
TUARASCÁIL BHLIANTÚIL
ANNUAL REPORT

2014

COMHAIRLE CONTAE LÚ
LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL



COUNCIL COAT OF ARMS



The Arms of the County, as granted by the Chief Herald to the Council in 1976, are derived as follows:-

“Vert a besant charged with a Dexter Hand aversant coupled at the wrist proper”

This is the description of the lower part of the shield which is coloured green (vert) and on which is imposed a heraldic expression of the *Dextera Dei* or Right Hand of God from Muiredach’s Cross at Monasterboice. As on the latter, the armorial design shows the hand against a circular background or nimbus. This section of the Arms represents in particular the rural (or County Health District) part of the County.

Chief Sable, two ancient ships, sails set argent

The top part of the Arms is black in colour commemorating Muirthemne, the old Irish name of the sea off the County Louth Coast, and which translated into English means the “darkness of the sea”. The ships are inspired by the Coat of Arms of the Borough of Drogheda, which includes a ship anchored at a quayside. Each ship can be taken to represent respectively the Borough of Drogheda and the Urban District of Dundalk, both areas comprised within the administrative County. The ships are also representational of the fact that the County has always been a great centre of trade and commerce.

The Crest

The Crest incorporates a sword, the symbol of administration, surrounded by ears of barley. This design at once illustrates the nature of the Coat of Arms as a symbol of a civic administration, and the importance of agriculture in the life of the County.

The Motto

The motto commemorates the attribute of the Old Celtic God Lug, who was Saimhildanach or Master of all the Arts. It seems appropriate that a similar attribution should be incorporated into the motto of the County.



CONTENTS

Forward from an Cathaoirleach	2
Forward from the Chief Executive	3
Elected Members Prior to Amalgamation	4
Offices of Louth County Council	10
Louth's 4 Electoral Areas (& 3 Municipal Districts)	11
Elected Members Post Amalgamation	12
Corporate Affairs	16
Housing and Communities	23
Louth Local Community Development Committee	27
Community Support 2014	32
Louth Local Sports Partnership	35
Louth Emergency Services & Building Control	40
Louth County Library, Archives & Museum Services	41
Operations & Local Services	46
Economic Development, Tourism, Heritage & Conservation	49
Create Louth - The Arts Service of Louth County Council	52
Financial Figures	55

Tables & Appendices

- Key Performance Indicators	58
- Members Conferences Attendance Record	65
- Payments to Members for Meetings, Committees & Representation	67
- SPC Representation, etc.	68
- Committees/Organisations Council Representatives.....	69

MISSION STATEMENT

"To provide leadership and to deliver an efficient quality service to the people of Louth"



FOREWORD FROM AN CATHAOIRLEACH



Oliver Tully
Cathaoirleach

As Cathaoirleach of Louth County Council it is my pleasure to present this foreword to the Annual report for 2014.

This is an opportunity for us to reflect on the challenges and achievements of the past year. 2014 was quite unique in that vein in that we as a County started the year with four Local Authorities Louth County Council, Ardee Town Council, Drogheda Borough Council and Dundalk Town Council, and our year ended with an entirely new model of local government with Louth County Council as the single authority as provided for in the Local Government Reform Act, 2014

The local election in May seen in practical terms the numbers of local councillors reduce from a combined total of fifty nine to a new single authority of twenty nine members. The return of some of the former members together with a number of new councillors holds well for a dynamic chamber which will serve the entire county and its communities very well.

In this report the main achievements of the various Directorates is set out and it is important to note the delivery of these services by a staff who themselves seen significant changes in their work environment and practices.

The appointment of Joan Martin as County Manager and subsequently as Chief Executive has ensured a stability at the most senior level of management and this has helped delivery of the transition to the single authority model.

For the elected members part of this transition has been the introduction of Municipal and Borough Districts. I am delighted in this annual report to confirm the realisation and effective working of the new structure. I have no doubt that in the remaining years of this council the effectiveness and importance of this level of local government will become apparent and be embraced and embedded by all concerned.

Cllr. Oliver Tully
Cathaoirleach
Comhairle Contae Lú



OVERVIEW FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Ms Joan Martin,
Chief Executive

The very ambitious agenda for reform set out in 'Putting People First' and realised by the 'Local Government Reform Act, 2014' has been the focus of a lot of the staff and newly elected council during 2014. This however did not take from our key objective of delivering effective and efficient services in a transparent and cost effective manner.

Local Government now has a strengthened role in developing economic and community plans as provided for in the reform act. Louth County Council has embraced these challenges on a number of fronts and are engaging with stakeholders on a number of fronts to progress these ambitious goals.

The work of the Louth Economic Forum continued in 2014 and the addition of the Local Enterprise Office (LEO) to the remit of the council strengthened the local authority's position as a key economic catalyst. We have also in 2014 commenced a wide ranging consultation process in respect of Community and Economic plans and a wider engagement with the community in laying the foundation for the new Public Participatory Network (PPN)

Central to our work in 2014 was job creation and our role in placing Louth as the destination of choice for prospective employers. Our newly strengthened Economic unit has brought together key services of the council to provide a unified support service for those considering Louth as a new centre of industry or service.

Our transition to a single authority brought with it challenges that I am delighted to report were met with gusto by a diligent staff supported by a new Council who are themselves seeing many changes and opportunities under the new single local authority structure.

In commending the annual report to the Members I thank the Cathaoirleach and the members together with the staff for the support I have received in my first year as Chief Executive and I look forward to developing the county and improving the quality of life for the people of Louth with that continued support.

Joan Martin
Chief Executive

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Position Prior to Local Elections held on 23rd May 2014
(January - June 2014)

ELECTED MEMBERS OF ÚDARÁIS ÁITIÚLA LÚ / LOUTH LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Louth County Council Members (26 members)

DUNDALK / CARLINGFORD

MURNAGHAN , Martin (Fine Gael) **

Rathcor, Riverstown

Mob: 086 3760460

Email: martinmurnaghan@hotmail.com

CORRIGAN, Edel (Sinn Féin)

Aghaboys, Mountpleasant, Dundalk

Mob: 085 8476660

Email: edel.corrigan_2009@hotmail.com

LOUGHRAN, Jim (Sinn Féin)

Blackgate, Ravensdale, Dundalk

Mob: 087 7475069

Email: jim.loughran@louthcoco.ie

RYAN, Jim (Non-Party)

20 Fr. Murray Park, Dundalk

Mob: 087 7475957

Email: jim.ryan@louthcoco.ie

SAVAGE, Peter (Fianna Fáil)

Carn na N-Aol, Millgrange, Greenore

Mob: 087 1364378

Email: petersav@eircom.net

DUNDALK / SOUTH

BELLEW, Martin (Non-Party)

39 Meadow Grove, Dundalk

Mob: 086 3988451

Email: martinbellew@eircom.net

BREATHNACH, Declan (Fianna Fáil)

Knockbridge, Dundalk

Mob: 087 2697638

Email: declanbreathnach@gmail.com

ENGLISH, Linus (Fine Gael) **

5 St.Ronans Tce Dromiskin, Dundalk

Mob: 087 6393705

BUTLER, Marianne (Green Party) *

20 Quay Street, Dundalk

Mob: 086 8677672

Email: marianne.butler@dundalktown.ie

GREHAN, Alan (Non-Party)

4 Ath Lethan, Racecourse Road, Dundalk

Mob: 086 0676512

Mob: 087 1328625

Email: alan.grehan@louthcoco.ie

SHARKEY, Tomás (Sinn Féin)

Sinn Fein Offices, Crowe St. Dundalk

Mob: 087 9090629

Email: tomassharkeylouth@gmail.com



DROGHEDA WEST

BELL, Paul (Labour)

109 Ballsgrove, Drogheda

Mob: 087 1206736

Email: paul.bell@louthcoco.ie

DONOHUE, Anthony (Fine Gael)

Tymullen, Monasterboice, Drogheda

Mob: 087 6368080

Email: anthony.donohue@droghedaboro.ie

MAHER, Frank (Fianna Fáil)

51 Meadow View, Drogheda

Mob: 087 2895044

Email: frank.maher@droghedaboro.ie

McQUILLAN, Paddy (Sinn Féin)

326 Ballsgrove, Drogheda

Mob: 087 6669482

Email: pmcq68@eircom.net

DROGHEDA EAST

BYRNE, Tommy (Fianna Fáil)

10 Harvest Way, Wheaton Hall, Drogheda

Mob: 086 8201439

Email: info@thomasbyrne.ie

GODFREY, Frank (Non-Party)

Donore Road, Co. Meath

Mob: 086 6060261

Email: godfreyindependent@gmail.com

MUNSTER, Imelda (Sinn Féin)

252 Melifont Park, Drogheda

Mob: 087 7586320

Email: cllrmunster@eircom.net

SMITH, Pio (Labour) **

37 Forest Grange, Ballymakenny Road,

Drogheda

Mob: 087 9460673

Email: pio.smith@hotmail.com

O'DOWD, Michael (Fine Gael)

78 Chord Rd, Drogheda, Co Louth

Mob: 087 2245532

Email: michael.odowd@droghedaboro.ie

TULLY, Oliver (Fine Gael)

Baltray, Drogheda

Mob: 086 8245715

Email: tullyoliver@yahoo.co.uk

ARDEE

LENNON, Jim (Fine Gael)

Ballyoran, Louth Village, Dundalk

Mob: 087 9829673

Email: jim.lennon@louthcoco.ie

MARKEY, Colm (Fine Gael)

Corstown, Togher, Drogheda

Mob: 087 8317500

Email: colmmarkey1@gmail.com

MCCOY, Finnan (Fine Gael)

92 Rockfield Close, Ardee

Mob: 087 6950070

Email: finnan.mccoy@louthcoco.ie

McGEOUGH, Pearse (Sinn Féin)

8 St. Mary's Villas, Kilsaran, Castlebellingham

Mob: 086 8135447

Email: Pearse.McGeough@louthcoco.ie

REILLY, Liam (Fianna Fáil)

Milltown Grange, Dromiskin, Dundalk

Mob: 086 1000881

Email: info@liamreilly.ie

** co-opted 2011

* co-opted 2010

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POSITION JUST PRIOR TO THE NEW SINGLE LOCAL AUTHORITY STRUCTURE

Dundalk Town Council Members (12 members)



BELLEW, Martin (Non-Party)
BELLEW, Sean (Fianna Fáil)
BUTLER, Marianne (Green Party)
DOYLE, Maria (Fine Gael)
DEARY, Mark (Green Party)
GREEN, Jennifer (Sinn Féin)

KEELAN, Conor (Fianna Fáil)
MEENAN, Kevin (Sinn Féin)
MORGAN, Oliver (Non-Party)
O'BOYLE, Eamonn (Fine Gael)
RYAN, Jim (Independent)
TODD, Harry (Sinn Féin)

Drogheda Borough Council Members (12 members)



BELL, Paul (Labour)
CALLAN, Kevin (Fine Gael)
COOGAN, Matthew (Sinn Féin)
CULHANE, Richie (Fine Gael)
DONOHUE, Anthony (Fine Gael)
McKENNA, Ciarán (Socialist Party)

MAHER, Frank (Fianna Fáil)
MUNSTER, Imelda (Sinn Féin)
BELL-WOODS, Linda (Labour)
O'DOWD, Michael (Fine Gael)
O'HEILIGH, Ken (Non-Party)
WILTON, Dom (Sinn Féin)

Ardee Town Council Members (9 members)



FARRELLY, Michael (Non-Party)
HATRICK, Leonard (Labour)
KAVANAGH, Mary (Green Party)
MALONE, Fintan (Fianna Fáil)
McCOY, Finnan (Fine Gael)

McGEOUGH, Pearse (Sinn Féin)
McKENNY, Pdraig (Fianna Fáil)
MINOGUE, Dolores (Fine Gael)
TENANTY, Jim (Non Party)



DUNDALK TOWN COUNCIL 1899-2014



1 ▲ Cathaoirleach Eamonn O'Boyle and members of the last ever Dundalk Town Council.

- 2 Presentation to Cllr. Eamonn O'Boyle (Cathaoirleach of the last Dundalk Town Council).
- 3 Presentation to Frank Pentony Director of Services/(Town Clerk of the last Dundalk Town Council).
- 4 Cllr. Eamonn O'Boyle, (Cathaoirleach of the last Dundalk Town Council) unveils a plaque in the Dundalk Town Hall Foyer, marking the period for which the Dundalk Town Council was in existence 1899–2014. (looking on are Cllrs. Martin Bellew and Harry Todd each of whom was a retiring Councillor.)
- 5 The 12 members of the last Dundalk Town Council together with the Staff members who facilitated the Meetings, photographed on the steps of the Dundalk Town Hall.
- 6 Presentation to Cllr. Harry Todd, (Sinn Féin) on his retirement from Public Office.
- 7 Presentation to Cllr. Martin Bellew, (Non-Party) on his retirement from Public Office.

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DROGHEDA BOROUGH COUNCIL 1690-2014



Mayor Richie Culhane and Sergeant of the Mace Paul Maguire lead the members and officials of Drogheda Borough Council in procession to the Tholsel for their last ever meeting.



Photo: Andy Spearman.

Mayor Richie Culhane and members of the last ever Drogheda Borough Council. The only member missing is Ciarán McKenna the socialist member who did not attend the Mayor's reception because, as the "new boy" who was co-opted rather than elected he felt it inappropriate. He was however at the meeting that followed .



MISSION STATEMENT

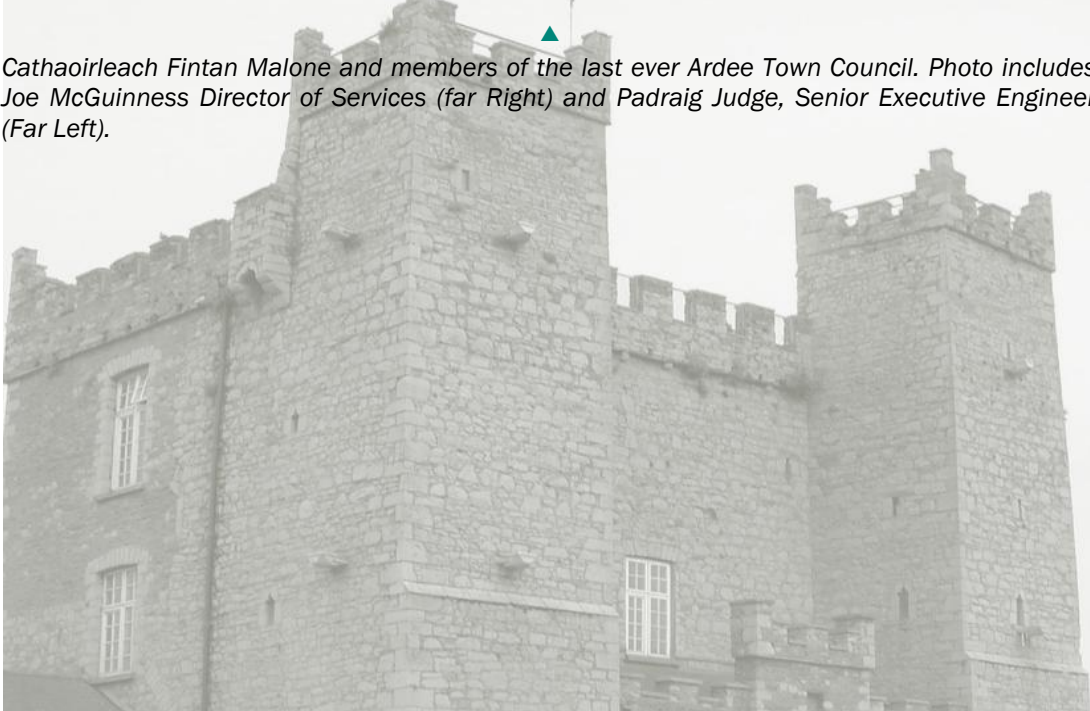
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ARDEE TOWN COUNCIL 1844-2014



Cathaoirleach Fintan Malone and members of the last ever Ardee Town Council. Photo includes Joe McGuinness Director of Services (far Right) and Pdraig Judge, Senior Executive Engineer (Far Left).



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Offices of Louth County Council

County Hall, Millennium Centre, ▼
Dundalk, County Louth.



◀ Town Hall, Crowe Street,
Dundalk, County Louth.

Mid Louth Civic Services Centre,
Fairgreen, Ardee, County Louth. ▼



▲ Civic Centre,
Fair Street,
Drogheda,
County Louth.



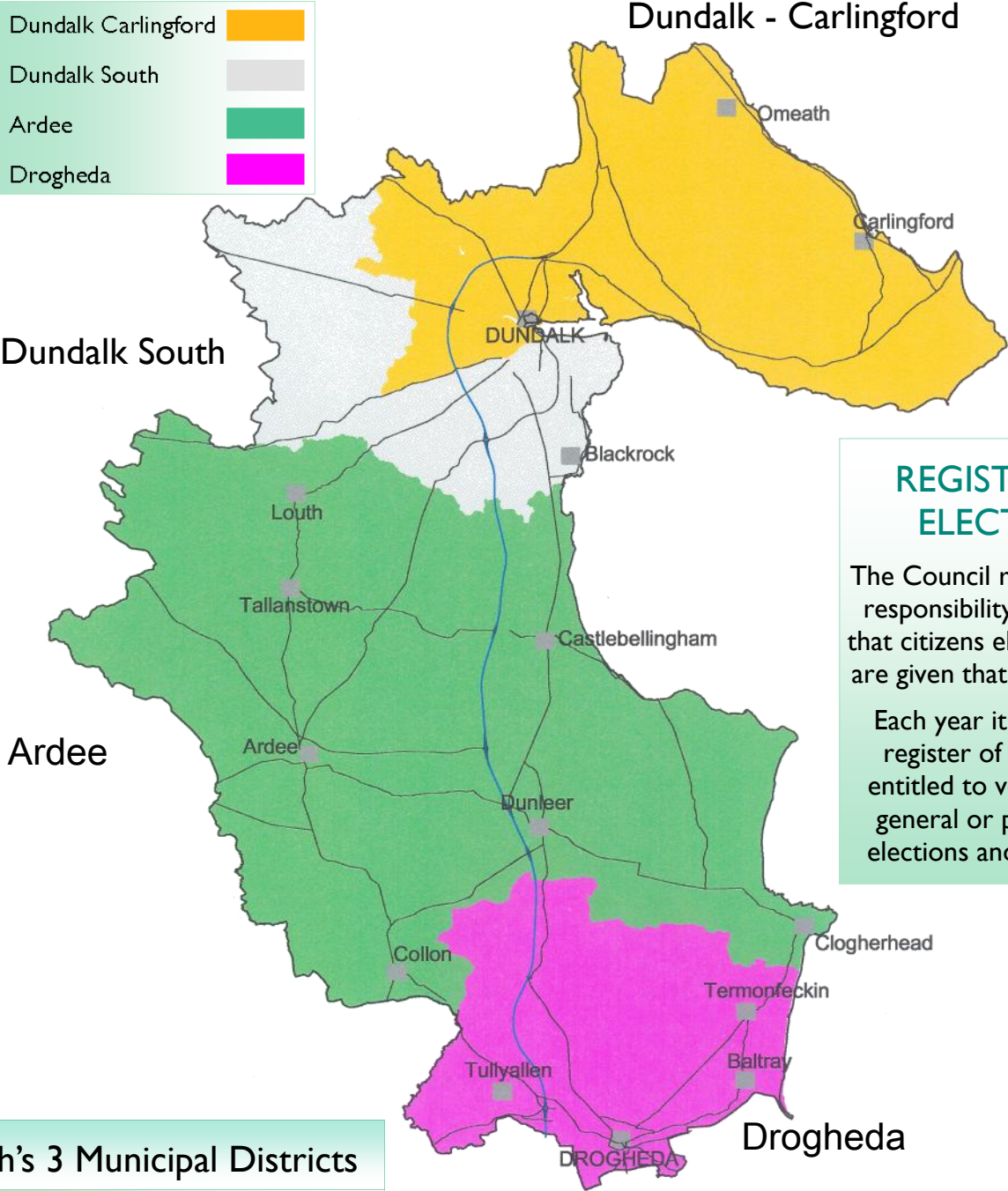
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Louth's 4 Local Electoral Areas

Dundalk Carlingford	
Dundalk South	
Ardee	
Drogheda	



REGISTER OF ELECTORS

The Council recognises it's responsibility in ensuring that citizens eligible to vote are given that opportunity.

Each year it compiles a register of all citizens entitled to vote at local, general or presidential elections and referenda.

Louth's 3 Municipal Districts

Municipal District of Dundalk	
Municipal District of Ardee	
Borough District of Drogheda	

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ELECTED MEMBERS OF COMHAIRLE CONTAE LÚ / LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL

**Position Post Local Elections held on 23rd May 2014
(June - December 2014) - 29 Members**

Ardee Electoral Area (6 members)



CUNNINGHAM, Tom (Sinn Féin)

4 Oriel Cove, Clogherhead, Drogheda, Co. Louth.

Mob: 087-3717884

Email: tom.cunningham@louthcoco.ie



MARKEY, Colm (Fine Gael)

Corstown, Togher, Drogheda, Co. Louth.

Mob: 087-8317500

Email: colm.markey@louthcoco.ie



McGEOUGH, Pearse (Sinn Féin)

8, St. Mary's Villas, Kilsaran, Castlebellingham, Co. Louth

Mob: 086-8135447

Email: Pearse.McGeough@louthcoco.ie



MINOGUE, Dolores (Fine Gael)

Whitefield, Jervis Street, Ardee, Co. Louth

Mob: 087-1880166

Email: dolores.minogue@louthcoco.ie



REILLY, Liam (Fianna Fáil)

Milltowngrange, Dromiskin, Dundalk, Co. Louth

Mob:

Email: info@liamreilly.ie



TENANTY, Jim (Non Party)

Riverbank, Jervis Street, Ardee, Co. Louth

Mob: 087-3717883

Email: jim.tenanty@louthcoco.ie



Drogheda Electoral Area (10 members)



BELL, Paul (Labour)
109 Ballsgrove, Drogheda, Co. Louth.
Mob: 087-1206736
Email: paulbell1@eircom.net



BYRNE, Tommy (Fianna Fáil)
10 Harvest Way, Wheaton Hall, Drogheda, Co. Louth.
Mob: 086-8201439
Email: info@thomasbyrne.ie / tommy.byrne@louthcoco.ie



CALLAN BL, Kevin (Non Party)
20 Fair Street, Drogheda, Co. Louth.
Mob: 087-7776648
Email: kevin.callan@louthcoco.ie



CASSIDY, Alan (Sinn Féin)
Hill of Rath, Tullyallen, Drogheda, Co. Louth .
Mob: 085-7396995
Email: alan.cassidy@louthcoco.ie



CULHANE, Richie (Fine Gael)
34 Melrose Avenue, Stameen, Drogheda, Co. Louth.
Mob: 087-6469495
Email: richie.culhane@louthcoco.ie



FLOOD, Kenneth (Sinn Féin)
30 Dunlin Street, Aston Village, Drogheda, Co. Louth.
Mob: 085-2133606
Email: kenneth.flood@louthcoco.ie



GODFREY, Frank (Non Party)
Boyne Valley Cottage, Donore Road, Drogheda, Co. Louth.
Mob: 086-6060261
Email: frank.godfrey@louthcoco.ie



MUNSTER, Imelda (Sinn Féin)
252 Mellifont Park, Drogheda, Co. Louth.
Mob: 087-7586320
Email: imelda.munster@louthcoco.ie

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SMITH, Pío (Labour)

37 Forest Green, Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda, Co. Louth.

Mob: 087-9460673

Email: pio.smith@hotmail.com



TULLY, Oliver (Fine Gael) - Cathaoirleach

Baltray, Drogheda, Co. Louth.

Mob: 086-8245715

Email: tullyoliver@yahoo.co.uk

Dundalk/Carlingford Electoral Area (6 members)



CORRIGAN, Edel (Sinn Féin)

Aghaboys, Mountpleasant, Dundalk, Co. Louth.

Mob: 085-8476660

Email: edel.corrigan@louthcoco.ie



DEAREY, Mark (Green Party)

Corrakit, Omeath, Dundalk, Co. Louth.

Mob: 087-2358197

Email: mark.dearey@louthcoco.ie



KEELAN, Conor (Fianna Fáil)

Oak Lodge, Newery Road, Dundalk, Co. Louth.

Mob: 087-7773200

Tel: 042-9336727

Email: conor.keelan@louthcoco.ie



LOUGHRAN, Jim (Sinn Féin)

Blackgate, Ravensdale, Dundalk, Co. Louth.

Mob: 087-7475069

Email: jim.loughran@louthcoco.ie



McGAHON, John (Fine Gael)

Faughart Gardens, St Patrick's Terrace, Dundalk, Co. Louth.

Mob: 085-1720143

Email: john.mcghon@louthcoco.ie



SAVAGE, Peter (Fianna Fáil)

Carn na N-Aol, Millgrange, Greenore, Co. Louth.

Mob: 087-1364378

Email: peter.savage@louthcoco.ie



Dundalk South Electoral Area (7 members)



BREATHNACH, Declan (Fianna Fáil)

Knockbridge, Dundalk, Co. Louth.

Mob: 087-2697638

Email: declan.breathnach@louthcoco.ie / declan.breathnach@gmail.com



BUTLER, Marianne (Green Party) - Leas Cathaoirleach

Cophorn, Lower Avenue Road, Dundalk, Co. Louth.

Mob: 086-8677672

Email: marianne.butler@louthcoco.ie



DOYLE, Maria (Fine Gael)

6 Bóthar na Dara, Lis na Dara, Carrick Road, Dundalk, Co. Louth.

Mob: 086-8770894

Email: maria.doyle@louthcoco.ie



GREEN, Jennifer (Sinn Féin)

Mulholland Avenue, Dundalk, Co. Louth.

Mob: 087-1446518

Email: jennifer.green@louthcoco.ie



MEENAN, Kevin (Sinn Féin)

5 Cottage View, Farm Road, Annagassan, Dunleer, Co. Louth.

Mob: 085-8589241

Email: meenan.kev@gmail.com



SHARKEY, Tomás (Sinn Féin)

Allardstown, Knockbridge, Dundalk, Co. Louth.

Mob: 087-9090629

Email: tomassharkeylouth@gmail.com



YORE, Maeve (Non Party)

2 Blakely Close, Avenue Road, Dundalk, Co. Louth.

Mob: 087-6172127

Email: maeve.yore@louthcoco.ie

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CORPORATE AFFAIRS

MEETINGS OF LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL – 2014

Monthly Meeting	11
Special Meeting	5
Annual Meeting	1
Budget Meeting	1
CPG (Corporate Policy Group)	10
Strategic Policy Committee (2009–2014) -Pre JUNE 2014 ▼	
SPC – Housing	2
SPC – Economic Development & Forward Planning	0
SPC – Environment	0
SPC – Transportation	0
Strategic Policy Committee (2014–2019) -Post JUNE 2014 ▼	
SPC – Housing & Community	1
SPC – Economic Development & Enterprise Support	1
SPC – Planning & Environment	1
SPC – Infrastructure, European & Cross Border Affairs	1
Area Committee Meeting – Dundalk	4
Area Committee Meeting – Ardee	4
Area Committee Meeting – Drogheda	4
JPC – Drogheda and South Louth	1
JPC – Dundalk and North Louth	1
JPC – Ardee and Mid Louth	1
JPC – Steering Group Committee	3
Post JUNE 2014 ▼	
Borough District of Drogheda	6
Municipal District of Dundalk	6
Municipal District of Ardee	6
Adjourned Meetings of the Council	2
Total No. of Meetings held in 2014	72



COUNCIL MEETINGS

Louth County Council holds a monthly meeting on the third Monday of each month together with a statutory Budget meeting and Annual Meeting and also special meetings from time to time as required to deal with issues such as review of the County development Plan. A total of 18 meetings were held during 2014.

The statutory **Budget Meeting** was held on 17th of November 2014 at which the Council considered a gross revenue expenditure of €93,045,875 for 2015 and adopted an annual Rate on the valuation of €62.46. The report presented to the Council with the draft budget incorporated reports from each directorate on progress achieved throughout 2014 in the context of the previous Corporate Plan.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT COMMITTEES

There are 3 Municipal District committees ensuing to the 4 Local Electoral Division Areas as follows:

<i>Municipal District</i>	<i>Local Electoral Area</i>	<i>Chairman</i>	<i>Meetings Held</i>
Municipal District of DUNDALK	Dundalk/Carlingford	Cathaoirleach Declan Breathnach	1st Tuesday of each month.
	Dundalk South		
Borough District of DROGHEDA	Drogheda	Mayor Kevin Callan	1st Monday of each month.
Municipal District of ARDEE	Ardee	Cathaoirleach Jim Tenanty	1st Thursday of each month.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Local government reform as specified in the “Putting People First” document and given legal provision in the Local Government Reform Act, 2014 is a wide ranging programme embracing many aspects of the local government service to the community. The reforms put a strong emphasis on accountability as the foundation of a properly functioning system of local democracy, providing for better engagement with citizens.

Louth County Council is prioritising customer service in this context and also in the context of a substantial reduction in resources and is committed to optimum delivery of our wide range of essential services to the public and to applying the highest standards in all dealings with our customers.

Significant improvements in customer service have been achieved, and we have a renewed focus on putting customer service at the core of everything we do,

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together with an underlying principle of respect, accessibility and equality in the manner in which services are provided.

Key Customer Service Developments in 2014

Specific customer service initiatives to date include:

- The introduction of a Customer Service Manager to drive Customer Services Excellence in the organisation.
- A focused customer services team is now in place, and there are dedicated customer service agents in Drogheda, Dundalk and Ardee who are the first point of contact for local communities and citizens.
- A single call centre is in operation, accessible through a local number, 1890 202 303.
- The introduction of a Customer Relationship Management System (CRM), the purpose of CRM is to have a system that allows us to track customer requests and customer queries across the whole organisation, including all locations and by all means. Sugar CRM is a common front-end to deal with customer queries, no matter what the query is or how it is received. The first phase is focused on the functionality around handling Customer Service queries.
- A commitment to online information and communication with a focus on the use of social media @louthcoco.ie and through www.fixyourstreet.ie which is a publicly accessible web site with associated mobile technologies on which non emergency issues such as *graffiti, road defects, issues with street lighting, water leaks/drainage issues, and litter or illegal dumping* can be reported. Issues raised will be responded to within 2 working days.

REGISTER OF ELECTORS

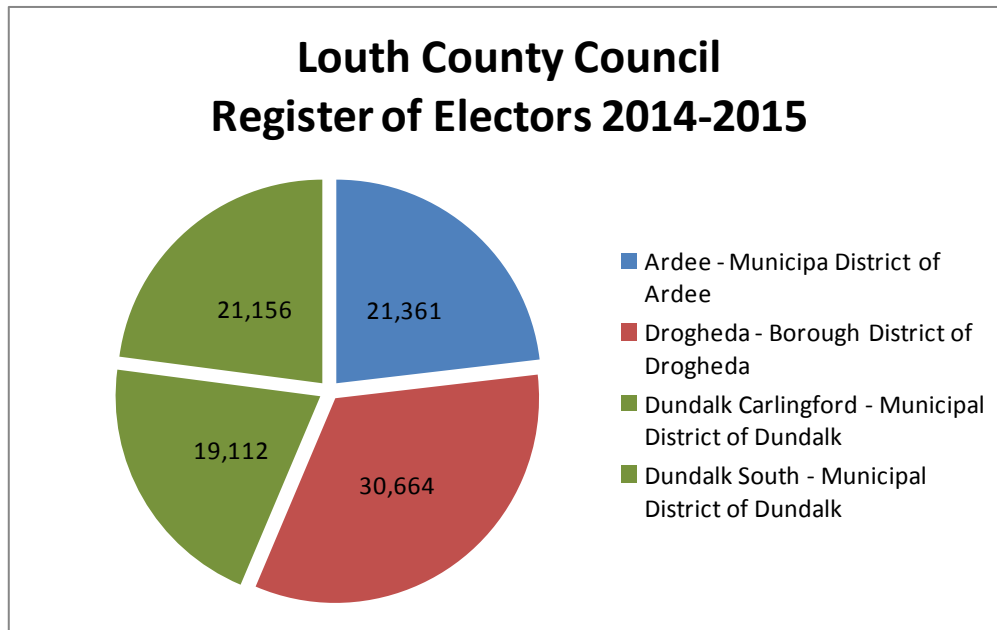
The Register of Electors effective from February 15, 2014 showed a total voting population of 92,293, comprised as follows:

Breakdown by Type of Elector

Presidential Electors	87,170
Dáil Electors	87,926
European Electors	88,916
Local Electors	92,293



Breakdown by Local Electoral Areas



As a result of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 the 3 town councils were dissolved resulting in the formation of the Municipal Districts of Ardee and Dundalk and the Borough District of Drogheda. The Municipal District of Dundalk consists of the two Local Electoral Areas of Dundalk Carlingford and Dundalk South.

Edited Register of Electors

The edited Register of Electors effective from February 15, 2014 contained 3,072 names.

Elections during 2014

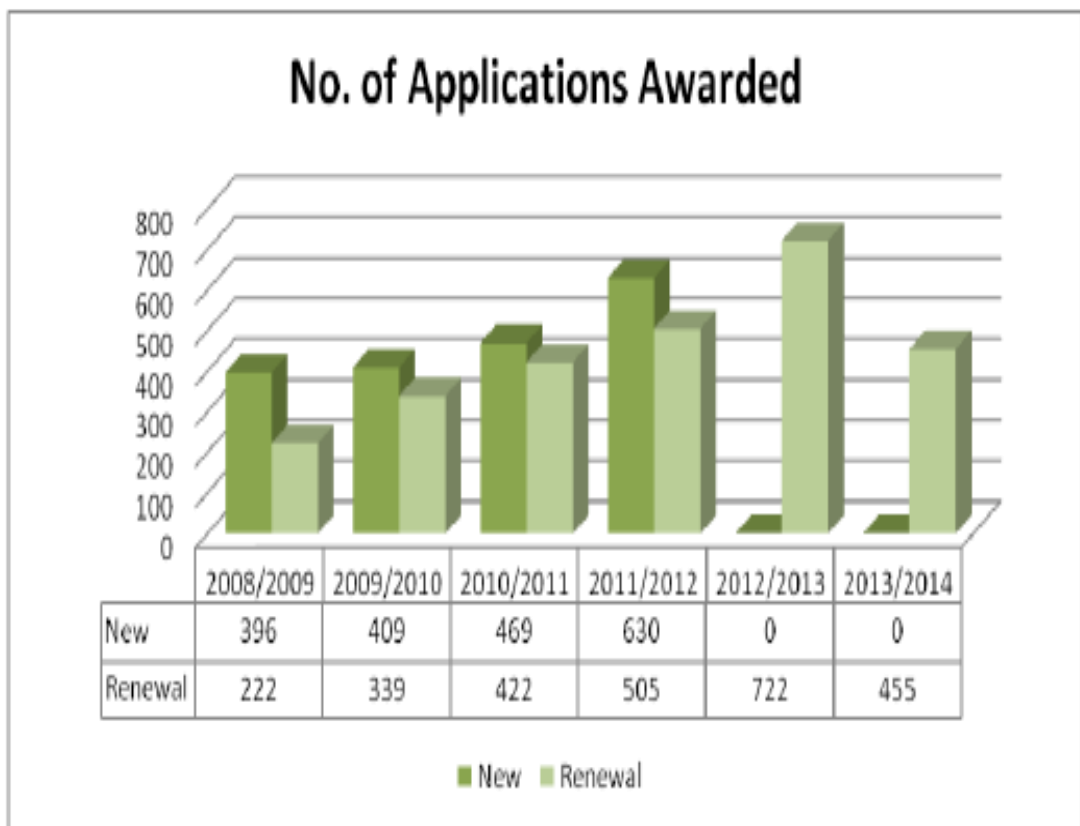
On Friday 23rd May, the 2014 Local Elections were held, on the same day the European Parliament Elections were also held.



HIGHER EDUCATION GRANTS

A total of €2,237,385.32 was paid out for Higher Education Grants during the 2013/2014 Academic Year. All grants/fees paid to students, are recoupable from the Department of Education & Skills with the exception of a fixed contribution of €6,279.11. The Council administration costs are not recoupable.

Statistics on the number of Higher Education Grant applications awarded for the last 6 Academic Years are as follows:



CITIZEN SERVICES

Freedom of Information

During 2013 41 applications were made under the Freedom of Information Act 1997/2003 to Louth County Council. In Louth County Council there was an increase of 25% on 2012 figures, in Drogheda Borough Council and in Dundalk Town Council there was a decrease of 43% on 2012 figures.



	Louth County Council 2013	Drogheda Borough Council 2013	Dundalk Town Council 2013	Louth County Council 2014	Drogheda Borough Council 2014	Dundalk Town Council 2014
Total Number of Requests	33	4	4	41	3	1
- Personal	9	3	Nil	15	Nil	Nil
- Non-Personal	21	1	4	24	3	1
- Mixed	3	Nil	Nil	2	Nil	Nil
Requests Granted	10	2	3	8	1	Nil
Requests Part Granted	16	Nil	NIL	21	1	1
Requests Refused	7	2	Nil	5	1	Nil
Requests Transferred	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Requests withdrawn	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Requests withdrawn and handled outside of FOI	Nil	Nil	1	2	Nil	Nil
Requests for Internal Review	1	1	Nil	3	Nil	Nil
Appeals to the Information Commissioner	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	Nil
Source of Requests						
Journalists	3	Nil	Nil	5	Nil	Nil
Business	9	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	1
Oireachtas	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Others/General Public	16	3	4	32	3	Nil
Staff	5	Nil	Nil	4	Nil	Nil

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	Louth County Council	Drogheda Borough Council	Dundalk Town Council
Ombudsman Complaints			
Complaints received during the year	4		1
<i>Subject of Complaints</i>			
Community, Recreation & Amenities			
Corporate Affairs			
Environment/Enforcement/Vets	1		
Finance			
Future Planning & Economic Development			
Housing	1		
Planning			
Transportation/Traffic			1
Motortax	2		
Water Services			
Citizen Charter Complaints			
Complaints received during 2014	10	0	0



HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES

“Facilitate sustainable communities through the provision of accommodation that responds to the needs of all through a process of community planning.”

HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT

At the end of 2014 there were 4535 applicants on the housing list for Louth County Council, 592 applicants for the Ardee Municipal District, 1823 in the Drogheda Municipal District and 2120 in the Dundalk Municipal District.

Housing Allocations

A total of 87 social housing allocations were made and 41 allocations were made through the Voluntary Housing Associations. As a pilot the Chociced Based Letting Scheme was used to allocate 2 dwellings. The Scheme operates on the basis where a vacant house is advertised on the Council’s website and the press inviting applicants to express an interest in a particular house. Following the closing date the applicants are assessed and the allocation is made. It is hoped to expand this scheme in 2015.

Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)

The Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) is an initiative administered by Local Authorities in support of their social housing programme. It involves privately owned accommodation being leased on behalf of eligible tenants and at the end of 2014 there were 174 properties in the RAS Scheme.

Long Term Leasing

The Council continued to lease properties under the long term leasing scheme for periods up to 20 years duration from the private sector. These properties are used to accommodate applicants from the housing list.

Private Rented Stock

At the end of 2014 a total 991 inspections were carried out on private rented stock in accordance with Regulations of Standards for Rented Housing.

RENTS AND MAINTENANCE SECTION

Housing Stock

At the end of 2014 the Council’s Housing Stock was **3,953**, including:-

Council Rent Dwellings:	3634
Long Term Leased:	230
Other:	89

Maintenance

The Council and tenants are responsible for the maintenance of **3,864** units. The

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Council's responsibilities involve the main structure of the building including repair of electrical and fixed heating systems. In 2014, 4,919 repair requests were received. Repairs are categorised into Emergency, Urgent, Routine and Low Priority Repairs. Emergency repairs are dealt with in 1-3 working days.

Rents

The Rents Department was centralised in Drogheda in 2014 and 4,057 accounts are managed by the Rents Section. Housing rents are assessed on a differential rents basis, in accordance with Louth County Council's Rents Scheme.

- If your income is low, your rent payment will reflect this and will be low.
- If your income increases so will your rent payment.
- The income of all household members is considered and rent calculations are adjusted accordingly.
- If your income or the income of anyone in your household changes, you must inform the local authority and rent will be adjusted upwards or downwards in accordance to the change.

Income from Rents in 2014 was €9,403,061.

Rent Arrears

At the end of 2014, rent arrears were €1,888,011. A preventative approach has been taken to avoid arrears and all new tenants must pay their rent by Household Budget or Bank. The Rents Team are available to meet with tenants to assist with setting up payment plans and plans can often be set up over the phone. Tenants with arrears can be issued with Warning letters with a view to resolving the arrears situation. More serious action is taken by the Council if tenants fail to reduce their arrears and legislative measures are taken in order to seek possession of properties.

ESTATE

MANAGEMENT:

Louth County Council's Estate Management Policy aims to promote and facilitate tenant involvement in the management of local authority estates. Support is provided to residents' groups through various grant schemes and estate initiatives and the Council's two Tenant Liaison Officers work in estates to establish and liaise with residents groups to carry out community



Members of Beechwood Drive Residents Group, Dunleer with grass cutting equipment funded by Louth County Council

based projects and to address any estate issues which arise throughout the year. This may necessitate projects such as the erection of 'no ball playing signs' or initiatives to



'design out' anti social behaviour in estates. In 2014, financial and logistical support from Louth County Council facilitated several resident led landscaping projects, the purchase of grass cutting and gardening equipment and the provision of paint to aid estate maintenance. Other initiatives such as the provision of community wheelie bins and litter picking equipment continue to be successful in encouraging resident involvement and improving estate appearance. As a focal point for community involvement, Local Authority estates also enter into their local environment awards competitions, which encourage pride and participation in their communities.



Resident led estate improvement project in Fr Finn Park, Louth Village

Tenant Liaison Officers also carry out house inspections to ensure individual properties are being maintained to an appropriate standard and support is provided to tenants where improvements are necessary. Every new tenant appointed to a Council tenancy receives pre-tenancy training to provide them with relevant information and advise them of their responsibilities as tenants. All new council allocations are inspected six months after allocation to ensure good standards are being maintained and to identify any issues at an early stage.

HOUSING CORE

Cox's Demesne Regeneration Scheme

After the successful completion of Phase 1 of the Cox's Demesne Regeneration Scheme, which saw €3million being spent on energy efficiency improvement works to 650 houses, LCC proceeded with the design of Phase 2 works, which would result in the building of 34 new housing units. Approval was granted by Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government and Phase 2 A works (14 new housing units) & associated environmental works began on site in early Jan 2015. The works are planned to be completed in early January 2016, which will result in the construction of 14 new units which are being built to a high level of energy efficiency and assist in the provision of housing stock that will allow lifelong living. It is expected that Phase 2B works will commence straight away after the completion of Phase 2A.

Louth Energy Pilot Project

Louth County Council recently completed the largest social housing "Energy Efficiency Improvement Scheme" of its type to take place in Europe this year which saw 2,100 local authority houses receiving energy efficiency improvement works. According to Cathaoirleach of Louth County Council Cllr. Peter Savage, "We are proud that Louth has led the way in regards to the size of this energy efficiency project. This project saw the energy efficiency upgrade to 2,100 local authority homes throughout our county. These

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Brendan Gillard (Housing Engineer) and Oliver Tully (Chairperson)

energy upgrades will facilitate the reduction of their home energy bills while also increasing comfort levels for individuals and families.

Louth County Council along with project partners Electric Ireland, SEAI, Climote and Kingspan successfully delivered the project, which began with a trial of the climote remote control home heating system in 40 homes in Cooley Park, Dundalk in October 2013. As a result 2,000 homes from the Cooley Peninsula down to Drogheda received energy improvement upgrades with a climote remote control heating systems and a further 100 homes receiving a full energy upgrade including insulation from Kingspan.

Speaking at an event in Dundalk to acknowledge the completion of the project the Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources Alex White T.D. said “what I am really excited to see, in this project, is the tangible connection between energy policy and real improvements in the quality of life for citizens. It also shows the potential for local authorities when it comes to achieving our National Energy Policy objectives. This will inform the Public Sector Energy Efficiency Action Plan, which I will be publishing in the autumn. The successful delivery of projects like this demonstrates a new approach to energy efficiency funding in the public sector.”

Louth County Council has yet again lead the way in rolling out energy efficiency improvement works and it is expected that later in the year that many other local authorities and social housing agencies throughout Ireland will now seek to replicate the project carried out in Louth with climote and other project partners.



LOUTH LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Louth Local Community Development Committee (**LCDC**) was established under section 36 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014. Louth County Council had already commenced this structure on an administrative basis since April 2014.

Louth County Council formally adopted by resolution the membership of the Louth LCDC at their meeting 21st July 2014.

Role of the Louth LCDC

The role of the LCDC is to develop, coordinate and implement a coherent and integrated approach to local community development. In short the LCDC will carry out the following functions in line with the provision of the Act:

- The LCDC will plan and oversee local and community development funding both spent by Louth County Council or, by local development bodies on behalf of the state.
- Bring a joined up approach to local and community development through an integrated approach to local community based services.
- Drive and support meaningful citizen and community engagement in community planning processes.
- Enhance the links between service delivery and policy development through action learning and feedback.
- Pursue a more cost effective administration to local and community development programmes and delivery structures with better value for money.
- Pursue opportunities for additional funding

The principle function of the Louth LCDC is to prepare, implement and monitor the community elements of the Louth Economic and Community Plan 2015-2020. The Louth LCDC will coordinate, manage and oversee the implementation of local and community development programmes approved either by Louth County Council or by agreement with the LCDC and a relevant public authority. In its oversight role the Louth LCDC will improve and coordinate public funded programmes to avoid duplication and ensure SMART (Specific, Measureable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound) delivery of actions in Co Louth.

The Louth LCDC will also consider the draft economic actions of the Louth LECP.

Activities of Louth County Council regarding the promotion of interests in the community in County Louth set out in Section 66 of the Local Government Reform Act 2001 have now been delegated to Louth LCDC under Section 128B(2) of the Local Government Act 2014 and are as follows:

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- social inclusion or social, environmental, recreational, cultural or community development,
- The general development, including enterprise and economic functions arising from local and community development activities, within the local authority administrative area.

Guiding Principles of Louth LCDC

Louth LCDC provides the oversight and governance to community development in County Louth. They will do this through a participative “bottom-up” approach identifying priorities through meaningful community engagement. Louth LCDC will maintain a clear focus on including marginalised communities, working with different abilities and experiences in partnership to obtain the best use of local resources in planning and policy development. There will be a very strong emphasis on providing a community environment where enterprise and job creation will be a high priority.

Membership

Louth LCDC has a membership of 19 and its membership was elected or nominated through the various pillars.

Public Sector Members	Private Sector Members
Cllr Colm Markey	Mr Paddy Matthews, Chamber
Cllr Dolores Minogue	Mr John Cotterell, Chamber
Cllr Pearse McGeough	Mr Eddie Phelan, PPN Voluntary
Cllr Liam Reilly	Ms Marian Sloan, PPN Social Inclusion
Mr Joe English, LEO, LCC	Mr Anthony McArdle, PPN Voluntary
Ms Anne Keeley, Social Protection	Mr Kevin Moran, PPN Social Inclusion
Ms Fiona Murphy, HSE	Mr Breffni Martin, PPN Environmental
Mr Joe McGuinness, LCC	Mr Frank O'Brien, ICTU
Mr Peter Kierans, LMETB	Ms Breeda Tuite, Farming
	Ms Mary Ann McGlynn, Louth Leader Partnership



Public Sector Members		Meetings Attended			
		25/04/2014	26/08/2014	22/09/2014	03/11/2014
	Cllr Frank Maher	✓			
	Cllr Colm Markey	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Cllr Dolores Minogue		✓	✓	✓
	Cllr Liam Reilly		✓		
	Cllr Pearse McGeough		✓	✓	✓
LCC	Joe McGuinness	✓	✓	✓	✓
HSE	Fiona Murphy			✓	✓
DSP	Ann Keeley	✓			
LMETB	Peter Kierans	✓			
LEO	Mary T Daly/Joe English		✓	✓	✓
Chief Officer	Mary Deery	✓	✓	✓	✓
Private Sector Members					
Social Inclusion	Kevin Moran	✓	✓	✓	
Community	Anthony McArdle	✓	✓	✓	✓
Community	Eddie Phelan	✓	✓		
Social Inclusion	Marian Sloane	✓	✓	✓	✓
Environment	Breffni Martin		✓		
Farming	Breeda Tuite	✓	✓	✓	✓
CoC Dundalk	Paddy Matthews	✓	✓	✓	✓
CoC Drogheda	John Cotterell		✓	✓	✓
ICTU	Frank O'Brien	✓	✓	✓	✓
LLP	Mary-Ann McGlynn	✓	✓		✓

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The legislation requires that the LCDC publish an annual report of its activities in the previous year. In future years this annual report will form part of the Local Authority Annual Report. The report should provide an outline of activities for the reporting period. This first report, endorsed by the LCDC should be brought to the elected Council before the 31 March 2015 or immediately following the next meeting of the LCDC, which is scheduled for April 13th next.

Outline of Activities

Record of LCDC meetings held since establishment:

• 25th April 2014
• 26th August 2014
• 22nd September 2014
• 3rd November 2014

The activities covered by the LCDC during 2014 are listed as follows:

- **Election of Chairperson & Vice Chairperson**

The April meeting of Louth LCDC saw the election of an interim chair Cllr Colm Markey until the 2014 local elections were held in May. The August LCDC meeting subsequently saw the election of Cllr Colm Markey as chair and Kevin Moran (interim PPN, Social Inclusion) as vice chair. All LCDC members formally adopted Standing Orders and have complied with the conflict of interest criteria required in the Code of Conduct for County Councillors.

- **Approval of Local Community Development Programme (LDCP) payments since 1 July 2014.**

The LDCP expired in December 2014, however payments for the period July to December 2014 required the approval of the LCDC, and this was given in each case.

- **Oversight of the Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) Procurement Process**

SICAP is the largest nationally social inclusion funded programme delivered directly into communities. The aim of the programme is to enable communities which are most disadvantaged to develop and sustain their own wellbeing. The target groups are:

- Children and Families from Disadvantaged Areas
- Lone Parents
- New Communities (including Refugees/Asylum Seekers)
- People living in Disadvantaged Communities
- People with Disabilities
- Roma
- The Unemployed (including those not on the Live Register)
- Travellers
- Young Unemployed People from Disadvantaged areas



Louth was allocated €965,881 funding for the period Mar 2014-Dec 2014. The Programme had 2 phases in a restricted procurement process, phase 1 delivered by Pobal and phase 2 by LCC. This procurement was overseen and endorsed by the LCDC.

- **Preparatory work on the Community Elements of the Local Economic Community Plan**

Louth County Council and Louth LCDC have completed a socio-economic data analysis on County Louth. In preparation of the plan Louth LCDC had also to carry out desk top research on specific national plans and programmes which must be delivered through the LECP at local level.

A joint community and economic high level workshop was held 5th September 2014 where the socio-economic data was examined and discussed. The feedback from the workshop was interpreted in conjunction with the data and a draft framework was identified.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT 2014

National Tidy Towns

Towns and villages in Louth continued to do very well in the National Tidy Towns competition. With both Dundalk and Drogheda retaining their gold medals, Tallanstown and Blackrock being awarded silver, and Knockbridge winning bronze, all centres in Louth all increased their marks and continue to be standard setters on a national level. Kilcurry won the Endeavour Award for the county, while Dromiskin won a Special Award for Best Bring Banks.

Louth Looking Good Awards 2014

The Louth Looking Good Awards were held on 18th September 2014 to reward all the Tidy Towns Groups, residents associations, community groups, businesses and volunteers who consistently work hard to improve the county.

Blackrock was the overall winner in the competition, with Tallanstown and Dromiskin coming in at second and third place respectively. Castlebellingham - Kilsaran won the most improved award, Dunleer was the winner of the Adjudicators award, while De La Salle Crescent in Ardee won the Best Overall Housing Estate in the county.



Beauty on the Boyne Awards 2014

These awards were held on 23rd October 2014 to recognise and acknowledge all the residents associations, community groups and businesses who are working hard to improve the quality of life in the town of Drogheda.



Dundalk Improve Our Town 2014

These awards took place on 9th October 2014 and are also a recognition of all that is done by the residents, community groups, volunteers and businesses in the town of Dundalk.

Schools Campaign

The Green Schools programme continues to grow in Louth with 90 schools registered in this national environmental programme. Three new schools were also awarded flags this year.



Primary Schools

The local Primary Schools Environment campaign also continues to be successful with 42 entrants to the local competition this year, all of whom were recognised and acknowledged at the Awards ceremony held on 18th June 2014.

Secondary Schools

The secondary schools campaign was showcased at an event on 24th January 2014, whereby 51 transition year students from schools around the county displayed their creations all made from recycled material. This is part of the programme to increase awareness of recycling and waste prevention in the county, as required under the Regional waste Management Plan. These same students went on to achieve success at national level with 14 teams making it through to the regional finals of 'Junk Kouture'. Four finalists were selected for the All-Ireland Finals, one of whom won the Eastern Regional Title amid extensive national media coverage.



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Greener Christmas Radio Campaign

A joint initiative was undertaken in conjunction with local primary schools and LMFM to encourage waste prevention over the holiday season. Traditionally this is a time when bins, bring banks and recycling centres are inundated with significantly increased levels of waste. As part of the Eastern Midlands Waste Management Plan, waste prevention is a key objective. Local schoolchildren produced poems to encourage waste prevention, all 400 of which were displayed on the www.louthcoco.ie website over the holiday period. The three winning entries were also recorded as radio advertisements in order to raise awareness over the Christmas season.



Gum Litter Campaign

The staff of Louth County Council joined forces with the Tidy Towns from around the county to highlight the issue of gum litter on our streets.

A promotional event took place at the Marshes Shopping centre, Dundalk, on 6th August 2014.



An Irish Sports Council Initiative

LOUTH LOCAL SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

Louth Local Sports Partnership Strategic Goal 1: Increasing Participation for All

1.1 Participation projects for target groups:

- **Buntús Start for Pre-Schools:** Buntús Start is a physical activity programme for children aged 2 to 5 years. The pre-school teachers receive 6 hours training to deliver the programme and a large bag of equipment and resource cards. The overall total of pre-school services involved in the programme is 91 with 611 staff trained who work with 3718 children.
- **Buntús Generic for Primary Schools:** Buntús Generic – This programme is designed to complement the games strand of the P.E. curriculum. The teachers receive 4 hours of training, resource cards and two large bags of equipment. The overall total number of schools trained in the programme is 66 with 839 teachers trained working with over 13,000 children.
- **5 schools participated in the Sportshall Athletics programme in 2014.** Sportshall is indoor athletics for children. It is an enjoyable method of developing fundamental sports skills and fitness during cold winter months and an age appropriate pathway into mainstream participation. The programme is a Louth Sports Partnership initiative which has been organised by Dundalk Sports Centre in conjunction with DKIT. A Louth finals day was held with 5 schools participating and from this 3 schools went on to compete in the National Finals in Athlone.



Sportshall Athletics in Dundalk Sports Centre ▲

- **Be Active After Schools Activity Programme** – In 2014 5 schools participated in the programme – with 30 parent volunteers and 18 teachers trained. The initiative was borne out of a perceived need to broaden the physical activity experiences of school-aged children and to involve parents in such

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experiences. The teachers and parent volunteers are trained and the school receives a folder with resource cards. These are divided into 5 categories: games, gym, dance, outdoor and adventure and athletics.

- During National Recreation Week 29 youths got the chance to try out kayaking, canoeing and stand up paddle boarding and 13 youths took part in a summer soccer camp. This was organised in conjunction with the FAI in a disadvantaged area.



- The Transition Year Triathlon was held for the third year running. 158 students representing 8 schools participated in the event. Students were required to swim 200m indoor swim, cycle 10K and run 3K. Students could participate either individually or a part of a team.



▲ Transition Year Triathlon 2014 ▲



- Disability Awareness Training – 256 participants trained from transition year groups, sports clubs and third level institutions.
- Zumba dance classes for people with a disability were provided in Drogheda for 17 participants.
- Aqua aerobics classes for people with a disability were provided for 10 participants.
- Physical activity programme for people with a disability in St. John of God Centre – 30 participants. Activities included games, fundamental movement skills and boccia and curling.
- Louth LSP supported the set up of Parkrun in Oldbridge, Co. Meath. The run now has approximately 150 regularly taking part.
- Louth LSP ran Grant schemes targeting increasing participation by people with a disability and a Sports Club grant scheme to support clubs and groups in maintaining and increasing participation. 18 clubs received €11,200.
- Older Adults dance classes and exercise classes were organised in Ardee, Blackrock and Dundalk with 55 participants. The FitLine phone support service for older adults who wish to become more physically active was being used by 20 older adults in 2014.

Older Adults Dance Class ►



- National Bike Week events organised in June 2014 included family fun days, school based bike health checks and cycle safety training.



Approximately 400 people took part in Bike Week in the County

◄ Bike Week 2014

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- The Operation Transformation Walk was held in Dundalk in January 2014 and 241 people participated. A workplace walking/jogging group was also set up.



▲ O.T. Walk in Dundalk ▲

1.2 Club and Volunteer Development

- Training provided for clubs and volunteers on Code of Ethics (18 courses held with 283 participants) and Club Childrens Officer Training (one course held with 15 participants)
- Training and advice provided on funding and local club promotion

1.3 Access to Facilities

- Louth LSP has maintained a directory of County Sports Facilities.

Louth Local Sports Partnership Strategic Goal 2: Building Sustainable Partnerships

- LSP board sub group set up for the working areas of Grants.
- Core funding of €100,582 maintained from the Irish Sports Council for 2014. This was a reduction of 3% from 2013. The ISC funding was match funded locally through additional funding applications and benefit in kind to the Local Sports Partnership.
- Three work placement students from DkIT were facilitated throughout the year and links were also made with programmes in both DkIT and DIFE in relation to linking programmes of study with work experience at LSP events.
- There is currently one active Louth LSP network – the Louth PE Teachers Network.
- During 2014 we built on existing partnerships with the NGBs. We supported



an introduction to cricket Workshop and a Spikeball volleyball workshop and a badminton workshop for teachers/coaches and delivered the Sporshall Athletics programme.

Louth Local Sports Partnership Strategic Goal 3: Developing and Improving Communications

- Regular updates on events and information is provided to clubs through our e-mail contacts, twitter and press releases to local media.
- The website is regularly updated and e-mail contact list is also updated with new club contacts.

Drogheda Borough Council / Drogheda Municipal District

Lourdes Stadium:

The Lourdes stadium was successfully operated and maintained by Drogheda Borough Council / Drogheda Municipal District during 2014. The track is fully booked for the evening opening times during the week with 7 different clubs using the facility. Times have been allocated to pay as you go casual users, both at lunchtime and early evening. There have been approximately 15, 000 users of the Stadium in the year since it opened in November 2012. The income from club and casual users of the facility will amount to approximately €6,642.25 to the end of 2014.

Construction began on the new All Weather Bowling Green in December 2014 on a portion of the site next to St. Peter's Cemetery.

Drogheda Leisure Centre:

Drogheda Leisure Centre continues to be a popular asset to the citizens of Drogheda and surrounding areas. The council will continue to avail of any sports capital grant monies to continue to make additional improvements to the centre.

Drogheda Community Centre:

Louth County Council Sports Unit took over management of the Drogheda Community Centre in May 2014.

Dundalk Sports Centre:

Dundalk Sports Centre to undergo a €2.1 million redevelopment. Louth County Council have been awarded €520,000.00 in Sports Capital Funding.

Dundalk Leisure Centre:

Dundalk Leisure Centre continues to be a popular asset to the citizens of Dundalk and surrounding areas. The council will continue to avail of any sports capital grant monies to continue to make additional improvements to the centre.

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LOUTH EMERGENCY SERVICES & BUILDING CONTROL

Louth Emergency Services and Building Control services delivered a range of activities during 2014 under the Corporate Plan 2010-2014.

- The 5GDS facilitated public safety campaigns during Carbon Monoxide Week and Fire Safety week.
- Another Corporate Plan objective was the development of Dundalk Training Centre as a regional centre of excellence. This was not possible as the funding committed by the DECLG was not provided. Instead, interim funding for improvements to the Training Centre and BA building were provided in 2014 and a Contractor is being procured for this work.
- A further objective is dealing effectively with emergencies. The number of emergency incidents increased in 2014, with Dundalk responding to 527 calls, Drogheda responding to 526 calls and Ardee, Carlingford and Dunleer responding to 217 calls. See details of calls the table below.
- During 2014, the Fire Prevention Section inspected a range of high-risk apartment buildings, nursing homes and public assembly buildings and took enforcement proceedings as necessary.
- Fire Safety Certificate applications processed saw an increase in the numbers from 2013. Similarly all Disabled Access Certificate applications were processed by the Building Control Officer.



- A further objective is the implementation of the Civil Defence Review. This was not advanced during 2014, but Council Management recently decided to implement this Review in full and this has commenced.
- Louth Civil Defence continued its delivery of casualty service at events and searches when requested by An Garda Siochana during 2014.

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LOUTH COUNTY LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES AND MUSEUM SERVICES

Louth County Libraries, Archives and Museum Services continued to underpin the quality of life for individuals and communities within the county.

Usage of Louth County Libraries	*2014	*2013
• Items borrowed	*400,117	*449,743
• Visits to full-time libraries	*275,300	*263,400
• Registered members	*15,588	*15,560
• Internet sessions provided	*21,543	*21,563

* Drogheda Library was closed for refurbishment during November 2013 to February 2014.

Library Services

Registered library members in Louth increased slightly to 15,588 in 2014. Visits to three fulltime branch libraries increased to 275,300 and 290,500 for all branch libraries, with around 400,000 items borrowed during the year.

During 2014 the County Louth Mobile Library Service revised its timetable to include further housing estates in Drogheda and Ardee, along with providing a stop every Friday afternoon in the Abbey Centre Carpark Drogheda, during refurbishment works to Drogheda Library. The County Louth Schools Library Service increased its support to 79 primary schools in the County, as well as calling to local crèches.

Branch Development

Drogheda Library re-opened in February 2014 following refurbishment on foot of a grant-aid of €250,000 from the Department's Capital Funding Programme for Public Libraries. The new upgraded library has improved services to the public by including RFID self-issue service points/kiosks; additional computer points and WIFI access; a new multi functional seminar/ICT room and enhanced junior and teenage sections of the library.

*The reopening of the newly refurbished Drogheda Branch Library.
Mr. Fergus O'Dowd, T.D., Cllr. Declan Breathnach, Cathaoirleach
Louth County Council; Bernadette Fennell, Louth Co. Librarian;
Cllr. Richie Culhane, Mayor of Drogheda.*



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County Wide Library Initiatives

eBooks and eAudio Service

Louth County Libraries continues to develop and expand its collection of eBooks and eAudio downloads which numbers around 1,722 eResources. This service allows library members to browse the collection from home and download items to their computer, iPhone, iPad or other tablet device.

Parent and Toddler Groups

Parent and Toddler Groups are now run in three fulltime branch libraries in Dundalk, Drogheda and Ardee Libraries. Louth County Libraries secured funding through the Louth Childcare Committee in 2014 to develop the groups.

1 Card 6 Libraries

Louth County Libraries also collaborated with their colleagues in DKIT Library in promoting the '1 Card 6 Libraries' initiative whereby members of Louth County Libraries can avail of the services of DKIT Library and vice versa. The primary focus of the collaborative project is on ease of access to collections held by both services.

Europe Direct Information Centre, Dundalk

Louth County Libraries were awarded a second contract and associated funding from the European Commission to run a Europe Direct Information Centre in Dundalk Library from 2013-2017. The Centre focuses on the geographical region of Louth, Cavan and Monaghan and delivered in 2014 a varied programme of events which included the annual 'Europe Direct Soapbox' competition. In conjunction with the local Polish community the centre also hosted an evening of discussion and debate to celebrate 25 years of Polish freedom.



From a Europe Direct Information Centre event, *The EU and You*, a public dialogue with Mary O'Rourke and guests. Photo shows from left to right: Sheila Tierney, Dundalk Library; Frankie Watters, Lecturer DKIT; Amanda Branigan, Dundalk Library; Francis Jacobs EU Commission; Mary O'Rourke; Ruth Montague, Libraries Development; Gerry Kelly, LMF. M.

Summer Reading Challenge

The theme of the summer reading challenge in 2014 was 'Mythical Maze' and over 500 children participated in reading 6 books each during July and August. The aim of the reading initiative was to instil confidence and to increase the reading ability of the children.

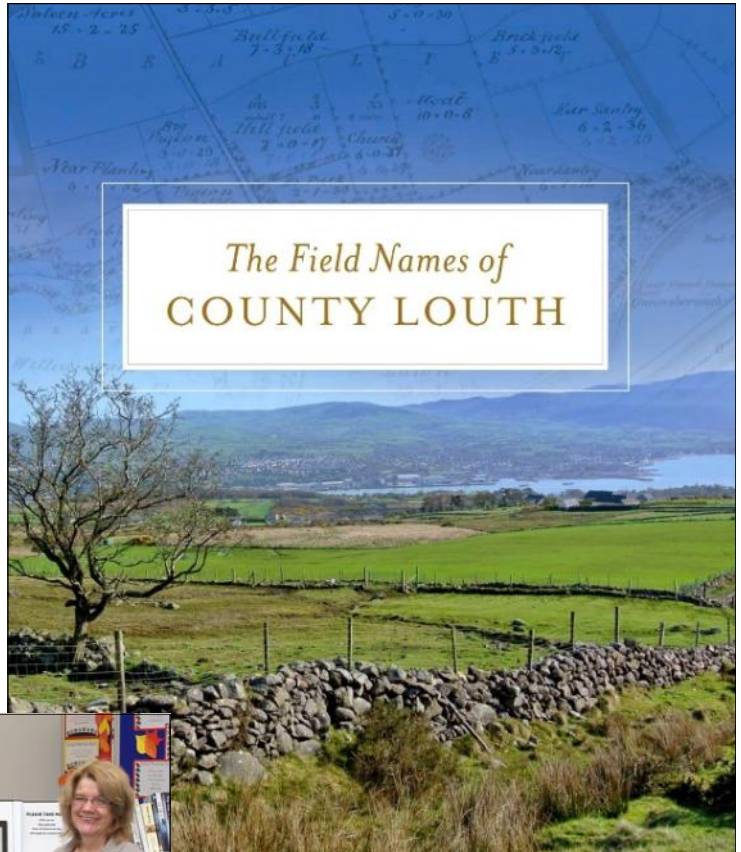


Childrens' Literacy Summer Camps

In conjunction with tutors from local DEIS schools in County Louth, Dundalk and Drogheda Libraries provided literacy summer camps to 120 children. A project-based approach was used with an emphasis on fun learning activities to increase the children's interest and motivation in acquiring basic literacy and numeracy skills.

Louth Field Names Project

The Louth Field Names Project culminated in the launch of the book in November 2014, compiled and collated by the project co-coordinator, Dr. Eve Campbell. The project commenced in early 2012 under the auspices of the County Louth Archaeological and Historical Society, County Louth I.F.A. and Louth County Libraries. It was funded mainly by Louth Leader along with some matched funding from generous sponsors. Recording the field names of County Louth will ensure that valuable local information is preserved for future generations.



The launch of Library Ireland Week which was held in Drogheda Library. Jane Cantwell, President Library Association of Ireland; Paddy Matthews, President Dundalk Chamber of Commerce; Gavin Duffy, Entrepreneur & Bernadette Fennell, Louth Co. Librarian.

Outreach Activities

A full and varied programme of events and activities took place in Louth County Libraries in 2014. These events included exhibitions, lectures, storytelling, local history, genealogy workshops, and art events and craft sessions. The libraries involvement in national events such as Adult Literacy Week, Children's Book Festival, Seachtain na Gaeilge, Bealtaine, Science Week

and Library Ireland Week continued during the year. In conjunction with the Arts Office a successful series of music workshops were held in Ardee Library as part of the Ardee Baroque Festival.

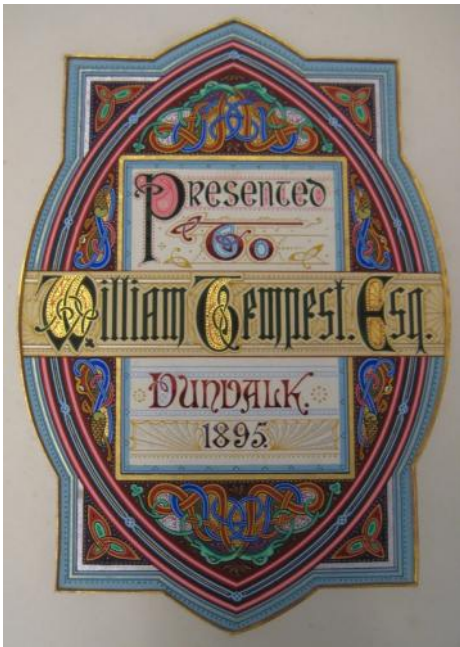
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LOUTH COUNTY ARCHIVES SERVICE

Louth County Archives is the official repository for the documentary heritage of County Louth. Its governing legislation gives the Council power for the County Archives to acquire, preserve and make available local archives of significance that document the history and development of the county. To this end, the Service was grateful to receive from the public a number of archive collections in 2014 including: several small photographic collections, one relating to Dundalk town, another containing local portraits and another relating to the Great Northern Railway (Ireland); archives of Ardee interest including festival programmes, leaflets and newsletters; documents relating to the Locomotive Department and to the Erecting Shop of



the Great Northern Railway (Ireland); additional material for the Harold O'Sullivan collection; 19th century Roden estate leases; an illuminated address presented to William Tempest in 1895 on his resignation as Honorary Secretary of Dundalk Select Vestry; a large architectural collection dating to the 1900s -1980s; two volumes for Drogheda Convent Infant Boys School and Beaulieu School; election posters; and a collection of local theatre programmes and flyers.

In addition to updating the online catalogue and assisting researchers, activities in 2014 have included a conservation project involving an important collection of Ardee Corporation minute books dating to 1661 where the County Archives was successful in receiving funding from the Heritage Council and Ardee Town Council; setting up a Local Election exhibition and display of Ardee archives for

Ardee Town Council's final meeting reception; participation in Heritage Week with two events entitled 'Opening Up Our Past - Participate in Indexing Archives'; and participation in November in the Archives and Records Association's 'Explore Your Archive' campaign through the compilation of a Story Box on the theme of 'Dundalk's Water Supply 1860 - 1930'. The campaign's aim is to raise awareness of archives and their value to society.



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LOUTH COUNTY MUSEUM

2014 represented a milestone year for the County Museum, Dundalk. In April the Museum celebrated 20 years of operation with a special exhibition marking the achievement. *20 years a growin' – the People's exhibition* marked two decades spent recording, collecting, exhibiting and promoting the county's history. More importantly though, it demonstrated the ongoing significance between the public, local institutions (such as the Archaeological & Historical Society and Old Dundalk Society) and the Museum in maintaining a knowledge of the past for future generations.

In addition to this the Museum maintained a high output of exhibitions developing projects on the cultural history of the Boyne (for the National Maritime festival in Drogheda); the story of J. P. Holland father of the Modern Submarine (for the launch of the Central Bank's €15 coin) and a short history of cycling in Louth (to coincide with the Giro d'Italia). Perhaps most appropriately the Museum ended the year as winners of the *Local Authority Museum of 2014* by the *Public Sector* magazine – a fitting achievement for the 20th anniversary.



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OPERATIONS AND LOCAL SERVICES

TRANSPORTATION

'To maintain a high quality road network that supports and facilitates a modern transportation system that is accessible, safe, smart and integrated and which responds to the needs of the people of the county.'

Road Works Programme

June 2014 saw the amalgamation of the Towns and County Councils and the formation of the new Engineering Areas of North and South Louth. Together the two areas delivered a road works programme of 29 improvement schemes covering 35.7 km. And a restoration programme of 17 schemes covering 26.5 km.

In addition, the general maintenance works, consisting of pot hole repairs, verge trimming, drainage, sign maintenance etc. were also carried out.

Low Cost Safety Measures

A total of six projects were completed under this scheme at a cost of 236,760. The schemes completed were Ault Bridge, Dundalk: Dublin Road ,Drogheda: Rathmullan Road: Long Avenue:Long Walk: Ramparts National School: Main Street Omeath.

Winter Maintenance

While the winter of 2014/15 was a relatively mild one, there was a large number of gritting runs carried out as the temperatures fell to just below zero on a significant number of nights. A total of 107 callouts were made, while the average is 75 within a winter season. Great credit is due to the area and outdoor staff for their dedication and effort.

Community Involvement Schemes

The Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport provided funding of €902,886 for a new community involvement scheme to carry out maintenance works on local tertiary roads. The Area Engineers worked with the local groups, who provided 20% of the funding, to progress a total of 26 schemes, covering 13.8 km.

MARINE

Coastal Protection and Flood Defence.

Funding was provided to carry out schemes at Whitestown, Greenore: Blackrock: Gyles Quay: Cruisetown: Annagassan: Corstown, Dunany: and Omeath Greenway.

WATER & ENVIRONMENT:

'To provide for timely high quality water and waste services to cater for the development needs of the county while protecting and enhancing the environment.'

The responsibility for the provision of Water and Wastewater Services transferred to Irish Water from 1st January 2014. All water infrastructure assets solely used for water



services activities will in time transfer to Irish Water. Louth County Council will retain the supervision of Group Water Schemes Private wells and Public Conveniences.

Service Level Agreement (SLA)

This 12 year binding agreement between Irish Water and Local Authorities outlines the shared objectives, roles, and responsibilities of both parties. It provides for the recognition of the expertise of Local Authority staff and the full cost recovery for Local Authorities of expenditure on water services initially.

Customer Contact

Irish Water call centre is now operational between the hours of 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday and is expected to operate on a 24 hour basis in 2015. Part of the process developed includes an interface with Elected Representatives. Irish Water will refer queries to Local Authorities for action and protocols are being developed in relation to same. Local Authorities will require prior work authorisation unless it's an emergency. The Call Centre will facilitate the establishment of a tracked response system for all queries and complaints.

Metering Programme

The water meter installations are being carried out by the IW contractor and commenced in Louth in September 2014. In many cases this will involve the installation of a new boundary box and the provision of an automatic meter reading (AMR). 30% of the domestic meter box installations in County area and 80 % in the Dundalk area were completed at the 1st November. The entire metering programme for County Louth will be completed early in 2015.

Water Services Investment Plan 2014 – 2016

The Initial value of IW expenditure is estimated at €250m per year. However, the estimated spend requirement is closer to €600m per year. It is anticipated that the WSIP will focus on Stage improvements, Licence requirements and low cost solutions initially. Any contracts already in progress will not be affected.

Capital Investment Program for Louth

- Ardee Sewerage Scheme Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade
- Drogheda Water Supply Scheme Staleen Water Treatment Plant Emergency Works (Stage 2)
- Dundalk & Drogheda Wastewater Treatment Plants Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades Nutrient Removal
- Dundalk Sewerage Scheme Study
- Dundalk Water Supply Scheme Cavanhill Water Treatment Plant Upgrade
- Louth County - Water Conservation Stage 3 Advance Works .
- Louth County - Water Conservation Stage 3 Works Dundalk Water Supply
- Louth County - Water Conservation Stage 3 Works Drogheda Water Supply
- Omeath Sewerage Scheme Omeath Sewerage Scheme

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ENVIRONMENT

In the new amalgamated Structure of the County Council the Operations Section contributes to the maintenance of the natural environment in the County through its implementation of the litter control programme, street sweeping programmes in the towns and villages of the County, tree maintenance, weed control, grass and hedge cutting programmes, etc. We also liaise with and provide support on the ground to the various Louth Tidy Towns Groups.

Dog Control

The pound took in 498 dogs in 2014, of which 159 were reclaimed by owners or re-homed directly from the pound, with a further 256 dogs re-homed via local charities, the majority through Dundalk Dogs. These figures mean that 88% of dogs going through the pound found a home.

The dog license numbers for the county in 2014 was 5,901 which was an increase of over 400 licenses from the previous year. Included in these figures are 7 General Dog Licenses; no lifetime licences issued in 2014. Dog control was maintained at a high level with 404 Fixed Penalties issued, and the number of penalties paid was the highest in the country.

One new Dog Breeding Establishments was added in 2014 to see the register record a total of 4 DBE's.

Horse Control

The year was active year as regards horse control, with 91 horses going through the pound; however this was a decrease of 54 on the previous year, indicating that the peak of unwanted horses may have passed? The majority of horses encountered at the pound were neither licensed nor micro-chipped and as such ownership is difficult to determine. The requirements in respect of horses being reclaimed from the Pound is for owners to produce valid horse passports and also evidence of an Equine Premises Registration Number.

Food Safety

The number of establishments under the inspectorate of Louth County by the veterinary section is 13, and comprises of 1 abattoir, 10 approved meat cutting/cooking plants and 2 registered meat plants. The county provides the meat inspection and food safety duties under a service contract with the Food Safety Authority of Ireland.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Economic Development Unit supports the co-ordinated economic development of County Louth by planning for, initiating and managing projects that contribute positively to the County's ongoing economic development. The unit is involved in the marketing and promotion of the Council as a business-friendly location and engages in strategic economic planning which informs Louth County Council's policy decisions. This work is important to ensure that the maximum benefit is derived from economic and employment development decisions associated with major infrastructure.

The Local Enterprise Office (LEO Louth)

As part of the Government's Reform Programme, the existing County Enterprise Boards were dissolved and the newly formed Louth Enterprise Office was incorporated into the Council structure in April 2014. This is the primary agency dedicated to the development of micro-enterprise and business in County Louth and facilitates a more co-ordinated approach to enterprise support and economic development throughout the County. Those in business or even at the very early stage of thinking about setting up their own business should make contact with the LEO office who can offer advice and assistance on what is required to progress their idea or take the next step in expansion. LEO Louth is about promoting entrepreneurship and self-help and has the full support of Louth County Council and combines the experience and knowledge of the former Enterprise Boards and the Business Support Unit of the Council.

Louth Economic Forum

The forum, established in 2009, comprises the business sector of County Louth, Local Authority Management and all of the State Agencies that interact with those generating economic activity in the county and is a one stop shop for potential investors. The award winning LEF continues to build partnerships and fosters a culture of joined-up thinking to proactively facilitate further economic development and job creation in Louth.

Tourism

Tourism in Louth drives local economic development and supports local services. Work is ongoing to put the county of Louth in the fore with the continued support and promotion of the Boyne Valley and Newry Mourne Gullion as destination attractions. The Irish Maritime Festival 2014, delivered in partnership with Drogheda Port, was a huge success and attracted in excess of 36,000 people to the Drogheda quays. Saint Patrick's Day Festivals in Drogheda,



Maritime Festival 2014.

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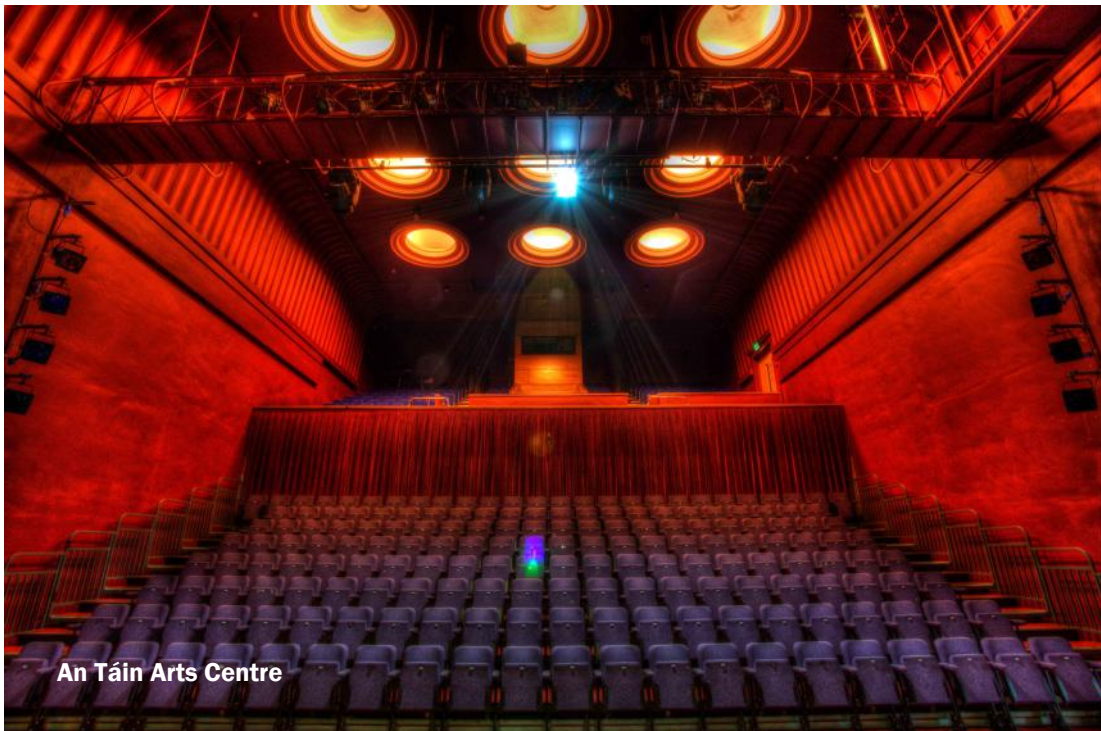


Dundalk and Ardee alongside the Christmas festivals - Drogheda Bonanza Festival, Dundalk Santa Run and Festival of Lights continue to be supported and funded by Louth County Council.

Arts

The Arts Service delivered a range of actions in 2014, all aligned to the

Service's five major work areas - Developmental and Community Arts, Grants and Awards, Information and Advice, Artistic Programming, and Representation and Planning.



An Táin Arts Centre

A significant boost to the cultural infrastructure of the county came with the launch of An Táin Arts Centre at Crowe Street, Dundalk. For the first time, the two theatres, gallery and ancillary facilities were placed under the auspices of an independent board who will oversee the development and management of Dundalk's first Arts Centre. An Táin Arts Centre joins Creative Spark, Droichead Arts Centre and Highlanes Gallery as arts infrastructure established or co-funded by Louth County Council.

Heritage

Louth has a very rich heritage: built, cultural, intangible and natural. Our heritage can make a substantial contribution to our quality of life. Increasing awareness of heritage helps build local, community pride and can inspire economic development. Louth County Council's heritage office works to protect Louth's heritage, through raising awareness of and respect for it and thereby to 'gain the heritage dividend' for Louth.



The following Heritage Projects were completed or progressed in 2014:

These projects were funded by the Heritage Council:

- Biodiversity Enhancement Plans for the Tidy Towns groups in Baltray, Greenore and Reaghstown.
- A 'one percent' sample survey of Louth's hedgerows was completed.
- The Wetland Survey of county Louth was completed.

Two projects were funded by the Irish Walled Towns Network (part of the Heritage Council)

- Walled Towns Day events in Carlingford (led on by the Cooley Peninsula Tourist Office)
- Development of an Audio-guide to Drogheda's town walls (led by Droichead Arts Centre)

PLANNING

Development Control

The number of planning applications submitted between 1 January and 31st December 2014 was **724**. This was a decrease of 6.8% on the number of applications received in 2013. It is anticipated that there will be an increase in applications in 2015.

Forward Planning

The Louth County Development Plan 2015 – 2021 is currently at draft stage. The draft plan went on public display on 6th October, 2014. The plan will have significant implications for a wide variety of aspects of life within the county.

Planning Compliance

The Council continues to actively enforce the provisions of Part VIII of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) in relation to the investigation of complaints received regarding potential unauthorised development. Legal proceedings were initiated as appropriate. The number of complaints received between 1st January and 31st December 2014 were 199.

Louth County Council continues to investigate complaints received regarding Dangerous Structures pursuant to the Local Government Sanitary Services Act 1964. The total number of complaints received between 1st January and 31st December 2014 were 26. The Derelict Sites Register is maintained pursuant to Section 8 of the Derelict Sites Act, 1990. The number of sites on the register at 31st December 2014 is 57.

Conservation

Conservation provides continuing input into the protection of County Louth's Architectural Heritage in accordance with the Development Plan along with providing information and advice to Protected Structures owners on appropriate maintenance and repair work. The Council provides advice and guidance to voluntary groups on the legislative requirements in relation to Protected Structures, Architectural Conservation Areas and Monuments.

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CREATE LOUTH, THE ARTS SERVICE OF LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL

“Arts, Culture and Leisure will underpin the quality of life for individuals and communities within the county.”

The Arts Service delivered a range of actions in 2014, all aligned to the Service’s five major work areas – Developmental and Community Arts, Grants and Awards, Information and Advice, Artistic Programming, and Representation and Planning. Examples of these actions are provided below

Developmental and Community Arts

Louth is well served by many high-quality community choirs and choral groups. The Arts Service entered into a partnership with one of these choirs, Setanta Choir, to bring the positive experience of choral singing and performance to children in a primary school in Dundalk, Réalt na Mara N.S. A bursary was established jointly by CreateLouth and Setanta Choir, and schools in Dundalk were invited to apply. The bursary took the form of a series of classes and workshops with renowned choral conductor, Alan Leech, and the children at Réalt na Mara learnt new skills such as pitch, tone and singing in parts. The children in the Centre for Autism in the school also participated, and Alan also worked with staff to develop their own skills in teaching music. The process culminated with a special Christmas concert at St Joseph’s Church, where the children of Réalt na Mara joined Setanta Choir in singing with great confidence and joy.



Grants and Awards

There are seven distinct funding opportunities in the CreateLouth arts funds, and one of the longest established is the Macardle Award. Originally funded through a bequest from the Macardle family, the award consists of a bursary of €1,300 which is awarded, through audition, to a young musician studying classical music in Louth. The recipient of the Macardle Award in 2014 was Robert Finegan, a talented young saxophonist from Ardee. Robert began his music education with the award-winning Ardee Concert Band, continued his studies at Ardee Community College, and is currently studying at the Conservatory of Music, Dublin

Robert Finegan, 2014 Macardle Award Winner

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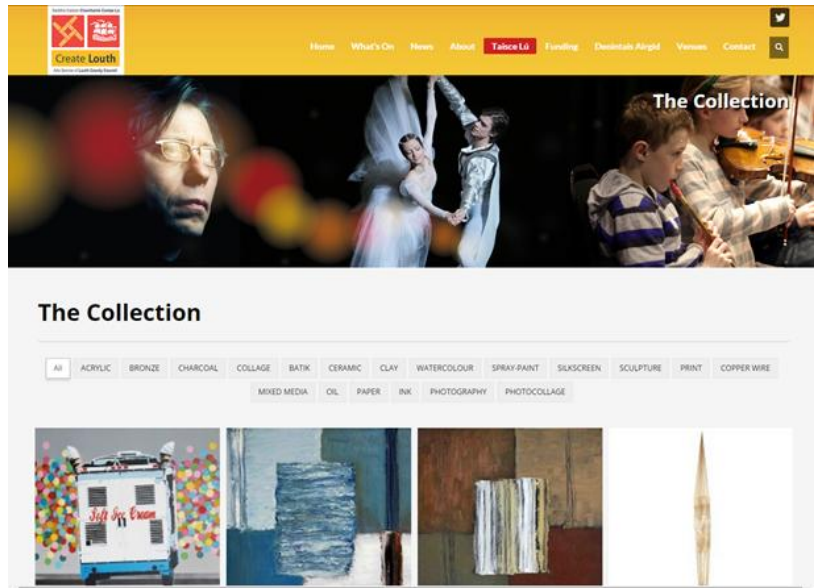


Institute of Technology. Robert will be using the Macardle Award to pay for further tuition.

Information and Advice

The Arts Service website, www.createlouth.ie, continues to provide up-to-the minute information on events, performances and exhibition around the county. Details on opportunities, job vacancies, residencies, and bursaries are also available, making createlouth.ie the go-to site for the arts in Louth.

The website also incorporates Taisce Lú, which is the name for the collection of artworks owned by Louth County Council. The collection is available to view digitally, and information on each piece is set out in a clear and accessible way. Filmed interviews with the artists themselves, and links to more information makes the Taisce Lú part of createlouth.ie a valuable educational resource for those studying art in Louth and further afield.



Artistic Programming

Drogheda Arts Festival takes place each May, ensuring the Boyne-side town becomes the national epicentre for innovative performances, exhibitions and arts events of every description for that Bank Holiday Weekend. Initiated by the Arts Service, Drogheda Arts Festival celebrated its tenth birthday in 2014, and has evolved to become a celebration of the arts which is very much owned and programmed by the arts community in Drogheda. The Festival benefits from a substantial investment of time and energy by arts organisations such as Highlanes Gallery, Droichead Arts Centre, Calipo Theatre Company, Upstate Theatre Company, and Nexus Arts, with Louth County Council remaining the major funder, with further support coming from The Arts Council and local businesses.

Highlights of the 2014 Festival include performances by Lisa O'Neill, *This is How we Fly*, and ten performances of *The Street*, a specially-commissioned and devised piece of theatre from Upstate Theatre Company, which used the testimony of independent shopkeepers and residents on Narrow West Street to reveal the memories and the drama of this once-bustling shopping district.

Niall O' Brien in The Street, #commissioned by Drogheda #Arts Festival 2014



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Representation and Planning

The Arts Service works strategically with a number of organisations, both local and national in scope, that share the broad aims set out in the Arts Plan. The County Arts Officer serves on the Board of Music Generation Louth, Louth Craftmark, Dundalk Institute of Technology, An Táin Arts Centre, Ardee Baroque, Highlanes Gallery, and the National Association for Youth Drama.



Drawing Classes at Creative Spark

Creative Spark is an initiative of Louth Craftmark and is based in a purpose-built building in Muirhevna Mór. Creative Spark has two main aims – it provides an infrastructure which supports the development of creative start-up enterprises, including the provision of workspaces, sector-specific training and mentoring, and it provides practical opportunities for those unemployed or threatened with unemployment within the creative industries. In tandem with these aims, Creative Spark organize and run a programme of community engagement, offering training and classes in a range of areas, including ceramics, painting, jewelry making, and digital photography. In 2014, the Creative Spark Print Studio was opened, the first 24-hour access print workshop and visual artists' resource organisation in the region. With support from the Arts Service, a Residency programme was established, which sees artists from the community and from abroad working in the Print Studio and in their own workspace in Creative Spark for the duration of the Residency.



FINANCIAL FIGURES

AUDITED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT STATEMENT) FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2014

Expenditure by Division	Gross Expenditure 2014 €	Income 2014 €	Net Expenditure 2014 €	Net Expenditure 2013 €
Housing & Building	17,845,497	17,319,930	525,567	836,949
Roads Transportation & Safety	18,429,751	9,335,360	9,094,391	8,773,313
Water Services	8,133,862	8,211,465	(77,604)	9,610,390
Development Management	9,396,948	3,836,161	5,560,787	5,432,693
Environmental Services	15,830,907	3,212,474	12,618,433	10,857,740
Recreation & Amenity	7,216,870	751,855	6,465,015	6,133,065
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	3,420,503	2,413,300	1,007,203	698,392
Miscellaneous Services	18,141,823	6,320,840	11,820,983	9,745,631
County Charge	-	-	-	3,433,752
Total Expenditure/Income	<u>98,416,161</u>	<u>51,401,386</u>		
Net Cost of Divisions to be funded from Rates and Local Government Fund			47,014,775	55,521,925
Rates			33,286,637	33,437,477
Local Government Fund / General Purpose Grant			8,243,835	15,548,027
Pension Related Deduction			1,622,363	1,725,406
County Charge			-	3,433,752
Surplus / (Deficit) for Year Before Transfers			<u>(3,861,940)</u>	<u>(1,377,263)</u>
Transfers from / (to) Reserves			<u>(188,050)</u>	<u>(1,232,435)</u>
Overall Surplus / (Deficit) for Year			<u>(4,049,990)</u>	<u>(2,609,698)</u>
General Reserve at 1st January 2014			<u>1,442,530</u>	<u>4,052,228</u>
General Reserve at 31st December 2014			<u>(2,607,460)</u>	<u>1,442,530</u>

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Louth County Council
Audited Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet) at 31st December 2014

	2014	2013
	€	€
Fixed Assets		
Operational	659,393,297	772,130,342
Infrastructural	1,355,446,271	1,423,062,107
Community	4,557,113	4,572,358
Non-Operational	50,035,497	50,390,025
	<u>2,069,432,177</u>	<u>2,250,154,832</u>
Work-in-Progress and Preliminary Expenses	22,128,557	27,628,016
Long Term Debtors	84,296,963	85,122,970
Current Assets		
Stocks	-	152,309
Trade Debtors & Prepayments	34,977,539	47,116,480
Bank Investments	29,850,998	31,340,173
Cash at Bank	2,833,482	5,734,071
Cash in Transit	231,974	203,939
Urban Account	0	-
	<u>67,893,994</u>	<u>84,546,972</u>
Current Liabilities (Amounts falling due within one year)		
Bank Overdraft	-	-
Creditors & Accruals	36,507,175	31,332,033
Urban Account	-	1
Finance Leases	-	-
	<u>36,507,175</u>	<u>31,332,034</u>
Net Current Assets / (Liabilities)	<u>31,386,819</u>	<u>53,214,938</u>
Creditors (Amounts falling due after more than one year)		
Loans Payable	157,187,491	160,001,386
Finance Leases	-	-
Refundable Deposits	10,945,738	14,368,073
Other	7,815,019	8,057,029
	<u>175,948,249</u>	<u>182,426,488</u>
Net Assets	<u>2,031,296,268</u>	<u>2,233,694,268</u>
Represented By		
Capitalisation Account	2,069,432,174	2,250,154,830
Income WIP	21,471,134	25,261,503
Specific Revenue Reserve	5,533,315	5,533,315
General Revenue Reserve	(2,607,460)	1,442,530
Other Balances	(62,532,894)	(48,697,909)
Total Reserves	<u>2,031,296,268</u>	<u>2,233,694,268</u>



Audited Summary of Major Revenue Collections for 2014

	Arrears @ 1/1/2014	Accrued	Write Off	Waivers	Total for Collection	Collected	Arrears @ 21/12/2014	% Collected
	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	
Rates	23,542,325	33,294,695	15,045,812	-	41,791,208	23,414,231	18,376,977	56%
Rents & Annuities	1,837,665	9,578,476	6,671	13,688	11,395,782	9,312,774	2,083,007	82%
<u>Refuse</u>								
Domestic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Commercial	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Housing Loans	502,826	784,376	24	-	1,287,178	844,599	442,579	66%

Capital Expenditure €16,377,415

Capital Income €4,285,019

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Key Performance Indicators

C: CORPORATE

2014

C1 / C2: Total Number of WTEs / Working Days lost to Sickness

C1-A. The whole time equivalent staffing number as at 31 December 2014 (consistent with figures provided to DECLG by way of staffing returns for December 2014)	606.05
C2-A. Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through medically certified leave	4.62
C2-B. Percentage of working days lost to sickness absence through self-certified leave	0.52

C3: No. of page visits to LA website

A. The cumulative total page views for the period 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014 obtained from a page tagging on-site web analytics service	0
---	---

N/A LGMA dropped this facility. We will attempt to reinstate same for 2015

C4: Overall Cost of ICT provision per WTE

A. All revenue expenditure on hardware and software plus depreciation divide by WTE under 'C1' above	2459
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E: WASTE / ENVIRONMENT

2014

E1: Number of Waste Facilities authorised by the LA

A. The number of waste facility permits and certificates of registration granted by the LA and not yet expired as at 31/12/2014	3223 Waste Facility Permits, 14 Certs of Reg
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E2: No./% of Households with access to a 3 bin service

A. The number of households, based on the 2011 Census, who are in receipt of a 3 bin service at 31/12/2014	Supplied by NWCP0
--	-------------------

E3: No. of Waste complaints lodged with the EPA Office of Environmental Enforcement

A. The number of distinct complaints relating to waste within the LA area that were referred to the OEE in the period 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014 because the problem persisted after investigation of the complaint by the LA	0
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E4: Percentage of other environmental pollution complaints closed

Percentage of Litter pollution cases closed by 31/12/2014	81.49
Percentage of Air pollution cases closed by 31/12/2014	100
Percentage of Noise pollution cases closed by 31/12/2014	100
Percentage of Water pollution cases closed by 31/12/2014	96.3



F: FIRE SERVICE

2014

F1: Cost per Capita of the Fire Service

A. Cost per Capita	61.43
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F2: Service Mobilisation

A. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of fire	2.21
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B. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of fire	3.8
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C. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Full-Time Stations in respect of all other (non-fire) emergency incidents	2.05
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D. Average time taken, in minutes, to mobilise fire brigades in Part-Time Stations (retained fire service) in respect of all other (non-fire) emergency incidents	2.91
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F3: Percentage of attendances at scenes

A. Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	70.99
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B. Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	25.38
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C. Percentage of cases in respect of fire in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	3.63
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D. Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene within 10 minutes	58.53
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E. Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 10 minutes but within 20 minutes	35.48
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F. Percentage of cases in respect of all other emergency incidents in which first attendance is at the scene after 20 minutes	5.99
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H: HOUSING

2014

H1 / H2: Social Housing Stock / Housing Voids

H1-A. The overall total number of dwellings provided by the local authority in the period 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014; comprising:	64
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MISSION STATEMENT

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H1-B.	The number of dwellings directly provided (constructed or purchased) by the LA in 2014	0
H1-Ba.	Number constructed (from B. above)	0
H1-Bb.	Number Purchased (from B. above)	0
H1-C.	The number of units provided under the Rental Accommodation Scheme in 2014	0
H1-D.	The number of units provided under the Housing Assistance Payment Scheme in 2014 if operated (or else indicate if scheme not yet being operated in the LA)	41
H1-E.	The number of units provided under the Social Housing Leasing Initiative (including unsold Affordable Scheme units and NAMA sourced properties and Mortgage to Rent Scheme) in 2014	23
H1-F.	The overall total number of social housing dwellings in the LA at 31/12/2014; comprising:	4260
H1-G.	The total number of dwellings directly provided (constructed or purchased) by the LA	3671 DR=3631 TO16, units managed by Voluntary 40
H1-H.	The number of units provided under the Rental Accommodation Scheme	171
H1-I.	The number of units provided under the Housing Assistance Payment Scheme if operated (or else indicate if scheme not yet being operated in the LA)	41
H1-J.	The number of units provided under the Social Housing Leasing Initiative (including unsold Affordable Scheme units and NAMA sourced properties and Mortgage to Rent Scheme)	377
H2-A.	The percentage of the total number of dwellings at H1-G above that were vacant on 31/12/2014	1.42
	The number of dwelling units within their overall stock that were not tenanted on 31/12/2014	52
H3: Average Re-letting Time and Cost		
A.	The time taken from the date of vacation of dwelling to the date in 2014 when a new tenancy had commenced in the dwelling, averaged across all units re-let in 2014	25.83
B.	The cost expended on getting the re-tenanted units in 2014 ready for re-letting, averaged across all units re-let in 2014	4022.83
H4: Housing Maintenance Cost		
A.	Expenditure during 2014 on the repair and maintenance of housing bought or built by the LA compiled on a continuous basis from 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014, divided by the no. of directly provided units in the LA stock at 31/12/2014 (H1G above)	914.42
H5: Private rented sector inspections		
A.	Total number of registered tenancies in the LA area (obtained directly from the PRTB)	13454
B.	Number of inspections carried out	23
H6: Long-term Homeless Adults		
A.	Number of adult individuals that are long-term homeless as a percentage of the total number of homeless adult individuals	0.27



J: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT 2014

J1: No. of jobs created

A. The no. of jobs created with assistance from the Local Enterprise Office during the period 01/01/2014 to 31/12/2014	56.5
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L: LIBRARY / RECREATION SERVICES 2014

L1: Library Visits

Number of visits to libraries per 1,000 population	2363.77
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L2: Cost of operating a Library Service

A. Cost of operating a Library Service per 1,000 Population	23344.87
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M: FINANCE 2014

M1: 5 Year summary of Revenue Account balance

A. The debit/credit balance at 31/12/2010 in the Revenue Account from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the Annual Financial Statement (AFS)	7459608
B. The debit/credit balance at 31/12/2011 in the Revenue Account from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the Annual Financial Statement (AFS)	7228037
C. The debit/credit balance at 31/12/2012 in the Revenue Account from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the Annual Financial Statement (AFS)	4052228
D. The debit/credit balance at 31/12/2013 in the Revenue Account from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the Annual Financial Statement (AFS)	1442529
E. The debit/credit balance at 31/12/2014 in the Revenue Account from the Income and Expenditure Account Statement of the Annual Financial Statement (AFS) - (even if unaudited)	-2607460

M2: 5 Year summary of % collection levels for major revenue sources

2010	
Rates	65
Rent and Annuities	87
Housing Loans	67
2011	
Rates	60
Rent and Annuities	86
Housing Loans	64
2012	
Rates	50
Rent and Annuities	84
Housing Loans	60
2013	
Rates	49
Rent and Annuities	83

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Housing Loans	60
2014 (even if unaudited)	
Rates	56
Rent and Annuities	82
Housing Loans	66

P: PLANNING **2014**

PI: New Buildings Inspected

A. Buildings inspected as a percentage of new buildings notified to the local authority	18.8
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P2: No./% of Planning decisions confirmed by An Bord Pleanála

A. Number of LA planning decisions which were the subject of an appeal to An Bord Pleanála that were determined by the Board on any date in the last year	30
B. Percentage of the determinations at 'A' above which were to confirm either with or without variation the decision made by	86.67

P3: Percentage of Planning Enforcement cases closed as resolved

A. Total number of planning cases (as opposed to complaints) referred to or initiated by the local authority in the period	199
B. Total number of cases that were closed during 2014	120
C. % of the cases at 'B' above that were dismissed under section	0
D. % of the cases at 'B' above that were resolved to the LA's	6.67
E. % of the cases at 'B' above that were closed due to enforcement	93.33
F. Total number of planning cases being investigated as at 31/12/2014	288
Overall total=288.	

P4: Cost per Capita of the Planning Service

A. Cost per Capita	25.86
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R: ROADS **2014**

RI: Ratings in Pavement Surface Condition Index

Regional Road Surface

At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 1	0
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 2	0
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 3	0
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 4	4
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 5	4
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 6	34
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 7	24



At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 8	26
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 9	8
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 10	0
Overall Percentage (based on length) of condition recorded on MapRoad	8.82
Local Primary Road Surface	
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 1	0
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 2	0
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 3	0
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 4	5
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 5	14
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 6	29
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 7	39
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 8	11
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 9	2
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 10	0
Overall Percentage (based on length) of condition recorded on MapRoad [ALL LOCAL ROADS]	65.46
Local Secondary Road Surface	
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 1	0
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 2	1
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 3	1
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 4	6
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 5	21
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 6	40
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 7	23
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 8	8
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 9	1
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 10	0
Local Tertiary Road Surface	
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 1	0
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 2	5
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 3	7
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 4	18
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 5	24
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 6	34
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 7	7
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 8	4
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 9	0
At 31/12/2014, the percentage at PSCI rating category 10	0

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R2: Percentage of motor tax transactions conducted online

This data will be obtained directly from the Vehicle Registration Unit

A. The percentage of motor tax transactions which are dealt with	47.42
Total number of motor tax transactions which are dealt with over the	69286
Total number of motor tax transactions which are dealt with by post	2428
Total number of motor tax transactions which are dealt with online	64679

W: WATER 2014

W1: Unaccounted for Water as a percentage of total volume of water supplied under LA Schemes

Unaccounted for water (UFW) as a percentage of total volume of water supplied in 2014 under the water supply schemes that the local authority is responsible for under a Service Level Agreement	42.36
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W2: Percentage of drinking water in compliance with statutory requirements

This data will be obtained directly from the EPA

Public schemes	100
Private schemes	99.5

Y: YOUTH / COMMUNITY 2014

Y1: Participation in Comhairle na n-Óg scheme

Percentage of local schools and youth groups involved in the local Youth Council/ Comhairle na n-Óg scheme	66.67
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Y2: No. of Gateway participants employed as % of target

A. Number of Gateway participants who commenced a work placement during 2014 expressed as a percentage of the placements allocated to the LA	101.25
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Y3: % of nominees to LCDC membership via the PPN structures from the most marginalised SICAP groups

The overall number of private sector members of the LCDC at 31/12/2014 nominated via the PPN structures who are of any of; Travellers, Roma, Unemployed, People with Disabilities, Lone Parents or Families in Disadvantages Areas and Disadvantaged or Ne	0
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Y4: Number progressing to FT, PT or self-employment within 6 months of receipt of a Goal 3 employment support

The no. of people in the 'Individuals supported into employment or self-employment' category, who commenced that employment within 6 months of receiving a Goal 3 support, included in the 2014 Local Community Dev. Programme Annual Report	0 <i>Doesn't apply until April 2015</i>
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**MEMBERS CONFERENCES
ATTENDANCE RECORD**
2014
Louth County Council

Conference	Location	Date	Month	No. of Cllrs.
Jan-14				
LAMA Spring Seminar	Monaghan	31st - 1 Feb	JanFeb	1
Feb-14				
AMAI Spring Seminar	Bundoran, Donegal	14th - 15th	February	1
25th Colmcille Winter School	Letterkenny	21st - 23rd	February	1
Boyne Valley Tourism Conference	Gormanstown, Co Meath	27th - 28th	February	1
Mar-14				
ACCC Conference	Ballyconnell, Co Cavan	6th - 7th	March	2
TJK Conference - Role of the Ombudsman	Limerick	21st -22nd	March	1
Retirement entitlements and taxation	Rosscarbery, Co Cork	28th - 30th	March	1
Apr-14				
Maps and Insolvency Service of Ireland	Rosscarbery, Co Cork	11th - 13th	April	1
Social Clauses in Public Procurement	Westport, Co Mayo	25th - 26th	April	1
May-14				
Jun-14				
Jul-14				
Aug-14				
Sep-14				
Oct-14				
AILG Conference	Kylemore Cavan	30th	October	2
Nov-14				
Dec-14				
Total				12

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MEMBERS CONFERENCES ATTENDANCE RECORD 2014

Drogheda Borough Council Attendance Record 2014

Conference	Location	Date	Month	No. of Cllrs.
Jan-14				
LAMA Spring Seminar	Four Seasons Hotel, Monaghan	31st - 1 Feb	Jan/Feb	1
Total				1

Dundalk Town Council Attendance Record 2014

Conference	Location	Date	Month	No. of Cllrs.
Feb-14				
AMAI Spring seminar	Great Northern Hotel, Bundoran	14th 15th	Feb-14	2
Esperanza Enterprises. Keeping Communities Safe- Fire Safety	Westport Plaza hotel, Westport, Co Mayo	7th & 8th	Feb-14	1
Boyne Valley Tourism Conference	City North Hotel, Gormanstown, Co Dublin	28th	Feb-14	1
Apr-14				
Esperanza Enterprises National register of Health Services Provider Identifiers	The Connacht hotel, Old Dublin Road, Galway City	11th & 12th	Apr-14	2
Irish Public Bodies Agm	Spencer Dock, North Wall, Dublin 1	25th	Apr-14	1
Esperanza Enterprises, Social Clauses in Public Procurement	Westport Plaza Hotel, Westport, Co Mayo	25th & 26th	Apr-14	2
Total				9

Ardee Town Council

Conference	Location	Date	Month	No. of Cllrs
Feb-14				
AMAI Spring seminar	Great Northern Hotel, Bundoran	14th 15th	Feb-14	2
Total				2


**PAYMENTS TO MEMBERS FOR
MEETINGS, COMMITTEES &
REPRESENTATIONAL PAYMENTS,
etc.**
2014

	Payments to Members of Louth Local Authorities	Louth County Council	Drogheda Borough Council	Dundalk Town Council	Ardee Town Council
1	Number of Council and Committee Meetings	78	5	14	5
2	Annual Expenses Allowance (travel, subsistence & misc exps, eg postage) Total of expenses paid to members in respect of attendance of meetings of the Council and its committees	€ 121,658.07	€ 15,417.74	€ 14,800.04	€ 8,155.02
3	Representation Payment	€ 468,001.71	€ 24,310.61	€ 31,794.26	€ 8,791.66
4	Chairpersons/Mayor Allowance	€ 21,315.65	€ 3,876.18	€ 5,618.14	nil
5	Vice Chairperson/Deputy Mayor Allowance	€ 5,821.88	Nialas	€ 1,501.66	nil
6	Chairpersons of SPCs/MPCs	€ 24,500.00	nil	€ 2,251.39	nil
7	Chairperson of Municipal District	€ 17,500.00	nil		€ 2,375.00
8	Mobile/Blackberry Phones	€ 9,696.64	€ 1,528.77	€ 787.74	nil
9	Costais fhreastal ar chomhdhálacha srl.				
	(a) Sa bhaile	€ 7,199.08	€ 213.56	€ 2,345.71	€ 1,231.94
	(b) I gcéin:	€ 3,640.60		€ 1,780.53	

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Breakdown of Representation in Relation to the SPCs, etc.

LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL

SPC Committee Members 2014 - 2019

Housing, Community Planning & Emergency Services

Cllr. Imelda Munster	Chairperson
Cllr. Jim Tenanty	Louth County Council
Cllr. Maeve Yore	Louth County Council
Cllr. Kevin Meenan	Louth County Council
Cllr. Pearse McGeough	Louth County Council
Cllr. Paul Bell	Louth County Council
Cllr. Liam Reilly	Louth County Council
Cllr. Tommy Byrne	Louth County Council
Mr. Bill Baldwin	Development/ Construction
Mr. Colm O'Hanrahan	Trade Union
Mr. Brian Doyle	Community/ Voluntary
Mr. Kevin Moran	Social Inclusion

No. of Meetings 2014 - 1

Planning & Environment

Cllr. Richie Culhane	Chairperson
Cllr. Peter Savage	Louth County Council
Cllr. Tom Cunningham	Louth County Council
Cllr. Jim Loughran	Louth County Council
Cllr. Jennifer Green	Louth County Council
Cllr. Maria Doyle	Louth County Council
Cllr. John McGahon	Louth County Council
Mr. Michael Smyth	Agriculture/Farming
Mr. Eddie Phelan	Business/ Commercial
Ms. Marian Sloan	Community/ Voluntary
Mr. Ollan Herr	Environment/ Conservation

No. of Meetings 2014 - 1

Economic Development & Enterprise Support

Cllr. Mark Dearey	Chairperson
Cllr. Alan Cassidy	Louth County Council
Cllr. Tomás Sharkey	Louth County Council
Cllr. Kevin Callan	Louth County Council
Cllr. Marianne Butler	Louth County Council
Cllr. Conor Keelan	Louth County Council
Cllr. Pio Smith	Louth County Council
Mr. Paddy Donnelly	Agriculture/Farming
Mr. Eddie Phelan	Development/ Construction
Mr. Simon McCormack	Business/Commercial
Mr. Anthony McArdle	Community/ Voluntary
Ms. Karen Devine	Environment/ Conservation

No. of Meetings 2014 - 1

Infrastructure, European & Cross Border Affairs

Cllr. Declan Breathnach	Chairperson
Cllr. Oliver Tully	Louth County Council
Cllr. Edel Corrigan	Louth County Council
Cllr. Kenneth Flood	Louth County Council
Cllr. Colm Markey	Louth County Council
Cllr. Frank Godfrey	Louth County Council
Cllr. Dolores Minogue	Louth County Council
Mr. Matthew McGreehan	Agriculture/Farming
Mr. Paddy Malone	Business/ Commercial
Ms. Flora Okobi	Community/ Voluntary
Mr. Paraic McKeivitt	Environment/ Conservation

No. of Meetings 2014 - 1



Coiste / Eagraíocht	Ionadaithe na Comhairle
Audit Committee	Cllr. Kevin Callan Cllr. Conor Keelan
Association of Irish Local Government	Cllr. L. Reilly (Municipal District of Ardee) Cllr. O. Tully (Borough District of Drogheda) Cllr. C. Keelan (Municipal District of Dundalk)
Border Midland & Western Regional Assembly (BMW)	Cllr. Tommy Byrne Cllr. Colm Markey
Droichead Arts Centre	Cllr. Pio Smith
Dundalk BIDS Company	Cllr. Conor Keelan Cllr. Mark Dearey
East Border Region	Cllr. Edel Corrigan Cllr. Jim Loughran Cllr. Tommy Byrne Cllr. Frank Godfrey Cllr. Peter Savage Cllr. John McGahon Cllr. Peter Savage elected to the Board of EBR
Irish Public Bodies Ins.	Cllr. Pio Smith
LAMA	Cllr. Peter Savage
Louth Meath Education and Training Board	Cllr. Tomas Sharkey Cllr. Liam Reilly Cllr. Oliver Tully Cllr. Maeve Yore Cllr. Marianne Butler
Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)	Cllr. Pearse McGeough Cllr. Dolores Minogue Cllr. Colm Markey Cllr. Liam Reilly
Local Traveller Consultative Committee	Cllr. Kevin Meenan Cllr. Liam Reilly (Chairperson) Cllr. Dolores Minogue
Louth Craftmark	Cllr. Jennifer Green
Nth East Regional Drugs & Alcohol Task Force	Cllr. Mark Dearey

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Committee / Organisation	Council Representatives
North East Regional Homeless Forum	Cllr. Conor Keelan
Peace Partnership Board	Cllr. Declan Breathnach Cllr. Frank Godfrey Cllr. Jim Tenanty
Regional Health Forum – Dublin North East	Cllr. Tomas Sharkey Cllr. Tommy Byrne Cllr. Mark Dearey Cllr. Richie Culhane
Rural Water Programme – Monitoring Committee	Cllr. P. Savage Cllr. P. McGeough Cllr. M. Dearey Cllr. O. Tully
Strategic Policy Committees	Chairs of the SPC's as follows:- Cllr. D. Breathnach – Infrastructure & Cross border Cllr. I. Munster – Housing, Community & ES Cllr. M. Dearey – Economic & Enterprise support Cllr. R. Culhane – Planning and Environment
Louth Heritage Forum	Cllr. Jim Tenanty Cllr. Mark Dearey Cllr. Frank Godfrey
Place Names Committee	Cllr. Alan Cassidy Cllr. Tomás Sharkey Cllr. Liam Reilly