

Fire and Emergency Services

Fire Service

Louth Fire Service continued with stringent Covid-19 restrictions until they were relaxed on 27th January following the Government announcement a few days earlier.

During the Christmas holiday and early January maintaining crews was challenging and in certain instances the retained and off-duty personnel were required to stand in for full-time crews.

During January, all retained drills were cancelled and Road Traffic Accident and Pump Operator courses were deferred.

Drills and training courses will restart in February with priority for overdue courses that were postponed.

See table on the next page of fire service emergency incidents in 2021.

The following trends were noted:

- The total number of emergency incidents in Louth during 2021 was 1147, which is an 11% reduction on 2020. See year-on-year changes back to 2017 set out below:

Year	No Incidents	of	Y-o-Y Percentage Increase/Decrease
2017	1257		+29%
2018	1271		+1%
2019	1141		-10%
2020	1291		+13%
2021	1147		-11%

- The most common incident type was the small outdoor fire. Road traffic accident numbers were almost unchanged from 2020 although RTAs in 2020 had been reduced due to Covid-19. House fire numbers in 2021 were similar to 2020.

2020		2021		% Change
Fire Small /Bin/Skip	313	Fire Small /Bin/Skip	294	-6.07%
Fire/Alarm Activation	18	Fire/Alarm Activation	16	-
SS/RTA	13	SS/RTA	13	-
Fire/Domestic*	114	Fire/Domestic*	113	-0.88%
Fire/Car	84	Fire/Car	75	-10.71%

- A total of 145 incidents were attended in Meath during 2021. This is an 11% increase in the 2020 total of 131 incidents.
- Drogheda was the busiest brigade in 2021 with 477 emergency incidents. Drogheda brigade would also have attended almost all of the 145 incidents in Meath.

DHLGH approval has been received for major improvement works to Dundalk Regional Fire Service Training Centre. The design brief and summary cost plan are currently being completed. Once these are approved, DHLGH approval will be sought to appoint a design team.

Incident Types within Station Areas: 2021

Type	Ardee	Carlingford	Dunleer	Drogheda	Dundalk	Meath	Other Areas	Total
Fire/Aircraft	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fire/Alarm Activation	10	2	7	75	52	18	3	167
Fire/Bus/Coach	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2
Fire/Car	5	0	4	32	27	7	0	75
Fire/Caravan	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Fire/Chimney	3	1	3	11	9	1	0	28
Fire/Controlled Burning	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fire/Domestic	1	6	5	21	32	11	0	76
Fire/Persons Reported	0	1	1	19	11	5	0	37
Fire/Fire (General)	8	4	6	23	11	2	1	55
Fire/Forest	0	2	0	0	3	1	0	6
Fire/Gorse	0	8	0	5	4	4	2	23
Fire/Grass	0	3	1	9	19	14	4	50
Fire/Hay/Barn	1	1	0	2	0	1	0	5
Fire/Industrial	2	2	0	10	5	2	0	21
Fire/Institutional	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	4
Fire/Motorcycle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fire/Oil/Petrol	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fire/Small/Bin/Skip	7	4	6	155	87	34	1	294
Fire/Smoke Issuing	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Fire/Truck	1	0	0	4	10	3	0	18
Fire/Vegetation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SS/Alarm/Carbon Monoxide	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	4
SS/Ambulance Assist	2	4	2	26	17	7	1	59
SS/Animal Rescue	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	3
SS/Electrical	2	1	0	1	1	1	0	6
SS/Entrapment	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	4
SS/Explosion	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SS/Flooding	0	3	0	2	1	1	0	7
SS/Garda Assist	1	1	0	2	7	0	0	11
SS/Gas Leak	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	4
SS/Hazardous Material	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SS/Lift Persons Trapped	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
SS/Lockout	0	0	0	1	5	2	0	8
SS/Make Scene Safe	1	0	0	4	5	1	0	11

SS/Marine Emergency	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
SS/Oil Spillage	1	0	0	2	1	1	0	5
SS/Other	0	2	1	6	3	0	0	12
SS/River Rescue	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
SS/RTA	12	3	7	52	37	24	1	136
SS/Smell of Gas	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	3
SS/Trees Down	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	3
SS/Water Leak	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	3
Total no. of Incidents:	58	50	45	477	358	145	14	1147

Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government approval was received in January for a new fire station in Dunleer at a cost of €1.4 million. Louth County Council will now go out to tender for a design team for this project.

A Management Review of the Fire Service Health and Safety Management System took place on 24th January. There is also a follow-up to the ISO 45001 benchmark audit which was carried out by an external Health and Safety Consultant over two days in October.

Climate Adaptation Strategy

Work on the Climate Action Plan is continuing, to include Fire Service and Building Control requirements. The new fire station in Dunleer and the extension to Dundalk Training Centre will both comply with energy efficiency and carbon emission requirements.

Major Emergency Management

Regional Major Emergency Steering and Working Group meetings in relation to Covid-19 have continued. These meetings have included personnel from the three Principal Response Agencies, i.e. the Local Authorities, Health Service Executive and An Garda Síochána.

Louth County Council has taken over the chairing of the Major Emergency Regional Steering Group and Regional Working Group for the next two years.

Civil Defence

Civil Defence activities were suspended during January except for Cardiac First Responder and Emergency Medical Technician training. Normal training and activities are resuming this week.

Housing and Quality of Life Tithíocht agus Cáilíocht na Beatha

This Directorate has two key responsibilities:

Housing, which encompasses all initiatives which aim to match need and available resources in a sustainable way throughout our county

Quality of Life, a wide range of initiatives and programmes designed to make living in Louth a stimulating, safe and rewarding experience, including the arts, heritage, and our libraries

Tá dhá eochairfhreagracht ag an Stiúrthóireacht seo:

Tithíocht, a chuimsíonn gach tionscnamh agus de chuspóir acu ná na riachtanais agus na haicmhainní ar fad atá ar fail a chur le chéile go hinbhuanaithe ar fud ár gcontae

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

**Paddy Donnelly
Director / Stiúrthóir**



Housing

Pillar 1: Addressing Homelessness

As the Responsible Housing Authority for the North East Region, Louth County Council continues to manage this area and achieve the goals set out in the North East Homelessness Strategy 2021-2024. The preparation for a new three year strategy has commenced. The work done within Louth can be summarised as follows:

Presentations January 2022	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda BD	Total
Number of Person who presented as Homeless	02	185	142	329
Offered advice, support (including fast tracking H.A. for Rent Supplement eligibility)	02	179	138	319
Placed in Temporary Emergency Accommodation	00	05	04	09
Refused Offer of Temporary Emergency Accommodation	00	01	00	01
Not eligible from outside county or non HRC	00	00	00	00

The tables below reflect monthly returns submitted to the Department with regard to Homeless numbers in the NORTH EAST REGION between 24th – 30th January 2022 This anonymous and aggregated return of all individuals accessing emergency accommodation is returned to the Department of Housing on a monthly basis.

Table 1: Gender

Gender	Total
Male	60
Female	20
Total	80

Table 2: Age Groups

Age Group	Total
18-24	15
25-44	40
45-64	20
65+	05
Total	80

Table 3: Accommodation Type

Accommodation Type	Total
Private Emergency Accommodation (PEA)	13
Supported Temporary Accommodation (STA)	55
Temporary Emergency Accommodation (low support)(TEA)	12
Unique Total (note, clients may have accessed multiple accommodation types during the week)	00
Minus people accessing multiple accommodation types during the week	00
Total unique individuals	80

Table 4: County

County	Total
County Louth	75
County Monaghan	03
County Cavan	02
Total	80

Table 5 Families with dependent children

	No. of families with dependent children	No. of Individual Adults	No. of Dependents
Individuals with dependent children	10	10	30
Total	10	10	30
Couples with dependent children	02	04	06
Total	02	04	06

Housing First

	Louth	Monaghan	Cavan	Total
Number of tenancies established	23	02	05	30
Number of individuals currently in tenancy	23	02	05	30

Homeless Services and Covid 19

As a direct response to the risk of communal spread of the Covid-19 virus amongst vulnerable individuals in Homeless Hostels, the Council has opened up a number of void properties and temporarily decanted individuals and families from hostel accommodation into these Units.

This has allowed these persons to live in a more isolated environment thereby decreasing the risk of infection. Contracted service providers have continued to provide meals and high level support to these clients.

The Hostels and family Hub continue to operate with reduced capacity, which reflects government

guidelines in respect of social and physical distancing.

Isolation units have been made available for homeless persons with suspected/confirmed cases of Covid-19 and protocols have been drawn up to address such cases.

The full range of Homeless Services continues to be provided remotely and staff is available on request, in exceptional cases.

Inspections of Private Emergency Accommodation

Since December 2017 the Homeless Office has carried out random and unannounced inspections on all B&BS, Hotels and Hostels providing Private Emergency Accommodation on behalf of Louth County Council. This will continue on a monthly basis subject to Covid 19 permissions.

Housing Assistance Payment

The total number of applications in HAP is 3246

Ardee Municipal District	Dundalk Municipal District	Drogheda Borough District	Total
324	1718	1204	3246

Pillar 2: Accelerate Social Housing

Over the period 2018 to 2021, a target has been set for the provision of 1074 units. This target will include delivery of units from Part V provision, Acquisitions, Mortgage to Rents, Long Term Leases, Repair and Lease and Buy & Renew Acquisitions. The 2020 - 2023 pipeline delivery progress report is in tables below.

2021 Housing Allocations up to 31st January 2022

Numbers Allocated	Allocations - Social	Allocations - Voluntary	Refusals - Social	Refusals - Voluntary
Ardee MD	04	13	00	02

Dundalk MD	09	84	06	04
Drogheda BD	05	01	03	02
Total Allocations	18	98	09	08

Social housing transfers facilitated up to 31st January 2022

Year	Ardee	Dundalk	Drogheda
2022	01	00	00

Housing List (excluding HAP Transfers)

Month	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda BD	Total
January	343	655	624	1622

Transfer List from HAP

Month	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda BD	Total
January	324	1718	1204	3246

There are a total of 262 applicants on the approved list for transfer (**Non-HAP**) within Social Housing including **27** applications from the Approved Housing Bodies

Pillar 3: Build More Homes

The Council continues to maintain land banks in the following locations, which can be developed if an appropriate project and funding is forthcoming.

Location	Acres
Mullavalley, Louth Village	8.82
Kilkerley	3.80

Ballymakenny	16.53
Point Road	5.2
Various Individual Sites	0

Rent Management

The number of tenants who pay rent by Household Budget is now **968**

Current Arrears as of 31/01/2022	Rents as of	Number of Account	Value
Rents between 4-6 weeks old		189	€66,361.00
Rents between 7-12 weeks old		160	€104,810.00
Rents greater than 12 weeks old		742	€2,603,193.00
TOTAL		1091	€2,774,364.00

Pillar 4: Improve the Rented Sector

	Jan	Total
No. of properties inspected Jan 2022	06	06
No. of advisory notes issued to Landlord	09	09
No. of improvement notices Issued	03	03
No. of prohibition notices Issued	01	01
No. of Rent Book Notices Issued	00	00
Inspections (HAP)	03	03
Improvement Notices (HAP)	00	00
Virtual Inspections Issued	00	00
Private Inspections Complaints	02	02
HAP Complaints	05	05
RAS Complaints	00	05
Re Inspections HAP	01	01
Re Inspections Hap Compliance	00	00
Re Inspections RAS	00	00
Re Inspections RAS Compliance	00	00
AHB Inspection	00	00

Pillar 5: Utilise Existing Housing

The following table summarises the level of maintenance and works activity to existing stock.

Maintenance	Total (YTD)	This month
No. of Maintenance Requests Received	701	701
No. of Maintenance Completed	597	597

Vacant Properties

Currently 22 No. social units have been used as temporary accommodation for isolation or additional homeless need during Covid 19 and are not included in the next table.

Vacant Properties	Total	
Ardee Municipal District	02	
Dundalk Municipal District	21	
Drogheda Borough District	32	
Total Re Lets		55
Vacant Properties CPO Units not yet ready for occupation (all county)		10
Total No. of CPO Properties (Relets & CPO's)		65

Grant Assistance to the Elderly and Disabled

The private grant process is continuing with some changes to procedure to reflect social distancing guidelines.

The following grants are available:

- Housing Adaption Grants - Priority 1, which will assist those who need whole time care in the home
- Housing for Older People – Priority 1 to works that will preserve the integrity of the dwelling

- Mobility Aids Grants - Priority 1, which will assist those who need whole time, care in the home.
- Louth County Council is awaiting notification of the Grant Allocation for 2022 from the Department.

Private House Grants

Status	HOP	HAG	MAG	Total
Applications Completed 2021	174	119	39	332
Applications rolling into 2022	101	363	166	630
New Applications 2022	27	06	04	37

Estate Management

	DBD & AMD	DMD	TOTAL
Tenancy Inspections	02	00	02
Pre tenancy Training	04	12	16
Tenancy Investigations Visits	23	39	62
Tenancy Investigations Remote	19	23	42

Anti-Social Behaviour

	DBD	AMD	DMD	TOTAL
ASB Cases	09	01	05	15
ASB Ongoing	08	00	08	16
ASB Completed	17	01	00	18

	DBD	AMD	DMD	TOTAL
Verbal Warning	00	00	00	00
Written Warning	00	00	00	00
Tenancy Notification	00	00	00	00

Climate Action

The newly revised 2021 Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme is the first year of a ten year programme which is expected to grow to meet the PfG retrofit commitment. The new programme sees a significant upscaling (from 'shallow' to 'deep retrofit') on what has been completed by local authorities to date and will target 2,400 social homes for upgrade works in 2021.

For 2021 Louth County Council were successful in obtaining an allocation of €1.4 million with a requirement to retrofit a minimum of 52 properties to a B2/Cost Optimal standard.

An additional allocation coupled with positive tender prices allows for 12 more units to be completed in 2021.

The distribution works on Energy Retrofitting in each municipal district is as follows:

Municipal District	/Borough	Number of Retrofitting Houses
Borough District of Drogheda		23
Ardee Municipal District		20
Dundalk Municipal District		21
Total		64

Delivery Stream	Rebuilding Ireland Projected Delivery 2022-2026				
	2022	2023	2024	2025	Total
SHIP CONSTRUCTION	00	11	171	80	262
SHIP CONSTRUCTION RAPID	00	00	00	00	00
REGENERATION	22	00	00	00	22
CAS CONSTRUCTION	00	67	00	00	67
CONSTRUCTION BUY & RENEW SHIP CONSTRUCTION SINGLE STAGE	00	00	00	00	00
SHIP CONSTRUCTION SINGLE STAGE	00	09	00	00	09
SHIP CONSTRUCTION TURNKEY	08	27	00	00	35
SHIP Competitive Dialogue	00	00	00	00	00
CAS CONSTRUCTION TURNKEY & CAS SINGLE STAGE	00	00	00	00	00
PPP	00	00	80	00	00
AHB CALF Construction	00	00	00	00	00
AHB CALF Turnkey	376	234	00	00	610
CALF Part V	58	31	00	00	89
LA Part V	04	07	00	00	11
CAS Part V	00	00	00	00	00
Voids (capped)	00	00	00	00	00

Definitions

AHB = Approved Housing Body

CAS = Capital Assistance Scheme which provides 100% funding to AHBs to build or acquire units for disabled or homeless applicants with a non-repayment mortgage in favour of the Housing Authority to ensure that the Housing Authority has both nomination rights and security over the asset created by public funds.

CALF = Capital Advance Loan Fund which provides Department funding for up to 30% funding to AHBs to provide units for general use on the basis that they enter into a Payment and Availability agreement with the Housing Authority who will provide all the tenant nominations.

CPO = Compulsory Purchase Scheme allows the local authority to land or property without the consent of the owner by means of a compulsory purchase order (CPO).

IPS = Incremental Purchase Scheme

Voids = new addition to the report requested by Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government.

SHCEP = Social Housing Current Expenditure Programme supports the delivery of social housing by providing financial support to local authorities and Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs) for the long term leasing of houses and apartments from private owners and developers.

SHIP = Social Housing Investment Programme

Project Name	Project Phase	Total Number of Social Units Expected	Project Status	Projected Substantial Completion Date	Unit Type
Father Finn Park (Phase 2)	1/1	17	Completed	08/04/2021	7no. * 2 bed & 10no. * 3 bed
Cox's Demesne Phase 2B	1/1	22	On-site	01/04/2022	2no. * 2 bed, 4no. * 3 bed, 2no. * 4 bed, 6no. * 1 bed Apt & 8no. * 2 bed Apt.
Muirhevnamor, Dundalk Phase 1	1/1	11	Stage Approved 2	16/10/2023	3no. * 2 bed & 8no. * 3 bed
Boice Court (Phase 2 - 4)	1/1	72	Stage Approved 2	16/04/2024	27no. * 3 bed, 4no. * 4 bed, 8no. * 1 bed Apt, 25no. * 2 bed Apt & 8no. * 3 bed Apt
Mount Avenue, Dundalk	1/1	93	Stage Approved 2	12/03/2024	29no. * 2 bed, 23no. * 3 bed, 9no. * 4 bed, 10no. * 1 bed Apt, 6no. * 2 bed Apt, 16no. * 3 bed Apt
Rathmullen Park, Drogheda Infill	1/1	6	Stage Approved 1	27/01/2024	To be confirmed
Ballymakenny Road - East Site, Drogheda	1/1	80	Stage Approved 1	31/12/2025	To be confirmed
Gort Bui, Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	1/5	13	Completed	16/10/2020	13no. * 3 bed
Gort Bui, Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	2/5	9	Completed	14/12/2020	6no. * 3 bed & 3no. * 4 bed
Termon River, Termonfeckin	1/2	2	Completed	17/12/2020	2no. * 4 bed
Gort Bui, Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	3/5	10	Completed	01/03/2021	6no.* 3 bed & 4no. * 4 bed
Gort Bui, Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	4/5	9	Completed	16/04/2021	5no. * 3 bed & 4no. * 4 bed
Glyde View, Tallanstown, Drogheda	1/1	2	Completed	10/05/2021	2no. * 3 bed

Termon River, Termonfeckin	2/2	1	Completed	30/11/2021	1no. * 4 bed
Gort Bui, Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	5/5	8	Completed	20/05/2021	2no. * 3 bed & 6no. * 4 bed
Moneymore, Drogheda - Infill	1/1	1	Funding Approved Single Stage	30/06/2023	1no. * 2 bed
Gort Uaine, Clogherhead - Infill	1/1	1	Funding Approved Single Stage	30/06/2023	1no. * 4 bed
School Lane, Dunleer - Infill	1/1	1	Funding Approved Single Stage	30/06/2023	1no. * 3 bed
Doire Beag, Collon, Co. Louth - Infill	1/1	6	Funding Approved Single Stage	25/08/2023	6no. * 3 bed
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	1/4	11	Funding Approved Turnkey	30/11/2022	To be confirmed (3no. Part V)
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	2/4	6	Funding Approved Turnkey	31/01/2023	To be confirmed (1no. Part V)
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	3/4	6	Funding Approved Turnkey	28/02/2023	To be confirmed (1no. Part V)
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	4/4	22	Funding Approved Turnkey	31/05/2023	To be confirmed (5no. Part V)
Gort Bui Ballymakenny Rd	1/1	1	Completed	16/04/2021	1no. * 2 bed
Linenfield Ballymakenny	1/2	5	On-site	31/12/2021	5no. * 2 bed
Linenfield Ballymakenny	2/2	1	On-site	28/02/2022	1no. * 2 bed

SUMMARY OF UNITS COMPLETED 2021 VIA CALF

Scheme	D/HPCLG Ref. No	Project Name	Project Phase	Non-Part V Units Expected	Part V Units Expected	Approved Housing Body	Substantial Completion Date	Unit breakdown
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.864 4	Cathedral View, Dundalk, Co Louth	1 OF 5	12	1	Tuath Housing	Completed	14 x 2 bed apartments, 9 x 2 bed houses, 14 x 3 bed duplexes, 14 x 3 bed terraced houses and 14 x 4 bed houses across all schemes
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.864 4	Cathedral View, Dundalk, Co Louth	3 OF 5	16		Tuath Housing	Completed	14 x 2 bed apartments, 9 x 2 bed houses, 14 x 3 bed duplexes, 14 x 3 bed terraced houses and 14 x 4 bed houses across all schemes
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.864 4	Cathedral View, Dundalk, Co Louth	4 OF 5	11		Tuath Housing	Completed	14 x 2 bed apartments, 9 x 2 bed houses, 14 x 3 bed duplexes, 14 x 3 bed terraced houses and 14 x 4 bed houses across all schemes
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.864 4	Cathedral View, Dundalk, Co Louth.	2 OF 5	10		Tuath Housing	Completed	14 x 2 bed apartments, 9 x 2 bed houses, 14 x 3 bed duplexes, 14 x 3 bed terraced houses and 14 x 4 bed houses across all schemes
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.913 9	Clonmore Ardee	1 OF 4	12		Cluid Housing	Completed	2 x 4 beds, 2 x3 bed and 8x 1 beds in this phase
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.913 9	Clonmore, Ardee	2 OF 4	14	1	Cluid Housing	Completed	2 x 4 bed, 12 x 3 bed and 1 x2 bed units in this phase
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.913 9	Clonmore, Ardee	3 OF 4	15		Cluid Housing	Completed	8 x 3 bed and 7 x2 bed units in this phase
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.913 9	Clonmore, Ardee	4 OF 4	13		Cluid Housing	Completed	10 x 3 bed and 3 x 2 bed units in this phase
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.951 4	Halliday Mills, Quay St, Dundalk	1 OF 1	77	8	CoOperative	Completed	15 x 3 bed apartments, 58 x 2 bed apartments and 12 x 1 bed apartments
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.879	Harbour View, Coulter Place, Dundalk	1 OF 1	24		Cluid Housing	Completed	12 x 1 bed and 12 x 2 bed apartments
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.855	Lismullen Grove, Dundalk, Co Louth	3 OF 3	8		Tuath Housing	Completed	8 x 3 bed units in this phase

AHB CALF Turnkey	2021.109 2	Fairways Gardens, Dundalk	1 OF 1	8		Cluid Housing	Completed	8 x 2 bed apartments
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SUMMARY OF PROJECTED 2022 CALF DELIVERY

Scheme	D/HPC LG Ref. No	Project Name	Project Phase	Non-Part V Units Expected	Part V Units Expected	Approved Housing Body	Completed	Projected Substantial Completion Date	Unit breakdown
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.86 44	Cathedral View, Dundalk, Co Louth	1 OF 5	12		Tuath Housing	On-site	31/10/2022	14 x 2 bed apartments, 9 x 2 bed houses, 14 x 3 bed duplexes, 14 x 3 bed terraced houses and 14 x 4 bed houses across all phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.95 01	Dublin Road, Dundalk	1 OF 1	59	6	Respond	On-site	11/30/2022	5 x 3 bed houses, 7 x 3 bed duplexes, 2 x 3 bed apartments, 16 x 2 bed duplexes, 4 x 2 bed apartments, 4 x 1 bed houses and 27 x 1 bed
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.89 39	Duiche Roden, Dundalk, Co Louth	1 OF 2	75	12	Cluid Housing	On-site	30/11/2022	2 x 4 bed houses, 18 x 3 be duplexes, 22 x 3 bed terraced houses, 19 x 2 bed aparts 29 x 2 bed terraced houses, 4 x 2 bed bungalows and 36 x 1 bed apartments across both phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.96 81	Newfoundwell Road Drogheda Co Louth	1 OF 2	46	9	Cluid Housing	On-site	3/31/2022	17 x 3 bed terraced houses, 1 x 3 bed duplexes, 25 x 2 bed terraced houses, 4 x 2 bed terraced, 4 x 2 bed duplexes, 28 x 2 bed apartments and

									19 x 1 bed apartments across both phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.89 71	Newtown View, Marsh Road, Drogheda	1 of 4	15	2	Respond	On-site	31/10/2022	2 x 4 bed houses, 97 x 3 bed houses and 34 x 2 bed houses across all 4 phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.89 71	Newtown View, Marsh Road, Drogheda	2 of 4	21	2	Respond	On-site	31/10/2022	2 x 4 bed houses, 97 x 3 bed houses and 34 x 2 bed houses across all 4 phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.89 71	Newtown View, Marsh Road, Drogheda	3 of 4	43	3	Respond	On-site	31/10/2022	2 x 4 bed houses, 97 x 3 bed houses and 34 x 2 bed houses across all 4 phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.80 46	Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co. Louth	2 of 3	10	6	Tuath Housing	On-site	31/03/2022	6 x 2 bed apartments, 32 x 3 bed terraced houses and 8 x 3 bed semi detached across all phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.80 46	Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co. Louth	3 of 4	5	8	Tuath Housing	On-site	30/06/2022	6 x 2 bed apartments, 32 x 3 bed terraced houses and 8 x 3 bed semi detached across all phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2021.10 33	Scotch Hall, Drogheda, Co Louth	1 of 1	21		Respond	Funding Approved	31/10/2022	6 x 1 bed apartments and 15 x 2 bed apartments
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.97 91	Tullybrook, Slane Road, Drogheda	1 of 1	69	16	Cluid Housing	On-site	30/11/2022	2 x 4 bed houses, 22 x 3 bed terraced, 24 x 3 bed duplexes, 22 x 2 bed terraced, 7 x 2 bed

									duplexes and 8 x 2 bed apartments
AHB CALF Turnkey		Tierney St, Ardee	1 of 2	5		Circle	Proposal	31/08/2022	3 x3 bed bungalow, 2 x 2 bed bungalow, 3 x3 bed terraced and 3 x 2 bed terraced houses across both phases
AHB CALF Turnkey		Tierney St, Ardee	2 of 2	6		Circle	Proposal	01/12/2022	3 x3 bed bungalow, 2 x 2 bed bungalow, 3 x3 bed terraced and 3 x 2 bed terrace houses across both phases

SUMMARY OF PROJECTED 2023 CALF DELIVERY

Scheme	D/HPCLG Ref. No	Project Name	Project Phase	Non-Part V Units Expected	Part V Units Expected	Approved Housing Body	Completed	Projected Substantial Completion Date	Unit Breakdown
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.9739	Donore Road, Drogheda, Co Louth	1 of 1	59	7	Cluid Housing	On-site	9/30/2023	8 x 3 bed apartments, 54 x 2 bed apartments and 4 x 1 bed apartments
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.8939	Duiche Roden, Dundalk, Co Louth	2 of 2	43		Cluid Housing	On-site	8/31/2023	2 x 4 bed houses, 18 x 3 be duplexes, 22 x 3 bed terraced houses, 19 x 2 bed apartments, 29 x 2 bed terraced houses, 4 x 2 bed bungalows and 36 x 1 bed

									apartments across both phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.9681	Newfoundwell Road Drogheda Co Louth	2 of 2	39		Cluid Housing	On-site	3/31/2023	17 x 3 bed terraced houses, 1 x 3 bed duplexes, 25 x 2 bed terraced houses, 4 x 2 bed terraced, 4 x 2 bed duplexes, 28 x 2 bed apartments and 19 x 1 bed aparts across both phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.8971	Newtown View, Marsh Road, Drogheda	4 of 4	41	6	Respond	On-site	1/31/2023	2 x 4 bed houses, 97 x 3 bed houses and 34 x 2 bed houses across all 4 phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.9015	Oriel Heights, Collon	1 of 1	2	11	North & East Housing	Funding Approved	3/31/2023	4 x 3 bed units and 9 x 2 bed units
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.8046	Racecourse Meadows Dundalk Co Louth	4 of 4	12		Tuath	On Site	31/03/2023	6x 2 bed apts, 32x 3 bed terrace houses, 8 x 3 bed semi detached across all phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.8077	Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co. Louth	1 of 1	38	7	Clanmil	Funding Approved	3/31/2023	9 x 2 bed apartments and 36 x3 bed houses

Community and Sports

Louth Local Sports Partnership

Operation Transformation

Saturday 15th January & Sunday 16th January saw numerous walks across the county for Operation Transformation. Louth Sports Partnership provided water, fruit, hats and snoods to participants taking part at all events.



GAA Ireland Lights Up

The GAA's popular 'Ireland Lights Up' walking initiative returns in January 2022 in partnership with RTE's Operation Transformation and Get Ireland Walking.

Ireland Lights Up (ILU) encourages GAA clubs across the 32 counties to turn on their floodlights and open their walking tracks to enable their local communities to come together to walk and talk in a safe environment during the long dark evenings of winter.

Participating clubs will be asked to open their gates on any or all evenings for the duration of the campaign from Wednesday 12th January to

Wednesday 2nd March 2022. For more information contact your local club.



Age & Opportunity Funding

The 2022 National Grant Scheme for Sport and Physical Activity for Older People is now open for applications.

The 2022 National Grant Scheme aims to assist in the implementation of locally developed, well planned initiatives designed to increase participation in recreational sport and physical activity by older people.

Grants are available to all eligible local clubs, groups and organisations that promote increased participation in recreational sport or physical activity for older people as a main element of their activities. Funds permitting, grants awarded will be between €300 and €700* and may be allocated towards the cost of the eligible initiatives outlined on the grant form.

Application forms are available to download on the website at the link below, along with more information on who can apply and terms and conditions. The closing date for completed application forms is 12 noon on Friday, 25th February 2022. More information at <https://ageandopportunity.ie/active/age-and-opportunity-active-national-grant-scheme/>

Sister Clubs

Louth Sports Partnership along with Dundalk Ravens are hosting a free 6 week programme for teenage girls aged 13-17 who would like to take

part in non-competitive Basketball. Email louthlsp@louthcoco.ie for more information.



Louth Comhairle na nÓg

Louth Comhairle na nÓg have resumed their weekly meetings in all three municipal districts. This year the focus of the work will be on Inclusion and Engagement. The young people will reach out to groups most distant from decision making and will develop pathways to ensure those voices are included in policy and service development. The recruitment thus far has been successful and we have 34 members spread across the 3 municipal districts. Andrew Rosbotham from St Marys College has been elected by the youth council as the new Dail na nÓg representative and National meetings are due to recommence on February 12th.

The group will develop events that young people can safely come together in 2022 with a view to encouraging engagement. This will take the form of special events and in the promotion of other events happening all over the county. We have made contact with the Louth Sports Partnership and other youth services to explore ways that

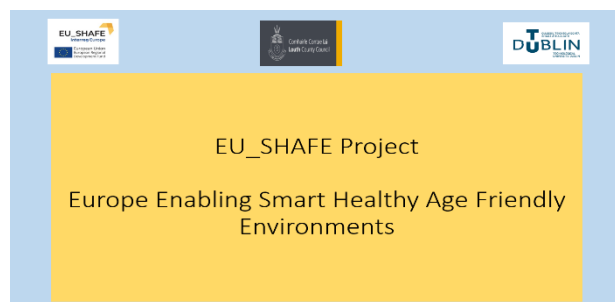
young people can become more active and healthy and this will be an important part of the project.

On Monday 24th January the group took part in a Mind Your Mental Health workshop which gave the young people skills in being aware of their mental health and techniques to reduce stress.

Building on the successes of the Peace 4 projects the group will continue to work with Newry and Mourne Youth Council and a cross border meeting is arranged for early March to plan activities for 2022.

The group have a full county meeting planned for the 5th February which will take place in Boomerang Youth Café in Drogheda.

EU SHAFE



Late last year, Louth EU_SHAFE was delighted to be asked to make a presentation at the Irish Regions European Office and the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly event, “Communicating Europe Initiative – Duologue for Strength and Resilience.” The presentation introduced attendees to the concept of SHAFE and the work of the project including the learning by sharing methodology used by the partners, and the upcoming action plans for Phase II. Overall the presentation was well received and it was a good opportunity to highlight the project and to raise awareness of the importance of the Age Friendly project.

The presentation can be accessed at https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/communities/programmes/louth-age-friendly/eu_shafe-interreg-europe-news/eu_shafe-present-at-ireo-emra-communicating-europe-initiative.html

The EU_SHAFE Project Co-ordinator also recently attended a Ministerial Conference on the prevention of loss of autonomy hosted by the French Ministry of Solidarity and Health. The conference included presentations by the Smart Healthy Age Friendly Environments (SHAFE) Network, Europe and The Irish Longitudinal Study on Ageing (TILDA), Trinity College, Dublin.

The Ministers attending highlighted the different age friendly policies in each country and the conference was very informative in signposting the various priorities each country is focused on. The project is now heading into the project Mid-Term Review and the Project Co-ordinator is currently working on the information requested. Including an Action Plan which will have to be implemented in Phase II of the project which will run from August 2022 to July 2023.

LEADER Programme

The LAG at its meeting in December approved funding support, in the amount of €105,640.65 for two LEADER projects, under the Transitional LEADER Programme, 2021-2022. Both projects were in the Dundalk/North Louth Area.

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

Promoter	Amount
The Red Door Project - Refurbishment of the Red Door building - Ref. 109164	€39,834.12
Blackrock Tidy Towns - Blackrock Village Enhancement 2020/2021 - Ref. 113227	€10,413.75
Total	€50,247.87

Tidy Towns Project Scheme

The funding scheme for 2022 will be announced in February. The scheme provides funding to groups to carry out small scale capital type improvement works in their town or village during 2022.

A new online portal is currently being developed, for the scheme. The application forms have being

adapted to build in questions related to more sustainable and biodiversity/pollinator friendly activities, to offset carbon emission by promoting biodiversity as well as enhancing the built environment.

Community Clean Up 2022

In collaboration with Meath County Council and Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, two community clean up events are due to take place during February and March 2022. Planning of these events is currently underway

Pride of Place 2021

A meeting of the liaison officers for the Pride of Place competition nationally, took place in January. It is the 20th Year of the competition and there will be celebrations planned to mark the occasion.

It is hoped to hold a Gala event in May/June 2022, to announce the winners of the 2021 competition, in Kerry.

The categories for 2022 pride of place have been announced. There will be a repeat of the Climate action cross cutting theme across all categories. It is hope that the competition will revert to its previous format, prior to the pandemic, with adjudicators visiting projects.

Entry forms for this year's competition are to be submitted by 13th May 2022. There is a change to the submission form this year, so instead of a form being submitted in June, projects will be asked to consider the judging criteria and cover these elements in their presentations, during the judging period.

It is envisaged that Louth County council will be taking part in the 2022 competition, to build on the success of our past and recent achievements.

Amenity Grants

An Audit of funding received by groups under the Amenity Grants 2021 scheme is currently under way.

Applications were received from Residents Associations, Tidy Towns and Community Groups, wishing to undertake small scale amenity projects in their areas, in 2021. The 2022, Amenity grants scheme will be announced in the coming months.

Green Schools 2021

The Green schools programme will proceed in 2022, assessments by staff will take place with participating schools over the coming months.

Town & Village Streetscape scheme

Our Rural Future is the Government's five year strategy to revitalise rural Ireland and includes a commitment to upgrade and enhance shopfronts and street facades in our rural towns and villages.

This activity was funded by the Department of Rural & Community Development (DRCD) through this 2021 Streetscape Enhancement Measure. This Measure has supported activity such as painting (including murals), signage replacement, shopfront improvement, lighting and canopies. Under the measure, 15 projects were funded across 4 towns and villages:

- Ardee
- Blackrock
- Carlingford
- Dunleer

The Streetscape scheme has almost come to a conclusion, the works have been completed and the payments to groups are currently being progressed.

Blue Flag Beaches

The application forms for our three Blue Flag Beaches have now been submitted to an Taisce for consideration of renewing our Blue Flag Status on Port Beach, Templetown Beach and Clogherhead Beach. The applications will be going forward for consideration to the Blue Flag Committee in the next few weeks.

Quality of Life Service

Climate Change Adaption Strategy 2019-2024

Library

Amanda Branigan & Brendan McSherry are the Quality of Life reps on the LCC Climate Action Team. An energy efficiency audit is currently underway in Dundalk Library.

Archives

The Co Archives supports corporate Climate Action Goals. Operations are currently implementing energy upgrades to the Archives building including an air to water heat pump, improvements to doors and several windows and low energy lighting to reduce energy use.

Louth Library Service

Following recent government guidance on the lifting of most Covid restrictions, Library Services are enjoying a resumption of full inhouse services without the need for social distancing, restrictions on capacity, recording of contact details. Louth Library Service will continue to comply with legislation on wearing of masks in an indoor setting until February 28th.



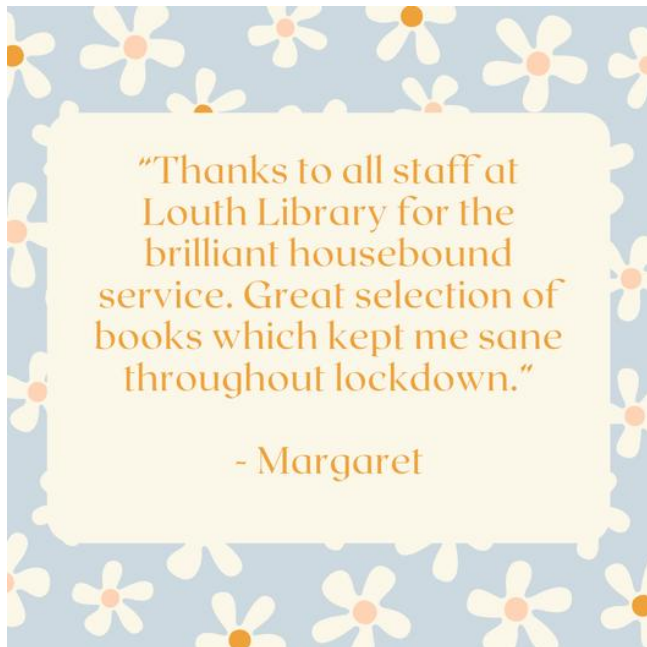
Welcome back school visits! 3rd class students from Scoil Aonghusa Gaelscoil visiting Drogheda Library



Scoil Aonghusa Gaelscoil students enjoying their books!

Housebound Service

The Library service continues to offer the Housebound delivery service to our elderly or vulnerable customers who are cocooning or in isolation with 56 deliveries made during January.



eServices



There is a wide range of eServices available to library members, include free eBooks & eAudiobooks through Borrow Box. During 2021 Louth Library users borrowed in excess of 41,963 eBooks and eAudiobooks .



In addition, free newspapers and magazines and Comic Books are available through Press Reader and Libby.

From July 2021 –December 2021 Louth Library service users availed of 19,495 Press Reader sessions.

Lastly there is a host of online courses with Universal Class and Transparent Language online.

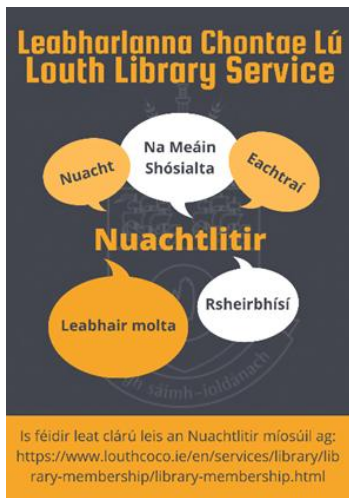
For more information on these services click [here](#)

LOTE New eService



During February Louth Library Service will launch their latest eservice as part of the Ireland Reads Initiative.

LOTE Online For Kids is a database for Primary School aged children of digital books, stories, and initiatives, which boasts over 1,200 digital picture books in more than 40 world languages, including English translations. Just like the other eservices, LOTE, which stands for 'Languages Other Than English', will be free to all Louth Library Service members.



The 2nd year of the national reading campaign, Ireland Reads, will commence on February 4th leading up to Ireland Reads day on February 25th. The campaign aims to promote the power of reading for enjoyment and wellbeing, by encouraging everyone, young and old, to get back into the habit of reading and regularly setting aside time to sit and read a book, a poem, a comic or a newspaper.

The February edition contains the latest news, events, services, and recommendations from our libraries.

Everyone is being encouraged to experience the joys of reading - and to share their experience with family, friends, bookclubs, or online.

Anyone interested in receiving this monthly newsletter to their inbox can sign up here:

Louth Library Service have lots of fun and engaging events planned including lots of videos of local reading ambassadors (including Dr Niamh Shaw, Prof. Luke O' Neill, Conor O'Callaghan, Garda Anita O'Shea JLO, Jimmy Weldon, Nicola Pierce, Sinead Brassil, Grace Tierney to name but a few) online stories, bookclubs, online readings with invited authors, dedicated blogs including author Ronán Hession, all accompanied by an array of fantastic material in our branches and online via our eservices resources.

<https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/library/library-membership/louth-library-newsletter-emailing-list-registration.html>

Click here to read this month's newsletter <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/library/blog-and-newsletter/louth-library-newsletter-february-2022.pdf>



Let's Get Reading... during Ireland Reads!

Our monthly Let's Get Reading schedule will continue during February, with lots of fun stories and crafts planned:



Let's Get Reading

Wednesday February 9th @6.30pm
Exploring Non Fiction with Eilish
"Tree Dogs, Banshee Fingers and other words for Irish Nature"
by Manchán Magan

Thursday February 17th @10.30am
Babies Love Books!
Baby Book Club with Ted & Annemarie

Saturday February 19th @11am
Crafts with Eileen

Wednesday February 23rd @6.30pm
Chapter Reading with Lisa
"The Little Bee Charmer of Henrietta Street" by Sarah Webb

Saturday February 26th @11am
Crafts with Amy

Monday February 28th @6.30pm
Chapter Reading with Annemarie
"Mad Grandad's Robot Garden" by Oisín McGann

Right to Read at your Library

IRLAND READS

Comhairle Contae Lú Health Centre Group

Little Library Book Bags

The 3rd phase of the Little Library Book Bags Initiative funded by The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Inclusion and Youth (DECDIY) and DRCD will run over February and March.

The initiative aims to develop or build on the relationships between the Early Learning and Care (ELC) and libraries as part of the First 5 Government Strategy for babies and children and the Right to Read Programme.



This 3rd phase sees a number of elements including 2 dedicated events for the sector (these events, currently being planned, are being funded by DCEDIY and DRCD):

Little Library-Ireland Reads event in February

Friendship themed event during March/April

Friendship themed book bag for each Registered ELC/childminders in February

Other Library Events During February

Mindful Eating - Tuesday 8th of February at 7pm



Glenville NUTRITION COURSES CLINICS CENTRES

Comhairle Contae Lú Louth County Council

HUNGER GAMES

How mindful eating can help your health and waistline

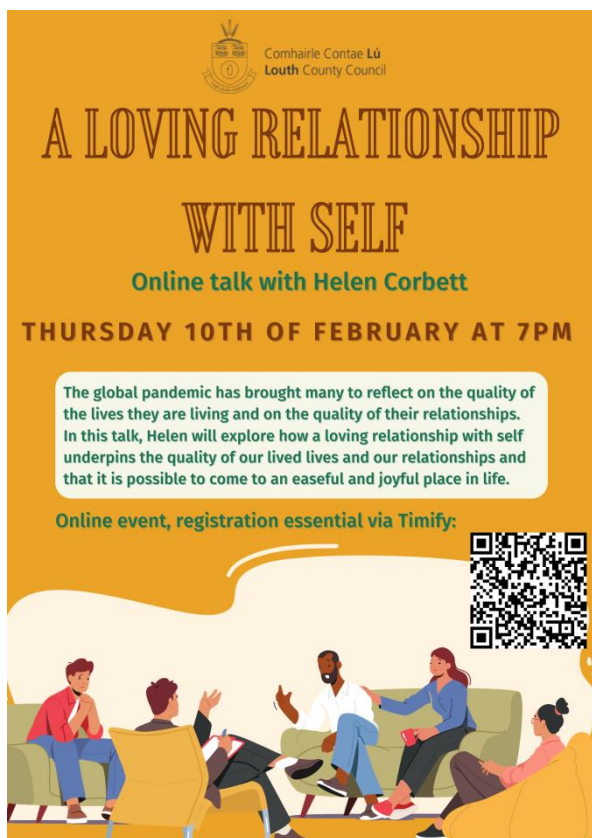
Ever eat something you know you shouldn't be eating when you are not even hungry?
Finish a chocolate bar and immediately want another one?
Or wonder if your portion sizes are too big?
This webinar delves into when, how much and why we eat and the impact of these decisions on our health and eating habits.
With lots of real-life examples, the talk will help you to understand your dietary habits and how to adjust them to keep you as healthy as possible.
We also share a mindful eating exercise that can change the way you feel about treats.

Tuesday 8th of February at 7pm
Online event, registration essential

This webinar with Glenville Nutrition delves into when, how much and why we eat and the impact of these decisions on our health and eating habits. Booking via Timify

<https://book.timify.com/?accountId=5f9a9eb964916511fcceae5f&hideCloseButton=true>

A Loving Relationship with Self - Thursday 10th of February at 7pm



Join Helen Corbett in this online talk where she explores how the pandemic has brought many of us to reflect on the quality of lives we are living and on the quality of their relationships. The session will explore how a loving relationship with one's self underpins the quality of our lived lives and relationships and that it is possible to come to a joyful place in life.

Booking via Timify
<https://book.timify.com/?accountId=5f9a9eb964916511fcceae5f&hideCloseButton=true>

Valentine Workshop for Children

Register before 10th of February to collect your Valentine Clayotic kit from Louth Libraries and with the link provided follow the step by step guide to make a valentine's themed keepsake.

Booking is essential as kits are limited. Email libraryhelpdesk@louthcoco.ie



Primary Schools Service

Virtual class visits are beginning again, with some schools already booked in to virtually celebrate the Ireland Reads campaign and World Book Day with Louth Library Service.

As part of the Ireland Reads campaign taking place in February, schools will be invited to take part in a photo competition based on the theme of the initiative. Schools who enter, along with pledging their reading time, will be in with a chance of winning an exciting prize for their class!

Arts Service

Creative Ireland Community Grants

The call out for the 2022 Creative Ireland Community grants closed on 12th January. Following assessment by the panel projects that will receive funding include the Boomerang Café, Connect Family Resource, Ablevision, Upstate Theatre, AAEX (Art as Exchange), St John of Gods, Turas, Holy Family Boxing Club and Coxs Demesne Youth Community Project.

An Táin Arts Centre



Basement Gallery

The Bystander Effect by Alison Lowery launches in the basement gallery on 10th February. The exhibition examines the role that we, as a society, had in allowing an 'architecture of containment' to develop in Northern Ireland.

'Architecture of containment' describes the physical infrastructure and systems that were utilized to incarcerate women and children in eighteenth and nineteenth century in Ireland.

<https://antain-tickets.antain.ie/shows/873622636>

Brigid of Faughart Online Screening

Brigid: a coming home to the Divine Feminine in ourselves. Brigid of Faughart Festival group in conjunction with An Táin Arts Centre, Dundalk, will offer an online event celebrating some of the important qualities of Brigid at 8pm on Brigid's Day. <http://www.brigidoffaughart.ie/>

Other productions coming to An Táin in February include 'The Murder of Michael Collins' by Paddy Cullivan, Castleblayney Players "Philadelphia, Here I Come' and 'Callings' by Dominic Montague. Details of all shows can be found here:

https://antain-tickets.antain.ie/shows?_ga=2.211481558.25717338.1643298369-1458732782.1619508821

Droichead Arts Centre

Droichead presents new drama 'Click', written by Adrian Moriarty and Directed by Ronan Leahy on Thursday 3rd February.

'Nora loves Antoine. Antoine loves Nora. But what happens when loving one person isn't enough?' "Neil Simon meets Sonya Kelly in Aidan Moriarty's sparkling new comedy about love, hurt and polyamory."

<https://www.droichead.com/show-detail/?id=873630983>

Drogheda Classical Music Festival

In the next instalment of the DCM, Hungarian pianist, Dénes Várjon's performs in Drogheda for the first time on Friday 4th February in St. Peters Church of Ireland. His sensational technique, deep musicality, wide range of interest have made him one of the most exciting and highly regarded participants of international musical life. He will perform popular works by Bach, Mozart and Chopin. <https://www.droichead.com/show-detail/?id=873630770>

Féile na Tána

Féile na Tána is online again in 2022 and starts on Saturday 5th February.

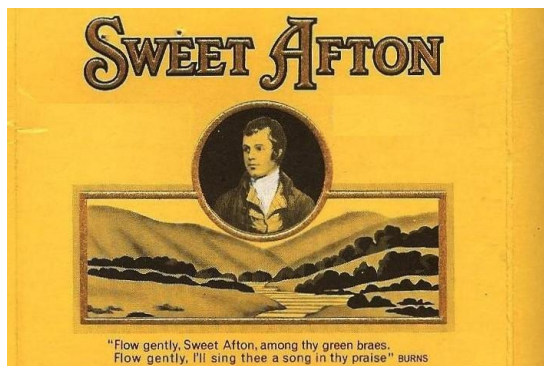
Each of our world-renowned tutors has prepared a video workshop especially for Féile na Tána 2022 with a mix of chat about technique, ornamentation, and some tunes to keep you busy! The workshops are between 30 and 45 minutes long and are available at a special on-line price of €20/£17 for 2022 and will be online via YouTube, which means you can join us from anywhere in the world!! With tutors including Zoe Conway, Bríd Harper, Cormac De Barra and Gerry O'Connor to name just a few, these are not to be missed.

<https://form.jotform.com/zoeconway/feile-na-tana>

County Museum

Following on from the development of online content in the run-up to Christmas the Museum continues to promote the collection on Facebook. Most recently the Museum posted an item highlighting Scottish poet Robert Burns' connections with Louth –his poem Afton Wine inspired the name for the Sweet Afton cigarette, whilst his sister Agnes Galt is buried in the cemetery beside St. Nicholas' Church in Dundalk, having lived at Stephenstown Pond.

Interestingly the feature inspired much comment on discussion both on the Museum pages and on the Dundalk Northern and Friends Facebook pages (to-date in excess of 3,500 engagements have been noted between the two postings).



Documentary Feature



Over Christmas on the history of the Allstar awards was broadcast on RTE. Originally sponsored by PJ Carroll's the awards formed part of the company's sports marketing portfolio which included other sports such a golf, tennis and showjumping. (to name but three.)

In producing the programme the documentary makers approached the Museum with a view to using some items from our PJ Carroll's collection as visual aids. These items were used when discussing the range of the company's sporting interests. The programme was broadcast several times over the Christmas break and was very well received.

Heritage Office

January is named for Janus, the Roman god of doorways and this month, appropriately, saw the finalisation of recoupment of projects carried out in 2021 and the beginning of planning of projects to be carried out in 2022. All outstanding funding was received this month, following the provision to funders of additional detailed reports.

Funding applications have already been submitted to the Heritage Council and for Decade of Centenaries funding, the latter following online discussions with colleagues in both the County and Newry and Mourne Museums). Other funding opportunities have been promoted to and discussed with staff colleagues and with others, including councillors and community groups. The Heritage Officer continues to work with the Carlingford Lough Heritage Trust on their plans for events to mark Saint Patrick's Day at the Tholsel, with funding support from the social media company Tik-Tok.

The LEADER-funded tourism development project continues, with requests for provision of

detailed information to and sign-off of drafts received from the consultants. The aim now is to have the interpretation signage in place by May but this depends on the receipt of consent from the statutory agencies responsible for these sites. It is hoped to have directional, fingerpost signage for the Hill of Faughart in place before St Brigid's Day.

Liaison took place with national colleagues in relation to the draft new Monuments and Archaeology and to the new national policy on

vernacular architecture, copies of which are available to anyone interested, in both English and Irish.

The Heritage Office also provided support in relation to planning (including site inspections and reporting), facilities management, operations, climate action and environment and on a proposed upgrade of a cross-border footpath, funded by ORIS, as well as representing his Trade Union on the COVID-19 Workers' Representatives' committee.